

Summit City Bass Masters Minutes

Date June 2nd, 2009

At: Gander Mountain, Lima Road, Fort Wayne, IN

President: Wendel Brown
Vice President: Aaron Krider
Secretary: Jim Graham
Treasurer: Mark Kirk
Tournament Director: Bob Bruick

Meeting Minutes: Minutes as taken by Jim Graham

Wendel Brown asked that the May minutes be amended. Added was the discussion regarding the purposed change to the way the tournament comette draws boaters.

Motion to accept minutes otherwise as posted in the newsletter by Bill Hovermale, Seconded by Bryan Thurman. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

In Attendance:

Members in attendance were Wendel Brown, Aaron Krider, Jim Graham, Matt Gardenour, Bill Hovermale, Gary Sanderlin, Bob Bruick, Sam Hochstettler, Greg Rekeweg, Max Egley, Mike Uptgraft, Bryan Thurman, Kevin Galbreath, Bill Alday, Doug Haines, and Mark Kirk.

We welcome Tammy Smith as a guest to the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Mark Kirk Reporting,

General Fund	2, 139.93
Civic Fund	00.00
Classic Fund	<u>75.00</u>
Total	\$2,214.93

Motion to accepted the treasurers report by Aaron Krider, Gary Sanderline seconded. With Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Old Business:

1. **Federation Business** – Bill Hovermale reported that there is no new Federation News.

The top 8 was held over the weekend. 12 clubs and 88 anglers competed. Bill Hovermale finished 15th and won Big Bass on day 2. That makes Bill the 3rd alternate from our zone as an alternate. Congratulations to Bill on what were a couple of really tough days of fishing.

Bill reported that Gendmar has field Chapter 13. Gendmar owns Ranger, Stratos and others and is the company behind the FLW. Bill said the press release he had stated the FLW was not being affected at this time.

2. **Membership Committee** – Aaron Krider reported that he sent three notices to the paper and that there was no announcement in the paper.

Aaron presented Tammy Smith to the club. Tammy is interested in joining but would like to fish with her friend Bob Bruick as a guest before joining.

Aaron stated that the rod raffle has slowed a bit. He stated that he will continue to sell tickets until the rod is paid for and the remainder of the raffle money after paying for the Rod will go to the classic fund. The tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00.

3. **Boater Draw Proposal** – Wendel Brown opened a continuation of the previous month's discussion. Attached to the end of this newsletter is a copy of the printed email he sent out to the club and had for distribution at the meeting.

Several members voiced opinions on the topic.

Jim Graham presented the third revision of the proposal he emailed to the club. He handed out copies and read it to the club, he noted that he had made two changes to it from the second email version. Jim made a motion that it be adopted by the tournament committee. Bob Bruick Seconded. A vote was taken by a show of hands; 13:1 for the proposal, the motion will be adopted.

Following the vote, Wendel stated that a change to the Constitution and By-Laws was not necessary.

New Business:

1. **Boater Insurance** – Jim Graham announced that the secretary would now be tracking the boater insurance information as required by the Indiana Bass Federation. Scan and email, or US Postal mail a copy of your boat insurance declaration page to him.
2. **Tournament Committee** – Presented the St. Clair Drawing. The hours will be from 6:00 am to 3:00 pm Saturday and 6:00 am to 2:00 pm Sunday.

Director for Day One of this tournament - Sam Hochstetler

Director for Day One of this tournament – Bob Bruick

Lake St. Clair Tournament Pairings as of June 2nd, 2009

Note: Day Two the order will be reversed

Boat #	Boater	Non-Boater
1	Jim Graham	Phil Johnson (Guest)
2	Wendel Brown	Mick Thiel (Guest)
3	Bill Alday	Brent Berghorn Guest)
4	Bob Bruick	Tammy Smith (Guest)
5	Gary Sanderlin	Barb Sanderlin (Guest)
6	Matt Gardenour	Kevin Galbreath
7	Lee Pilz	Sam Hochstetler
8	Doug Haines	Bryan Thurman
9	Greg Rekeweg	Jim Unger (Guest)
10	Bill Hovermale	Mark Kirk
11	Aaron Krider	Chris Dablow (Guest)
12	Max Egley	Karen Egley (Guest)*
13	Keith Schroder*	(Guest)
14	Corey McCormick*	Melody McCormick (Guest)*

