



CENTRAL TENNESSEE BASS CLUB BYLAWS

ARTICLE I - NAME & PURPOSE

SECTION I – NAME

This chapter shall be called **CENTRAL TENNESSEE BASS CLUB** of Middle Tennessee.

SECTION II – PURPOSE

- A. To actively participate in matters of constructive conservation which concern the fishing waters we use as a club.
- B. To enhance the transfer of invaluable fishing information to individual members.
- C. To encourage instruction and development of fishing skill of the membership.
- D. To afford the opportunity to engage in friendly competitive tournament fishing.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION I – NUMBER OF MEMBERS

The chapter will begin with and maintain at least six (6) members and will be limited to a maximum of fifty (50) members.

SECTION II – REQUIREMENTS FOR REGULAR MEMBERSHIP

To become a chapter member, a person shall

- A. Express a genuine interest in the principles of the club.
- B. Be in agreement with the bylaws.

C. Be sponsored by an active member.

E. Be accepted by the attending and in good standing membership by a 75% majority vote.

F. New members must be voted on using a secret ballot after the projected member has left the meeting in which he/she was introduced. Once vote is conducted, the membership director or designated board member will call the potential member to inform him of the result of voting.

G. Be eighteen (18) years of age.

H. If accepted for membership; pay the annual dues.

I. The members are encouraged to seek and select persons 18 years of age and older who are of good moral character, and extend to them an invitation to join the club. The member shall secure a printed application form from the secretary. The person invited to join shall complete and sign the application and liability disclaimer before they can participate in any club activity.

J. Each boating member shall provide proof of liability insurance (\$300,000 minimum coverage required) prior to participating in their first tournament of the year and maintain proof of insurance throughout the tournament year.

SECTION IV – MEMBERSHIP DUES

Chapter dues shall be \$25.00 annually.

SECTION V – MEETING OF MEMBERS

The membership shall hold regular meetings at pre-determined times.

SECTION VI – REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP

1) A member shall be dropped from the membership rolls for the following reasons:

A. Failure to pay the membership dues. A member dropped under this provision will have ten (10) days to pay his dues and be automatically reinstated. Member will automatically be dropped pending Board of Directors notification.

B. Disqualification for any reason including disqualification for use of drugs or alcohol while on the lake or involved in any club function. Member will automatically be dropped pending Board of Directors notification.

2) A member shall be dropped from the membership rolls following a resolution meeting with the Membership Director, a recommendation from the Board of Directors, and a 75% majority vote of the membership for the following reasons:

A. Flagrant and continuous actions or expressions demonstrating a belief inconsistent with and contrary to the purpose of the club.

B. Any action which would reflect dishonor or disgrace on this club.

SECTION VII- REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP PROCEDURE

A. A complaint must be documented and complaint must be submitted to the Membership Director.

B. The Membership Director will hold a private resolution meeting between the party responsible for the complaint and the member which the complaint has been raised against.

C. The Membership Director is responsible for making every attempt to promoting reconciliation and promoting friendship.

D. If reconciliation fails it is the responsibility of the Membership Director to conduct a vote of the Board of Directors and the outcome would subsequently be shared with the general membership.

ARTICLE III OFFICERS, ELECTIONS, VACANCIES AND ELIGIBILITY

SECTION I - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

A. *President*: Presides over all meetings and directs all official business, He is responsible for Roberts Rules of Order procedures and the enforcement thereof. He is to supervise all Club functions. He is also to see that all other directors and committees fulfill their duties. He may also appoint special project committees.

B. *Vice-President*: Shall assume all duties of the President in his absence. He shall also be in charge of all meeting programs including providing a schedule of educational and/or entertaining films, speakers, seminars, etc. He may appoint a committee for assistance with these duties with the approval of the board of directors.

C. *Secretary*: Shall record in a suitable permanent ledger the minutes of each meeting and read them at the next regular meeting. He is to conduct all club correspondence including newsletters and be in charge of the general membership ledger containing current information. He may also appoint a committee to assist in his duties and projects with the approval of the board of directors.

D. *Treasurer*: The duties of the Treasurer are to collect all membership dues, fines or assessments, and keep an accurate record of each member's account. He shall receive all monies due the association.

He shall establish a petty cash fund in an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) to pay small incidental purchases and small bills. He shall keep a record of all payouts and shall replenish said fund by check when needed.

All expenditures shall be by check (except that paid from petty cash) after the expenditures have been approved by the membership. Emergency expenditures may be paid between meetings with the approval of the President and Secretary.

