

EIGHT POINT SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

FEBRUARY 6, 2024

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

FISH COMMITTEE

ONE HOLER- Our annual ice fishing event was held this past Saturday, February 3rd. We enjoyed a fantastic weather day. We had 32 total registrants, one of the highest in many years. There was plenty of great food brought in by several members as part of the pot luck. We also had a nice selection of jug luck. Those present know what I mean. As usual we ran the event as part of a 50/50 raffle, with Rich Pineo having his number drawn and won \$80. Congratulations to Rich.

BLOCKHEAD ICE OUT 50/50- Pick a number which corresponds to the date at which the "block" falls through the ice. This will designate "ice out" of the Club Pond. If we go all through February, your number will then be used in the month of March. The board is nearly full going into this meeting. Monies to the Fishing Committee from this 50/50 and from the One Holer will go toward the purchase of prizes for the Kid's Spring Derby.

KID'S SPRING DERBY-This year's event will be held on April 20th and 21st, Saturday and Sunday, from 8:00AM to 4PM each day. The event is open to the general public, and we encourage families to come. Junior's registration (15 years old and younger) is \$3 each day. Senior's registration (16 year's old and older) is \$7 each day. Prizes will be awarded to Junior's each day after 4:00pm. The Snack Shack and Beer Garden will be open each day. We ask for donations of prizes for the kids in the form of gear, gift cards, and cash is always good. The Club Pond will be stocked before the event.

CLUB POND STOCKING-The Club Pond will be stocked for the Kid's Spring Derby and for ongoing member fishing into the Fall. I ask the General Membership to vote for the appropriation of up to \$3,000 for the Spring Stocking. This will go into the Club Newsletter, and be voted on at the March meeting. We will again look to stock with trout as we have in the past to promote a coldwater fishery. Date of the stocking will come out later.

GUEST SPEAKER-We are planning on having a guest speaker from Mass Fish and Wildlife again this year. Adam Kautza PhD, Coldwater Fisheries Project Leader will speak at the April General Membership Meeting, beginning at 7:30pm. His topics will include a broad overview of the status and distribution of our wild trout resources across Massachusetts and discuss the overall direction we are heading with regards to wild trout management. He will also briefly cover some of the research being done on the Swift River Brook Trout and the Deerfield Brown Trout. Q & A will follow. We had a great presentation last year, and I encourage attendance.

FRESHWATER CUP-We will be introducing a new, members only, fishing contest, focusing on freshwater fishes. Contestants can enter for \$10, and can register a catch in any or all of the designated species. Your catch must be legally caught by hook and line from New England waters.

The focus species are Brook Trout, Brown Trout, Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch and Pickerel. We will also recognize a Wildcard catch. The wildcard catch will be from any of the Pin Fish award species as shown in the state Regs. The top wildcard prize will be determined as the largest by percentage against the minimum size of the Pin Fish species. Entries will be made by submitting a photo with a ruler measurement of each fish. You can enter a fish in each selected species, and substitute a larger catch as the year goes on. Please include your name, species, length, date and location where caught. The contest will go through the December Board of Director's meeting. All registration monies to go to prizes. Contact me at gplaflamme@comcast.net or 508-868-4060.

ANGLER OF THE MONTH/YEAR-We will be running the Angler of the Month again this year. Please submit any fish caught to me with a photo and include your name, species, length and weight, date and location. We would like to recognize fish from as many categories as possible for consideration, such as freshwater, saltwater, exotic fish, International etc. Monthly recognition to be made and to go toward consideration Angler of the Year. Contact me at gplaflamme@comcast.net or 508-868-4060.

FISH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN REPLACEMENT-The Club is looking to replace the Fish Committee Chairman. Please see President Charlie Baker. I will stay on during the transition and will stay on the Fish Committee if desired.