LEE COUNTY BASS CLUB Bylaws (Amended 2/22/2023)

Article I: Name and Purpose

Section 1: Name

This club shall be called Lee County Bass Club, presiding in Lee County, Mississippi, and surrounding areas.

Section 2: Purpose

Our purpose is to offer our state conservative 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 detect and report any polluter and call public and political attention to his crime; to conserve the fisheries, reservoirs, and lakes which have been provided to us; to improve our skill as bass fisherman through a fellowship of friendly competition and exchange of bass fishing techniques and ideas; and to promote youth involved fishing activities.

Article II: Membership

Section 1: Number of Members

The number of members shall not exceed 40 two-member teams.

Section 2: Requirements for Membership

To become a club member a person shall:

1. Be accepted by the existing members.
2. Be voted on by the membership. Affirmation must be by a majority vote of present members.
3. Be at least 18 years old or provide a legal guardians signature.

Section 3: Dues

Dues shall be $50 per team ($25 per person) per year payable upon being voted into the club.

Renewal dues must be paid prior to that team or individuals first tournament of each year.

Article III: Meetings

Section 1:

A minimum of one meeting shall be held at the beginning of the year, which the encouragement of multiple meetings throughout the year.

Article IV: Officers

Section 1: Officers and Their Duties

1. President: Shall preside over all meetings, direct all official business, direct all committees, supervise all club functions, and serve as a tie-breaker in any vote.
2. Vice President: Shall act as program and tournament chairman, assist the president in all his duties, and preside in the absence of the president.
3. Secretary/Treasurer: Shall maintain accurate minutes of all meetings, accurate financial records, and tournament records and point standings.
4. Tournament Committee: Three members shall be elected to serve on the Tournament Committee with the Vice President. They shall determine the date (approved by the membership), lake, ramp, and hours of the tournament. They shall resolve any problem or dispute arising over the tournament.

Section 2: Elections

The election of officers shall be held annually at the regular meeting in January. Election shall be by simple majority vote of the members present. Each member is entitled to one vote. Proxy votes are not permitted.

Section 3: Term of Office

The term of office is one year

Section 4: Vacancies

In the event of a vacancy, an election shall be held at the next regular meeting to fill the unexpired term.

Section 5: Eligibility for holding office

To be eligible to hold office, a member must have shown an active interest in all club functions and must have been a member for one full preceding year.

Article V: Method of amending the Constitution

Section 1: The constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a 2/3 vote of the members present. Any change made in awarding of points must be made prior to the first tournament of the year.

Article VI: Tournament Procedure

Section 1: Sunday Tournaments

1. No official club tournament shall be held on a Sunday.

Section 2: Draw Tournaments:

a. Procedure for Entry: The procedure for Draw tournaments will be that all present members at the last regular season tournament before the draw tournament will place their desired lake in a jar that will be sealed until the night before the tournament.

b: Procedure for Drawing: The president, and 2 other officers will use live social media to pull the tournament from the jar that will be fished the following day.

Section 3: Payout

a: Up to 10 Boats: 1st place- 100%; Lunker 100% of Lunker pot

b: 10-14 boats: 1st place 65%, 2nd place 35%; Lunker 100% of Lunker Pot

1. 15+ boats: 1st place 60%, 2nd place 30%, 3rd place 10%; Lunker 100% of Lunker Pot

Section 4: Angler of the Year/Team of the Year/Lunker of the Year

1. AOY/TOY is determined by the team that finishes the regular season with the highest number of total points after any penalties and/or forfeitures.
2. AOY tie breaker is chosen by whichever team ends the year with the most amount of total weight caught during regular season events.
3. LOY is determined by the angler that caught the largest fish during any regular season event.

Section 4: Classic Eligibility

1. The top ten teams in points and any team that pays entry to all regular season tournaments are eligible for the classic.
2. The date, entry fee and rules of the classic will be voted on by the eligible teams at the final tournament weigh in.
3. A substitute angler cannot fish the annual sanctioned classic event.
4. If 2 opposing teams are missing a partner, those 2 opposing teams can fish together as long as both teams were initially qualified for the classic event.

Section 5: All tournament Rules must be followed. The tournament rules are an extension of this document.

Section 6: Attendance

1. Any team that pays tournament entry fees in advance, or the day of the tournament, but does not present one or more members of their team at weigh in will not receive points for that tournament; however, they will remain eligible for the classic as long as all regular season tournament entry fees are paid. ("opens" do not apply) If one or more members of the team is present at weigh in, they will receive the appropriate points for that tournament.

Section 7: Membership and Tournament Fees

a. Membership Fee is $50 per boat. These fees will be used to pay Team of Year and Lunker of Year along with plaques and supplies. Any funds left after that are paid out along with the classic fund.

b. Tournament Entry Fee is $60 per boat. $10 per boat per tournament will go to the classic. $7.50 towards Angler of the Year. $2.50 per boat will go to lunker. $40 Will be paid out at the ramp.

c. Points are assigned as below:

1st – 50

2nd – 49

3rd – 48…(1 per place)

No bonus points will be given.

Article VIII: Removal from Membership

Section 1:

A member may be dropped from the club for the following reasons:

1. Failure to pay dues
2. Any action which would reflect dishonor or disgrace to the club
3. Members names subject to removal under these provisions will be presented to a review board consisting of all officers of the club for a decision. The review board’s decision will be voted on by the club. A majority vote of the members present shall rule.

Official Tournament Rules

1. Participation in tournaments is limited to dues members of the Lee County Bass Club. (Exception; Club Sanction Open Tournament) Each team is allowed to have 2 substitutes per year. A substitute angler cannot catch Lunker of the Year

2. All contestants must wear a Coast Guard approved life vest while the combustible engine is operating. Boat must have an operational kill switch.

3. Only artificial baits may be used. Only casting, spinning or spin-cast rod/reels may be used. All fish must be caught live and in a conventional sporting manner.

4. Trolling with the combustible engine is prohibited.

5. All fishing must be done from the boat. Member may not leave the boat to land a fish.

6. Any team not at the weigh in site at the official weigh in time will be penalized 1 pound weight per minute up to 15 minutes, at which time will be scored as zero. This deduction counts for the tournament weight.

7. There will be a 5 fish limit. (Unless otherwise voted by the tournament committee during hot days).

a. All fish must measure 12” unless regulated by state regulations.

b. Fish will be measured with mouth closed and tail pinched on a “golden rule” measuring board.

c. Any fish brought in under the minimum or in a slot limit will result in the loss of the disqualified fish and your largest fish.

8. Dead fish will result in a .5lb deduction per dead fish. This deduction does include lunker weight. Max of 2 dead fish. 3 or more dead fish brought to the scales will result in disqualification.

9. Ties will be broken by largest fish.

10. All boats will depart at morning take off at the same time. Any boats leaving early will be disqualified. Any member arriving late must contact another club member before starting to fish.

11. Any violation or infringement of the rules will be cause for disqualification subject to decision of the tournament committee. Decision must be approved or rejected by majority of members present at the next scheduled or called meeting. Any protest must be in writing and presented to a tournament committee member within 30 minutes of the end of the tournament.

12. Any team paying entry fee in advance that cannot fish the tournament must contact another club member before the blastoff time. This entry fee can be rolled to the next tournament.

13. A tournament rule may be changed by a majority vote at any regular meeting. Rules affecting the points or payout may only be changed at the start of the year.

14. Lee County Bass Club is not responsible for an injury or damage incurred during a Lee County Bass Club event. We encourage all boaters to have valid insurance.