

Bay Area BassBusters (BABB) Bylaws

Article I – Name

Section 1.1 – Name of the Club

This club shall be called *Bay Area BassBusters*, referred to hereafter as the Club.

Article II – Purpose

Section 2.1 – Club Objective

The Club strives to unite competitive anglers committed to excellence in bass fishing. We meet in-person and online to share knowledge and come together to fish competitively once a month. The Club prioritizes conservation, ensuring sustainable practices that protect our waterways and fish populations for future generations. Through camaraderie and support, we aim to inspire, educate, and support one another in our pursuit of mastery. Together we create an inclusive environment where every member can thrive and contribute to the sport we love.

Article III – Membership

Section 3.1 – Eligibility

Membership is open to licensed anglers who are 18 years of age or older. All members must possess a valid fishing license and comply with state and local fishing regulations.

Section 3.2 – Rights

Members of good standing shall be entitled to participate in all Club activities, which include meetings, fishing events, and voting on Club matters.

Section 3.3 – Responsibilities

- **3.3.1** – Members will adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) and promote a positive and respectful environment.
- **3.3.2** – Alcoholic beverages and controlled substances are not to be consumed or used during club meetings and during official fishing event hours.
- **3.3.3** – No member shall belong to any other local bass-fishing club unless given exemption by the Board of Officers. An exemption must be requested in writing.
- **3.3.4** – No member shall use the name of the Club to endorse any political candidate for public office or appointment.
- **3.3.5** – Members shall inform the Club of any change of address and contact information to minimize potential interruptions to the Club's communications and operations.

Section 3.4 – Application Process

- **3.4.1** – Interested individuals must complete a membership application form and submit the application to the Club’s Board of Officers for review.
- **3.4.2** – Upon application approval by the Board of Officers, the applicant shall proceed with membership application by either:
 1. Attending two regular club meetings and competing in one Club tournament accompanied by a Club member.
 2. Or attending a regular club meeting and competing in two consecutive tournaments with a Club member.
- **3.4.3** – Upon completion of the aforementioned requirements, the applicant’s pending membership will be voted on by the Club membership. Affirmation must be two-thirds of the members present and voting.
- **3.4.4** – An honorary membership can be granted upon two-thirds approval of the members present and voting.

Section 3.5 – Termination of Membership

- **3.5.1** – Membership may be terminated by a two-thirds vote by the Board of Officers for:
 1. Being in arrears of dues.
 2. By conduct deemed detrimental to the club and/or failure to comply with Club bylaws.

Section 3.6 – Leaves of Absence

Any member may voluntarily leave the club membership by notifying a member of the Board of Officers either verbally or in writing. Leaves of absence shall be limited to twelve (12) months. Requesters for voluntary leave of absence shall agree to forfeit any yearly dues paid should the Board of Officers deem appropriate.

Section 3.7 – Eligibility for Membership Reinstatement

- **3.7.1** – A member who voluntarily leaves the Club may request reinstatement by notifying a member of the Board of Officers. Reinstatement is completed after paying any and all dues owed at the time of leaving and by two-thirds vote of the members present at the general club meeting.
- **3.7.2** – If membership was terminated involuntarily by the Club, the individual may apply for reinstatement by following the Application Process outlined in Section 3.4.

Section 3.8 – Membership Limit

The Club shall be limited to 80 members of good standing.

Article IV – Life Membership

Section 4.1 – Life Membership Criteria

- **4.1.1** – Life members may participate in all non-tournament activities paid for by the Club.
- **4.1.2** – Life members are not required to belong to any other organization.
- **4.1.3** – Nominations must be submitted to the Board of Officers in writing.
- **4.1.4** – The Board of Officers shall consider the nomination at the next Board meeting.
- **4.1.5** – Guidelines to be considered for a life membership include:
 1. 15 years of membership in good standing.
 2. Four years of service as an officer of the club.
 3. Selection at least once as Sportsman of the Year or Mr. Bass.
- **4.1.6** – The Board will present the nomination at the next general meeting for discussion.
- **4.1.7** – Nominated life members shall be voted on by a two-thirds vote of members present, typically by closed ballot.

Article V – Officers

Section 5.1 – Club Officers

The officers of the Club shall be:

- President
- Vice-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

Section 5.2 – Term Length

The term length of office for all officers shall be one (1) year.

Section 5.3 – Officer Eligibility

Members in good standing for at least six (6) months are eligible for office.

Section 5.4 – Election of Officers

- **5.4.1** – Nominations for officers shall begin at the September Club meeting and continue through one day prior to the subsequent October Club meeting.
- **5.4.2** – Election voting shall take place at the October Club meeting via closed ballot.
- **5.4.3** – Newly elected officers will take their office at the November Club meeting.
- **5.4.4** – In the event the presidency becomes vacant, the vice-president shall preside for the remainder of that term. In the event any other position becomes vacant, nominations shall be requested and an election held to fill the unexpired term of the vacated office at the earliest feasible meeting.