* Changed per Tournament Director

Program:

Skirt Making –Bill Hovermale present a brief lesson on tying jig and spinnerbait skirts. Thanks Bill

Wendel Brown's email comments

To all Summit City Bass Master club members,
I have been asked by a couple of members what my thoughts are about the proposal to change our club bylaws to allow a member to fish alone or bring a guest more than one time a season. The argument advanced in the handout as the most likely argument opposed to that proposition is the increased cost of fishing alone. We have been requiring pairing of partners since the inception of the club. The cost of going fishing has been high at times but has never been a reason for requiring pairings.

I advance the following arguments against changing the bylaws. Number one, our club was founded and has continued for nearly 35 years as one that "provides opportunities for its members to gain experience and develop skill in bass fishing". In fact that exact phrase is in the SCBM Constitution and bylaws Article 1, Section A. number 1. Since it is the first thing you read in the Constitution, I believe when the Constitution was written, it was viewed as extremely important. I believe it still is extremely important to many members. It is still one of the most important reasons why I belong to the club. The meaning of that passage from the Constitution means we should fish WITH each other to gain knowledge, experience and techniques from each other. How can you do that fishing alone? The answer is, you can't. If you only want to test your skill against others, you can do that fishing alone but no one else will learn much from that. Also, if you only want to fish alone or always with the same partner, there are clubs that do that and there are many, many open "fish for the money" tournaments.

Number two, in my younger days I used to feel at times I would rather fish alone in our club tournaments. I felt I could do better alone and I would not have to give up any information or spots or time or front of the boat to some worthless partner. I have come to realize that frequently BECAUSE I had a boat partner I actually did better. They might have a suggestion about a spot or technique that helped me or reminded me of something. I rarely have a problem with a partner getting in the way or causing any other problem. Most of the time I really feel having a partner helps me catch more bass. I also appreciate when I am able to help someone else learn something.

The number three reason to always have a partner is one that is not specifically stated anywhere. That is safety. If anything happens, you can help each other. It could be a health problem, falling overboard, boat problems or any one of a hundred other unseen difficulties. It is always better to have a partner on any size lake. I know some members have no problem fishing alone. Let me remind all of you that most of the people that don't come home from a fishing trip were fishing alone.

The number four reason to pair up, is to create and foster a spirit of team and comradere, of honesty and friendship. We need to know each other and be connected by some familiarity with each other to build that spirit and friendship. Having some people fishing alone much of the time will foster a counter spirit of distrust and a feeling of being on the outside of the group. I know sometimes there has been a feeling that some members are cliquish and don't share with other club members. One way to make that much worse is to have several people fishing by themselves or only with certain other individuals. I know myself that if someone isn't being open and honest with me I will not be sharing with them when they might need it. That sort of thing is not good for our club and should be avoided if at all possible. Sharing makes us all better. Another similar and related issue that was raised at the meeting is that of having a prospective member fish with us and not counting them as a guest. The following is a quote from the minutes of the December 2008 meeting when the issue was discussed and voted on. "The decision was made and approved that the current rule on guests in the Constitution and By-Laws will not change, but if a member has already had a guest fish a tournament and wants to bring a second

guest that is considering joining the club he/she can present the request to the club prior to sign up for the tournament. As is currently the case, all club members must be partnered up at the time of the drawing before a guest." Therefore if the prospective member fishing with us has been brought up at the meeting and there are more boaters than non boaters they do not count as a guest.

I understand the issue of pairing boater with boater and one of them having to give up the boater status. I agree that the club should do as much as possible within the framework of our rules to minimize that happening. I definitely understand the sacrifice of having to stuff whatever I think I might need for a day of fishing into a bag so I can fish with someone else. I have done it many times. I agree that a person who entered as a boater but had to give up the boater position to be a non boater, should be placed in position for the next tournament so they are paired with a non boater. Special placement should be for the next tournament only though. In subsequent tournaments they should be placed in the draw just like any other boater. In addition to those procedures, I think at the meeting when the tournament committee sees there are significantly more boaters than non boaters, they should announce it to the members at the meeting. That would allow any boaters to voluntarily change to non boater status for that tournament before the draw.

