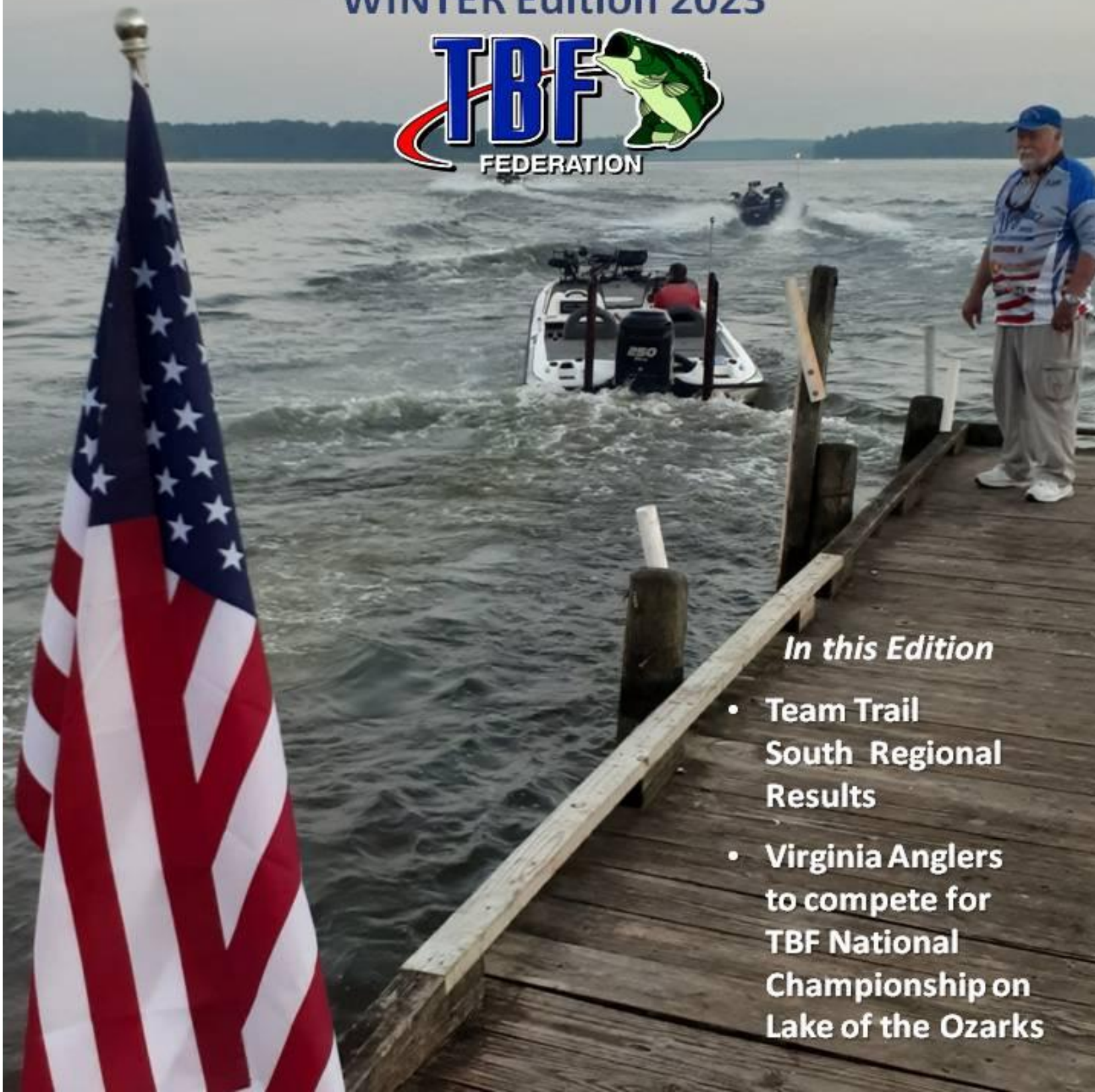


Tight Lines

Magazine

The Official Publication of the Virginia Bass Chapter Federation

WINTER Edition 2023



In this Edition

- **Team Trail South Regional Results**
- **Virginia Anglers to compete for TBF National Championship on Lake of the Ozarks**

Purpose of the Virginia Bass Chapter Federation

The Federation is established to preserve and promote the sport of angling largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, and spotted or Kentucky bass, herein known as Bass; to introduce youth to the sport of fishing; to conserve water and other associated natural resources; to work for an abundant, healthy and self-sustaining bass fishery where a natural potential exists; and to support the local, state and national agencies which conserve and manage the fresh water sport fishery and other associated resources.



Goals of the Virginia Bass Chapter Federation

The Federation, shall, in its operations, pursue the goals of organizing and conducting competitive fishing events which adequately provide for the needs of the bass and the angler; to establish live release of bass to their habitat as an integral part of sport fishing; promote realistic conservation of natural resources and causing adoption and enforcement of adequate water quality standards; of educating the membership in citizen involvement in the process of government; of supporting and cooperation with fishery management agencies and educational institutions in development of good fisheries for the future; of encouraging youth involvement in sport fishery and leading the chapters in organizing and conducting youth participation activities; of promoting public awareness of the Federation's purposes, goals, and activities; of timely and efficient communications with the membership through a regular published newsletter; of gaining new members and new chapters to TBF and the Federation; to generate revenues sufficient to conduct the programs of the Federation; of reducing the hazards of boat operation and sport fishing; of supporting the non-profit purposes and goals of TBF; and other such goals as may be established for the chapters and the committees of the Federation.

For more info, go to www.vabass.com or visit us on facebook at "Virginia Bass Chapter Federation"

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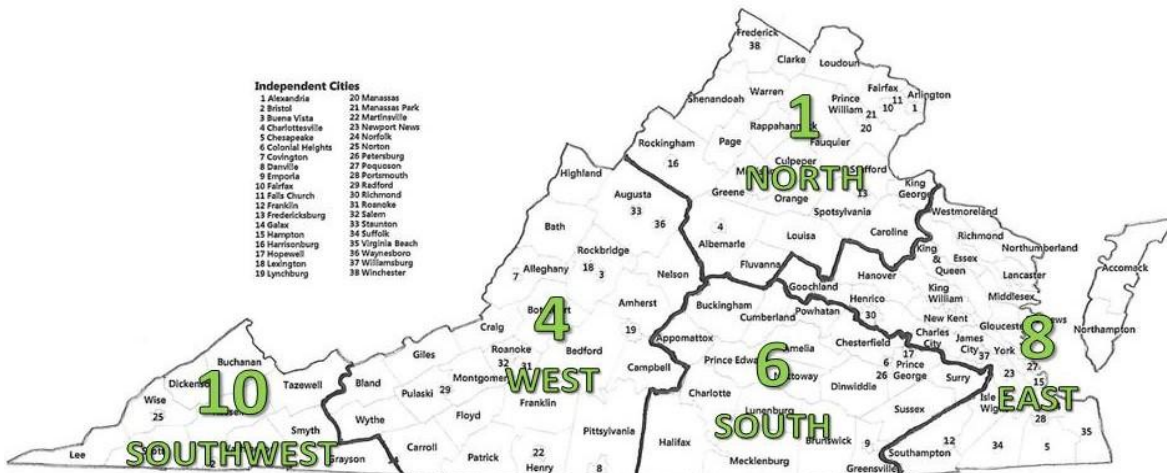
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Virginia Bass Chapter Federation Regions





Presidents Corner

Scott Whitmore

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our Members, Sponsors and all of your Families. 2022 proved to be another great year for the Virginia Bass Chapter Federation. Our membership continued to grow over the year making us one of the larger State Federations in the country. This is not done without our current Membership helping recruit new members. Having an exciting Team Tournament Trail is also drawing new Members every year. It is also a result of the great Sponsors we have and new members wanting to be affiliated with a group that has some of the best Sponsors in the industry. We have our schedule locked down for 2023 which you can see in this issue of Tightlines.

In reference to our growth I want to personally welcome all of our new members to the Federation and look forward to meeting you at our next event. I ask that all of our members continue to promote our Federation as you did last several years and we will continue to grow. There are very few organizations that can say they pay back 100% of all tournament fees each season plus over a \$2000 worth of product at each tournament.

As we go into the New Year we already have one of our 2023 season tournaments in the books, the South Regional on Kerr Reservoir back in October. We will resume our 2023 season with the West Regional on South Holston Lake on April 8th and two weeks later the North Regional April 22nd on Lake Anna. From there we go to the East Regional May 6th on the Chickahominy River. Our 2023 State schedule culminates with the State Championship June 3rd and 4th on Lake Anna. After that we will quickly build our District 12 National Semi-final Team that will compete against West Virginia on the Monongahela River the weekend of September 16th and 17th advancing our top Virginia Anglers to the TBF National Championship in the spring of 2024.

Our Board continues to work hard to acquire new sponsors to go along with the great Sponsors we currently have. If you know someone that would like to advertise in Tightlines and be promoted by a great organization send them my way. Please ensure you are supporting all of our current Sponsors and any new ones you see show up in Tightlines or on our website. These great sponsors are the ones that help us provide you with a 100% pay back tournament format. Great News for 2023 is the Richmond Fishing Expo is on track for January 20st thru 22rd. Our Federation will be set up as in years past providing the Youth corner where we will be conducting the Reel Kids Casting event and Kids casting pond. Please consider volunteering a couple hours of your time to give us a hand in the booth. Your Region Directors will be reaching out to you to help fill our volunteer list. Most importantly come out and support our State Sponsors that will be at the show. Make sure to stop in the JB Custom Rods, Mare Marine, Deep Creek Lures, Captain Gary's Marine Products, Fishing Pro Tech, Viking Eye Wear, and Tomahund Marine booths while at the show.

Be on the lookout for our 2023 Raffle. This year's raffle prize will be a \$1000 Visa Gift Card. There will only be 500 tickets printed so contact your Club President for tickets that will be distributed at the January board meeting. If every Member would buy or sell one ticket we could sell out immediately. The drawing will be held June 2nd at the State Championship pretournament meeting.

Presidents Corner continued:

Also be on the lookout for TBF Email Blasts that will be coming your way throughout the year. Those emails are from me and not TBF. Sometimes that may go to your Spam so periodically check your Spam file. I will do my best to keep you abreast of what is going on throughout the year at the State and National level. Communication is our number one tool to keep us running smooth.

In closing I would like to thank Jason Keene for all of his service to our State Federation as the Region 10 Director over the past year. With that said I would like to welcome Darrell Brown as the new Region 10 Director. I look forward to working with Darrell to grow our Federation even larger in his area. Speaking from recent experience be safe as you prepare to take down Christmas Decorations or clean off this recent storm's debris. Ensure you have someone holding that ladder. As I write this to you I sit here in a back brace for the next 12+ weeks to allow my fractured Spine and six broken ribs to heal. One slip and you could miss the entire 2023 season. Please be safe.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our State tournaments and hopefully at the Richmond Fishing Expo.

Scott



2023 Schedule of Events

January 8	Board Meeting (South Hill)
January 20-22	Richmond Fishing Expo (Doswell, VA)
April 8	West Regional / State High School SAF Championship - Lake Holston
April 22	North Regional / Hosting the MD/DE/NJ SAF State Championship – Lake Anna
May 6	East Regional – Chickahominy River
June 3-4	State Team Trail Championship / Board Meeting – Lake Anna
September 10	Board Meeting (South Hill)
September 15-17	TBF National Semi-final – Monongahela River, Fairmont, WV
November 12	Board Meeting (South Hill)

For more info, go to www.vabass.com or visit us on facebook at “Virginia Bass Chapter Federation”



RICHMOND FISHING EXPO

JAN. 20 - 22, 2023

Meadow Event Park - Doswell, Va.

