

Snake River Bassmasters TBF/FLW By-Laws

Article I: Name and Purpose

Section 1: Name

- 1.1.1 The TBF affiliated chapter shall be known as the Snake River Bassmasters of Nampa, Idaho.

Section 2: Purpose

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this chapter shall be:
- 1.2.1.1 The general purpose of the chapter club shall be to facilitate the organized support, protection, education and encouragement of sport-fishing, youth and conservation at all levels and to "partner" with other like minded groups to do the same.
 - 1.2.1.2 More particularly stated, purposes of the corporation include the following: to establish and maintain an organization for the support of sport fishing, and all related recreational and educational fishing, youth and conservation activities conducted in a safe manner. To stimulate the public awareness of angling as a major sport. To educate the public upon the positive economic impact of angling at the national, state and local levels.
 - 1.2.1.3 To improve our skills as bass anglers through a fellowship of friendly exchange of expert bass catching techniques and ideas, and to provide and encourage family and youth fishing and a love for this great recreation.
 - 1.2.1.4 To offer our State Fish and Game Department our organized support in programs that will improve bass angling in our state.
 - 1.2.1.5 To promote full adherence to all conservation codes, clean water standards, and industry accepted practices which impact the sport of fishing. To support and demand adequate water quality standards, fisheries habitat and fisheries resource management.
 - 1.2.1.6 To conduct periodic outings for members and other interested anglers.

Article II: Membership

Section 1: Membership Requirements

- 2.1.1 To be a member, a person shall:
- 2.1.1.1 Voluntarily express a genuine interest in becoming a member and supporting the club's purpose.
 - 2.1.1.2 Be a member in good standings of The Bass Federation, Inc. (TBF, Inc.) and its home state federation approved industry partners.
 - 2.1.1.3 Be at least sixteen years of age or older.

Section 2: Member Dues

- 2.2.1 **Regular Members** - Annual membership dues will be \$73.00 of which \$15.00 will be club dues; \$8.00 for State Federation dues; \$15.00 for TBF National Federation dues and \$25.00 FLW dues.
- 2.2.2 **Associate Members** - For Federation Members belonging to another chapter of The Idaho Bass Federation dues shall be \$15.00.
- 2.2.3 **Junior Bass Members** - To become an individual junior member of an adult club, a person shall:
- 2.2.3.1 Voluntarily express a true interest in becoming a member and supporting the club's purpose.
 - 2.2.3.2 Be less than 18 years of age.
 - 2.2.3.3 Individual junior members, who are not a member of a junior club, are not required to pay membership dues and are not permitted to the benefits of a regular membership. The inclusion of individual junior members will not affect a club's liability insurance policy. Individual junior members may not hold any office in a regular adult club nor can they be voting members. At age 16, individual junior members may choose to continue membership as an individual junior member or by joining the regular club as a regular member. All individual junior memberships ceases on a person's 18th birthday.
- 2.2.4 Annual membership is to run from October 1 to September 30th. Spouses and all children under the age of 16 are included in the family membership.
- 2.2.5 If a current member pays his/her dues after Dec.31 a \$5.00 late charge will be added to the dues.

Section 3: Voting

- 2.3.1 Each member of the club in good standing is entitled to one vote. Voting by proxy is not allowed.

Section 4: Removal or Disciplinary Action

- 2.4.1 A member shall be removed from membership for the following reasons:
- 2.4.1.1 Failure to pay dues.
 - 2.4.1.2 Any action that would reflect dishonor and disgrace on the club, state federation or TBF, Inc.
 - 2.4.1.3 Failure to attend at least 50% of the club meeting or club functions during a 12 month period.
 - 2.4.1.4 Disqualification for any reason from participating in TBF, Inc. sponsored events, including disqualification for use of drugs or alcohol.
- 2.4.2 Disciplinary Action other than Removal of Membership
- 2.4.2.1 These actions shall be recommended by a Board of Directors comprised of Club Officers and shall include but not be limited to reduction of membership status in lieu of removal, or any other action felt necessary by the Board. Any action recommended by the Board and not specifically spelled out in this document shall require a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III: AFFILIATION

- 3.1.1 Requirements for Affiliation:
- 3.1.1.1 Certification of Club By-laws by TBF, Inc.
 - 3.1.1.2 Update TBF, Inc. with club membership roster at least once before year's end.
 - 3.1.1.3 Names and address of new members joining the club during the year must be submitted to the state TBF, Inc. Federation as they occur.
 - 3.1.1.4 Maintain 100% TBF, Inc. and FLW membership.
 - 3.1.1.5 Must affiliate with a TBF affiliated State Federation and support its conservation and youth programs. Any additional requirements that the State Federation establishes for clubs, such as membership, dues, attendance at meetings, etc. , would be necessary for the club to participate in the State TBF, Inc. Federation qualifying tournaments, and any other TBF, Inc. sponsored tournaments or events.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

Section 1: Annual Meetings

- 4.1.1 The annual general Membership Meeting for election of officers shall be held in September. Sufficient notice of time and place shall be given to all members. Nominations will be held at August meeting.
- 4.1.2 Awards Banquet - Annual awards will be presented at the November meeting or on a date and place selected by the membership.

