

5th Annual Directors Report

Establishment of Divisions Format and Schedules

The 2018-2019 season will begin the fifth season of the Alabama BASS Nation High School. Over the last four years, the growth in our participation has exceeded our capacity as well as most all facilities to hold tournaments. While we are very humbled by the confidence our members have in us, we have reached a point where we must make some adjustments to our program.

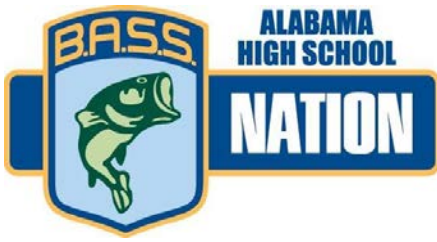
Our Directors held a meeting during the State Championship and discussed the feedback received from our members. The areas of concern included; safety, hotel availability, boat ramp parking and navigation, overcrowding on the lake, stress on participants, stress on the fish and the ability to go to other lakes that do not have facilities to handle our current size. At the same time, we wanted a program that would still allow **every angler** the opportunity to participate and allow for growth of new areas. The Directors left the meeting with the objective to create a program that solved as many of these concerns as possible. Over the course of the next month, 5 possible programs were drawn up for review.

Our Directors met again on June 16th to discuss and vote on these 5 programs among other improvements to registration and equipment. In the 2017-2018 season, there were 312 High School boats and 32 Junior boats that participated in 80% or more of the ABNHS tournaments. These numbers were used in developing the new program to allow for growth.

The Directors voted to implement a program that consisted of two divisions as follows. Two divisions will be created for the 2018-2019 season called the **Tide and Tiger Divisions**. These are not geographic divisions. **High School and Junior Clubs will be allowed to enter either division but must stay in that division for the entire season.** Coaches of each High School and Junior Clubs will email either abnhstide@gmail.com or abnhstiger@gmail.com with their completed Division Registration form based on Division choice with anglers names from that school by September 30th to secure slots for the school. Junior clubs must register in same Division as their High School Team. **Coaches it is very important that you only send names of High School members that you know are participating** for this initial pre-registration period from July 1st through September 30th, 2018. Juniors clubs will also need to upload the Division Registration form to the email for **Tide or Tiger Divisions**.

Once we have received High School Initial Rosters from **Coaches/Advisors Only** for the first **350 High School members (175 boats)** and **60 Junior members (30 boats)** in a single division during this initial pre-registration period, the division will be closed. **Important:** Junior Teams must follow their High School in choice of Divisions, so we need all High School Coaches to include discussions on choices of Divisions with their associated Junior programs and Coaches. After the Sept. 30, 2018 deadline for initial team pre-registration, we will continue accepting new members that Coach/Advisor can submit to us and they will be able to fish in same division with team. Any clubs signing up after Sept. 30, 2018 deadline will be subject to be assigned to the division that has opening.

Beginning Oct 1st 2018, we will accept new members that wish to join your club throughout the tournament season in each division. All new members **must be submitted** to their division email and then they will be allowed to participate in with their club. **We will not deny anyone that joins during the season.** Based on our participation percentages from total active memberships in the past years, we have room for growth throughout the season for both High School and Junior Levels.



QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES

How to qualify for Alabama BASS Nation High School/Youth State Championship

High School: Top 30 individual boats will qualify for State Championship at each Regional Qualifier for both Divisions. Once a Team has Qualified we will move down our Individual Results and remove teams that have previously qualified. **Example: Top 30 from our 2nd Regional Qualifier and 6 of the teams are already qualified in the 1st Regional Qualifier, we would then move down to 36th place from the Individual Results from that tournament.**

6 Man Team: Top 3 (6-Man Teams) from each Regional Qualifier –No Double Qualification **Example: Top 3 at 2nd Regional and 1 of the teams already qualified- We only take the other remaining 2 teams from the 6-Man Team Results that will compete in Team Championship.**

Juniors: Only qualification for the Junior Division is that they are required to participate in a **minimum of 2 Regional tournaments** in order to qualify for their State Championship

How to qualify for Bassmaster High School/Juniors National Championship:

- 1st Place High School Team at each Regional tournament will qualify for Nationals
- Top 2 Teams in High School AOY (Anglers of the Year) for both Tide and Tigers Division
- Remaining National spots will be awarded at the State Championship based on membership numbers to include the State Champions and Runner Up spots automatically given for ABN High School by BASS Nation for hosting that event.
- Top 2 Finishing Junior Teams-Winners and Runner Up spots given to ABN Junior State Championship will qualify for Nationals for ABN HS Trail for hosting that event as well.
- High School Teams may compete in BASS Nation Open Events throughout the country.
For every 10 boats registered in Open 1 boat will Qualify for nationals Ex. 200 = 20 boats

Important Notice:

Please note that clubs that **do not submit their team rosters** during the initial pre-registration period of July 1st 2018 thru Sept. 30th 2018 **are subject to be assigned** to a division based on availability as rosters per division reach 350 members (175 boats) 60 Junior Members (30 boats).

Tournament Registrations will be 100% Online with options for Credit Card or Pay By Check (mail in check). You also have option to register for one tournament or all 3 tournaments in your Division.

If you have a **change in Primary contact** for your Team please send us this contact information Club Name, Contact Name, Email and Phone to abnhstide@gmail.com or abnhstiger@gmail.com Any Questions about this new format should be directed to these same emails based on the Division you club chooses for both High School and Junior Divisions from this point forward.

Summary:

- New Format -Two divisions (Tide & Tiger Divisions) (See attached Schedule & Flyer)
- Coaches must register High School & Juniors Teams in one division by Tide email or Tiger email during initial pre-registration period of July 1st, 2018 thru September 30th, 2018
- Juniors must submit initial roster in same Division as their High School Team
- 3 Regional tournaments per division for High School and Juniors
- 350 High School Members (175 boats) and 60 Junior Members (30 boats) each Division
- Beginning Oct 1st 2018 we accept new members that join club and fish same Division
- Top 30 High School Boats qualify for State Championship at each Regional
- Top (3) 6-man teams qualify for State Championship at each Regional
- Juniors must participate in a min of 2 Regionals to qualify for Junior State Championship
- High School winner of each Regional tournament will qualify for Nationals
- Top two AOY(Anglers of the Year) of each division will qualify for Nationals
- Remaining National spots will be awarded at State Championship based on membership
- 1st & 2nd Place of Junior State Championship will qualify for Nationals

Alabama BASS Nation High School Team Trail continues to set the trend as the Nation's largest High School/Youth Organization and all of you are a big part of the overall success of our Trail. We will face many new challenges during this 2018-2019 Season with 2 Divisions so please understand we want all teams to enjoy their time during all our tournament events.

Many more volunteers will be needed when we come to an event in your area so be ready when called on to assist us as you've done in the past. We can't do it without everyone's help from our Staff and Directors, Coaches, Boat captains, Parents, Volunteers and our Loyal Sponsors and Host Cities all across the State of Alabama.

Good luck to everyone this upcoming season!