



Revised October 15, 2019

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# CONSTITUTION

(Revised March 2008)

## ARTICLE I: Name

The name of this club shall be called the **TALLAHASSEE BASS ANGLERS**, hereinafter referred to as **The Club**.

## ARTICLE II: Purpose

The purpose of The Club shall be to bring together at frequent intervals those persons who are interested in the sport of bass fishing. For this purpose, The Club shall promote fellowship, good sportsmanship, the conservation and protection of the fishing resources of Florida and the Nation, and take such practical action as may seem wise and desirable in support of these goals.

## ARTICLE III: Membership

### Section 1: Members

The membership shall consist of not more than 35 and shall be open to any male 18 years of age or older. Members must be a United States resident. Members should participate in all or most Club activities

### Section 2: Honorary Members

The honorary membership shall be selected by the members of The Club and may consist of an unlimited number of persons, regardless of residence, age, sex or national origin.

## ARTICLE IV: Officers

### Section 1: Club Officers

The official officers of The Club shall be a President, Vice-President/Entertainment Chairman, Secretary/Membership and Rules Chairman, Treasurer, and Tournament Chairman.

### Section 2: Officer Selection

The officers shall be selected by secret ballot from within the membership of The Club on the first Tuesday in October of each year. The Club elected officers shall serve for a period of one (1) year. Each officer may be re-elected to one additional term. The term of office shall commence on the first of January each year. The Club's official year shall commence on January 1 each year and shall conclude on December 31 the same year.

## **ARTICLE V: Executive Board**

### **Section 1: Function**

The Executive Board shall consist of all seven (7) officers of The Club. The board's function is to review, recommend and guide The Club in all activities and rule interpretations specified by The Club.

### **Section 2: Vacancies**

Vacancies occurring among the members of the Executive Board shall be elected by secret ballot and will serve the remainder of that term. The exception to this rule is in the event of a vacancy in the office of the President. The Vice-President shall be elevated to that office thereby making the Executive Board consist of the remaining six (6) officers.

## **ARTICLE VI: Meetings**

### **Section 1: Regular Meetings**

The Club shall meet regularly on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the place and time designated by the membership.

### **Section 2: Special Meetings**

Special meetings for other purposes may be called by the President or the Executive Board at such time as thought advisable. Such special meetings may transact only such business as is specified in the call to meet. Special meetings may not supersede or replace the regularly scheduled meetings, except when specified by The Club (i.e. a holiday falling on a regular meeting date).

## **ARTICLE VII: Amendments**

A proposed amendment to this Constitution may be presented at any regularly scheduled meeting by any member. Any such amendment so proposed must have a second and receive a majority vote of the quorum present in order to be considered by The Club. A proposed amendment failing to receive a second or a majority vote of the quorum present shall be declared a dead issue. A proposed amendment which receives a second and a majority vote by the quorum present shall be taken under consideration by The Club and shall be put to a vote at the next regularly scheduled meeting. The proposed amendment shall become a part of this constitution if it receives a favorable 70% majority vote of the membership. A quorum is defined as 51% of the membership.

# **BY - LAWS**

(Revised April 17, 2018)

## **ARTICLE I: Membership**

### **Section 1: Proposed New Members**

Names of proposed new members shall be submitted to The Club, at a regularly scheduled meeting by one or more sponsoring members. The proposed new member must be present at the meeting and shall be introduced to the membership by the sponsoring member. The proposed new member shall be required to tell The Club about himself. The Club is interested in aspects of the proposed new member such as the immediate family, if married, how many children, where he works, does he have a boat, his interest in bass fishing and why he wants to be a member of the Club. A proposed new member should not be a person whose actions could bring discredit to The Club.

### **Section 2: Pledges**

Each proposed new member, after having paid a **\$15.00** pledge fee and after having met all the above requirements, shall become a pledge. All pledges shall be expected to participate in Club functions in order to better acquaint themselves with the membership. Each pledge shall remain a pledge until he has fished at least three (3) Club point tournaments with three (3) separate members of The Club. A Pledge may choose to fish his first point tournament with his sponsor but he must announce his intentions to do so prior to the drawing for partners. These three (3) tournaments must be fished within the first five (5) tournaments he is eligible, as a pledge, to fish. If this requirement is not met, he forfeits his pledge status. After a Pledge has completed his required tournaments and is voted into membership in the club the points from his 3 pledge tournaments will be counted towards the Bass man of the year competition. A pledge may not vote or hold office.