Section 2: Monthly Meetings

- 4.2.1 Regular monthly meetings shall be held on the first Monday of each month, commencing at 7:00 P.M., or on a date and place selected by the membership.

ARTICLE V: OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1: Officers

- 5.1.1 The offices of this chapter and their duties shall be:
- 5.1.1.1 **President** - Presides over all meetings and directs all official business. Directs all committees and supervises all chapter functions. Committee members may be elected upon discretion of the President. President has the tiebreaker vote in any motion voting.
 - 5.1.1.2 **Vice-President** - Acts as the program chairman and serves as The Idaho Bass Federation Representative. Assists the President in his/her duties and presides in his/her absence.

- 5.1.1.3 **Secretary/Treasurer** - Maintains accurate minutes of all meetings; maintains accurate financial records and report at each meeting; maintains regular liaison between other chapters of the State Federation; responsible for purchases tournament and year-end plaques; responsible for sending in dues for state and TBF, Inc. national Federations; maintain club roster; maintains YTD and year-end tournament points; responsible for club newsletter and web site.
- 5.1.1.4 **Youth Director** - Organizes club sponsored youth events like kid's casting events and helps with other youth events like C.A.S.T. and Scales of Justice, and an annual SRB Kid's Open tournament. Start a Junior Angler's Club when the club is ready for this participation.
- 5.1.1.5 **Conservation Officer** – Serve as a liaison between the club and state and national conservation agencies and keeps the club updated with local and regional conservation issues and projects. Plans club conservation projects and attends all local and state conservation meetings or hearings. Works with local agencies to promote warm-water fisheries.
- 5.1.1.6 **Tournament Director** - Determines tournament schedule with Weigh Master. Sends in permit reports; sets weigh-in times; collects and pay out entry fees; draws for blast off positions; present tournament awards; records and totals tournament results.
- 5.1.1.7 **Weigh Master** - Responsible for scales; oversees weigh-in process; measures for short fish; makes final call for weights; assists Tournament Director in determining tournament schedule and running tournaments.
- 5.1.1.8 **Classic or Hot Summer Nights Director** - Schedules and oversees all aspects of the SRB Classic or Hot Summer Nights tournaments; sets locations and dates for open tournaments; finds sponsors for trophies and raffles; orders trophies; collects entry fees; arranges for release tank/boat; distributes pay out; records and tallies tournament results; maintains open tournament books.
- 5.1.1.9 All outgoing officers are required to turn over their materials to the new officer and give them enough training to be able to fill the office successfully.

Section 2: Term of Office

- 5.2.1 The term of office is for one year and shall be begin on October 1 and end on the last meeting date in September, or until the successor assumes office. Officers may serve consecutive terms.

Section 3: Vacancies in an Office

- 5.3.1 In the event of an office becoming vacant, nominations shall be asked for and an election held to fill the term remaining of the individual vacating the office.

Section 4: Eligibility for Holding Office

- 5.4.1 To be eligible for an office a member must:
 - 5.4.1.1 Have been a member of the club for at least six months.
 - 5.4.1.2 Have attended and shown an active interest in at least 75% of the chapter meetings and functions.

ARTICLE VI - AWARDS

- 6.1.1 Annual awards will be given to the club officers for their outstanding service to the chapter.
- 6.2.1 Annual awards will be given to the top team for the year.
- 6.3.1 Annual awards will be given for Big Smallmouth and Largemouth of the Year.