VIRGINIA'S FISHING EVENT OF THE YEAR!

Tips From the Pros

THESE FOLKS HAVE MADE PLANS TO COME.....HAVE YOU ?



Hank Cherry



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Email: stratos.22225@gmail.com

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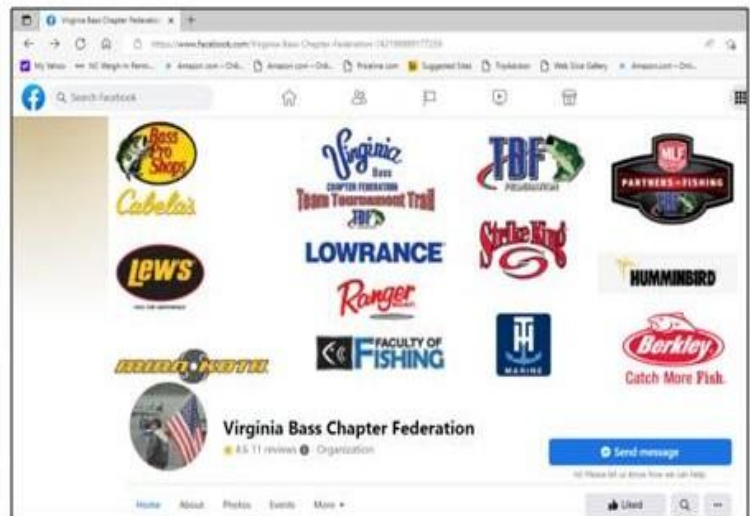
Spring Issue.....	March 15 th
Summer Issue.....	June 15 th
Fall Issue.....	September 15 th
Winter Issue.....	December 1 st

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Webmaster Tammy Caldwell WWW.VABASS.COM

Tammy is the secretary for TBF Region 4 and TBF State Secretary, Webmaster/Social Media Director. Be sure to check out the website and social media page (Facebook: Virginia Bass Chapter Federation) for messages, important information, tournament schedule, and tournament results. Don't forget to check out sponsors section on the website. If your region has information they want published, please feel free to contact Tammy at rodeokid5@hotmail.com and she will be happy to assist you.



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Membership News



2023 MEMBERSHIP:

The Bass Federation (TBF) Memberships are always open. Anglers can contact their Chapter/Club President to activate/renew your TBF membership at any time. TBF is much more than a tournament trail. Our founding principles are **Fishing, Youth** and **Conservation**. TBF members can qualify through their club events and State Federation events to fish in the TBF National Semi Final Division Championship series, and then on to the TBF Federation National Championship, the BFL All-American, and a MLF Tour Championship. In addition to all this, the top Federation angler each year is awarded the TBF "Living the Dream" package, consisting of paid entry fees into Pro Tour as a professional angler and a fully equipped Ranger Boat.

TBF is *"Owned By Those We Serve And Dedicated To The Sport Of Fishing."*

TBF Members have special access to Sponsor Product Discounts:

- **Ranger Boats** a direct rebate to any member who buys a new Ranger Boat! Ranger Bonus Voucher.com and BONUS cash for doing well in state and national events! [Ranger Cup](#) and the **Ranger / Federation BONUS**
- **Lowrance**
- **Minn Kota**
- **Hummingbird**
- **Power Pole** and more
- **Discounted MLF "Competitor" level membership upgrade**

Contact a Virginia Bass Chapter Federation Official Now for information on how to get your membership started. Go to www.vabass.com, visit us on facebook at "Virginia Bass Chapter Federation", or contact the State President, Scott, by Email at Stratos.22225@gmail.com.



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South Regional Kerr Lake



The Virginia Bass Chapter Federations Team Tournament Trail kicked off the 2023 tournament season on Kerr Lake this past October 20th. This event was the first of four regional tournaments that qualify Virginia Federation anglers to fish the Team Tournament Trail State Championship on Lake Anna on 3 – 4 June 2023. The top ten percent from this tournament also earned a berth in the 2023 District 12 TBF National Semi Final to be held on the Monongahela River in Fairmont, West Virginia next September.

It was a typical cool fall morning as teams arrived at the North Bend Special Events Area for their pre-tournament check in and on-site registrations. Anglers were released for their day of competition at safe-light and began returning to the Special Events Area pier to check-in and for weigh-in at 3:30 PM. Anglers reported that the bite was a bit more difficult than expected for the fall on Kerr Lake as the first touch of cool fall weather spread through the area.

The Black Water Bass Club team of Clay and Jeff Ross took the win with a five fish limit weighing in at 14.72 pounds. Clay and Jeff also weighed the tournaments Big Bass, a 4.10 pound largemouth. This was the second win this year on Kerr Lake for the Ross team as they won the Virginia Team Trail State Championship this past June. The 2nd Place team also from the Black Water Bass Club was Nathan Minnix and Tony Campbell with 13.10 pounds. Frank Harris and Stan Cobb from the RVA Bassmasters finished in 3rd Place with a five fish limit weighing 11.61 pounds. From the Star City Bassmasters, Chuck and Hayden Hart took the 4th spot with 10.24 pounds. Rounding off the Top 5 was the team of Dan Snyder from the Battlefield Anglers of Virginia and Lynn Hoeffler from the NASA-Langley Bassmasters with 9.87 pounds.

As winners of this Team Tournament Trail South Regional event Clay and Jeff Ross receive a No-Entry Fee berth in the Virginia Team Trail State Championship plus, along with the second and third place teams, earned a berth in the 2023 District 12 TBF National Semi Final Tournament.



**Team Trail South
Regional
Tournament
Champions**

**Clay Ross
&
Jeff Ross
14.72 lbs.**

South Regional Results continued:

Kerr Lake - South Regional Results

Place	Angler	Co-Angler	Weight
1	Clay Ross	Jeff Ross	14.72
2	Nathan Minnix	Tony Campbell	13.10
3	Frank Harris	Stan Cobb	11.61
4	Chuck Hart	Hayden Hart	10.24
5	Daniel Snyder	Lynn Hoeffer	9.87
6	Frank Glazier	Clyde Cheek	9.08
7	Greg Stallings	Ricky Grant	8.76
8	Mike Renshaw	Donnie Bowman	8.65
9	Phillip Gould	Keith Moring	7.64
10	Reuben Williams	Eric Ellington	7.15
11	Ronnie Brewer	David Jeter	6.89
12	Chris Williams	James Stinson	6.68
13	Kelvin Barnes	Thomas Barnes	6.65
14	Scott Coons	Mark Elliot	6.48
15	Dalton Burns	Lukas Burnett	6.20
16	Alan Buchanan	Greg Husick	5.89
17	James Vick	Bryan Reedy	5.53
18	Paul Smith	John Micks	5.48
19	Donald Martin	William F. Martin	3.99
20	Kevin Dascotte	Danny Sage	3.88
21	Rick Lemocks	Jason Upton	2.76
22	Todd Fisher	Chris Chisholm	2.42
23	Rob Racer	Robbie Pugh	2.41
24	Jason Rook	Nick Wells	2.37
25	Mitchell Camden	Kevin Camden	0.00
26	Daniel Eubank	Douglas Eubank	0.00
27	Sammy Henman	David Quinn	0.00



RANGER/FEDERATION BONUS



Frank Glazier



Team Trail South Regional Tournament

2nd Place

Nathan Minnix & Tony Campbell
13.10 lbs.

South Regional Results continued:



Team Trail South
Regional
Tournament

3rd Place

Stan Cobb
&
Frank Harris

11.61 lbs.

South Regional Kerr Lake



South Regional Results continued:



Virginia Bass Chapter Federation



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SOUTH HILL, VA

Virginia Anglers to Compete for National Title on the Lake of the Ozarks



Virginia Bass Chapter Federation Anglers, Thomas Wooten and Dave McLean along with Co-Anglers, Mike Coleman and Jared Netto will compete for the TBF National Championship on Missouri's Lake of the Ozarks, March 29-31, 2023. These anglers earned their way to the championship tournament as the top 4 Virginia Anglers (2 from the Angler Division and 2 from the Co Angler Division) at the TBF National Semi Final Tournament held on the Chickahominy River this past September.

The Federation National Championship Tournament features the top grassroots boaters and co-anglers from each state and Canada. The TBF National Championship is a "no-entry-fee" tournament with a prize purse of over \$400,000. All fifty-one boaters and fifty-one co-anglers competing in the National Championship will fish the first two days of the event then the field is cut down to the 7 Division Champion boaters and 7 Division Champion co-anglers who will compete on the third and final day for the *Living Your Dream* Prize packages and the National Champion Boater and National Champion Co-Angler titles.

The TBF National Champion Boater and National Champion Co-angler both receive a *Living Your Dream* package. The boater National Champion's prize package is valued in excess of a \$125,000 in cash and prizes including a brand-new Ranger Z520 powered by Mercury 250HP outboard engine, Lowrance Electronics and MinnKota Trolling Motor. PLUS, a significant CASH prize, paid entry fee stipend into whatever tournament circuit they want to fish and much more! The National Champion Co-Angler prize package will be worth over \$30,000, including 20K cash PLUS paid entry stipends into the circuit of choice, and more. The top 14 finalists (Angler & Co Angler Division Champions) will also receive a "Living Your Dream" prize package of various sizes plus those anglers that maintained the optional Competitor Level MLF status advance to the BFL All American Championship.



Angler Division Qualifiers:

Thomas Wooten (Left)
Dave McLean (Right)



Co-Angler Division Qualifiers:

Mike Coleman (Left)
Jared Netto (Right)

The opportunity for these four Virginia Anglers to compete for a National Championship is the result of each anglers successfully fishing their way through local Club, Regional, State and National Semi Final Level Tournaments this past season. We know they will represent the Virginia Bass Chapter Federation Angling Community well and wish them continued success at the TBF National Championship on Lake of the Ozarks.

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CHAPTER FEDERATION

Team Tournament Trail

2023 Team Trail Schedule

**1. SOUTH Regional
Kerr Lake
22 OCTOBER 2022**

**2. WEST Regional
Lake Holston
8 April 2023**

**3. NORTH Regional
Lake Anna
22 April 2023**

**4. EAST Regional
Chickahominy River
6 May 2023**

**State Championship
LAKE ANNA
3/4 June 2023**



The Virginia Bass Chapter Federations **“TEAM TOURNAMENT TRAIL”** series serves as the Virginia TBF National Semi-Final (NSF) Qualifiers plus introduces a new **Virginia State Championship Team Tournament**. The series consists of 4 qualifying Team Tournaments held in each of 4 Regions (North, South, East , & West) throughout the state. Each qualifying tournament is a single day event. With this format Virginia TBF Anglers now have an opportunity to compete for bigger payouts and a Virginia State Team Championship while reducing their costs plus the benefit of fishing locally on familiar waters. All four regional tournaments are open to all Virginia TBF members in good standing. Teams that fish any of the 4 Regional events qualify for the 2 Day State Championship Team Tournament. Those teams that participate in 2 or more of the qualifying tournaments earn a berth in the Virginia State Championship Team Tournament at a reduced entry fee. Qualifying tournament winning teams get free entry into the State Championship Team Tournament. The State Championship event has a 100% payback in cash and prizes with a Champions Package awarded to the winning team (cash, awards, apparel, paid TBF National Semi Final entry, etc.).

