



**BASS
TAPS**

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
LONG ISLAND BASSMASTERS, INC.

WWW.LONGISLANDBASSMASTERS.COM

SEPTEMBER 2009

President's Line

By Jim Drost

Okay anglers...here we go... down to the last (points qualifier) tournament of the season... Steve Socko has already wrapped up Ryder of the Year (again) .. but, Boater of the Year & Angler of the Year will be decided at Squantz Pond on September 13th. The top four Boater's are separated by only 10 points... in the Angler of the Year race Robin Calitri has a four point lead on Jay Stiklickas.... anything can happen... " Never give Up " wrapping up the angling news... Ed Koster has the big bass of the year so far... a 7.1 largemouth caught on Lake Ronkonkoma. The end of the points qualifiers... opens the door to the " Classic ", the Best of the Rest, the Winter Series... and fall fishing.

Fall is around the corner and that means Elections (Nov. general meeting)... if you are interested in running for office, you must be present and nominated in order to be elected. Several of the board members are not seeking re-election. The positions of President & Secretary and some of the Member at Large board positions will be vacated. I am addressing the elections earlier than normal, so the members who are interested in running for office have enough time to talk with the club members. Everyone is always interested in what an elected officials agenda will be. We are no different. Whether it be conservation, youth activities or tournament formats everyone is always interested. Especially when it comes to tournaments.

The 2009 tournament format was received by most as a welcome change. But, there were others who balked at the change. If you take the time to go back and read the October 2008 President's Line written by Dan McGarry, you will see some of the suggested changes were incorporated into the 2009 tournament packet. As Dan once said "this is a work in progress". I agree with Dan whole heartily... the tournament committee did a good job of creating a new tournament format 2009... hopefully the new leadership and tournament committee will continue to strive for perfection.

Some updates from PLECO, our partners in conservation. At the August PLECO board meeting some conservation issues were discussed. In the near future you will see a invasive weed collection station be established at PLECO. We are being asked that when you remove your boat from Forge... please clean the weeds off your boat / trailer and deposit them into the collection box. Also please make sure your boat / trailer are clean prior to launching at PLECO. Defending the Pine Barrens was addressed. It seems we have individuals who are riding ATV's and dumping trash in our Pine Barrens. To quote the Central Pine Barrens "be a grownup scout".

Report violators...call 1-877- BARRENS and report transgressions. Stewardship of the land is the responsibility of everyone from volunteers, to law enforcement, to organizations like the Long Island Bassmasters. Help protect our priceless ecosystem.

In closing, please be reminded to be a member in good standing, that all club members must have attended a minimum of six general meetings and participated in no fewer than two Chapter functions, prorated for new members. You must have your Official Member in Good Standing Form completed and turned into the President of the Executive Board by NLT the November general meeting.

*See you on the water... be safe
Jim*