

**Island Bass Pursuit Inc.
Long Island Bassmasters**



**Chapter By-laws
2024**

Island Bass Pursuit Long Island Bassmasters CHAPTER BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I- NAME AND PURPOSE

SECTION I - NAME

1. The formation of Long Island Bassmasters will be carried out as a subsidiary entity operating under the established Corporation of "Island Bass Pursuit Inc".
2. This Chapter shall be called "The Long Island Bassmasters."

SECTION I - LOCATION

The principle office of the corporation shall be in the Township of Brookhaven of Suffolk County of the State of New York.

SECTION III - PURPOSE

To stimulate awareness of Bass fishing as a major sport. To offer our State Conservation Department our organized moral and physical support and encouragement. To promote full adherence to all conservation codes and to demand adequate water standards. To detect and report any polluter and to call public and political attention to his or her crime.

To improve our skills as Bass anglers through a fellowship of friendly exchange of expert Bass techniques and ideas, and to provide and encourage youth fishing and a love for this great recreation.

ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP

SECTION I-NUMBER OF MEMBERS

This Chapter shall consist of no less than Six (6) members and no more than seventy-five (75) members.

SECTION II-REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

To become a Chapter member, a prospective member must be 16 years of age or older and be a member of the National Bass Federation and the New York State Bass Federation and shall:

- A.** Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership. at a regular membership meeting.
- B.** Express a willingness to abide by all Chapter rules and regulations, join B.A.S.S., pay B.A.S.S. dues upon membership, if not a member, Pay the Chapter dues for the current year. Chapter dues will be prorated effective September at 60% for the remainder of the year.
- C.** To establish a reduced rate membership for multiple Family members to join and participate in Club functions. Once a primary family member joins and pays full membership; then any additional "Immediate Family Members" will only pay national and New York State Federation dues plus half (1/2) of the "normal dues" for

that calendar year "Immediate Family members" are defined as and limited to, a Spouse, Children or Stepchildren.

I- CLUB

a. LIB annual dues shall be \$100.00 annually including National Federation and New York State Federation dues and shall be paid by the December General Meeting. Dues must be paid at a general meeting directly to the President or online at islandbasspursuit.com.

II - FEDERATION

For the Chapter to maintain active membership status in the New York Federation 6 members of the Chapter must be Federation members.

SIX MAN TEAM

The 6-man team shall consist of 6 men in good standing. If not all 6 men attend, a minimum of 4 members.

The Angler of the Year from the previous year will be the Captain of the Long Island Bassmasters (6) six Man Team representing the Long Island Bassmasters at the New York Bass Federation State Team Championship. As the Captain the Angler of the Year, the Captain shall organize the Team for the event, make all necessary logistical arrangements and work with the Tournament Director to schedule fund raising tournaments that will not interfere with regular club functions. If the Angler of the Year cannot or does not want to be the Captain of the (6) six Man Team; then the (6) six Man Team will vote on a Captain at the next General Meeting.

To be eligible to benefit and receive (6) six Man Team funds any Members representing the Long Island Bassmasters at the New York Bass Federation State Team Championship are required to support the Team Captain and any fund raising events that are scheduled by the Long Island Bassmasters for the benefit of the (6)Six Man Team. Support is defined as but not limited to; mailings, registration, tournament logistics and fund raising activities. If money has been raised by the (6) Six Man Team is not used in the calendar year it was raised and the Six Man Team decides not to participate at the New York Bass Federation State Team Championship, then half of the funds that were raised will be moved into the General Fund.

SECTION VI - OUT OF AREA MEMBERSHIP

A member who resides outside of Nassau, Suffolk and Queens Counties may join and/or continue as a full member without making the mandatory number of meetings provided they do the following:

- Provide proof of residence to the board.
- Provide a letter of exclusion once a year to the board.

- Make and work at two (2) club functions per year of membership (tournaments are excluded as club functions).
- Payment of full dues for the following year by the December meeting annually.

