

ARTICLE I

LOCATION OF THE ORGANIZATION

- A. The address of the organization shall be the same as the address of the President of the organization.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

- A. To improve the quality and knowledge of bass fishing and bass fishermen in the state of Connecticut.
- B. To provide a means of communication to T.B.F. of Ct. members via a monthly newsletter and board meetings.
- C. To promote and support approved conservation agencies, policies, and practices as approved by the Board Of Directors.
- D. To contribute both monetarily and physically to worthy charitable affairs and activities brought to the attention of the T.B.F. of Ct. membership.
- E. To encourage youth fishing and youth activities by the T.B.F. of Ct. clubs along with both funding and material assistance for approved youth activities, as approved by the Board of Directors.
- F. Within funding limitations provide for the T.B.F. of Ct. team participation in the National T.B.F. annual Divisional Tournament.

ARTICLE III

AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

- A. Bylaw proposals must be submitted to the Executive Board by the September Federation meeting. The proposals will then be brought by the Executive Committee to the Bylaw Committee to eliminate redundancies and for clarification (with author's approval). The proposals will then be brought to the Board of Directors at the October meeting (copies given to each board member), so that the Directors can bring them back to their respective clubs for discussion. The Board of Directors will then discuss the proposals at the November meeting and vote on them in December, with the approved Bylaws taking effect in January. In the event that an emergency is declared (as determined by 2/3 of the FULL BOARD OF DIRECTORS), this Bylaw will not apply to the situation, and the affected Bylaw will be subject to change in compliance with the following: All by-laws will be submitted in writing at least 60 days prior to a vote by the Board of Directors. With the exception of the by-laws listed in Article IV - all by-law changes and additions will require a 2/3 majority vote of the Board of Directors with a quorum present. The minutes posted in the newsletter and on the website will reflect any additions or changes to the By-Laws within 60 days of the passing of the changes. Any copies of the By-Laws circulated after the changes have been made will reflect those changes.

ARTICLE IV

SPECIAL BYLAWS

- A. The following by-laws will require an 80% vote (in the affirmative) of the total membership of the organization to be changed.
 1. The tournament trail shall consist of two divisions (A&B). Anglers in both divisions will fish as equals at all times with equal responsibilities and equal fishing privileges.
 2. To insure good relations with the D.E.P., and the public and make tournaments a pleasant experience without lines in the morning and long waits on the water in the afternoon the organization shall endeavor to do as follows. When the number of boats on the trail exceeds seventy five on a regular basis, the trail shall split (probably geographically) to create two smaller trails which will compete on the same tournament dates, but different locations. (This split will occur during the period between tournament seasons to ease the transition.)
 3. The tournament trail shall be self-sustaining. All prizes, plaques, trophies and awards shall be subsidized with tournament entry fees. (Exceptions for any donated awards, prizes etc.). Excess tournament entry fees shall be utilized for the trail or the fishermen, with none of these monies going to the General Fund, or elsewhere within the organization.
 4. State team financing: No more than 20% of the general dues (\$5.00 per member) shall be used to subsidize the State team. The balance of the monies (\$20.00 per member) shall remain with the organization to benefit the overall membership (youth, conservation, newsletter etc.). (numbers used above reflect amounts with yearly dues of \$25.00)
 5. The organization will publish a monthly newsletter which shall include minutes of the Monthly Board of Directors meeting and
a brief synopsis of the Treasurers Report. This newsletter will be offered on the web site, but will be available on hard-copy through the mail for all members who request it.
 6. All Officers, Directors (Tournament, Youth, Environmental) and Chairs of committees shall be elected by the Board of Directors at regular monthly meetings. There shall be no positions appointed, other than as stated above, by the Board of Directors.

7. Any member in good standing within the organization may serve on any committee without limitation. There shall be no limit on the number of members on any committee.
8. In the event that a member of the State Team chooses to leave the team to fish another tournament on the same dates as the divisional tournament, that person shall be required to notify the T.B.F. of CT of his intentions within 96 hours (4 days) of finding that either:
 - A. He has qualified for the other tournament or
 - B. The dates of the other tournament are announced (the later of the two shall apply). Any member who fails to comply with this By-Law shall be ineligible to fish to qualify for the State Team for a period of 3 years.
9. Any member who deliberately alters the wording or meaning of any of the By-Laws or standing rules of this organization shall forfeit any rights to serve as officers, committee heads, or committee members for five years.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

