



# Five County Bassmasters Chapter Bylaws

Last Revision: 1/2/2024

## ARTICLE I – Name and Purpose

### Section 1: Name

This chapter shall be called the

### Five County Bassmasters

NAME OF CHAPTER

Kenly, NC

CITY/STATE

### 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 his/her crime. To improve our skill 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 other chapters of the State B.A.S.S. Federation Nation Chapter embracing the principles and purposes of B.A.S.S.

## ARTICLE II – Membership

### Section 1: Number of Members

- The chapter shall begin with and maintain at least six members.
- Membership is not to exceed 75 members.
- If membership reaches the 75 member limit, any prospective member will be placed on a waiting list. That member will be notified when an opening occurs in the order they were added to the list.

### Section 2: Requirement for Regular Membership

To become a chapter member, a person shall:

- Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership.
- Be a member of B.A.S.S. through December of the current year (See ARTICLE VI for affiliation requirements.)
- Attend one regular monthly club meeting prior to establishing club membership and be recommended by a current club member at such regular monthly meeting.
- Be 16 years of age.
- Prior year members wishing to renew their membership for an upcoming year must pay their membership dues no later than the December club meeting date. A courtesy call will be given to any member failing to meet the deadline. The member will have the option to remain on the roster provided all dues are paid by December 31st along with a \$25.00 late fee. After December 31st the member will be removed from the club roster and treated as any new member, and be required to abide by rules mentioned above in this section.
- If there are members on a waiting list due to the 75 membership limit, they will be notified of an opening in the order they were added to the list.

(g) Must participate in at least 4 of the chapter meetings or chapter functions during a 12-month period. Failure to participate, the member will be removed from the club roster and treated as any new member by being added to the waiting list.

### Section 3: Requirements for Junior Membership

To become a junior member of an adult chapter, a person shall:

- Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership.
- Be less than 16 years of age.

\*Junior members are not required to pay national membership dues and are not entitled to the benefits of a regular member. The acceptance of junior members will not affect a club's liability insurance policy. Junior members are not covered by the accidental death and dismemberment policy. Junior members may not hold office in an adult club nor may they be voting members. At age 16, junior members may continue membership by joining the club as a regular member. Junior membership ceases on a person's 16<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### Section 4: Membership Dues

The membership dues shall be \$65.00 annually for all members.

The membership dues consist of the following:

- \$30 (or current rate) of which shall be for B.A.S.S. Federation Nation dues.
  - \$15 (or current rate) of which shall be for NC State Federation dues.
  - \$20 of which shall be for Club/Chapter dues.
- B.A.S.S. membership dues are also required at the current rate. (See ARTICLE VI, Section 1 for state affiliation requirements.)
- \$10 will be rewarded to a "Current" member that is directly responsible for adding a "New" member to the club roster. This will be considered a "Club Membership Drive."
    - In order for the "Current" member to receive the \$10 credit the "New" member will simply advise the Board of Directors of which "Current" member was responsible for their added membership.
    - The credits will be distributed to eligible club members at the November club meeting each year with the intent of such reward to be used toward the individual club member's renewal dues.
  - A \$25.00 late fee will be added to prior year members if membership dues listed above in this section are not paid by the December club meeting date.

### Section 5: Meetings of Members

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

## ARTICLE III – Officers, Elections, Vacancies and Eligibility

### Section 1: Officers and their Duties

Officers shall conduct the affairs of the Chapter in a manner

consistent with these Bylaws. To protect the Chapter, B.A.S.S. Federation Nation members and B.A.S.S., Chapter Officers may not hold positions higher than the club level within any other bass federation-type organization.

In addition, the State B.A.S.S. Federation Nation board is required to be comprised of members who are free to serve the State without a conflict of interest. B.A.S.S. Federation Nation State Board Members and Officers will not be allowed to hold positions within any other bass federation-type organization. Any State Board Member or State Officer, or an employee of any other bass federation-type organization will not be allowed to hold an office within the B.A.S.S. Federation Nation at any level.

The officers of the chapter shall consist of:

(a) **President:** Preside over all meetings and direct all official business. Appoint and be an ex-officio member of all committees. Supervise all club functions.

(b) **Vice President:** Act as program chairman, assist the president in his/her duties and preside in the absence of the president.