ARTICLE VII - TOURNAMENTS

Section 1: Point System

- 7.1.1 The following rules apply to the points given to every member of the chapter for each chapter tournament he or she fishes in:
 - 7.1.1.1 Finishing position in the tournament will be determined by the weight of each team's catch in pounds and fractions of a pound.
 - 7.1.1.2 At the end of each of the chapter tournaments, each team earns points based on the team's finishing position in the event: 1st = 100, 2nd = 99, etc.
 - 7.1.1.3 Big fish weight will be used in the event of tie, if all big fish are equal or no big fish were weighed, all tied teams will receive the same number of points for that position.
 - 7.1.1.4 Teams that do not weigh-in fish will receive 30 points for fishing the tournament.
 - 7.1.1.5 If a disqualification occurs, that team will receive zero (0) points for the tournament,
 - 7.1.1.6 Any team not reporting in to the weigh-in site by weigh-in time will be penalized 0.5 pound per minute for the first 15 minutes or until their weight runs out. Any team checking in more than 15 minutes late will not be allowed to weigh in, but will be credited with 30 points for fishing the tournament.
- 7.1.2 Team points are cumulative. Each team's lowest tournament score will be dropped and the remaining scores accumulated for total points for year-end standings.
- 7.1.3 The five teams with the highest year-end point totals will represent the club in the annual Snow Bowl tournament. If any of these teams can not fish the Snow Bowl, the team with the next highest total will take their place.
- 7.1.4 A member may fish with a guest or prospective member, as long as the guest participates as a non-boater. All boats entered in a scheduled chapter tournament must be operated by a current member of the chapter and/or of The Idaho Bass Federation, eighteen (18) years of age or older.
- 7.1.5 A guest may only fish one tournament per year; if he/she wishes to fish additional tournaments he/she must become a member of the club prior to the next scheduled tournament.
- 7.1.6 Teams are allowed a substitute for one member in up to two tournaments. Teams fishing with a substitute for more than two tournaments will be considered a new team for end of year standings.

Section 2: Tournament rules and Regulations

- 7.2.1 Club tournaments are team events with two anglers fishing for a team weight.
- 7.2.2 Children under 16 years of age will be allowed to fish as a member of a team during a tournament.
- 7.2.3 Each year the Chapter will elect a Tournament Committee of 2 members (Director and Weigh-Master). The Tournament Director may appoint up to 3 additional committee persons. The committee will determine a Chapter Tournament Schedule and present it to the Chapter. The dates and locations of the set schedule will not be changed except in dire circumstances. The Secretary and/or the Tournament Director are responsible for submission and securing necessary permits as required.
- 7.2.4 The Tournament Committee is responsible for the conducting of the tournament, to include collection of entry fees and options, blast-off, weigh-in times and the weigh-in. At the meeting following completion of the tournament, the committee will present awards to the top teams and the top two big fish. The club's portion of the tournament funds will be given to the Secretary/Treasurer. The tournament committee is also responsible for filling out and sending in any tournament permit reports required by Fish & Game.
- 7.2.5 To insure the safety of all participants during the blast-off, a drawing will be held to determine the order of the blast-off by the Tournament Committee at the meeting before the tournament. Teams signing up for the tournament after the draw will blast off after the drawn boats in the order that they signed up. The last boat drawn or signing up will call out the blast off for the rest of the boats.
- 7.2.6 All boats in a SRB club tournament are required to use the club's green motor bands to indicate that they are tournament participants. If a boat has problems or an emergency, the band can be reversed to orange to signal the need for help. All bands must be returned at the end of the tournament.
- 7.2.7 The first three boats drawn to blast off are designated release boats for the tournament and are responsible for properly releasing all of the fish caught in the tournament. If a boat does not want to be a release boat, they forfeit their blast off position. The Tournament Director will determine if additional release boats are required based on number of boats, or size/number of fish.

