

COLORADO B.A.S.S. FEDERATION INC.
DBA COLORADO B.A.S.S. NATION
CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

ARTICLE I: NAME

- A. The name of this organization shall be the Colorado B.A.S.S. Federation Inc., DBA Colorado B.A.S.S. Nation (CBN).

ARTICLE II: MISSION STATEMENT

- A. Our mission is to support the following:
- To stimulate public awareness of bass fishing as a major sport.
 - To improve our skill as bass anglers through a fellowship of friendly exchange of bass-catching techniques and ideas.
 - To promote and encourage youth fishing.
 - To function as a dynamic and effective chapter (or club) of the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society (B.A.S.S.).
 - To exemplify sportsmanship and ethics in all activities representing our state and/or B.A.S.S.
 - To be an active partner in the B.A.S.S. Nation and to adhere to the Nation's philosophy.
 - To participate as members of the chapter in local and state Nation tournaments.
 - To offer our state conservation agencies our organized moral and political support plus our personal resources.
 - To maintain an awareness of all issues (political and social) affecting our rights as individuals to enjoy fishing as a sport.

- 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 attention to the crime.

B. Our mission regarding tournaments:

- To promote, organize and conduct an annual Colorado B.A.S.S. Nation tournament or tournaments in a manner consistent with the format and rules of the B.A.S.S. Nation.
- To determine the members of a state team to represent the state of Colorado at any B.A.S.S Nation Divisional or B.A.S.S. Nation National tournament.
- To participate in a state team qualifying event, a person must be a primary member of a CBN chapter or have been a member of a CBN chapter for the year prior to the scheduled qualifier.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

- A. Any club whose principal meeting place is in the state of Colorado and is affiliated with B.A.S.S. may also affiliate with the CBN and support its conservation and youth programs. Any requirements that the CBN establishes for chapters, such as membership, dues, attendance at meetings, etc., would need to be met by the chapter in order to participate in CBN qualifying tournament(s), and any other CBN-sponsored tournaments or events.
- B. Individual members, after becoming an active member of B.A.S.S. and B.A.S.S. Nation, will be a member in good standing of CBN upon receipt of CBN dues.
- C. Each chapter may be represented by up to three of its members, and each representative shall be allowed to vote at CBN meetings. CBN Executive Board officers representing their respective chapters will count as one of the chapters votes, except for the President who will vote only in

the case of a tie. This does not preclude the attendance of additional members of the same chapter.

- D. The President will not act as a chapter representative or present individual chapter initiatives during CBN meetings or functions.
- E. Should a chapter of the CBN decide to drop its membership, it may do so at any time by written notice to the CBN President.
- F. Any chapter may be dropped from membership in the CBN for actions that are not consistent with the policies of the CBN and B.A.S.S. Nation. This would require a two-thirds vote of the chapter representatives at a duly called meeting.
- G. Ethics and Standards of Behavior:
 - 1. All members should display exemplary ethics and standards of behavior so as not to cause disruptions during CBN meetings, on social media, in correspondence, or in a public setting when engaged in CBN or B.A.S.S. Nation activities.
 - 2. Any EBOD member may resign by submitting a written resignation to the Board of Directors.
 - 3. Any member can petition the Board of Directors (BOD) about an action of any other member which could reflect dishonor or disgrace on the CBN. These steps that will then be taken:
 - The BOD will review the petition immediately.
 - If appropriate, the BOD will direct the issue back to the member's primary chapter for correction.
 - If the chapter fails to immediately address and/or act on the issue, it will revert to the CBN BOD for action.
 - The member has the right to present his/her position to the BOD.

- If the BOD agrees the allegation has merit, the BOD can impose penalties that they deem appropriate such as probation, suspension, or dismissal. Any action would require a two-thirds majority vote of the chapter representatives of the Board.
4. Any person who becomes a member of the CBN agrees that the CBN, its members, officers, chapter representatives, sponsors, volunteers, and B.A.S.S. shall be free from any and all liability whatsoever up to and including but not limited to property damage, medical issues or death, arising from or connected with activities of the CBN, affiliated chapters, sponsors, volunteers or the member's participation therein.
- H. If a chapter is NOT in good standing, its members will NOT be eligible to compete for a position on the CBN state team, vote on CBN agenda items or participate in CBN events.

