

SMITHVILLE BASSMASTERS
BYLAWS
AS ESTABLISHED NOVEMBER 1993
(revised 2/23/23)

Article I- NAME AND PURPOSE

1. This Chapter shall be called the Smithville Bassmasters of Smithville, Missouri.
2. The purpose is to stimulate public awareness of bass fishing as a major sport. To offer our State Conservation Department our moral and political support and encouragement. To promote full adherence to all conservation codes and to demand adequate water standards. To detect and report any polluter and call public attention to their crime. To improve our skills as bass anglers through a fellowship of friendly exchange of expert bass-catching techniques and ideas. Promote and encourage youth fishing and a love for this great recreation. To function as a dynamic and effective link with other chapters of the State B.A.S.S. Chapter Federation embracing the principles of Bass Anglers Sportsman Society.

Article II – MEMBERSHIP

1. Number of members.

This Chapter shall begin with and maintain no less than six members.

2. Requirements for membership:

To become a member, a person shall:

- (a) Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership.
- (b) Prospective members shall be a member of B.A.S.S.
- (c) Be recommended by one member at a regular monthly meeting
- (d) Be voted on by membership.
- (e) Full membership shall then be awarded and membership credentials presented.
- (f) Must be sixteen years of age, have parents or legal guardian's written permission. Member must provide a waiver of liability annually signed by a parent or legal guardian until he/she attains the age of eighteen.

3. Membership Dues

The membership dues shall be **\$85** annually, payable upon being voted into this Chapter.

Article III- OFFICERS, ELECTIONS, VACANCIES AND ELIGIBILITY

1. Officers and their duties

The officers of this Chapter shall consist of:

- (a) **President:** preside over all meetings and direct all official business. Appoint and be an ex officio member of all committees. Supervise all club functions.
- (b) **Vice-President/Tournament Director:** Act as program chairman, assists the President in his duties and presides in the absence of the President/Organize and directs Tournament

Committee to: Be responsible for conducting weigh-ins, resolving any tournament disputes. Getting tournament equipment to and from the tournament sites. Obtaining permits for the club tournaments. Will be involved in tournament site selections. Policing tournament sites.

- (c) **Treasurer:** Collect and disburse all monies. Maintain accurate financial records and present a current balance report at each regular meeting. Prepare an annual audit for review by the Chapter board of directors. Maintain regular liaison between the Chapter and the Bass Anglers Sportsmen Society and the Missouri Chapter Federation. He will notify the state and federation of every new member.
- (d) **Secretary:** Maintain accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings as called for by the President. Monthly contact with club members to keep them informed of all events, transactions and point standings.
- (e) **Webmaster:** Will create and maintain a website, Facebook and Twitter accounts to promote the club and its activities.
- (f) **State Representative:** Will attend Missouri Federation meetings and will be appointed by the President and the board of directors.
- (g) **New Member Ambassador:** Will assist any potential new members by answering any questions about the club and tournaments. Will be a friendly face to those joining the club and will make efforts to ensure new members feel welcome.

2. Elections

The election of officers shall be held annually at regular meeting during the month of November. Elections shall be by simple majority of member present. Election of each office shall be held separately in order listed in Article III, Section 1.

3. Eligibility of Vote

Each member is entitled to one vote. Proxy vote are not permitted.

4. Term of Office

The term of office is for one year, which shall begin on January 1, and end on the last meeting in December or until the successor assumes office. Original slate of officers shall serve until the last meeting day of the following December.

5. Vacancies

In the event of an office becoming vacant, nominations shall be asked and an election held to fill the unexpired terms of the individual vacating the office. National B.A.S.S. Headquarters shall be notified immediately of the change of any officer.

6. Eligibility for Holding Office

To be eligible for an office a member must:

- (a) Have been a member for six months.
- (b) Have showed an active interest in all Chapter functions.

Article IV- STANDING COMMITTEES

1. All standing committees will serve for one year or until a new committee is appointed. The term of the committee members will coincide with that of the President.

