New York The Bass Federation















Editor: Burnie Haney Contributor: Sammy Lee

In This Issue

	_
NYTBF Board of Directors	3
NYTBF Sponsors & 2015 Tournaments	4
Tournament Registration	5
TBF Waiver Form	6
Open Team Tournament Registration	7
Ben Wright to 2015 TBF Nationals	8 -9
Dave Hart to 2015 TBF Nationals	10-11
LANZ Motel & Campground	12
Chris Gore wins 2015 Early Bird	13
Meet Sammy Lee	14
Burning the Spot	15-16
Bergen Bassmasters USO Fundraiser	17-18
Plattsburgh Fishing Team Meets the Pro	19
Collegiate Cup	20
Bass Fishing Hall of Fame	21
Ranger Cup	22

Cover Photo Courtesy: Ben Wright St Lawrence River Smallmouth





HOURS: Open 363 days per year Sun-Thurs 6AM - 8PM Fri-Sat 6AM - 9PM

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NYTBF SPONSORS































Alexandria Bay, NY







2015 Tournament Schedule

Date	Location	Launch	Event
Oct 26, 2014	Lake Champlain	Ticonderoga NY	NYTBF Points (completed)
Jun 14	Lake Champlain	Plattsburg NY	NYTBF Points
Jun 20	St. Lawrence River	French Creek, Clayton NY	Lions Club Tm Open
Jun 21	St. Lawrence River	French Creek, Clayton NY	NYTBF Tm Open
Jul 11	Mohawk River	St. Johnsville Marina	Youth Qualifier
Jul 12	Mohawk River	St. Johnsville Marina	State HS Qualifier
Aug 9	Oneida Lake	Oneida Shores, Brewerton NY	NYTBF Points
Sep 20	St. Lawrence River	Cape Vincent	NYTBF Points
Sep 27	TBA 30 days prior	Only the top five Boaters & Co- Anglers advance to STC	Wild Card Qualifier for STC
*Oct 10 &11	St. Lawrence River	French Creek, Clayton NY	State Team Championship

Points Events are a \$100 entry fee per Boater and \$50 per non-boater (with a mandatory \$30 gas stipend payable to assigned boater). Additionally, each angler will be awarded points based place of finish, beginning with 100 pts for 1st, then 99 for 2nd, 98 for 3rd, 97 for 4th, and so on... All anglers that zero will receive no points. (* = \$150 entry for all anglers)

Angler and Co-Angler of the Year will be based on points amassed throughout the fishing season. The Boater and Co-Angler amassing the greatest number of points for the season will be awarded an automatic spot on the 2016 NYTBF Eastern Divisional State Team.

For additional information on tournaments got to http://www.nytbf.com/tournaments.html



LaFargeville, NY 13656

New York TBF 2015 Tournament Registration





Date:			
Name:_		(please print	
Address	S:	(please print)
		Zip code: (please print)	
		Cell phone	
e-maii:_			
Events	(please select one or more):		
	October 26, 2014 Lake Chap	plain, Ticonderoga NY (<u>tourn</u>	ament complete)
	June 14, Lake Champlain, Pl	lattsburg NY	
	August 9, Oneida Lake, Brew	erton NY	
	September 20, St. Lawrence	River, Cape Vincent NY	
	September 27, Wild card State	te Team Championship Qualifier	(location TBA 30 Aug)
Ц	October 10/11, State Team Cl	nampionship (\$150 entry), St Lav	wrence River , Clayton NY
NO	TE Boater entry fee: \$10	O Co-Angler Entry Fee \$50	
Boater	or Co-Angler (select one):	Boater:	Co-Angler:
	er was selected:		
Boat In	akeE	Boat model	<u></u>
Boat ler	igtri E	Engine HP	
the even	its in question, either mailed with th	nis application or provided at the ran	quired to provide proof in insurance prior to np prior to the start any and all events. I the boat, while it is under my control.
Signat	ure:		Date:
	, , ,	ble to "NYTBF". Must be maile cordination.	
Mail to	<u>o:</u>	TACC	ADIRONDACK COAST
NYTB	F	TICONDEROGA AREA	CITY OF AL
P.O. Bo		Shamber of Commerce	\$ 2 3 8 8 8



TBF, State Federation & TBF Club Event Participant Wavier.

