



## B.A.S.S. FEDERATION NATION™

"Grass-roots anglers dedicated to bass fishing's future"

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 10000 • Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830  
Shipping Address: 200 Celebration Place • Suite 900 • Celebration, FL 34747  
1-877-BASSUSA • fax (407) 566-2214

Thank you for your inquiry about starting a BASS affiliated club.

Thousands of BASS Federation Nation clubs across the country currently enjoy the camaraderie and competition that club affiliation with BASS provides. Club members not only enjoy the spirit of competition but are involved in conservation and youth programs such as Junior Bassmaster and CastingKids. Federation Nation members are committed to Bass fishing's future, and we appreciate your interest in joining this growing number of dedicated anglers.

All of the documentation you will need to establish your BASS club is enclosed. It only takes six B.A.S.S. members to form a club, and you and your friends will be able to compete in state qualifying events that lead to the prestigious Bassmaster Classic.

Please refer to the Checklist when completing the required documentation. Remember, all Federation Nation club members must also be a member of BASS. To join BASS, simply click the link below or call **1-877 BASS USA**. Once everyone in your club has established a BASS membership, it's easy to add new members using our online roster system. Your club President and secretary will need to include their email addresses to be notified of your new club status.

To avoid delays in processing your chapter application, please enclose \$20 for each member on your roster. You and your club members' Federation Nation membership will be effective until the end of the year. **Please make checks payable to BASS LLC**. When naming your club, keep in mind that the name can not exceed 29 characters in length.

For your state affiliation requirements, please contact your respective state Federation Nation President. All President's contact information can be found at Bassmaster.com under the Federation Nation tab. Your state President will receive an email alerting them about your interest in establishing a new BASS club.

So don't delay, get your club together and start fishing! If there is anything that we can do to assist you in setting up your club, just give us a call at **1-877-BASS USA**. We're here to help in any way that we can.

BASS Wishes,  
Gary Jones  
Director, BASS Federation Nation



# CHECKLIST

Please check all of the following requirements before sending in your application for affiliation with the B.A.S.S. Federation Nation.

## I. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- ☐ Must have at least six members.
- ☐ Must have 100% BASS membership.
- ☐ All new BASS memberships must be prepaid and submitted with application.
- ☐ Current BASS members must include their membership numbers on application.
- ☐ Must submit \$20.00 (per member) Federation Nation dues at the time you send in your application for affiliation.
- ☐ Must submit complete addresses, e-mail address, BASS numbers and phone numbers with application – please pay attention to make sure the submitted information is legible.

## 2. CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS REQUIREMENT

- ☐ Must contain amendment stating that you will, at all times, maintain 100% BASS membership.
- ☐ Must contain an amendment stating that a complete membership roster will be submitted to B.A.S.S. Federation Nation Department once a year.
- ☐ Must contain an amendment stating that your club will belong to and support your State B.A.S.S. Federation Nation.
- ☐ Must submit two copies of your Constitution and Bylaws, signed by all charter members when forming a new club.

## 3. LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION

- ☐ Must be signed by club president and returned to BASS headquarters.

When you have filled the above requirements, send your Membership Application, your Federation Nation dues, two copies of your Bylaws and the signed Letter of Authorization to:

### **B.A.S.S. FEDERATION NATION DEPARTMENT**

P.O. Box 10000 • Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830 • (407) 566-2277





## **Get More Out of Your Bass Fishing in an Affiliated Chapter and Enjoy Great B.A.S.S.® Federation Nation Benefits!**

- Great fellowship and the opportunity to learn more about fishing comes from associating with fellow BASS members through Chapter affiliation.
- Affiliation with your State Federation of B.A.S.S. Chapters gives you the chance to help promote and protect your bass fishing interests on both state and national levels.
- You'll receive a copy of your B.A.S.S. Chapter Handbook – a useful resource for chapter organization and membership guidelines.
- A subscription to *BASS Times*® magazine – a monthly publication that provides coverage from the CITGO Bassmaster® Tournament Trail, news on conservation issues and reports on chapter activities from around the country.
- Opportunity to receive B.A.S.S. Federation Nation Chapter Federation Outstanding Achievement Awards, a series of special awards presented to chapters. Federations and individuals are recognized for outstanding programs and activities on both divisional and national levels. Presentations are made annually during the CITGO Bassmaster Federation Nation Championship. (See your Chapter Handbook for Award categories.)
- You're eligible to compete in state tournaments, the prestigious B.A.S.S. Federation Nation Divisional Tournaments, and the Federation Nation Championship for cash awards and six CITGO Bassmaster® Classic berths.
- Enjoy competing in professionally managed chapter tournaments with tried and proven tournament guidelines and rules. Your chapter will receive access to special tournament supplies.
- You qualify for a special Insurance Program - \$1,000,000 liability coverage for sanctioned club events and \$9,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment coverage 24 hours a day.
- You'll receive a special Federation Nation Membership card that identifies you as a member of an organized B.A.S.S. Federation Nation Chapter.
- These benefits are for Federation Nation Members only! Anglers across the country are forming new chapters each year in order to receive these unique Federation Nation benefits.



