

OKLAHOMA BASS FEDERATION

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1 - NAME AND PURPOSE

SECTION 1: NAME

This organization shall be called the **OKLAHOMA BASS FEDERATION, INC.**, of **OKLAHOMA**.

SECTION 2: PURPOSE

- 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 their crime.
- To improve our skills 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 individual chapters and other federations embracing compatible principles and purposes.

ARTICLE II - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY

All local chapters recognized by the Oklahoma Bass Federation and affiliated with the Bass Federation are eligible to apply for membership to the Oklahoma Bass Federation. Chapters must have a minimum of six (6) members, at least 16 years of age, to be considered for affiliation with the OBF. All club members must also have current membership with The Bass Federation (TBF) and FLW Outdoors.

SECTION 2: MEMBERSHIP DUES

The club membership dues shall be \$250.00 annually. This fee must be paid on or before the annual December Board of Directors meeting for clubs to receive voting rights. New clubs meeting the requirements for membership after the meeting must pay upon approval of their membership. The fee will cover the following:

- (1) Allows eligibility for participation in State sanctioned qualifying tournaments of all members in good standing of the Oklahoma Bass Federation and affiliated clubs.
- (2) Makes clubs eligible to enter six persons in the State TOP-SIX TEAM Tournament.
- (3) Gives each club one (1), half page ad in one (1) newsletter.

**ARTICLE III - OFFICERS, ELECTIONS,
VACANCIES, AND ELIGIBILITY**

SECTION 1: OFFICERS

The officers of this chapter and their duties shall consist of:

PRESIDENT - Preside over all meetings and direct all official business. Appoint and be an ex officio member of all committees. Supervise all Federation functions.

VICE-PRESIDENT - Act as Tournament Director, assist the President in his/her duties and preside, when called upon, in the absence of the President.

VICE-PRESIDENT - Act a Youth Director, assist the President in his/her duties and preside, when called upon, in the absence of the President.

VICE-PRESIDENT - Act as Conservation Director, assist the President in his/her duties and preside, when called upon, in the absence of the President.

RECORDING SECRETARY - Maintain accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings as called for by the President. Be responsible for updating the Constitution and By-Laws.

TREASURER - Collect and disburse all monies. Maintain accurate financial records and present a current balance report at each regular meeting. Prepare an annual audit for review by the Chapter Board of Directors.

ASSISTANT TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR - To assist the tournament director in his/her duties and other duties as defined by the President.

ASSISTANT YOUTH DIRECTOR - Nominated by the Youth Director and appointed by the President. Duties will be to assist the Youth

Director in his/her duties and other duties as defined by the President.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY - Appointed by the President with approval of the Board of Directors. Duties will be to assist the President in the writing of Newsletters and other communications in the day to day operation of the Federation. Maintain regular liaison between the Bass Federation (TBF) office and the state affiliated clubs.

IMMEDIATE-PAST PRESIDENT - Act as guide and mentor to the federation and the BOD, assist the President in his/her duties and preside, when called upon, in the absence of the President.

SECTION 2: ELECTIONS

The election or appointment of officers shall be completed annually at regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors in December. The annual December BOD meeting will be set by the President at the Board meeting at the Top Six Tournament or no later than October 1. Elections/Appointments shall be staggered so that only half of the offices expire each year. The President, Vice-President/Youth Director, Recording Secretary, and Assistant Tournament Director shall be up in odd years, the Vice-President/Tournament Director, Vice-President/Conservation Director, Treasurer, and Assistant Youth Director, shall be up in even years. Elected offices shall be by simple majority vote of clubs in good standing that are present. Elected office elections shall be held separately, and by secret ballot when so requested.

SECTION 3: ELIGIBILITY OF VOTE

Each affiliated club in good standing is entitled to one vote. Proxy votes are not permitted.

SECTION 4: TERM OF OFFICE

The elected/appointed terms of office are for two years, which shall begin on Jan.1, and end on the last day of December two years following the date of the elected office.

SECTION 5: VACANCIES

In the event of an elected/appointed office becomes vacant, nominations shall be asked and an election held to fill the unexpired term of the individual vacating the office at the next regular scheduled meeting following the effective date of the vacancy. TBF headquarters shall be notified immediately of the change of any officer.

SECTION 6: ELIGIBILITY FOR HOLDING OFFICE

(a) To be eligible to be any officer, a member must meet the following requirements:

(1) Have been a member of an affiliated club for at least six months.

(2) Have attended at least 3/4 of the Federation meetings and 3/4 of the Federations functions.

(3) Have shown an active interest in all State Federation functions.

(b) In addition, to be eligible to serve as President, the individual must meet the qualifications described in Article III, Sec.6, paragraph (a) as well as presently be serving as one of the other state officers and have held that elected position at least one full year prior to the election.

(c) All duly elected officers are subject to removal from their respective office if they do not fulfill the duties of their office or do not maintain their eligibility requirements. Removal will be by a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors present at any regular scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE IV - STANDING COMMITTEES

All standing committees will serve for two years or until a new committee is appointed. The term of the committee members will coincide with that of the committee chairperson.