Section 5.5 – Removal from Office

An officer may be removed for cause (failure to adhere to these bylaws or failure to perform duties) by a two-thirds vote of the membership present. The cause for removal shall be communicated to the officer in question prior to the vote.

Article VI – Board of Officers

Section 6.1 – Composition

The Board of Officers shall consist of:

- The current officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer)
- Two (2) members elected-at-large from the general membership
- Last year's President, if applicable

Section 6.2 – Meetings

The Board of Officers shall meet as directed by the President. The President shall preside over these meetings.

Section 6.3 – Duties and Responsibilities

The Board of Officers shall make decisions on behalf of the Club, with input from the general membership when deemed appropriate. A two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Officers is required to approve any initiatives or expenditures. All decisions made by the Board shall be communicated at the next general meeting.

Article VII – Committees

Section 7.1 – Committee Formation

The President shall appoint any and all committees deemed necessary. All standing committees must be ratified by the Club at the next general meeting.

Section 7.2 – Committee Structure

- **7.2.1** – All committees, except the Tournament Committee, shall select their own chairman.
- **7.2.2** – The Vice President shall serve as the chairman of the Tournament Committee.

Section 7.3 – Annual Reports

All standing committees shall present an annual report at the November regular meeting.

Article VIII – Meetings

Section 8.1 – Regular Meetings

The Club shall meet at least once a month.

Section 8.2 – Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the President when necessary.

Section 8.3 – Quorum Requirements

Quorum for decision-making shall be twenty (20) percent of the total active membership.

Article IX – Amendments and Resolutions

Section 9.1 – Amendment Process

Any proposed amendment to these bylaws shall be submitted in writing at a regular Club meeting. Amendments shall become part of the bylaws if approved by a two-thirds majority of the members present at the next regular meeting.

Article X – Health Resolution

Section 10.1 – Notification

Members facing long-lasting health conditions are encouraged to notify the Board of Officers. Confidentiality will be maintained regarding any health information.

Section 10.2 – Flexibility in Fishing Partnerships

The Club will make reasonable accommodations for health-related flexibility in choosing fishing partners.

Section 10.3 – Ongoing Health Needs

Members requesting flexibility must keep the Board of Officers informed of their health situation.

Article XI – Officers and Elected Board Members Duties

Section 11.1 – President Duties

- Preside over all meetings and direct all official business and keep all club activities progressing in an organized and satisfactory manner.
- Supervise all club functions.
- Establish committees and appoint members if positions are not filled voluntarily.
- Shall notify club members of upcoming meetings and provide meeting agenda prior to each meeting.
- Give written or verbal approval on all club checks
- Will be an ex officio member of all committees.

Section 11.2 – Vice-President/Tournament Director Duties

- Preside as President in the absence of the President.

- Plan, organize and direct all club tournaments at monthly meetings.
- Responsible for sending tournament/launch instructions to all participants two days prior.
- Responsible for all tournament arrangements and necessary tournament equipment.
- Enforces all tournament rules.
- Responsible to coordinate the drafting of tournament rules.
- The Tournament Director will be responsible for submitting and updating the yearly permit to California DFG and BOR. This will also include being in charge of changes to Lake Locations, launch ramps and cancellations of tournaments.
- Chairs the Tournament Committee responsible for proposing the tournament sites and dates for the following years events.
- Responsible for keeping all records for each tournament throughout the year.
- Responsible for the accurate weighing, measuring and judging of all fish presented by contestants
- The VP/TD will appoint two active members as Assistant Tournament Directors, who will assist in all tournament operations.

Section 11.3 – Treasurer Duties

- Keep accurate financial records and present a current financial report at each regular meeting.
- The Treasurer shall collect all of the money due the club, deposit the club's funds in the clubs account and pay all authorized debts of the club

Section 11.4 – Secretary Duties

- Record minutes of all regular and special Club meetings as called for by the club president.
- Maintain accurate records of club membership.
- Prepare the minutes of each meeting of the general membership and/or Executive Board Meeting.

Section 11.5 – Member Elected-At-Large Duties

The importance of a board member at large lies in their ability to offer a broad perspective and diverse insights to the board. They bring a wealth of knowledge, experience, and skills from various backgrounds, which can enrich discussions, enhance decision-making processes, and ensure the board considers a wide range of viewpoints.

Article XII – Membership Dues

Section 12.1 – Dues Amount

The Club shall assess membership dues of \$120 yearly. Members joining after July shall pay a prorated fee of \$60.

Section 12.2 – Payment Period

Members may pay their dues between November and January prior to the first tournament.

Article XIII – Club Responsibilities

Section 13.1 – Conservation Commitment

The Club is committed to the conservation and sustainable management of sportfishing resources.

Section 13.2 – Youth Support

The Club supports regional youth programs promoting fishing.

Section 13.3 – Liability Disclaimer

The Club is not responsible for actions taken by officers or members outside of official activities.

Article XIV – Club Sponsorship

Section 14.1 – Sponsorship Criteria

Sponsors shall be companies that align with the Club's purpose and are chosen based on relationships with the members.

Section 14.2 – Non-binding Agreement

Club sponsorships shall be non-binding and based on non-monetary compensation.