



## Georgia Bass Federation Youth Division

### STARTING A YOUTH CLUB

The Georgia Bass Chapter Federation (GBCF) is the largest bass fishing organization in the state of Georgia. Within the GBCF there are dozens of adult clubs who all participate in the GBCF programs. The GBCF Youth Division Program enables young people between the ages of 11 and 18 to compete in the sport of bass fishing as well as providing an avenue and opportunity for these youth to move on and compete at a national level in the TBF/FLW National Guard Youth World Championship events.

Starting a club in the GBCF is easier now than it has ever been in the past. Requirements as follows:

- 1) Any youth club within the GBCF must have and maintain no less than six (6) members at all times.

This means you must have at least 6 young people on your roster at the time the club starts and at all times in order to maintain your active status as a youth club in the GBCF.

- 2) Any youth club within the GBCF must be affiliated with and sponsored by a GBCF adult club.

This means that any youth club in the state will have an adult GBCF club with whom they are affiliated or sponsored by. If a youth club wants to start in Georgia and they do not have an adult club already in place to sponsor them, the GBCF does have the ability to assign the new youth club a sponsoring adult club to satisfy this requirement. This adult club will act as advisors to assist the youth club as they form and run within the GBCF.

- 3) All members of any youth club within the GBCF must be youth members of FLW.

This is made extremely easy by the GBCF. All you have to do is get a list of youth anglers together, get that information to Ronnie White, Youth Director and Van Foster (GBCF Secretary) [VANFOSTERJR@msn.com](mailto:VANFOSTERJR@msn.com) and the GBCF will pay the \$5.00 dues for each youth angler to become a youth member of FLW. The information required would be the name of the club, youths names, addresses, phone numbers and birth dates for the youth club members as well as including **at least one adult contact name, address and phone number which will act as the youth clubs primary contact for the GBCF.**

- 4) Each club must fish at least one tournament on a lake reservoir in a bass boat.
- 5) Every youth club in the state must elect at least two officers for the club from within its youth ranks, those being a president and a secretary and the GBCF must be informed which of the clubs youth will fill those positions. These two youth will act as additional contacts in the event that the GBCF is having trouble making contact with the youth clubs adult club representative.

As final thoughts any youth club needs to understand the following. The GBCF does reserve the right to reject any club applying for membership based on a failure to comply with any rules or guidelines set by the GBCF. All youth clubs in the state will be invited to participate in the GBCF Youth State Championship Tournament which takes place at the end of March each year. It is through this tournament that a youth angler can gain the opportunity to advance to the TBF/FLW National Guard Youth Championship events.

Because the FLW/TBF runs the national events based on having two age groups, any youth club in the GBCF will have to operate under these guidelines as well. The age categories are 11-14 and 15-18 with the age cutoff date as of **August 31<sup>st</sup> each year**. This does not mean that a club can't have younger members; it does however mean that younger members are not eligible for the GBCF Youth Championship events.

If you have any further questions or would like to talk to us, please contact:

Ronnie White  
GBCF Youth Director  
Hm: (770)787-6037  
Cell: (678)230-6543  
[whit954@bellsouth.net](mailto:whit954@bellsouth.net)

Chris King  
GBCF Assistant Youth Director  
Cell: (478)737-0315  
[christopher.king@robins.AF.mil](mailto:christopher.king@robins.AF.mil)