



MONTGOMERY COUNTY
BASS CLUB
BY-LAWS

Latest Revision Dated November 11th 2019

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Montgomery County Bass Club By-laws

ARTICLE I: Name and Status

- A. This organization shall be known as the “Montgomery County Bass Club (MCBC).”
- B. The club shall be a non-profit organization chartered under the laws of the state of Tennessee.

ARTICLE II: Objectives and Purpose

- A. To promote the sport of bass fishing among all the people of Montgomery County and its surrounding areas.
- B. To promote the improvement of bass fishing techniques in Montgomery County and its surrounding areas.
- C. To encourage fishing interest, fishing conservation and conservation of our natural resources among the people of Montgomery County and its surrounding areas.
- D. To aid in the fight against pollution of our lakes, rivers and streams.
- E. To encourage the creation of more and new fish habitat in our lakes.
- F. To promote and encourage method of fish conservation and propagation in our area.
- G. To promote water safety and courtesy on the waterways at all times.
- H. To organize events, tournaments and seminars to improve the bass catching skills of our members and other bass anglers of our area.
- I. To raise money for the purpose of carrying out the objectives of the organization.

ARTICLE III: Membership

- A. The membership shall be sports-minded anglers of good character who share an interest in the sport of bass fishing.
- B. There shall be three classes of membership:
 - 1. Regular membership (active): Those who participate in club activities and enjoy all club activities.
 - 2. Honorary Lifetime Membership: This membership is given to a present or former member of the club. The purpose of this membership is to reward a bass angler of outstanding qualities and character, who can no longer actively participate in club

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activities. This membership is recommended by the members of the club membership and bestowed on a member at any regular meeting. An Honorary Lifetime member cannot hold an elected office and pays no dues.

3. Reserved Membership: A reserved member is a member of good standing who by reason of his job or other justifiable causes, requests a leave of absence of a specified period of time. A reserved membership must be approved by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting. The member on Reserved status can not hold an elected office and pays no dues.

ARTICLE IV: Admission to Membership

- A. The minimum age of an individual requesting admission to the club shall be eighteen (18) years of age. Prospective members sixteen (16) to eighteen (18) years will be allowed to join the club providing a parent belongs to MCBC.
- B. A prospective member will complete an application and present the application along with club dues at any regular club meeting.
- C. A prospective member must sign a statement that he or she agrees with the Bylaws and Tournament Rules and will abide by the requirements for membership. A copy of this agreement will be maintained on file with the members application
- D. A prospective member will receive a membership packet consisting of a copy of the by-laws, club roster, tournament rules and schedule upon payment of club dues.
- E. Owning a boat is not specifically required for membership, however, at no time shall the amount non-boat owning members of this club exceed fifty percent (50%) of the total membership this club. The only exception to this is in the case of husband/wife memberships. When the club is in need of members, the club may adjust the percentage ruling by a majority vote. The membership will define the time for the adjustment period.
- F. The new member will be put on a 90-day probationary period and is allowed to participate in all club functions. At the end of the probationary period, the members at a regular meeting will vote to judge whether member ending the probationary period is worthy of permanent regular membership.
- G. If during the probationary period, the prospective member displays unsportsman-like behavior, poor participation in club functions, etc.. the club may by majority vote at any regular meeting vote to revoke that prospective member's membership without refund of dues.
- H. Returning members, who left the club in good standing, can be voted back into the club as a permanent regular member once the membership application paperwork is filled out and dues are paid.

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ARTICLE V: Membership Criteria

Any member who violates the following requirements listed below for maintaining membership is subject to expulsion from the club and his membership terminated by a majority vote of the members present at any regular meeting. Any member guilty of such violations will be written an appropriate letter by the club secretary requesting him to defend his actions at the next regular membership meeting. If reasonable excuses are presented, the action on expulsion shall be dropped, per majority vote of members present at regular membership meeting. If the guilty party fails to make known his excuses to the club the member will automatically be dropped from the roll without refund of that years dues. The grounds for expulsion are as follows:

1. Failing to pay dues for the preceding year by the November meeting.
2. Being officially fined by the State or Federal authorities for violation of any State and/or Federal regulations governing boating practices, pollution, game and fish laws or safety practices.
3. Being observed adding to water pollution or littering the waterways.
4. Violation of any club rules or regulations.
5. Actions by a member that bring discredit upon the club or actions that result in a hostile environment between members. When necessary the President will convene a special board meeting of officers to include members at large and address the actions or accusations. The officers will then determine the appropriate actions based on the evidence presented and on expulsion. The officers will vote on the course of action and President will only vote in the event of a tie. The President shall inform the affected member (s) of the board's decision in writing.

ARTICLE VI: Rights of Members

- A. It shall be the right of all regular members to enjoy the privileges or the club, including but not limited to:
 1. Fishing tournaments
 2. Participation in club functions
 3. Attending all membership meetings
 4. Voting rights
- B. It shall be the right of any member to bring to the floor of any regular meeting for discussion and action, any matter that affects the privileges of members or the operation of the club

- C. Memberships are not transferable.