Having fully acquainted myself with the rules. In signing this application, and by my presence at the events, I hereby agree to be bound by and comply with all event rules and safety regulations. I expressly assume all risks associated with the events and I hereby release The Bass Federation, Inc., (TBF) its parent, and affiliate companies, its licensees and affiliates, including their affiliated State Federations, and Clubs and all their respective officers, directors, agents, employees, and stockholders, the tournament hosts, sponsors and tournament officials from all claims of death, injury and\or property damage incurred in connection with this their events. If I am using a boat during the official practice days or during the tournament, I certify that I now have or will obtain prior to the event, property damage\ watercraft liability insurance having a limit of at least \$300,000.00. Said insurance must be issued by a reputable insurer and must cover injury and/or damage incurred in connection with a tournament. Upon request, I will provide satisfactory evidence of that insurance. I hereby waive my rights of privacy or publicity with regard to the unconditional right to use my name, voice. photographic likeness, video and biographical information and fishing tips and instructions in connection with any reproduction of same, video\audio productions and\or articles and press releases by NYTBF, National TBF, its parent or affiliate companies, and those acting under their permission, anywhere at any time, through any medium or media. I shall not be entitled to receive any royalties or other compensation in connection with such use. I further understand and agree that the tournament officials reserve the right to reject my application for any reason. I am currently a member in good standing of my home state federation, an affiliated TBF member club, TBF and FLW Outdoors. I agree if I qualify for a State Team, The Federation National Championship or any other event representing TBF to use any and all "Official" products and equipment so specified and provided, and be bound by the terms and conditions of a STATE TEAM CONTRACT, If applicable.

Date:		
Name:		
_	(First, MI, Last) printed	
Signatu	re:	



New York TBF Open Team Tournament Registration





Date:_____

Mail to:

NYTBF P.O. Box 185 LaFargeville, NY 13656

Questions. Mak	ke all checks paya	ble to "NYTBF".	
Date:			
			(please print)
City:	State:	Zip code:	(please print)
Home phone		cell phone	
Events (select or			
(optional) St. Law □ - 6/28/15 – TE	rence River Clayt BF Open Team Ev	•	` . ,
Boater/Partner N	lame:		
Boater:		Partner:	
(First MI La	ast) printed	(First MI	Last) printed
alone in the Tear boat launch for e	m event , but full either event.	entry is required.	mark date. You may fish You can sign up at the
Boat make		Boat model	
Boat length		Engine HP	
inches in length. I	nsurance and boa	•	ent. Five fish limit, 12 or this event. Life jackets be used.
Boater Signature:			Date:

Contact Bobby Williams-labob1995@gmail.com or 315-408-8472 if you have

Partner Signature:_____



Ben Wright Returns to TBF National Championship

NYTBF: First off let's talk about your past experience on Grand Lake when you walked away as the 2013 Co-Angler Champion and the "Living the Dream" prize package. What was that like, and what has it done for your competitive bass fishing?

Wright: Winning the 2013 TBF National

Championship was an amazing experience that has opened a number of doors for me. Not only did it provide me a spot in the coveted BFL All-American, but also an invite to the Super Bowl of

bass fishing, the Forrest Wood Cup. On top of that, I was the inaugural winner of the Co-Angler "Living the Dream" package which meant on top of the generous cash prize for winning the Championship, TBF also covered my entries into the Rayovac Series of my choice for the following year. I was able to parley that into a 19th place finish in the Northern Rayovac AOY race and earn a spot in the 2014 Rayovac Championship. With all that said, I have now fished in all 3 major FLW Championships, none of which would have been possible without the TBF National Championship win.

NYTBF: How would you describe the TBF National Championship to someone who's never experienced it?

Wright: As a result of the TBF's proud partnership with FLW, the TBF National Championship is one of, if not the only remaining event in competitive bass fishing in which the boat is provided to the anglers, this means that we as fisherman can simply show up and fish. The fuel, oil and even daily lunches are provided each morning prior to launch. The TBF runs a very professional event beginning at the angler registration and reception banquet, and continuing right though the daily weigh-ins, every step of the way is top notch.

NYTBF: For much of the country this has been one of the coldest winters on record and just two weeks ago Grove Oklahoma reported 10-12 inches of snow. Most anglers have a tournament preparation they go through but how do you prepare for something like that when you live over 1,000 miles from the lake?

