



Texas BASS Federation

Southeast Region Report

December 6, 2003

Summary of 2003

There was a significant **participation increase** in the Southeast Region Circuit. We averaged approx. 100 entries per tournament. There was a total of 603 total entries for the six regional tournaments. 206 members of the region competed during the circuit year.

Bradley Stringer of the North Rayburn Bass Club concluded the Region circuit with the most amassed points. He was awarded \$3015 for his efforts. The region decided last year to award the 'Angler of the Year' a cash prize since that person would not have the opportunity to advance to the Divisional Championship. \$5 from every entry through the year was collected for this reward. Bradley also represented the Federation at a recent BASS Open event held on Sam Rayburn where he placed second among some of the country's finest anglers.

The **Southeast Region Tournament Circuit** concluded with 870 total fish caught and live release of 851 for 97.82 %. The largest bass weighed in was 8.22 #'s by Ed Grisham of the Katy Bassmasters. There were 22 bass over 5 #'s brought to the scales by Southeast Region Federation anglers.

The **Region Championship** was very successful. It was held at Cedar Creek Lake near Athens, Texas. Forty anglers competed for the opportunity to represent the Southeast Region on the State Team. The forty anglers were a good representation of the best anglers in the region. We only had to go through the top fifty or so from the final region standings to fill the field. To add to that, we had a waiting list of anglers ready to fill spots in case of withdrawals. Anglers were treated to tackle and a rod at the registration. One of our region sponsors, CastAway Rods, built custom rods for the Southeast Region at a discount price. These rods had script on them that read, 'Texas BASS Southeast Region Top 40 Championship 2003'. The region sold enough raffle tickets through the year to pay for these rods. Also the contestants were treated to a banquet paid for by the region. Door prizes were given away to each contestant.

Mark Martin of the Vidor Bass Angler Association won the two-day event. See attachment for details. Mark is not a stranger to the State Team, he's been to the Divisional Championship previously.

Not only has the region had an increase in participation, but also a **membership increase**. Four new clubs have joined the region in 2003. There is several clubs in the Southeast Region that have showed interest and two new clubs are being formed to be Federation clubs.

Goals for 2004

Communication will be one of the major goals for the 2004 season. Timely tournament results and information on the region web site will be improved. Better communication among the Southeast Region Board of Directors will also be implemented.

Publicity is also another goal. We had an article about our Regional Championship posted on Fishing World.com and have put in motion plans to submit articles from each of our Region Circuit tournaments next year.

A **stronger youth program** will be set in place for our region next year. We have a volunteer to take the directorship and this will be a big plus in this department.

How will these goals be met? Individuals with social skills, communication skills, and writing skills have been asked to volunteer for positions on the Region Board of Directors.

Additional Information

The region will hold a meeting Tuesday, Dec. 9, to elect officers for the upcoming year. At that time the region tournament circuit dates will be set. The Regional Director position will be selected to comply with the 'Operating Policies and Procedures'.

Ticket sales for the Skeeter boat have been good. Currently we've sold all our allotted tickets and have started selling the extras that were printed.

An increase in **sponsor participation** has been an asset to the region. Many thanks go to these sponsors. Many raffle items were given away at the regional tournaments and is thought have an impact on the regions participation increase. As started previously, raffle ticket sales through the year generated enough revenue to make for a successful Championship.

Bonus Programs that were implemented this year were received very well. Many anglers through the year went home with a little cash in their pockets that didn't fair too well in the tournaments.

In conclusion, the Southeast region has had a very successful year. But there's always room for improvement. With improvements in place, the Southeast Region BASS Federation should continue to be the premier amateur fishing organization in southeast Texas.