

**BY-LAWS OF**  
**MORGAN COUNTY BASS CLUB, INC.**  
**A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION**

**ARTICLE 1: NAME AND PURPOSE**

**Section 1: Name** - This club shall be named the Morgan County Bass Club, Inc., hereinafter called the club.

**Section 2: Purpose** - The purpose of the corporation is to stimulate and foster public awareness of bass fishing as a major sport; to offer the Alabama State Conservation Department the organized moral support and encouragement in the preservation and promotion of bass sports fishing; to promote adherence to all conservation codes and to help preserve the environmental integrity of state waters and waterways; to attempt to prevent water pollution; to improve the skills of the members as bass sports fishermen through fellowship and friendly exchange of expert bass catching techniques and ideas; the education of its members regarding the habitat and habits of bass; and to encourage and promote the education of young people to love and appreciate this sport.

**ARTICLE 2: MEMBERSHIP, DUES AND CLASSES  
OF MEMBERSHIP, MEETINGS**

**Section 1: Number of Members** - Number of members is limited to no more than **forty (40) members**. All members in good standing at the date of incorporation of the club shall automatically be members of the club as incorporated.

**Section 2: Requirements for Membership** - To become a member of the club a person shall first:

- a. Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership to a member in good standing.
- b. Be recommended by at least one member at a regular monthly meeting.
- c. Be at least sixteen (16) years of age. Any minor applicant will be accepted only with written consent from a parent or guardian. Such minor member must furnish the club evidence of a current policy of insurance providing liability insurance coverage to such minor while operating a boat and medical insurance covering such minor. No such minor member will be allowed to operate a boat in a club function. Amended Jan, 1989 to add, Said member cannot operate a boat in club function until he/she is 19 yrs old and insured.
- d. The prospective member will be required to fish a regular club fish off with a regular club member other than the person recommending him. At the next meeting thereafter, the member who fished with the prospect must give testimony of the prospective member's bass fishing ability and sportsmanship.
- e. Be voted on by the membership. Vote will be by secret ballot and votes must be unanimous. Full membership shall be awarded upon "yes" vote, subject of full compliance with all other membership requirements, including the payment of dues.

**Section 3: Membership Dues**

- a. The dues of the club shall be those as determined by the board of directors which may from time to time by resolution change such dues.
- b. The current membership **annual dues shall be \$25 per year** until December 31st or prorated to \$2 per month for members voted in after the December fish off.
- c. Regular members annual dues are due by the November fish off.
- d. The top 5 members in Angler of the Year points shall be exempt from annual dues the following year.
- e. Each member must maintain active membership with The Bass Federation (TBF).

**Section 4: Types of Membership** - This club shall have the following types of memberships:

**a. Regular membership:** Those persons voted into active membership in accordance with the by-laws of the club and with paid dues.

**b. Honorary membership:** A person can be voted an honorary member upon majority vote of the regular membership. There shall be no dues for an honorary member.

**c. Inactive member:** Inactive membership shall be of two (2) types:

(1) A regular member who requests inactive status. This member's dues must be kept current. This type member can become an active member again by again attending regular club functions including club meetings. Failure to pay such dues shall result in the inactive member being dropped from membership.

(2) A regular member will be placed on inactive roll when he fails to attend a regular club function for four (4) consecutive months. To regain regular member status such inactive member must request active membership and be voted upon affirmatively for regular membership by a majority of the club members at any regular club meeting. This member must pay his dues by November fish off or be dropped from membership.

(3) No award will be made to any member who is inactive at the time awards are distributed.

**Section 5: Meetings** - The club shall meet monthly on the **first (1st) Thursday of each month** at 7:00 p.m., at a site voted on by the club. The September meeting shall be the annual meeting at which officers and directors are elected. The time, place, frequency and dates of the meetings shall be determined by a simple majority of the members entitled to vote.

