

ELITE FORCE BASSMASTERS

Constitution and Bylaws

Article 1 Name

The name of this organization shall be Elite Force Bassmasters. **Article 2 Purpose**

- - To Stimulate public awareness of bass fishing as a major sport and 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 and legal enforcement of existing regulatory standards.
- - To improve our skills as bass anglers through a fellowship of friendly exchange of expert bass catching techniques and ideas.
- - To function as a dynamic and effective link with other chapters embracing the principles and purposes of The Bass Federation INC. and FLW.
- **Article 3 Membership**
To become an active / regular member, a person shall:
 - Voluntarily express genuine interest in membership
 - Be 18 years of age or older

- 100% of the members shall be required to be members in good standing in The Bass Federation INC. and FLW.
- The Executive Board, with input from the General Membership, will vote on accepting any perspective member(s).
- The Executive Board will have final vote on removing any members for any reason they deem unfit for the member to be part of the Club.
- All accepted new members will go through a 6-month probation period having all privileges. Any time during the probationary period, The Executive Board can vote to deem a member unworthy and vote to remove such member if warranted.
- In the event that we cannot fill a full team for the Regional Tournament, the Executive Board can seek boaters or riders from outside the club. The club will not seek more than 3 individuals to fill out a Regional team. This person(s) will be considered an Honorary Member and owe no dues for the current year but will need to be a TBF/FLW Active Member.

Article 4 Dues

Active / Regular Membership Dues shall be \$50 per year, non-refundable, and paid by January 15th.

Once paid, the member will be moved to Active Member Status. All Unpaid Members will be considered INACTIVE Members and will not be permitted to participate in any

Club Meetings or Tournaments until the annual dues are paid in full for the year.

Inactive Members will be removed from all Club communication.

National and State dues must be paid in full to the club Secretary/Treasurer by January.

District representative: will have his dues paid if he attends 75% of all meetings.

Article 5 Officers and Their Duties

The Officers in the Club

Should be five (4-5) in number, consisting of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Tournament Director.

The Duties of the Officers Shall Be;

President Presides over all meetings and directs all official business. In general appoints and directs committee functions and supervises all club functions. Determines meeting dates and develops a meeting agenda for each regular meeting. Maintain accurate and up to date copies (for distribution to the membership) of the club by- laws, club roster, and the club listing with addresses and phone numbers. Is responsible for the development of an annual financial budget and the annual audit (monthly meeting in December) of the treasury records. A monthly audit of the treasury records is optional. Keeps an up to date

documented standard practice manual (procedure) for this office and ensures likewise for the remaining four officer positions. The PRESIDENT will have the final decision in any and all votes by the Executive Board or Membership.

Vice President Acts as a program chairman assists the President in his duties and presides over all meetings in the Presidents absence. Maintains regular liaison between the club and The Bass Federation Inc. and the District TBF INC. and FLW chapter Federation

Secretary: Maintains accurate minutes of all club meetings. Has charge of all correspondence and reports previous minutes at each meeting. Will send an agenda out via email to all Club Members before all meetings and send a summary email out to all Club Members to recap each monthly meeting. Must keep an up to date standard practice manual for this position.

Treasurer Collects, disburses, monitors and reports all financial actions at each regular meeting (includes annual dues, 50-50s, fundraisers, tournament fees, banquet dinners, etc.). Accurate records of all club receipts and disbursements must be kept in the clubs financial ledger. Must keep the clubs financial actions within the confines of the approved annual budget. Any exceptions to the approved annual budget must be through the directions of the Officers. Responsible for the inventory and sale of club supplies. Responsible for the preparation of either an annual audit of financial records. Annual audits will be conducted at the first meeting of each year. As an option, monthly

disclosure of account balances could be conducted at each regular meeting. The President and the Treasurer should agree upon the method to be used for the New Year. Must keep up to date standard practice manual (procedure) for this position.

Tournament Director/Co-Tournament Director

Responsibilities;

To type and issue to each member a current year tournament schedule, once site and dates are established at the February meeting.