- A. Officers of the Federation shall be elected by the Board of Directors. Federation Officers, as a group, shall be known as the Executive Committee and are empowered to carry out the directives of the Board of Directors.
 1. Executive Committee members may perform dual functions, with the exception that the President or presiding officer may not also serve as club representative at a Board of Directors meeting.
- B. Term of Office
 1. Any officer shall be allowed to hold office for an unspecified number of terms in succession.
 2. Officers of the T.B.F. of Ct. will be elected by the Board of Directors in December and will begin their term of office at the January meeting.
 3. The term of office for President shall be two years. The term of office for Vice President shall be two years. The term of Treasurer and Secretary shall be one year, respectively. The office of President and Vice President will be elected in alternating years. The president will be elected to serve starting on even years. The Vice President will be elected to serve starting on odd years
- C. Eligibility for Office
Candidates for officers of the T.B.F. of Ct, shall be members of the T.B.F. of Ct. in good standing
- D. Removal from Office
 1. An officer's absence, without justifiable reasons, (as determined by the Board of Directors) for more than two (2) meetings of the Board of Directors shall be cause for removal.
 2. Any officer may be removed from office for cause (as defined by the legal system or these by-laws) by a two-thirds vote, with a quorum present, of the Board of Directors, and after all parties have the opportunity to be heard, whenever in its judgment, the Board of Directors considers removal to be in the best interest of the Federation.
 3. Any officer who willfully ignores and causes these by-laws of the T.B.F. of Ct. to be violated shall be removed from office as a violation of the by-laws (cause) as stated above.

ARTICLE VI RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- A. President
He shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Federation, he shall:
 1. Preside and maintain order over all meetings of the Executive committee and Board of Directors of this Federation
 2. Schedule regular and special meetings of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Committee, notify Directors and Officers of meeting dates.
 3. Assure that appropriate committees are formed as needed for specific purposes with approval of the Board of Directors.
 4. Assure that meetings scheduled for the individual membership are noticed and held.
 5. See that regular elections are duly called, noticed and held.
 6. Direct all official business for the Federation as instructed by the Board of Directors.
 7. Be the official representative of T.B.F. of Ct.
 8. Assure adequate supervision of all Federation sponsored activities.
 9. Except for Nominating Committee is ex-officio, nonvoting member of all standing and special committees.

10. Maintain liaison with National T.B.F. and endorsed sponsors and promoters.
11. Initiate disciplinary action in respect to violations of standing rules and By-Laws by Federation members.
12. Acquire a working knowledge of parliamentary law and procedures and a thorough understanding of the Articles and Bylaws of this Federation.

B. Vice President

If the President is unable to perform the duties of his office for any reason, the Vice President shall occupy his position and perform his duties with the same authority as the President. He shall:

1. Assist the President as directed.
2. Oversee the functioning of such committees of this organization, as the Board of Directors deem necessary.
3. Be responsible for coordinating a calendar of events of all chapter activities.
4. Assume the office of President for balance of term should the office be vacated.

C. Secretary

He shall be under the supervision and direction of the President and the Board of Directors and shall act as the liaison officer between the Federation and the National T.B.F. In fulfillment of this, he shall:

1. Keep a record of the proceedings (Minutes) of all meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee
2. Maintain a current roster to be provided by the President or designee on a monthly basis inclusive of mailing address, of all members of the TBF of CT, and CT FLW members. This information shall also be provided to the Tournament Director
3. Keep a record of attendance of all Board of Director and Executive Board meetings.
4. Notify directors of Board of Director's meetings on a timely basis.
5. Have custody and maintain general records of this Federation, including, but not limited to minutes of the Board of Director's meetings, names of committee members and chairs, copies of all reports and correspondence.
6. Coordinate the preparation and submission by members of the Executive Committee of such reports as are required by National T.B.F. and other agencies; conduct correspondence for the Federation as directed.
7. Work with the Tournament Director and committee to insure the eligibility of contestants to fish tournaments

D. Treasurer

He shall have the care and custody of and shall be responsible for all the funds, securities, evidences of indebtedness and other valuable documents of the Federation, and deposit all such funds in the name of the Federation in such banks, or trust companies, or other depositories, or in such safe deposit vaults as the Board of Directors may designate. He shall:

1. Sign, make and endorse in the name of the Federation, all checks, notes, drafts, bills of exchange, acceptances and other instruments for the payment of money, and payout and disposal or receipt thereof at the Direction of the Executive Officers or the Board of Directors (as mandated by the By-Laws of this organization).
2. Render a statement of the condition of the finances of the Federation at each regular meeting of the Board of Directors, and at such other times as shall be required of him/her, including but not limited to current monthly income and expenses, yearly income and expenses to date, and current balances of accounts.
3. Keep full and accurate books of account of all Federation business and make them available for examination by any member in good standing.
4. Prepare and submit a complete fiscal year financial report at the succeeding year's first Board of Director's meeting.
5. Pay statements from officers and committee members only when clearly authorized, by the Board of Directors or these by-laws and fully documented by receipts.
6. Issue statements and collect for financial obligations owed to the Federation.
7. Be bonded by the Federation for the faithful discharge of his duties in such amount and with such surety as the Board of Directors may prescribe.
8. Have custody and maintain records of Federation accounts and disbursements. At termination of office such records shall be inventoried; active records shall be turned over to the succeeding Treasurer; old records shall be committed to Federation files as the President and Board of Directors shall direct; a receipt for same will be obtained. Valuable documents of the Federation in depositories or elsewhere shall be jointly inventoried by the outgoing and new Treasurer in the presence of the President or Vice President prior to transfer of custodianship to the new Treasurer.
9. Perform all duties incident to his office.

