

Region Seven Officers
Director: Craig Owens
Tournament Dir: Wayne Hayes
Asst. Tournament Dir: Kevin Massie
Secretary/Treasurer: Susan Owens
Youth Directors: Richard Woods
Victor Spence



Minutes of the December 7, 2022, President's meeting
7:00pm at The Glass Baron

Call meeting to Order – Craig called the meeting to order at 7:02pm
Roll Call – All clubs except Back Bay and Great Bridge represented.
September 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes – Motioned, seconded, and approved as written.
Treasurer's Report – Motioned, seconded, and approved as written.

BASS Nation of Virginia Business:

- November 20, 2022 Board Meeting minutes were read by Susan.
- Mike Bryant and Sid Ryan attended the BASS National Championship November 9-11. Information regarding new exciting BASS formatting for 2024 was announced.
 - Everything at the state level remains the same for 2023 other than how each state determines who they will send straight to Nationals in 2024. There will no longer be State Team regionals. The 2023 State Team regional on Douglas Lake will be the last State Team. Our state will discuss options at the January 8 board meeting; i.e. how many qualifiers (we already have 4 dates on the schedule), how many teams from each qualifier, teams vs. draw format, pounds and hundredths ounces vs. point system, any drops, etc. The number of teams in total from each state will be determined based on membership percentage by BASS in September 2023. The state board will plan accordingly. This is a format very similar to that of our current Youth/High School/College format. At our current membership, we would be allowed 6 teams. The state will discuss and decide on the state's contribution to the anglers going to Nationals from the qualifiers.
 - Also, BASS will be doing away with their OPENS in 2024 and will now have 4 Regional Opens. Each state will be provided Early Bird Registration Codes, the number of codes based on a percentage determined by BASS, to be given out however each state chooses. Our state will discuss options at the January 8 board meeting. Keep in mind these are Early Bird registration codes and not guaranteed berths into a Regional Open. Each regional will have a minimum 250 boat field. First come, first serve. Boaters \$500/Non-Boaters \$250. Contributions, if any, by the state to anglers officially registered through early bird registration to be discussed at January 8 board meeting.
 - Once the early bird registration time period is closed, registration will then be open to all BASS members. Any BASS member who has paid state dues whether you are in a club or not (considered an "at large" member), can register. Again, this is a registration application and not guaranteed berth. At large anglers are "Pay Your Own Way".
 - The best chance of getting to the Nationals is as a Nation member. Virginia will qualify its specified # of teams to go straight to the Nationals from our state qualifiers. Virginia will provide early bird registrations at a chance to fish a Regional Open. Club and at large member have the ability to register for a chance to fish a Regional Open after the early birds. Placing high enough in the Regional Opens will get you to the Nationals. Full details will be coming from BASS around September 2023.

- Next state board meeting is January 8, 2023.
- Richmond Fishing Expo is January 20-22, 2023.

Region 7 Business:

- Craig discussed bylaw changes he wishes to be proposed. Horsepower maximum consistent with BASS at 250hp for State and Region levels. And at our Region Open tournament, the rules of the tournament will be that of Region 7 and not Bob's Fishing Hole.
- Craig thanked Wayne Hayes and Mark Ingram, Tournament Director and Assistant Tournament Director 2022 for their excellent management of our Region tournaments.
- Kevin Massie will be taking Mark Ingram's place as Assistant Tournament Director for 2023.
- Craig thanked all of our sponsors and their generosity to Region 7.
- The dog box raffle worked very well for us. Craig will see about doing another one in 2023.
- Announcement of Kenny Brooks' passing.

Tournament Report:

- Wayne presented Top Angler of the Year awards to Kevin Walton and Ricky Hodges. Kevin also took the Region 7 lotto pot and lunger of the year with 9.74 lb bass. Congratulations!!
- The only changes to our 2023 tournament schedule are the April Kerr tournament ramp has been changed to Eastland Creek. North Bend ramps will be closed until June. The Chick tournament has been moved to July 29th since we have seven anglers (Kevin Walton, Craig Owens, Ricky Hodges, Ivan Morris, Adam Richardson, Jeff Poplin and Brian Guckert) who will be fishing the state team tournament on Douglas Lake, TN starting Sun. 5/21 thru Friday 5/26.
- Wayne reported that the trailer has been refurbished Thanks to Brian Stump at Surface Technologies.

Next meeting:

Next meeting January 11, 2023

Club Remarks:

Each club President was provided an opportunity to announce new members, recent tournaments, and events, and express any comments or complaints from their members to the R7 board.

Back Bay – Absent

Bass Holes – Good.

Great Bridge - Absent

Little Creek - Good

Princess Anne - Good

SEVA - Good

Virginia - Good

Tourn Dir - Wayne asked for clarification as to whether or not you can fish the region tournaments without paying state dues. His reason being some members may not wish to fish any state events but still want to fish the region tournaments. Susan read Region 7 bylaws which currently indicate region members must be members in good standing with BASS and BNVA. He asked should we change that.

Sec/Treas - 2023 Club rosters, national and state dues are due now. Please send to Susan by December 31st.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Owens, Secretary/Treasurer