LONG ISLAND BASSMASTERS “OPENS”

- Long Island Bassmasters Open Events, including the “HP Open Trail,” will be conducted under all Long Island Bassmasters tournament rules.
- Anglers are responsible for carrying all necessary insurance. Open events are fished at your own risk.
- All anglers must sign a waiver on the IslandBassPursuit.com website.

ARTICLE III- OFFICERS, ELECTIONS, VACANCIES and ELIGIBILITY

SECTION I- OFFICERS AND DUTIES

The Chapter Officers shall include a President. Once the club grows and there is sufficient interest, an executive board may be established, consisting of:

A. President

- (1) Shall preside over all meetings and direct all official business.
- (2) Shall appoint members to and direct all committee functions.
- (3) Shall supervise all Chapter functions in the absence of the Committee Chairman of the respective function.
- (4) Shall call Executive Board meetings and preside as Chairman.

B. Vice-President

- (1) Shall act as Meeting Program Director (Entertainment).
- (2) Shall assist the President in his duties and preside in the President's absence.
- (3) Shall assume the Office of President for the balance of the term in the event of a Presidential resignation.

C. Secretary

(1. Shall maintain accurate minutes of all meetings and maintain liaison between the Chapter and the BASS Anglers Sportsmen Society National Headquarters Coordinator.

D. Treasurer

- (1. Shall maintain accurate financial records and report at each general membership meeting.
- (2. Shall handle all Chapter monies collected from dues, assessments or any other sources.
- (3. Shall submit an annual written financial report of the general membership at the December general meeting. The Executive Board shall audit the Treasurer's annual report.

E. Sergeant-At-Arms

- (1) Shall be empowered to assess fines on members found to be out of order by the presiding officer.
 - a. 1st fine - \$1.00
 - b. 2nd fine - \$5.00
 - c. 3rd fine - \$10.00

i. Compensation

All Officers and Executive board members agree to serve their term of office at no compensation or salary. For reimbursement of expenses, refer to Article VI.

SECTION II - ELECTIONS

- A.** Nominations and election of Officers shall be held at the November Annual meeting.

The president shall be nominated and elected before nominations and elections of any other officers or Executive Board members occurs.

- B.** The nomination and election of the Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant-At-Arms shall follow the same procedure as the election of the President, to be followed by the election of the Executive Board.

- C.** A tie vote shall be decided by the President.

- D.** Elections shall be held by secret ballot —officiated by the Sergeant-At-Arms.

SECTION III - ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

- a. In order to be eligible to vote, a member shall have complied with Article II,
- b. A member must have full membership privileges in order to vote.

SECTION VI - TERM OF OFFICE

- a. The term of office shall be one year commencing January 1 and terminating December 31.

SECTION V- VACANCIES

- a. In the event of Presidential resignation or inability to complete the term of office, the Vice-President shall assume the office of President.
- b. If the Vice-President declines the higher office, nominations and elections shall be held at the earliest possible time to fill the vacant office.
- c. Any other offices vacated shall be filled through nomination and election at the earliest possible time.

SECTION VI - ELIGIBILITY TO HOLD OFFICE

A. A candidate must have held full membership privileges for a minimum of six months.

B. A candidate must have participated in at least 50% of Chapter functions, ie., meetings, tournaments, dinners, committees, special projects, etc.

- C.** Prospective candidates for the office of President must have served actively on committees and/or held elected office in the past.

SECTION VII - EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. The Executive Board shall consist of the current President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, most recent Past-President and five (5) full members nominated and elected by the general membership. A minimum of seven (7) board members constitutes a quorum, at least three (3) of which must be at-large members.
2. Elections for Executive Board seats shall be held at the November annual meeting and shall be for a term of one year commencing January 1 and terminating December 31.
3. Vacancies on the Executive board shall be filled through nomination and election by the general membership at the earliest possible time.
4. The current Chapter President shall call Executive Board meetings and preside as Board Chairman. The Executive Board shall meet at least once a month.
5. The Executive Board shall establish direction for the Chapter and determine policy, aims & goals.
6. All decisions of the Executive Board shall be made by majority vote.

