**TWIN CITIES BASS CLUB**

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

**AMENDED AND ADOPTED FOR 2020**

**ARTICLE I: NAME, PURPOSE, AND AFFILIATION**

SECTION I: NAME

 This organization shall be called the Twin Cities Bass Club.

SECTION II: PURPOSE

 To improve our skills as bass anglers through fellowship of friendly exchanges of expert bass fishing techniques and ideas. To promote and encourage fishing and the love of this great recreation. To stimulate the public awareness of bass fishing as a major sport. To offer the State Conservation Department our organized support and encouragement. To promote full adherence to all conservation codes and to encourage adequate water standards and legal enforcement of existing regulatory standards. To detect and report the polluter and to call public and political attention to his crime. To function as a dynamic and effective link with other organizations embracing similar purposes.

SECTION III: AFFILIATION

 This organization shall be affiliated with Bass Anglers Sportsman Society (B.A.S.S.).

1. The Club Charter shall be approved by B.A.S.S.
2. B.A.S.S. will be updated with a new charter membership roster once each year at year’s end.
3. Names and addresses of new members joining the club during the year will be submitted to B.A.S.S. as they occur.
4. The Club will maintain 100% B.A.S.S.

**ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP**

SECTION I: REQUIREMENTS FOR ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

 To become a regular active member, a person shall:

1. Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership.
2. Attend a regularly scheduled club meeting prior to their first tournament. Be voted on by the members at the monthly meeting. The prospective member must be present at the meeting, however, they will be asked to leave the immediate area during voting. Vote will be by show of hands; confirmation must be at least 85 percent of the members present.
3. Fish their first club tournament as a guest. Guest anglers are not eligible for club award programs: cash payout or Angler of the Year points during the first tournament. They may fish from their own boat or as a co-angler in a current club member’s boat.
4. New members become eligible for the award programs the month following their first completed tournament.
5. Each active regular member must belong to B.A.S.S. if they want to fish BASS Nation tournaments.
6. Minimum age requirement for club membership is18 years old.

SECTION II: NUMBERS OF MEMBERS

 The Twin Cities Bass Club shall not have more than 40% of its active members as non-boaters. There shall be no limit on the number of active boater members or Lifetime and Honorary members.

SECTION III: REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP

 A member may be dropped from regular membership for the following:

1. Failure to pay dues for three consecutive months.
2. Any action that would reflect dishonor or disgrace to the club, and/or B.A.S.S.
3. Failure of a member to reactivate membership within three months following a specific (time period) leave of absence.

SECTION IV: REQUIREMENTS FOR LIFETIME AND HONORARY MEMBERS

1. LIFETIME: May be awarded to a regular member of the Twin Cities Bass Club who performed meritorious services above and beyond those normally expected. Once nominated, one must be elected to this membership by an affirmative vote of 80% of the club membership present. If approved, they shall be awarded lifetime membership credentials, free annual dues for the remainder of their lives and may participate in all club social activities. To participate in B.A.S.S. events, the member must meet B.A.S.S. membership requirements.
2. HONORARY: This is an annual award and may be awarded to any club benefactor who voluntarily expresses a genuine interest in the promotion of the purposes set forth in Article I of the Twin Cities Bass Club Constitution and By-laws. Once nominated, one must be elected to this type membership by 80% of the club membership present and shall receive free annual dues and may participate in club social activities for one year.

SECTION V: MEMBERSHIP DUES

1. Membership dues for Twin Cities Bass Club are assessed at $60.00 annually or $10.00 a month to be paid in full by the third club meeting.
2. After joining the club, the initial membership dues shall include an Annual B.A.S.S. membership fee (if not a member of B.A.S.S.)
3. The $60.00 annual dues are assessed on a calendar year basis, from January first to December thirty first. It may be paid in annual or monthly increments. If a new member joins after the first quarter of the year, the new member will be prorated at $5.00 per quarter.
4. Failure to be up to date on dues by the tournament date would constitute disqualification for that tournament, unless arrangements have been made with the treasurer and tournament director, to the contrary. After three months delinquency, it would be the responsibility of the treasurer to advise the club membership of the reasons for non-payment. The club membership would then vote to determine status of membership, in accordance with Article II, Section III, Sub-Section A.

