

Suskie Bassmasters

Monthly General Meeting Minutes

Organization: Suskie Bassmasters

Date: March 11, 2026

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: River Grille, Plains

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **7:10 p.m.**

Presiding Officer: John Nealon, Vice President

Secretary: Mike Gillott

II. Roll Call & Attendance

- Ralph Aufiero – President — Present
 - John Nealon – Vice President — Present
 - Dave McGovern – Treasurer — Present
 - Mike Gillott – Acting Secretary — Present
 - Matt Miller – Tournament Director — Present
 - Tom Shaffer – Tournament Director — Present
 - Chris Ostrowski – Board Member — Present
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III. Treasurer's Report / Financials

- **Last Meeting Closing Balance:** \$3,219.00
- **Current Balance:** \$2,663.97

Report:

The Treasurer reported that sponsorships are nearly full, with two sponsor spots still open and two additional sponsors pending confirmation. A total of **\$240.00** has been deposited for sponsorships.

A **GoDaddy payment** for the club website domain and hosting was processed.

IV. Reports

A. Officer Reports

Secretary Report

The Acting Secretary reported on the transition of digital accounts and administrative access following the recent officer reorganization.

- Website credentials have been transferred to **Dave McGovern**.
- All website accounts, usernames, and passwords have either been located or reset.
- All credentials have been distributed to the Board.
- Gmail account credentials have been transferred to **Mike Gillott**.
- Any Board member who does not currently have login credentials for club systems or email should contact Mike Gillott.

Motion to accept report: Passed unanimously.

B. Committee Reports

River Cleanup

A post will be made announcing the **river cleanup scheduled for April 18 at 9:00 a.m.** Chris Ostrowski will coordinate.

Riverfest

Riverfest is scheduled for **June 20, 2026**, no time as of now.

V. Old Business

A. Boat Participation Limit (Safety Consideration)

The prior informal limit of **28 boats** was discussed.

The Board discussed potential procedures should participation exceed safe operational capacity.

Discussion included:

- Avoid formally setting a maximum limit at this time.
- If participation exceeds **30 boats**, the tournament may be divided into **three launch sections**.
- A clause may be added addressing the possibility of **splitting launch groups**.
- This topic will be raised during the **captains meeting**, encouraging teams to **self-regulate launch order**.
- If problems arise, the **Board will determine an appropriate solution**.

No final decision was made and the matter remains under review. TABLED

B. Captains' Meetings and Rules

Captains' meetings will be held:

- **Before the first tournament**
- **Mid-season**

Topics to be addressed include:

- Safety procedures
- Tournament expectations
- Captains' rules
- River chute map and hazard locations

Status: Tabled.

C. Team Designation and Points Policy

Proposed structure:

- Prior to the season start, each team must designate a **Captain and First Mate**.
- Points allocation policy:
 - 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**.
- The Board will hear and resolve discrepancies.
- All Board decisions are final.

Vote scheduled for next meeting.

Status: Tabled.

VI. New Business

A. Junior Angler Championship Eligibility Waiver

A proposal was introduced to **waive the weekly attendance requirement for junior anglers** in order to qualify as a second or third angler for the championship tournament.

Discussion points included:

- Consideration for **school activities, academics, and youth commitments.**
- Potential to increase **youth participation within the club.**
- Junior anglers must **fish at least one tournament during the season.**
- Junior anglers must be **under age 16.**
- Anglers turning **16 during the season** would be **grandfathered in**, but must obtain a **valid fishing license.**

Vote scheduled for next meeting.

Status: Tabled.

B. Weigh-In Table Memorial Plaque for Lloyd

A proposal was made to install a **memorial plaque for Lloyd** at the weigh-in table.

Discussion noted that the **local trophy shop** can produce the plaque.

Result: No vote required. Approved.

Chris Ostrowski will coordinate.

C. Possible Open Tournament Event

Discussion regarding hosting a **club open tournament.**

Details:

- Date: **August 30, 2026**
- Launch time: **6:30 a.m. or first light**
- Format: **Bag tournament**
- **3 fish limit**
- **Side lunker pot**
- Entry fee: **\$50**
- Lunker pool: **\$10**

Discussion Tabled.

D. New Club T-Shirts

Discussion included:

- Potential **new logo**
- New **shirt design**
- Possible apparel options:
 - Standard T-shirt
 - Sun shirt
 - Hoodie

Status: Tabled.

E. Club Webpage

General discussion regarding the club webpage.

Status: Tabled.

VII. Announcements & Open Floor

No additional items were brought forward.

VIII. Adjournment

Next Board Meeting:

- **Date:** April 8, 2026
- **Time:** 6:00 p.m.
- **Location:** Cigar Bar, Drums

Next General Meeting:

- **Date:** May 20, 2026
- **Time:** 7:00 p.m. (6:00PM Board)
- **Location:** TBD

The meeting was **adjourned at 8:01 p.m.**

Motion to Adjourn: Passed.