### **Section 3: New Member Election**

Upon completion of all the above requirements, a pledge shall become eligible for membership status within The Club. Prior to election, any member may speak for or against the proposed new member. If 70% of The Club members are not present at the meeting a new member is to be voted on, proxy votes will be accepted by the President or Membership and Rules Chairman. All proxy votes must be in a written form to include email and text message. Verbal proxies will not be accepted. Election into The Club shall be by secret ballot. When a proposed new member receives a 70% favorable vote of the membership and upon payment of the required dues, the new member shall be added to the membership roster and shall be awarded full membership status. Should a pledge fail to receive a 70% favorable vote, he may, after paying a \$15.00 pledge fee, re-pledge The Club for membership.

### **Section 4: Member Age**

Anyone wishing to pledge The Club for membership must be at least 18 years of age.

### **Section 5: Dual Membership**

Any member or pledge of The Club may not be a member or pledge of another bass club

within a 75-mile radius of Tallahassee, Florida.

### **Section 6: Membership Termination**

Any member wishing to terminate his membership within the Club shall give notice to the Membership and Rules Chairman. Each member is encouraged to participate in all or most Club activities. If a member has not participated in at least 3 points tournaments **or** has not attended any Club activities for a period of six (6) consecutive months and has not communicated to any member of the executive board the reason for this inactivity, this member will then be considered to be inactive due to non- participation. A club member who has not met the clubs current activity requirements will be considered an inactive member from that date until the end of that membership year, December 31.

A member in good standing may petition the executive board to be placed in inactive status if the member will not be available to participate in club functions as described above. A member on inactive status must pay their dues as required. An inactive member will not be counted for determining a quorum for a club meeting. To return to active status this club member must petition the executive board for their approval.

An inactive member may fish a club tournament for no charge. There wil not accrue any points or money as far as their finishing place in the tournament. They may enter the big fish pot and be awarded those funds if they have the largest fish.

The Club Secretary is to maintain all attendance records.

### **Section 7: Membership Rights**

Each member in “Good Standing” with The Club has the right, using correct protocol, to present his opinion and/or vote on issues brought before The Club. If a member cannot be present for a meeting when there is a vote to be held, he may submit an absentee vote. The absentee vote must be presented to The Club in writing, signed and dated by the member submitting the vote, and must be signed and dated by another member of The Club as a witness. Good Standing is defined as regularly participating in Club activities and not owing The Club any significant amount of money as specified by the Executive Board. No member of the preceding year will be considered a member of the new year until their membership dues are paid and thus will not be allowed to vote or present their opinion for any reason.

## **ARTICLE II: HONORARY MEMBERS**

Honorary membership shall consist of those former members whom The Club deems worthy and deserving of this award. Honorary membership shall be presented at any regularly scheduled meeting or at The Club's annual awards banquet. The honored person(s) shall be presented a plaque denoting the award. Honorary members may not vote, hold office or participate in any Club activities except by invitation. Should an honorary member desire to have their full membership rights restored and to participate in the bass man of the year competition they must pay the yearly dues; no pledge period will be required.



## **ARTICLE III: DUES**

### **Section 1: Membership Dues**

Annual membership dues of \$50 shall be payable by January 1 of each year. Members shall have until the first regularly scheduled meeting in March to have paid their dues in full. Any member not paid in full by the beginning of the first regularly scheduled meeting in March shall be dropped from The Club roster. Pledges elected to full membership status shall have 30 days after election in which to pay their dues in full. No cancellation or refund of dues shall be made to a member resigning from The Club at any time.

### **Section 2: Operating Fund**

All money collected by The Club shall be deposited in the general operating fund of The Club and shall be credited to the general operating budget of The Club.