This is a TEAM TRAIL where anglers complete the registration as a pre-designated team. Launch order is determined by the order in which registrations are received. All Regional Tournaments are single day events. The 2 day State Championship Tournament is only be open to those that fish a qualifying Regional Tournament. Those teams that win a qualifying Regional Tournament will receive free entry into the Championship Tournament. Teams that participate in 2 or more Regional Qualifying Tournaments in a season will have their registration fee reduced for the State Championship Tournament. The winning team from each of the four Regional Tournaments plus the top six teams (6 Anglers & 6 Co-Anglers) from the State Championship Team Tournament will make the NEW **“Virginia State Team”**.

Teams have 3 options available for registration for the 4 Regional qualifying events.

1. Teams can download from the State Web Site (www.vabass.com), print, complete the registration, and mail the completed form with a check for payment. This method MUST be postmarked no later than 10 days prior to the event.
2. Teams also have the option to complete the registration and pay online through a link available on the State Web site (www.vabass.com). The online registration cutoff is midnight the Wednesday prior to the tournament.
3. If Teams do not register in time they may register at the tournament site the morning of the event. There will, however, be a \$25 administrative fee added to the tournament registration fee.

Registrations for the Virginia State Championship Team Tournament will be open by invitation to all qualifying teams.

For more info, go to www.vabass.com or visit us on facebook at **“Virginia Bass Chapter Federation”**

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SPINDALE, NC
291 Oakland Road
828-286-2290

2023 National Semi-Final Tournament

15-17 September 2023 on the Monongahela River, Fairmont WV

Hosted by the West Virginia Bass Chapter Federation

Who Qualifies: Top 10% of each Division (Angler & Co-Angler) from each State Team Tournament Trail event (North Regional, South Regional, East Regional, West Regional & State Championship Team Tournament); Top 10% from each division from each Region Tournament Series event (Anglers qualifying through Region Series Tournaments must have participated in a State Team Trail Tournament each season). A minimum of One Angler & 1 Co-Angler from each club statewide additional Angler/Co-Anglers qualify based on club membership (1-19 members = 1 Angler/ 1 Co-Angler; 20-29 members = 2 Anglers/2 Co-Anglers; 30-39 members = 3 Anglers/3 Co-Anglers; etc.) additional opportunities to qualify for those TBF members serving as Youth Program Tournament Boat Captains.

Virginia Federation Team Coordinator: Scott Whitmore Cell: (757)707-7631
Email: Stratos.22225@gmail.com

Qualified Angler Identification Process: Anglers who qualified through state tournaments will be identified to TBF by the State Federation. Anglers representing each chapter/club will be identified by 30 June 2023 to the State Federation President. Qualified anglers will complete their State level registration and pay entry fees online through the State Federation. Once all qualified anglers have committed to fish the event and paid the required registration fee, the State will compile the master roster and forward the names to TBF.

TBF Registration: TBF will notify qualifiers via Invitation Email and link to their on-line final registration portal. Anglers must indicate acceptance of the email invitation to compete and register. Registration is completed online through TBF by following the email link provided. Once registered all communication will be by the email and/or phone indicated on your TBF membership profile. Registration fees will be paid through the Virginia Bass Chapter Federation web site. Registrations are non-refundable.

Tournament / Ramp Location: Monongahela River, Fairmont, WV. Ramp: TBD

Virginia Bass Chapter Federation State Tournament 2023 National Semi-Final Qualifiers:

South Regional – Kerr Lake: Anglers- C. Ross, N. Minnix, F. Harris
Co-Anglers- J. Ross, T. Campbell, S. Cobb

West Regional – Lake Holston: Anglers-
Co-Anglers-

North Regional – Lake Ana: Anglers-
Co-Anglers-

East Regional – Chickahominy River: Anglers-
Co-Anglers-

Team Trail Championship – Lake Anna: Anglers-
Co-Anglers-



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Angler Contingency Programs

The following Contingency Programs are available to Virginia Bass Chapter Federation Members to participate in. Anglers MUST join each program every year and declare your participation prior to each tournament.

Ranger Cup Program: **NEW**

The New RANGER CUP Program is now Bigger and Better for Ranger Owners. The new nationwide Ranger Cup Program is now open to registered Ranger Owners that compete in any Ranger Sponsored TBF event with 60 Boats or More.



1. NO RANGER CUP MEMBERSHIP FEE
2. NO LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF TIMES YOU CAN WIN
3. Anglers MUST meet all Ranger Cup Rules and Guidelines
4. Participants MUST own a 2011 or newer Ranger boat and fish from the Ranger all days of tournament
5. Eligible Anglers MUST sign up online (<https://www.rangerboats.com/ranger-cup.html>) before qualifying for Ranger Cup payout. Program registration expires December 31st of each year. That means: Your MUST sign up for 2023 Ranger Cup to be eligible for 2023 Ranger Cup payout.
6. Anglers MUST meet the clothing requirements
7. MUST display Ranger Cup decal on driver's windshield/console of boat.
8. Factory installed Ranger decals MUST be on qualifying boat in the appropriate position. If the boat is wrapped they MUST be put back in the same position and be visible.

Clothing Guidelines

General Clothing

- Wear an approved Ranger shirt from take-offs through weigh-ins during all days of qualifying tournaments.
- The Ranger Boats logo must be at least four inches in length on the upper left* side of the shirt. There can be no logos higher than the Ranger logo.
- The Ranger logo must span at least 10 inches on the back of the shirt and be exclusive boat logo.
- The Ranger Cup logo must be displayed on either sleeve of the shirt.

Pro-staff

- Wear Pro-Staff tournament shirt from take-offs through weigh-ins during all days of qualifying tournaments.
- The Ranger Cup logo must be displayed on either sleeve of the shirt.

PAYOUT*

- **All other approved events with 60 or more boats (see website for complete list):**
 - \$7,000 to **win** an event, if fishing from a 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 year model Ranger boat with a 200 horsepower engine or larger.
 - If winner does not meet qualifying guidelines and a qualifying angler finishes in the top 10, then they will be eligible for a \$500 highest finisher cash payout.
- If winner has a 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 year model Ranger boat powered by a 60-175 horsepower engine, then they will be eligible for a \$1,000 cash payout.
- If an angler's boat who wins an approved event is between a 2011-2018 year models, then they will be eligible for a \$500 BPS/Cabela's gift card.

* At Pro-Am events, payout is to pro angler/boater only.

ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR THE RANGER CUP PROGRAM AND ANY CLAIMS FOR REWARDS ARE SOLELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ANGLER.

Angler Contingency Programs



ALL NEW!! RANGER / FEDERATION BONUS Program

The RANGER / FEDERATION BONUS PROGRAM is a Federation Exclusive program to reward Ranger owners at the grassroots level.

1. Open to owners of any year, make, or model of Ranger Boat. Original owner or not.
2. Participants MUST still meet Clothing and Decal requirements
3. MUST fish from the Ranger all days of tournament
4. Applies to Ranger Sponsored Federation Tournaments less than 60 boats. Once a tournament reaches 60 boats or more the nationwide Ranger Cup Program applies to the event. You CANNOT get the Ranger / Federation Bonus Program \$\$ for that event.
5. Ranger / Federation Bonus Rewards are submitted by the Tournament Officials to TBF following the event. Rewards will then be paid directly to the Ranger owner.

NOTE: This is a Ranger / Federation Program NOT Ranger Cup

MLF “Competitor Level” Membership Upgrade:

Anglers TBF annual membership includes the “subscriber level” MLF membership. The “Competitor Level” membership is required to fish in any MLF series. Any angler that wishes to compete for the opportunity to advance beyond the TBF National Championship to an MLF Tournament series MUST upgrade their membership level to the “**Competitor Level**” PRIOR to fishing the TBF National Semi Final Tournament each year. TBF members receive a discounted rate of \$48.75 for the membership upgrade.

To upgrade, anglers can call the MLF customer service at (270)252-1000 inform the agent that you are a current TBF member to receive the discounted rate.



Jack Calt
President

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Vice President

Steve Hajdasz

A note from the VP

I know and understand that a lot of us go fishing all year long. The spring, summer and fall of the year generally don't cause too many problems. However winter fishing has the potential to be the most hazardous time of the year. When fishing in the winter, don't get caught thinking it won't happen to me, that's when it does. None of us are bulletproof. A failure in preparation can allow a situation to go south in the blink of an eye. It only takes one mistake to get in a life threatening situation and few fishermen get a second chance to redeem themselves.

There are some things that will help and several are imperative when fishing in cold conditions. The easiest thing a fisherman can do is to pay close attention to the weather and not set forth in marginal conditions or conditions that are expected to deteriorate. Fishing is fun, but it just isn't that important. If the conditions aren't good, wait and go later. Once on the water, continue to monitor the weather. Weather comes into the safety equation as it may change rapidly. Our weather can quickly go from calm and sunny with clear blue skies, to howling wind, torrential rain or snow and the temperature falling. Keep an eye on the sky for any signs of changing weather. Carry a VHF or weather radio, or have a weather app on you cell phone and check it regularly. You could be playing with your life as weather situations, mistakes and oversights that would only be uncomfortable during warmer months can quickly escalate to life threatening during the winter.

The water temperature in your favorite lake or river doesn't warm as quickly as the air. There may be some spikes of a couple of degrees, but the water didn't cool quickly in the fall and it won't warm quickly during warm winter.

Layering clothing is the key so it can be removed if the day warms. A base layer that will wick perspiration away from the skin is a must for the first step. Mid layers add to the insulation while affording easy movement. The outer layer completes the deal and it can vary from basic outdoor wear to rain gear or even storm gear.

Always wear your life jacket or PFD whenever the gasoline motor is in operation and keep you kill switch attached. It is also a good idea to wear an inflatable PFD at all times while fishing in the winter months.

Preventive maintenance should be followed at all times, but it becomes especially important during cold weather. Little things that were minor issues in warm weather may prevent needed equipment from working in cold weather. Grease and oil are much thicker and do not flow readily. Cold grease could prevent shifting, throttle and steering cables from moving. Batteries are susceptible to cold too. The battery that started the outboard fine all fall may be weak with the low temperatures of the winter months.

It is especially important to be sure all pumps and thru-hulls are in good working order. Bait well, livewell and bilge pumps are plastic and may freeze, crack and leak. Losing a bait well or livewell pump is aggravating, but a bilge pump that doesn't function is dangerous. A manual bilge pump is an inexpensive investment that quickly pays for itself many times over if needed.

VP comments continued:

Checking safety equipment is part of preventive maintenance. Hopefully you never need flares, but they need to work if you do. An orange distress flag or whistle, are wise additions. Check your first aid kit too – just to be sure. It isn't required, but if you're going to carry the box, have all the parts and pieces.

Here's a list of a few things that I like to do to ensure a safe and fun winter bass trip:

ALWAYS carry a change of clothes and a towel. In the event that you do go in, you are going to want to get out of your wet clothes quickly. I don't go crazy with this. Just a pair of thick insulated underwear, wool socks and an extra hat/head covering of some sort will do. If you have extra rain gear, bring it too. After drying off and changing clothes, wear the rain gear to help cut the wind and keep you warm while you make your way back to the ramp. Also, know how you'll get back in the boat. Most boats have built-in ladders. If yours doesn't, you can stand on the cavitation plate on the outboard and trim up the motor to lift you up high enough to crawl onto the back deck.

