

# **UNIVERSAL CITY BASS CLUB**

## **CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

**November 2009**

**Table of Contents**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Page</b>
ARTICLE I - NAME AND COLORS, PURPOSE, AND MEETINGS .....	2
Section I – Name and Colors .....	2
Section II – Purpose.....	2
Section III – Meetings.....	2
ARTICLE II – MEMBERS.....	2
Section I – Membership Defined .....	2
Section II – Number of Members.....	2
Section III – Requirements for Membership.....	2
Section IV – Life Membership .....	3
Section V – Associate Membership.....	3
Section VI – Membership Dues .....	3
Section VII – Removal from Membership .....	4
Section VIII – Voting Eligibility.....	4
ARTICLE III – OFFICERS .....	5
Section I – Officers and Their Duties.....	5
ARTICLE IV – ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES .....	5
Section I – Elections .....	5
Section II – Vacancies.....	6
ARTICLE V – TOURNAMENTS, RULES AND AWARDS.....	6
Section I – Tournaments .....	6
Section II – Rules .....	7
Section III – Special Tournaments.....	8
Section IV – Protests .....	8
Section V – Awards .....	9
ARTICLE VI – TABC TOP EIGHT TOURNAMENTS .....	11
ARTICLE VII – REVISIONS OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS .....	11
ARTICLE VIII – ANNUAL BUDGET .....	11
ARTICLE IX – ZACK FRISENHAHN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP GRANT.....	12

## **ARTICLE I - NAME AND COLORS, PURPOSE, AND MEETINGS**

### Section I – Name and Colors

- A. The organization shall be named and called Universal City Bass Club.
- B. Colors are royal blue and tan.

### Section II – Purpose

To promote bass fishing as a competitive sport; to promote good fellowship and wholesome recreation; to improve our skills as bass anglers through exchange of bass fishing techniques and ideas; and to adhere to all state and local fish and game laws.

### Section III – Meetings

Regular meetings will be held at the appointed meeting place the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. The meeting place will be designated by the club officers.

## **ARTICLE II – MEMBERS**

### Section I – Membership Defined

Membership in this club is a family membership. A family membership (unit) includes both spouses or significant others, and their associated children. Children living with the family unit through the age of 21 are also considered members as part of the family unit. Each family member has rights and privileges as specified in these Bylaws.

### Section II – Number of Members

Membership will not exceed 60 families. When membership reaches 60, the Treasurer will maintain a waiting list by date of application.

### Section III – Requirements for Membership

- A. Membership is open to the public.
- B. Applicants must be sponsored by a current member.
- C. The prospective member will be escorted from the meeting area prior to discussion and vote.
- D. A sponsored applicant must be seconded by another member followed by open discussion.

Universal City Bass Club (UCBC)

- E. A two-thirds vote of members present is necessary for acceptance. Votes shall be by show of hands.

Section IV – Life Membership

- A. A club member who is 65 years or older and has been a voting member for three years or a person who has been a member for at least 15 total years can become a Life Member of the club.
- B. A member must nominate a prospective Life Member. The nomination must be seconded and approved by a majority vote of members present.
- C. Life Members do not count against the membership total of the club.

Section V – Associate Membership

An Associate Member is someone who, for whatever reason, does not wish to be a member. Examples: 1) an active duty military member gets stationed overseas but wants to keep abreast of club happenings; 2) a business owner and potential sponsor wishes to maintain contact with the club.

- A. The number of Associate Members shall not exceed 10% of the number of members as outlined in Article II Section II.
- B. Requirement for Associate Membership will be the same as a full membership.
- C. Associate Member tenure shall be one year. Associate Members may reapply every year.
- D. Associate Members are not required to pay annual dues, nor will they have the right to vote on club business. Associate Members may attend regular meetings and fish monthly tournaments. Associate Members may receive awards for fish caught at monthly tournaments. Total weight shall not be accumulated for club standings, nor shall any points be awarded.
- E. Associate Members shall be governed by all applicable articles of the Universal City Bass Club Constitution and Bylaws.