## **ARTICLE IV: DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICERS**

### **Section 1: President**

The President shall preside at all meetings at which he is present, exercise general supervision over the affairs and activities of The Club and generally represent The Club in any community affair in which The Club may participate. The President shall serve as a member (not an elected officer) on any committee that may involve him.

### **Section 2: Vice-President**

The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President during his absence.

### **Section 3: Recording Secretary**

The recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of The Club. The minutes shall be an accurate and official record of all business transacted. The Recording Secretary shall also be the custodian of all Club records which are not the specific responsibility of another officer or committee chairman (i.e. keeping attendance at each meeting).

### **Section 4: Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer**

The Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer shall conduct all correspondence of The Club, receive all Club funds, keep the funds in a bank depository selected and approved by The Club and pay out funds only by order of the President. The Treasurer shall be required to furnish financial statements to the Executive Board and The Club as requested. The Treasurer is also required to keep all necessary records of each member's cash transactions with The Club.

### **Section 5: Tournament Chairman**

The Tournament Chairman shall organize all Club tournaments and keep the necessary records regarding each member's standing in the Annual Bass Angler Competition. He shall also be responsible for The Club's weight scales.

### **Section 6: Membership and Rules Chairman**

The Membership and Rules Chairman shall be responsible for maintaining copies of all Club rules and regulations. This responsibility includes supplying copies, making interpretations, keeping up with rule changes, and having a set of rules at each meeting. The Rules Chairman is required to present a new pledge with copies of the rules and regulations that governs The Club's operations and explain them as needed.

### **Section 7: Entertainment and Publicity Chairman**

The Entertainment and Publicity Chairman is responsible for setting up all Club social events (i.e. parties, fish fries, awards banquet, Christmas party) with approval from The Club. He is also responsible for publicizing all Club events of note with the media (i.e. newspapers, magazines, TV).

## **ARTICLE V: QUORUM**

A quorum is defined as **51%** of The Club's membership.

## **ARTICLE VI: EXECUTIVE BOARD**

The Executive Board shall consider, promote, and transact the business of The Club subject to the approval of the membership. The Executive Board is responsible for enforcing all Club rules and regulations and setting penalties for violations as needed for the good of The Club as a whole. This covers rule violations and subsequent penalties not covered in the general tournament rules. The Executive Board also listens to any appeals made by members and decides the final outcome of those appeals. The Executive Board will bring to the meetings proposed recommendations concerning subjects which may affect The Club or any of its members or events.

## **ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS**

Any amendments to these By-Laws are covered by the same procedures as amendments to The Constitution.

## **ARTICLE VIII: TOURNAMENT RULES**

See tournament rules and regulations.

## **ARTICLE IX: ORDER OF BUSINESS**

1. Call to order by presiding officer.
2. Reading of minutes of the last meeting.
3. Approval or corrections to minutes.
4. Treasurer's report.
5. Introduction of guests.
6. New business.
7. Old business.
8. Adjourn.

## **ARTICLE X: PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE**

Robert's Rules of Order, revised, shall be the parliamentary authority for The Club.

# **General Tournament Rules and Regulations**

(Revised January 2012)

The newly elected officers shall recommend to The Club a tournament schedule for the coming year. These recommendations shall be presented for consideration prior to the beginning of a new Club year. The recommended Club Tournament Schedule will be presented for approval by the club membership during the first meeting of the new year.

**The tournament schedule shall contain a minimum of 8 point tournaments.** The Club may accept the recommended schedule or change it to its satisfaction. When a schedule receives a favorable 51% majority vote during a meeting which contains a quorum, the schedule may not be changed except for reasons of safety.

## **1. Tournament Scheduling**

All Club point tournaments shall be fished on the weekend following the third Tuesday each month. The tournament beginning and ending times shall be set by The Club on the Tuesday prior to the tournament. The tournament times must receive a majority vote of the contestants to be finalized. In the event a tournament needs to be rescheduled, the scheduling shall take place during a regularly scheduled Club meeting. There need not be a quorum present to set up a regularly scheduled tournament.

