

Suskie Bassmasters

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: February 11, 2026

Location: River Grill

Time: 7:00 p.m. (Called to order at 7:05 p.m.)

Attendees: Dave McGovern, Ralph Aufiero, Matt Miller, Mike Gillott, Tom Shaffer, Chris Ostrowski, John Nealon

I. Reorganization

A reorganization meeting of the Suskie Bassmasters Board of Directors was conducted at the River Grill during the first Board meeting of the 2026 season. The following officers and positions were approved:

1. President: Ralph Aufiero
2. Vice President: John Nealon
3. Treasurer: Dave McGovern
4. Tournament Directors: Tom Shaffer and Matt Miller
5. Acting Secretary: Mike Gillott
6. Board Member: Chris Ostrowski

A. Board Members Up for Re-Election – 2026

The following Board members are up for re-election during the 2026 season:

1. Tom Shaffer
2. Dave McGovern

The election schedule will be as follows:

1. Nomination Period: July 1 through July 27, 2026
2. Election Date: August 5, 2026 (First Wednesday in August)

All nominations and voting procedures will be conducted in accordance with the club bylaws.

II. Old Business

No old business was presented. This was the first Board meeting of the 2026 season.

III. Financial

1. Checking Account Balance: \$3,219.00
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IV. Events

A. 2026 Tournament Season Schedule

1. Season Start Date: June 17, 2026
2. Regular Season (13 weeks): Concludes September 9, 2026
3. Makeup Date: September 16, 2026
4. Championship Tournament: September 20, 2026
5. Championship Rain Date: September 27, 2026
6. Fun Tournament Permit Dates: September 23 and September 30
 - o Potential start time: 4:30 p.m.

B. River Cleanup

1. Club Cleanup Date: April 18, 2026

C. Riverfest

- Scheduled for June 20, 2026
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V. New Business

A. Administrative and Technology

1. A backup solution is needed for the club database.
 - The system is currently too complex to allow multiple users access.
 - Paper tournament results will be entered into the database at a later date.
2. Website administration will be transferred to Dave.
3. The Gmail account password will be changed.
4. Updated passwords and login credentials will be distributed to appropriate officers.

B. Sponsorships

1. Sponsorship solicitation will begin prior to the season.
2. Sponsorship Levels:
 - \$50 Weekly Tournament Sponsorship
 - \$150 Championship Sponsorship
3. Board members are encouraged to begin outreach efforts.

C. Equipment – Tournament Scale

1. The Board discussed investigating the purchase of a new tournament scale.

2. Consideration was given to reallocating funds or establishing a designated scale fund.
3. The Board agreed to designate \$1,500.00 toward a scale fund.

D. Boat Participation Limit (Safety Consideration)

1. The prior informal maximum of 28 boats was discussed.
2. The Board considered implementing a random selection process if participation exceeds safe operational capacity.
3. No final decision was made; the matter remains under review.

E. Captains Meetings and Rules

1. A mandatory captains meeting will be held during the first week prior to the initial tournament to review:
 - Safety procedures
 - Expectations and conduct standards
2. A mid-season captains meeting will also be scheduled.
3. Captains Rules will be developed and distributed as part of the membership agreement.
 - Members will be required to sign the agreement.
 - No warnings will be issued for rule violations.
 - Infractions will result in disqualification.
 - Infractions will be discussed at the conclusion of the tournament evening, with final review by the Board.
4. A river map identifying chutes, hazardous areas, and pinch points will be prepared.

F. Team Designation and Points Policy

1. Prior to the start of the season, each team must designate a Captain and First Mate.
 2. Points Allocation Policy: (TBD at Next Meeting)
 - Points follow the Captain.
 - If two Captains are involved, they must determine allocation with valid cause.
 - If two First Mates are involved, points remain with the boat.
 - No team changes will be permitted during the final week of the season.
 3. The Board will hear and resolve any discrepancies.
 4. All Board decisions will be final.
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VI. Next Meeting

Date: March 11, 2026

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: River Grill

VII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and approved.

The meeting was adjourned.