



**BASS
TAPS**

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
LONG ISLAND BASSMASTERS, INC.

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President's Line

By Jim Drost

The 2009 Long Island Bassmasters tournament season concluded on Squantz Pond, CT this past weekend. What a finish to a season. With both the Angler of the Year (AOY) and Boater of the Year (BOY) on the line... the anglers took to the lake looking for that big bag that would put them over the top. Little did anyone know, it would be a tough day on the lake.

Steve Socko (2009 Ryder of the Year, ROY) unlocked the secret of Squantz Pond and finished the day with the only five fish limit (9 lbs 8 ozs) brought to the scales, seizing the 2009 AOY crown. Along with winning AOY & ROY in 2009, Steve also had three tournament victories this year. Not a bad year, for a guy who fishes from the back of the boat.

Congratulations are also in order for Emory Butts Sr. in winning 2009 BOY. This race was close all year. Emory made a run from the back of the pack with a 4th place finish (17 points) at Squantz, to secured a one point victory in the BOY race... Emory, everyone knows you like those black plastics... job well done. Along with all the congrats...we owe a job well done to Pennsylvanian.... Ed Johnson in winning the 2009 " Rookie of the Year " award... Next month the season ending LIB "Classic".

Here are the 2009 "Classic" qualifiers...

2008 "Classic Champion" Greg Kiessling

2008 "Winter Series" champs Brendan Cucinello & Eric Fieldstadt

Emory Butts Sr... Robin Calitri...Jay Stiklickas,
George Kowalinski...Dan McGarry... Evan Refvik
Chris Weber...Steve Socko... Mitch Bernstein,
Ken Dryer... Ed Johnson... John Arcuri...Tom Logiudice

In 2009 LIB fished seven off island point qualifier tournaments, sent teams to the Long Island Alliance Championship and the NY Federation Team Event. This schedule created six weekends void of tournament competition for the LIB anglers who do not fish off of Long Island. Andy Caranante and I have co-authored a draft proposal to add electric lake tournaments to the tournament schedule for LIB anglers who do not fish off island.

We have taking a survey on this proposal and have received positive responses from these members.

Eric Fieldstadt

John Arcuri

George Kowalinski

Pete Byrnes

John Anthony

John Ospitale

Jay Stiklickas

Tom Logiudice

Ed Koster

Kevin Fitzgerald

Charlie Kick

Mark Capozzola

Vinny Visco

Rob Herbst

Mike Berkowitz

Bruce Palmer

Eric Latremore

Ken Deckman

CONCEPT:

To supplement the few electric lakes that LIB fishes during the standard tournament season. The addition of 6

on island electric lake tournaments will give the club members, who do not fish off Long Island a viable expanded tournament schedule. There are TWO draft options... all LIB official tournament rules remain the same...

OPTION # 1

All entries will fish alone... NO co-anglers (Ryder's). This will keep from depleting Ryder's for the gas lakes.

These will be a cash only tournaments. NO points or divisional standings, NO plaques or trophies.

OPTION # 2

If co-anglers (Ryder's) are allowed, there will be no distinction between Boater & Ryder.... all anglers will compete for the same payouts, no matter where they fish from the boat. NOTE: This will prevent only one or two Ryder's showing for a tournament... which would guarantee them a payout.

SAMPLE Tournament Schedule (based on the 2009 LIB schedule).....

Additional on island lakes

5/02.....	Candlewood	
5/17.....	East Twin	
5/31.....	Zoar	
6/07.....	Blydenburg	
6/14.....	Ronkonkoma	
6/28.....	Earl Glasshagel	
7/12.....	Mahopac.....	Fort Pond
7/18.....	Long Island Alliance	Hither Hills
7/26.....	Whaley.....	Forge
8/02.....	East Twin.....	Ronkonkoma
8/15.....	Forge	
8/22 & 8/23.....	NY Fed Six Man Team.....	Upper Mill
9/13.....	Squantz.....	Hither Hills

Tournament Entry Fee... \$20.00 angler

1. \$ 5.00 to LIB for permits (the Forge tournament will cost \$100.00).
2. \$15.00 1st place (50%), 2nd place (40%), Lunker (10%)

LIB has an estimated 30 electric boats. At any given time 8 - 10 or more of these anglers could be fishing the expanded island lake schedule. So the additional on island schedule is VIABLE....

This proposal will be open for discussion at the October general meeting...

be safe
Jim