Section VI – Membership Dues

Membership dues (which include all tournament fees) are \$60.00 annually and will be paid no later than the February meeting. Dues for new members will be prorated on a quarterly basis.

Section VII – Removal from Membership

- A. Failure to pay dues within 30 days of renewal. (Administrative removal by deletion from the club roles by the Treasurer.)
- B. Any action which reflects dishonor or disgrace on the club to include, but not limited to, the following:
  - 1. Habitually disrupting membership meetings solely to present a personal point of view that is not visibly supported by a reasonable number of the other members present.
  - 2. Using foul language at meetings, tournaments or other club functions which others present find offensive. Foul language will not be tolerated.
  - 3. Habitually discourteous, drunk or disorderly actions.
- C. Any member having knowledge of another member conducting himself/herself as described in paragraph B above may, by gathering a signed petition of six members, move for expulsion of the offending member(s). The petition will be presented at a regular meeting, but will not be voted upon until the following regular meeting after the petition was presented.
- D. Formal request by member to any Club officer.
- E. Removal of membership action under this section (less A and D above) must be presented to the general membership of the club at a regular meeting. The member subject to removal must be notified, if possible, prior to the meeting so he/she may be present for the discussion of said action. If and when a vote for or against removal is called, a majority vote rules.
- F. Any member (to include Life Members and Associate Members) may be removed from club membership for any action deemed harmful to the best interest of the club.

Section VIII – Voting Eligibility

From time to time, club business must be decided or approved by a vote of the membership.

- 1. Each member, at least 18 years of age, shall be entitled to one vote.
- 2. Associate Members and members under the age of 18 are not entitled to vote.

## **ARTICLE III – OFFICERS**

### **Section I – Officers and Their Duties**

- A. President – Presides over meetings and directs official business. Represents club at other official meetings and functions. Is the tiebreaker in all voting matters. Cosigns checks with either the Treasurer or Secretary.
- B. Vice President – Assists the President in their duties. Assists the tournament director during the weigh-ins. Presides over meetings in the absence of the President.
- C. Secretary – Maintains an accurate record of all meetings, initiates and receives club correspondence, and publishes and distributes the club roster. Prepares and sends a monthly newsletter to all club members. Cosign checks with the President or Treasurer.
- D. Treasurer – Maintains accurate financial records and reports at each meeting. Cosigns checks with either the President or Secretary. Maintains the official club roster.
- E. Tournament Director - In charge of the records of the monthly tournaments. The position would require the person to record the monthly tournaments weights, and determine winning positions of tournament participants. Make report of each tournament to the city newspaper. Is responsible for the monthly/year-to-date standings and announces them at each club meeting. Order yearly and monthly trophies. Serves as Chairman of the Tournament Committee.
- F. Weigh Master – In charge of measurements and weighing of fish at tournaments. Maintains weigh scales, bags and all necessary equipment for the weigh in at each tournament. This position is responsible to manage for the proper care of dead or un-releasable fish at tournaments.
- G. All other positions are at the discretion and appointment of the Club President.

## **ARTICLE IV – ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES**

### **Section I – Elections**

- A. Officers shall be elected during the last regular club meeting of the calendar year.
- B. A majority of members present by secret ballot are required for election.
- C. A nominating committee consisting of three voting members shall be appointed by the President not later than two meetings prior to the meeting at which elections shall be held. The committee, with consent of those nominated, shall present a list of nominees to the membership at the election meeting. They shall nominate at least

Universal City Bass Club (UCBC)

one member for each office. Additional nominees may be presented from the floor by any member.

Section II – Vacancies

Should a vacancy occur, it shall be filled prior to the next meeting by the President appointing a new Officer. If the vacancy is the Presidency, then an election is held the first meeting after said vacancy occurs.