## **2. Eligibility**

Only those members and pledges in good standing within The Club are eligible to compete for prizes in sponsored tournaments.

## **3. Safety**

It is the responsibility of the boat owner to insure that the boat used is equipped with all safety devices as the law requires. **THE SAFE AND COURTEOUS OPERATION OF THE BOAT IS THE BOAT OPERATOR'S RESPONSIBILITY. A BOAT IS NOT TO BE OPERATED IN SUCH A MANNER THAT EITHER THE CLUB MEMBERS OR ANYONE ELSE IS ENDANGERED.**

All boat owners are to have liability insurance on their boat

Each participant in a Tallahassee Bass Anglers bass tournament must wear a Coast Guard approved chest type life jacket (PFD) when the boat is on plane. If you choose to use an auto inflatable type life jacket ( PFD) it must be inspected as required to remain in compliance with state law. Life jackets are to be securely fastened together when in use. If the boat has an ignition kill switch it must be in working order and attached to the boat operator's life jacket. If you do not have the required life jacket and ignition kill switch in use at "blast off" you will not be allowed to participate in the tournament. Should you be observed during the tournament day not in compliance with this rule it will be brought to the executive board within 30 minutes of the end of

the tournament for investigation.

The Tournament Chairman is to randomly check boats for safety equipment, ( kill switch operation, life jackets, running lights, and insurance compliance) prior to each tournament. The Tournament Chairman is to keep a record of these boat checks.

**4. Permitted Fishing Locations**

All fishing must be done from a boat. Boats must stay in tournament waters and when locks are present, no locking through from the body of water being fished is permitted. However, when fishing rivers or streams not containing locks or dams and when not otherwise specified by The Club, a contestant may fish as far away from the launching site as he so chooses. No fishing is permitted within 50 yards of another contestant's boat without the permission of each contestant in the boats.

**5. Entry Fees**

All point tournament entry fees (excluding the Classic and the Top 10 fish off, to which there are no entry fees) shall be \$20 due and payable prior to the drawing for that month's point tournament. The Treasurer will not accept any entry fee at the location of that month's point tournament.

**6. Live Release**

All fish still alive upon the conclusion of the tournament must be released. Failure to follow this requirement may result in a Club penalty.

**7. Alcoholic Beverages**

It is strongly suggested that no alcoholic beverages are to be carried or consumed in the boats during Club tournaments. Discretion is advised to all members.

**8. Tackle and Equipment**

All fish must be taken by rod and reel. Only artificial lures may be used as bait. Trolling is prohibited. Only one (1) rod and reel combination is to be used at any one time during Club tournaments.

**9. Commitment**

Any member who commits to a tournament shall be responsible for paying the entry fee whether or not he actually fishes the tournament. The Executive Board may grant variances on this rule.

**10. Drawing**

The drawing for partners shall be held on the **Tuesday** immediately prior to the tournament date. Partners shall be determined by a random drawing from among the eligible contestants. The eligible contestants will be divided into two groups, boat and no-boat/Pledge, for this drawing. Pledges shall be paired with the first members' names drawn that have indicated their names should be placed in the boat group. Once

all non-boaters and or all pledges have been paired the remaining boaters will be paired with other boaters. Paired boaters may compete individually from their own boats or they may choose to compete from the same boat if both anglers mutually agree to do so. The partners remain obligated to each other in respect to travel arrangements and lodging. In this pairing, if one boater should have complications arise (mechanical failure etc), then the two are obligated to fish from the same boat. Partners are to fish either alone or with each other. No guests are permitted.

In the event of an odd number of contestants, the contestant without a partner, may choose to fish alone or, if requested of the Tournament Chairman, with a partner selected by the Tournament Chairman. Once the drawing is completed, each two-man team is responsible for making their arrangements for boat, fuel, transportation, and lodging. Any contestant who has committed himself to a tournament and then finds he cannot compete is required to contact his partner and the Tournament Chairman as soon as possible. Failure to make this notification could result in a penalty being issued to the contestant as prescribed by the Executive Board. Should one not be able to compete in the tournament it is his responsibility to ensure that his share of the expenses is paid to his partner. A contestant can only be paired with the same partner during one (1) point tournament event in a given calendar year. When a contestant has fished with or has drawn everyone in the club his pairing will "roll over" and begin again.