Prepare a safety kit in a 1-gallon plastic zippered bag with the following items: waterproof matches, gloves, a space blanket, electrical tape and a few tools that will help you make emergency repairs on the water if necessary. It is also a good idea to also carry a jump box or jumper cables and a tow rope.

Let someone know where you will be fishing, when you are planning to return, and who you will be fishing with. Keep your cell phone fully charged and in a dry place so you'll have it if you need to call for help.

Everything's easier and safer in winter if you fish with a friend, so keep that in mind, especially if you're fishing in areas with limited cell service or on ramps that might be hard to access during a winter drawdown – there's no reason to get wet from the start while launching a boat solo at a shallow ramp. You might also want to bring salt, which is really nice to have when it's time to load out at an icy ramp.

I know these emergency items might seem a bit extreme for a day of fishing. However, if you are on a body of water that isn't surrounded with boat docks, but rather forests, these items could really come in handy. There are places on many lakes that don't have cellular service, so a quick phone call for help might not be an option. It only takes a few minutes to pack this stuff and takes up almost no room in the boat. And this is the time of year that it can be very important.

During the winter, the number of fishermen on the water and the odds of flagging someone for assistance is greatly diminished. Fishermen should look out for each other and offer assistance whenever possible.

Take the time to be properly prepared, take care and pay attention, that way you can enjoy catching fish all year, and be as safe as possible

Good fishing!

Steve Hajdasz
Vice President





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Conservation Director

John Flicek

Anglers are reminded that several new fishing and boating regulations went into effect on January 1st. One significant change intended to help curb the spread of invasive species and nuisance plants/organisms are the implementation of **“CLEAN – DRAIN – DRY”** policies. Boaters are now required by law to remove any vegetation from their boat/trailer and drain bilges when removing their vessel from the water. The regulation doesn't require that you immediately drain livewells if you are retaining your catch for weigh-in or harvest. However, unused livewells and baitwells should be drained on site. Regulations also require that reasonable measures should be taken to dry out bilges, livewells and baitwells prior to launching into another body of water. With this in mind, it's always a good practice to rinse your boat and trailer after use and periodically conduct a thorough cleaning your livewells, pumps, and aeration systems. I periodically fill my livewells with a garden hose then add about one half cup of bleach to each livewell, then run my pumps/aeration system for 15 to 20 minutes. I then drain and repeat the process with fresh water. There are some excellent products available that are specifically formulated to clean livewells, one such product is Captain Gary's "Livewell and Cooler Cleaner" (Virginia Bass Chapter Federation Sponsor) and can be ordered online at www.captaingarysproducts.com.

Region 8 members recently re-installed the release pipe following an extensive bank restoration project at James City County's Riverfront Park. The pipe is located at the dedicated tournament weigh-in area (old campsite #109). The weigh-in site is available for all tournament activities and can be reserved through the park office. The cap on the pipe is usually locked and a key is available at the park office when you rent the site. Users are reminded that they **MUST** pump water from the river to the head of the pipe and have sufficient water flow in the pipe before releasing any fish. All fish should be released one at a time and positioned in the pipe head first. It is recommended that the pipe not be used for fish over 5 pounds. Large should be released manually from the dock area near the ramp.



***Invasive Species Efforts* --- What do you need to know?**

ALABAMA BASS: The Alabama Bass Education, Identification, and Containment Project efforts continue with distributing the educational brochures and sampling packets throughout the State. Anglers are

Conservation continued:

asked to report all suspected Alabama Bass catches from any body of water other than the Claytor Lake, Diascunds Reservoir and Lake Gaston. The VA DWR Fisheries Management Team has put together a rapid response group that will investigate reported catches in an attempt to measure the extent of the Alabama Bass movement and make recommendations for future actions necessary to contain their spread.

Anglers are encouraged to harvest all spotted bass caught.

Anglers are reminded that it is illegal to stock fish into a public body of water without an authorization from Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR). Anyone with knowledge of intentional stockings of Alabama Bass or Spotted Bass should contact DWR law enforcement at 800-237-5712 or WildCrime@dwr.virginia.gov.

The Reporting Process - If you catch a suspected Alabama Bass:

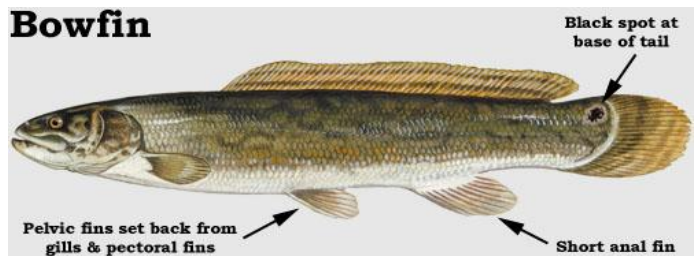
1. Take a picture of the fish.
2. Clip off a thumbnail-sized portion of one of the pelvic fins (pelvic fins are located on the bottom of the fish, just under the head.)
3. Store the fin clip dry in an envelope.
4. Email picture to: fisheries@dwr.virginia.gov for verification with name of angler, location caught, date caught, & phone number.
5. Mail the fin sample collected to the address provided when requested.

NORTHERN SNAKEHEADS: Anglers are reminded that it is illegal to possess a live snakehead in Virginia. Anglers are encouraged to kill and report any snakeheads they encounter. In an effort to track Snakehead migration VA DWR has established a **SNAKEHEAD HOTLINE** that anglers can use to report snakehead fish: **(804-367-2925)**.

Northern Snakehead



Similar-Appearing Native Species



Anglers are required to report snakeheads if caught. Snakeheads must be dead if in possession (contained in live well, cooler, etc.). The DWR asks that all snakeheads be killed if possible. If an angler wishes to keep a legally caught northern snakehead, the fish must be killed to be in possession, and the angler must call the hotline or other VA DWR contact and report the angler's last name, date of catch, location of catch, and size.

Kill the fish by:

1. removing the head,
2. separating the gill arches from the body, or
3. removing the internal organs and put it on ice as quickly as possible.

John Flicek
 Conservation Director
 Email: rgn8treas@verizon.net
 Cell: 757-635-6296





Greetings TBF Anglers,

Happy holidays and happy New Year! Hopefully, you are getting out there and getting into some of those trophy bass that bite so well during the winter here in Virginia.

One thing that we've been working is to better understand the Virginia angler. Much of this is built off of the comments we receive from groups such as TBF over the year, and we supplement this perspective with the results from our Statewide Angler Survey. You may have received a request to fill this out; if you did, we really appreciate your input. I have asked our Human Dimensions staff (our people who study people) to get bass angler specific results. Here they are:

Largemouth and smallmouth bass are the most popular sport fish in Virginia. Overall, 66% of Virginia anglers list largemouth or smallmouth as their most fished for fish – odds are pretty good that if you run into another fisherman, they are a bass fisherman. Bass fishermen fish an average of 32 days per year in Virginia, and fish a variety of environments – 29% of their time is spent on our large lakes, 26% on smaller lakes, and 35% on river systems. Many bass anglers (58%) fish out of a motorized boat, but a significant portion fish out of a non-motorized boat (44%). Of note is that 12% of Virginia's anglers fished in a tournament in the last year and 10% belong to a national fishing club like TBF.

We're particularly interested in how bass anglers view what we do and we looked at some performance measures from the survey. The numbers I list are on a scale of 1 (very poor) to 5 (very good). Overall, bass anglers rate DWR's performance highest on issues such as providing information on fishing regulation (4.0), providing information on where to fish (3.8), and improving fish habitat (3.7). Our lowest ratings were for working with private landowners to get additional fishing access (3.2), improving existing access (3.5), and stocking warm water fish (3.5). We take these results very seriously. Know that we are working diligently where we can to improve and gain additional access, but improvements are costly and access can be difficult to obtain in many situations. Also, we're very interested in the results of the F1 bass stocking study and if cost effective, will adopt this as one of our ways of managing largemouth bass. We're also working hard to produce smallmouth bass for stocking at the recently renovated Front Royal Fish Hatchery in northern Virginia.

Another important perspective comes with economic impact. The American Sportfishing Association (asafishing.org) puts out a great report that provides detailed information on the value of sportfishing. In Virginia, freshwater fishing supports about \$568 million in economic impact and supports more than 4,000 jobs. While the math isn't exact, it's fair to say that bass anglers support more than \$300 million in economic value to Virginia. It is important for DWR (and you as well!) to understand the economic impact of bass fishing. This factors in front and center as we review our programs for efficiency and determine where to best put the resources that sportsmen contribute through license and tackle purchases.

DWR Continued:

The take home message – there are a lot of bass anglers and they have tremendous economic impact in Virginia – and we’re trying our best to listen, be transparent, and serve this community. If you have any questions about how we do business or where your license dollars are going, please get in touch with me at mike.bednarski@dwr.virginia.gov or at 804 432-7244.

Mike
Chief of Fisheries



Mike Bednarski, Ph.D.

Chief of Fisheries

P 804.367.6878 / **M** 804.432.7244

he/him/his

Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources

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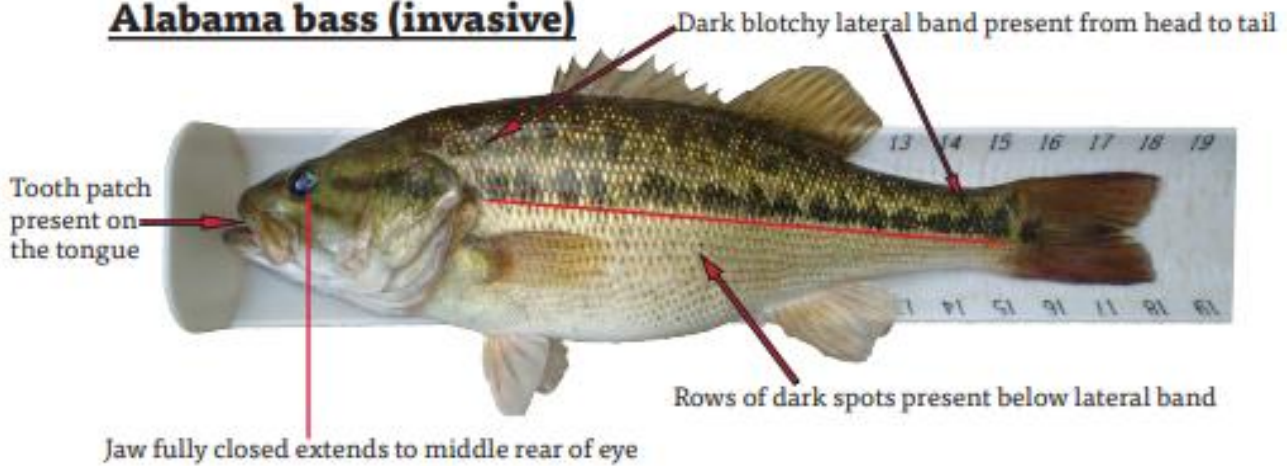