Wright: Having been to Grand Lake at basically this same time of year in 2013, I have a pretty good idea of how it's going to fish, assuming water temps and lake levels remain similar to the conditions I saw in 2013. While it has been a very cold winter, I think that actually plays into my favor a bit, in that we are fishing the lake two weeks later than I did in '13. The cold will likely delay the spawn just enough to keep this predominantly a pre-spawn event. This means that catching the bigger females will be a little bit easier and we should see better weights as a result.

As for my preparation here on the east coast, I am basically just verifying my equipment is in good order, I am organizing tackle and reading whatever public information is available so that I can be prepared to adapt if conditions do change, not allowing me to fish the way I did in '13.

Ben Wright (continued)

NYTBF: What kind of daily weight do you think you'll need to reach the final day and what is your prediction for the winning weight?

Wright: Weights were down significantly last year compared to those from 2013, so it's difficult to say. However, if conditions are similar to what I saw in '13, I think someone who averages 17 lbs a day will be in very good shape from the back of the boat and a bit more from the front, probably 19 lbs a day.

NYTBF: On your Facebook page we see you're sponsored by TFO Rods, Lews Reels, Keitech, Livingston Lures and Simms. Can you give us a preview of how these products will help you at the 2015 TBF National Championship?

Wright: My successes of 2013 and 2014 have allowed me to partner with some of the best brands in the industry. TFO Rods, Keitech, Simms, Lew's and most recently Livingston Lures, all of which I expect to play major roles on Grand Lake this year.

My TFO rods are not only light and sensitive, but provide me with the backbone needed to control those Grand Lake giants. Lew's reels offer great casting distance and more importantly reliability. Keitech makes the finest soft plastics and tungsten jigs on the market, both of which will play big roles for me on Grand. Simms gear will keep me warm and dry and the new Livingston Lures with their EBS MultiTouch technology will allow me to cycle the lures though a series of actual baitfish sounds, allowing me to better dial in on what the fish want. I am particularly looking forward to throwing the new Jerkmaster 121 and School Master.





Dave Hart Headed to TBF National Championship

NYTBF: How would you describe your feeling as you head into the TBF National Championship and why?

Hart: I am very excited about the competition. I was able to do some pre-fishing before the cutoff date and with the help of some good friends I believe I have a



good game plan heading into the tournament, and the knowledge that will help me to make the necessary changes during the tournament to stay competitive.

NYTBF: For much of the country this has been one of the coldest winters on record and just two weeks ago Grove Oklahoma reported 12-14 inches of snow. Most anglers have a tournament preparation they go through but how do you prepare for something like that when you live over 1,000 miles from the lake?

Hart: I have not had much experience fishing in other parts of the country, but from what I have learned the changes in weather affects the fish the same throughout the country. I think a lot will depend on the weather patterns between now and the tournament. The time of year (late April) when we will be fishing Grand Lake should be during the spawn. The unseasonably cold temperatures could delay the spawn slightly. I have been following some of the spring tournaments that are taking place now and it appears the numbers of fish being caught at this time are down, but there are a few anglers that are finding quality and quantities of fish. The trick to this year will be the ability to think outside the normal thought patterns.

NYTBF: What do you think will be the dominate pattern in this tournament and will it play to your strengths or make you work on a weakness

Hart: I believe just like the past couple of years the Alabama rig will play a big part in the tournament. I also think a jerkbait, a jig and pig, and a senko will be techniques that could play a significant factor. The phase of the spawn will have a big impact as to baits and techniques used. This will be a tournament that will test me outside of my normal techniques. I have not had a lot of experience power fishing, I am more of a finesse style fisherman.

NYTBF: What kind of daily weight do you think you'll need to reach the final day and what is your prediction for the winning weight?

Dave Hart (continued)

Hart: I think it will take 18 to 20 pounds a day to advance into the final day and the winning weight will be 55 to 57 pounds.

NYTBF: We realize everyone angler competing wants to win the TBF National Championship. Can you tell us what a win at this event might do for your fishing career?

Hart: That is a hard question for me. I have not been in bass fishing that long and hope that a win will allow me some much needed exposure. I hope to gain some experience in higher level tournaments and to meet new people that can help further my career. When I do well in this tournament I hope to have some confidence and experience to help secure some sponsorship.











MOTEL, COTTAGES & RV CAMPGROUND

Lanz's Motel, Cottages and Campground, located directly on the St. Lawrence River, is dedicated to making your stay in the Thousand Islands a memory you can share with family and friends for years to come.