To type and to issue to each member a revised copy of the tournament rules per the changes voted upon if any at the January meeting.

The registration of participants and the assignment of partners.

To direct the entire tournament. Included is the coordination of weigh-in times, boat checks (life jackets, kill switch, livewell, etc.), head count prior to blast-off, weigh-in and the enforcement of all tournament rules and predetermined restrictions. Main objectives to be stressed are safety, sportsmanship and fellowship.

The preventive maintenance and workability of all weigh-in equipment (scales, net, dink board, etc.),

Accurate records of all weigh-in data required to maintain the tournament summary and to determine the tournament and trophy winners. A tournament summary should be made available at the next meeting immediately following each tournament. A yearly summary should be available at the annual banquet.

To award all financial winnings at the tournament site. To be accompanied by a handshake.

If relevant, determine and purchase trophies at the end of the year. Dollars spent must stay in line with the approved budget.

The Officers of the Club will award the trophies at the year end banquet.

Must keep up to date standard practice manual (procedure) for this position.

Tournament Director Responsibilities for OPENS

By the end of previous year (December 31) all permits for the current season will be submitted.

To type and issue to each member a current year tournament schedule, once sites and dates are established at the February meeting.

To maintain a mailing list for distribution of entry forms.

The registration of participants and assignment of partners.

To direct the entire tournament. Included are the coordination of weigh-in times, boat checks (life jackets, kill switch, livewell, etc.), head count prior to blast-off, weigh-in and the enforcement of all tournament rules and predetermined restrictions. Main objectives stressed are safety, sportsmanship and fellowship. The preventive maintenance and workability of all weigh-in equipment (scales, net, dink board, scoreboard, etc.).

Accurate records of all weigh-in data required to maintain the tournament summary and to determine the tournament and trophy winners.

To award all financial winnings at the tournament site. To be

accompanied by a handshake.

Must keep and up to date standard practice manual (procedure) for this position.

Article 6 : Angler of the Year (AOTY) Rider of the Year (ROTY) Points System

A. AOTY/ROTY points will be awarded on a “points” system:

I. 100 points for 1st place, 99 points for 2nd place, 98 points for 3rd place, 97 points for 4th place and so on...

The club will hold a 10 to 13 tournament circuit and members can drop their worst 3 - 4 tournaments based on the overall number of Tournaments. A 10 or 11 tournament circuit members can drop their worst 3 tournaments. A 12 or 13 tournament circuit members can drop their worst 4 tournaments towards their AOTY/ROTY totals.

II. AOTY will be awarded to the Boater who has the highest points for the year. ROTY will be awarded to the Rider who has the highest points for the year.

III. In the event of a tie, the Boater/Rider with the highest total weight for the year will win AOTY/ROTY.

If a member weighs no legal fish, they receive 60 points for participation. If a member is DQ'd for any reason, they will not receive any points.

B. A "Classic" tournament will be held for all paid active club members attaining qualifying status during the regular

scheduled tournament season. In order to qualify for the Classic tournament, members must participate in a minimum of five (5) Elite Force Bassmasters monthly tournaments for the current year.

The Classic tournament date and location will be determined by the Club Officers when the tournament schedule is determined.

C. Activities and Tournaments

There should be at least eight (8) scheduled activities held yearly as arranged and organized by the Executive Board. Unscheduled events may be held as conditions dictate by vote of the Executive Board.

The Club will try and pay entry fees for any member(s) who qualify for the State Classic. The amount of assistance will be whatever the club can afford when the decision is made.

D. Awards

A club fishing championship award shall be given to the AOTY/ROTY member(s) with the highest total of tournament points as outlined in the tournament rules. The Executive Board to satisfy such demands as needed may create additional awards by a vote.

Article 7: Executive Board

1. The Executive Board shall consist of the Officers of the Club. President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Tournament Director.
2. Final interpretation of the By-laws rests with the

Executive Board, with the PRESIDENT having the final decision making.

3. The Executive Board will make final decisions on all matters of Elite Force Bassmasters while relying heavily on the input of the general membership. The PRESIDENT can override the Executive board and has final decision making on any topic/vote/circumstance where the PRESIDENT deems necessary.