E. Past Presidents

The Past Presidents of the T.B.F. of Ct. shall automatically become voting members of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

- A. The Board of Directors will nominate and elect Chairs or Directors for each of the following 3 committees on a yearly basis. Each of them shall then select the appropriate committee members with approval of the Board of Directors.
1. Environmental Director
To be elected at the December meeting and take office at the January meeting. This member shall initiate and follow through on conservation related activities, and work with authorities within the state to protect and increase our natural resources. He shall also work as a liaison between T.B.F. of Ct and National T.B.F.
 2. Youth Director
To be elected at the September meeting and take office at the October meeting. This job is to initiate, formalize and follow through on activities for youth through the T.B.F. of Ct. He shall also work to assist in the formation of youth clubs and to facilitate the National T.B.F. youth programs.
 3. Tournament Director
To be elected at the August meeting, to serve for the upcoming tournament season. This person shall produce a proposed tournament trail and tournament rules for the following year to be voted on no later than the January meeting. The Tournament Director will work with the Federation Treasurer to maintain the accounting of the expenditures and income of the tournament trail. Within thirty days of the end of the tournament season the checkbook along with a full accounting and explanations shall be reconciled with the Treasurer of the organization. The Tournament Director shall give a full accounting of each tournament (number of entrants and accounting of all monies) at each Federation Board meeting.
 4. Special committees
The Board of Directors may at its discretion appoint a committee to deal with specific items of concern for the organization. These are temporary, short term committees with a specific charge which shall be determined by the Board.

ARTICLE VIII BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- A. Until such time that the membership of the organization meets or exceeds a maximum of 150 members, all members of the organization shall be considered to be members of the Board of Directors and therefore shall be encouraged to attend all meetings and vote on all issues including Elections, By-Laws, Standing Rules and Pertinent issues. This clause will sunset (rule will terminate and be overridden) when the membership reaches 150 members. At 150 or more members votes on the matters listed above (namely the votes that occur once a year), each TBF member shall have an individual vote. How these votes are collected (mail in ballot, online entry, roster votes within clubs, etc.) is to be decided. For all other matters/votes throughout the year, "The Board of Directors" shall consist of whoever is present at the TBF monthly meeting..
- B. Club Representative's must be members in good standing of the club that they represent. A Club Representative at any Board of Directors meeting shall represent only one chapter. Executive Board members with the exception of the President (or the President's substitute in his absence) may also fulfill the duties of Club Representative for his/her Mother (Club).
- C. It shall be a requirement of the T.B.F. of Ct. that all Board of Director's members be members in good standing of the T.B.F. of Ct. and FLW..
- D. It shall be a requirement of the T.B.F. of Ct that all clubs attend a minimum of 9 (nine) monthly Board of Directors meetings per calendar year (January - December). There will be no excused absences. Failure to meet this attendance requirement will place the club in bad standing, and punishment will be determined by the board of Directors (club reps.).
- E. A member of the Board of Directors of the T.B.F. of Ct. may be removed from his position for cause in the following manner:
1. When the Federation receives notice of a problem, the officers of the Federation shall determine if there is just cause for further investigation.
 2. If just cause exists for investigation, a designated Federation officer shall compile all relevant facts pertaining to the situation.
 3. At this time, the Federation Board member and his chapter shall be informed by registered mail of the investigation.
 4. The Board of Directors of the Federation shall meet thirty (30) days after formal notification of parties concerned to determine what action will be taken on the situation. At this inquiry meeting, the accused party shall be given the opportunity to defend his position, two-thirds (2/3) majority shall be sufficient to carry the action.

ARTICLE IX

ELECTIONS

A. Directors

Members of the Board of Directors are elected representatives of affiliated T.B.F. of Ct. clubs of this Federation. As Chapter Representative they shall be elected to their positions under the procedures prescribed by their respective Chapters. (Exception as noted above Article VIII Section A)

B. Officers of the Federation

Shall be elected by the Board of Directors .

1. The President shall solicit a committee on nominations consisting of not less than three (3) members, selected insofar as possible so as to give equitable representation on the committee to the geographical areas of the state. No Officer shall serve on this committee.
2. The Nominating Committee shall prepare a list of nominations in writing over their signatures. Subject list shall be submitted to the Board of Directors no later than the November meeting of the calendar year for consideration. No nominations will be accepted after the November meeting.
3. Should vacancies occur among officer positions, such vacancies may be filled at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, and any officer so elected shall hold office until the end of the normal term or until his successor shall be duly elected.

ARTICLE X

MEMBERSHIP

A. Definition of Membership

The members of this Federation are those people and clubs having membership rights in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws.

1. Membership dues

- a. Annual dues in the T.B.F. of Ct. shall be the same as the preceding year unless changed by the Board of Directors

B. Categories of Membership

This Federation shall have two categories of membership:

1. Individual

- a. Persons who are members in good standing of National T.B.F. and who are also members in good standing of T.B.F. of Ct. and FLW
- b. Individuals who belong to more than one T.B.F. club must name a Mother Club (Club through which they are paying their dues and through which they qualify for Federation events).