#### **11. Contestant Placement**

The tournament winner shall be the contestant who, after having complied with all Club and tournament rules, has caught the greatest total weight of legal Bass. The second place finisher shall be the contestant having caught the second greatest total weight and so on until all contestants having caught at least one legal Bass have been placed among the finishers. Any contestant failing to catch at least one legal Bass will not be placed among the finishers. In the event of an absolute tie for total weight, the contestant having caught the greatest number of fish shall be awarded the higher place among the finishers. If this method still results in an absolute tie, the contestant having caught the heaviest Bass shall be awarded the higher place. If this method still results in an absolute tie, both contestants will place equally.

#### **12. Legal Fish**

The Club has specified the Golden Rule (with weights and measures) as the official measuring device for all sponsored events. In addition, the Golden Rule shall be used to determine the weight of fish when appropriate as specified by The Club. All legal species of Black Bass, including, but not limited to largemouth bass, small mouth bass and spotted bass, must meet the overall minimum length required by state game statutes for the body of water that the tournament is occurring upon unless the legal limit is less than 12 inches for a species of Black Bass, then the minimum limit for that species of Black Bass shall be 12 inches, except in cases where permits have been obtained for a specific tournament site. Permits that are obtained for a specific tournament site shall super cede state game statutes for minimum and maximum size and bag limits for the date of the permit only. Anglers must comply with the

requirements set forth in the permit and must retain such permits at all times during tournament hours. The Club reserves the right to allow or disallow paper fish during such permitted tournaments as voted on by the membership.

Fish are to be measured in a straight line with the mouth closed and the tail fin pinched together. No stretching or pulling of the fish is allowed. No mutilated fish shall be accepted for weighing. The Tournament Chairman shall measure all fish of questionable length. The declared measurement shall be final.

**A maximum of five (5) legal Bass are allowed per day per contestant during regular Club tournaments. Contestants must cull their catch immediately upon catching the sixth fish. In Florida, only one legal fish may be 22” or greater in length.**

### **Weigh-in**

Fish must be presented to the Weigh-Master in the proper designated type of Weigh-in- bag with the sufficient amount of water to properly support the fish during the weigh-in process. All fish must be weighed on the club’s scales. Should there be a malfunction of the club’s primary scales then the back- up scales are to be used. In the un-likely event, that both sets of scales fail, then the weigh-master shall use the approved Golden rule with its conversion chart to continue the weighing of fish. Every effort should be made to ensure that the back-up scales are present at every tournament. Once an angler’s fish have been weighed they are to be released back into the lake or river that is adjacent to the weigh-in site and in a manner that is not harmful to the fish.

### **13. Awards**

Trophies, plaques or cash prizes as approved by The Club shall be awarded to the winners of first, second, and third places. A big fish trophy, plaque, or cash award shall also be presented to the contestant having caught the heaviest Bass in each point tournament providing the fish weighs five (5) pounds or greater.

### **14. Tournament Rules of Operation**

All Club tournaments begin and end at specific times and locations. All boats must leave the starting point in the same order in which they were drawn. For example, the first two names drawn as contestants will be the number one boat to leave for fishing. The second two names drawn would be boat number two and so on. The last boater drawn shall serve as the tournament starter for that day. The Tournament Chairman is responsible for all activities relating to tournaments. Tournament contestants are

required to be at the tournament site 20 minutes before the starting time (blastoff). Contestants must check in with the Tournament Chairman upon arrival to the tournament site. A contestant may be granted, a later starting time by the Tournament Chairman if needed.

**No contestant shall be allowed to start a tournament before the actual starting time and no contestant shall be allowed to fish beyond the tournament ending time.**

All times related to the tournament are to be recorded by the Tournament Chairman. Each contestant is responsible for coordinating tournament times and travel arrangements with their partner. Contestants must be present at the weigh-in to receive credit for the day unless prior arrangements have been made. Under no circumstances will a contestant be allowed to weigh in late except as provided for in the late penalties. All local, state, and federal laws shall be strictly adhered to. Any tournament rule violation is subject to review by the Executive Board for the possible disqualification or issuance of a penalty.

