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**Club Constitution and Bylaws of  
FLORIDA TRAILS BASSMASTERS  
Orlando, Florida  
(November 1, 2012 – October 31, 2013)**

**ARTICLE 1 – Name and Purpose**

**Section 1: Name**

This Club shall be called the Florida Trails Bassmasters of Orlando, Florida.

**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 clubs of the Florida B.A.S.S. Federation Nation embracing the principles and purposes of the Bass Anglers Sportsman Society® (B.A.S.S.).

**ARTICLE II – Membership**

**Section 1: Number of Members**

The Club shall begin with and maintain at least six members. A goal of this Club is to maintain an angler to co-angler ratio of 55% anglers and 45% co-anglers.

**Section 2: Requirements for Regular Membership**

To become a Club member, a person shall:

- (a) Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership.
- (b) Be a member of B.A.S.S.

- 33 (c) Be 16 years of age or older.
- 34 (d) Pay all dues on or before the first meeting of each year in November.

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36 **Section 3: Lifetime Membership**

37 If the Club wished to honor one of its members for some particular achievement  
 38 or long period of outstanding service, it may do so, by resolution of the  
 39 Executive Board, designate such member as a “Life Member of Florida Trails  
 40 Bassmasters”. Such a member may be exempted from the payment of club  
 41 dues for such life member shall thereafter be paid by the club so long as the  
 42 club exists. Such a member shall be responsible for all B.A.S.S National and  
 43 State dues. A member shall be awarded lifetime membership contingent upon  
 44 the following requirements:

- 45 (a.) Have been a member for a minimum of five (5) full years.
- 46 (b.) Be sixty (60) years of age or older.

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48 **Section 4: Membership Dues**

49 The membership dues shall be \$100.00 annually. Current and past members  
 50 may pay their dues on or before the first meeting in November. All new  
 51 members are required to pay dues upon being accepted into the club at the  
 52 prorated amounts shown in TABLE 1-1 below.

53

54 All members of Florida Trails Bassmasters must also be members in good  
 55 standing of B.A.S.S (which is the responsibility of each individual member and  
 56 is not payable to the club), National B.A.S.S. Federation Nation, and the Florida  
 57 B.A.S.S. Federation Nation. The dues for National B.A.S.S. Federation Nation  
 58 are \$30.00 per year and dues for the Florida B.A.S.S. Federation Nation are  
 59 \$15.00 per year. Club and Federation Nation dues are payable to the club  
 60 Treasurer.

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62 Becoming a member of B.A.S.S. is the responsibility of each individual  
 63 member and is not payable to the club.

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65 **TABLE 1-1: PRORATED DUES DURING YEAR**

Period	Florida Trails Bassmasters (FTB)	Florida B.A.S.S. Federation Nation (FBFN)	National B.A.S.S. Federation Nation (BFN)	Total
November - April	\$55.00	\$15.00	\$30.00	\$100.00
May – July	\$35.00	\$15.00	\$30.00	\$80.00
August	\$20.00	-	-	\$20.00

September	\$15.00	-	-	\$15.00
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A member may not participate in a Club tournament until all dues are paid in full.

Dues are not refundable.

**Section 5: Meetings of Members**

The membership shall hold regular meetings at pre-established times and locations designated by the President. Regular meetings shall be held at least once a month. At each meeting of the members, the following shall be the order of business:

- (a.) Reading of the minutes of the preceding meeting
- (b.) Reports of Officers
- (c.) Reports of Committees
- (d.) Miscellaneous

Special meetings may be called at any time by the President and shall be called within 10-days after receipt of a written request signed by four members of the Board of Directors or by ten active members of the Club.

**Section 6: Quorum**

A majority of active members present, or ten percent (10%) of the Club’s membership, whichever is smaller, shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of business conducted at a general meeting. For the purpose of conducting the business of the Club’s Board of Directors, sixty-seven percent (67%) or five members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 7: Procedural Rules for Meetings**

The rules set forth in Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern the Club in all meetings in which they are applicable and not in conflict with the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws.

