

## By Laws of Shenandoah Valley Bass

### **Meetings:**

1. Regular chapter meetings will be conducted as scheduled on a Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.
2. Board of Directors meetings will be scheduled as needed.

### **Officers:**

Officers of the club will be selected in the following manner:

1. By nominations prior to the election meeting each year.
2. Elections will be determined by simple majority vote.
3. Officers will remain in office for one calendar year and may seek re-election.
4. Elected officers have the right to cap membership as deemed necessary.

### **Membership Format:**

1. Potential new member(s) must attend one regularly scheduled meeting, or have an active good standing club member sponsor the potential new member(s) in the event new members are unable to attend one regularly scheduled meeting.
2. Potential member(s) will be voted on, majority approving.
3. Upon being selected, the member will have the right to vote on all issues presented to the full membership and all privileges offered by the chapter as long as member(s) remains in good standing. (Dues paid)

### **Motions and Voting Privileges:**

1. All members are allowed to put a motion on the floor. (The Presiding Officer of the meeting is not allowed to put a motion on the floor.)
2. Motions will be voted upon after a second has been received on the original motion.
3. Motions will be carried by a simple majority vote of the member(s) present and in good standing.
4. Each member gets only one vote per issue.
5. No proxy or absentee voting allowed.

### **Amendment of By Laws:**

1. By Laws must be reviewed annually by the Board of Directors.
2. By Laws may only be amended at the Officers meeting in December

## **Dues:**

1. Yearly dues are determined by the Board of Directors.
2. Dues are as follows: \$25.00 — members in good standing from prior season  
\$30.00 — new members
3. Each member must be in good standing prior to participating in any organized chapter functions (Yearly dues paid)
4. Membership year shall be from January 1<sup>st</sup> – December 31<sup>st</sup>
5. A member(s) may be brought before the board of directors for a disciplinary hearing. As a result of the hearing, the Board may ask that member be revoked upon by the membership at a regular club meeting.
6. Past members must pay yearly dues by the **March** meeting. Members with unpaid dues after the March meeting will have to be voted back into the club as a new member.
7. Membership dues are waived for young adults under the age of sixteen. Children of active paid members in good standing do not have to be voted in and are not limited to the tournament guest rule.

## **Emergency fund:**

1. *Emergency fund will be maintained in club treasury, \$500. (this fund will be used if needed for club equipment, scales, table etc...)*

## **Tournaments:**

The following regulations have been established for the upcoming season.

1. 19 club tournaments are scheduled.
2. There must be at least 4 teams entered in a tournament. If we do not have 4 teams or more, the tournament will be canceled (includes big fish).
3. Tournament entry fees must be paid by launch time the morning of the tournament.
4. All teams paying entry fee at scheduled meeting prior to tournament will have the opportunity to draw for launch position (if members send fee with another member, that member can draw for team they represent, member drawing will be responsible to communicate launch position to team they represent). The number of paying teams will be entered into a hat, and then each paying team or representative will draw for launch position.
5. If paying at the ramp, you will be assigned a launch position according to order paid (“first come first serve”). You will maintain that launch position for the entire weekend. The last number drawn will be in charge of the launch for the tournament weekend. The registration deadline will be 5 minutes prior to launch time.

6. Club members are allowed a guest partner (includes big fish). A single guest may fish no more than 2 tournaments a season without being required to apply for membership. Club members may bring multiple guests a season.
7. Guest fishermen must fish with a member in good standing.
8. Maximum 2 persons permitted per boat during tournaments (includes big fish).
9. Board of Directors will determine location, date, and time of all tournaments. Tournament schedule will be given to all members.
10. Following species of fish may be taken during all tournaments by lake rules:
  - A. Largemouth Bass
  - B. Smallmouth Bass
  - C. Spotted Bass
11. All fish must be caught on artificial lures, by rod and reel. No live bait may be used or possessed.
12. Live wells and coolers may be checked at random.
13. Attending Board member(s) at a tournament may change tournament hours and ramp site if the situation arises. (Ex. Safety.)
14. No trailoring. All entries will start and finish at the designated launch site. Entries not at the designated launch site at the finish time are automatically disqualified (Includes Big Fish pot).
15. Tournament catch will be limited to a five fish daily creel, per person or per two man team.
16. Only fish brought to scales in weigh-in bag will count. All fish must be in a bag. (Includes Big Fish)
17. All fish must be measured before coming to the scales. Any fish brought to the scales of questionable length is subject to being measured. A bumper board will be provided to teams who need to measure fish before coming to the scale.
18. Anyone challenging a fish's length must do so before the weight is recorded.
19. All fish will be measured with mouth closed on bumper boards (Va. State Game Commission Method) and by total weight. The largest fish will be weighed individually.
20. Any fish of illegal length will result in each illegal fish being disallowed and the Team's largest fish will be disqualified. Teams may still participate in big fish pot.
21. Teams over the limit of 5 fish will be disqualified from the team tournament and receive no points. The disqualified team may still participate in the big fish contest but will receive no points for it.
22. All protests must be filed prior to the completion of the weigh-in unless otherwise stated.
23. Largest total weight determines Tournament winners. In the event of a tie, team's largest fish will determine winners. In the event of the largest fish also being tied, then teams will split the prize money and both teams will receive points.
24. Big fish pot will go to the team who catches the largest fish by weight during a tournament. In the event of a tie, winners split the pot.
25. In the event that no fish are caught, entry fees will be returned. If only one team weighs fish, that team will collect both first and second place money.
26. At the end of the year, 2 less than the total club tournaments will count towards Angler of the Year, this includes participation points.