ARTICLE IV- AMENDING THE BY-LAWS SECTION I

1. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Chairman of the By-Laws Committee or in his absence, to any member of the By-Laws Committee during any general membership meeting.
2. Proposed amendments shall be acted upon no later than the following general meeting.
3. All members shall be notified by TAPS of pending By-Law amendments prior to the next general membership meeting.
4. Passage of amendments shall require a positive vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the full membership present at the time of the vote.
5. Voting shall be by roll call vote.

ARTICLE V-MEMBERSHIP REMOVAL

Membership shall be revoked for any of the following:

1. Failure to pay dues
2. Any action which reflects dishonor or disgrace on the Chapter.
3. To be in good standing a member must attend a minimum of six (6)

general meetings and participate in no fewer than two (2) Chapter

functions during the period January 1- December 31, pro-rated for new members.

Functions include, but are not limited to; committee participation, shows, clean-ups, youth events and holding elected office. Holding elected office counts as two (2) functions.

All Major Club Awards/Trophies can only be given to Members that have paid their dues for the year by the Awards Meeting/Dinner. If the Member is not a paid in full Member by the Awards Meeting/ Dinner than the individual receiving the Trophy will receive a plaque to memorialize their achievement.

4. Final membership removal is subject to review by the Executive Board,

ARTICLE VI-MEETINGS

1. Chapter meetings shall be held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at a time and place determined by the general membership, except for unusual circumstances.
2. A quorum of fifteen (15) full members shall be required in order to hold a meeting.
3. The Annual Membership meeting of the Corporation shall be held on the 2nd Thursday of November each year except that if such day be a legal holiday, then in that event the meeting will be held on the closest available date. The Secretary shall cause to be mailed to every member in good standing at his address as it appears on the membership roster of the Corporation a notice stating the time and place of the Annual Meeting.
4. Special meeting of the Corporation may be called by the Directors. The Secretary shall cause a notice of such meeting to be mailed to all members in good standing at their addresses as they appear in the membership roll book at least ten days but not more than fifty days before the scheduled date of such meeting. Such notice shall state the date, time, place and purpose of the meeting and by whom called. No other business but that specified in the notice may be transacted at such special meetings without the unanimous consent of all present at such meeting.
5. Proxies - Every member entitled to vote at a meeting of members or to express consent or dissent without a meeting may authorize another person or persons to act for him by proxy. Every proxy must be signed by a member and also signed by the signature of a witness to verify such signature. No proxy shall be valid after the expiration of eleven (11) months from the date thereof. Every proxy shall be revocable at the pleasure of the member executing it, except as otherwise provided by law.
6. Order of business at all meetings shall be as follows;
 - (1) Roll Call
 - (2) Reading of the minutes of the preceding meeting
 - (3) Treasurer's Report
 - (4) Report of Committees
 - (5) Old and Unfinished Business
 - (6) Program
 - (7) New Business
 - (8) Adjournment

ARTICLE VIII-INDEMNIFICATION OF OFFICERS, REPRESENTATIVES & DIRECTORS

The Corporation shall indemnify and hold harmless all officers, representative and directors made or threatened to be made, a party to an action or proceeding (other than one by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor), whether civil or criminal, when such officer, representative and/or director served in any capacity at the request of the corporation, by reason of the fact that he or she was an officer, representative and/or director of the corporation, against judgments, fines, amounts paid in settlement and reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees actually and necessarily incurred as a result of such action or proceeding, or any appeal therein, if such officer, representative and/or director acted in good faith for a purpose which he or she reasonable

believes to be, in the best interest of the corporation and, in criminal action or proceedings in addition, had no reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was unlawful. This section shall be liberally construed and shall not be limited to that provided by the New York Business Corporation Law.