

Harris Chain Bassmasters

By-Laws 2019

ARTICLE I – Name and Purpose

Section 1: Name

This chapter shall be called the Harris Chain Bassmasters (HCBM) Inc. of Eustis, Florida.

Section 2: Purpose

The Harris Chain Bassmasters herein as HCBM, purpose to advocate the following:

- (a) Responsible Resource Management
- (b) Community Service
- (c) Stimulate Public awareness of Bass fishing as a major sport
- (d) Connect with and support youth involvement
- (e) Support our State Conservation Department and organizations through moral, political support and encouragement.
- (f) Improve our skill as Anglers through fellowship, supportive camaraderie and friendly exchange of techniques.

ARTICLE II- Membership

Section 1: Number of Members

The club shall begin with and maintain at least six (6) members.

Section 2: Requirement for Membership

In order to be eligible for membership in the HCBM club a potential member must:

- (a) Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership
- (b) Be recommended by at least one (1) member at a regular monthly meeting.
- (c) Fish one tournament with HCBM as a non-boater, and be present at the following meeting, unless excused by a member of the HCBM Board of Directors.
- (d) Be voted on by membership. Vote shall be by secret ballot and affirmation must be unanimous.
 - (1) Should a “no” vote be cast the members casting the “no” vote have 5 business days to explain their reason or reasons to the Board of Directors (BOD). This may be done at the meeting, in person, or by letter to the club PO Box. The letter must be postmarked within 5 business days and may be anonymous if desired.
 - (2) Once the BOD receives the “no” voters’ reasons, the BOD will review the reasons and make a determination of the validity. If the BOD feels the reason or reasons are valid the vote will stand, if not, the prospective member will be affirmed. Either way, the President will notify the prospective member of his acceptance or rejection before the start of the next regular club function.
- (f) Eligible member must be 18 years of age or older to join the HCBM club.

Section 3: Membership Dues

All Members must be current on annual membership dues of \$25.00, payable in advance, upon acceptance of membership by election and renewed annually at the December Meeting.

Section 4: Meetings of Members

The membership shall hold regular meeting at pre-established time. Current meeting dates and time are the first Tuesday of each calendar month with a start time of 7:00PM. (At the designated location)

ARTICLE III – Officers, Elections, Vacancies, and Eligibility

Section 1 – Officers and their Duties

The officers of the chapter shall consist of:

- (a) President: Preside over all meetings and direct all official business. Appoint and be an ex officio member of all committees. Supervise all club functions.
- (b) Vice President: Act as program chairman, assists the president in his duties and presides in the absence of the president.
- (c) Secretary: Maintain accurate minutes of all regular and special meetings as called for by the chapter president.
- (d) Treasurer: Collect and disburse all moneys. 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 treasure and any other officer handling chapter funds must be bonded.
- (e) Tournament Director: Plan, organize, and oversee all club tournaments. Draft changes to tournament rules and present to the general membership for approval, keep tournament records, announce results, enforce all tournament rules and investigate all protests concerning tournaments. Chair the tournament committee, and present tournament lakes to club membership for approval.
- (f) **Weigh Master** – Responsible for weighing of all fish brought to the scales. Will measure fish brought to the scales (as needed), weigh all fish and call out the weight as read from the club scales to the **TD** or assigned scorekeeper. Acts as the tournament director (**TD**) in their absence and assists the **TD** in the conduct of their duties. Work in concert with the **TD** in monitoring tournament location (s) for weather, launch conditions, or hazards at designated tournament sites.

Section 2: Elections

The elections of officers shall be held annually at a regular meeting during the month of November.

- (a) Nominations will be accepted during the October meeting.
- (b) Elections shall be by simple majority of members present.
- (c) Election for each officer shall be held separately in order listed in ARICLE III, Section 1.

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Section 3: Eligibility to Vote

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

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Section 4: Term of Office

The term of office is for one year, which shall begin the first meeting in December and end on the last day of November. If the regular meeting is canceled for any reason the meeting will be held at the (Tilted Grill & Bar) 1 week later at the same time.

Section 5: Vacancies

In the event the current club President departs the HCBM board position prior to the end of their elected term, the Vice President will move into the office of President and an election will be held to fill the Vice President vacancy. All other vacancy will be appointed by the Club President.

Section 6: Eligibility to hold office

To be eligible for an office a member must:

- (a) Have been a member for six months.
- (b) Have attended at least 75% of chapter functions during the last 12 month period.
- (c) Have shown an active interest in all club functions.
- (d) All club officer positions, except President's position, may be filled by any member of the HCBM that is in good standings. To be eligible to hold the office of President a member must have served a full term in another officer position.

ARTICLE IV – Standing Committee

Section 1: Terms

Standing committees will be appointed by the President from volunteers at the December meeting and serve for one year or until a new committee is appointed. The terms of the committee members will coincide with that of the president. The President will select a chairman from the Volunteers.

Section 2: Standing Committees

The committees will consist of:

- (a) Board of Directors: The Board of Directors will consist of seven (7) members: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, immediate past President, Tournament Director and one or two members elected at-large by majority vote of the members present at the November regular meeting.
 - (1) The president will call all meetings of the Board of Directors and preside at such meetings.
 - (2) The board will decide all protests and rule on all violations of the tournament rules and bylaws of the chapter when appropriately received.
 - (3) The secretary will record the minutes of these meetings
 - (4) The board will develop agendas for the monthly meetings.
 - (5) Member at-large shall assist the Board in various duties to include handling election duties.
- (b) Youth Committee: The purpose of the committee shall be to plan, organize and implement a Chapter Youth Project to introduce young. To give them a basis for respect of our national heritage, an appreciation of the basic rules of

honesty, integrity, fair play, good sportsmanship and to give them an introduction to the sheer joy of fishing.

- (c) Conservation Committee: The purpose of the 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. Undertake informational and educational programs to bring public awareness to 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 this committee is to select club tournament dates. Committee will be headed by the Tournament director and up to six (6) club members with at least two non-boaters on the committee.
- (e) Banquet Committee: The purpose of this committee is to plan the annual club Banquet a short time after the completion of the annual December classic tournament. Member of the committee will be either volunteers or appointed by the Club President.

ARTICLE V – Removal of Membership

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

- (a) Failure to pay dues
- (b) Any action, which would reflect dishonor and disgrace on this club.
- (c) Failure to attend 50% of the club meetings and 50% of club functions during a 12 month period.
- (d) Disqualification for any reason from participating in Club sponsored events, including disqualification for use of drugs or alcohol.

ARTICLE VI – Method of Amending the Bylaws

The bylaws may be amended at regular meeting by a 2/3 vote of members present, provided written notice of the proposed amendment has been presented to the membership at least one regular meeting prior to the vote.