(a) Board of Directors: The Board of Directors will consist of a representative from each of the affiliated clubs in good standing, along with the executive committee; (the President, the three Vice-Presidents, the Recording Secretary, the Treasurer, Assistant tournament director and the Immediate Past-President.) (Representatives of each club will be selected by a vote of their respective clubs.)

(1) The President will schedule all meetings of the Board of Directors and preside at such meetings following Robert's Rules of Order. The President will be responsible to develop the agenda for Board meetings but will only vote on motions when there is a tie vote.

(2) The Recording Secretary will record the minutes of these meetings.

(b) Tournament Committee: The Vice-President/Tournament Director shall chair the Tournament Committee. The purpose of the Tournament Committee shall be to plan, organize and operate all tournaments. The Tournament Committee will draft tournament rules, which must then be approved by the Board of Directors. The Committee will keep tournament records, enforce all tournament rules and investigate all protests concerning tournaments.

(c) Youth Committee: The Vice-President/Youth Director shall chair the Youth Committee. The purpose of the Youth Committee shall be to plan, organize and implement a Youth project; to introduce young people to the goals of the OBF and TBF; 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 sheer joy of fishing.

(d) Conservation Committee: The Vice-President/Conservation Director shall chair the Conservation Committee. The purpose of this committee shall be to protect our natural environment from harmful change; to document and report to the proper authorities, violations of local, state and federal anti-pollution laws, statutes, regulations, ordinances and other regulatory devices; to take political action to improve our environment; to take legal action where appropriate; to undertake informational and educational programs to bring public awareness to threats to our environment; and to take a leadership role in repairing the harm that has already been done to the life-giving waters of America.

ARTICLE V - AFFILIATION

SECTION 1: REQUIREMENTS FOR AFFILIATION

(a) Approval of Club Charters by the Bass Federation National office.

(b) Update TBF with a Club membership roster once each year, before January 1, and immediately following election of Club Officers and Directors.

(c) Names and addresses of new members joining the Club during the year must be submitted to TBF as they occur.

(d) Maintain 100% membership with TBF and FLW Outdoors.

(e) Support OBF conservation and youth programs.

SECTION 2: MEMBERSHIP APPROVAL

(a) Clubs and their members must meet the requirements for affiliation.

(b) Clubs and their members must apply to the Recording Secretary at least 1 month prior to a regular scheduled Board of Directors meeting.

(c) The Board of Directors will vote on the club and their members at the first regular scheduled meeting following application requirements with the Recording Secretary.

(d) Clubs and individual club members must receive approval by 100% of the Board of Directors attending the meeting. All votes will be by secret ballot.

ARTICLE VI - DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

SECTION 1: REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP

A club may be dropped from the membership roles for any of the following:

(a) Failing to pay yearly dues.

(b) Any action, which would reflect, dishonor and disgrace this organization.

(c) Failure to have a representative in attendance in at least 50% of the State Board meetings during a **12-month period**.

(d) Failure to meet and maintain affiliation requirements, which are outlined in Article V, Section 1.

*SECTION 2: DISCIPLINARY ACTION OTHER THAN
REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP*

Disciplinary action shall be recommended by the Executive Committee and shall include but not be limited to reduction of membership in lieu of removal, or any other action felt necessary by the committee. Any action recommended by the committee and not specifically spelled out in this constitution shall require a 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3: MEMBERSHIP RECALL

Any membership can be recalled by a 2/3-majority vote of the Board of Directors present at any regular scheduled meeting.

**ARTICLE VII - METHOD OF AMENDING
THE CONSTITUTION**

*SECTION 1: AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION
AND BY-LAWS*

The constitution and by-laws may be amended at the December meeting by a 2/3 vote of the member clubs present, that are in good standing, provided written notice of the proposed amendment has been presented to the membership at least one regular meeting prior to the vote. No member/club will be allowed to make more than two motions for amending the constitution during a calendar year.

SECTION 2: TOURNAMENT RULES AND SELECTION OF TOURNAMENT LAKES

The OBF will automatically adopt TBF tournament rules as their own, along with any rule changes adopted by TBF unless the Board of Directors specifically votes otherwise. There shall be a standing motion to consider TBF rule changes for each December Board meeting. In no case shall a tournament rule be changed except as outlined in the OBF's "Official Rules and Regulations", Rule #1, entitled "RULES CHANGES".

The format for the State Qualifying Tournaments, the lakes, and dates for each tournament will be selected at the regular scheduled meeting at the final SQT. Only clubs having members fishing at least one of the SQT events will be eligible to vote.

The selection of the Top-Six Tournament Lake will be at the regular scheduled meeting prior to the Top-Six Tournament. Only clubs who participate in this event will be eligible to vote.

ARTICLE VIII - DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY UPON DISSOLUTION

The Board of Directors shall liquidate non-liquid assets of the corporation prior to dissolution where possible. Upon the dissolution

of the corporation, all undisposed property, funds, or assets of any kind belonging to the corporation shall be donated to: The Bass Federation, Inc., or the Oklahoma Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation, or any like minded group, or a combination of these entities, as determined by the Board of Directors. The property will be transferred to the selected recipient(s) with the stipulation that any assets/funds acquired by the Federation shall be returned to entity it was acquired from, if possible and/or practical.

4-9-07 DEL
11-20-07 CG/GWG