**ARTICLE V – TOURNAMENTS, RULES AND AWARDS**

Section I – Tournaments

A. Tournament Committee: The Committee will consist of the Tournament Director (Chairman) and six other members selected as follows:

1. President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Tournament Director appoints one member each.
2. The Angler of the Year is automatically selected for the following year's committee.
3. Committee members are limited to two consecutive years, once served for two consecutive years member will not be eligible for nomination again for one year (member would have to sit out one year between consecutive terms). Exception: The Angler of the Year serves at their option based on this prestigious accomplishment.
4. Committee member eligibility:
  - a. Have a minimum of three years membership in an organized bass club in the San Antonio area.
  - b. Have at least one full year prior membership in the Universal City Bass Club.
  - c. Have fished a minimum of six Universal City Bass Club tournaments the prior year.

B. The club will hold one regular tournament per month.

1. Tournaments will be one or two days and will be held on Saturdays and/or Sundays.
  - a. Location, time, and date will be declared by the Tournament Committee.
  - b. Times will be chosen by the Tournament Committee to maximize safety.

Universal City Bass Club (UCBC)

- c. There will be four local tournaments per year. A local lake is any public water within 100 miles of Universal City. The Tournament Committee will decide when and where they will be held.
- d. The Tournament Committee shall schedule tournaments from March through February.

Section II – Rules

- A. Normally non-members may not accompany a member in his boat during a tournament. An exception may be made by the Tournament Director, President, or Vice President, prior to the tournament. Non-members may not compete for trophies or points.
- B. Alcoholic beverages may be consumed during club tournaments. However, a member(s) may be disqualified from any tournament if found to be incapable of conducting themselves in a proper manner as to maintain respect and order within the club. Disqualification will be in accordance with “Article V, Section II, Paragraph J.”
- C. Fish must be caught only on artificial lures (to include pork rind, chunks and strips) fished in a conventional sporting manner. Trolling with a combustion engine as a method of fishing is not allowed.
- D. Fish must be caught during designated fishing hours and in the designated lake or lakes.
- E. Only Largemouth, Smallmouth, Guadalupe Spotted and Kentucky Spotted bass will be eligible for weigh-in.
- F. All tournaments will be held on Texas public waters except; those sharing borders with another state, or country; the waters of that state or country may also be fished. Members will adhere to state, country or local laws of the waters being fished.
- G. All fish will be measured in accordance with the State Law for the lake from which they are caught. Any fish that is undersized will be returned to the lake along with that persons' largest fish.
- H. Weigh-in
  - 1. Members will weigh-in their own fish except in cases of emergency. This exception must be approved by the Tournament Director, President, or Vice President.
  - 2. A maximum of five fish may be weighed the day they are caught. None may be carried over to the next day.



Universal City Bass Club (UCBC)

3. No pale gilled or iced fish may be presented for weigh-in. Ice may be added to a live well or other holding container to keep fish alive and in good condition but fish may not be packed or preserved in ice.
  4. A member must be in the immediate area of the weigh-in site at the set weigh-in times and making a good attempt to weigh his or her fish. If a member is late, his or her fish will not be counted.
- I. One hundred points will be awarded for each pound of fish weighed at a regular monthly club tournament. In addition, 25 points will be awarded for each club meeting attended, also 50 points will be awarded for each monthly tournament attended. Attendance will be verified by signature taken at the meetings, and by making your presence known to the Tournament Director at other events.
  - J. Interpretation of these rules shall be left exclusively to the Tournament Committee. Any violation of these tournament rules shall be grounds for disqualification by the Tournament Committee. Any decision made by the Tournament Committee shall be final.

Section III – Special Tournaments

This club is empowered to vote in, at a regular monthly meeting, by a majority vote of the members present, a special tournament for a month, to include challenge tournaments and otherwise.

Section IV – Protests

- A. In the event any member wishes to protest the tournament actions of another member or aspect of the tournament outcome, the protestor must:
  1. Notify the Tournament Director or President (or another club officer if neither of the above is present) of intention to protest within 15 minutes after weigh-in is completed.
  2. Submit a formal written protest to the officer notified in Section IV, paragraph A above within 72 hours.
- B. Upon receipt of such written protest, the Tournament Director will convene the Tournament Committee to resolve the protest. All known parties involved or having information pertaining to the matter will be advised of the place, time and date of the meeting. The President will also attend. In the event of a tie vote by the committee, the President will cast the deciding vote. The Tournament Director will notify all persons involved of the decision as soon as possible.