2. Organizational

- a. Clubs in the state of Ct. who are affiliated with National T.B.F. T.B.F. of Ct. and FLW

C. Membership in this Federation shall be acquired only by clubs who meet the following parameters.

1. One hundred percent (100%) of the chapter's individual membership shall be members in good standing of National T.B.F. and FLW
2. Individual membership in the club shall consist of six (6) or more members.
3. Club shall be an affiliate of National T.B.F. or, the Club is otherwise qualified and National T.B.F. confirms that affiliation has been requested and is pending.
4. Upon application for affiliation, club provides the Federation with a current membership roster .

D. Continuation

Club affiliation in this Federation shall be on a continuing basis provided:

1. Club maintains current its affiliation with National T.B.F., based on affiliation by the first (1st) regularly scheduled meeting of the calendar year.
2. Chapter complies with the requirements for representation during Board of Director's meetings.
3. Clubs individual membership is maintained at six (6) or more.
4. Club maintains current the names and addresses of its officials and members with the T.B.F. of CT.

E. Withdrawal from Membership

Any club may withdraw from Membership, by giving notice, in writing, to the Secretary.

F. Forfeiture of Membership

1. A clubs membership may be withdrawn for violation of any of the membership requirements, attendance requirements, or violation of By-Laws pertaining to club participation.
3. Clubs may be removed from Membership for reasons stated above and for cause (as defined by the legal system or these by-laws) by two-thirds vote, with a quorum present of the Board of Directors, and after opportunity to be heard, whenever, in its

judgment; the Board considers such action to be in the best interests of the organization.

4. Individual membership in the T.B.F. of Ct is forfeited concurrent with cessation of the individual's club membership.
5. Individuals may be denied participation in T.B.F. of Ct. sponsored activities by a two-thirds vote with a quorum present of the Board of Directors for cause (as defined by the legal system or these by-laws), and after opportunity to be heard, whenever, in its judgment, the Board may consider such action to be in the best interests of the organization.

G. Reinstatement of Membership

1. Membership in this Federation that was terminated by withdrawal action may be reinstated by showing compliance with Federation requirements.
2. Membership in this Federation that was terminated for violation of By-Laws may be reinstated when the club shows compliance and a receives a majority vote of the Board Of Directors.

H. Rights and Privileges

The clubs and individual members comprise this organization. As members of the T.B.F. of Ct. they are entitled to all rights and privileges and subject to all obligations of membership in National T.B.F. and T.B.F. of Ct

1. Individual rights (for members in good standing) shall include eligibility to seek any office in this organization (Open roster club members not eligible) and the right to vote on all matters requiring a vote of the individual membership.
2. The clubs shall have representation on the Board of Directors with the rights and obligations that such representation shall entail, the right to vote through their Board's representative on all matters pertaining to the operation of the organization, the right to participate in T.B.F. of Ct. sponsored activities for which they are eligible and such other rights as may be conferred by the Board of Directors. The clubs obligations shall include maintaining affiliation with this organization, and the maintenance of a level of conduct and sportsmanship among its members that imparts a favorable image on the club and this organization

in

the community.

I. Non-discrimination

There shall be no discrimination in membership or participation in the activities of the Federation by reason of race, creed, color, national origin, or sex.

ARTICLE XI

CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

A. Rules of Order

The Rules of Order, for meetings conducted by this Federation are listed below. A current updated copy of these Bylaws including Standing Rules must be present at any Board of Directors or Executive Board meeting.

1. General
 - a. These rules constitute the Rules of Order for the conduct of the Board of Director's meetings for the Federation.
 - b. The rules contained in "Robert's Rules of Order (as revised)" shall govern the Federation in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with these Rules of Order, or the Bylaws of the Federation.
 - c. Amendments to these rules shall be made by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors
2. Call to Order
Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be convened NO LATER THAN 8:00 p.m. on dates and at such a place as shall be determined and announced; and, it shall be the duty of the President to call the meeting to order at the appointed time, to preside over the meeting, to announce the business before the Board of Directors in its proper order, to state and put all questions properly brought before the Board of Directors, to preserve order and decorum, and to decide all questions of order.
3. Order of Business
The Order of Business for the Federation Board of Director's meetings shall be as follows: Call to order by the Federation President, Introduction by the President, Call of Roll and introduction of Chapter Director's present, Introduction of distinguished guests and Federation Officials, Presentation of Minutes of preceding meeting, Presentation of Financial Statement, Reports of Standing Committees, Reports of Special Committees, Unfinished Business (Old Business), New Business, Programmed activity, if applicable and Adjournment.
4. Assumption of Office
Newly elected officers shall take office at the January meeting of the Board of Directors.

B. Parliamentary Procedures: Except as mandated by these bylaws, meetings and procedures will be in accordance with "Robert's Rules of Order (as revised)".

ARTICLE XII

AUTHORITY OF REPRESENTATION

A. President's Conference

Inasmuch as this Federation and its affiliate Clubs are an affiliate of National T.B.F. and it shall be necessary from time to time to have representation at the national office or elsewhere to obtain information and new policies and procedures and to add the Federation's voice and vote in national T.B.F. matters, this Federation shall have the power to pay the necessary expenses of its representative(s) to each T.B.F. President's Conference and to such other conferences as are deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.

