



BASS TAPS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG ISLAND BASSMASTERS, INC.

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OCTOBER 2008

Presidents Message

I know it is shocking to finally get a presidents message with only two months left in the year and my term as president. The last five years has seen the best attendance in tournaments, I like to think Tim Carini, Steve Socko, Ken Dreyer and I had a lot to do with that. To make the changes as tournament director required the clubs memberships support and I thank the membership for that. I would like to think it was the best system ever devised, but we all know better, there is always a better way to do things and I am sure next year will be even better. I have said the best bass fisherman in the club has not walked in the door and I know that is as true as the day Joe Moldashel told me that. That being said congratulations to Mike Erbis on winning Rookie of the year. Mike had a great year and some real tough competition with the Revick brothers breathing down his neck all year. Adding three great young fishermen Mike, Evan and Arnie only means the club is getting stronger and I can not wait to see them next year with more experience under their belts. Brian Waller our Rookie of the year last year had a good year and continues to improve and he will need to with the competition out there. Robin Calitri and George Kowalinski both have two Angler of the Year titles under their belts and are still hungry for more. This years Angler of the Year went to Jay Sticklickas, Jay had a great season and was due. Congratulations Jay on a well deserved victory!! How Jay held off Mitch Bernstein is a great feat in itself, Mitch took 59 of 60 points in the last three events and three lunkers in a row. As you might have guessed Mitch took the total weight award. Congratulations Mitch, great job!!! Rider of the year and always a threat at Angler of the Year was once again Steve Socko, the King of all Riders. Steve and Ken Dreyer fought it out to last tournament and although Steve wound up on top Ken pushed Steve to the limit!!! Congratulations to Steve on his fourth in a row, a record that will not be broken any time soon and to Ken Dreyer for coming as close as he did. I hope everyone realizes what a tough job our tournament director had all year, but Ed Koster and his committee did a great job. Thank you Ed and your committee great job!!!

This year was a great year for the club as we are once again positioned to be chapter of the year. Pete Byrnes another new member who has worked to make sure we are in the position we are in now, Pete ran the Lake Ronkonkoma stocking program and has built a strong relationship with the DEC. Jim Drost ran another successful Earl Glasshagel Tournament and Ludwieg pulls in the Peconic River. Jim is another member with only three years under his belt, but brings a lot of fishing experience from Texas. Another member who is responsible for our excellent recruitment of new members is John Acuri, John has done an excellent job as membership director and I want to thank him for that. Hopefully we will win Chapter of the year, thanks to their great effort!!

I think we can all agree the past has been a success

and the future will hold many challenges to address the membership's needs. We need to revisit our tournament rules and make some adjustments. The ten tournaments with two drops is working and the lakes we fish three Connecticut, Three up state, three Long Island and one night is working. The points system could be revised to add weight plus points for Angler of the Year and Rider of the Year. This change would keep everything even closer to the end of the year and build increased competition. Separating Rider and Boater with two separate lists would simplify the point's race. The lists could be merged into one list using the existing rules, but points will only count a Rider when you fish as a Rider. Pay outs should go to were you fish in the boat that day, First Rider and First boater, First place lunker should be only one fish regardless of where you sit. These are only my suggestions for the new tournament director.

The most substantial change is to our dues, in order for the club to run any function and the club be insured we must have every member join the New York Federation and will amount to another \$20.00 charged to every member. Unfortunately we do not have any choice in this matter and we must comply.

This month I am going to ask every member to vote for the two Bylaws changes that were put on the floor last month as they can only help the club move forward, please read them in the Taps and be ready to vote at the next meeting.

I want to thank the membership and my Board for all their help as I have not had the time to spend on the Club as I have had in the past. I was lucky to have some great advisors over the last few years. This was my last year as President and I look forward to fishing and helping the Club when I can. I am looking forward to the new slate I am endorsing to continue this great Clubs future. Jim Drost has demonstrated leadership and has always put the Club first; Jim will make a great President. Pete Brynes has stepped up to put the Club in position to win Chapter of the year and has done a great job as secretary. Ken Dryer has been a great advisor and has done a great job with the most thankless job in the Club, treasurer; he should continue and support Jim and Pete with his experience. The board of Ray Carmen, Ed Koster, Mark Capazzola, George Kowaliinski have done a great job and will help support the club should they chose to run again. Our newest member of the board and my winter series partner Chris Weber is another new member who has a lot of great ideas and will do a great job. Rob Herbst our sergeant at arms has run the most successful and profitable "Dark Horse" in club history and will continue to do so. These are the board and my endorsements for the leadership of the Club in 2009, please vote your mind and always put the Club and the membership first.

In closing I want to thank everyone for your support and wish everyone a great 2009. Dan McGarry

Bylaws Changes:

“Out of Area Membership”; A member who resides outside of Nassau, Suffolk and Queens may join and or continue as a full member with out making the mandatory number of meetings provided they do the following:

- o Provide proof of residence to the Board
- o Provide a letter of exclusion once a year to the Board.
- o Make and work at two (2) Club functions per year of membership (tournaments are excluded as club functions).
- o Payment of full dues for the following year by the December meeting annually.

“Define Six Man Team Funds”; The Long Island Bassmasters New York State Chapter Federation six man team must consist of at least four (4) members in good standing if the Long Island Bassmasters are funding any money towards the Teams attendance at the event.

Future addition to membership requirements;

Every member must belong to the New York State Bass Federation.

LONG ISLAND BASSMASTERS
P.O. Box 2547
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*The
22nd
chapter*