#### **15. Late Penalties**

The Executive Board will assess and issue late penalties to any contestant returning late for the weigh-in. Any contestant arriving late for the weigh-in shall be penalized as follows:

1. Contestant arrives late to the weigh-in less than five (5) minutes shall be penalized 10% of their total weight or one (1) pound, whichever is greater.
2. Contestant arrives late to the weigh-in 5 minutes or greater and less than 15 minutes shall be penalized 25% of their total weight or three (3) pounds, whichever is greater.
3. Contestant arrives late to the weigh-in 15 minutes or greater and less than 30 minutes shall be penalized 50% of their total weight or six (6) pounds, whichever is greater.
4. Contestant arrives late to the weigh-in 30 minutes or more, credit for the day is forfeited.

Contestants shall not be penalized for an amount greater than their total weight for the particular tournament the angler is participating in. Penalties are only assessed for late weigh in times of the current tournament and does not penalize the angler's prior tournament point totals or weigh in amounts from previous points tournaments.

#### **16. Safe Daylight**

Safe daylight shall be deemed as 30 minutes prior to sun-up, with sun-up being the time specified by the National Weather Service. Safety is the sole responsibility of each boat operator and the tournament starter cannot be held responsible for the judgment of others.



**17. Violations**

All contestants must be informed of a possible rule violation within 30 minutes of the ending of the tournament, thereby putting the contestant on notice that a penalty may be assessed by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall convene within seven (7) days to consider the rule violation(s). During that time all pertinent facts will be gathered, and a penalty issued if applicable. The contestant in violation will be given ample time during the seven (7) day period or during the board meeting to appeal the penalty, if issued, and ask the Executive Board for a variance or to offer any explanation which he deems important. The Executive Board is required to hear any and all information directly related to the stated violation and then render a decision to either issue a penalty or to allow the appeal to stand. The Executive Board understands that there may be a substantial reason for some rule violations and will put forth every effort to understand the situation that caused the violation(s). All decisions by the Executive Board on rule violations shall be final. Results of the tournament will not be final until after the Executive Board has made known to the Tournament Chairman their decision. Any Executive Board member involved in a rule violation will not be permitted to sit on the Executive Board during the proceedings concerning their alleged violation.

**18.** Changes to these General Tournament Rules and Regulations may be made at any regularly scheduled meeting provided the change receives a 51% favorable vote from a meeting with a quorum present.

# Annual Bass Angler Competition

(Revised December 2010)

## Eligibility

All Club members in good standing who compete in one (1) or more of The Club's point tournaments during the year are automatically eligible contenders in the Annual Bass Angler Competition.

## Scoring

Scoring shall be based on each members placing in each of The Club's point tournaments held during the year. Each member must “drop” the two tournaments with the lowest point values. The sum of the points from the remaining tournaments will represent their placement in the competition. A first place is worth 50 points, second place is worth 49 points and so on, in each tournament, until each contestant having caught legal fish during the tournament is placed and awarded points. Contestants failing to bring in a legal fish during the tournament shall be awarded 15 points for effort. The member with the highest number of accumulated points shall be declared the winner of the Annual Bass Angler Competition. How to resolve tie-breakers is discussed in the General Tournament Rules (Item 11, Contestant Placement).