B. No member shall, unless authorized by the Board of Directors or the Federation President (as deemed necessary at the time) shall negotiate, engage or intervene on behalf of the TBF of CT or the State Team.

C. Divisional Tournament

By way of various qualifying events each year the T.B.F. of Ct. shall choose the members of a "State Team" to represent the organization at the "Divisional Tournament" each year. Members of this team and those who advance to the next levels of competition will incur expenses to compete. The Board Of Directors will allocate monies to offset the expenses incurred within the parameters of these By-Laws and as finances allow.

1. State Team Member Rules:

Each year the State Team contract will be revised to reflect the changing requirements of the State Team members. This contract will contain all of the rules by which the members of the State Team must comply. This contract (once updated each

year) will be included in this document and will be enforced as By-Laws of this organization.

2. In the year following the Divisional tournament those members and alternates (as determined at the end of the Two Day State Championship which qualified that team) will be required to fish in the TBF tournament trail as competitors in the A division.

ARTICLE XIII

STATE TEAM QUALIFICATION

T.B.F. of CT. STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

A. Location(s) and Dates

The tournament site(s) and dates for the T.B.F. of CT. annual two day State Championship Tournament shall be selected by the Tournament Director with final approval of the Board of Directors.

B. Eligibility

1. It shall be required that all of the clubs in the T.B.F. of CT. must have fulfilled each of their obligations to the organization for any of their members to fish the tournament.
2. Chapters and members who are members in good standing with National T.B.F. and are also members in good standing of T.B.F. of CT. and FLW.
3. Members who are included on a T.B.F. of CT. roster 60 days prior to the tournament.

C. Rules and Regulations

The rules and regulations governing conduct of the State team qualifying Tournament shall be the current T.B.F. of CT. tournament rules as may be amended by exceptions approved by the Board of Directors. In addition, the following will be in effect:

1. Refund of entry fees will be made only if proper notification is made to tournament headquarters prior to deadline.
2. The Contestants will be paired by blind draw. The time and place of the drawing will be announced by the Tournament Director.
3. The top qualifiers will participate on the State Team.
4. The position of State Team Captain will be given to the individual who would be nominated and elected by the State Team. Consideration should be given to that person's attitude, ability to get along with others and organizational skills.
5. For the Two Day state team qualifying tournament the standings shall be determined as follows. For each day of the tournament, points will be awarded based on the current tournament point system. At the end of the second day of the tournament the points for the two days will be totaled. The order of finish will start at the highest total points and go in declining order.

ALTERNATE QUALIFICATION FOR T.B.F. of CT. STATE TEAM

A. Each year a number of anglers will be selected from the TBF tournament trail to be members of the State Team. Members who wish to advance to the State Team from the trail will do so in the following manner.

B. Eligibility

1. Members who wish to advance to the team must fish the trail as competitors in the A division.
2. Members who wish to advance from the trail must pay an added fee of \$75.00 prior to fishing their first qualifying tournament of the season.

C. Placement on team.

1. One in five of the competitors who choose to fish in this manner to advance to the Team will become members of the team (1 thru 5 fishing will receive 1 spot, 6 thru 10 will receive 2 spots. Etc.), with a maximum of 6 members who can qualify thru the trail events.
2. Positions for the first 4 positions will be awarded in the same manner as the past (1st place will be #1 on the team, 2nd place will be #7 on the team, 3rd place will be #11 on the team and 4th place will be #12 on the team. In the event that more than 4 positions will qualify for the team the Board of Directors will determine the placement of the entire field on the State Team and not use the previously used positions.

ARTICLE XIV

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

A. Income

Funds for support and maintenance of the T.B.F. of Ct. will be derived from annual dues, the annual State Qualifying Tournament, other Federation sponsored tournaments, assessments, special "activity related" projects and donations. Under no circumstances may the Federation accept monetary assistance from individuals, businesses, corporations or government agencies, if there is evidence that the goals of these entities are contrary to the primary goals of the Federation.

1. An appropriate number of accounts as determined by the Board of Directors will be maintained as the T.B.F. of Ct. treasury accounts.
2. A Federation Ledger will be maintained by the Treasurer recording all income and expenses.
3. The Tournament Director shall establish an account in the name of T.B.F. of Ct. in order to document and record all Federation Tournament Trail Entry fees and payouts, which occurred during the tournament year.

B. Expenses and Reimbursement

This will be handled in the following manner:

1. All expenses must be submitted to the Treasurer or Vice President in writing and accompanied by a dated receipt, within 30 day of incurring the expense. In the event that "Advance monies" were given to the member prior to incurring the expenses any monies which are not covered with expense receipts will be returned with the paperwork.
2. A committee to be appointed by the Board of Directors will be responsible to examine all expense vouchers and reimburse all legitimate expenses (as described by existing rules) within thirty (30) days of the submission of the expense vouchers. Any expenses which are questioned by the Committee will be brought before the Board of Directors at the first meeting following the submission and all questions will be resolved. In the event that the expense is deemed acceptable by the Board the member will be immediately reimbursed.
3. Purchases in excess of \$100.00 shall require the approval of the Board of Directors.
4. Any expenditures by the Federation which exceed \$500.00 will be tabled until the following meeting so that the Board of Directors can confer with their clubs before it is voted on.