ARTICLE IV: DUES AND MONEY

- A. The decision to assess or change member dues may be made by a two-thirds majority vote of the chapter representatives present at the next general meeting after a thirty (30) day written notice has been issued to the CBN chapters.
- B. The CBN may accept monies from other organization. Such monies will be used as indicated by the organization or the BOD.
- C. Monies may be derived from special projects sponsored by this organization. Such projects must be consistent with the goals and policies of the organization and approved by the Board of Directors of the CBN.
- D. Monies received in excess of the costs needed to operate CBN shall revert to the general fund. CBN may withhold up to 20% of state tournament entry fees as approved by the BOD. Monies received in excess of state tournament operation costs may be awarded to the state team members and national contenders as determined by the BOD.

- E. Under no circumstances shall the CBN accept monetary or in-kind assistance from individuals, business, corporations, government agencies or any other donors if there is evidence that the goals of these entities are contrary to those of the CBN or B.A.S.S. Nation.
- F. Dues shall be in the form of a yearly assessment of CBN members, payable to the CBN, and delivered to the Treasurer by each of the chapter(s). Dues will not be prorated.
- G. To be in good standing, a chapter must have a minimum of 6 primary members. Dues must be paid to CBN before a chapter can participate in CBN events or conduct CBN business. CBN will operate on a calendar year from January 1st through December 31st.
- H. Should this organization disband, all monies or assets remaining after all indebtedness has been satisfied shall be distributed equally among active chapters, subject to state and federal requirements.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DIRECTORS, MANNER OF ELECTION, TERMS OF OFFICE and DUTIES

- A. The Executive Board of Directors (EBOD) will consist of the President, Vice President/Tournament Director, Secretary and Treasurer.
- B. The Board of Directors (BOD) will consist of up to three chapter representatives appointed by each chapter, not including the junior and high school chapters. When the Board of Directors and the EBOD meet, this group will be collectively be called the "BOD."
 - 1. Each chapter will designate their representatives at the start of the year.
 - 2. They will ensure, to the best of their ability, these representatives do not change throughout the year.
 - 3. The chapter will also do their best to ensure all representatives are present for every meeting.

- C. The Board of Directors will be convened at least quarterly to conduct the business of the CBN. Additional meetings will be held at the discretion of the President. Video conference calls or their equivalent are acceptable for meetings.
- D. The BOD shall elect the Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer by ballot annually. The President is elected biennially.
- E. Nominations for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be accepted at the 3rd quarter meeting of the BOD. Elections will be conducted by the BOD at the last scheduled quarterly meeting of the year. New officers will be installed at the completion of the 4th quarter meeting.
- F. If no nominations for an Executive Board position(s) are received, the BOD must confirm that the existing Executive Board member(s) will continue to hold their office(s) at the last scheduled quarterly meeting of the year.
- G. Eligibility Requirements for Members of the Board of Directors:
1. General—Member must be in good standing with B.A.S.S., B.A.S.S. Nation, and with an active, affiliated chapter of the CBN.
 2. Office of President—Member must have served one year on the CBN Board of Directors.
 3. Offices of Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer—Member must have served one year on the CBN Board of Directors or demonstrated active interest in the efforts of the CBN.
- H. Voting:
1. All Board members present at regularly scheduled or special meetings of the BOD shall be entitled to vote on all matters before the Board, so long as members in attendance constitute a quorum. A quorum shall be 51% of the approved chapters in the CBN.
 2. The number of chapter votes for BOD members will be determined by chapter membership numbers as of December 31st of the prior year. Chapters with 6 to 11

primary members will receive 1 vote, chapters with 12 to 17 primary members will receive 2 votes, and chapters with 18 or more primary members will receive 3 votes.

I. Terms of Office:

1. The President shall serve a two-year term. The Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer shall serve a one-year term, or such additional time necessary for a successor to be elected.
2. Any officer may succeed him- or herself in office if nominated and elected.

J. Duties of Elected Officers:

1. President:

- Preside over all meetings of the Board of Directors and special meetings of the CBN.
- Direct all official business.
- Supervise all CBN activities.
- Appoint and be an ex officio member of all standing and special committees.
- Act as an official representative of the CBN with other organizations.
- Act as liaison and CBN representative to B.A.S.S. Nation.
- The President can appoint a parliamentarian and a webmaster if they wish.
- Delegate these duties, as may be appropriate, to better serve the CBN.

