

North Country Bronzebacks

Meeting Minutes

1/18/2017

- ❖ Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm
- ❖ Members present: Brian Emerson, Dave Boyko, Bruce Sterritt, Randy Stewart, Jim Rockett, Travis Rockett, Denise Allain (hostess), Cam Sterritt, Ed Samson, Dan Lambert
- ❖ Members were recognized and received their award checks for 2016 Season Lunkers and AOY
 - Lunker Largemouth – Dave Boyko – 5.85# - \$50.00
 - Lunker Smallmouth – Travis Rockett – 3.75# - \$50.00
 - Angler of the Year – Cam Sterritt – 570 points - \$100.00
- ❖ Treasurer's Report - \$2,053.28
- ❖ NHBN Annual Banquet will be March 25th at the Puritan Backroom in Hooksett. Tix are \$40/person and must be purchased before Feb 21st (no exceptions!). Send ticket money to Brian. Make checks to: "NC Bronzebacks"
- ❖ Election of Officers (no new nominations) Unanimous vote to re-elect existing officers.
 - President – Brian Emerson
 - Vice-President – Mark DiMarzio
 - Treasurer – Brian Emerson
 - Secretary – Mark DiMarzio

Membership

- ❖ Membership Dues and banquet ticket money were collected. Dues paid to-date are:
 - Brian Emerson - \$80 + Banquet \$40
 - Mark DiMarzio - \$80
 - Carl Cote - \$80
 - Bruce Sterritt - \$80
 - Cam Sterritt - \$80
 - Randy Stewart - \$80
 - Dave Boyko - \$80 + Banquet \$40
 - Travis Rockett - \$50 (balance due \$30)
 - Moira Hunt - \$20
 - Denise Allain - \$20
 - Gary Croteau - \$20
 - Ed Samson - \$20 + Banquet \$40
 - Dan Lambert - \$20
 - Jim Rockett - \$20
- ❖ All club membership renewals are due no later than April 1st. (Vote passed unanimously)
- ❖ It was agreed that future vetting of new members be done by private vote of the membership and Board (not in front of potential new members). (Vote passed unanimously)
- ❖ There was much discussion regarding member participation. It is the sincere hope of the club that members will make their best effort to attend as many club events as possible. We have been lax in enforcing the by-law rule which requires participation in at least 50% of the club meetings and events. The Board of Directors will be reviewing the By-laws closely to determine if revisions or amendments are needed. Any potential revisions and amendments will be voted on by the full membership.

❖ Tournaments

- ❖ There was much discussion regarding proposed tournament dates. The tournament committee will discuss and finalize our applications. We will do our best to hold the dates listed here, but may have to change the lakes if they aren't available. Here is what is tentatively planned:
 - April 30 – Webster Lake or Merrymeeting Lake (Team Draw Tourney)
 - May 14 – Moore Dam, Squam Lake or Silver Lake (Team Tourney)
 - June ? – Possible “Fun” paper tournament – Maybe afternoon/evening tourney
 - July 16 – Conway or Ossipee
 - July 30 – Wentworth
 - Aug 26 & 27 – Umbagog 2-day
- ❖ Club tournament entry fees were discussed and there was a unanimous vote to increase the tournament fee from \$15 to \$25. Lunker fees and best boat fees will remain at \$5 each. Total cost with all fees will be \$40/angler. This will be based on a 70% payout and will allow the club to award 1st & 2nd place in every tourney, (& 3rd place if over 12 anglers compete) and the payout will be higher than past years. The breakdown will be: 1st place = 50% of all entry fees; 2nd place = 20% of entry fees. Examples: 10 paid anglers (\$250 total entry fees): 1st = \$125, 2nd = \$50 (\$75 to the club); If 12 or more anglers compete, 3rd place will be paid also and the percentage breakdown will be 40/20/10. Example: 14 anglers paid (\$350 total entry fees): 1st = \$140, 2nd = \$70, 3rd = \$35 (\$105 to the club). If 16 or more anglers compete, 4th place will be paid also and the percentage breakdown will be 35/20/10/5.
- ❖ To avoid the usual disorganized collection of entry fees, we will be requiring that all entry fees be paid prior to launching of boats. We will also be drawing boat numbers at every event, regardless of the number of boats competing. (Vote passed unanimously)
- ❖ It was decided that, in the event of there being unpaired boaters and non-boater on tournament day, a random drawing will be done to pair them up. (Vote passed unanimously)
- ❖ In regards to a by-law change that took place last year requiring a minimum number of boats (4) and anglers (8) be committed to fish a tournament or the tournament would be postponed/cancelled, members present voted unanimously to remove the minimum-number-of-anglers provision. A minimum of 4 boats will still be required for an official tournament to take place.

❖ General Topics of Discussion

- ❖ Ideas were tossed around on what improvements could be made to better the club in the future. Some would like to see partners regularly switched-up to allow all members to get to know each other better, learn new techniques and share information more readily. A higher percentage of member participation would be appreciated. The club has reduced the number of tournaments and increased the payouts to perhaps encourage better participation. The club would also like to see our membership grow moderately.
- ❖ There have been many times when decisions needed to be made and email surveys and polls of the members were distributed. Many times, response has been less than expected, or in some cases, responses were split down the middle. It was formalized at this meeting that officers and/or directors are empowered to make executive decisions where limited time does not afford the luxury of an email poll of members or when members are split.
- ❖ The new criteria for qualifying to represent the Bronzebacks at the NHBN Club vs Club tournament goes into effect this season. It was voted on and approved last summer that the final AOY standings from the previous season will determine the order which anglers will be offered the opportunity to fish the Club vs Club. The final standings at the end of this season will determine next year's qualifying anglers and so on. This year's Club vs Club is scheduled for August 6th on Winnisquam.
- ❖ It was an excellent meeting with lots of productive discussion and plans made for the upcoming season.
- ❖ Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.