- 7.2.8 The Weigh-Master has control over the scales and the weigh-in procedures.
- 7.2.9 All fish handed over to the Weigh-Master must be legal length. There will be automatic disqualification if any team has a short fish. Procedure: using a flat board, the Weigh-Master will check for any short fish with the mouth closed; fanning of the tail is permitted.
- 7.2.10 Number of fish weighed in per team is up to 5 bass of 12 inches or longer or special announced limits based on local regulation. Under no circumstances will the creel exceed the number of length limits, as designed by the State fishing regulations governing the body of water fished upon. If more than 5 bass are brought to the scales, excess bass will be removed to bring the limit down to 5 before weighing; starting with the biggest bass and working down. In addition to the loss of big fish, a penalty of 1 pound will be assessed for bringing more than 5 bass to the scale.
- 7.2.11 All bass in a boat's livewell must be brought to weigh-in, even if over the limit of 5 bass. The penalty for leaving unweighed bass in the livewell is disqualification.
- 7.2.12 One big fish may be weighed in per team for Big Fish awards or as tiebreakers.
- 7.2.13 For each dead fish presented to the Weigh-Master, the team shall be penalized 50 one-hundredths (0.50) of a pound. Dead fish do not qualify for any big fish awards or standings. Anglers will not cull dead fish when fishing club tournaments.
- 7.2.14 Teams will initial and acknowledge their weigh-in results on the Weigh-Master's log at the time of the weigh-in.
- 7.2.15 Teams must check in at weigh-in even if no fish were caught; teams leaving the tournament site before weigh-in must notify the tournament officials or another participant or be disqualified.
- 7.2.16 Complaints must be submitted to the Tournament Director in writing no later than 30 minutes after the weigh-in. Decisions of the tournament officials are final.
- 7.2.17 The three release boats will release all live fish caught in the tournament; **Tournament Director with determine if additional release boats are required based on number of boats, or size/number of fish.** No fish will be kept by any tournament participant. All fish must be released at least one mile from the weigh-in location in a low traffic area with suitable bass habitat. The bass should be released in water less than 30 feet deep.
- 7.2.18 Any infraction of a state safety or fish and game law will result in disqualification of that team.
- 7.2.19 Teams participating in a club tournament are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, conservation and respect. Any infraction of these basic principles of sportsmanship may be deemed cause for disqualification or removal from the club.
- 7.2.19.1 Any team participating in a club tournament is expected to give immediate aid to another boater or participant in an emergency.
- 7.2.19.2 Participants must stop and check with any participant whose boat has the banner reversed to the orange side indicating a problem or emergency.
- 7.2.19.3 Aid is expected to be given in case of an engine failure whenever practical.
- 7.2.19.4 Courtesy must be practiced at all times, especially when boating or angling in the vicinity of non-participants on tournament ramps or waters.
- 7.2.19.5 **Participants' boats may not touch another angler's boat when fishing a spot. ~~Participants may not fish within 50 yards of a boat that is anchored with the trolling motor up and a marker out unless specifically invited to do so by that angler.~~**
- 7.2.20 Only artificial lures may be used. Pork type strips or bait scents may be used.
- 7.2.21 Only rod and reels are permitted. Only one rod may be in use and in the water at one time, however, any number of rigged rods may be in the boat for substitute purposes.
- 7.2.22 Electrical and mechanical devices such as GPS, depth meters, color-c-lector, thermometers and oxygen meters may be used.
- 7.2.23 Landing nets are permitted, unless so announced prior to a scheduled tournament.
- 7.2.24 A live well or suitable substitute is required; the Tournament Director will determine suitability of any live well substitute.
- 7.2.25 Tournament participants are not allowed to troll with the internal combustion motor.
- 7.2.26 All fishing is to be done from the boat; participants are not allowed to leave their boat except in case of emergency or with permission of the Tournament Director.

- 7.2.27 Safe boating conduct and all safety precautions must be observed at all times. U.S. Coast Guard and State safety regulations and equipment must be complied with. Any infraction of safe boating principles or regulations may be deemed cause for disqualification.
- 7.2.27.1 Life jackets or vests must be worn when the internal combustion motor is running.
 - 7.2.27.2 If a kill switch is present on the boat, it must be used whenever the internal combustion motor is running.
 - 7.2.27.3 No boat shall have an engine whose horsepower exceeds that boat's B.I.A. rating.
 - 7.2.27.4 No alcoholic beverages or other intoxicants will be allowed during tournament hours.
- 7.2.28 Two anglers per boat are usually required; no one shall fish alone in a tournament without the permission of the Tournament Director.
- 7.2.29 It is the sole responsibility of the boat owner to carry and have proof of public liability insurance covering all passengers in the boat. During any event scheduled in the name of Snake River Bassmasters, Inc., no member or contestant may operate the boat unless they have furnished documented proof of a minimum of \$100,000 boat liability insurance to the Snake River Bassmasters Inc. This document must show an effective date, expiration date, the amount and type of coverage and must be attached to the tournament entry application or on file with the Snake River Bassmasters Inc.
- 7.2.30 The bodies of water of a scheduled tournament will be considered off-limits to all members from the Tuesday before the tournament through the day preceding the tournament.
- 7.2.31 An entry fee of \$20.00 is assessed on all teams participating in each tournament.
- 7.2.31.1 The first \$15.00 of the entry goes for payout to the winning teams and two big fish awards. **Number of teams paid will be one position paid per seven boats.**
 - 7.2.31.2 The remaining \$5.00 goes to the club to be used to cover the cost of tournament plaques, tournament permits, yearend top team plaques, largemouth and smallmouth big fish plaques.
 - 7.2.31.3 Option pots will be set at the beginning of each year by the tournament committee.

ARTICLE VIII - DISSOLVEMENT

- 8.1 Upon termination of the Snake River Bassmasters, all assets will be donated to The Idaho Bass Federation.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

- 9.1 This constitution and by-laws may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting, providing notice of the proposed amendment has been presented to the membership at least one regular meeting prior to the vote.

REVISED June 2014