



## **Bylaws**

### **Article 1: Name and Purpose**

#### **Section 1: Name**

This chapter will be called the Anglers for Christ Bass Club, centrally located in Kempner, TX 76539.

#### **Section 2: Purpose**

- a. The purpose of this club is to promote:
  - 1) Christian fellowship.
  - 2) A consistent witness for the Lord Jesus Christ.
  - 3) Responsible stewardship of God's gifts.
  - 4) To grow in our knowledge of Christ and fishing.
  - 5) An opportunity for participation as a dynamic and effective link with other chapters of the Texas State B.A.S.S. Nation.
  - 6) To stimulate public awareness of bass fishing as a major sport. To offer our state conservation department our organized moral and political support and encouragement. To promote full adherence to all conservation codes and to demand adequate water standards. To detect and report any polluter and call public and political attention to his/her crime. To improve our skill as bass anglers through a fellowship of friendly exchange of expert bass-catching techniques and ideas, and to promote and encourage youth fishing and a love for this great recreation. To function as a dynamic and effective link with other Clubs of the state B.A.S.S. Nation, embracing the principles and purposes of B.A.S.S.

### **Article II – Membership**

#### **Section 1: Number of Members**

- a. This Chapter shall begin with and maintain at least six members who are members of B.A.S.S. and the Texas B.A.S.S. Nation.

## **Section 2: Requirements for Regular Membership**

- a. All perspective members will attend one meeting and fish one tournament as a non-boater. This will serve two purposes:
  - 1) It will allow the perspective member to understand how the club is run.
  - 2) It will provide the club a look into the perspective member to ensure a good fit for the club values.
- b. Membership shall be open to any man or woman. A sponsoring member will be responsible for the new member knowing all club rules before he or she requests membership into the Anglers for Christ Bass Club. All perspective new member will be voted on and affirmation shall be unanimous by secret ballot. Upon unanimous vote and payment of dues he or she shall become a member.
- c. Be 16 years of age or older.
- d. The membership of the Anglers for Christ Bass Club shall consist of:
  - 1) Boaters: Members who own fishing boats and plan to use them in club tournaments.
  - 2) Non-Boaters: Members who do not own fishing boats.
- e. The percentage ratio of members will be at least 60% Boaters and no more than 40% Non-Boaters. After the Non-Boater limit has been reached, applications will still be taken and members received on a first come, first serve basis.
- f. The membership of Anglers for Christ Bass Club recognizes that boating and fishing can be hazardous activities. Each member agrees individually to assume all risks of damage to his person and /or property which might occur.

## **Section 3: Requirements for Junior Membership**

To become a junior member, a person shall:

- a. Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership
- b. Be under 16 years of age and is a son or daughter of a club member.
- c. Junior Members may fish with their parent, providing the parent is a boater.

\*Junior members are not required to pay national membership dues and are not entitled to the benefits of a regular member. The acceptance of junior members will not affect a club's liability insurance policy. Junior members may not hold office in an adult club nor may they be voting members. At age 16, junior members may continue membership by joining the club as a regular member. Junior membership ceases on a person's 16th birthday.

## **Section 4: Membership Dues**

The membership dues shall be \$75 annually, initially payable upon being voted into the chapter, \$55 of which shall be for Nation dues and \$20 of which shall be for chapter dues (chapter dues will be prorated for those members joining during the year). B.A.S.S. membership dues are also required at the current rate.

## **Section 5: Meeting of Members**

- a. The membership shall hold regular meetings at pre-established times and locations
- b. All club meetings and functions will be conducted according to Christian Principles.
- c. The consumption of alcohol, illegal drugs, and/or mind-altering substances (except medication prescribed under a doctor's care that will not impair the operation of a boat) is prohibited at all Anglers for Christ Bass Club functions, and functions at which membership is representing Anglers for Christ Bass Club.

## **Article III – Officers, Elections, Eligibility, Vacancies, & Term of Office**

### **Section 1: Officers**

Officers shall conduct the affairs of the Chapter in a manner consistent with these Bylaws.

