Columbia River Bassmasters

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President:	Mark Forbes	360-772-6055
Vice-President:	Dave Lenihan	360-989-6147
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May-20

columbiariverbassmasters.org

*** May Meeting ***
VIRTUAL (via your computer, tablet or phone)
Tuesday, May 5th @ **7:30pm**

Meeting Agenda

Mark	Call meeting to order/Guest Intro
Members	Fishing Reports
Vince	Treasurer's Report

OLD BUSINESS
Mark/Zip   Tournaments:
      WDFW latest commentary
      When will we start?
      Boater only tournament in May?
NEW BUSINESS
Mark   Show and tell (anything bass related)

"It must be cool to be a dog! Because when we fish for an hour, you're actually fishing for seven."

APRIL MEETING MINUTES

There were only 4 members plus new member Tad Galey who braved the virtual meeting experiment. The draw for the May 2nd tourney was postponed (then never needed). Mark mentioned some fishing reports he got from Bob and Zip and Vince reported there was $759.10 in the bank. The meeting concluded with the 5 of us talking about different fishing gadgets we like.

Smallmouth aren't largemouth (By Ott DeFoe, Bassmaster 05/29/17)

Smallmouth don't use cover like largemouth

Cover is important to smallmouth and largemouth but in very different ways. Largemouth bass like to be in cover. If you find a weedbed holding green bass, they'll usually be right in it. You can fish the heavy stuff or flip and pitch the holes and usually catch them. But, if you're looking for brown bass you'll usually do better fishing the outside edges, and even out a ways from there. The same thing is true of stumps, rocks, brush piles or most anything else. Largemouth bass like to be in or on cover. Smallmouth bass like to be around cover.

Smallmouth will choose food over cover

Largemouth bass will hold in cover even when they're feeding. In fact, that's one of the best ways to target and pattern them. Smallies see it differently. They'll roam long distances over open water with no cover or structure around when they're feeding. This is especially true in warmer weather when the baitfish are out,

away from shore . That's one reason why they seem to disappear at times. The situation's a little different when crayfish are the prevailing forage. Smallmouth tend to stay put a little more but even then they'll ignore cover and structure in favor of eating.

Smallmouth are much more aggressive when they're on the beds
When a largemouth bass is on her bed you have to work hard to get her attention and use lures like jigs and plastics right in the bed to get her to bite. Catching a largemouth on the bed is as much art as it is science. Smallmouth, on the other hand, will chase almost any bait that's around. Crankbaits, vibrating jigs, spinnerbaits and even topwater plugs will catch them. You can catch lots of bedding smallmouth by just fishing around and over bedding areas. You don't need to see the beds.

Smallmouth love heavy current
Largemouth bass will look for current breaks to rest and use as ambush points. You'll rarely find them right in the middle of the stiffest water movement in the area. Smallmouth are just the opposite. Most of the time you'll have better luck if you ignore the breaks and concentrate on fast water. I know this doesn't make sense, but I also know it's true. I've fished Tennessee rivers for brown bass for decades. Smallies love hard current.

Smallmouth move in dirty water quicker than largemouth
This requires a little explanation. When normally clear water turns stained or muddy both largemouth and smallmouth will move shallow, sometimes right up against the bank. But, the smallmouth will move quicker than the largemouth. I'm talking here mostly about deep, clear rocky lakes and reservoirs in the heart of traditional smallmouth territory. Why they do this is a mystery to me. I don't pretend to be able to explain it. It might be that the change in water clarity activates the crayfish. They're an important forage in those lakes. But that's just an educated guess. It could just as easily be something else.

Smallmouth probably see better than largemouth
I'm not as sure about this as I am about the other things I've said in this column. It seems to me that when there's more light — later in the day — they can see heavier line. I know at Cherokee this year I could catch them on heavy line real early but as the day went along and the sun rose higher in the sky I had to go light to get a bite. Now, some anglers (good ones) believe that smallmouth are more light sensitive than largemouth. I don't necessarily buy into that but, hey, I don't have all the answers. One thing is for sure, though. You'll catch more brown bass with lighter line.

Smallmouth aren't largemouth, and that's a good thing.

Remaining Schedule				
Ramp	**Lake/River**	**Date**	**Meet Time**	**Alt Location**
Hood River	Columbia River	05/30/20		
Hood River	Columbia River	06/27/20		
Boardman	Columbia River	07/18/20		
Boardman	Columbia River	07/19/20		
Stevenson	Columbia River	08/22/20		
Hood River	Columbia River	09/19/20		
DAC - Celilo	Columbia River	10/11/20		

Hi All CRBeings:

Our May 2nd tournament, as you no doubt figured out, has been cancelled. Also, our May meeting will, once again, be held online using Zoom.

You may have read about security breaches in Zoom, but the company quickly rectified those problems and updated the program. You may also feel a little anxious trying a new app for the first time with several other people. I think all of us have felt that way about software before. I'll be happy to do a practice meeting with anyone that would like to...see below.

So, here are some recommendations:

1. Use the app on your phone or tablet. The app is a little easier to use than the PC or Mac program. Jody used his phone from his car in a parking lot and found it very easy.
2. Download the app a day or so in advance so you can open it and see how it works.
3. If you want to use the PC program, there is nothing you have to download...just follow the link that I will supply. You will see a dialog box asking you to join. Below "Join" you will see "Test speakers and microphone"...I'd recommend you do the test.
4. The one problem we have experienced is with audio. You may find that the app or program begins with you muted. **Please check that as soon as you open it to make sure you are not muted.** If you are using a computer, you will need a microphone and web camera...most laptops/notebooks have them built in.
5. When the meeting begins, please mute yourself. Barking dogs, TVs, and children can cause confusion.
6. You can also just dial in to the meeting using the supplied phone number. But, hey, if you have your smart phone in your hand, why not join with the app so you can see everyone and they you?

To relieve some anxiety, I will gladly schedule a one-on-one meeting with you so that you can become familiar with using it without having a crowd online with you. Here is how to do that...and I would encourage everyone who has not used Zoom to try it with me.

1. Download the app for your phone or tablet, install and open once to see what it looks like. If you are using a PC or Mac, you don't have to do this.
2. Text or call me at 360-772-6055 or email me at mark4bz@gmail.com. If I'm not busy at that time, we will connect immediately. If I'm not immediately available, I will text or email you when I'm free to see if you are available, or when you are available.
3. If you are using a phone, I'll text you back a link. Click on it and it will open the app and just like that, we will be in the meeting!
4. If you are using a tablet or computer, I'll send you a return email with the link. Just click on it, and when it asks if you want to join, click yes. In a few seconds, we will be in the meeting together.

It's really that simple! Please email, text, or call with any questions.

Mark