ARTICLES VII: Finances and Revenue

- A. All club funds will be deposited in a single bank of Clarksville, Tennessee.
- B. Club funds expended must meet the approval of the majority vote at any regular membership meeting.

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- C. All checks for expenditures are to be signed by one of the following: treasurer, president or tournament director.
- D. Club dues are \$20.00 annually running from November through October. Dues must be paid by the November meeting. Dues paid by new members are rated on a semi-annual basis for the first year based on the date a person becomes a member of this club. They are as follow: December-May for \$20.00 and June-November for \$10.00.

NOTE: The only exception to the payment of club dues is in addition to winning a trophy and title the Angler of the Year will be exempt from paying club dues the following year.

- E. In addition to the club dues, there is an additional \$50.00 annually to retain our membership as a chapter of membership with B.A.S.S. \$30.00 goes to Nation and \$20.00 goes to State for membership and to keep B.A.S.S. insurance in effect at all times). If the member is a member of another B.A.S.S. club and has paid the Federation dues through that "mother club," only the \$20.00 State dues must be paid.
- F. Fund Raising: club members will conduct fund-raising projects sufficient to carry on the activities of the club.
- G. No member of the club shall obligate the club for debts totaling an amount more that the assets or net worth of the club.
- H. To maintain non-profit status, any funds accumulated by the organization are to be used to implement the objectives of the club within twenty-four (24) months from the date deposited in the club treasury.
- I. In the event that MCBC is dissolved and disbanded, the last elected President and elected Treasurer are directed to donate all funds and properties owned by the club to a recognized charity or charitable organization.

ARTICLE VIII: Meetings

- A. The club will hold regular meetings of the membership on the second Monday of each month, January through November. The secretary will determine the time and place of all membership meetings.
- B. The order of business of the regular membership meeting shall be as follows:
 - 1. Call to order
 - 2. Invocation
 - 3. Welcome of guests
 - 7. New Business
 - 8. Old business
 - 9. Membership considerations

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- 4. Program
- 5. Minutes of the last meeting
- 6. Treasurer's report
- 10. Announcements
- 11. Adjournment
- C. December meeting: the annual awards banquet and Christmas Party will be held in December in place of the regular membership meeting.

ARTICLE IX: Administration

- A. The officers of the club shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Tournament Director, Assistant Tournament Director and three (3) Members-at-large.
- B. All officers of the club are elected by majority vote at the preceding November meeting.
- C. The term of all offices is one (1) year, beginning January 1st and ending December 31st of the same year.
- D. Duties of the officers
 - 1. President & Vice President:
 - a. Preside at and conduct all club meetings, club functions and ceremonies.
 - b. Makes suggestion and present ideas; but doesn't make formal motions or vote while presiding.
 - c. May vote only in the case of a tie or in a officer's general election.
 - d. Vice President presides only in the absence of the President
 - 2. Secretary:
 - a. Prepares and reads accurate minutes of each membership meeting.
 - b. Assume responsibility of all club correspondence.
 - c. Maintains accurate attendance and activity records and rosters.
 - d. Assume responsibility of completion/timely mailing of the club's monthly newsletter to all members.
 - 3. Treasurer:
 - a. Collects and documents all membership dues and other funds derived from

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many sources and deposits them in the club's account.

- b. Maintain accurate records of all financial transactions of the club and present a financial report at each club meeting.
- c. At the end of the year, he will present a written financial report of the club, showing a resume of all financial activity of the club for the preceding year.

4. Point Tournament Director & Open Tournament Director:

Point Tournament Director

- a. **Presents club with proposed point tournament schedule by the January meeting.**
- b. **Conducts all point tournaments and is responsible for seeing that members obey tournament rules set forth by the club.**
- c. **Keeps accurate tournament records of weights and points accumulated by individual club members towards Angler of the Year Standings**
- d. **Distributes copies of tournament weight/point records to members email accounts**

Assistant Tournament Director (Open Tournament Director)

- a. **Presents club with proposed open tournament and tournament support schedule by the January meeting.**
- b. **Conducts all open tournaments and is responsible for seeing that participants obey tournament rules set forth by the club.**
- c. **Keeps accurate open tournament records of weights accumulated by participants**

Both Tournament Directors will have their schedules approved by the general membership in attendance during the February meeting.

5. Members at Large:

- a. Serve as a voice of the membership in the event a decision is required to be made and sufficient time is not available to call a formal membership meeting.
- b. May be required to serve in the capacity of another officer until either the officer returns or another election is held.
- c. **Members a large will be responsible for organizing and conducting charity type fund raiser tournaments and other types of club functions IE: Food Basket tournament, Bassin for Kids, cookout, Christmas party**

ARTICLE X: Elections

- A. Officers will be elected by a majority vote of the members present at the November meeting each year for the upcoming year.

