

SUSKIE BASSMASTERS WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERIES – WEEK 2

Good morning everyone!

Week 2 of the 2026 Suskie Bassmasters Wednesday Night Series is officially in the books, and while the fishing continues to be a grind, one thing is becoming clear...the smallmouth are definitely still recovering from the spawn. Long, skinny fish continue to be the norm, and there are plenty of stories floating around about the ones that got away. The good news? These fish should start putting the feed bag on soon, and hopefully those long skinny bass turn back into the footballs the Susquehanna is famous for.

Week 2 Tournament Sponsor

This week's tournament sponsor was **Orloski's Car Wash & Lube Shop (Team Orloski)**, located at **295 Mundy Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA**. Orloski's is a family-owned local business offering express exterior washes, interior cleaning, oil changes, lube services, and unlimited wash memberships—all with fast, friendly service and a reputation for treating customers like family.

Not only did they sponsor this week's tournament, but they also generously included **gift cards with every trophy presentation!** We truly appreciate Team Orloski's continued support of the Suskie Bassmasters. The next time your vehicle needs a little attention, stop by Orloski's and let them get it looking showroom clean. Supporting the businesses that support our club is what keeps this series going!

WEEK 2 TOURNAMENT STATS

- 43 anglers competed aboard 22 boats.
- 14 fish were weighed.
- Total weight: **16.89 lbs**
- Average fish weight: **1.21 lbs**
- Only **8 fish** broke the 15-inch mark.


Season Totals

- 32 fish weighed
- 40.17 lbs total weight
- 1.26 lb average fish weight

 River Level: **1.34 feet**

 Water Temperature: **71°**

 Water Clarity: Pretty clear

 Sunny

 Air Temperature: **76°**

 Barometric Pressure: **30.00**

NOW FOR THE RESULTS...

Fishing continues to be tough, with long skinny smallmouth still dominating the scales. However, one fish clearly didn't get the memo and showed everyone what a healthy Susquehanna football should look like. More on that in a minute...

On the Bubble

Last week Team Kane found themselves on the bubble. This week they at least moved up...by letting someone else have the honor.

Team Kresge earned the "Almost Got Paid" award with a 1.24 lb smallmouth. They were just one spot short of the cash, proving once again that tournament fishing can be a game of ounces instead of pounds. Better luck next week!

Wildcard Winner (7th Place)

Making their first appearance of the season after missing the opener, the veteran crew of **Team Lacomis** (although half the club still calls them **Team Lacoski**) wasted no time finding the payout table. Their 1.16 lb fish wasn't enough for the podium, but it was enough to put some cash in their pockets and prove that experience never goes out of style. They may have missed Week 1, but apparently they didn't miss the memo about taking money home.

4th Place

After spending Week 1 on the bubble, Don Kane decided he'd had enough of being "almost in the money."

Team Kane rebounded nicely with a 14¼" smallmouth weighing 1.28 lbs to claim 4th place. It may not have been a giant, but after last week's heartbreak, taking home some cash, a trophy, and an Orloski's gift card probably felt a whole lot better than being one fish short.

3rd Place

You won't find many anglers who spend more time learning the Susquehanna than Team Russo. Between countless hours on the river and designing lures for **Mean River Tackle**, you'd almost expect him to know where every bass lives.

This week, all that homework paid off. Team Russo landed a 14⅞" smallmouth weighing 1.51 lbs to earn a well-deserved 3rd place finish. Apparently those Mean River Tackle baits work...who would've guessed? They headed home with some cash, a trophy, and an Orloski's gift card for their efforts.

2nd Place

Missing the season opener clearly didn't slow Team McGovern down.

They showed up for their first tournament of the year, brought a 16 $\frac{1}{8}$ " smallmouth weighing 1.64 lbs to the scales, and walked straight to the payout table. Some teams spend weeks trying to figure out the pattern. Team McGovern skipped the homework, showed up late to class, and still aced the test. Their reward? Some cash, a trophy, an Orloski's gift card, and a strong start to their 2026 season.

1st Place – WEEK 2 WINNERS

 **New Lunker of the Year Leaders**

 **New Team of the Year Leaders**

Congratulations to **Team Hamm!**

...or should we say **Team Jace?**

Team Hamm brought an absolute tank to the scales—a **16 $\frac{1}{8}$ " smallmouth weighing exactly 2.00 lbs.** This fish had shoulders, a belly, and looked like it completely missed the memo about being skinny after the spawn.

Rumor around the weigh-in table is that the youngest member of Team Hamm might quietly be carrying the team through the first two weeks of the season. We can't prove it...but we also can't deny it. Either way, Team Hamm leaves Week 2 sitting on top of the standings with the new Lunker of the Year, the Team of the Year lead, some cash, trophies, Orloski's gift cards, and of course, bragging rights until next Wednesday.

Small Fish of the Year Update

Not every fish can be a giant...

Team Saypack officially takes over the **Small Fish of the Year** lead with an **adorable little 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " smallmouth weighing 0.86 lbs.** Some people call it a bass. Others called it bait.

50/50 Winner


Congratulations to **Team Shaffer** for taking home this week's 50/50!

It's probably worth mentioning that they also purchase approximately **97% of all the 50/50 tickets sold** every Wednesday. Statistically speaking, the rest of us are just making donations at this point. Thanks, as always, for supporting the club—and congratulations on finally getting some of your own money back!

Congratulations to all of this week's winners!

As always, there were plenty of stories about fish that threw the hook, came unbuttoned at the net, or somehow found a way to escape at boatside. Those fish are still out there, and if the post-spawn pattern holds true, they should only get bigger and fatter as the weeks go by.

The northern stretch of the river has been producing the better fish, and word has spread quickly. The southern anglers have started grumbling, maps are being studied, and don't be surprised if the northern end gets a little crowded for Week 3. Every team thinks they've figured something out, but only one team will be standing at the top of the leaderboard next Wednesday night.

 **Official Wednesday Night Series Statistic:** 100% of anglers had a story about the one that got away...and every one of those fish was at least two pounds.

Will Team Hamm stay hot?

Can Team Ciravolo reclaim the top spot?

Will Team McGovern make it two-for-two after finally joining the season?


Will the southern anglers finally have the last laugh?


Or will another team steal the spotlight and write the next chapter of the 2026 season?

There's only one way to find out...

 **SUSKIE BASSMASTERS WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERIES – WEEK #3**

The next tournament will be held **Wednesday, July 1st.**

 Registration Opens: Approximately **4:30 PM**

 Launch: **5:30 PM**

 Weigh-In: **9:00 PM** (*All boats must be between the bridges by 9:00 PM.*)

Another Wednesday night is in the books. Some teams are heading home with cash, trophies, and bragging rights. Others are already thinking about the one that got away. That's tournament fishing.

Let's do it all again next Wednesday.

Good luck, tight lines, and heavy bags! 