

**JANUARY 2025 NORTH CAROLINA BASS
FEDERATION, Inc.
BY-LAWS**

ARTICLE ONE

The name of this organization shall be North Carolina Bass Federation.

ARTICLE TWO

Section 1. as follows: The purpose and objectives of this organization are:

- a. To serve as an organization in which the individual chapter clubs in the state of North Carolina affiliated with The Bass Federation Inc. (TBF Inc) may be united to the benefit of their common interests and causes.
- b. To act as an agency to assist member chapters in whatever manner deemed practical and beneficial. The Federation shall not infringe upon member chapters contrary to their autonomous entity.
- c. To act as an agency between TBF Inc., and member chapters in the Federation in whatever matters deemed practical.
- d. To assist and cooperate with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and its agencies in matters mutually beneficial.
- e. To become politically and legally involved in such matters that are consistent with the goals of TBF Inc. and the Federation, which may arise on a national, state or local level.
- f. To preserve and further the sport of Bass angling by actively becoming engaged in the area of environment, pollution and youth participation.
- g. To promote, organize and conduct North Carolina Bass Federation, tournaments in a manner consistent with the format of the TBF Inc. tournaments to determine the members of a team to represent the state of State of North Carolina at any TBF Inc. tournament.
- h. To promote, assist and facilitate the formation of additional Bass clubs to become affiliated with the TBF Inc. and the North Carolina Bass Federation, Inc.

ARTICLE THREE

MEMBERS/CHAPTERS

Section 1. General Membership: The members of the Corporation shall be designated as general members. The qualifications for membership shall be that a general member shall be a member in good standing. A member in good standing is required to maintain valid membership in a North Carolina Bass State Federated Chapter, the North Carolina Bass State Federation, the TBF, and MLF. Written correspondence is required for validation of membership.

Section 2. Chapters: A group interested in becoming a Federated Chapter of the Corporation shall submit a written and signed application on a form approved by the Board of Directors, to the President of the Corporation. Approved applicants shall become a Federated Chapter Member of the Corporation upon payment of the required membership dues. A Chapter in good standing is one that maintains at least six members and maintains 100% of their Chapter membership as members in good standing in the North Carolina Bass State Federation, the TBF, and MLF.

Section 3. Voting Rights: A Chapter in good standing shall be entitled to one vote on each motion submitted to the Chapters

Section 4. Termination of Membership: The Board of Directors by affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members of the Board, may suspend or expel a member or Chapter for cause, after an appropriate hearing. A majority vote of those present at any regularly constituted meeting may terminate or suspend the membership of a member or Chapter who becomes ineligible for membership or is in default of payment of dues or fees for the period fixed hereinafter.

REFER TO ARTICLE 8 ABOUT SUSPENSION, TERMINATION or BANISHMENT

Section 5. Resignation: A Chapter may resign by filing a written resignation with the NC State Bass Federation, but such resignation shall not relieve the Chapter so resigning of the obligation to pay any dues, assessments, or other charges theretofore incurred and unpaid.

Section 6. Reinstatement: Upon written request signed by a former member or Chapter and filed with the Board of Directors by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board, may reinstate such former member or chapter to membership on such terms as the Board of Directors may deem appropriate.

Section 7. Transfer of membership: General membership in this corporation is not transferable.

ARTICLE FOUR

MEETINGS OF MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Annual Mandatory Re-Up Meeting: Annual Mandatory Re-Up Meetings of all Chapters shall be held for the purpose of annual Chapter roster renewal for the coming year. These meetings will be held in a central location in November with the location and date to be determined by the Regional Directors. Chapters not in attendance at its Region's Re-Up meeting will be penalized as follows:

Will not be allowed to participate in the next year's State Simi Finals Tournament or any Qualifier Tournaments.

The penalty of non-participation in the next year's State Tournament or Qualifier Tournaments applies to all the members of the penalized chapter.

Section 2. Special Meeting: Special Meetings of all Chapters may be called by the President, Board of Directors or not less than fifty percent (50%) of the Chapters having voting rights at a place designated by the applicant for the special meeting. If no special place is designated, then such meeting shall be held at the place of the principal office of the corporation in the State of North Carolina. If all Chapters meet at any time and place, either within or without the State of North Carolina, and consent to the holding of the meeting, such meeting shall be valid without call or notice. At such meeting any corporate action may be taken.

Section 3. Notice of Meetings: Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of any meeting of Chapters shall be delivered either personally by phone call or by email to each Chapter entitled to vote at such meeting not less than thirty nor more than sixty days before the date of such meeting, by or at the direction of the President, the Secretary, or the Chapters calling the meeting. In case of a special meeting or when required by statute or by these by-laws, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be stated in the notice. If mailed, the notice of a meeting shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States Mail addressed to the Chapter at the address as it appears on the records of the corporation, with postage thereon prepaid.