**Section 8: Non-Discrimination**

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

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

**Section 1: Elected Officers and their Duties**

The officers of the Club shall consist of:

- 105 (a) **President:** Preside over all meetings and direct all official business.  
106 Appoint and be ex-officio member of all committees. Supervise all club  
107 functions. Serve as a Club representative at Florida B.A.S.S. Federation  
108 Nation meetings.
- 109 (b) **Vice President:** Act as program chairman, assist the president in his/her  
110 duties, and preside in the absence of the President.
- 111 (c) **Secretary:** Maintain accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings  
112 as called for by the Club President. Shall carry on all correspondence of  
113 the Club, maintain membership, and perform such other duties as may be  
114 required by the Board of Directors.
- 115 (d) **Treasurer:** Collect and disburse all monies. Maintain accurate financial  
116 records and present a current balance report at each regular meeting.  
117 Prepare an annual audit for review by the Club Board of Directors. The  
118 Club may vote that the Treasurer and any other officer handling Club  
119 funds must be bonded.
- 120 (e) **Tournament Director:** It will be the responsibility of the Tournament  
121 Director to plan, organize, and operate all tournaments of the Florida  
122 Trails Bassmasters. Will submit the annual tournament schedule for the  
123 upcoming year at the September Board of Director's meeting for final  
124 distribution to the members in October. The Tournament Director will  
125 rule with final authority on proper conduct, procedures, qualifications  
126 and other matters relating to the orderly conduct of such tournaments. He  
127 shall appoint a committee to assist in the planning, organizing and  
128 operating all tournaments.

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## 130 **Section 2: Elections**

131 The nomination of officers will be held annually starting at the general meeting  
132 held in **July** and continue at each meeting until the election. The election of  
133 officers shall be held annually at the general meeting during the month of  
134 **September**. Election shall be by simple majority of members present. Election  
135 for each officer shall be held separately in order listed in ARTICLE III, Section  
136 1. All votes will be cast by secret ballot.

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## 138 **Section 3: Eligibility of Vote**

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

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## 141 **Section 4: Term of Office**

142 The term of office is for one year, which shall begin on November 1, and end  
143 on October 31 or until the successor assumes office.

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145 **Section 5: Vacancies**

146 In the event of an office becoming vacant, nominations shall be asked for and  
147 an election held to fill the unexpired term of the individual vacating the office.  
148 National B.A.S.S.® Headquarters shall be notified immediately of the change  
149 of any officers.

150  
151 **Section 6: Eligibility for Holding Office**

152 To be eligible for an office a member must:

- 153 (a) Have been a member for 1-year.
- 154 (b) Have attended at least 50% of the Club meetings and 50% of Club  
155 functions during a 12-month period.
- 156 (c) Have shown an active interest in all Club functions.
- 157 (d) Maintain current B.A.S.S. membership.

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159 **ARTICLE IV – Standing Committees**

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

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164 Members of the club may serve on more than one committee.

- 165 (a) **Board of Directors:** The Board of Directors will consist of seven (7)  
166 members: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Tournament  
167 Director, and two (2) members elected at large by majority vote of the  
168 members present at the October regular meetings.

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- 170 (1) The President will call all meetings of the Board of Directors and  
171 preside at such meetings.
- 172 (2) The Secretary will record the minutes of these meetings.
- 173 (3) The board will decide all protests and rule on all violations of the  
174 tournament rules and bylaws of the Club when appropriately received.
- 175 (4) The board will develop agendas for the monthly meetings.

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- 177 (b) **Youth Committee:** The purpose of this committee shall be to organize all  
178 youth activities and programs supported by the club. It will coordinate a  
179 CASTINGKIDS event at least once a year. It will be responsible for the  
180 operations of the Junior Club of Florida Trails Bassmasters and will plan,  
181 organize, and implement a youth program that will introduce young people  
182 to the goals of B.A.S.S.; to give them a basis for respect of our national  
183 heritage, an appreciation of the basic rules of honesty, integrity, fair play

184 and good sportsmanship; and to give them an introduction to the sheer joy  
185 of fishing.