### **ARTICLE 3: OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, ELECTIONS, VACANCIES, AND ELIGIBILITY**

**Section 1: Officers and their Duties** - The officers of the club shall be:

**a. President:** The president shall preside over all meetings and direct all official business. He shall appoint all committees (except the Fish off committee) and shall be an ex officio member of each committee.

**b. Vice President:** The vice president shall act as program chairman, assist the president in his duties, and preside in the absence of the president.

**c. Secretary Treasurer:** The Secretary Treasurer shall maintain accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings of the club. He shall collect and disburse all monies and maintain accurate financial records and present a current financial report at each regular meeting. He shall call roll at all meetings and fish offs. He shall record the minutes of all membership, board of directors and officer meetings.

**Section 2: Directors and their Duties**

**a. Duties** - The board of directors shall manage the business affairs and exercise the powers of the corporation.

**b. Composition** - The board of directors shall consist of four (4) members, being the president, vice-president, secretary treasurer, and the immediate past president. In addition to performing duties as a director, the immediate past president will fill any vacancy in the Fish off committee. In the event any officer should serve as officer in two (2) capacities, the number of directors will be reduced to three (3). No director may serve in more than two (2) capacities as an officer of the club. The term of each director will be the same as that of club officers set out below.

**c. Meetings** - The president will call all meetings of the board of directors and will preside at such meeting. The secretary will keep minutes of each such meeting.

**Section 3: Communications Director** - The Communications Director shall serve as the Point of Contact (POC) for the club to the FLW and TBF. The Communications Director shall also routinely update and maintain the club website. The Communications Director position shall be filled each year by the President nominating an individual to serve as Communications Director each October.

**Section 4: Elections** – Nominations and election of officers shall be conducted at the September club meeting. Election shall be by simple majority of members present. The election of each officer shall be held separately in order listed in Article 3, Section 1.

**Section 5: Eligibility to Vote** - Each regular member is entitled to one vote. Proxy votes are permitted if the absent member's ballot is turned in to a club member and is signed and sealed. The secretary will determine the validity of the proxy prior to the vote at which such proxy is to be exercised. His decision is conclusive.

**Section 6: Term of Office** - The term of office for each officer is for one year, which shall begin on October 1 and end on September 30 each year.

**Section 7: Vacancies** - In the event of an office becoming vacant, nominations shall be made to fill such vacancy and the election held to fill the unexpired term of the individual vacating office at the next regular meeting of the club.

**Section 8: Eligibility for Holding Office** - To be eligible for an office must:

- a. Have been a regular member for six months.
- b. Have attended at least three-fourths (3/4's) of the club meetings and club functions during that year.
- c. Have shown an active interest in all club functions.

#### **ARTICLE 4: STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Section 1: Term and Appointment** - All standing committee members will serve for one (1) year or until a new committee is appointed. The terms of each committee member will coincide with that of the president.

**a. Fish-off Committee**

(1) The purpose of the fish-off committee shall be to plan, organize and operate all club fish-offs. The fish-off committee will draft fish-off rules which must be approved by the general membership. The committee will enforce fish-off rules and investigate all protests concerning fish-offs and make recommendations to the board of directors.

(2) Composition - The Fish-Off committee shall consist of four (4) members plus the president as ex officio member. A committee member shall not serve two (2) consecutive terms. The members of this committee shall be elected by the membership at the September meeting.

#### **ARTICLE 5: REMOVAL FROM MEMBERSHIP**

A member shall be removed from the membership roll for the following reasons:

- a. Failure to pay dues.
- b. Failure to comply with Article 2, Section 4C.
- c. Any action which would reflect dishonor and disgrace on this club. A simple majority vote of the membership at any meeting shall be required and shall be conclusive as to the sufficiency of this cause for being removed from membership.

#### **ARTICLE 6: METHOD OF AMENDING BY-LAWS**

These by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present or at a special meeting called for such purpose or included in the call of such special meeting.