(c) **Secretary:** Maintain accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings as called for by the chapter president. Maintain regular liaison between the chapter and the B.A.S.S. Federation and the state B.A.S.S. Federation Nation Chapter.

(d) **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. The chapter may vote that the treasurer and any other officer handling chapter funds must be bonded.

(e) **Conservation Director:** Serve as liaison between the chapter and state and national conservation/environmental agencies. Plan chapter conservation projects and attend all local and state conservation meetings/hearings.

(f) **Youth Director:** Organize all youth activities and programs. Coordinate Bassmaster Casting Kids® events and start a Junior Bassmaster Chapter when the chapter is ready for this sponsorship.

(g) **Program Director:** Organize Topics of Discussion for information sharing and educational purposes.

## **Section 2: Elections**

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

## **Section 3: Eligibility of Vote**

Each member is entitled to one vote. Proxy votes are not permitted.

## **Section 4: Term of Office**

The term of office is for one year, which shall begin on January 1st, and end on the last meeting day of December or until the successor assumes office.

## **Section 5: Vacancies**

In the event of an office becoming vacant, nominations shall be asked for and an election held to fill the unexpired term of the individual vacating the office. National BASS Headquarters shall be notified immediately of the change of any officers.

## **Section 6: Eligibility for Holding Office**

To be eligible for an office a member must:

(a) Have been a member for six months. (Six months' requirement waived during first 12 months of chapter existence.)

(b) Have attended at least 50% of the chapter meetings and 50% of chapter functions during a 12-month period.

(c) Have shown an active interest in all chapter functions.

(d) Maintain current B.A.S.S. membership.

## **ARTICLE IV – Standing Committees**

### **Section 1: All Standing Committees**

All Standing Committees will serve for one year or until a new committee is appointed. The terms of the committee members will coincide with that of the president. Each committee shall elect a chairman.

(a) **Board of Directors:** The Board of Directors will consist of seven (7) members: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past-President and two (2) members elected at large by majority vote of the members present at the December regular meetings.

(1) The president will call all meetings of the Board of Directors and preside at such meetings.

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

(3) The board will decide all protests and rule on all violations of the tournament rules and bylaws of the chapter when appropriately received.

(4) The board will develop agendas for the monthly meetings.

(b) **Youth Committee:** The purpose of this committee shall be to plan, organize and implement a Chapter Youth Project; to introduce young people to the goals of B.A.S.S.; to give them a basis for respect of our national heritage, an appreciation of the basic rules for honesty, integrity, fair play and good sportsmanship; and to give them an introduction to the sheer joy of fishing.

(c) **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 legal action where appropriate; to undertake informational and educational programs to bring public awareness of 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.

(d) **Tournament Committee:** The purpose of the tournament committee shall be to plan, organize and operate all Chapter tournaments. The tournament committee will draft tournament rules, which must then be approved by the general membership. The committee will keep tournament records, enforce all tournament rules, investigate all protests concerning tournaments, and make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE V – Removal of Membership**

### **Section 1: Removal of Membership**

A member may be dropped from the membership roll for the following reasons:

(a) Failure to pay dues.

(b) Any action, which would reflect dishonor and disgrace on the chapter and/or BASS.

(c) For any member that does not renew their membership by the renewal deadline: It will be assumed that you have elected not to re-join the club and your name will be removed from the roster.

(d) Disqualification for any reason from participating in B.A.S.S. sponsored events, including disqualification for use of drugs or alcohol. No alcoholic beverages are allowed at any club function.

(e) Failure to participate in at least 4 of the chapter meetings or chapter functions during a 12-month period.

## **ARTICLE VI - Affiliation**

### **Section 1: Requirements for Affiliation**

(a) Approval of Chapter Charter by B.A.S.S.

- (b) Update B.A.S.S. with chapter membership roster once each year upon receipt of current BASS roster at year's end.
- (c) Names and addresses of new members joining the chapter during the year must be submitted to B.A.S.S. as they occur. (See ARTICLE II, Section 3 for dues requirements.)
- (d) Maintain 100% B.A.S.S. membership.
- (e) 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 VII – Method of Amending the Bylaws**

**Section 1: Amending the Bylaws**

The bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-third vote of the members present, provided written notice of the proposed amendment has been presented to the membership at least one regular meeting prior to the vote.

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

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Complete two copies and forward both to BASS for endorsement. One copy will be returned to the chapter secretary.