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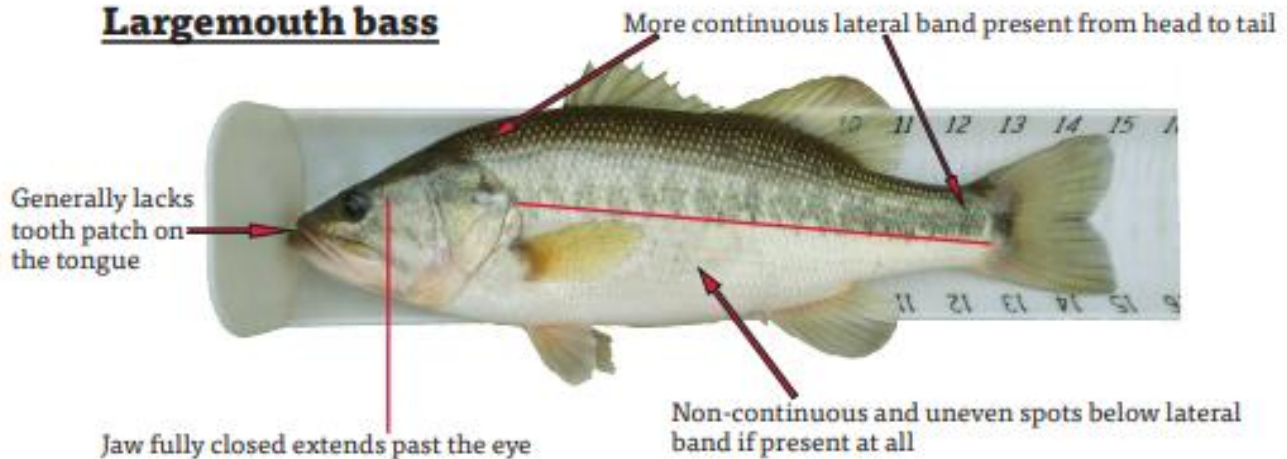


DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

Alabama bass (invasive)



Largemouth bass



- Anglers are reminded that the introduction of novel predators can have unforeseen impacts on native or established ecosystems.
- The introduction of Alabama bass is illegal in Virginia. Alabama bass have been scientifically shown to out-compete established populations of largemouth bass and hybridize with small-mouth bass.
- Invasive species cause negative ecological and/or economic harm.
- Anglers who suspect they have captured an Alabama bass should take a picture of the fish, clip off a thumbnail-sized portion of one of the pelvic fins, and store the fin clip dry in an envelope. The pelvic fins are located on the bottom of the fish, just under the head. They should then either contact the Department of Wildlife Resources at: fisheries@dwr.virginia.gov or 804-367-1293.



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Youth Program Director

Becky Conley

Virginia Youth Anglers Compete at State Federation Region Tournaments

Under the new format for Virginia Youth Anglers, teams are allowed to participate in State Federation Region Tournaments and earn points towards a State Youth Team of the Year Title. Youth Teams enter (no entry fee), launch, and weigh-in with the adults during Region Tournaments. Teams are awarded points based upon the number of Youth teams competing in the event and their finishing place among youth teams. Points for the youth teams from throughout the state will be compiled and their top 3 point earning events will be tallied to determine the Virginia Youth Team of the Year. Each year the Youth teams from throughout the state will gather for a tournament and head to head competition to determine who will represent Virginia at the TBF Junior World Championship Tournament.

Virginia High School Angling Teams are also invited to compete at State Federation region Tournaments to earn points towards a Virginia High School Team of the Year title. The High School Anglers also compete in the Student Angler Federation events and the SAF hosted State High School Championship Tournament each year.

Youth Anglers must be a member of an active TBF Junior Club or the Student Angler Federation (SAF). Each Youth Angler Team must arrange for their own boat and boat captain and complete the required Emergency Medical Information Event and Liability/Parental Consent forms. Youth Teams will launch and weigh-in with the host tournament anglers and earn valuable points towards the Virginia TBF Junior Angler or High School State Championship title.

Virginia Bass Chapter Federation Point of Contact for Youth Angler memberships and tournament registrations are: Scott Whitmore, Email: stratos.22225@gmail.com and Becky Conley, Email: conleyr@comcast.net.



Student Angler Federation High School Program

The high school fishing program is ran by the TBF National Office. Each year High School Anglers have the opportunity to fish the Virginia High School Championship Tournament and a Bass Pro Shops/FLW Open Tournament. Tournament dates, locations and additional information on additional opportunities for High School Anglers to fish local events will be shared on the VA TBF Youth Facebook page.

Student Angler Federation Membership and Registrations for High School Tournaments are processed online through the Student Angler Federation web site: <https://highschoolfishing.org/>

Youth Program continued:



Virginia Youth Tournament Schedule

The following tournaments are available to support Youth Anglers. Anglers may contact the Host Region indicated for each tournament listed below for specific tournament information. Additional information will also be shared on the VA TBF Youth Facebook page for each event: <https://www.facebook.com/virginiatbfyouth/>

Date	Location	Ramp	Hours	Host Region
October 2, 2022	Appomattox River	Hopewell Marina	Safe light to 3PM	Region 8
April 1, 2023	Chickahominy River	Riverfront Park	Safe light to 3PM	Region 8
May 20, 2023	Pamunkey River	Williams Ramp	Safe light to 3PM	Region 8
June 24, 2023	Chickahominy River	Riverfront Park	Safe light to 3PM	Region 8
September 9, 2023	James River	Osborne Landing	Safe light to 3PM	Region 8
October 7, 2023	Chickahominy River	Riverfront Park	Safe light to 3PM	Region 8

Virginia Youth Fishing



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Youth & Community Outreach Efforts:

“Rods & Reels for Kids” Project



We would like to thank our “Rods & Reels for Kids” Program Partners, Bass Pro Shop of Hampton, who continues to support our efforts with their donations. On June 9th Region 8 members Terry Minnick and John Flicek accepted this year’s donation of Rods and Reels collected during the Spring Fishing Classic Event from the Hampton Bass Pro Shops Management Team. This donation will insure the program’s continued success in 2023.

In 2022, the project provided Rods & Reels to support the Cumberland Parks & Recreation Fishing Rodeo and Bear Creek Lake State Park, the Battlefield Bass Anglers Youth Sportsman Day event, the Christiansburg Department of Parks and Recreation / Montgomery County Public Schools “Jill’s Buddy Camp” for children with disabilities and the Annual Tony Huddleston Memorial Fishing Rodeo in Christiansburg. We have reconditioned and given out rod & reels to Virginia Youth anglers competing at our tournaments and provided the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center near Appomattox, Va. with sufficient rod & reel combo’s to support their next Youth Fishing Camp.



VA Bass Chapter Federation donates fishing rods to Christiansburg Youth Camp

The Christiansburg Department of Parks and Recreation partners with the Montgomery County Public Schools to provide a youth camp for children with disabilities called “Jill’s Buddy Camp”. This camp is designed to bring together the campers that have a disability with their buddy that is generally a high school or college age student for the length of the camp. Each day the campers learn a variety of items with art, reading, music, activities to enhance gross motor skills and they end the day with a field trip to fun and exciting places. One of the designated field trips is a fishing trip at a local pond. The VA Bass Chapter Federation’s “Rods & Reels for Kids” Project donated rod/reel combos for the campers at this event. We hope that providing the rod and reels that it will influence the campers to learn more about fishing and provide them with the opportunity to fish on their own or with their family. The Christiansburg Department of Parks and Recreation strives to provide as many recreational opportunities as possible to encourage active outdoor play.





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Director – William (Bill) Haire

Region 1

Includes the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudon, Clarke, Frederick, Warren, Shenandoah, Stafford, Culpeper, Rappahannock, Page, King George, Orange, Spotsylvania, Caroline, Louisa, Madison, Rockingham, Fluvanna, Albemarle, Prince William and Greene also all the cities within them, and the District of Columbia.

Region 1 would like to say Thank you to the Virginia Bass Chapter Federation for a job well done for the 2022 tournament year.

The Region 1 Angler of the Year race was very tight this year with Mike Cole taking 1st Place with a season total 1568 points, followed by Mike Cooper and Lee Stiltner with 1563 points to finish in 2nd Place. Scott Favors took 3rd place with 1552 points. The Big Fish of the year was caught on the Chickahominy River by Scott Favors with a weight of 6.37 lbs. The Region 1 Club of the Year was Bass Snipers with 6320 points. Congratulations to all our winners.

Potomac River Classic Results

Region 1 end of the year classic was fished on the Potomac River on October 15-16 listed below are the winners.

1 st Place	Todd Langford +Terry Stevens	31.22 lbs.
2 nd Place	Mike Cole + Steve Hajdasz	30.36 lbs.
3 rd Place	Charlie Munday + Brian Swall	27.79 lbs.
Big Fish	Todd Langford	5.13 lbs.

Region 1 - 2023 Season Schedule

March 25	Chickahominy River	Riverfront Park
April 22	Lake Anna	Sturgeon Creek
May 13	Chickahominy River	Riverfront Park
June 10	Potomac River	Leesylvania
July 15	Potomac River	Leesylvania
September 30	Chickahominy River	Riverfront Park
October 14-15	Potomac River	Leesylvania



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Director – Chuck Hart

Region 4

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Region 4 had another very successful year in 2022. Our open format continues to work very well. We have had a number of open fishermen join the Federation over the years. The region would not be as successful if it wasn't for the hard work of a few individuals. Daniel Eubank of Blackwater River took over as Tournament Director this year and has done an outstanding job. He came up with some new ideas for providing incentives for region fisherman and has been extremely dedicated in performing his duties. Paul Craighead of Triangle is our long time Weigh-master and we could not operate without him.

I would like to wish everyone Happy Holidays and I look forward to seeing everyone in 2023.

Region 4 Tournament Results

Region 4's last tournament on October 1st at Claytor Lake was canceled due to the possibility of unsafe lake conditions created by an approaching hurricane. The Final Region 4 points standings after eight tournaments were:

CLUB	Boater	fishoff	Non-Boater	fishoff	SH	SML	Clay	Phil	Clay	SML	SML	SML	Total4	Heavy Weight
1 Claytor Lake Mafia	Zach Peaslee	8	Bob Peaslee	8	100	96	100	100	99	96	100	99	400	SML 18.94
2 Triangle	Paul Craighead	8	Brian Burnett	8	95	94	97	97	98	99	99	98	394	SML 18.06
3 Triangle	Danny Reed	7	Josh Lambert	4	97	91	95	0	89	100	98	96	391	SML 22.30
4 BlackWater River	Daniel Eubank	8	Douglas Eubank	8	89	98	99	95	96	95	97	95	390	SML 18.94
5 Claytor Lake Mafia	Josh Friend	6	Aaron Rygas	1	98	95	82	98	97	0	0	81	388	SML 22.30
6 Triangle	Eric Farris	5	Adrain Parcell	6	94	90	98	99	79	0	95	94	386	Clay 15.10
7 Triangle	Charles Lee	8	Seth Knachel	2	99	97	82	90	80	93	81	93	382	SML 18.74
8 Star City	Ian Branson	7	Jon Branson	7	96	89	0	92	95	94	96	92	381	SML 18.74
9 BlackWater River	Todd Whittaker	5	Nolan Harman	3	0	93	0	94	80	98	94	0	379	SML 15.22
10 Starcity/Southwes	David Martian	5	Kevin Simmons	5	91	0	0	93	90	97	81	97	378	SML 14.89
11 BlackWater River	Gary Flinchum	4	Lukas Burnett	8	92	99	92	86	90	92	91	91	375	SML 22.32
12 Triangle	Steve Deisher	4	Bobby Pauley	5	0	0	96	96	100	81	81	0	373	Clay 14.26
13 Star City	Chuck Hart	7	Hayden Hart	4	78	92	94	91	80	0	93	81	370	SML 12.10
14 BlackWater River	Jason Martin	5	Brian Epperly	6	90	83	82	88	92	0	92	81	362	SML 10.00
15 BlackWater River	Terry Johns	4	Ray Goldston	4	93	72	0	85	0	91	81	0	350	SoHo 6.66
16 BlackWater River	Keith LeBlanc	3	Gary Nichols	2	0	82	0	87	94	0	0	0	263	Clay 6.56
17 BlackWater River	Chase Higgins	3	Cory Mitchell	3	0	85	0	89	0	81	0	0	255	Phil 7.58
18 BlackWater River	Trey Thomasson	3	Bryson Giles	2	78	72	93	0	0	0	0	0	243	Clay 7.58
19 South Western	Wally Dryman	3	Gary Jones	3	88	72	0	74	0	0	0	0	234	SOHO 2.10
20 South Western	Todd Lewis	3	Clarence Sherman	3	0	72	82	74	0	0	0	0	228	
21 BlackWater River	Clay Ross	2	Jeff Ross	2	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	100	200	SML 21.60
22 Star City	Calvin Hunter	2	Zach Wright	2	0	87	0	0	91	0	0	0	178	SML 2.32
23 BlackWater River	Ricky Streich	2	Tony Campbell	2	0	86	0	84	0	0	0	0	170	SML 5.90
24 BlackWater River	Colin Cooper	2	Patrick Cooper	1	0	88	0	0	0	81	0	0	160	SML 7.46
25 South Western	Micheal Mvers	2	Chuck Lvons	2	0	84	0	74	0	0	0	0	158	SML 3.56