Lanz's is open from May 1 through October 12. We have twenty motel units and sixteen one, two, and three bedroom cottages. We offer group rates for bus tours. We also have a full hook-up campground, a boat launch and dockage. For your enjoyment there is an inground swimming pool, a playground, beach front bonfire pits and a sandy beach on the premises. We also provide a beach front picnic area with barbeque grills and a 70' riverfront deck that offers panoramic views of the St. Lawrence River.

Whatever your pleasure may be, the friendly staff at Lanz's would be happy to arrange reservations for you at any attraction, restaurant or boat rental facility. The Clayton Area Chamber of Commerce along with the citizens of the Clayton community have been hard at work through the past several years in bringing many attractions to Clayton. The Annual Vintage & Classic Street Meet held in September is always a great success with classic cars, trucks, motorcycles and snowmobiles lining the streets of downtown Clayton. Please call for this years date. Check out our video: Burnout A complete list of each year's events can be found at the Clayton Area Chamber of Commerce website.

Lanz's Motel, Cottages & Campground is located two miles from downtown Clayton. There you will find a variety of shops, and restaurants and after dinner you might want to consider watching a waterfront concert at Frink Park or a performance at the newly renovated Clayton Opera House

Phone: (315) 686-5690 e-mail: lanzs@juno.com

Lake Champlain (Ticonderoga NY) October 26, 2014

BOATER RESULTS

Chris Gore took top honors with a limit weighing 20.40 lbs. earning the top boater Prize of \$1,000. Gore anchored his winning limit with a stout smallie that pulled the scales to 5.60 lbs. earning the LANZ'S Lunker prize of \$260. Gore reports targeting points



Chris Gore

12-25 ft about 20 miles north of the Ticonderoga area using a drop shot to catch the majority of his fish. Then he moved to weed beds in 6-8 ft. and culled with some nice largemouth. Gore used a drop shot in both locations to present a Shot Goby Leech or a Yamamoto Shad Shaped Worm. And as a qualified Ranger Boat owner Gore closed out the tournament a triple winner by taking home an extra \$100 in Ranger Cup money.

Taking second place with a weight of 16.10 lbs. was John Siejak. Third place went to Anglers Choice Marine Pro Staffer Bobby Williams with 15.45 lbs. and roundingout he top five were Collegiate Angler Jason Karol with 13.45 lbs. and Dave Suttle with 13.25 lbs.

Co-ANGLER RESULTS

Stuart Mores capture top honors with a weight of 17.85 lbs. Finishing in second place was Connor Ramsdell with 13.90 lbs. While third place went to Dave Dumas with 12.35 lbs.

Rounding out the top five were Jason Barnes with 11.15 lbs. and Alex Morrison with 11.00 lbs. The LANZ's Lunker in the Co-Angler division was a nice 5.05 lb. fish brought in by Ryan Latinville.



Ranger Cup Winner Chris Gore





Meet Sammy Lee

Sammy Lee, of Birmingham, Alabama, is a former touring professional bass fisherman and host of the weekday, syndicated radio/fishing program: "Tight Lines® with Sammy Lee".

Sammy is also a long time friend of NY TBF President Bobby Williams and he's agreed to be a contributing writer for our 2015 E- News...

Sammy Lee entered his first professional bass fishing tournament at age 16 and has since participated in over 400 tournaments in more than 20 states

In 1982, Lee was honored by the Frank Carter Company, of Atlanta, Georgia, as "Master Fisherman of the Year". An award that was chosen from 90 promoter fishermen in 10 Southeastern states.

Sammy Lee, as host of the syndicated "Tight Lines® with Sammy Lee" radio program, provides both the experienced and novice fisherman with winning methods and hints on angling. His down-to-earth approach and easy-going manner have made his program a favorite among sportsmen in all 50 states.

On the air since March 1st, 1984, "Tight Lines® with Sammy Lee" programs are three minutes long and are broadcast five days each week, on over one hundred participating radio stations and Podcast via 32 different Podcast sites including iTunes, where "Tight Lines®" is the most downloaded 'Outdoors' podcast on iTunes.

At 6' 6" and 280 lbs., Sammy Lee is an imposing figure as he shares his angling knowledge and fish stories at public appearances. His personal appeal is evident among sportsmen of all ages, as he speaks and gives fishing demonstrations to such varied groups as: students; civic and service organizations; youth fishing seminars; military personnel; Boy Scouts and those attending boat shows and fishing tournaments. Lee travels 80,000+ miles each year, as a lecturing professional angler and communicator.