Section V – Awards

Members compete for tournament awards. Members compete by division - Open Division, Couples Division, Team Division, Ladies Division, Junior Boys Division, and Junior Girls Division. In addition, members compete for annual awards.

A. Tournament Awards

1. Open Division: All members compete in the Open Division. Subject to availability of funds, awards may be given for the first, second, and third heavy stringer, and for the heaviest bass.
  - a. A fish patch is awarded for a bass weighing at least four pounds.
  - b. An award will be presented for the heaviest fish weighed in, if it is at least three pounds.
  - c. Should there be a tie for heavy stringer, the following applies:
    - 1) If three or more anglers tie for first place, all will receive first place awards. No other places will be recognized.
    - 2) If two anglers tie for first place, each will receive first place awards and the next highest competitor will be declared the third place finisher. No other awards will be given.
    - 3) If two or more anglers tie for second, all those tied will receive second place awards. No third place will be given.
    - 4) If two or more anglers tie for third place, all will receive third place awards.
2. Couples and Team Divisions: The Couples Division members are a man and wife/significant other who fish as domestic partners. The Team Division is made up of two people who fish together. Subject to availability of funds, awards may be given for the heaviest stringer for each division. A Couples Division member may also compete in the Team Division. However, the member must choose which division to receive the award, as the member can only receive one award from these two divisions. A Team Division member may not compete in the Couples Division. Individual Couples Division and Team Division members may also compete in the Open Division. Therefore, it is possible that a member could receive a Couples Division or Team Division award, and also receive an Open Division award.
3. Junior (Boy and Girl) Divisions: The Junior Divisions are made up of members who are under 16 years old. Subject to availability of funds, awards may be given

## Universal City Bass Club (UCBC)

for the heaviest stringer for Junior's divisions. However, if the winner of their respective division also qualifies for one of the top three positions of the Open Division, the winner will have to choose which division to receive an award. If the winner chooses to receive the award from the Open Division, then the second place winner of the Junior Divisions will be eligible for the heaviest stringer award for that division.

4. Ladies Division: The Ladies Division is made up of all club tournament women fishing. Subject to availability of funds, awards may be given for first and second place. Women may also choose to compete for Open Division positions (top three places) but cannot compete in both divisions. If the heaviest stringer of the Women's Division chooses to compete in the Open Division then the next two top women compete for awards. Women are still eligible for Couples or Team Divisions.
  - a. If two or more lady anglers tie for first place, all will receive first place awards. No other places will be recognized.
  - b. If two or more anglers tie for second, all those tied will receive second place awards.

### B. Annual awards (Presented at the January meeting)

1. Big Bass – Trophy will be awarded to the member with the largest bass weighed during the calendar year.
2. Angler of the Year – A trophy will be awarded to the member having the highest number of points at the end of the calendar year.
3. Top Lady, Junior Boy, Junior Girl, Couple and Team – A trophy will be awarded to the Top Lady, Junior Boy, Junior Girl, Couple and Team member having the highest total number of points in those categories at the end of the calendar year.
4. Second through Tenth place – Trophy will be awarded based on the total number of points accumulated at the end of the calendar year.
5. Sports Person of the Year – Each year the club will consider a Sports Person of the Year. The Sports Person of the Year will be that member who displays good sportspersonship, dedication to the sport, participation in club activities and application of the principles of fellowship and harmony with other sports persons. Letters of nomination will be submitted to the Secretary at the October club meeting. At the November meeting, the Secretary will read the letters to the assembled members. Nominees will be voted upon at the December meeting and the winner will be announced at the January Meeting.

6. Plaques will be awarded to Club Officers serving in the office for the past year. Additional end of year awards may be authorized depending on the availability of funds. Other awards must be approved at the December meeting by a majority vote.