C. Audits

The T.B.F. of Ct. shall have a financial audit or review at least once a year after the close of the fiscal year.

1. An audit committee consisting of at least three (3) members will be selected by the Board of Directors at the last meeting each fiscal year.
2. The audit committee shall meet the month following their selection for the purpose of auditing the annual report of the Treasurer and the Tournament Director verifying expenditures, receipts checking accounts, bank balances and cash on hand.
3. The audit committee will report its findings at the following Federation meeting.

ARTICLE XV

A. Junior Members

1. Members of TBF of CT can only qualify, or try to qualify for one State Team. Members can not attempt to qualify for both the State Team and the Junior State Team.
2. Junior members must be 18 years of age prior to fishing on a State Team (senior) at the Regional event.

ARTICLE XVI

A. Quorum

A quorum (as required to pass motions and conduct business at a meeting) shall be met when at least 70% of the organizations clubs are in attendance at a meeting. All members of the organization (in good standing) who are present at the meeting shall be considered to be members of the Board of Directors, and therefore be afforded the opportunity to discuss and vote on any issues before the board.

ARTICLE XX

STANDING RULES

Rule 1 - Amendment of Standing Rules

The Standing Rules of this Federation may be changed at any regular meeting of the Board of Directors by a simple majority vote.

The revision will become effective immediately.

Rule 2- Voting

Voting at any Board of Directors meeting pertaining to changes to Standing Rules will be by Ballot vote

Rule 3- Bylaw and Standing Rules Updates

Each year, when necessary, chapters will be furnished with a list of any revisions to the Bylaws or the Standing Rules.

Rule 4- New Chapter

A packet containing the Bylaws and Tournament Rules and Regulations shall be given to each new club joining the T.B.F. of Ct.

Rule 5- Dissemination of T.B.F. of Ct. Roster

A roster of Federation members may not be released to any others without prior approval by the Board of Directors.

Rule 6- Trip Reimbursement. Representation at National T.B.F. events.

It shall be Federation policy that representation to any National or Regional events which require representation shall be reimbursed for the costs of the trip, i.e. commercial transportation costs or personal owned vehicle mileage (at the current GSA guideline) or gas reimbursement with receipt both ways plus food and lodging costs en route and during return. The Officers and/or committee chairs who are required to be in attendance by National T.B.F. shall be in attendance. All lodging and food costs shall be substantiated by a voucher/receipt and exclude costs for spouses or any other person accompanying. All other individuals attending any events expecting reimbursement must be approved prior to the trip by the Board of Directors. Advanced payment of travel costs may be disbursed to defray costs of the trip with approval of the Board of Directors. All vouchers, receipts, etc. must be submitted to the organization within 30 days of returning from the event.

Rule 7- Allowable Expenses

The Federation Officers and members of the Federation committees will be reimbursed for phone calls, stationary and postage. Meal(s) and travel (mileage at current GSA guideline or gas reimbursement with receipt) must be approved by the Board of Directors prior to start of the trip. Miscellaneous expenses not listed may be reimbursed only if a full explanation of these expenses is enclosed by the person submitting them. All receipts and vouchers must be signed and dated by the individual who submits the receipt or voucher, and must be submitted to the organization within 30 days of returning from the event..

Rule 8 - State Team Expenses

Federation team members who qualify for the Regional Tournament shall be provided an advanced payment of funds to cover gasoline (vehicle and boat), personal expenses for food, licenses, tolls and other approved expenses. The same expenses mentioned above for accompanying family members or friends shall be borne by the individual. Team members will share rooms. For other than immediate family to attend this event, approval of the Executive Board is required. Clothing (shirts, hats, jackets and rain gear) shall be provided at no cost to the team members, alternate and Federation President or his/her designee when finances allow.

Expenses not covered shall include: Personal tackle; extra clothing; trip preparation to vehicle, trailer or boat; handwritten gasoline receipts in excess of the team's average; tobacco products; alcohol; bedding; or dinner in excess of the team's average. Any prize money won by the Connecticut State team shall be disbursed evenly to the members of the State team including all alternates.

Rule 9 - Donations

Any club or individual may request a donation for any worthy charity or cause. The club representative must fill out a request donation form and submit request to the Executive Board. It shall be required that any club requesting donations from the Federation do so at least 30 days in advance. Approval of all donation requests shall be by majority vote of the Board of Directors. The total donations that a club shall receive within a calendar year from the Federation shall not exceed 50% of that club's yearly Federation dues. Any club which receives a donation from the Federation for an event will be required to submit an article to the newsletter about the event. In the event that a club does not do this, that club will not be eligible to receive a donation for the next year.

Donations shall not carry over from year to year for any club or organization.

Rule 10 - Maximum Performer Award.

The maximum performer award shall be given to the individual that finished overall in 1st by way of the "C" division.

Rule 11 - Interpretation of the Standing Rules

The final authority for the interpretation of the Standing Rules shall rest with the Board of Directors.