Additionally, from 1993-2001, Sammy Lee occupied the position of National Promotions Director/Freshwater, for Ranger Boats of Flippin, AR. In this position Lee was responsible for overseeing budgeting for 18 accounts and a \$3.5 million yearly budget. He also served as the Pro Staff Fishing Liaison involving over 700 anglers.

Among Lee's many awards and achievements are being elected as the President and Founding Board of Director member of the Bass Fishing Hall of Fame, of Hot Springs, Arkansas, where he continues serving.

Burning the SpotBy Sammy Lee

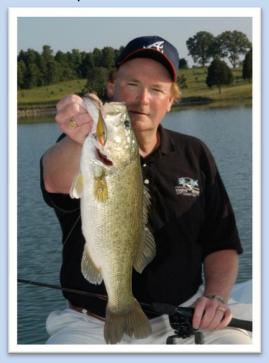
About this time of year, when the water temperatures reach between 50-60 degrees, I pull a lipless crankbait out of my tackle box. The style of bait that I use most often is called a 'Lipless Crankbait', or 'Vibrating Lure', and goes by many names. Some are called the "Rattle Spot", the "Rattlin' Rapala", the "Chatter-Shad" and the "Rattle Trap".

For many years the "Spot", or "Rattle Spot" as it goes by, has been one of my favorite lures to throw when the bass first move up out of their deep water winter homes.

I prefer to use a bait in the 3/8, 1/2, or 3/4-oz. sizes because depending on the waters depth, and cover that might be present, I can fish this lure slowly above grass beds, or underwater timber, without it sinking into them.

Now there's really not much skill involved in working one of these baits, or "Burning the Spot" as the pattern is often called. But there is a lot of thought and hard work involved.

First, it's like using a crankbait, but you're making more casts and retrieving a little bit faster. If you burn one of these baits all day long you'll cover more water than with any other method of fishing I've ever seen and the



reason I say this is because I'm fishing with baitcasting reels and seven-foot casting rods.

With high speed reels and seven-foot rods, you can make extremely long casts and cover more water than most anglers and fishing a style like this requires that you be in good physical condition.

A lot of fishermen aren't able to make these long casts and fast retrieves all day long, so I guess that's the reason there aren't many people fishing this lure. This style of fishing is usually for pre-spawn bass when the water is in the 50-to-60 degree range as I mentioned a minute ago, and the shore lines that you'll want to fish are gentle sloping ones, where you can stay a cast's length out but still only be in about ten feet of water.

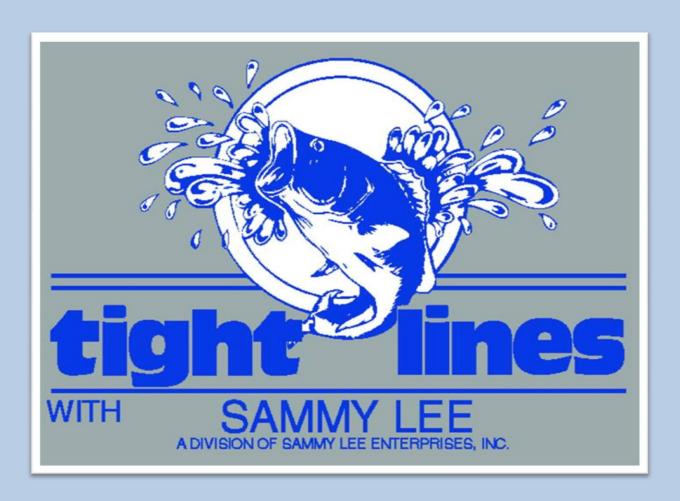
One thing you'll find that when you're burning these baits is that they have a very definite throb to them and it's this throb that's one of the most important parts in working the lure correctly.

Burning the Spot (continued)

Remember this one point if you don't remember anything else...you really need to identify the feel of the throb of your lure, because you'll seldom identify the feel of the strike. So if you loose touch with that throb, set the hook, because a bass has taken your offering and is probably swimming towards you.

Try "Burning the Spot" this Spring and I think you'll improve your fish catching considerably.