Article 8 Committees

All Committees will be sized and appointed by the President and / or Vice President with the approval of the Executive Board as needed.

Article 9 Elections and Terms of Office

A. Club Officers will hold Officer Positions for Lifetime Appointment. If an Officer advocates their seat or requests to advocate their seat, the Executive Board ONLY will vote for the replacement Officer based on the nominations of the Executive Board and the Club Membership. Majority of the Executive Board votes will win. The President can veto the Executive Boards vote and will have the final decision on the replacement Officer whenever the President feels necessary to veto the vote. Proxy votes are not permitted. The PRESIDENT may hold a vote to replace an Officer in the case any Officer is not performing their responsibilities. This election vote will also be by the Executive Board ONLY. The replacement Officer vote will be based on the nominations of the Executive Board and the Club Membership. Majority of the Election Board votes will win. Proxy votes are not permitted. The President can veto the Executive Boards

vote and will have the final decision on the replacement Officer whenever the President feels necessary to veto the vote. This Article can be revisited for possible changes by the President if deemed necessary at any time.

B. To be Eligible for Office

A member must have been a regular member for twelve months, attended at least 3/4 of all regular meetings and events designated as club functions, and is currently an active/regular member, and has shown an active interest in all organizational functions. In the event no member is eligible, or no eligible member will accept nomination, the aforementioned requirements may be waived by vote of the Executive Board with the President having the Final Decision.

C. Recall of any Officer Position or General Membership

For just and proper grievance an Officer Position or General Membership may be affected/revoked through a majority vote of the Executive Board or at the request of the President. The President will have the final decision to override the board where he/she deems necessary. The Presidents decision is final and binding.

Article 10 Alterations and/or Amendments to the Constitution

The Constitution may be amended at any time of the year as needed by the majority vote of the Executive Board with the President having the final decision. All matters not provided in the Constitution shall be acted upon by voting by the Executive Board with the President having the final decision if necessary.

Article 11 Responsibility and General Conduct

Each club member is responsible for any and all of his acts at any club sanctioned meeting and/or activity, as well as any privately engaged activity which may, in part or whole, reflect unfavorably upon the reputation and wellbeing of the club as an entity. Any act such as littering, destruction of property, trespassing, blatant dishonesty, theft, unsafe boating, continued disrespect and disregard of others rights, etc., shall be construed as a breach of sportsmanlike conduct and constitute just and proper grievance. Any member, either by personal observation or by reliable report, may file a written, signed complaint to the club President, who shall review and recommend to the Executive Board (voting body): exoneration, probation, suspension, or dismissal of accused member for alleged breaches of conduct. At all times, the conduct of each member, both with other members and the public in general, are maintained in the finest spirit of sportsmanship.

Article 12 Removal of Membership

A member will be dropped from the membership for any of the following:

- Failure to pay yearly dues by January 15th of each year.
 - Any just and proper grievance.
 - Any violation to article 11.
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Article 13 General Organizational Operation Meetings

Club meetings will be held as designated by the President. The President will preside at each meeting with the customary club agenda in effect. In case of emergency and needs of short notices the President can use the message board to use for an on-line vote.

Meetings cannot be reopened after adjournment!

Article 14 Accounting Period

All records shall read on an anniversary year; that is, January 1 to December 31.

Article 15 Annual Budget

An Annual Budget should be prepared and proposed by the President at the January meeting. The budget should reflect planned receipts and disbursements for the entire next year. Budget will be reviewed with the Executive Board. Once the budget is approved it will be the responsibility of the club Treasurer to monitor and maintain the club spending within the budget. Any financial actions outside of the budget guidelines will be through the direction of the PRESIDENT and/or OFFICERS and requires a majority vote of the Executive Board.

Article 16 Dissolution of the Organization

In the Event that the Organization is dissolved
Any assets, after satisfying all liabilities, shall be divided proportionately among all existing members in good standing, depending upon their total length of time in the organization.