**EIGHT POINT SPORTSMEN’S CLUB April 2, 2024**

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

***FISH COMMITTEE***

**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. We have had several members already come forth with donations, but we can always use more. The Club Pond will be stocked before the event.**

**I want to make a special shout out to Bass Pro/Cabela’s for their ongoing generous support of our Derby. This has been an important part of having the ability to provide so many kids with prizes and recognition of their catches and participation. I ask that you continue to support Bass Pro/Cabela’s in your purchasing of equipment and supplies throughout the year.**

**CLUB POND STOCKING-The Club Pond will be stocked for the Kid’s Spring Derby and for ongoing member fishing into the Fall. The Club has approved the expenditure of up to $3000 for the Spring Stocking. Of special note, Mike Gleason of Mike’s Bridge Diner in Lancaster has generously donated $300 for the purchase of large trout. We will again look to stock just trout as we have in the past to promote a coldwater fishery. Date of the stocking is scheduled for April 17th at 10AM. No fishing in Club Pond on April 17-19.**

**GUEST SPEAKER-Tonight we have Adam Kautza from Mass Fish and Wildlife to speak with us about wild trout resources across Massachusetts and the direction of trout management.**

**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**](mailto: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**](mailto: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.**

**Submitted by Greg LaFlamme, Fish Committee Chairman**