2. Vice President:

- Shall assist the President upon request.
- Presides over meetings in the absence of the President.

- Assumes the office of the President should it be vacated.
- Act as CBN Tournament Director.
- Should the Vice President so desire, he or she may recruit a capable person from within the CBN membership to serve as the assistant CBN Tournament Director. An assistant CBN Tournament Director serves under the CBN Tournament Director.
- The CBN Tournament Director is still accountable for supervision, guidance and oversight of CBN tournaments.

3. Secretary:

- Record, maintain and publish all minutes of the meetings of the BOD in a timely manner.
- Keep all nonfinancial books, papers, records and documents belonging to the CBN.
- Maintain correspondence between the CBN and its affiliated chapters and with all other agencies as assigned by the President.
- Develop and distribute to the BOD a yearly contact roster for the current BOD, which includes contact information for the state BOD and each chapter's key leaders.

4. Treasurer:

- Keeps and accounts for all monies.
- Pays all ongoing CBN bills such as website, Venmo and Zoom fees; dues; and other standard operating expenses.

- The Treasurer and President, when working together, may spend up to \$400 for other CBN expenditures without BOD approval. These expenses must be presented to the BOD within 72 hours by email. Any other expenditures, or anything that exceeds \$400, must be approved by the BOD in advance.
- Prepares a financial report as part of the minutes of each meeting of the Board.
- Develop and submit an annual budget.
- Responsible for all financial filings to meet state, local and federal requirements. The treasurer can submit a request to the BOD requesting outside, qualified assistance with these filings.

K. Removal of an Officer:

Any officer may be removed from office for such actions deemed inappropriate by the BOD. This action would require a two-thirds majority vote of the chapter representatives of the Board with up to thirty (30) days prior notice.

ARTICLE VI: STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Terms of Office:

All standing committees shall serve for one year or until a new committee is appointed. The terms of the committee shall coincide with the terms of the elected officers, except for the President.

B. Youth Committee:

- The purpose of this committee shall be to plan, organize and implement youth programs for the CBN at the junior and high school levels.
- The Youth Director will lead the committee. The committee will promote, educate, encourage and assist chapters in sponsoring junior club programs.

- The Youth Director and committee will also promote, educate, assist and coordinate with high school students to form a school or county club.
- The committee and Youth Director will plan, organize and host qualifying events before B.A.S.S. events.
- The committee will also be responsible for providing programs that encourage youth to participate in the sport of bass fishing and get involved in conservation efforts.

C. Program Committee:

- The committee shall be responsible for organizing and implementing fundraising programs for CBN.
- The committee will develop and implement programs that support and give back to the community (e.g., CAST, military and other frontline provider programs).
- The committee will also help with any other fundraising events approved by the BOD and events designed to expand membership of the CBN.

D. Conservation Committee:

The purpose of this committee is to promote efforts to conserve our natural resources and support state and national agencies' conservation efforts. The Conservation Director, who acts as chairman of this committee, is expected to attend B.A.S.S. Nation meetings as a representative of the CBN. This committee is also responsible for ensuring that the CBN mission statement objectives are achieved.

E. Tournament Committee:

- The tournament committee shall be comprised of a representative of each chapter in good standing, which will be the President of each chapter or his/her designated alternate.

- The committee will be chaired by the CBN Vice President/TD.
- The committee shall provide a tournament schedule, tournament rules and State Team qualifying criteria at the 3rd quarter BOD meeting of the CBN for the following year.
- The tournament committee shall determine the qualification requirements for participants. Tournament committee decisions are to be final.
- Junior, high school, college and kayak chapters will form their own tournament committees in accordance with B.A.S.S. guidelines.

ARTICLE VII: MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Anything not covered in these bylaws shall be left to the discretion of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

- A. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern this organization in all cases in which they are applicable, if they are consistent with these bylaws.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

- A. These bylaws may be amended at any duly called general meeting of the chapter representatives by two-thirds majority vote of those representatives present, providing a written notice of the proposed change has been presented no less than thirty (30) days prior to said meeting.