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187 (c) Conservation Committee: The purpose of this committee shall be to protect  
188 our natural environment from harmful change; to document and report to  
189 the proper authorities violations of local, state, federal anti-pollution laws,  
190 statutes, regulations, ordinances and other regulatory devices; to take legal  
191 action where appropriate; to undertake informational and educational  
192 programs to bring public awareness of threats to our environment; and to  
193 take a leadership role in repairing the harm that has already been done to  
194 the life-giving waters of America.

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196 (d) Tournament Committee: The purpose of the tournament committee shall be  
197 to plan, organize and operate all Club tournaments.

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199 (e) Tournament Rules Committee: The purpose of the tournament rules  
200 committee shall be to review proposed rule changes and draft tournament  
201 rules and make recommendations to the Board of Directors and must then  
202 be approved by the general membership.

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204 (f) By-Laws Committee: Consists of the Board of Directors and is responsible  
205 for collecting and reviewing any proposed changes to the Constitution or  
206 By-Laws. Any member desiring a change in the Constitution or By-Laws  
207 shall present them to this committee prior to introducing them to the  
208 general membership.

## 209 **ARTICLE V – Removal of Membership**

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

- 211 (a) Failure to pay dues.  
212 (b) Any action that would reflect dishonor and disgrace on this Club and/or  
213 B.A.S.S.  
214 (c) Failure to attend 50% of the Club meetings and 50% of Club functions  
215 during a 12-month period.  
216 (d) Disqualification for any reason from participating in B.A.S.S.-sponsored  
217 events, including disqualification for use of drugs or alcohol.  
218 (e) Any act such as littering, destruction of private property, trespassing  
219 without right, blatant dishonesty, theft, unsafe boating, continued  
220 disrespect and disregard of others rights, shall be construed as a breach of  
221 unsportsmanlike conduct and constitute a just and proper grievance.  
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224 Any member, either by personal observation or by reliable report, may file a  
225 written, signed complaint to the Board of Directors who shall review and pass  
226 judgment against any other member for alleged breaches of conduct. The Board  
227 may decree probation, suspension or dismissal.

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## 229 **ARTICLE VI – Affiliation**

### 230 **Section 1: Requirements for Affiliation**

- 231 (a) Approval of Club Charter by B.A.S.S.
- 232 (b) Update B.A.S.S. with a Club membership roster once each year.
- 233 (c) Names and addresses of new members joining the Club during the year  
234 must be submitted to B.A.S.S. as they occur.
- 235 (d) Maintain 100% B.A.S.S. membership.
- 236 (e) Must affiliate with Florida B.A.S.S. Federation Nation and support its  
237 conservation, youth programs, and any additional requirements that it  
238 establishes.

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## 240 **ARTICLE VII – Method of Amending the Bylaws**

### 241 **Section 1: Amending the Bylaws**

242 The Constitution and By-laws will be reviewed by the By-Laws Committee  
243 every year starting in June for the following year. A final draft of any  
244 amendments or changes will be provided to the membership in August for  
245 discussions. The membership will vote on the Constitution and By-Laws for the  
246 following year in September. A copy of the new Constitution and By-Laws will  
247 be distributed to each member by November’s general meeting.

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249 The Constitution and By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting by a  
250 two-third vote of the members present, provided written notice of the proposed  
251 amendment has been presented to the By-Laws Committee for review and the  
252 general membership has had at least one regular meeting prior to the vote to  
253 review the proposed change.

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## 255 **ARTICLE VIII – Tournament Rules**

256 Tournament Rules will be prepared by the Tournament **Rules** Committee of this  
257 Club. Tournament rules must be voted on and accepted by the general membership  
258 **annually**.

Change Record:

Voted in date:	Section:	Change From:
10/4/2010	Article 3 Section 2	... The election of officers shall be held annually at the general meeting during the month of October. ...
10/2/2012	Article 2 Section 3	...club dues; and all B.A.S.S. National dues...
10/2/2012	Section 4	...dues shall be \$90.00 annually.
10/2/2012	Article IV	(f)... The tournament committee will draft tournament rules...
10/2/2012	Article VIII	... Tournament Committee...
10/2/2012	Article III Section 2	... held in August... ... during the month of September.