# B.A.S.S. FEDERATION NATION™

## APPLICATION FOR AFFILIATION

\_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Club

\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip



We the undersigned, submit our application for affiliation with the Bass Anglers Sportsmen Society. We do hereby agree to the objectives and purposes of BASS as set forth in the bylaws.

We do promise to support BASS by creating among fellow anglers and the public in general an awareness of the Society's contributions to American angling, conservation, and outdoor recreation. We will encourage and instruct the youth of the community in the art of bass fishing. We do pledge ourselves to full adherence to all conservation codes and to detect and report any polluter of our Nation's waters.

\_\_\_\_\_

Club President's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Club Secretary's Signature

## CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP LIST

Include Federation Dues with this Application • Please complete all information  
Remember to use name & address as listed on BASS Membership

### OFFICERS

|              |                | Check one of the following: |                                           |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
|              |                | Current<br>BASS<br>Member   | BASS<br>Membership<br>Payment<br>Enclosed |
| 1. President | Member No.     |                             |                                           |
| Address      |                |                             |                                           |
| City         | State Zip      |                             |                                           |
| Home Phone   | Business Phone |                             |                                           |
| E-mail       |                |                             |                                           |
| 2. Secretary | Member No.     |                             |                                           |
| Address      |                |                             |                                           |
| City         | State Zip      |                             |                                           |
| Home Phone   | Business Phone |                             |                                           |
| E-mail       |                |                             |                                           |

Please use Name and Address as listed on BASS membership.

# CLUB MEMBERS

Check one of the following:

Current  
BASS  
Member

BASS  
Membership  
Payment  
Enclosed

|                                                                                                                                      |  |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| 3. Name_____ Member No._____<br>Address_____<br>City_____ State_____ Zip_____<br>Home Phone_____ Business Phone_____<br>E-mail_____  |  |  |
| 4. Name_____ Member No._____<br>Address_____<br>City_____ State_____ Zip_____<br>Home Phone_____ Business Phone_____<br>E-mail_____  |  |  |
| 5. Name_____ Member No._____<br>Address_____<br>City_____ State_____ Zip_____<br>Home Phone_____ Business Phone_____<br>E-mail_____  |  |  |
| 6. Name_____ Member No._____<br>Address_____<br>City_____ State_____ Zip_____<br>Home Phone_____ Business Phone_____<br>E-mail_____  |  |  |
| 7. Name_____ Member No._____<br>Address_____<br>City_____ State_____ Zip_____<br>Home Phone_____ Business Phone_____<br>E-mail_____  |  |  |
| 8. Name_____ Member No._____<br>Address_____<br>City_____ State_____ Zip_____<br>Home Phone_____ Business Phone_____<br>E-mail_____  |  |  |
| 9. Name_____ Member No._____<br>Address_____<br>City_____ State_____ Zip_____<br>Home Phone_____ Business Phone_____<br>E-mail_____  |  |  |
| 10. Name_____ Member No._____<br>Address_____<br>City_____ State_____ Zip_____<br>Home Phone_____ Business Phone_____<br>E-mail_____ |  |  |



# Suggested Bylaws for a B.A.S.S.<sup>®</sup> Federation Nation Chapter

These bylaws are offered as a basis for your new chapter. They are, of course, not ironclad and can be modified, if necessary, for your particular group before submitting them to BASS.

If your group is one that is already formed and operating under established bylaws, please add the Article for Membership (II) and the Article for Affiliation (VI) and submit two copies to BASS for approval. When your bylaws have been approved, the certified copy will be returned to your chapter secretary.