- 27. The top two point earners will be named Anglers of the Year. In the event of a tie resulting in more than two anglers, all tying members will be awarded Anglers of the Year.
- 28. A point system will determine Anglers of the Year. Points will be awarded for each tournament in the following manner.

Tournament Place:	Points Awarded (per team)
1	10
2	9
3	8
4	7
5	6
6	5
7	4
8	3
9	2
10	1

- 29. Each paid attending team will receive 1 participation point.
- 30. The member catching the big fish will receive 2 points. In the event of a tie, each member in the tie will receive 1 point.
- 31. Each member in the boat will collect and carry his own points toward Anglers of the Year independently.
- 32. Only club members will be allowed to carry points. Guests who become members will only be allowed to carry points for tournaments fished after induction. Club members fishing with guest will still earn and carry points.
- 33. No alcohol or illegal drugs are allowed during tournaments or at tournament launch and weigh-in facilities.
- 34. All tournament participants shall wear a PFD while will under power of the gas engine. Drivers should have the kill switch attached.
- 35. Shenandoah Valley Bass is not responsible for damaged or lost belongings or equipment, nor is it responsible for personal injury that may have resulted from a Shenandoah Valley Bass function. This position is in effect for both members and the general public.
- 36. In the event of fog, it may be required to keep all boats off plane until the fog lifts. This ruling will be made by club officers before blast off. If the ruling is made to require all boats to stay off plane until the fog lifts and a boater ignores the ruling, that team will be disqualified from that days tournament.
- 37. Launch will be organized and launch position will be determined as described in by-law 4 and 5 of this section. Presiding club officer will direct launch and determine launch time. The last boat drawn will direct the launch.
- 38. The final tournament of the year, will be the “SVB Appreciation Tournament”. This tournament will have an entry fee of \$30 per team (\$20 for the tournament, \$5 for big fish, and \$5 for small fish). The tournament payout will be determined by the tournament pay scale.

\*Note: The small fish weighed must be part of the 5 fish limit for the tournament. (Only 5 fish will be weighed)

### **Tournament Entry Fees and Payout:**

1. Tournament only: \$20.00/per team/per day
2. Big Fish only: \$5.00/per day/per team
3. For tournaments with 14 or less teams, payout will be based on 60% for 1<sup>st</sup> place and 40% for 2<sup>nd</sup> place. For tournaments of 15 to 19 teams, payout will be based on 50% for 1<sup>st</sup> place, 30% for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and 20% for 3<sup>rd</sup> place. For tournaments with 20 or more teams, payout will be determined according to the attached tournament pay scale.  
Number of teams does not affect big fish payout.  
\*Note: Team(s) do not have to enter the tournament to participate in the Big Fish pot.  
Tournament regulations still apply.
4. Teams that prepay for Saturday and Sunday tournaments will not be refunded their money if they do not fish, unless there is family emergency, safety issues, boat issue, or truck issue.

### **Awards:**

1. Awards for Anglers of the Year, Big Fish, Biggest Bag of the year, and Sportsman of the year will be given out at the November meeting or at the yearend Christmas Social.
2. As the treasury allows, each award will be accompanied with a gift certificate.
3. Sportsman of the year will be selected by club officers according to the number of tournaments the member fished, their improvement in standings from the previous year, and sportsmanship.
4. If a member weighs in a bass weighing over 10lbs during a tournament, the club will pay for a replica mount.  
\*Note: The club may ask that the bass be weighed on certified scales. The bass must be released alive.