

UNITED
BASSMASTERS
Constitution and By-Laws

CONSTITUTIONAL BY-LAWS OF UNITED BASSMASTERS

ARTICLE I. Name and Purpose

Section A. Name

This organization shall be called the United Bassmasters.

Section B. Purpose:

1. The advancement of the sport of bass fishing.
2. To offer membership opportunities to interested persons regardless of race, creed or national origin.
3. To improve our skills as bass fishermen through the free exchange of new and proven techniques among the membership.
4. To encourage the love of bass fishing among our youth.
5. To enhance the public image of bass fishermen through continual community involvement and support.
6. To assist members and their families in their hour of need or in times of bereavement.
7. To promote full adherence to all conservation codes and to demand clean air and water standard
8. To support our state conservations departments and offer our organized moral and political support and encouragement.
9. To function as a dynamic and effective link with other chapters of the State T.B.F. embracing the principles and purposes of F.L.W Sportsman Society®.

ARTICLE II. Membership

Section A. United Bassmasters shall maintain at least six (6) regular members.

Section B. Requirements for Regular Membership (amended 2008).

To become a regular member, a person shall:

- I. Be recommended by a member at a regular monthly meeting.
2. Be approved for membership by at least two-thirds of the members present at a regularly scheduled meeting by secret ballot and attend at least 3 meeting within that year.
3. Any guest anglers that fishes with United Bassmasters, will only be allowed to fish twice no exceptions. All members must be at least 16 years of age.
4. Be or become a member of F.L.W and T.B.F.

Section C. Non-Boaters

The United Bassmasters non-boaters on the regular roster shall not exceed 30% of the membership.

Section D. Membership Dues and Assessments

The membership dues and assessments shall be payable as follows:

1. Pay a \$15.00 annual membership fee at the regularly scheduled January meeting.
2. Pay \$10.00 per month in dues at each regularly scheduled monthly meeting. Members who renew their membership after the January meeting are still responsible for the entire annual dues of United Bassmasters.
3. Other assessments as approved by the membership for fund raising projects.
4. You cannot renew your membership until all fees and assessments have been paid for the previous year.
5. F.L.W. membership dues are also required at the current rate.

Section E. Termination of Membership Procedures

1. Voluntary Termination

A voluntary termination is one in which a member in good standing notifies the Executive Board that for personal reasons, he will end his association with United Bassmasters.

2. Involuntary Termination

The following acts will constitute cause for a member's involuntary termination from United Bassmasters.

- a. Use of alcoholic beverages before or during tournament hours.
- b. Use of illegal drugs at any time.

- c. Conduct that grossly damages the integrity of United Bassmasters.
- d. Without proper justification, being 90 days or more overdue in paying all dues and assessments.
- e. Termination of membership shall require a vote of two-thirds of the members present at a regularly scheduled meeting by secret ballot. Terminated members shall be notified by letter of this action.

3. Leave of Absence

A leave of absence is when a member, for personal reasons, decides to temporarily suspend his membership for a period not to exceed one year while maintaining his membership slot in the club. The member must notify the Executive Board of his request for leave of absence status and the Board must approve it. While on this status, the member will not be allowed to fish any club tournaments or attend any club functions, he will be allowed to fish and participate in tournaments of organizations affiliated with the club.

Section F. Procedures for Re-Instatement

1. Re-Instatement after Voluntary Termination

- a. Wait for a period of 6 months.
- b. Write to United Bassmasters requesting re-instatement.
- c. Be approved for immediate re-instatement by a vote of two-thirds of members present at a regularly scheduled meeting by secret ballot.
- d. If not paid the previous January, pay the \$15.00 annual assessment.

2. Re-Instatement after Involuntary Termination

- a. Wait for a period of one year.
- b. Write to United Bassmasters requesting re-instatement.

- c. Be approved for immediate re-instatement by a vote of two-thirds of members present at a regularly scheduled meeting by secret ballot.
- d. Pay any outstanding debt owed.

3. Re-Instatement after Leave of Absence

- a. Wait for a period of 6 months but no longer than one year.
- b. Notify United Bassmasters that you are re-instating your membership.
- c. If not paid the previous January, pay your \$15.00 annual assessment.

Section G. Meetings of Members

The membership shall hold regular meetings at 3:00p.m. on the 3rd Sunday of each month at a site designated by the Executive Board.

Section H. When the club votes on something the vote is final with no changes and there will be no voting against the standing by-laws for the current standing year. (By-Law changes are once a year).

ARTICLE III. Election of Officers and Their Basic Duties

Section A. The election of officers shall be held at a regularly scheduled meeting during the month of December. Nomination of prospective officers shall be made at this meeting. In the event less than one-third of the total membership is present, voting will be delayed until the January meeting.

The term of Club officers will be one year. There is no limit to the number of terms that officers can hold if the Club wants them to except if the officer decides not to run.

Section B.

Section C.

Club officers shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Recording Treasurer, Tournament Director and Chaplain.

Duties of Officers

President -Presides over regularly scheduled club meetings, represents the club in meetings with outside entities, settles disputes and performs other duties as the position dictates.

Vice-President -Handles the duties of the President in his absence and performs other functions as requested by the President.

Recording Secretary -Records minutes of all meetings, and provides copies of minutes to all members.

Federation Secretary- Prepare correspondence from club to all outside agencies. Maintains regular liaison between the club, National T.B.F. and the state T.BF. Chapter Federation.