- (a) **Board of Directors:** The board of Directors will consists of eight (8), members: President, Vice-President/Tournament Director, Secretary, Treasurer, Webmaster, immediate past President, and two members elected at large by majority vote of members present at the November regular meeting.

1. The President will call meetings of the Board of Directors and will preside at such meetings.
 2. The Secretary will record the minutes of these meetings.
 3. The Board will decide all the protest and rule on all violations of the tournament rules and bylaws of this Chapter when appropriately received.
 4. Develop agenda for the monthly meetings.
- (b) **Youth Committee:** The purpose of this committee shall be to plan, organize and implement a chapter youth project, to introduce young people to the goals of B.A.S.S.; to give them a basis for respect of our National Heritage, integrity, fair play, and good sportsmanship, and to give them an introduction to the sheer joy of fishing.
- (c) **Conservation Committee:** The purpose of this committee shall be to protect our national environment from harmful change, to document and report to the proper authorities, violations of local, state, and federal anti-pollution laws, statutes, regulations, and ordinances and other regulatory devices. To take political action where appropriate. To undertake informational and educational programs to bring public awareness to our environment and to take a leadership role in repairing the harm that has already been done to the life-giving waters of American.
- (d) **Tournament Committee:** The purpose of the tournament committee shall be to plan, organize, and operate all Chapter tournaments. The committee will keep tournament records, enforce all tournament rules and investigate all protests concerning tournament and make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

Article V – REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP

1. Any member shall be dropped from the membership role for the following:
 - (a) Failure to pay dues.
 - (b) Any action which would reflect dishonor and disgrace on this Chapter.

Article VI- AFFILIATIONS

1. Requirements for affiliations:
 - (a) Approval of the Chapter Charter by the National Bass Anglers Sportsman Society Federation.
 - (b) Update B.A.S.S. with a chapter roster once a year, immediately following election of Chapter officers and directors.
 - (c) Names and addresses of new members joining the Chapter during the year must be submitted to B.A.S.S. as they occur.
 - (d) Maintain 100% B.A.S.S. Membership.
 - (e) Support State Federation conservation and youth programs. Any additional requirements that the State Federation establishes for chapters, such as membership dues, attendance at meetings, etc., would be necessary in order for the chapter to participate in State Federation qualifying tournaments and any other federation sponsored events.

Article VII- AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

1. The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended at any official club meeting by a 2/3 vote of members present, provided written of the proposed amendment has been presented to the membership at least one regular meeting prior to the vote.

Article VIII- CLUB CORRESPONDENCE

1. All Chapter correspondence shall be addressed to :

Smithville Bassmasters
PO Box 257
Smithville, Missouri 64089-0257

Article IX- B.A.S.S. CHAPTER STATE FEDERATION CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

1. Chapter Team
 - (a) Smithville Bassmasters will send a team to the State Tournament. Not to exceed the State Federation team limit.
2. Tournament Fees
 - (a) All State Team tournament fees/expenses will be paid for by the individuals fishing the tournament.
3. Alternates
 - (a) The club will not pay to send an alternate to the State Tournament.

Article X- SMITHVILLE LIABILITY

Any person or persons participating in any function held by this chapter understands and acknowledges that they hereby expressly release Smithville Bassmasters from any liabilities. Specifically any person or persons agree to hold Smithville Bassmasters harmless from any damages that may result at a club function.

Any watercraft used in a Smithville Bassmaster's function, specifically a tournament must have \$300,000.00 liability minimum. A copy of the insurance declaration must be provided to the club before said watercraft can be used in a club function.

Article XI - CLUB COMMUNICATIONS

The Smithville Bassmasters reserve the right to the use of the name "Smithville Bassmasters" in any communications by any member. No member shall state, suggest, or imply in any communication an official endorsement from the club without its approval.

If the webmaster is using his personal internet account to create the website for the club the webmaster shall be the sole person to decide what is to be on the site. The club shall not give up the right to have any material removed from the site if it deems it necessary.

If the club pays for an account for the purpose of creating a website all content on the site will be decided by the club officers.