He shall deposit all monies collected in a checking account in the name of the club. It shall be deposited at a bank approved by the board as soon as possible after said collection.

If he feels there is an excess amount of money in the checking account (with the approval of the board) he may transfer an amount agreed upon to a savings account. Any withdrawal from said account must be signed by both the President and Treasurer. Any interest or dividend earned on said account must be credited to the account, or show as an income to the club.

He must keep an accurate and pertinent account of all receipts and expenditures. He shall make a report to the membership at each meeting of the receipts, expenditures, and balance on hand. He must make a financial statement and release his books to the board for audit at least once each ninety (90) days.

E. *Tournament Director*: He is charged with arranging the lakes chosen by the general membership into a working tournament schedule with the four (3) tournament committee members voted in by the general membership. Dates and launch ramps, along with tournament times and any special rules that will apply will be the responsibility of the tournament director and the tournament committee.

It will be the policy of the tournament director's office to follow these priorities in this order when setting the tournament schedule:

1. Safety and general benefit of the club.
2. National holidays.
3. Consideration of all factors relative to providing the best possible tournament should be the primary concern and consider other popular tournaments as a secondary concern. All consideration should be given to C.T.B.C. tournaments to avoid being scheduled in conflict with our national affiliated tournaments. I.E. the BFL – Music City Division and the BASS Weekender Series – Tennessee Central Division 3.
4. Consideration of individual conflicts when possible.
5. Recurring seasonal weather conditions.
6. The first tournament of the season shall not occur until after the March C.T.B.C. meeting.

F. Public Relations Director: Shall establish and provide a system of information that is newsworthy to all area newspapers concerning club events and tournament results. He is charged with maintaining a favorable public view of the club and is empowered to create a committee to achieve the goal with the approval of the board of directors. This office shall be responsible for the establishment and procedure for at least one civic project per year. These projects are to be scheduled in conjunction with the tournament committee.

G. Membership Director: Shall be in charge of all duties concerned with soliciting, qualifying, and the orientation of new members. He will act as the membership liaison to the board of directors (direct voice). Any concerns, questions, discrepancies, or individual protests or grievances should be filed with this officer within a thirty (30) day limitation, who will then conduct a private resolution meeting with all parties involved in complaint. He will make a recommendation to the Board of Directors and the general membership for final resolution. He is to provide an answer promptly in writing to the Board of Directors after the situation is addressed.

H. Board of Directors: Approve all committees, rule on all problems and protests that occur. Consists of members as follows: President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer, Tournament Director, Membership Director and Public Relations Director.

I. Tournament Committee Members: This committee shall be comprised of four (3) members are to be elected by the general membership.

Their duties are as follows:

1. To meet with the tournament director on both scheduled and called meetings.
2. To assist in the scheduling of all tournaments and projects.
3. Assist in the gathering and providing of all pertinent information in relation to tournament events (i.e. ramp location and directions, limits, special regulations, water conditions, etc.).
4. Follow club policies in interpreting any rule questions or violations.
5. Be present at meetings to assist in entry fee collections and drawing procedure.
6. Be available at tournament weigh-ins to assist under the Tournament Director's supervision.

J. Conservation Chairman: Serve as liaison between the Chapter and State and National conservation/environmental agencies and coordinate club conservation projects.

SECTION II - ELECTIONS

A. Elections shall be held during November of each year. Election for each office shall be held separately in the order listed in Article III. Each officer and director shall hold office until his successor has been duly qualified and elected, or until his death or resignation, or removal from office.

SECTION III - ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

A. Each active member in good standing is entitled to one (1) vote on all issues brought before the club.

SECTION IV - TERMS OF OFFICE

A. Officers will be elected for a term of one (1) year.

SECTION V - VACANCIES

A. In the event of an office becoming vacant, this vacancy will be filled by an

appointment made by the officers and Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term.

SECTION VI - ELIGIBILITY FOR HOLDING OFFICE

A. To be eligible for office, a member must have been a member for a minimum of six (6) months.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS AND TOURNAMENTS

A. During tournament months, a regular monthly meeting will be held prior to the Saturday tournament. At this meeting a drawing will be held to pair boaters and non-boaters. The drawing will be conducted so as to ensure all non-boaters are paired prior to any guest being assigned to any boat.

B. A majority of membership present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

C. All tournaments will be held on a Saturday. A tournament schedule shall be set by the Tournament Director and ratified annually by majority vote of the membership present.

