

By-Laws Mexico Bassmasters Inc. (rev. 020121)

This organization shall be called the Mexico Bassmasters, INC. of Columbia, Missouri. The purpose of this organization will be to work for the conservation of fish and wildlife; to help Bass angling through education of members and others; to stimulate public awareness of Bass fishing as a major sport; to improve skills as Bass anglers through fellowship and friendly exchange of expert Bass catching techniques and ideas; and to foster and preserve the recreation and sport of Bass angling in tournaments and otherwise.

Article I - Tournament Committee

- **Nominees will be voted on**
- **Most votes determine tournament director**
- **Tournament committee will consist of 3 members.**
- **Committee will serve a 2-year term.**
- Shall establish Tournament rules, location, and dates of Organization Tournaments, keeping in mind the distance and cost of tournament sites
- Shall be responsible for the enactment of the Catch and Release Program

Article II-Waiver

Each member and guest will be required to sign a copy of the Waiver (Appendix A) prior to participating in any organization function. The waiver must be signed in accordance with the rules laid out on the waiver and maintained by the organization's secretary.

Article III-Officers, Elections, Vacancies, and Eligibility

Section 1: Officers and their duties

The officers and board of the organization shall consist of:

President: preside over all meetings and direct all official business. Appoint and direct all committee functions. Supervise all organizational functions.

Vice President: Assist the president in his duties, preside in the absence of the president and act as public relations officer.

Secretary: Maintain accurate minutes of all meetings, maintain regular liaison between Mexico Bassmasters, Inc. and other organizations.

Treasurer: Maintain accurate financial records of all club accounts and distribute funds and report at each meeting.

Tournament Director: Shall be responsible for management of all organization tournaments. In the event of his absence the President shall be responsible.

Section 2: Elections

The election of officers shall be held at a bi-annual meeting during the month of November. Election shall be by simple majority of members present, Election for each officer shall be held separately in order listed in Article III, Section 1.

Section 3: Eligibility of vote

Each member in good standing is entitled to one vote, proxy votes are not permitted unless authorized by the organization president.

Section 4: Term of office

The term office is for 2 years, which shall begin on January 1 and end on the 31st day of December or until the successor assumes office.

Section 5: Vacancies

In the event of an office becoming vacant, nominations shall be asked and an election to fill the unexpired term of the individual vacating the office.

Section 6: Eligibility for holding office

To be eligible for an office a member must:

- Have been a member for six months.
- Have attended at least 3/4 of the organization meetings

Article IV - Additional Officer Duties

President: To act as organization's representative to the Missouri State Bass Federation.

Vice President: To keep the local news media informed of the organization activities and act as an ambassador of good will with the organizations members families.

Tournament Director: To act as a liaison for the organization in obtaining full clearance from all parties on Tournament sites, dates, time, etc. and also to keep full and accurate records of those participating, who they fished with, their catches, points accumulated, and the organization scales. If the tournament director should not be able to attend a Tournament, the President shall assume the Tournament Director's duties. The Tournament director shall also have the right to make final decisions on tournament matters.

Article V - Awards and prizes

Organization tournament prize funds will be determined by tournament rules. Additional awards to be presented at the Annual Awards Banquet.

- **Placement awards;** 1st through 6th place in total points standings for the preceding year.
- **Big Bass;** The member catching the largest bass over 4 pounds during the organization tournaments in the preceding calendar year.
- **Sportsman of the Year;** voted on by club members at the last meeting in October.

In the event of a tie duplicate awards will be presented.

Awards for the above will consist of trophies or plaques purchased by the organization.

Article VI - Guests

Guest may participate in organization tournaments providing they have signed their waivers and abide by the same rules, regulations, guidelines etc. as applies to the regular members; excluding dues. When fishing as a guest that person will not be eligible for any of the tournament placement awards, however they will be allowed to accumulate points and vie for big bass of the tournament should they contribute to the big bass pot for that tournament.

Article VII - Rules for tournament fishing

The **rules** for tournament fishing shall be reviewed and/or revised annually by the tournament committee. They shall then be presented to the membership for their approval and or changes.

The organization may qualify a team for the Missouri B.A.S.S. Federation Nation State Tournament, and/or the TBF Bass Federation State Tournament. The State team members **MUST BE** in good standing with B.A.S.S., Missouri Bass Federation Nation and/or FLW Outdoors - Missouri TBF

Article VIII - State Tournament Participation

The Mexico Bassmasters are primarily affiliated with B.A.S.S. and Missouri B.A.S.S. Federation Nation and as such will sponsor those members that qualify or wish to participate in the state tournament.

The Mexico Bassmasters can also affiliate with FLW Outdoors and the Missouri Bass Federation (TBF). Those members that qualify or wish to participate in the TBF State tournament will be financially responsible for the fees associated with that tournament. State team members must be in good standing with B.A.S.S., Missouri B.A.S.S. Federation Nation, and /or FLW Outdoors - Missouri TBF.

Article IX- Membership

Section 1: Number of members

Total membership shall not exceed 50 members. This number may be altered by amendment, by a 2/3 majority vote of the membership. All Missouri Bass Federation Nation and Missouri Bass Federation (TBF) members in good standing with B.A.S.S. and /or FLW Outdoors are eligible for membership in Mexico Bassmasters, Inc. and will be invited to actively participate; however membership in the aforementioned are not mandatory requirements for membership.

Section 2: Membership Dues

- Annual dues are \$100.00 per year due by the start of the new tournament season
- If a member joins after the 4th tournament of a given tournament season, dues are \$75.00 per year and are to be paid prior to the 5th tournament date.
- If a new member joins after the last scheduled tournament in a given season, said member will hold an honorary status until the next tournament season dues are to be paid.

Section 3: Requirement for membership

To become an organization member, a person shall:

- Voluntarily express an interest in membership.
- Be recommended by one member at a regular monthly meeting.
- Be approved by a 2/3 of membership present, by a vote.
- Must be at least 16 years of age and those 16-17 years of age must have a signed parental waiver.
- Full membership will then be awarded, and membership credentials presented.

Article X Meetings

Section 1: Regular Meetings

Regular meetings will be held the Monday preceding a tournament date.

Section 2: Called Meetings

When deemed necessary by the officers a special called meeting may be held provided the membership is properly notified at least one week in advance.

Section 3: Board meetings

The board will meet as often as deemed by the president.

Article XI - Method of Amending By-Laws

The By-Laws may be amended at any or regular meeting by 2/3 vote of the members, provided notice of the proposed amendment has been presented to the membership prior to the vote.

Article XII - Removal of Membership

- Failure to pay dues within one month of due date- payable in advance at regular monthly meetings unless previous arrangements made with the treasurer.
- Any reported action, which would reflect dishonor or disgrace on this organization, upon a review with members present and a 2/3 majority vote.

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Appendix A- Waiver

Having acquainted myself with the rules, I hereby waive and release all other contestants, the Host, Sponsors, organization officers and the Tournament officials from all claims or injury and /or damage incurred in connection with any organization function of the Mexico Bassmasters, Inc. for the period beginning with the date shown below and continuing as long as I am in good standing with the club. I further understand and agree that the Mexico Bassmasters, Inc. reserves the right to reject this application, at their discretion, by not witnessing my signature.

This Waiver must be signed by at least 1 (one) officer of the Mexico Bassmasters, Inc. and preferably (but not mandatory) by 2 (two) officers of the Mexico Bassmasters, Inc. If only 1 (one) officer is available, another member in good standing , of the Mexico Bassmasters, Inc. may serve as the second witness.

Signed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20_____