REVISED AS OF 1-1-2014

TBF of Connecticut

By-Laws

Revised Edition
January 1, 2010

TBF of CT. State Team Contract - 2014

The following rules apply to all members and alternate members of the TBF of CT. State Team participating at the TBF of CT. Eastern Divisional and Federation National Tournaments.

1. Team members who wish to drop off the state team with no penalty imposed, will be required to do so ON OR PRIOR TO JULY 1, **2014** (“drop off date”). Any member who fails to do so must demonstrate that an emergency situation (as voted by the Board of Directors at the following monthly meeting) caused them not to remain on the team. Members who are not approved at that meeting will be ineligible to fish for the state team for two (2) years. Any team member who drops off the team after this date will be responsible to reimburse the TBF of CT. for any and all expenses incurred, including sponsor supplies that are not returned. Team members who drop off the State Team do not have the option of rejoining the team at a later time.

2. The Divisionals are considered to be a six (6) day tournament event. All members of the State team will be responsible to fish for all three days of practice and all three days of the actual tournament as part of the State Team. Any member who fails to do so must demonstrate that an emergency situation (as voted by the Board of Directors at the following monthly meeting) caused them not to fish. Members who are not approved at that meeting will be ineligible to fish for the State Team for two (2) years.

3. The Alternate(s) for the State team will be required to be at the tournament site for all six days of the tournament. All team members are required to be available to fish by 8:00 A.M. on the first official day of practice for this event. If the alternate(s) cannot meet these requirements, the position will be moved down the list until an alternate who can fulfill these requirements is found and designated.

4. Each year the State Team, including alternates, will be required to host and run a number of fundraising tournaments. All entries will be mailed to the TBF Tournament Director, but all other duties will be taken on by the State Team members. Each tournament will have at least three (3) members working and they will be designated on a first come (volunteers ahead of time) first serve basis. Members may fish tournaments. all proceeds will be used to help offset the cost of supporting the State Team.

5. During the week of the tournament, each team member will be required to wear the clothing provided for them and as designated by the Team Captain or his designee for each day of the entire event including banquets, pairings and weigh-ins.

Page 2

6. Sponsors of the Federation are to be considered as sponsors of the individual team members.

These sponsors are our primary sponsors and are the only ones, team members are representing at this event. The only exception will be for team members who bring forth contracts that require otherwise. Exceptions must also be approved by the Board of Directors prior to the Eastern Divisional or National Tournament.

7. Team members who go to the TBF of CT. Nationals must credit the TBF of Ct. Federation as one of their major sponsors and at the FLW World Championship if they continue to that event.

8. Team members are required to share all of the information including but not limited to locations, patterns, lures, techniques, conditions, etc., during this event.

9. Team members are required to attend and participate at the team meetings held each day during the entire event. **NO EXCEPTIONS Team members and alternates are required to attend three (3) out of the scheduled 2014 team meetings prior to the Eastern Divisional. No excuses will be allowed!! Team members who do not meet the three mandatory meeting requirement will be removed as members of the State Team. State Team members will also be required to work two of the State Team fund raiser Opens. Participation and attendance by team members at these Opens will be designated on a first come first serve basis. Members who work the Opens, must check in with the designated Tournament Director in the morning and afternoon and may leave the tournament when the Tournament Director releases them. Team members may participate as a boat captain for a youth tournament in lieu of one (only one) of these two required events. (To receive credit for working a tournament the member is required to be at the tournament site ready to work at least 1 hour prior to the start of the tournament. At the tournament he (she) will be responsible to work both the morning and the afternoon of the tournament up to and including loading the weigh in equipment onto the vehicle at the end of the tournament. The jobs of the workers will be designated by the Tournament Director of that specific tournament.) **Team members will also be required to work during at least one of the fishing shows - as a representative of the organization, to increase membership and enhance public relations. (This requirement shall be for a minimum of four (4) hours, on a first come, first served basis.) All of these requirements must be fulfilled on or prior to the last "Open Tournament" which is held prior to the State Team leaving for the Divisional Tournament. In the event that a member or an alternate does not fulfill these requirements the next person on the list who has met all of the requirements will become a member of the team and the person who did not meet the requirements will forfeit their position on the team!!!****

Page 3

10. While State Team members are not required to fish the "TBF Opens" and are entitled to fish on the waters during the "TBF Open" tournaments they will not be allowed to fish on the waters using live bait during those tournaments. No other restrictions will be enforced, however it would be preferred that team members not compete with the people who are helping to support

the State Team. (Competitors who pay an entry fee to participate)

11. Team members are expected and required to behave in a respectable manner at all times regardless of the circumstances. Arguing, fighting, or acts of disrespect towards anyone during the event will not be tolerated and will result in removal from the team.

12. The use of any drugs, other than prescription, is strictly forbidden. Drinking of alcoholic beverages during tournament hours is not allowed and drunkenness will not be tolerated at any time. Offenders will not be allowed to continue fishing the tournament.

13. Each team member will be given a specific amount of cash, and an envelope to keep receipts in prior to this event. This cash advance is for individual expenses as outlined in Rule #8 of the TBF of CT. Standing Rules. A full accounting on the appropriate paperwork as provided by TBF of CT including all receipts and any unused money must be returned to the TBF President or Treasurer within 30 days of the conclusion of this event. Failure to do so will make the team member ineligible to receive prize money from this tournament and/ or receive reimbursement for the expenses incurred.

