

## **Fairfield/Suisun Bass Reapers Constitution**

### **Constitution**

#### **Purpose:**

To stimulate public awareness of Bass Fishing as a sport. Offer our organized moral and political support and encouragement, to promote full adherence to all conservation codes and to demand adequate water standards and legal enforcement of existing regulatory standards. Improve our skill as bass anglers through a fellowship and friendly exchange of bass catching techniques and ideas. Promote and encourage youth fishing and a love for this recreation. Function as a dynamic and effective link with other clubs embracing the principles of bass fishing and sportsmanship.

Fiscal year begins July 1<sup>st</sup> and ends June 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### **SECTION I: REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

To become a club member a person shall:

- A. Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership and be at least legal license age.
- B. Be placed in a probationary status. Conditions of probation will require the individual fish one (1) tournaments with a club member following attendance at their first meeting. The prospective member will not be allowed to fish for points during the probationary period. A prospective member will be required to pay to fish tournaments and is eligible to collect winnings. The daily Big Fish money may be won by a prospective member as he/she will be considered involved in the daily big fish pool unless he/she has announced intentions to not participate prior to the tournament. Prospective members will not be eligible to compete for annual Big Fish/Heavy Stringer pool until they become an official member.
- C. Voting for membership will take place as new business of a monthly meeting requiring a 2/3 approval of the members present for acceptance of the prospective member. The secretary will notify the prospective member of the results.

#### **SECTION II: MEMBERSHIP DUES/INSURANCE PREMIUMS**

- A. The membership dues shall be payable annually with payment due at the start of the new season. Fees shall be set by membership at a meeting prior to the new season and shall not be changed during the season.
- B. Present annual membership dues are \$30.00 with big fish and big stringer at \$10.00 each.
- C. All club members will be required to keep their account current throughout the year.

All dues, big fish/stringer pool (optional) must be paid at or before the monthly club meeting in July of the current year. At such time an individual who has dues and/or option monies overdue, must be paid prior to fishing subsequent club tournaments and includes exclusion from big fish pool. Points, big fish or big stringer will not be awarded retroactively upon bringing accounts up to date for end of year awards. Members with accounts not current will not be permitted to vote on club business, elections, lake choices, times or dates.

- D. For new members, the dues shall be prorated to 1/12 of the annual dues for each month of remaining fiscal year pending and shall be payable at the time of acceptance into the club. Optional big fish/stringer pool fees must be paid in full at time of acceptance.

### **SECTION III: OFFICERS, ELECTIONS, VACANCIES AND ELIGIBILITY**

#### **A. Officers and their duties:**

1. **President:** Preside over all meetings and direct all official business. Appoint and direct all committees' functions. Supervise all club functions. Decide all club business votes in case of tie.
2. **Vice President:** Act as program chairman. Assist the president in his duties and preside in his absence. Act as tournament director and weigh master during club tournaments or appoint another member to that capacity.
3. **Secretary:** Maintain accurate minutes of all club meetings and all club functions.
4. **Treasurer:** Maintain accurate financial records and give report of the clubs financial condition at each meeting.
5. **Publicity Director:** Conduct relations with news media and other fishing organizations. Maintain the clubs picture album and memorabilia.

- B. **Elections:** The election of officers shall be held annually at the first regular meeting during the month of June. Nominations shall be submitted in the May meeting. Elections for each office shall be held separately in the order listed in Section III.
- C. **Eligibility to vote:** Each member in good standing is entitled to one vote. Proxy votes are not permitted.
- D. **Term of Office:** The term of office is for one year and shall begin with the start of the new season.
- E. **Vacancies:** In the event of an office becoming vacant, nominations shall be asked for and an election held to fill the remainder of the term of the individual vacating the office if decided necessary by the remaining officers.

- F. **Officers:** Who have served five (5) consecutive years will receive a club jacket paid for by the club.

#### **SECTION IV: METHOD OF AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION**

The Constitution and Bylaws may be amended at the last regular meeting of the fiscal year in June by 2/3 majority of the membership present; provided notice of the proposed amendment has been presented to the membership at least one regular meeting prior to the vote.

#### **SECTION V: REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP**

A member may be dropped from the membership role for the following:

- A. Failure to pay dues within 90 days unless approved by club officers.
- B. Any action, which would reflect, dishonor and disgrace on the club. Removal to be approved by 2/3 majority vote of members present.
- C. Failure to attend 3 consecutive meetings during a 12 month period without prior approval of an officer. The member shall be contacted and advised of his failure to attend by officers of the club. If the member fails to participate in club functions for two (2) months after being contacted, the member will be officially removed from the club. Any terminated member expressing a desire to be readmitted into the club may be admitted under the new membership guidelines. This includes the probationary period.

#### **SECTION VI: MEMBERSHIP ROSTER**

The club membership shall not exceed forty (40) members. Prospective members who wish to join the club will be placed on a waiting list based on a first come first served basis. The club Secretary will notify the prospective member of openings in the club. All persons expressing interest in membership will be encouraged to attend club functions. Prospective members may serve the probationary period while on a waiting list.

#### **SECTION VII: LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Members who for a valid reason(s) cannot participate in club functions for a period of time or intermittently, may request a leave of absence status not to exceed three (3) months per request. To retain membership, the annual dues must be paid. If annual dues are not paid timely, the member will be dropped under Section V (A). A member on a leave of absence may also be removed from membership if there is a prospective member who desires active participation in club functions but by doing so the club roster would exceed the forty (40) member limit. Such action needs the approval of 2/3 majority of members present at a regular monthly meeting with thirty (30) days prior notice.