



May 7th 2020

Ontario B.A.S.S. Nation COVID-19 Update

Dear Ontario B.A.S.S. Nation Presidents and Chapter Representatives,

Due to the current emergency orders in Ontario resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Ontario B.A.S.S. Nation is suspending all in-person club related activities. These include all in-person gatherings, meetings, tournaments, conservation projects, and any other club functions until June 19th 2020.

If an event is held during this time, the chapter hosting the event will not receive any insurance for the event. Further, the club may risk substantial fines from local municipalities and possible removal from B.A.S.S.

Ontario B.A.S.S. Nation members are welcome to participate in the sport of angling within Ontario during the pandemic. We trust all members that choose to go fishing will do so safely and follow all covid-related procedures outlined by the Province of Ontario and their local municipalities.

The Ontario B.A.S.S. Nation will be hosting a virtual board meeting on Saturday, June 13th to review these emergency orders and the June 19th 2020 deadline based on federal, provincial and municipal information available at that time. We sincerely hope that by the time bass season opens, that restrictions by provincial and municipal governments will be relaxed to allow us to more freely enjoy recreational fishing and even some degree of competitive fishing.

We also ask that OBN club members understand that we are trying to lead by example and that we all resist the various loopholes that may exist to allow some degree of in-person club related activities

Please review the message from Jon Stewart (Director, B.A.S.S. Nation) in the message below for additional clarity.

Sincerely,

David Spence
President, Ontario B.A.S.S. Nation
Email: president@ontariobass.com

B.A.S.S. - COVID-19 UPDATE (Received: May 7th 2020)

Hello Presidents,

I hope all is well and you are staying safe and healthy. These are certainly unprecedented times. I know that some states are in the beginning stages of reopening and some are even allowing tournaments, and that is great news.

We have gotten some calls and requests to “authorize” tournaments. To be clear, B.A.S.S. cannot/will not authorize anyone, as to whether clubs or states may or may not hold events, that is the job of the State and Local authorities. We can recommend, and a while back we did strongly encourage states to not hold events, and emphasized that in order for the B.A.S.S. Nation insurance to be applicable, CDC, Federal, State, Provincial and Local guidelines must be followed.

It is still the case that as long as you are following the CDC, Federal, State and Local guidelines, and those guidelines allow for resumption of tournaments under certain guidelines, and those guidelines are followed, the B.A.S.S. Nation insurance will be applicable.

I have attached a document that is a suggestion for B.A.S.S. Nation State and Club events, and to be used as a guide for suggested best practices when resuming events. Each event is different and again these are suggestions and guidelines. Many state agencies are asking for a document like this, and you may be able to give them this one.

Stay safe and healthy!

Have great day!

Jon Stewart

Director, B.A.S.S. Nation

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