## Awards

A minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) trophies shall be presented to the top winners of this competition. A trophy denoting the honor of winning the Annual Bass Angler Competition will be presented to the winner along with trophies usually presented to the second, third, fourth, and fifth place winners at the annual awards banquet. The Club's financial status will determine whether or not three (3) or five (5) trophies will be awarded that particular season. Trophies shall be selected by the Tournament Chairman and approved by The Club. A club member who has finished in the top 5 and depending upon the number of trophies awarded for that year will have the option of receiving a check in lieu of a trophy. The amounts listed below are to be paid in lieu of a trophy

<b><u>Bass man of the Year</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 100</u></b>
<b><u>Second Place</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 60</u></b>
<b><u>Third Place</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 50</u></b>
<b><u>Fourth Place</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 40</u></b>
<b><u>Fifth Place</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 30</u></b>

# General Policies and Operating Procedures

(Revised April 17, 2018)

1. A door prize and/or dollar pot will be established to entice members and pledges to attend the regularly scheduled meetings. The door prize shall be given to a member or a pledge at the beginning of each meeting. The value of the door prize will be determined by a majority vote of the membership. The winner for both the door prize and the dollar pot will be the result of a drawing. The drawing for the dollar pot will be held at the end of the meeting. Only those present (members, pledges, guests) may participate in the drawing. Door prizes shall be kept by the Treasurer and awarded at the time of the drawing.
2. The Club shall not pay more than \$75.00 toward the mounting of a Largemouth Bass. A member may receive this contribution only once and to qualify the member must meet the following conditions:
  - 1) The bass must weigh 10 pounds or greater;
  - 2) The bass must be caught on artificial bait in public waters
  - 3) The weighing of the bass must be on certified scales and witnessed by one (1) other member
  - 4) Proof of the mounting must be furnished to The Club.
3. An annual awards banquet shall be held each year with all activities, times, places and awards approved by The Club.
4. Certain members in The Club are recognized for their sportsmanship, fishing ability, and achievements of the past year. These awards will be given at the annual awards banquet and are as follows:

**Outstanding Sportsman of the Year** shall be selected by the members by secret ballot at the end of each year. The winner will be the member who receives the most votes. In the event of a tie, no award will be given. Someone in The Club, member or pledge, will be entrusted with the winner's name and this name will not be known to the rest of The Club until the annual awards banquet.

**Presidents Plaque** is an award that is given each year to honor the year's achievements of The Club president.

**Lunker Award** will be awarded to the angler catching the heaviest fish for the year.

**Heaviest Stringer of Bass** as determined by that seasons' tournaments.

5. Individuals and their spouses that are chosen as Honorary Members shall be invited to attend the awards banquet as guests of The Club. A plaque, the value and inscription as determined by the membership, will be presented to this new honorary member at a time specified by The Club.

6. Social events (i.e. picnics, parties, fish fries) are to be held as approved by The Club.
7. Expressions of condolences and congratulations shall be given as approved by The Club.
8. Annual dues are \$50 per year per member and are payable January 1 and expire December 31st each year.
9. Tournament fees (excluding the Classic and Top 10 Fish Off) are **\$20.00** per tournament and should be paid in advance.
10. Any member owing money to The Club may not participate in other Club events until his account is paid in full.
11. Tournament fees will be divided and paid back to the winners as follows:

\$15.00 of the entry fee will go to a tournament pot to be paid as follows:

First place	trophy or 50% of the tournament pot
Second place	trophy or 30% of the tournament pot
Third place	trophy or 20% of the tournament pot
Big fish*	trophy or \$10.00

**\* The big fish must weigh 5 pounds or greater.**

\$3 of every entry fee will go into a winners' fund for the Top 10 Fish-Off Tournament and \$2 per entry shall be returned to the Club treasury.

12. **The Top 10 Fish Off** will consist of the 10 members with the most points at the conclusion of each tournament season. At the conclusion of the first meeting in November, the tournament participants will choose the body of water to fish, fishing times and launch site. The selected water body is not to have been fished by any of the participants for 30 days prior to the tournament. There will be no pre-fishing of, or information obtained about, the selected water body by the participants. There will be two (2) places awarded with those places being a 70% and 30% split of the winner's pot. There is no entry fee and The Club tournament rules are to be applied. This tournament will be fished during the weekend following the first meeting in November.
13. Members fishing no boat in Club tournaments shall contribute **\$20.00** to his partner furnishing the boat during local tournaments. Out of town tournament expenses should be split between the two members fishing and/or traveling together.
14. Changes to these Policies and Operating Procedures may be made at any regularly scheduled meeting provided the change receives a 51% favorable vote from a meeting with a quorum present.