Congratulations to Zach and Bob Peaslee of Claytor Mafia for winning the Region 4 points championship. For being the points champions, Region 4 will reimburse their entry fees for any of the 2023 VA Bass Team Tournament Trail tournaments they wish to fish. In addition, they will receive free entry to all 2023 Region 4 tournaments.

REGION 4 continued:

Smith Mountain Lake – November 5, 2022

On November 5, Region 4 had its Championship Tournament on Smith Mt. Lake. We had 11 of the 15 teams that qualified show up to fish. In addition, we had five high school teams come out to fish with us. It was a tough day on Smith Mountain but the cream rose to the top again. Region 4 points champions, Zach and Bob Peaslee, won the tournament. They have been a tough team to beat all year. Even though we only had 11 teams competing, we paid out three places, with first place winning \$1380. Results are below:

Region4 OPEN Team Trail SM Nov 5 FISH-OFF						
Place	Club/Open	Boater	Non-Boater	# of Fish	Weight	Big Fish
1	Claytor Lake Mafia	Zach Peaslee	Bob Peaslee	5	15.42	3.76
2	Triangle	Steve Deisher	Bobby Pauly	5	13.96	5.48
3	Triangle	Danny Reed	Josh Lambert	3	11.36	4.52
4	Claytor Lake Mafia	Eric Farris	Adrian Parcell	3	9.98	5.68
5	StarCity	Chuck Hart	Hayden Hart	3	8.2	
6	BlackWater River	Daniel Eubank	Douglas Eubank	4	7.98	
High School						
1	Jason Hicks	Jacob Hicks	John Hicks		7.86	
2	Joe McAndrew	Peyton McAndrew	Cutler Wooten		6.14	4.08
3	David Perdue	JJ Cassaday	Lawson Bryant		1.68	




Keep up with all Region 4 news on our Facebook page: ***“Region 4 Virginia Bass TBF”***
<https://www.facebook.com/RegionFourVirginiaBassTBF/>

REGION 4 continued:


Smith Mountain Lake, Nov. 5





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REGION 4 continued:

On September 17-18, Virginia hosted the TBF National Semi-Final with West Virginia on the Chickahominy River. Region 4 is very proud to say that one its own came out on top after fishing for two days against a field of great fisherman. Congratulations to Thomas Wooten of Blackwater River, for winning the National Semi-Final. Thomas will now have an opportunity to fish the TBF National Championship.



Region 4 Anglers Support the Annual Tony L. Huddleston Trout Rodeo

On October 8, Region 4 Anglers again assisted the Christiansburg Recreational Center with the Tony L. Huddleston Annual Trout Rodeo. Region 4 members conducted a Reel Kids Casting Skills Competition and helped weigh fish. Many thanks to the following Region 4 members: Star City Bassmasters members Chuck and Hayden Hart and James Shorter; Phil Witmer and Family from the Black Water Bass Club; and Wally Dryman from the Southwestern VA Bassmasters.



REGION 4 continued:



Tony L. Huddleston Trout Rodeo

The 7th Annual Tony L Huddleston Trout Rodeo was held on Saturday October 8, 2022 at the Izaak Walton Park in Christiansburg. The event was one of our most successful fishing rodeos that we have hosted. We had 98 participants attend the event, which makes it our 2nd largest attendance. The fishing wasn't the greatest this time around, but we were able to provide a first-time fishing experience for a lot of the participants. As an addition to the fishing rodeo, Region 4 of the VA BASS Federation (Star City Bassmasters, Southwestern Bassmasters, and the Blackwater River Bass Club) hosted their Reel Kids Casting Skills Competition as well. It has been a great addition to our event. The Region 4 fisherman also assisted in weighing the fish. Both contributions really assist in making the event better. Hopefully we can continue the partnership.

The fishing rodeo is named after Tony Huddleston, a former employee of the Christiansburg Parks and Recreation Department. While employed by the department, he was a facility supervisor and official for a variety of youth and adult athletic leagues. Tony was also a coach for baseball, football, and basketball during his tenure with the recreation department. Outside of the parks and recreation contributions, Tony started the Junior Legion Baseball Program (middle /high school advanced baseball). His biggest attribute was the mentor and role model that he was for a lot of kids. You couldn't ask for a better role model or friend. Unfortunately, he passed away, as a result of a fishing accident.

One of the goals of the event is to honor Tony, but the other is to provide a positive outdoor experience for each child. The participants were allowed to catch four fish in the allotted two hours. At the conclusion of the fishing, plaques and fishing rod/reel combos were awarded to the 1st - 3rd place finishers in each age group. Plaques and tackle boxes were also awarded to the overall big fish and small fish winners as well. In addition to the awards, all participants received an event t-shirt, giveaway ticket and free lunch. We had over \$1,500 in giveaways for the participants this year. We also had a successful raffle for the parents to partake in. This money gives us a jump start for funding the 2023 event. All the items for the giveaways and raffles are donated by the community. This event is very well supported from businesses in the community, which is much appreciated.

Even though the fishing wasn't as good as normal, the participants and spectators seemed to enjoy themselves. It is particularly rewarding seeing the youngsters that are fishing for the first time, catch their first fish. I feel like we were instrumental in achieving our goal of honoring Tony while also providing an enjoyable, educational experience for the participants. We hope this will influence more children to get outside for more "Tackle Box and less X-Box".

Winners

- Age 4-6 Adalynn Young
- Age 7-9 Emersyn Davis
- Age 10-12 Cason Buckley
- Age 13-15 Leah Altizer
- Big Fish Leah Altizer
- Small Fish Richard Perry



REGION 4 continued:

Region 4 set its 2023 tournament schedule. The big news for 2023 is that instead of having our championship on either Smith Mountain or Claytor, it will be on South Holston. The schedule is below:

2023 Region 4 TBF VA Bass Open Team Tournament Trail

\$100 entry per boat Includes Big Fish Pot

\$\$ 1,000 \$\$ 1st place and 1 place paid for every 7 boats after 14 paid entries

10 OPENS 5 FISH LIMIT 90% Pay back

No Membership Need to Participate

Feb. 11th South Holston, Hwy 421 Bridge Ramp, safe light-4pm (Sm 15", Lm/ spots 12")

Feb. 25th Smith Mountain, State Park Ramp, safe light-4pm (all Fish 14")

Mar. 25th Claytor Lake, Hidden Valley Ramp, safe light-4pm (Sm 14", Lm/spots 12")

April 1st Claytor Lake, Hidden Valley Ramp, safe light-4pm (Sm 14", Lm/spots 12")

April 29th Philpott Lake, Twin Ridge Ramp, safe light-3pm (all Fish 12")

May 27th Claytor Lake, Hidden Valley Ramp, safe light-3pm (Sm 14", Lm/spots 12")

June 17th Smith Mountain, State Park Ramp, (Night) 7pm-3am (all Fish 14")

(Must have 2 people in the boat for night tournament)

July 15th Smith Mountain, State Park Ramp, (Night) 7pm-3am (all Fish 14")

(Must have 2 people in the boat for night tournament)

Sept. 9th Smith Mountain, State Park Ramp, safe light-3pm (all Fish 14")

Oct. 7th Claytor Lake, Hidden Valley Ramp, safe light-4pm (Sm 14", Lm/spots 12")

Only Region 4 TBF TEAMS will receive points for TOP TEAM of the YEAR

REGION 4 TBF TEAMS FISH-OFF

Nov. 4th South Holston, HWY 421 Bridge Ramp, safe light-4pm (Sm 15", Lm/sp12")

Fish-OFF Eligibility

(Must be a Region 4 TBF member who has fished at least 4 open points tournaments)

Region 4 TBF Teams fishing all 10 Opens will have free entry into the Fish-Off

Region 4 TBF Teams fishing 8 Opens 50% off into the Fish-Off

Please Join a Region 4 TBF Club Today (contact 540-529-6550)



Director – Ronnie Brewer

Region 6

Includes the counties of Buckingham, Appomattox, Powhatan, Cumberland, Prince George, Amelia, Surry, Dinwiddie, Nottoway, Prince Edward, Sussex, Lunenburg, Charlotte, Greenville, Brunswick, Mecklenburg, Halifax, also the areas of Colonial Heights, Ettrick, Matoaca and Enon in Chesterfield County.

Congratulations to our point winners 2022 season Wade and Caleb Rook. Hope to see all of our state members out on the water fishing again next year. Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!!! Y'all please be safe around home, or while out traveling.