Treasurer -Maintain club banking account. Prepare monthly statement for membership approval. All member's financial payments will be given a receipt upon completion of each transaction, and a financial report will be given during each meeting. (Amended 2015)

Recording Treasurer- Collect's money at meetings; maintains accurate records of money handled to insure its proper disposition. Turns in all monies collected to the Treasurer for deposit.

Tournament Director- Presides over conduct of tournament at selected lake sites. Secures necessary permits as required by state and local agencies. Coordinates fishing schedules with lakeside marinas as needed. Selects a committee to assist in planning the tournament schedule. Provides a list of tournament lakes, landings, hours of competition and provides information for the year-end awards banquet. Have a list of all anglers fishing each tournament and check off each angler as they arrive safely back to the landing. He also assigns an alternate director to assist him.

Chaplain- Conducts all spiritual activities of the club. Is main contact for

sick club members or their sick family member's.

Public Relations Director- Plans, organizes and directs club activities related to community relations and support. Chairs the Youth Committee and oversees Youth Project.

Section D. Eligibility for Holding Office

To be eligible for an office a member must:

1. Have been a member for six months.
2. Have attended at least 75% of the chapter meetings and 75% of chapter functions during 12 month period.
3. Have shown an active interest in all chapter functions.
4. Maintain current F.L.W. memberships.

Section E. Removal of Club Officers

If any duly elected officer of United Bassmasters becomes negligent and fails to carry out his assigned duties, the other Executive Board members shall give in writing a notice of warning to that officer. Should that officer's negligent or detrimental conduct continue, the other Executive Board Member's shall seek impeachment of the officer by a secret ballot vote of two- thirds of the members on active role.

ARTICLE IV. Standing Committees

All Standing Committees will serve for one year or until a new committee is appointed. The term of the committee will coincide with that of the president.

- I. Executive Board -The Executive Board shall consist of the nine (9) Elected officers as designated in Article III.
 - a. The president will call all meeting of the Board and preside over the meetings.
 - b. The recording secretary will record the minutes of these meetings.
 - c. The board will decide on all protests and by-law violations when appropriately received.
 - d. The board will develop agendas for the monthly meetings.
2. Youth Committee -The purpose of this committee is to plan, organize, and implement a Youth Project; to introduce young people to the goals of F.L.W. and T.B.F.; to give them a basis for respect of our national heritage, an appreciation of the basic rules of honesty, integrity, fair play and good sportsmanship, and to give them an introduction to the joy of bass fishing.
4. Conservation Committee- The purpose of this committee shall be to protect our natural environment from harmful change; to document and report to the proper authority's violations of local, state and federal anti-pollution laws, statutes, regulations, ordinances, and other regulatory devices; to undertake informational and educational programs to bring public awareness of threats to our environment.
4. Tournament Committee- The purpose of this committee shall be to plan, organize and operate all club tournaments. The tournament committee will draft tournament rules which must be approved by the general membership. The committee will keep tournament records, enforce all tournament rules and investigate all protests concerning tournaments. (Amended 2008)
- A. Selection process for lakes is done by the Tournament Committee. Once the elections are made, there will be no changes except as stated in 4B. Club schedule of tournaments will be published in by December for the upcoming season.

- B. Tournaments will be cancelled by the Tournament Director, the President and the Vice President together when cancelling a tournament more than three (3) days before the tournament. Tournaments cancelled due to bad weather will be done the night before or the day of the tournament.
- C. Tournament times are from safe light until 3:00 p.m. There will be no changes other than to allow another club to weigh in first. Exception will be to participate in a tournament with another club, then the time can be adjusted to 4:00 p.m. or what is agreed upon by membership of both clubs. (Amended 2015)
- D. All non-boaters will be paired up 30 minutes prior to blast off. Any angler that will be late must be at the landing prior to blast off; if you miss blast off and still desire to fish you will lose a half days weight. There isn't a limit on the number of rods a co-angler can bring.
- E. Any tournament protest will be made no greater than 15 minutes after weigh-in (scales closed). All tie-breakers will be determined by the angler who caught the biggest fish at the time of weigh-in. Second by the heaviest sack at the time of weigh-in and third by a flip of a coin.
- F. The following constitutes a tournament ready boat:
1. All safety equipment is working and installed
 2. Running lights are working
 3. Trolling motor is working
 4. Live well is working
 5. Big engine is working
 6. Able to carry two (2) people safely
 7. Has a seat in the back of the boat for non-boater
5. Open Tournament Committee- The purpose of this committee shall be to plan, organize and operate the open tournament. The Open Tournament Committee will draft tournament rules which must be approved by the general membership. The committee will keep tournament records, enforce all tournament rules and investigate all protests concerning the open

tournament only. (Amended 2008)

ARTICLE VI. Affiliation

Section A. Requirements for affiliation

1. Approval of Chapter by T.B.F.
2. Update T.B.F. with a chapter membership roster once each year upon receipt of current T.B.F. roster at year's end.
3. Names and addresses of new members must be submitted to T.B.F. as they occur.
4. Maintain 100% F.L.W. and T.B.F. membership.
5. Must affiliate with State Federation and support its 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 for the chapter to participate in the State Federation qualifying tournament(s), and any other Federation-Sponsored tournaments or events.

ARTICLE VI. Amending By-Laws

By-laws may be amended at the January meeting by a 2/3 vote of the members present.

We the undersigned charter members do hereby agree to the above bylaws and the commencement of this chapter on the day of , 2009.