B. Nominations for all elected positions will be submitted to the Secretary during the month prior to the November meeting. It is recommended that before nominating anyone for a position, you verify they are willing to serve. The Secretary will attempt to verify nominees' willingness to accept the position prior to the voting meeting. The Secretary will present a ballot of nominees at the meeting to be dispersed to all members present. The floor will be opened for any additional nominations, once nominating is complete, ballots will be marked and returned to the secretary or his designee for counting. If someone fails to receive a majority vote, a re-vote will be taken for the top two vote getters of that position by those present.

C. Vacancies: In the event there is a vacancy in any office or directorship during the year the assistant to that position shall assume the duties of the office for the remainder of the term. Should the assistant not want to assume the duties of the vacant office the club membership at any regular membership meeting will hold a special election to fill the vacancy.

D. In order to hold any office of this club, a person must have been a regular active member in good standing of at least one season.

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ARTICLE XI: Committees

- A. The club may create needed committees with duties to be prescribed by the club as the club sees fit.
- B. Positions in such committees will be filled by volunteering members showing interest in the specific purpose of the committee.
- C. A committee selected by the membership shall conduct a yearly audit of the club's assets and information. The scope of the audit will include a review of the treasury, secretarial information, club property etc to ensure that checks and balances are being maintained. The results of the committee findings will be made known to the membership.

ARTICLE XII: Voting

- A. Due to the unique nature and make up of the club Members who through no fault of their own and would other wise be in attendance, will be allowed too Vote by proxy by communicating their intentions to at least two officers. Members must be in good standing and have paid their dues for the year in order to Vote by proxy.
- B. There shall be no cumulative voting on any matter or election by this club.

ARTICLE XIII: Procedures

Any procedure not covered in these by-laws will be covered by "Robert's Rules of Order."

ARTICLE XIV: Tournament Schedules

The elected Point Tournament Director and assistant (Open) tournament director, with the assistance from the officers and members at large, will construct the club point tournament schedule in a manner not to conflict with TN BASS Nation Tournaments, BASS Nation Southern Divisional Tournament, BASS Nation National Tournament, or Bassmaster Classic. Club Point Tournaments will be scheduled, at best, to fall on the Saturday following the meeting for that month with regards to the above. The tentative schedule will be presented in January for input from the club. The final schedule will be made available prior to the February meeting and approved by a majority vote.

ARTICLE XV: Tournament Rules and Regulations

The tournament rules are part of the by-laws (for details see separate MCBC Tournament rules and regulations) and can be amended via procedure in Article XVIII.

ARTICLE XVI: Official Club Colors and Club Uniform

- A. The official club colors will be Navy and or light Blue and Gray.
- B. The official club uniform shall consist of a cap with the MCBC logo and one of the following:
 - 1. Official gray or navy and or light blue jacket with MCBC logo.
 - 2. Official navy and or light blue shirt with MCBC logo.* note: the above items to be purchased at a central location

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ARTICLE XVII: Affiliation with Bass Anglers Sportsman Society (B.A.S.S.)

- A. Approval of chapter charter by B.A.S.S.
- B. Update B.A.S.S. with a chapter membership roster at least once each year, immediately following election of chapter officers.
- C. Names and addresses of new members joining the chapter during the year must be submitted to B.A.S.S. as they occur.
- D. The chapter will maintain 100% membership in B.A.S.S.
- E. Support State Federation conservation and youth programs. Any additional requirements that the State Federation establishes for chapters, such as membership dues, attendance at meetings, etc., would be necessary in order for the chapter to participate in the State Federation qualifying tournament(s), and any other federation sponsored tournaments or events.

ARTICLE XVIII: Amendments

- A. The members of this club have the authority to make amendments to these by-laws.

- B. Any or all proposed changes to the by-laws and tournament rules will be submitted in writing during the October meeting and voted on at the November meeting when the new officers are elected. The effective date of any approved changes will be the following year starting January 1. Any proposed changes to the Bylaws or Tournament Rules will be posted in the club newsletter, which will be sent to all members prior to the November meeting.
- C. The only items to be proposed at the January meeting will be the new budget and tournament schedule and will be approved by the majority of the members in attendance at the February meeting.

These by-laws were reviewed and updated on 11-9-2015 by members present at this meeting.

APPENDIX A

1. MCBC Member of the year: The MCBC member of the year will be determined by a majority vote of club members present during the regular November meeting. The MCBC member of the year will be announced at the Club's annual Christmas party/Awards ceremony. The MCBC winner of the year will be presented with an award and their club dues waived for the following year. The MCBC member of the year will be the member who made the most positive impact on the club for the year through participation, conservation efforts, recruiting, fund raising, etc. The overall person that stood out the most in contributions to the community and the club as a whole.