SECTION VI: LOGO

Any changes in colors, designs, styles, etc, will be approved by a majority votes of the club members present at the regular monthly meeting

**ARTICLE III: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, THEIR DUTIES, ELIGIBILITY, ELECTIONS, AND VACANCIES**

SECTION I: OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

 The officers of the club shall consist of:

1. PRESIDENT: Preside over all meetings and directs official business. Appoints and directs all committee functions and serves as head of the Executive Committee.
2. VICE-PRESIDENT/PROGRAM DIRECTOR: Assists the President in his duties and presides over all club functions in the absence of the President. Assumes duties of any officer absent during monthly meetings and plans and supervises club social functions. The Vice-President may assume the duties of the club Historian (Historian duties are outlined in Article VI).
3. SECRETARY: Maintains accurate minutes of all meetings and reports at each meeting. Provides a copy of the minutes to the Executive Committee members. Maintains a liaison with any affiliated national bass fishing organization. Publishes the role of membership and distributes it to its members, takes attendance at the meetings. Keeps all past minutes, up to one year, on file.
4. TREASURER: Maintains accurate financial records and reports at each meeting. Is authorized to sign checks with the President as an alternate. When notified by the Tournament Director, the Treasurer will be responsible for ordering and paying for all plaques.
5. TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: Shall appoint two (2) weigh-masters to assist him in the direction and supervision of all club tournaments, one of which shall be an executive committee member. Provides a current tournament standing of each member at least quarterly, preferably monthly. Will provide Treasurer with info required to order plaques.

SECTION II: NEGLIGENCE

 Any officer found negligent in their performance of assigned duties shall be removed from office, by 80% vote of the club members present at the monthly meeting.

SECTION III: ELECTIONS

 The election of club officers shall be held annually at the monthly meeting. Elections shall be by majority vote of the members present, utilizing the secret ballot method. Election of club officers shall be held individually in the order listed. Nominations shall be held in November, elections in December, and installment in January.

SECTION IV: TERM OF OFFICE

 The term of office is for one year, which shall commence in January and end in December.

SECTION V: VACANCIES

 To be eligible for an office, a member must

1. Have been a member for at least six months.
2. Have attended 75% of the club meetings and functions.
3. Shown an interest in club leadership.

SECTION VI: ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

Each member is entitled to one vote. Proxy votes are not permitted. Signed absentee Votes are permitted, when presented in sealed envelopes, to an Executive Committee Member, prior to the election. In the event of a tie for office, members present will conduct a re-vote between the tying nominees.

**ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS**

SECTION I: REGULAR MEETINGS

These meetings will be held the first Wednesday of the month, commencing at 6:30PM, Special meetings can be called by the President or a majority of the club membership.

SECTION II: EXECTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

 The President or the Vice-President when acting in the capacity of the President can call Executive Committee meetings.

SECTION III: PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

 Meetings will be conducted in accordance with Parliamentary Procedures.

SECTION IV: LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1. All members will be given the opportunity to submit in writing, a leave of absence request for a specific time frame, to the general membership for review and approval.
2. Leave of absence will not be approved until the member’s dues are paid for all months prior to the monthly meeting at which the request was initially presented for approval.
3. Leave of absence will be terminated at the end of the year. New letters will be submitted if needed.

**ARTICLE V: TOURNAMENTS**

1. The Twin Cities Bass Club sponsored tournaments will be conducted in accordance with the current Twin Cities Bass Club Tournament Rules.
2. A Twin Cities Bass Club sponsored tournament will be scheduled each month for a total of 12 tournaments annually.

**ARTICLE VI: CLUB HISTORIAN**

1. The newly elected Executive Committee shall appoint the Twin Cities Bass Club Historian annually, in December of each year. The term of the office will run for one year and commence in January and end in December.
2. The duties of the club Historian shall be to keep records of all club activities, maintain a scrap books with pictures taken during club events, serve as an official Photographer for the club functions, and maintain significant correspondence for historical purposes.
3. Funding for required supplies and equipment will be provided from the Twin Cities Bass Club’s treasury and the supplies and equipment shall remain Club Property. The appointed historian shall identify funding requirements, as required, and receive approval by majority vote prior to purchasing the supplies of equipment.

**ARTICLE VII: AMENDMENTS AND ADOPTIONS OF TOURNAMENT RULES AND THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

SECTION I: TOURNAMENT RULES

1. The Twin Cities Bass Club Tournament Rules shall be open to the general membership in October of each year for amendments.
2. The Tournament Rules shall be adopted by the general membership at the regular monthly meeting in November of each year.
3. The Tournament Rules may be amended at any regular meeting by a vote of 2/3 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.
4. Exception to the Tournament Rules can be made at any regular meeting by a majority vote of member’s participation in the tournament.

SECTION II: CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

1. The Twin Cities Bass Club Constitution and By-Laws shall be open to the general membership in October of each year, for amendments.
2. The Constitution and By-Laws shall be adopted by the general membership at the regular monthly meeting in November of each year.