For many or perhaps most of our club members this is the first time this issue has been addressed. Believe me when I say this is only one of many times this issue has come up. For the reasons stated above I have opposed it whenever possible. Although the member who raises the issue now may not realize it, the larger issue of having members fish alone on a regular basis changes a fundamental foundation of our club. There have been times when members in a competitive spirit have gone to great lengths to manipulate circumstances to fish alone. It was stopped. I believe when necessary we must make some sacrifice of comfort and convenience to do the right thing. The right thing in this case is make adjustments to our procedures to minimize those sacrifices and leave the bylaws as they are.

Wendel Brown, President

Proposal Presented by Jim Graham

Procedure for the Tournament Committee in making the Tournament Draw

1. All interested in being a boater at a Tournament signup as a boater. *As it is now.*
2. Anyone interested in fishing the Tournament as a non-boater sign up as a non-boater. *As it is now.*
3. Tournament director announces if the boater / non-boater lists are unequal and asks if any non-boaters will consider switching to become a non-boater.
4. Any boater not drawn with a member partner the previous tournament is put in a pile to be drawn from first. *(This insures that boaters not partnered with a member non-boater the previous tournament will be for the tournament being drawn. This also helps to reverse the starting order.)*
5. The remaining boater draw is made. This is the tournament starting order. *As it is now.*
6. The non-boater draw is made. Non-boaters are paired with boaters in the order they are drawn. Every effort is made to insure that partners are only together once during a season. If a non-boater name is drawn and they are paired with a boater they have fished with previously, they are moved down the list to the first boater they have not been paired with. *As it is now.*
7. A member may, one time throughout the year signup to bring a guest and have a guaranteed spot for the guest. Provided that all member non-boaters signed up have a partner for the tournament. *As it is now.*
8. If a boater is not drawn with a partner, they have until the tournament to find a guest. This does not count against their 1 guest per year allotment. *(This would help bring new faces to the club and potentially grow the membership. This could also be a Wife, Son ,Daughter Mom or Dad).* As soon as a member has a guest that has committed to fish that tournament, the member must call the Tournament Director and your boat is listed in the startup as full (boater / guest and guests name) and your guest is guaranteed that spot. The Tournament Director emails the guest name to the Club Secretary so the name can be added to the clubs newsletter and thus the guest is covered by insurance (Something we should already be doing and aren't, Per our Federation Representative Bill Hovermale).
9. A member non-boater can submit a guest name to the Tournament Director to fill vacancies in tournament lineup. This does not count against anyone's 1 guest per year allotment. *(This would help bring new faces to the club and potentially grow the membership).*
10. If a boater doesn't want to fish alone they can inform the Tournament Director and be re-listed as a non-boater. Notice to the Tournament Director can be at the meeting following the drawing or anytime prior to the tournament. Upon notification the Tournament Director can re-list the boater as a non-boater. Again every effort is made to insure that partners are only together once during a season. *(This would be the option if a boater were unable to find a guest or wishes to cut costs).*

11. No boater can request to fish alone or, refuse the Tournament Directors placement of a non-boater or guest in their boat for the tournament. Boaters can fish alone when not paired with a member non-boater, guest or are unable to find a guest themselves. *(However, It's their choice to fish alone and their option to bear the expense of fishing alone).*
12. The Tournament Director can make changes to the Tournament Pairings as needed to insure that all member needs are addressed.
13. A guest may be bumped from the tournament roster to make room for a Member Non-Boater provided that:
 - A. No boaters are alone.
 - B. The member guest was listed on the tournament draw sheet and their boater has withdrawn from the tournament leaving them without a ride.
 - C. The tournament is more than 12 hours from Official Launch Time (72 hours for Overnight Trips, Erie, St. Clair and the Classic for example)
 - D. Inside the 12 hour / 72 hour launch time the Tournament Director may ask if a boater will drop their guest to make room for the Member non-boater but it is not required.
 - E. The Tournament Director may ask for a boater to take the additional member non-boater.
14. *If a Member was on the original tournament signup sheet is left without a partner and as a result is not able to fish they will be awarded their show points.

* Requires a change in the club's Constitution and By-laws.