CHAPTER NAME

CITY

STATE

ZIP

## ARTICLE I – Name and Purpose

### Section 1: Name

This chapter shall be called the

NAME OF CHAPTER

CITY/STATE

### Section 2: Purpose

To stimulate public awareness of bass fishing as a major sport. To offer our state conservation department our organized moral and political support and encouragement. To promote full adherence to all conservation codes and to demand adequate water standards. To detect and report any polluter and call public and political attention to his/her crime. To improve our skill as bass anglers through a fellowship of friendly exchange of expert bass-catching techniques and ideas, and to promote and encourage youth fishing and a love for this great recreation. To function as a dynamic and effective link with other chapters of the State B.A.S.S. Federation Nation Chapter embracing the principles and purposes of BASS<sup>®</sup>.

## ARTICLE II – Membership

### Section 1: Number of Members

The chapter shall begin with and maintain at least six members.

### Section 2: Requirement for Regular Membership

To become a chapter member, a person shall:

- Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership.
- Be a member of BASS (See ARTICLE VI for affiliation requirements.)
- Be recommended by two members at a regular monthly meeting.
- Be voted on by membership. Vote shall be by secret ballot and affirmation shall be unanimous.
- Be 16 years of age.

### Section 3: Requirements for Junior Membership\*

To become a junior member of an adult chapter, a person shall:

- Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership.
- Be under 16 years of age.

\*Junior members are not required to pay national membership dues and are not entitled to the benefits of a regular member. The acceptance of junior members will not affect a club's liability insurance policy. Junior members are not covered by the accidental death and dismemberment policy. Junior members may not hold

office in an adult club nor may they be voting members. At age 16, junior members may continue membership by joining the club as a regular member. Junior membership ceases on a person's 16th birthday.

### Section 4: Membership Dues

The membership dues shall be \$\_\_\_\_\_ annually, initially payable upon being voted into the chapter, \$20 (or current rate) of which shall be for B.A.S.S. Federation Nation dues and \$\_\_\_\_\_ of which shall be for Chapter dues. BASS membership dues are also required at the current rate. (See ARTICLE VI, Section 1 for state affiliation requirements.)

### Section 5: Meetings of Members

The membership shall hold regular meetings at pre-established times.

## ARTICLE III – Officers, Elections, Vacancies, and Eligibility

### Section 1: Officers and their Duties

Officers shall conduct the affairs of the Chapter in a manner consistent with these Bylaws. To protect the Chapter, B.A.S.S. Federation Nation members and B.A.S.S., Chapter Officers may not hold positions higher than the club level within any other bass federation-type organization including but not limited to TBF/FLW.

In addition, the State B.A.S.S. Federation Nation board is required to be comprised of members who are free to serve the State without a conflict of interest. B.A.S.S. Federation Nation State Board Members and Officers will not be allowed to hold positions within any other bass federation-type organization including, but not limited to, TBF/FLW. Any State Board Member or State Officer, or an employee of any other bass federation-type organization will not be allowed to hold an office within the B.A.S.S. Federation Nation at any level.

The officers of the chapter shall consist of:

- President:** Preside over all meetings and direct all official business. Appoint and be an ex-officio member of all committees. Supervise all club functions.
- Vice President:** Act as program chairman, assist the president in his/her duties and preside in the absence of the president.
- Secretary:** Maintain accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings as called for by the chapter president. Maintain regular liaison between the chapter and the BASS Federation and the state B.A.S.S. Federation Nation Chapter.
- Treasurer:** Collect and disburse all monies. Maintain accurate financial records and present a current balance report at each regular meeting. Prepare an annual audit for review by the Chapter Board of Directors. The chapter may vote that the treasurer and any other officer handling chapter funds must be bonded.

- (e) **Conservation Director:** Serve as liaison between the chapter and state and national conservation/environmental agencies. Plan chapter conservation projects and attend all local and state conservation meetings/hearings.
- (f) **Youth Director:** Organize all youth activities and programs. Coordinate Bassmaster CastingKids® events and start a Junior Bassmaster Chapter when the chapter is ready for this sponsorship.

### Section 2: Elections

The election of officers shall be held annually at a regular meeting during the month of \_\_\_\_\_. Election shall be by simple majority of members present. Election for each officer shall be held separately in order listed in ARTICLE III, Section 1.

### Section 3: Eligibility of Vote

Each member is entitled to one vote. Proxy votes are not permitted.