Region 6 Director
Ronnie



Region 6 Tournament Results

Chickahominy River – October 8, 2022

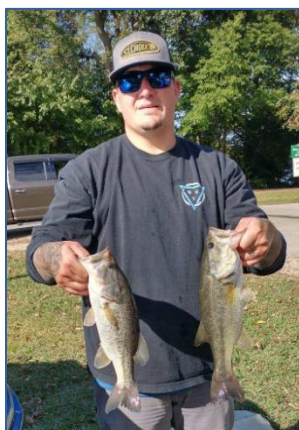
Place	Angler	Co-Angler	Weight
1	Rick Lemmocks	Jason Upton	15.18
2	Scott Stephenson	Scotty Stephenson	11.11
3	Roger Walters	Renee Walters	11.07
4	Wade Rook	Caleb Rook	10.15
5	Phillip Gould	Keith Moring	9.03
6	James Vick	Bryan Reedy	8.91
7	Frank Glazier	Drew Berry	7.46
8	Bob Graves	Clyde Cheek	7.21
9	Mark Miller	Jason Davis	6.88
10	Kelvin Barnes	Thomas Barnes	6.86
11	Alan Buchanan	Greg Husick	6.62
12	Shawn Burnett	Robert Stinger	6.25
13	Patrick Bell	Tim Yelm	4.98
14	Ronnie Brewer	David Jeter	4.70
15	Jason Rook	Craig Ferguson	3.74



Chickahominy BIG FISH	Weight
Rick Lemmocks	7.58

REGION 6 continued:

Chickahominy River



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REGION 6 continued:

2022 Region 6 Final Points Standings (Top 15)

	ANGLERS	CLUB	Kerr	Gaston	James	Nottoway	Nottoway	Chick	Total	Total w/Drop
1	Wade Rook Caleb Rook	Tri City Bassmasters	278	310	300	306	298	304	1796	1518
2	Kelvin Barnes Thomas Barnes	Southside Bassmasters	300	300	298	310	302	292	1802	1510
3	Scott Stephenson Scotty Stephenson	Southside Bassmasters	304	268	292	294	310	308	1776	1508
4	James Vick Bryan Reedy	Tri City Bassmasters	306	298	296	300	292	300	1792	1500
5	Bob Graves Clyde Cheek	Tri City Bassmasters	268	304	306	304	288	296	1766	1498
6	Rick Lemmocks Jason Upton	Meherrin Bassmasters	298	284	310	282	290	310	1774	1492
7	Shawn Burnett Robert Stinger	Southside Bassmasters	302	296	308	288		288	1482	1482
8	Jason Rook Craig Ferguson	Meherrin Bassmasters	290	306	272	302	294	282	1746	1474
9	Roger Walters Renee Walters	Tri City Bassmasters	286	272	304	298		306	1466	1466
10	Ruben Williams Eric Ellington	Sandy River	284	288	294	290	308		1464	1464
11	Chris Williams James Stinson	Sandy River	288	282	284	296	306		1456	1456
12	Phillip Gould Keith Moring	Tri City Bassmasters	310	270	286	286	10	302	1464	1454
13	Frank Glazier Drew Berry	Tri City Bassmasters	270	264	274	292	296	298	1694	1430
14	Ronnie Brewer David Jeter	Southside Bassmasters	280	292		272	300	284	1428	1428
15	Durrand Holloway Brandon Shinault	Tri City Bassmasters	264	274	302	280	304		1424	1424



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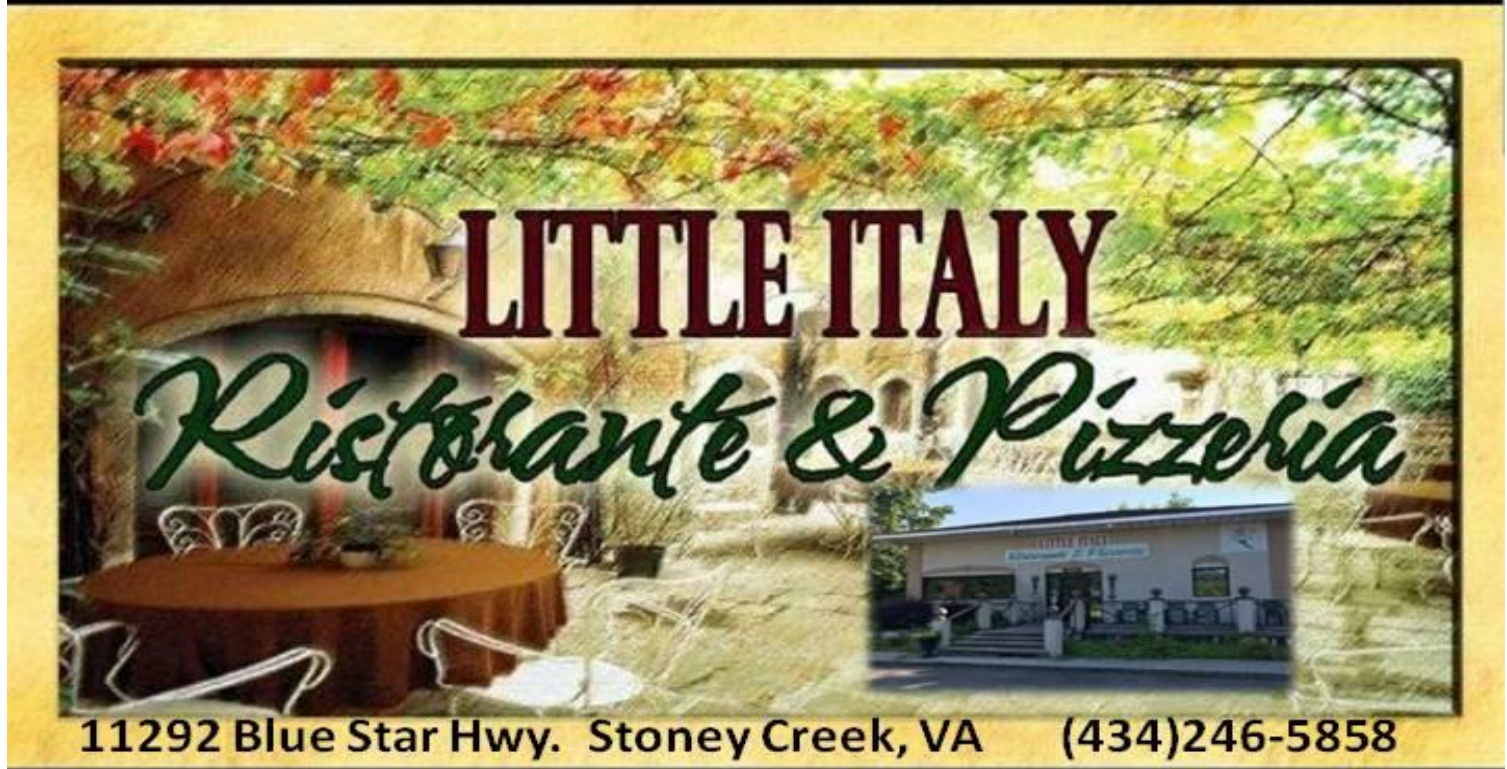
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Director – John Flicek

Region 8

Includes the counties of King William, Hanover, Goochland, New Kent, Henrico, Charles City, James City, York, Northumberland, Westmoreland, Richmond, Essex, Lancaster, Middlesex, King and Queen, Mathews, and Gloucester, Accomack, Northampton, Isle Of Wight, and Southampton also all the cities within them including Richmond City, Poquoson, Hampton, Newport News, Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Chesapeake and Suffolk. All of Chesterfield County except the areas of Colonial Heights, Ettrick, Matoaca and Enon.

Our 2022 season is complete with the season championship going to the father and son team of Craig and Cameron Cheek from Nottoway Bassmasters. Craig and Cameron put together an impressive season finishing “in-the-money” in three of the four tournaments fished. They also capped off their championship run with a win at our annual Member Appreciation “No-Entry-Fee” Tournament in November. Right on their heels in second place was a newcomer to Region 8, RVA Bassmasters angler Brandon Ennis. The Five Rivers Bassmasters team of Scott Coons and Mark Elliott finished in 3rd Place. NASA-Langley Bassmasters angler Gary Svatek caught the seasons Big Bass this year, a nice 7.97 pound Chickahominy River Largemouth. With the final tournament of the season cancelled on the Appomattox/James River due to hazardous conditions from the remnants of Hurricane Ian this year’s championship was based upon the best weights from four out of five tournaments. Club and State schedules in October were such that we were unable to make up the Appomattox/James River tournament this season.



2022 Region 8 Championship Team Craig & Cameron Cheek



2022 Region 8 Big Fish Award Gary Svatek

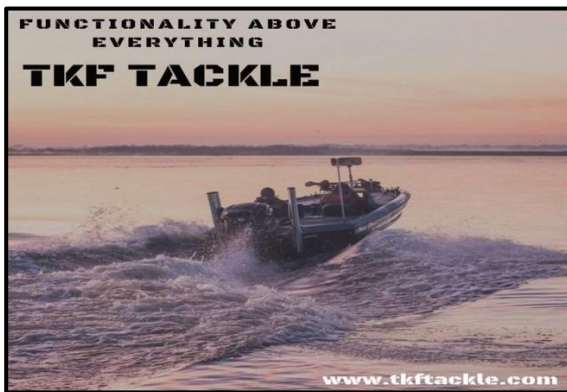
REGION 8 continued:

2023 Top 15 Region 8 Teams/Anglers

Place	Angler	Co-Angler	Weight
1	Craig Cheek	Cameron Cheek	50.54
2		Brandon Ennis	49.24
3	Scott Coons	Mark Elliott	46.62
4	Garrett Geourge		45.23
5	Matt Hockaday	Lynn Hoeffler	44.17
6	Jason Henderson		43.62
7	Doug Griles		41.77
8	Bob Everhart	Robert Hladik	41.05
9	Gary Smoak		40.97
10	Chris Fiore		40.83
11	Gary Svatek		40.21
12	James Whitehead		39.71
13	Ray Allen	Kevin Phillips	39.35
14	Dave Gardner		38.66
15		Alex Buckhorn	36.25

2022	BIG FISH	Weight
	Gary Svatek	7.97

I would like to thank our newest Region 8 Sponsor, **TKF Tackle**, for their support. TKF Tackle offers a wide variety of exceptional products from hard baits, spinner baits & buzz baits to frogs and more. Check out their on-line store at www.tkftackle.com. We'll have gift certificates and baits on hand at all of our tournaments.



New for 2023 will be the opportunity for Region 8 Anglers to qualify for the TBF National Semi-Final tournament through our Region tournaments. Any Angler and Co-Angler that finish in the top 10% during any of our Region tournaments may obtain a berth in the District 12 TBF National Semi Final Tournament as long as they fish in at least one State Team Trail event during the 2023 season. This is a great opportunity for more of our anglers to advance on a path toward a national championship.

REGION 8 continued:

The Region 8 Board of Directors has released the Tournament Schedule for our next season. With rising costs and the uncertainty with fuel prices we will stay a bit more local for our tournaments next year in an effort to reduce angler travel expenses. The 2023 schedule is included in this edition and available on the Region 8 web site: www.vabassregion8.com.

Looking ahead, on January 20th through the 22nd we will be supporting the State Federations activities during the Richmond Fishing Expo. I will be emailing the membership asking for volunteers for this event. The State Federation will refund the entrance fee for anyone that works the booth for at least half a day. Next up will be our annual Spring Fishing Classic support in March at the Hampton Bass Pro Shops. As usual we will be manning the Rod & Reel Exchange effort at the Region 8 table along with a two day Reel Kids Casting Skills Competition during the event. Again, I'll be looking for volunteers to help with this event.

Please patronize those businesses that have and continue to support our Region 8 family: **Bass Pro Shops, Fishing Pro Tech, Angelo's Steak and Pancake House, Dan's Heating & Air Conditioning, G 'Daddy's Bait & Tackle, TKF Tackle, and Dove Designs Pro.**

I ask that each of us take time out of our busy lives to remember those that are serving to protect our nation along with our friends and family that are battling illness, mourning the loss of a love one, and facing life's challenges each day.

John Flicek
Region 8 Director

2023 Region 8 Tournament Schedule

15 April (Sat)	Chickahominy River (Rte 5)
20 May (Sat)	Pamunkey River (Williams Ramp)
24 June (Sat)	Chickahominy River (Rte 5)
22 July (Sat)	Chickahominy River (Rte 5) OPEN
9 Sept (Sat)	James (Osborne Landing)
7 October (Sat)	Chickahominy River (Rte 5)
5 Nov (Sun)	Member Appreciation No Entry Fee Tournament Chickahominy River (Rte 5)

The 2023 Region 8 season standings will be based on "Best 5 out of 6" tournaments.