## **ARTICLE VI -- TABC TOP EIGHT TOURNAMENTS**

The club will officially sponsor the Top Eight entrance fees. These fees shall include those necessary for entrance to the Annual Texas Association of Bass Clubs State Top Eight Tournament. Funds in the amount of \$1600.00 shall also be allocated to the Top Eight anglers to help defray costs for lodging, vehicle/boat fuel and other associated costs for the purpose of attending the tournament. The allocated funds shall be the responsibility of the selected team captain who will collect receipts and provide them to the club treasurer. The club treasurer will audit the receipts and report total expenditures to the club. Excess funds will be returned to the club account. In the event the expenditures exceed the \$1600.00 any additional funding must be addressed to club membership with justification for consideration.

(Amended November 2009)

## **ARTICLE VII – REVISIONS OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

- A. The opportunity to propose amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws will be available to any member. The proposed amendments shall be presented in writing and signed by at least six members. The proposed amendment shall be presented to any club officer prior to the beginning of any regular monthly meeting. The proposed amendment shall be published in the next monthly newsletter and voted on at the following monthly meeting. The proposed amendment shall be adopted upon approval of the majority of members present.
- B. The proposing member shall have the opportunity, when the proposal is submitted, to offer explanation of the proposed amendment. No other discussion will be permitted until called for at the next monthly meeting.

## **ARTICLE VIII – ANNUAL BUDGET**

- A. The Club shall adopt an annual operating budget to insure that proper and sufficient funds are available to pay and complete the normal and usual functions of the Club.
- B. It shall be the duty of the President with assistance from the Club Officers to establish a budget for operations. The budget shall be presented to the Club by the first meeting of the year and shall be voted on and approved by the eligible club members no later than the February Club meeting.
- C. If during the course of the year, excesses that may become available from any particular budget item, this excess may be appropriated to other functions or expenses only upon approval by majority vote of the eligible voting members of the club.

- D. In December of each year the President shall appoint two club members who are not currently officers of the club, to audit the club books. The results of the audit shall be reported to the club at the February meeting.
- E. As a minimum each Annual Budget shall include the following:
  - 1. Rent for Meeting Place.
  - 2. Monthly Awards.
  - 3. Annual Awards.
  - 4. Top Eight Entry Fees and Club Support Funds (Article VI).
  - 5. Sponsors and Memberships.
  - 6. Copies, postage and supplies.

## **ARTICLE IX – ZACK FRIESENHAHN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP GRANT**

### A. Background

- 1. This scholarship is dedicated to the memory of Zack Friesenhahn. Zack was a family member of the club. Zack had health problems from shortly after birth until he passed away at the tender age of 3 in December, 2003.
- 2. Each year, the UCBC will set aside the sum of \$500 for this scholarship. Each applicant shall be eligible for a \$250 grant to further their education, assuming they meet the qualification requirements. The club membership shall decide by majority vote whether to roll the unclaimed scholarship funds into the next calendar year, or use the funds for other club expenditures. This decision shall be made at the September club meeting.
- 3. Each applicant must review the scholarship qualifications and follow the instructions on the scholarship application form. The current UCBC officers shall review all applications to determine eligibility, and if more than two applicants determine which two applicants shall receive the grant.

### B. Scholarship Grant Qualifications

- 1. Applicant must be financially dependent on parent(s) who is a current, active member of the Universal City Bass Club (UCBC). Active member is defined as a family member attending half the club meetings and fish half of the club tournaments within the last 12 months of application date.

Universal City Bass Club (UCBC)

2. Parent(s) must be members of UCBC for at least two consecutive calendar years.
3. Applicant must be a graduating high school senior who is entering college or junior college; or who is a current college undergraduate; or who is entering or is currently enrolled in a trade school (auto mechanic, Beauty College, etc.).
4. Applicant must not be older than 23.
5. Applicant must complete and follow the instructions on the scholarship application form. Contact the club Treasurer for copies of the form.