### Section 4: Term of Office

The term of office is for one year, which shall begin on \_\_\_\_\_, and end on the last meeting day of \_\_\_\_\_ or until the successor assumes office.

### Section 5: Vacancies

In the event of an office becoming vacant, nominations shall be asked for and an election held to fill the unexpired term of the individual vacating the office. National BASS Headquarters shall be notified immediately of the change of any officers.

### Section 6: Eligibility for Holding Office

To be eligible for an office a member must:

- Have been a member for six months. (Six months' requirement waived during first 12 months of chapter existence.)
- Have attended at least 75% of the chapter meetings and 75% of chapter functions during a 12-month period.
- Have shown an active interest in all chapter functions.
- Maintain current BASS membership.

## ARTICLE IV – Standing Committees

All Standing Committees will serve for one year or until a new committee is appointed. The terms of the committee members will coincide with that of the president. Each committee shall elect a chairman.

- (a) **Board of Directors:** The Board of Directors will consist of seven (7) members: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past-President and two (2) members elected at large by majority vote of the members present at the December regular meetings.

(1) The president will call all meetings of the Board of Directors and preside at such meetings.

(2) The secretary will record the minutes of these meetings.

(3) The board will decide all protests and rule on all violations of the tournament rules and bylaws of the chapter when appropriately received.

(4) The board will develop agendas for the monthly meetings.

- (b) **Youth Committee:** The purpose of this committee shall be to plan, organize and implement a Chapter Youth Project; to introduce young people to the goals of BASS; to give them a basis for respect of our national heritage, an appreciation of the basic rules for honesty, integrity, fair play and good sportsmanship; and to give them an introduction to the sheer joy of fishing.

- (c) **Conservation Committee:** The purpose of this committee shall be to protect our natural environment from harmful change; to document and report to the proper authorities violations of local, state and federal anti-pollution laws, statutes, regulations, ordinances and other regulatory devices; to take legal action where appropriate; to undertake informational and educational programs to

bring public awareness of threats to our environment; and to take a leadership role in repairing the harm that has already been done to the life-giving waters of America.

- (d) **Tournament Committee:** The purpose of the tournament committee shall be to plan, organize and operate all Chapter tournaments. The tournament committee will draft tournament rules, which must then be approved by the general membership. The committee will keep tournament records, enforce all tournament rules, investigate all protests concerning tournaments, and make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

## ARTICLE V – Removal of Membership

### Section 1: Removal of Membership

A member may be dropped from the membership roll for the following reasons:

- Failure to pay dues.
- Any action which would reflect dishonor and disgrace on the chapter and/or BASS.
- Failure to attend 50% of the chapter meetings and 50% of chapter functions during a 12-month period.
- Disqualification for any reason from participating in BASS-sponsored events, including disqualification for use of drugs or alcohol.

## ARTICLE VI – Affiliation

### Section 1: Requirements for Affiliation

- Approval of Chapter Charter by BASS.
- Update BASS with chapter membership roster once each year upon receipt of current BASS roster at year's end.
- Names and addresses of new members joining the chapter during the year must be submitted to BASS as they occur. (See ARTICLE II, Section 3 for dues requirements.)
- Maintain 100% BASS membership.
- Must affiliate with State Federation and support its conservation and youth programs. Any additional requirements that the State Federation establishes for chapters, such as membership, dues, attendance at meetings, etc., would be necessary for the chapter to participate in the State Federation qualifying tournament(s), and any other Federation-sponsored tournaments or events.

## ARTICLE VII – Method of Amending the Bylaws

### Section 1: Amending the Bylaws

The bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-third vote of the members present, provided written notice of the proposed amendment has been presented to the membership at least one regular meeting prior to the vote.

We, the undersigned charter members, do hereby agree to the above bylaws and the commencement of the chapter on this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Complete two copies and forward both to BASS for endorsement. One copy will be returned to the chapter secretary.

## B.A.S.S. ® FEDRATION NATION CLUB LETTER OF AUTHORIZATION

BASS, LLC ("BASS or Licensor") is the owner of various trademarks and service marks including, among others, "BASS emblem (indicating membership in BASS), "Bassmaster®" (indicating membership in BASS), and Bassmaster® (for a magazine) (collectively, the "Licensed Trademarks"), which are registered in the united States Patent and Trademark Office.