Section 4. Quorum: Fifty percent (50%) of the Chapters holding voting rights at any meeting shall constitute a quorum at such meeting. If a quorum is not present at any meeting of Chapters, a majority of the Chapters present may adjourn the meeting without further notice.

ARTICLE FIVE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. General Powers: The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Number, tenure and qualifications of the Board: The number of Board of Directors shall consist of 7 members including the President.

Board members may have appointed positions such as Vice President, Tournament Director, Secretary etc.. Those appointed positions may expire when President's term is over

All members of the Board of Directors must be members in good standing of this corporation as described in article three and may not be a member or board member of any other organization that is in direct competition with the North Carolina Bass Federation, the TBF, or the MLF

Section 3. Election of President: The incumbent Board of Directors shall receive written Notice from affiliated Chapters by August 15 of the election year. From this list, the State Board shall select candidates who are members in good standing of the Corporation, and will present ballots of these candidates to each eligible Chapter via the Board Members by October 1st of the election year for the clubs to discuss. Ballots will be handed out in person to each Chapters President or Representative at the November Meeting. After re-ups for the coming year have been completed and their re-up dues have been paid, each re-upped Chapter will use the ballots supplied by the State Board via the Director to cast their Chapter's vote. Each vote must be attested to by the attending Chapter representative's signature of the ballot. After voting the attending Chapter representative will seal the ballot in an envelope and write the Chapter's (Clubs)name prominently on the front of said envelope. Board Member will collect these sealed envelopes only from those Chapters that have re-upped and paid their dues for the coming year. These votes will be opened by The current president and 2 board members not running for President. The votes will be tabulated in front of everyone attending the meeting. The candidate receiving the most votes will be elected President. In the event of a tie the Regional Directors, who are not running for President, will cast the tie-breaking vote. Term of office shall be two years, beginning January 1 following election and ending December 31 of the second year after the election.

IF no written nominations are received by the stated date, the existing president may continue for another term if they choose so and board is in agreement, this also applies for board members.

Section 4. Removal of Board Member: A Board Member may be removed for cause by seventy-five percent (75%) majority vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Regular Meetings: The Board of Directors shall meet at least quarterly to conduct their Corporate affairs. The Board of Directors may provide by resolution, the time and place

for holding additional regular meetings without other notice than such resolution. Additional regular meetings shall be held at the principal office of the corporation in the absence of another designation in the resolution.

Section 6. Special Meetings: Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the president or any two (2) directors and shall be held at the principal office of the corporation or at such other place as the directors may determine.

Section 7. Notice: Notice of any special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given at least five (5) days previous thereto by written notice delivered personally and sent by email to each Director at his email address as shown by the records of the corporation. If notice is given by email, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when processed by the respective service. Any Director may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of a Director at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such a meeting, except where a Director attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened. The business to be transacted at the meeting need not be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting, unless specifically required by-law or by these by-laws.

Section 8. Quorum: A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board, but if less than a majority of the Directors are present at any meeting of the Board, a majority of directors present may adjourn the meeting without further notice.

Section 9. Board decisions: The act of a majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors, unless the act of a greater number is required by law or by these by-laws.

Section 10. Vacancies: Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors and any Directorship to be filled by reason of an increase in the number of Directors shall be filled by the Board of Directors. The Director appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the term of his predecessor in office. Each such appointment by the Board shall be subject to the approval of the regional membership or general membership at the next regular meeting or general membership meeting of this corporation.

Section 11. Compensation: Directors as such shall not receive any stated salaries for their services, but by resolution of the Board of Directors, a fixed sum and expenses of attendance, if any, may be allowed for attendance at any regular meeting or special meetings of the Board. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to preclude any Director from serving the corporation in any other capacity and receiving compensation thereof.

ARTICLE SIX

OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers: The officers of the corporation shall be President, and 6 board members each from different chapters. The Board of Directors may appoint such other officers as Vice President, Tournament Director, Secretary etc., as it shall deem desirable for such officers to have the authority to perform duties prescribed from time to time by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Election and Term of office: The officers of the corporation shall be elected every two (2) years. The President and 3 Directors shall be selected in November of the even numbered years. The other 3 Directors shall be selected in November of the odd numbered years. Each officer shall hold office until his successor has been duly elected or appointed to fill a vacancy.

Section 3. Removal: Any officer elected or appointed may be removed by the Board of Directors whenever in its judgment the best interest of the corporation would be served thereby.

Section 4. Vacancies: A vacancy in office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or otherwise may be filled by the Board of Directors for the remainder of the term.

Section 5. Powers and Duties: The several officers shall have such powers and shall perform such duties as may from time to time be specified in resolution or other directives of the Board of Directors. In the absence of such specifications, each officer shall have the power and authority and shall perform and discharge the duties of the officers of the same title serving in nonprofit corporations having the same or similar general purposes and objectives as this corporation.

