

Region Seven Officers
Director: Craig Owens
Interim Tourn. Dir: Kevin Massie
Secretary/Treasurer: Susan Owens
Youth Directors: Victor Spence



Minutes of the November 29, 2023, President's meeting
7:00pm at The Glass Baron

Call meeting to Order – Craig called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

Roll Call – All clubs represented.

Last Meeting Minutes – Motioned to approve by SEVA, seconded by Bass Holes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Motioned by Little Creek, seconded by Bass Holes. Motion passed.

Presentation of Lunker of the Year Award to Chris Pike with an 8.05lb bass on the Pasquotank. Dennis Cook accepted the award and lunker lotto check on behalf of Chris. Congratulations!

Presentation of Top Anglers of the Year to Chris Napier and Mike Hildenbrandt with a 64.96 lbs. finish. Congratulations.

State Business:

Current tournament format is 4 tournaments with a drop, point system, can fish one tournament alone. 2 Bylaw proposals to change format bylaw have been submitted to Sid Ryan for vote at January Board Meeting. Submissions to date are

- 4 tournaments without a drop, point system, and can fish one tournament alone, and
- 3 tournaments with a fish off tournament, no drops, up to 2 tournaments can be fished alone.

Discussion of options or whether Region 7 wanted to submit their own proposal resulted in Region 7 agreeing with the 3 tournaments with a fish off tournament, no drops, but only one tournament allowed alone and must fish 2 of 3 tournaments to be eligible for state championship fish off. Not fair for a lone boater to qualify in one tournament and the other team member gets to go to fish off without even fishing a qualifier. If fish all 3, automatically go to championship fish off.

BASS State Team Trail contract discussed. Region 7 agrees for State to sign contract. Then State tournaments will be tracked in point system for a final standings by points. For every 25 unique teams fishing the state tournaments the state can send 1 team to the annual state team trail championship. This is a 3-day tournament in November or December each year where the 1st 2 days you fish as a team to make the cut. Those teams making the cut then fish the last day by themselves with a camera man, and the winner goes straight to the Bassmaster Classic.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Craig thanked Ivan and Janet for allowing Region 7 to hold its presidents meetings at the Glass Baron. And thank you to all club presidents for their support in the region.

2024 Region 7 Tournament Schedule was proposed and voted on:

March 2	Gaston / Holly Grove
April 27	Chickahominy River / Riverfront
May 18	Pasquotank River / Elizabeth City
June 15	Munden Point or Bob's Fishing Hole (TBD)
October 12	Region 7 OPEN at Bob's Fishing Hole

2024 Youth Events typically first Saturday in June, first Saturday in August, and last Saturday in September. All subject to VB Parks & Rec and Chesapeake Parks & Rec confirmations.

Craig announced for clubs to be aware that Tull's Bay ramp is now open for business with credit card ramp fee machine available. They are hoping to open the store at some time in the future.

Craig reminded everyone that help is needed at region tournaments especially at weigh ins. Please help out.

Election of Officers:

No one stepped up to take on Director or Secretary/Treasurer position. Victor Spence has committed to taking on the Youth Director role. Craig and Susan both agreed to stay on.

2024 tournament trophies:

Costs have increased dramatically but the Board decided to continue with presenting 1st, 2nd place plaques and luncheon plaques at each tournament.

F1 Bass Fingerling Program:

Efforts to counter the infiltration of spotted bass in Gaston, Norman and Jordan lakes, Ivan discussed his latest efforts to assist Marty Stone and Chuck Murray, NC President in the 4-year F1 bass program in Lake Gaston. He is presently raising money to purchase fingerlings. For additional information or desire to donate, please contact Ivan.

Round the Room Comments:

Back Bay – Region paying entry fee for Fall Classic question. Bylaws state "if funds available". With the 26-boat average turnout at 2023 tournaments, funds were not available. If the region is counting on sponsors' monetary donations to keep payouts higher, participation needs to improve to create available funds for top 5 teams to have their entry fee paid.

Bass Holes - Thank you to Craig and Susan for remaining in the Director and Secretary/Treasurer positions.

Great Bridge - Yes, thank you

Little Creek - Ditto

SEVA - Absolutely

Virginia - Ditto

Next meeting:

January 17, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Owens, Secretary/Treasurer