### **Section 2: Officers and their Duties**

The officers of the Club shall consist of:

**a. President:**

- 1) Preside and supervise all meetings and direct all official business
- 2) To chair all club and board meetings.
- 3) Appoint and be an ex-officio member of all committees.
- 4) To call special board meetings as deemed necessary
- 5) Assist Tournament Director at all tournament weigh-ins
- 6) Assist any board member as deemed necessary
- 7) Be responsible for writing a monthly newsletter informing membership of all club activities and making it available to each member
- 8) To chair the Tournament Committee
- 9) To present all trophies and awards at the club's monthly meeting
- 10) Responsible for keeping records of all tournament results and giving information to Secretary and Treasurer
- 11) Responsible for scales at weigh-ins
- 12) Responsible for securing all trophies and awards

**b. Vice President:**

- 1) Act as program chairman
- 2) Assist the president in his/ her duties and preside in the absence of the president
- 3) Assume the duties of the President in his absence
- 4) Assist Tournament Director at all tournament weigh-ins
- 5) Assist any board member as deemed necessary

**c. Secretary:**

- 1) Maintain accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings as called for by the Club president.
- 2) Maintain regular liaison between Club and the B.A.S.S. and the state B.A.S.S. Chapter.
- 3) To keep written records of all club activities
- 4) To keep attendance records of all meetings and tournaments
- 5) To maintain up-to-date mailing lists
- 6) Keep all rule changes up-to-date in club By-Laws
- 7) To assist the Treasurer in collecting dues and keeping a correct record of such transactions
- 8) To assist Tournament Director at all tournament weigh-ins
- 9) To assist any board member as deemed necessary

**d. Treasurer:**

- 1) Collect and disburse all monies.
- 2) Maintain accurate financial records and present a current balance report at each regular meeting.

- 3) Prepare an annual audit for review by the Club board of directors.
  - 4) The Club may vote that the treasurer and any other officer handling Club funds must be bonded.
  - 5) To collect all dues and provide Secretary with correct records of such transactions
  - 6) Assist Tournament Director at all tournament weigh-ins
  - 7) Assist any board member as deemed necessary.
- e. **Tournament Director**
- 1) Determine launch time
  - 2) Determine weigh in time
  - 3) Responsible for determining if unsafe conditions exist and if so, whether or not the tournament should be cancelled or delayed.
  - 4) To direct all weigh-in activities
- f. **Club Chaplain**
- 1) To lead beginning and closing prayer at all club meetings and tournaments
  - 2) Conduct and facilitate devotionals at club meetings.
- g. **Conservation Chairman**
- 1) Serve as liaison between the Club and state and national conservation/environmental agencies. Plan Club conservation projects and attend all local and state conservation meetings/hearings.
- h. **Youth Chairman**
- 1) Organize all youth activities and programs. Coordinate youth events and start a Junior Bassmaster Club when the Club is ready for this sponsorship.

### **Section 3: Elections**

- a. The election of officers shall be held annually at a regular meeting during the month of November.
- b. Election shall be by simple majority of members present.
- c. Election for each officer shall be held separately in the order listed in ARTICLE III, Section 2.

### **Section 4: Eligibility to Vote**

- a. Vote: Each member is entitled to one vote.
- b. Proxy votes are not permitted.

### **Section 5: Term of Office**

- a. Upon initial creation of the club, all positions will be for a two year term which will allow sufficient time for the establishment of the club.
- b. After initial two years of club existence, the term of office is for one year, from January 1 until December 31, or until the successor assumes office

## **Section 6: Vacancies**

In the event of an office becoming vacant, nominations shall be asked for and an election held to fill the unexpired term of the individual vacating the office. National B.A.S.S. headquarters shall be notified immediately of the change of any officers.

## **Section 7: Eligibility for Holding Office**

- a. To be eligible for an office a member must:
  - 1) Have been a member for six months. (Six months' requirement waived during first 24 months of chapter existence.)
  - 2) Have attended at least 75% of the chapter meetings and 75% of chapter functions during a 12 month period.
  - 3) Have shown an active interest in all chapter functions.
  - 4) Maintain current B.A.S.S. membership.