May not be more than one board member in same chapter as another board member with the exception of the president, unless overall chapter membership falls below 6 chapters or eligible members not available, at that time the board could approve more than 1 board member per club to maintain a 7-member plenum.

ARTICLE SEVEN

COMMITTEES

Section 1. Committees of Directors: The Board of Directors, by resolution adopted by a majority of the Directors in office may designate and appoint the three (3) following standing Committees and other Special Committees as from time to time may be appropriate. The Terms of appointment to a standing Committee shall be two years or less, expiring on the second December 31st after appointment. No member of a standing Committee shall serve more than three consecutive terms on such Committee. To be eligible for appointment to any Committee a member must be a member in good standing of TBF/FLW and of North Carolina Bass Federation, Inc.

Section 2. Environmental Committee: The number of members to serve on this committee shall be determined and appointed by the Board of Directors. The purpose of this committee shall be to secure and protect our natural environment from harmful change; to document and report to proper authorities violations of local, state and federal anti-pollution laws, statutes, regulations, ordinances and other regulatory devices; to take political action, within the scope of the authority of the charter of this corporation and the laws of the State of North Carolina as they relate to lobbying to improve our environment; to take legal action where appropriate; to maintain class actions where advisable and proper under the terms of the charter of this corporation; to undertake informative and educational programs to bring to the public a greater awareness of threats to our environment; and, above all to take a leadership role in repairing the harm that has already been done to the life giving waters of the United States of America and the State of North Carolina.

Section 3. Tournament Committee: The members to serve on this committee shall be approved by the Board of Directors. The purpose of this committee shall be to plan the Annual North Carolina Bass Federation, Inc. Championship Tournament. They will collect entry fees, set an awards list, rule the final authority on the proper conduct, procedures, qualifications and other matters related to the conduct of this tournament. The Annual North Carolina Bass Federation, Inc. Championship Tournament will determine eligibility to enter the National Southern Division Championship Tournament. All North Carolina Bass Federation, Inc. Championship Tournaments shall be conducted within the spirit and letter of the current national tournament rules. All State Tournaments will be open to North Carolina Bass Federation members 16 years of age or older. It will be the primary duty of the State Tournament Committee to so conduct its affairs that only honor the integrity and sportsmanship and the highest ideals of fair play will accrue to it, and thus to each and every member of the TBF/FLW.

Section 4. Youth Activities Committee: The number of members to serve on this committee shall be determined and appointed by the Board of Directors. The purpose of this committee shall be: To plan, organize and implement statewide Bass Youth Activities to introduce young fisherman to the goals of NCBass and to give the youths of the State of North Carolina basic rules of honesty, integrity, fair play and good sportsmanship, and to give them an introduction to the sheer joy of fishing.

Section 5. Special Committees: Special committees may be formed by and appointed by the Board of Directors, but only for closely defined purposes, and in no case may the tenure of a special committee exceed two years from the day of its appointment. Special committees may not supersede or otherwise infringe upon the duties and responsibilities of any standing committee unless a resolution to that effect is passed by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Removal: Any member of any committee may be removed by the person or persons authorized to appoint such members to the committee, standing or otherwise, whenever in their judgment the best interest of the corporation shall be served by such removal.

ARTICLE EIGHT

SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Section1: No Member shall display any threatening behavior towards others physically or verbally or display unsportsmanlike conduct, Actions that reflect poorly on NCTBF, Our Events and the Sport of Bass Fishing. This will be considered Conduct Unbecoming and will not be permitted at any NCTBF, TBF or MLF events, tournaments or meetings.

Section2: No Member shall openly display any firearm at and during any NCTBF events, tournaments or meetings, Regardless of North Carolina Open Carry we reserve the right to restrict the open display of any firearm., If you are licensed to carry concealed in North Carolina, that is your right but keep it concealed unless you absolutely have to defend yourself. TBF events should be peaceful and around friends and fellow fisherman and hope that there is no need to defend yourself with a firearm.

Section 3: No member shall unlawfully take any money, product or positions from the NCTBF

Section 4: All Members must stay in good standing and paid up on NCTBF and TBF Dues and Fees

Violation of any of these rules can and may result in SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION or BANISHMANT Of MEMBERSHIP

ARTICLE NINE

AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

Section 1. These by-laws may be altered, amended, or repealed, and new by-laws may be adopted by a majority of the Directors present at any regular meeting or at any special meeting, if at least thirty days notice in writing is given of intention to alter, amend, or repeal or to adopt new by-laws at such meeting or vote of the Directors at any regular or special meeting or as either case may be.

Board Member: Mark Cannon

Board Member: Thorpe Whitehead

Board Member: Bill Ray

Board Member: Joey Kennedy

Board Member: Rich Ludwig

Board Member: Damon Clark

President: Andy Council