14. Federation team members who qualify for the Divisional Tournament shall be provided an advanced payment of funds to cover gasoline (vehicle and boat), personal expenses for food, licenses, tolls and other approved expenses. The same expenses mentioned above for accompanying family members or friends shall be borne by the individual. Team members will share rooms. For other than immediate family to attend this event, approval of the Executive Board is required. Clothing (shirts, hats, jackets and rain gear) shall be provided at no cost to the team members, alternate and Federation President or his/ her designee when finances allow.

Expenses not covered shall include” Personal tackle, extra clothing, trip preparation to vehicle, trailer or boat, handwritten gasoline receipts in excess of the teams average, tobacco products, alcohol, beer, or dinner in excess of the teams average. Any prize money; won by the Connecticut State team shall be disbursed evenly to the members of the State Team including all alternates.

Page 4

15. Member s of the State Team who will be using their boat during the tournament will be required to bring a boat which complies with TBF National requirements and which is safe and reasonable for the body of water being fished. In addition, if the boat is needed for any of the actual tournament days and is not broken down or inoperable, the boater will be required to use that boat during those days - failure to do so will result in that member forfeiting his spot on the team and an alternate will fish in his place. This rule shall apply to all designated boaters and alternate boaters.

16. Members of the State Team are required to work with the officers of the Federation to insure that we all maintain a good relationship with our national sponsors. Any member who knowingly acts in a manner which could jeopardize our relationship with any sponsors will be subject to immediate disciplinary action as outlined elsewhere in this agreement.

17. The TBF of CT. Federation President or his designee will specify lodging and dining facilities for the State Team. Team members will use the facilities, except if dietary restrictions exist and are approved by the Board of Directors prior to the start of the tournament. If the State Team provides any meals, non-state team members designated as adults (over 18 years of age) will pay \$50.00/week and children 7 years of age or older will be required to pay \$25.00/week. Non State Team participants (no more than three) who volunteer to cook meals for State Team members will be designated on a first come first serve basis as approved by the Board of Directors. Their portion of the cost of their lodging and weekly food costs can be waived as voted upon by the Board of Directors. Where wives or significant others will accompany State Team members, the number of children or adults lodging in the same room will be limited to the maximum occupancy defined by the lodging policy, otherwise separate lodging costs will be born and paid to the TBF of CT by the extra non-participants. All expenses shall be paid to TBF of CT. on or before the drop off date of July 1st (**2014**) All children//teenagers/young adults under 18 years of age must be monitored by a parent and/or guardian at all times.

18. Team members agree to follow the instructions of the Team Captain or TBF President or his designee in that order. Team members further agree to conduct themselves in a way that will not bring dishonor or discredit to this organization, it's officers, members, or National TBF/FLW

19. All team members who bring a boat will provide a current copy of boat insurance with stop and start dates listed and meeting all of the requirements listed by the national organization to the Team Captain prior to the start of practice (official) for the tournament

The following are considered to be legitimate expenses for State Team members, and will therefore be paid by the Federation **as funding allows and as approved by the board of directors**- with appropriate receipts:

A. Gas and Oil - used in boat or car during the days that the team is at the tournament site, and for the drive to and from the tournament site to the contestants home (fill up car before leaving Connecticut at your expense and fill up car when back in Connecticut at Federation expense).

Boat gas is only for designated boaters and alternate boats. (Boat should be filled prior to first day of practice at owners expense, and at the end of the tournament at the Federations expense.)

B. Fishing licenses, boat launch permits, maps. - These should be provided to the team and are only considered to be legitimate expenses if not provided to you.

C. Food - On the trip to and from the tournament, team members may stop for food and drink at reasonable intervals at Federation expense. Those members who are bringing guests are required to get separate receipts (the organization will not pay for refreshments and meals for guests during travel to and from the tournament site).

During the tournament (**if the team does not have cooking facilities and a meal plan,** contestants will be compensated for their meals and drinks with appropriate receipts. Members with guests are required to get separate receipts (the organization will not pay for refreshments and meals for guests during the tournament days.)

EXPENSES OTHER THAN THOSE LISTED ABOVE ARE ONLY LEGITIMATE WITH THE PREAPPROVAL OF THE PRESIDENT OR HIS DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE AT THIS EVENT - WITH NO EXCEPTIONS.

The disbursement of any funds from the TBF of CT is at the discretion of the Board of Directors based on what finances of the organization allow. For this reason, any of the above rules which pertain to money are subject to change based on the availability of funds and the input of the Board of Directors. Best guess estimates will be brought forth prior to the July -1 “drop off date”, to allow contestants to drop from the team for financial considerations without having penalties imposed.

Page 6

I understand and agree to abide by all of the rules in this six page document pertaining to participation on the **2014** TBF of CT State Team at the 2014 Divisionals. I further understand that failure to do so may result in my expulsion from the team or other penalties as imposed by the President, Team Captain or team (during the tournament) or the Board of Directors. I further agree to abide by all pertaining organizational By-Laws

Printed Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____