

**LAKE MURRAY SENIORS BASS CLUB
CHARTER and BY-LAWS
Revised December 2023**

HISTORY

On January 14, 1998, several men met with the idea of forming a seniors bass club. It was decided to have an organizational meeting to see if there was enough interest to form a bass club. A date was set, and approximately 30 people attended. After discussing the type of club the people wanted, a committee of 5 was asked to serve to formulate operational rules and guidelines. They were: James Fulmer, chairman; Jesse (Tookie) Oates; Jonathan Lowe; Conrad Cashion; and L.C. Graham. The committee met and decided on rules to be presented to a full membership meeting. On Monday, March 16, 1998, at a meeting held at P & L Landing, the operational rules and guidelines were adopted, and the LAKE MURRAY SENIORS BASS CLUB was formed with approximately 30 members joining.

BY-LAWS, FISHING RULES

This club charter and by-laws outline the administrative rules and procedures of the club. Club fishing rules are attached which outline the specific rules to be followed by club members during tournaments. Proposed changes to these by-laws and rules may be considered during each October business meeting, voted on during the November business meeting, and, if passed by a majority of the members present, become effective on January 1 of the following year. In some circumstances changes may be needed during the current year. If, after discussion, a 2/3rds majority agrees to consider the change, the change will be voted on at the next monthly meeting. If passed by a majority of members present at the meeting, the change will become effective immediately. Contributions for gas expenses may be voted on anytime during the year. The club president will issue any addendum to all members at the next regular business meeting.

PURPOSE

The LAKE MURRAY SENIORS BASS CLUB was formed for the purpose of providing opportunity for local male senior bass anglers to enjoy the sport and fellowship of fishing for black bass. In addition, the club seeks to further the effort to protect the bass population through a catch-and-release format. Competition is encouraged through a point system that results in an annual club champion. Another objective is the sharing of fishing tackle selections and techniques to promote learning.

OFFICERS

Officers shall consist of a president, vice-president/tournament director, secretary, and treasurer. All terms are for one year, but may be extended at the pleasure of club members. Election of new officers will occur at the November business meeting and the new officers will assume their responsibilities during the January business meeting. A simple majority will determine the winners. The duties of each officer are:

President: Responsible for enforcing the provisions of the club charter and by-laws, chairing all meetings of officers, conducting all business meetings, representing the club with outside agencies, posting of all news articles, verifying all tournament results, and keeping up with member and family member illnesses.

Vice-President/Tournament Director: Responsible for planning and conducting all tournaments and weigh-ins, performing the random drawing of tournament participant pairings, assisting the president as requested, and filling in during the president's absence.

Secretary: Responsible for keeping track of points earned by members, and maintaining updated member address/phone list.

Treasurer: Shall collect all club dues, tournament entry fees and other fees due the club from the members, track and document any items paid out, and provide a semi report of club funds at regular business meetings, provide a bank account for safe keeping of excess club funds, and provide an accounting of club funds at the regular business meetings in February and November.

MEMBERSHIP

To be eligible for membership, an applicant must be a male at birth and during his membership and a minimum of 55 years of age, or turn 55 within the calendar year. Any member who signs up as an angler, will remain an Angler throughout the year. The only exceptions are: the member's boat is in the shop; the boat has been sold; or the member has medical problems preventing him from operating his boat. Under those circumstances, an angler may fish as a co-angler on a monthly basis. Any member who signs up as a co-angler, will remain a co-angler throughout the year. The only exception would be if there are excess co-anglers for a monthly tournament and additional anglers are needed.

BUSINESS MEETINGS

Monthly business meetings will be held on the Wednesday prior to the third Thursday of each month, except for December. The December meeting will be on the second Wednesday of the month. All monies will be collected, random drawings of partners for each tournament made, and all business conducted and announcements made.

Business meetings will be chaired by the president with assistance of other officers. All motions and discussions allowed by this charter and by-laws will be conducted at business meetings. All issues voted upon will be determined by a majority vote of the members present. Raffles run by the tournament director to raise additional Club income may be conducted at the business meetings as determined by the president.

TEAM TOURNAMENTS.

1. All tournaments will be fished on Lake Murray.

2. 7 hours of fishing.
3. Blast off times and fishing hours will be determined by the tournament director and announced at the regular business meeting. Blast off sequence and any delays due to weather will be handled by the tournament director and rescheduled if necessary. If a tournament is cancelled, that tournament will be held on a future 1 on 1 tournament date selected by the tournament director.

PARINGS.

All two man tournaments, except December, will be held on the third Thursday of each month. The December tournament date will be the second Thursday of the month.

1. Team tournaments will consist of an angler and a co-angler paired randomly at the prior business meeting.

2. Participants may not fish together more than once per calendar year unless unavoidable. Winners in each boat will divide any winnings equally including winners of Big Fish.

3. No Angler will be picked to fish alone more than once in a calendar year. If that angler has already fished alone, he will be paired with the last selected co-angler, who is paired with an angler who has not yet fished alone.

4. Any angler fishing as a co-Angler will take precedence over other co-anglers in the draw.

5. Excess co-anglers that are not able to fish can have their entry fee refunded or carried over. Any member may be left out of a tournament by the draw only once per year. The seniority list will dictate who will fish.

6. Excess anglers may be paired into teams, in the order in which they are drawn. Either one, to be decided among the two of them, may be the angler, or they may decide to fish alone with all of the privileges of a two-man team.

7. Any member wanting to fish but who is unable to attend the pre-tournament meeting must contact a club officer prior to the meeting and arrange to get their chip in the bucket.

8. Blast-off time and fishing hours will be announced at the pre-tournament business meeting by the tournament director. The tournament director will control the blast-off sequence and any delays due to weather. If a tournament is delayed due to weather, the tournament director will announce the new fishing time prior to blast-off. If a tournament is cancelled, said tournament will be held on a future 1 on 1 tournament date, selected by the tournament director.

CLUB CHAMPION

An Angler Champion and a Co-Angler Champion will be determined each year at the end of the December tournament by a point system that includes the best ten of the twelve tournaments fished, plus points awarded for attendance and for the co-anglers use of their boat for tournaments. Members will be awarded fifty points for first place in a tournament, forty-nine points for second, forty-eight for third, etc. Teams not catching any fish will be awarded the next point value below the smallest weight caught. Each member receives one point for attending a regular business meeting and co-anglers one point each time his boat is used in a tournament.

CLUB DUES AND FEES

Dues will be \$20.00 per year, and may be adjusted by the vote of the membership at recommendation by any member or officer. Tournament entry fees will be \$20.00 per tournament. Prizes are outlined in the club fishing rules. Dues must be paid before fishing your first tournament. The president will establish and maintain a seniority list of 10 of the latest active Non-Boater/Co-Angler members: After it has been determined that Co-Anglers exceeds Anglers and after Co-Angler conversions have been made to Angler, the Co-Angler with the least amount of seniority, determined by the date he signed the waiver, will be taken out of the bucket, only once per calendar year, for that particular tournament. They may either carry over or get refunded their entry fee.