D. These meetings and tournament schedules may be changed by the Board of Directors and officers, if conditions require such action.

E. It is the intention of the club that all members fish in the yearly Classic Tournament. There are three (3) rules for eligibility:

1. Club members must have fished a minimum of 60% of regularly scheduled points tournaments.
2. Members must attend all meetings. If not, see #3 below
3. Anglers not attending meetings, if having fished 60% of the tournaments, may buy into the classic by paying in \$20 plus an additional \$5 for each tournament missed.

ARTICLE V - RULES AND PROCEDURES

A. Any special meetings will be designated by the Board of Directors.

B. Ruling on the bylaws is the responsibility of the Board of Directors and their decision is final.

C. Ruling on the tournament rules is the responsibility of the Tournament Director and the Tournament Committee and their decision is final.

D. The Board of Directors and committees will conduct a separate meeting prior to each club meeting, if necessary.

E. All meetings will be conducted by the President or Vice president. If both are absent, then the meetings shall be governed by the Secretary under Robert's Rules of Order.

F. If, in the future of the club, it shall choose to dissolve, the treasurer at such time shall pay all outstanding debts and any remaining amount will be donated to an organization of similar purpose at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI - ACTIVITIES

A. Inter-club activities will be planned by the committees and voted on by the membership.

B. The club will have a minimum of nine (9) official tournaments. The number of tournaments will be decided by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VII - TOURNAMENTS

SECTION I - TOURNAMENT AWARDS

A. Cash awards will be paid based on the number of boats in the tournament. The official payout schedule is included in the tournament rules. The amount of cash awarded at each tournament will be determined from the entries at the monthly meeting held the Tuesday of the month immediately preceding the tournament. The determination of the amounts of tournament awards will be the responsibility of the Tournament Director and Treasurer.

SECTION II - TOURNAMENT SCORING

A. Scoring shall be done by total pounds (to the nearest hundredth) of the fish weighed in, less 0.20 pounds for each fish that is dead at weigh in. Only five (5)

fish that meet the state established size limit for the lake on which the tournament is held may be weighed in.

B. The scoring schedule is listed in the tournament rules. Fisherman with no fish at weigh in will receive fifty (50) points for participation in the tournament.

ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

A. These bylaws can be amended by the members if the amendment is approved at two (2) consecutive club meetings by at least 75% of the members present.

B. Bylaw changes will be implemented between the beginning of each calendar year and prior to the first tournament of the year.

C. Bylaw amendment suggestions may be submitted to the board after the season is over and will be discussed in subsequent meetings to ensure understanding by all members. Once a list of amendments are put together, they will be implemented and voted on after the beginning of the year and before the first tournament.

D. Bylaw changes must be ratified by a 75% vote of members in good standing prior to the first tournament.

ARTICLE IX - POLICY

A. All fish weighed in a tournament must be released alive when possible.

B. A consistent loss of fish by the same member will be assessed by the board and an appropriate plan of action shall be taken to prevent further loss of fish.

C. Sportsmanship. Safety and conservation is demanded of each club member. Any infractions of these principles will be deemed cause for disqualification from a tournament and expulsion from the club.

D. Cheating during any tournament will be cause for automatic disqualification from the tournament in which the infraction occurs and immediate expulsion from the club. Cheating is defined as any proven violation of tournament rules, any intentional action taken to cause other club members to be disadvantaged, and failure to abide by the club bylaws.

D. Non-boaters will assist boaters with operating expenses. The "Split" fee for each tournament will be \$30. The non-boater must pay the boater prior to leaving

the lake the day of the tournament. Providing that a boater has reported a failure to receive a split fee and the non-boater does not pay the split fee prior to the next meeting, then CTBC will pay boater the owed split fee and non-boater will forfeit membership to CTBC.

E. If a non-boater is unable to make it to the lake on the day of the tournament, his entry fee will be forfeit to the club.

F. Subsequently, the split fee will still be owed to the boater and must be paid at or before the next meeting.

ARTICLE X – AFFILIATION

- A. The club will not officially support the formation of any affiliated team to compete outside of the club, however, if a club member in good standing wants to form a team on his own to compete outside the club, the club will “rubber stamp” the formation of such team thus allowing the formed team to use the C.T.B.C. as its sponsor for the tournament. (I.E.: TBF or TFN, etc.)
- B. The club will not be held liable to conform to any requirements made by any other affiliation. Any required fulfillment by an outside affiliation will be the responsibility of the club member who formed the team and the team that he/she formed.