

# **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE SUMMIT CITY BASS MASTERS**

As published: September 2, 2008

## **ARTICLE 1**

### **Name and Purpose**

- A. This organization shall be known as the *SUMMIT CITY BASS MASTERS*. The purpose of this organization is:
1. To provide opportunities for its members to gain experience and develop skill in bass fishing.
  2. To teach fishing skill to youngsters.
  3. To promote good sportsmanship associated with boating and fishing.
  4. To promote conservation of the natural resources.

## **ARTICLE 2**

### **Membership**

- A. Any person who is interested in the objectives of the Summit City Bass Masters may become a member, provided he/she:
1. Is interested in bass fishing.
  2. Is of good moral character.
  3. Agrees to the constitution and by-laws.
  4. Pays the current dues.
  5. Agrees to be a FLW member.
  6. Has attended two consecutive club functions (preferably one meeting and one tournament).
  7. Has been interviewed by the membership committee.
- B. An honorary membership to the club shall be given to any person who the majority of the membership deems worthy. The honorary member is given an honorary certificate and honorary membership card.

## ARTICLE 3

### Officers

- A. The officers of this club, hereby known as the governing body, shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and the advisory board consisting of three members.
  - 1. Following the first year, one advisory board member shall be elected each year for period of three (3) years.
- B. The officers and advisory board members shall be nominated from the floor at the first regular meeting in November. A majority vote shall be necessary to elect.
- C. If any office becomes vacant, the president shall appoint a member in good standing to fill the office until the next regular election date. If the president vacates, his office, the vice-president becomes president.

### Committees

- A. The president shall appoint a tournament director and the tournament director shall appoint a committee of four (4) members in good standing.
- B. The president shall appoint a program committee of three (3) and appoint one of the three as chairman.
- C. The president shall appoint a state chapter federation representative and alternate.

### Duties of Officers

- A. The President shall:
  - 1. Preside at all meetings of the club.
  - 2. Appoint all committees not otherwise provided for.
  - 3. Make necessary appointments to fill vacancies of officers.
  - 4. See that the regulations of the club are enforced.
  - 5. Carry out assignments and instructions given him by the club.
  - 6. Perform such other duties customarily pertaining to the office of president.
- B. The Vice-President shall:
  - 1. Be an aide to the president and in case of the absence or disability of the president, shall assume and perform the duties of the president.
  - 2. Appoint a membership committee of two (2) and be chairman of the committee.
- C. The Secretary shall:
  - 1. Keep a record of the proceedings of all meetings.

2. Issue notice of the meeting.
  3. Conduct correspondence of the club.
- D. The Treasurer shall:
1. Collect all fees and dues.
  2. Render an account each month of all receipts and expenditures.
  3. Notify members of applicable dues.
- E. The tournament director shall be responsible for conducting all tournaments, pairings, tournament hours, picking launch site, record keeping and any other duties necessary for operating the club tournaments. If the tournament director can not be at the tournament, he may appoint a member of the tournament committee to fulfill his duties at that event.
- F. The program committee will be in charge of a program at each meeting for one year.
- G. The federation representatives shall attend all state federation meetings and report proceedings to the club.
- H. The membership committee will be in charge of new memberships and membership promotions.
- I. The governing body shall have the power to make emergency decisions when it is not possible to consult the whole club.

## **ARTICLE 4**

### Meetings

- A. Twelve (12) regular meetings shall be held each year. The place and hour are to be determined by the president.
- B. The governing body shall have regular meetings each year. The place and hour are to be determined by the president.

## **ARTICLE 5**

### Amendments

- A. The constitution and bylaws may be amended at any regular business meeting of the club by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present, provided that written notice of the proposed amendment has been given to all members at least one week previously.

# CLUB BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE 1

### Dues

- A. The annual dues shall be \$65.00, due and payable at the first meeting in November. Any member who has not paid his dues by the December meeting will be removed from the roll of members.
- B. New member dues will not be pro-rated until the club meeting in June. National dues will not be pro-rated at all. (Currently, national and state dues are \$25.00 per year. Membership will expire on November 30<sup>th</sup> of the calendar year.)

If a new member joins the club at the meeting in:

June	their dues will be	\$50.00
July	their dues will be	\$45.00
August	their dues will be	\$40.00
September	their dues will be	\$35.00
October	their dues will be	\$30.00

## ARTICLE 2

- A. A member shall be removed from the membership roster for the following:
  - 1. Missing three (3) consecutive functions without good cause.
  - 2. Cheating in any way. (The member's name will be sent to the state organization.)
  - 3. Drinking alcohol before or during a function.
- B. To be removed for the above violations, the advisory board must investigate the circumstances and present their findings to the governing body who shall vote on the expulsion. A two-thirds (2/3) majority or five (5) members of the governing body must be in favor before expulsion from the club.

## ARTICLE 3

- A. The chapter must maintain one hundred percent (100%) FLW membership. Once a year TBF will send the club secretary a computer printout of the club members. The club will update the information on the printout and return it to TBF.

## ARTICLE 4

### A. Tournament Dates

1. The tournament committee will set up a schedule with a maximum of twelve (12) tournament weigh-ins. Indiana Bass Federation tournament dates will be considered but not play a determining factor in the selection of dates. The club classic will be included in the 12 weigh-ins and will count toward point standings. Other club events will be dovetailed into the calendar.
2. In the event a conflict arises in the tournament schedule that hinders the club from successfully holding said tournament, the tournament committee shall alter the tournament date to the nearest available date.