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REGION 8 continued:

OPEN TOURNAMENT on the CHICKAHOMINY RIVER - 22 July 2023



We are pleased to announce the date for the 2023 REGION 8 Open Tournament at the Chickahominy Riverfront Park (Rte 5 Ramp). Tournament limit remains 5 fish per boat. This allows participants an opportunity to fish individually or as a team. The tournament will be on Saturday, 22 July. We will again be paying 1 PLACE for every 5 ENTRIES with a GUARANTEED \$1000 minimum First Place. Of course we will still have the Big Bass award and a \$100 cash prize to the best finishing youth (ages 16 & under). Get your registration in early since boat launch positions are based on the order in which registrations are received! Registration forms are available on the Region 8 Web Site: www.vabassregion8.com , just select the "OPEN TOURNAMENT" tab to access the registration form.

Region 8 Tournament Trailer Update

The Region 8 tournament trailer we purchased last season recently had the graphics installed by Brody's Signs and Designs in Carrollton, VA. This trailer has already proven to be a great addition in enabling the Region to conduct our tournaments more efficiently. The addition of the graphics and logo's serve to advertise our brand, TBF Region 8 of the Virginia Bass Chapter Federation, and our amazing local and national TBF sponsors.



REGION 8 continued:

Region 8 Tournament Results

Member Appreciation “No Entry Fee” Tournament - Chickahominy River -

Region 8 Anglers battled falling temperatures and gusty winds on the Chickahominy River fishing the Annual Region 8 No-Entry-Fee Member Appreciation Tournament on Sunday, November 13th.

The 2022 Region 8 Championship Team of Craig and Cameron Cheek added another win to their season with a five fish limit weighing in at 14.66 lbs. Craig and Cameron also weighed the tournaments Big Bass, a 6.06 lb. largemouth. In 2nd Place with 13.54 lbs. was the 5-Rivers Bassmasters Team of Scott Coons and Mark Elliott. The 3rd Place team was Gary Smoak and Jason Henderson from the NASA-Langley Bassmasters with a limit of bass weighing 12.92 pounds. The TBF Bass Bandits of Virginia Team of Sammy Henman & Joe Clarke finished in 4th Place with 12.70 pounds and in 5th Place from the Nottoway Bassmasters were Mike Guzik and Charlie Carter with 12.07 lbs.

Following the weigh-in, anglers enjoyed some food, fellowship and a wide variety of door prizes to include a JB Customs Rod, Lew's Combo, Reels, Tackle items, Gift Cards, Tackle Bags, and boating items. This was the final Region 8 event of the 2022 season. We would like to thank our many volunteers and supporting businesses: Fishing ProTech in Toano; Angelo's Steak and Pancake House in Newport News, Bass Pro Shops of Hampton, Dan's Heating & Air Conditioning of Newport News; G' Daddy's Bait & Tackle in Carrollton and Dove Designs Pro.

Member Appreciation Tournament Results Chickahominy River, November 13, 2022

Place	Angler	Co-Angler	Weight
1	Craig Cheek	Cameron Cheek	14.66
2	Scott Coons	Mark Elliott	13.54
3	Gary Smoak	Jason Henderson	12.92
4	Sammy Henman	Joe Clark	12.70
5	Mike Guzik	Charlie Carter	12.07
6	James Whitehead	Dave Gardner	11.55
7	Bill Roberts	Scott Whitmore	10.98
8	Mike Phillips	Steve Massara	9.88
9	Avery Neely	George Prokopolis	9.51
10	Dave Christian	John Guzik	9.42
11	Jeff Valentin	Carlton Wells	9.07
12	Bubba Gay	Hank Cook	9.02
13	Wes Newman	Chase Phillips	8.73
14	Lynn Hoeffler	Brandon Hoeffler	8.35
15	Doug Griles	Brandon Ennis	8.26
16	Chris Willoughby	Kevin Bowles	7.52
17	Bob Everhart	Robert Hladik	6.96
18	Floyd Dalton	Tarance Fuller	6.29



REGION 8 continued:



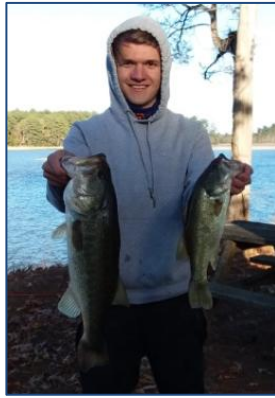
Chickahominy River



13 November, 2022



REGION 8 continued:



Region 8 Member Appreciation Tournament



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REGION 8 continued:

2023 Region 8 Club Tournament Schedules

5-Rivers Bassmasters

18 March (Sat)	Chowan River (Rte.13 Ramp)
22 Apr (Sat)	Kerr Lake
13 May (Sat)	Chickahominy River
10 June (Sat)	Pamunkey River (Williams Ramp)
8 July (Sat)	Chickahominy River
19 Aug (Sat)	Mattaponi River
23 Sept (Sat)	Northwest River
14 October (Sat)	"Dash 4 the Cash"



TBF Bass Bandits of Virginia



11 March (Sat)	Nottoway River (Rte. 258 Gen. Vaughan Bridge)
19 March (Sun)	Chickahominy River (Rte. 5 Ramp)
16 April (Sun)	Appomattox River (Hopewell Marina)
29 April (Sat)	Chowan River (Shoups Landing)
13 May (Sat)	Pamunkey River (Williams Ramp)
11 June (Sun)	Chickahominy River (Rte. 5 Ramp)
8 July (Sat)	Nottoway River (Rte. 258 Gen. Vaughan Bridge)
16 July (Sun)	Chowan River (Shoups Landing)
5 Aug (Sat)	Appomattox River (Hopewell Marina)
13 Aug (Sun)	Pamunkey River (Williams Ramp)
27 Aug (Sun)	Roanoke Rapids Lake (OLD LAKE)
3 Sep (Sun)	Nottoway River (Rte. 258 Gen. Vaughan Bridge)
17 Sept (Sun)	Chickahominy River (Rte. 5 Ramp)
15 October (Sun)	Nottoway River (Rte. 258 Gen. Vaughan Bridge)
21/22 Oct	CLUB CLASSIC (location TBD)

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Director – Darrell Brown

Region 10

Includes the counties of Tazewell, Buchanan, Dickenson, Smyth, Russell, Wise, Grayson, Washington, Scott, and Lee also all cities within them.

Region 10 Anglers;

With the 2023 tournament season just around the corner, I am excited for the opportunity to serve as the Region 10 Director. My name is Darrell Brown; I've been fishing the Region 10 and local tournaments/rodeos for a while now and know many of our anglers in the South Holston Lake area. I'm looking forward to meeting each of you. As we enter into our 2023 season my focus will be to work on the efficiency in how we conduct our tournaments to insure we provide an enjoyable and safe tournament experience for all. Important to me are to streamline our registrations so we have an on-time and orderly blast off and weigh-in process. In the interest of clarity & fairness I am looking for a way to post or distribute our Region Bylaws and Rules to our membership to promote a better understanding of how we operate. Working as a team, I believe we can make some minor process changes that will improve our tournaments and promote membership growth. We have a lot of anglers that have been around for a while and with that brings a lot of knowledge that I'm hoping to take advantage of as we move forward. I'll always be open for suggestions and discussion.

I'm also exploring some ideas for improving the classic payout and some ways we can create a prize fund to be paid out to our end of season points champion (possibly through hosting a few Open Tournaments each year). Communication will be a key element in keeping everyone informed and to promote our Region events. I plan to use our Facebook page and create a Region 10 tournament flyer to distribute through local tackle stores to promote our efforts.

I'm looking forward in 2023; I am committed to do my best to gain your trust and continue to build on some great friendships here in Region 10. I also ask for your patience as I become more familiar with the responsibilities of the position I was elected to fill. We have a lot of talented anglers; I believe we can build upon what we have to promote friendly competition & fellowship.

Thanks

Darrell Brown
Region 10 Director



Stay current with Region 10 on our Facebook page; visit us at Region 10 Virginia Bass.



<https://www.facebook.com/Region-10-Virginia-Bass-264035677388772/>

REGION 8 continued:

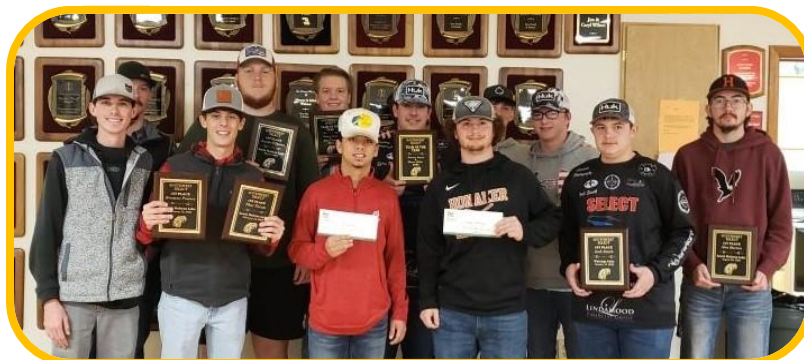
2023 Region 10 Tournament Schedule

25 February	Holston	Safe Light – 3PM	421 Ramp
11 March	Holston	Safe Light – 3PM	421 Ramp
25 March	Watagua	Safe Light – 3PM	Rat Branch
1 April	Holston	Safe Light – 3PM	OBS Knob
15 April	Holston	Safe Light – 3PM	OBS Knob
29 April	Watagua	Safe Light – 3PM	Rat Branch
6 May	Watagua	Safe Light – 3PM	Rat Branch
Night Tournaments:			
10 June	Holston	5PM – 1AM	OBS Knob
8 July	Holston	5PM – 1AM	OBS Knob
22 July	Holston	5PM – 1AM	OBS Knob
CLASSIC:			
29 July	Holston	Safe Light – 3PM	OBS Knob

10 Tournaments plus the Classic (5 Drop tournaments)
 Must fish 4 tournaments to qualify for the Classic
 If you fish 7 tournaments – No Entry Fee for the Classic.



Southwest Select



Members, Parents, Boat Captains, and Sponsors of the Student Anglers Federations Southwest Select gathered on December 9th at the Damascus Volunteer Rescue Squad in Damascus, Virginia for their annual end of season banquet and awards ceremony. The team of Blaine Miller and Konnor Sweet took top honors as the Southwest Select “Team of the Year”.



**Southwest Select
 2022
 “Team of the Year”
 Blaine Miller
 &
 Konnor Sweet**

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Repairs

TowBoatUS company either has their own dock, or contracts with a third party to provide repair services.



Salvage

TowBoatUS company offers salvage assistance. Includes recovery of property, refloating the vessel, and towing it to a safe harbor.



Spill Cleanup

TowBoatUS company possesses equipment to contain spills of fuel and / or oil.



Transportation

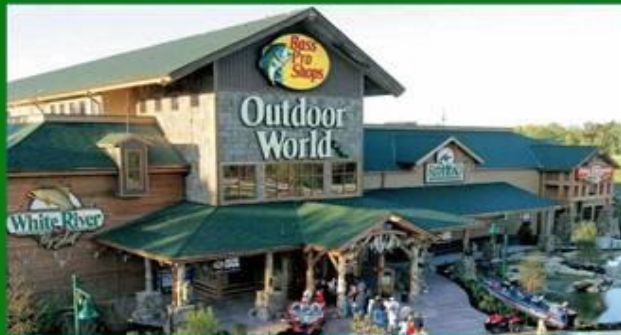
TowBoatUS company can arrange local transportation to transport you to a hotel or other local destination





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For more info, go to www.vabass.com or visit us on facebook at "Virginia Bass Chapter Federation"