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(Name of your State Organization/Licensee)

Subject to the express terms, conditions and procedures on the Letter of Authorization, Licensor hereby grants to Licensee, and Licensee hereby accepts, a limited non-exclusive, non-transferable revocable license for the duration of the Term (as defined below), unless earlier terminated in accordance with the terms hereof, as follows:

To use such trademarks and service marks during its affiliation with Licensor provided that:

1. All use of the Licensed Trademarks shall be subject to the control of the Licensor according to standards and regulations established and/or as modified for time to time at Licensor's sole discretion.
2. The term of this letter of Authorization shall be effective commencing January 1, 2007 and concluding December 31, 2007 ("the term"). At the end of the term, the Licensed Trademarks may no longer be used unless a Letter of Authorization is executed by both parties and any monies payable to BASS by Licensee are satisfied. Upon termination of permission of the Licensee will immediately discontinue all use of the Licensed Marks, including use of such marks as part of a trade name or organization name, and shall not thereafter use of any trademark or service mark identical to, or confusingly similar to, the trademarks and service marks of BASS. All indicia bearing such Licensed Trademarks shall be promptly (i.e., within sixty (60) days) destroyed or returned to BASS (at the sole option of BASS).
3. Licensor is and shall remain the sole owner of the Licensed Trademarks, as well as all the trademarks and logos derived from the Licensed Trademarks, during the Term of this Agreement or thereafter. Any and all goodwill arising or derived from the usage of the Licensed Trademarks by Licensee shall insure to the benefit of Licensor. Licensee agree that neither during nor after termination of this Agreement shall it or its successors or assigns assert any claim to such goodwill, such goodwill being the sole property of Licensor. Nothing herein will give Licensee or any third party any right, title or interest in or to any of the Licensed Trademarks other than the License herein.
4. License agrees that it will not do or cause to be done any act of thing contesting or in any ay impairing or tending to impair the Licensee's right, title or interest in or to any of the Licensed Trademarks or the goodwill inherent therein. Licensee shall not register in its own name or in the name of any third party, or otherwise claim ownership of, the licensed trademarks, or any marks derived therefrom in any other country or territory in the world.
5. If Licensee should learn of any infringement or passing off or threatened infringement or passing off to the Licensed Trademarks or any similar marks, or if any third party alleges to claim that the Licensee's use of all the Licensed Trademarks are causing, or are likely to cause deception or confusing to the public, Licensee shall promptly notify Licensor. Licensor shall have the right to control such proceeding or defense, in its sole discretion, and Licensee shall fully cooperate with Licensor in such efforts. Nothing herein, however, shall be deemed to require Licensor to enforce the Licensed Trademarks against others.
- 6.
7. Llicensor shall have the right to approve all signs, patches, promotional literature, or other materials displaying its trademarks or service marks and upon its request, samples of such materials be promptly provided to Licensor for its inspection and approval. If approval is withheld, denied or withdrawn by Licensor no further use shall be made of such signs, patches, promotional literature or other materials.
8. Licensor may terminate this permission to license to use the trademarks and service marks at any time if, in its sole and absolute discretion, the trademarks and service marks are not being used in accordance with the standards and regulations established by BASS.

9. Licensee shall not have the right to assign its rights hereunder and any purported assignment shall be null and void.
10. All remedies hereunder, including, without limitation, the termination of this agreement, and all other remedies provided at law or in equity will be deemed cumulative and not exclusive.
11. No failure or delay by either party in exercising any right, power, or remedy under this Agreement will operate as a waiver of any such right, power or remedy. No waiver of any provision of the Agreement will be effective unless in writing and signed by the party against whom such waiver is sought to be enforced. Any waiver by either party of any provision of the Agreement will not be construed as a waiver of any other provision of this Agreement, nor will such waiver operate as or be construed as a waiver of such provision respecting any future event or circumstance.
12. All rights that are not explicitly granted to Licensee herein are expressly reserved by Licensor.
13. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to prevent Licensor from granting any other licenses for utilizing the Licensed Trademarks in any manner whatsoever.
14. This Agreement will be construed under the laws of the State of Connecticut. Licensee consents to exclusive jurisdiction and venue in Hartford County, Connecticut for any dispute between the parties related to the agreement.

Sincerely,

Steve Anderson  
Executive Vice President

Accepted and agreed:

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(Name of your Club Organization/Licensee)

By

---

(Club President)

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(Date)