### B. Tournament Rules

1. There will be no running starts.
2. There will be no alcoholic beverages until the conclusion of the tournament.
3. All contestants must abide by all state and lake regulations. The size limit will be fourteen (14) inches where required and twelve (12) inches elsewhere.
4. There will be no fishing allowed within fifty (50) feet of another contestant's boat which was first anchored and has the trolling motor raised.
5. All boats must start the tournament from the same starting point and partners should remain in sight of each other during the day.
6. Only fish caught and landed from the boat may be counted.
7. All fish killed must be cleaned.
8. There will be no live bait, trolling or fly-fishing allowed.
9. Each contestant must wear a coast guard approved life vest anytime the gasoline engine is running during tournament hours.
10. All boats with electric start motors must be equipped with an automatic kill switch and driver must have the kill switch lanyard attached to their person.
11. Each boat must be equipped with a working aerated live well capable of maintaining two (2) limits of fish. All means should be used to keep fish alive. Live wells and kill switches shall be inspected before the start of each tournament.
12. Each contestant must have dues paid to enter a tournament.
13. Largemouth, smallmouth, and Kentucky bass only will count for tournament points.
14. Each contestant may fish with only one rod and reel at a time.
15. Starting times will be set for each individual tournament.
16. Pairings of partners will be made by the tournament committee.
17. In case of leaving early, fish to be weighed should be weighed and witnessed by two other members.
18. There will be no more than two (2) persons per boat unless otherwise deemed necessary by the tournament committee.
19. There will be no littering and the area must be policed before leaving the tournament site when possible.
20. Any deviation from the tournament rules will be reviewed and ruled on by the tournament committee.
21. All boaters must have and maintain in full effect throughout the tournament season a minimum of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) worth of liability insurance and submit proof thereof to the tournament director prior to the first

tournament date. This documentation shall show: carriers name, boaters name, policy amount, description of the boat, and policy effective dates.

22. The best eight (8) tournament weigh-ins will count for a year's tournament point standings.

23. Points:

1 <sup>st</sup>	40 pts.	2 <sup>nd</sup>	38 pts.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	36 pts.	4 <sup>th</sup>	34 pts.
5 <sup>th</sup>	32 pts.	6 <sup>th</sup>	30 pts.
7 <sup>th</sup>	28 pts.	8 <sup>th</sup>	26 pts.
9 <sup>th</sup>	24 pts.	10 <sup>th</sup>	22 pts.

Show Points = 5 pts.

Note: Additional place points as needed in two point reductions.  
Show points will not be lost from members total points for end of year standings.

#### Penalty Points

1 <sup>st</sup> dead fish	Deduct 4 oz.
2 <sup>nd</sup> dead fish	Deduct 8 oz.
3 <sup>rd</sup> dead fish	Deduct 16 oz.

Short fish                      Deduct 8 oz.

Dead fish will be weighed, but short fish will be thrown back and then 8 ounces deducted from the remaining weight.

24. In the event of a tie, both contestants will be awarded the highest place points. Example, a tie for 5<sup>th</sup> place would result in each contestant receiving 32 points and 7<sup>th</sup> place receiving the standard 28 points.

25. There will be one (1) pound per minute penalty assessed to each entrant that is late to a weigh-in. After ten (10) minutes the entire catch will be disqualified. In the event a boat does not show up for the weigh-in and fails to notify another participant, the contestants in that boat will also forfeit their show points.

26. At the time the tournament director or his assigned states that the weigh-in will start, there will be no more courtesy bumps. The tournaments will end at previously designated times with the weigh-in beginning approximately ½ hour thereafter.

27. The decision of the tournament director shall be final regarding short fish, rules violations, etc.

28. Live wells and kill switches will be checked by the tournament director and must be in working order. Contestants will not be allowed to start the day until they are in full working order.

29. Any partner changes after initial pairings must be approved by the tournament director.

30. A member is allowed to bring only one guest per year and then only if all other club members have a partner.

31. All protest shall be directed to the tournament director within ten (10) minutes of final weigh-ins.
32. There will be a five fish limit. This will only be decreased by lake laws.
33. All club events will be held on Fort Wayne time regardless of location for the event.
34. The tournament committee shall make every effort NOT to pair individuals together more than one time in a tournament season.
35. All bass must be caught live and in a conventional sporting manner. When visually fishing a bed or for bedding bass, all bass must be hooked inside the mouth.
36. Upon joining, a new member will have points count for tournaments fished since the previous month's meeting.

- C. Distribution of money won in the club sponsored event (specifically the Indiana Bass Federation Top-8 tournament).
1. Pay back the club the initial entry fee for the tournament.
  2. Divide the rest of the money equally among all participating team members. (This amendment is for any money won by the team. Any money won by an individual, such as big bass pot, goes to that individual.)

Notes:

This Constitution and By-Laws was voted on by members present at the August 5, 2008 meeting and approved by a majority of members. It was be ratified unanimously by more than the required 2/3 vote of members present at the September 2, 2008 club meeting.

Edited by:

Wendel Brown, President