I'm Sammy Lee and until next time, "Tight Lines®"! www.tightlinesradio.com





\$13,250 Raised for NY Metropolitan USO

To sum up the March 5 to 8, 2015 event, the first word that comes to mind is 'AWESOME'! Supported by the Bergen Bassmasters, the NY TBF and the Plattsburgh College Bass Club, the four day annual USO fundraising donation booth and the First Ever Saturday Auction took in over \$13,250.

The group manned a booth at the annual World Eastern Fishing & outdoor Expo in Suffern NY March 5,6 & 7th to solicit donations for the USO and promote Sunday's auction. The USO Show Troupe staff of James Shakelford, Heather Harris and Director Jessica Herman (with fiancé Leo Dubrovsky) had plenty of help all four days and everyone needs to be thanked: Form Bereg Emergen we had Kris Lechman, Bill Vella, John Hart (and dad John M. Hart), Bruce MacConchie, John Williams, Frank Freguletti, Sean Combs (with sons Matt and Brad), Greg Trass, Alan Goldman and me. From the NY TBF and the Plattsburgh Bass Club we had Bobby Williams (president), Ben Wright, Ricky Lee, Brendan Bolis, Jason Karol and Ted Appleton. From Bass University and the Bass Bureau we had our auctioneer extraordinaire Bill Decoteau (with wife Trish) and acting as our official auction photographers was the 'Real Deal' team of Ritchie Moschella and fiancé Caitlyn.

Overall, this was an outstanding team effort and everyone is looking forward to a repeat performance next year. With a few more tweaks, reaching the \$20K plateau is quite possible. Of course the auction would not be possible without the contributions from our sponsors and supporters.



Bergen BMs, Collegiate Rep, NYTBF President and USO Staff



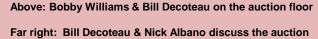
L-R: Nick Albano & Bobby Williams

\$13,250 (continued)

We sincerely thank all of these great organizations: BASS University, Wiley X, Inc., Cabela's, Bass Pro Shops, Gander Mountain, the Bergen Bassmasters, Dick's Sporting Goods, the Hamburg Microtel, the Meadowlands Renaissance Hotel, the Thayer Hotel at West Point, Shimano, Daiwa, Cashion Rods, Optima Batteries, Ranger Boats, Morris County Marine, North Jersey Marine, Greenwood Lake Marina, Capital District Marina, Reynolds Marine, Lima & Sons Marine, Pro Mariner Battery Chargers, Orvis, Ramsey Outdoor, MegaStrike, Gamma Fishing Line, Steve & Roberts Bait and Tackle, the Sherman Group, Kicker Baits, the NY TBF, Pfizer Inc. and the NY Giants.

The auction venue, in the main seminar area at the Expo, was excellent and for that we need to thank Tod Alberto, show director with the American Sportfishing Association.











Sancho's wrapped vehicle

Plattsburgh Fishing Club Meets the Pro

On February 28th the Plattsburg Fishing Club hosted Elite Series Professional Angler Joe Sancho. During Sancho's fishing seminar he shared several stories of life as Pro on the national tournament trail

NYTBF contacted Plattsburg Fishing Club President Matt Ziomek to ask what he

thought about the day and here's what he had to say.

ZIOMEK: He gave us a lot of information about just how much it takes to compete at his level. Sancho mentioned the amount of time both on and off the water that he puts in to remain competitive. I can't remember his schedule exactly, but he's going to be all over the map in the next few months and I don't think some of us knew exactly how much travel was required between scouting, pre-fishing and the events themselves.

Sancho also talked about how he got into fishing which was a really cool story and one that a lot of club members can relate to. He joined an adult club that was hesitant to let a high school age kid in but they gave him a chance and it took off from there. Other than that he talked a bit about how important it is to sell yourself in a marketing sense and how important it is to have the help of different companies and organizations while on the tour.

I hope this seminar gave people a look at what is possible even through small programs like the collegiate cup. This should give people some



L-R: Bobby Williams and Matt Ziomek



Joe Sancho

motivation to get out and practice and research to maximize performance when those events roll around. I think we had about 50 people attend this seminar

Having the local news and the campus news cover this event was huge for us I was pleasantly surprised at their level of interest in fishing and our club. I think this set up with both the media and the event format will serve as a model for us in future.





