

**WEST VALLEY BASSMASTERS
OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

ARTICLE I - NAME AND PURPOSE

Section I: Name

This club shall be called the West Valley Bassmasters of Los Angeles, California.

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 and legal enforcement of existing regulatory standard. To detect and report any polluter and call public and political attention to his 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.

Section 3: Affiliation with California Bass Federation / The Bass Federation / F.L.W.

- (a) West Valley Bassmasters will, at all times, maintain 100% membership.
- (b) A complete membership roster will be submitted to the California Bass Federation once a year, immediately following election of officers.
- (c) West Valley Bassmasters will support state federation conservation and youth programs.

ARTICLE II - Membership

Section 1: Requirements for Membership

To become a club member, a person shall be twenty-one (21) years of age and shall:

- (a) Voluntarily express a genuine interest in membership.
- (b) The applicant shall be given the name of a member who will grant a fishing date with the applicant prior to the next regular club meeting. The applicant will also be required to attend one (1) official club tournament.
- (c) The applicant will then be voted on as a probationary member of the club.
- (d) The probation period shall be three (3) months.
- (e) The probationary member shall be voted on for full membership at the end of the three (3) month period. The vote shall be by secret ballot. A simple majority will eliminate the candidate's possibility of membership.
- (f) Candidates shall be notified verbally or by mail.
- (g) Upon acceptance, full membership will be awarded and points credit given for the tournaments fished during the probation period. Membership credentials shall then be awarded.

Section 3: Full Membership Dues

The annual membership dues shall consist of applicable Affiliation dues and \$5.00 monthly club dues. A one-time \$25.00 initiation fee is payable upon acceptance into the club.

The annual dues are payable during the month of January. Members accepted into the club during the last quarter of the calendar year will have their membership postponed until the next calendar year.

Section 4: Leave of Absence

- (a) A member can obtain a leave of absence for compelling personal reasons by contacting a member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will either grant or disapprove by a majority vote. Any member absent for more than one year will be dropped from the club roster unless he has requested an extension of his leave of absence from the Executive Committee, which that Committee may approve or disapprove at their discretion.

All members on leave of absence must maintain their annual dues as per this Constitution. If a member on an approved leave of absence fails to notify and/or request of the Executive Committee an extension to his leave of absence and does not pay his annual membership dues for the new year before the end of February of the new year, he shall automatically be dropped from the club roster. Reinstatement will be required by a majority vote of approval of the full membership..

- (b) If a member of the club voluntarily leaves the club without requesting a leave of absence from the Executive Committee for a period in excess of three (3) months, and then requests re-admission to the club, he shall be treated as a new applicant.

ARTICLE III – OFFICERS

Section I: Officers and their Duties

- (a) President

Preside over all meetings and direct all official business. Appoint all committee functions. Supervise all club functions.

- (b) Vice President

Act as program chairman, assist the President in his duties and preside in the absence of the President.

- (c) Secretary

Maintain accurate minutes of all meetings. Report on any correspondence received and provide replies where necessary for club business. Report at each meeting.

(d) Treasurer

Maintain accurate financial records. Pay all accounts due in a timely manner. Report at each meeting.

(e) Tournament Director

The tournament director shall plan, organize and be in charge of operating all club tournaments. Draft tournament schedules and rules, which must be approved by the general membership. Keep tournament records, enforce all tournament rules, and investigate all protests concerning tournaments and make recommendations of the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Elections

The election of officers shall be held annually at a regular meeting during the month of November. Election shall be by simple majority of members present. Election for each officer shall be held separately in order listed in Article III, Section 1.

Section 3: Eligibility of Vote

Each member is entitled to one (1) vote. Proxy votes are not permitted.

Section 4: Term of Office

The term of office is for one (1) year, which shall begin on January and end on the last meeting day of December or until the successor assumes office. Original slate of officers shall serve until the last meeting day of the following December.

Section 5: Vacancies

In the event of a resignation of an officer, a presidential appointee will fill the vacancy for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 6: Eligibility for Holding Office

To be eligible for an office, a member must:

- (a) Have been a member for six (6) months.
- (b) Be a member in good standing.
- (c) Have shown an active interest in all club functions.

ARTICLE IV – METHOD OF AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION

Section 1: Method of Amending the Constitution

The club shall adopt those by-laws as necessary and may later amend the same at any regular meeting, and that said alterations and amendments shall be adopted by an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members present.

ARTICLE V – REMOVAL OF MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Removal of Membership

A member shall be reduced to inactive or dropped from the membership role for the following:

- (a) Failure to pay dues for three months without notification of Executive Board.
- (b) Any act or acts unbecoming a sportsman or for any act or acts damaging to the good name and reputation of this club. Such expulsion of a member from the club shall require a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote at any regular meeting. The accused member shall have had not less than two (2) weeks notice of the charges and hearing, by accepting personal service thereof, or by having the written notice mailed to the members last known address.

ARTICLE VI - DISSOLUTION

Section 1: Dissolution

In case of dissolution the properties of the club shall be disposed of as follows:

- (a) All donated property shall revert to the donor
- (b) All property accumulated through the efforts of the club shall be disposed of in an equitable manner as may be decided at a dissolution meeting, which shall be called by the President for that purpose. Notice of a dissolution meeting shall be given to all members by the President in writing two (2) weeks prior to the date that the meeting is to be established.

WE, the undersigned charter members, do agree to the above by-laws and the commencement of this club on the 16th day of September 1971.

ROSTER OF CURRENT OFFICERS

April 2016

Dan Ingraham	President
George Fedor	Vice President
Gary Ryon	Secretary
Warren McGaha	Treasurer
Rick Keeler	Tournament Director

I, _____, as a member of the West Valley Bassmasters Club, have read the By-Laws and Official Tournament Rules and Regulations and agree to be governed by the said guidelines.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Please return the signed copy to the Secretary at the following Club meeting.