## **ARTICLE IV – Standing Committees**

- a. All standing committees will serve for one year or until a new committee is appointed. A chairman will be elected, unless otherwise specified.
  - 1) **Board of Directors.**
    - a) The board of directors will consist of eight members.
      1. Current president, who will service as Chairman
      2. Vice President
      3. Secretary
      4. Treasure.
      5. Immediate past president
      6. Two members elected at large by majority vote.
      7. Founding President
    - b) The chairman will call all meetings of the board of directors and preside at such meetings.
    - c) The secretary will record the minutes of these meetings.
    - d) The board will rule on all tournament rules infractions, Club bylaws violations and all protests when appropriately received.
    - e) The board will develop agendas for the monthly meetings.
    - f) Responsible for presenting lakes to the club to set the tournament schedule
  - 2) **Youth Committee:**
    - a) The purpose of this committee shall be to plan, organize and implement a Club youth project; to introduce young people to the goals of B.A.S.S.
    - b) To give them a basis of respect for our national heritage and an appreciation of the basic rules for honesty, integrity, fair play and good sportsmanship; and to give them an introduction to the sheer joy of fishing.
  - 3) **Conservation Committee:**
    - a) The Conservation Committee will consist of the following members:
      1. Conservation Chairman
      2. Current President
      3. Immediate past president
      4. Secretary

- b) The purpose of this committee shall be to protect our natural environment from harmful change
- c) To document and report to the proper authorities violations of local, state and federal antipollution laws, statutes, regulations, ordinances and other regulatory devices.
- d) To take legal action where appropriate
- e) To undertake informational and educational programs to bring public awareness of threats to our environment
- f) To take a leadership role in repairing the harm that has already been done to the life-giving waters of America.

4) **Tournament Committee:**

- a) The Tournament Committee will consist of the following members:
  - 1. Tournament Director, who will serve as chairman.
  - 2. Current President
  - 3. Current Vice President
  - 4. Secretary
- b) The purpose of the tournament committee shall be to plan, organize and operate all Club tournaments.
- c) The committee will keep tournament records, enforce all tournament rules, and investigate all protests concerning tournaments and make recommendations to the board of directors.

## **ARTICLE V – Removal of Membership**

### **Section 1: Removal of Membership**

- a. Members may be dropped from the membership roll for the following reasons:
  - 1) Failure to pay dues.
  - 2) Any action that would reflect dishonor and disgrace on the chapter and/or B.A.S.S. Nation.
  - 3) Failure to attend 50% of the chapter meetings and 50% of chapter functions during a 12 month period. Military/civilian deployment is exempt.
  - 4) Disqualification for any reason from participating in B.A.S.S. sponsored events, including disqualification for use of drugs or alcohol.

## **ARTICLE VI – Affiliation**

### **Section 1: Requirements for Affiliation**

- a. Approval of chapter charter by B.A.S.S.
- b. Update B.A.S.S. with chapter membership roster once each year.
- c. Names and addresses of new members joining the chapter during the year must be submitted online to B.A.S.S. as they occur. (See ARTICLE II, Section 4 for dues requirements.)
- d. Maintain 100% B.A.S.S. membership.
- e. Must affiliate with the state B.A.S.S. Nation and support its conservation and youth programs. Any additional requirements that the state establishes for chapters, such as membership, dues, attendance at meetings, etc., would be necessary for the chapter to

participate in the state qualifying tournament(s) and any other Nation sponsored tournaments or events.

## **Article VII – Tournament Rules**

### **Section 1: Tournament Rules**

- a. See Tournament Hand Book for Rules and Guidelines

## **ARTICLE VII – Method of Amending the Bylaws**

### **Section 1: Amending the Bylaws**

The bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two thirds vote of the members present, provided written notice of the proposed amendment has been presented to the membership at least one regular meeting prior to the vote.