New York - The Bass Federation presents the Collegiate Cup Challenge

2015 Tournament Schedule

August 23,2015 Qualifier #1

Mohawk River, Schoharie Crossing, Hartley Lane, Fort Hunter

Take-off at 7:00am, Weigh-in at 2:00pm \$75 per boat – 2 anglers per boat BBQ to follow for all contestants

September 27, 2015 Qualifier #2

Lake Champlain, City Ramp, Dock Street, Plattsburgh

Take-off at 7:00am, Weigh-in at 2:00pm \$75 per boat – 2 anglers per boat BBQ to follow for all contestants

NOTE Entry fee will be collected for each qualifier. Top 12 teams advance to championship. If top 12 in qualifier #1, anglers do not need to participate in qualifier #2.

October 17, 2015 CHAMPIONSHIP

Lake Champlain, Ticonderoga Boat Launch, NY Route 74, Ticonderoga

Take-off at 7:00am, Weigh-in at 2:00pm Must have qualified – no fee – 2 anglers per boat BBQ to follow for all contestants

Eligibility: The Collegiate Cup Challenge is open to all undergraduate and graduate students that are enrolled full-time or last year's participants since graduated for one (1) fishing season. Exceptions can be made if the angler is graduating that semester or is taking a graduate level class. These requirements are put in place to insure the fairness and integrity of the 2015 Collegiate Cup Challenge.

Entries: On-line at NYTBF.com, Collegiate Cup, payment on-line or mail

OR

CollegiateBassChampionship.com, mail only

Payment must be mailed no later than 7 days prior to tournament.

Mail to: NYTBF c/o Sandy Williams, PO Box 185, La Fargeville, NY 13656





BASS FISHING HALL OF FAME TO BE PART OF NEWLY NAMED 'INTERNATIONAL BASS FISHING CENTER'

GREENVILLE, S.C. – *For Immediate Release* – 2/19/15 – In what will be a multi-functional attraction centering on the world of bass fishing, the Bass Fishing Hall of Fame Board of Directors announced at its 2015 Induction Dinner – held in Greenville, S.C. on the eve of the Bassmaster Classic – the facility will be known as the 'International Bass Fishing Center.'

Located adjacent to I-65 in Cullman, Ala. – the 'home state' for bass fishing, the International Bass Fishing Center (IFBC) will be the home of the *Bass Fishing Hall of Fame*, which honors and describes the accomplishments of those who have made significant contributions to the sport and the bass fishing industry, and much more.

"Within the Center, anglers young and old can immerse themselves in the 'Family Fishing Experience' attraction," said Dr. C. Hobson Bryan, BFHOF board member and a professor at the University of Alabama. "We'll have fully-stocked ponds for learn-to-fish excursions for area school children, plus we plan on hosting multi-day 'Fish Camp' clinics during the summer months."

The IBFC will also include a 'Boat and Tackle Showcase' – a living display of the ingenuity and innovation of the bass fishing industry, along with a variety of interactive displays in *Virtual Fishing*, from simulating catching the big one to a ride in a fast, state-of-the-art bass boat.

The 'Discovery Center' will enable visitors to experience the watery world of bass first-hand by observing fish behavior in the 36,000 gallon aquarium designed by Acrylic Tank Manufacturing, known throughout the world as the subject of the hit Animal Planet television show "Tanked." Bass fishing professionals and other instructors will demonstrate the latest lures and techniques used successfully on the tournament trail.

With its close proximity to such world-class fisheries as Smith Lake and TVA chain Guntersville, Wheeler, and Wilson Lakes, the IBFC will be a tournament headquarters and conference center. According the BFHOF board president Sammy Lee, the location makes it a natural meeting place for fishing industry related events. These can include national tournament organizations and angling research symposia, as well as bass tournament weigh-ins. The adjacent Cullman Civic Center will enable partnering with the City on a wide range of activities, including non-fishing related events as well.

Currently in the midst of a major fundraising effort – already supported by leading tackle industry names including PRADCO, Zebco, Shimano, G. Loomis, T-H Marine and Strike King, the BFHOF Board anticipates groundbreaking for the IBFC in fall 2016.



NEW YORK TBF RANGER CUP PAYOUTS FOR 2015

June 14th Lake Champlain, Highest Ranger Cup Finisher \$100.00

August 9th Oneida Lake, Highest Ranger Cup Finisher \$100.00

September 20th St Lawrence River, Highest Ranger Cup Finisher \$100.00

October 11th & 12th St. Lawrence River, State Team Championship, \$200 to the highest Ranger Cup finisher

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