

Androscoggin Bassmasters By-Laws

Last Revised July 7, 2009

ARTICLE I: NAME & PURPOSE

SECTION 1: NAME

This chapter shall be called Androscoggin Bassmasters of Lewiston, Maine.

SECTION 2: MISSION

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 and legal enforcement of existing regulatory standards. To detect and report any polluter and call public and political attention to his crime. To improve our skill as bass anglers through a fellowship of friendly exchange of expert bass fishing, and a love for this great recreation. To function as a dynamic and effective link with other chapters embracing the principles and purposes of BASS ANGLERS SPORTSMAN SOCIETY.

SECTION 3: TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

1. Let it be known that the Federal Tax Identification Number of the Androscoggin Bassmasters is 22-2570157.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: NUMBER OF MEMBERS

The chapter shall have a minimum of six members but shall not exceed twenty six members, of which there shall always be a plus 4 member ratio of boater to non boaters.

SECTION 2: REQUIREMENT FOR MEMBERSHIP

To become a chapter member, a person shall:

1. Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership.
2. A prospective member must attend club functions and/or meetings.
3. At the second meeting the club members shall at that time cast a ballot to decide on his/her membership. If a prospective member shows up at only one meeting or function before the first tournament it will be dealt with on a case by case basis with a probationary period of two months. Full membership shall then be awarded and membership credentials presented.
4. A member must be at least sixteen years of age or older.
5. A junior member must be twelve to fifteen years of age. Junior membership will consist of dues and the general rules will apply.

SECTION 2A: ASSOCIATE MEMBER STATUS

1. A member in good standing who qualifies to compete for the club championship.
2. Is eligible to compete in the Federation State Fish-Off if all qualifications are met.
3. Does not have the right to vote on club issues.

4. Does not have the right to hold an officer's position in the club.
5. Pays full dues to BASS & the State Federation only. (He/she also shall pay a \$5.00 fee for each club tournament he/she participates in, plus the \$2.00 lunker fee).
6. May attend all club functions.
7. Must be a current member of the Maine B.A.S.S. Federation Nation & B.A.S.S.
8. Is not subject to any penalties for nonattendance at meetings or club functions due to geographic location or residence.
9. Accrues club seniority

EXCEPTION-An associate member will not have the right to choose a position in the State Fish-Off (boater/co-angler) before a regular member even if the associate member is higher in the club standings at the time of the fish off.

SECTION 3: MEMBERSHIP DUES

The membership dues will be calculated annually, voted and passed at the September or October meeting based on the formula listed under Breakdown of Dues. New members entering the club after the first tournament will have their dues pro-rated by the number of tournaments left in the given year. All dues are payable by the October meeting of each year. Dues must be paid prior to the first tournament, or said member's weight will not be counted in the club standings.

SECTION 3A: BREAKDOWN OF DUES

1. B.A.S.S. Annual Dues
2. Maine B.A.S.S. Federation Nation Annual Dues
3. Tournament permit fees are \$52 permit fee multiplied by the number of tournaments in given year, divided by the number of members at the time when dues are due.
4. Club Tournament Lunker Fees equal \$2 per member per tournament in the given year
5. Beginning October 1, 2009 to cover the costs of the club tournament permits the club will multiply the number of club tournaments for the upcoming season by the cost of a permit, then take that number and divide it by the number of paid members for the upcoming season. Example: $6T \times \$52 = \$312/20 \text{ members} = 15.60 \text{ per paid member}$.
6. Dues for club lunker fees will be \$2 per tournament, per member. SM & LM tournament lunker payouts will be set by the number of paid club members, plus \$2 for any guest/associate member that has paid his/her \$5 entry fee, plus \$2 lunker fee to weigh fish and be eligible for lunker prizes the morning of each tournament. Total monies collected for lunker prizes shall be split 50/50 for SM & LM.

ARTICLE III: OFFICERS, ELECTIONS, VACANCIES AND ELIGIBILITY

SECTION 1: OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

PRESIDENT:

1. Presides over all meetings and directs all official business.
2. Appoints and directs all committee functions.
3. Supervise all club functions.

4. 2 Year Term

VICE-PRESIDENT:

1. Act as program chairman.
2. Assist the President in his duties.
3. Preside in the absence of the President.
4. 2 Year Term

SECRETARY:

1. Maintain accurate minutes of all meetings.
2. Maintain regular liaisons between the chapter and Bass Anglers Sportsman Society book for rule changes and voted issues so constitution can be adjusted yearly.
3. 2 Year Term

TREASURER:

1. Maintain accurate and financial records and statements.
2. Report at each meeting.
3. 2 Year Term

SECTION 2: ELECTIONS

1. The election of officers shall be held annually at a regular meeting during the month of November.
2. Elections shall be by a simple majority of the members present.
3. Elections of each officer shall be held separately in the order listed in ARTICLE III, SECTION 1.

SECTION 3: ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

1. Each member is entitled to one vote per election.
2. Proxy votes are not allowed.

SECTION 4: TERM OF OFFICE

1. The term of office is for two years, which shall begin on December 1st. and end on the last meeting day of November or until successor assumes office.
2. Newly elected officers shall serve until the last meeting day of the end of their 2 year term in the month of November.

SECTION 5: VACANCIES

1. In the event of an office becoming vacant, nominations shall be asked and an election held to fill the remainder of the term of the individual vacating the office.

SECTION 6: ELIGIBILITY FOR HOLDING OFFICE

To be eligible for an office a member must;

1. Have been a member for a minimum of six months.
2. Have attended at least 3/4 of all chapter meetings or 3/4 of all the chapter functions.
3. Have shown an active interest in all chapter functions.

ARTICLE IV: METHOD OF AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

SECTION 1: AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

1. The Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by 2/3 vote of the members present, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been presented in writing to the membership at least one regular meeting prior to the vote.

ARTICLE V: REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP

A member shall be dropped from the membership role for the following:

1. Failure to pay dues.
2. Any action which would reflect dishonor and disgrace on this chapter.
3. Failure to attend 50% of the chapter meetings and 50% of the chapter functions during a twelve month period.

ARTICLE VI: AFFILIATION

SECTION 1: AFFILIATION

1. A chapter must maintain 100% B.A.S.S. membership and submit a membership roster to B.A.S.S. Headquarters every twelve months. This roster must include names and complete addresses of each chapter member.

ARTICLE VII: Seniority

SECTION 1: STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

1. The order in which members will be asked to compete in the Maine State Fish Off will be determined by the final tournament standings from the previous season starting with the overall champion and moving downward in the standings. Current members who were not official Androscoggin Bassmaster members and have no official standing weights the previous season will be asked in the order that they were voted into the club. The final determination will be alphabetical by last name.

SECTION 2: BOATER, CO-ANGLER STATUS

1. If a vacancy is available or becomes available in the boater division it will be noted that a club member in the co-angler division will have the first opportunity to move to a boater position before a potential new member from outside the club can accept it. The order in which this will be determined will be by seniority. The date a member was voted into the club will determine where they stand on the seniority list. The final determination will be alphabetical by last name.

SECTION 3: LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1. A member that leaves the club in good standing for no longer than 2 years and returns will have all seniority returned to him/her dating back to when they were originally voted into the club and will return to one of the available boater or co-angler positions.