

August 2015

BAY AREA



Tampa Bay Junior Bass Club Members, Jared & Bruce Young, Win Tournament Against The Old, Grey, and Grumpy Guys

This is the story I heard. Joe Craighead, leader of our youth group, told Jared (youth club secretary) where to catch fish. Joe had a supposedly better spot so he gave his protégé his spot. (Spell check on that one for sure. I don't even know how to type those little accent marks.) Jared took his dad to the fish and proceeded to catch a good limit to win. This just goes to show you that you give these young whipper snappers a little hint and they go out and whoop your behind. This is the second tournament these two have won and they have also taken a few checks. Jared Young, that Justin Richards kid, and a few of our other youth anglers have become tremendous fishermen. They consistently catch fish and checks. The question that is being asked is "Are we training these youngsters too well?" I just wanted to give Joe and his program the kudos they deserved. Good job with the youth club. Don't forget to volunteer to take some of these young anglers fishing. It will be a day on the lake you will thoroughly enjoy. OK now buckle your seat belt, pour yourself a glass of ice tea, and hold on. I've got to tell you how they caught them.

Jared and Bruce Young Win The Car Shop Clermont Clash

Bruce Young had a miss in his truck engine that only showed up pulling the boat. He took it down to Brian Stillwell's place to get it looked at. The Car Shop found he had a bad coil, fixed him up and he was on his way. The truck ran great and they launched the boat in the Clermont chain and were ready to go. As they were waiting to have their number called, Jared took out his Envy rod and Concept C reel, by 13 Fishing, and tied on a Lungerhunt Popping Frog that he bought at Dick's Sporting Goods to his 50lb test Vicious Braid. He was ready. Bruce was busy putting on his Beyond Coastal Sun Screen to protect his sensitive skin from the burning rays of the July sun. Finally their number was called and off they went. They got to their first area and Jared threw that popper into the edge of the grass. Boom, a good fish blew up on it but missed. Bruce saw this and threw his Gambler Fat Ace right into the splash area. He knew it would be a good follow up bait because he had doused it with a liberal coating of Liquid Mayhem. Sure enough that bass saw that bait hit the water and smelled that unmistakable shad scent and he ate that Ace. Bruce set the hook and he put their first fish in the boat. She would weigh 4.56 pounds and was their kicker fish. The next hour went by quickly as they finished out their limit and even culled a couple of fish. The sun came up and they didn't get another bite all day but they had enough to win. Their 12.44 pound limit was good enough for first place. When they discovered they had won they felt almost as happy as they felt when Bay Area Pool had finished building their pool. They were going home to dive in and cool off because Bay Area Pool had just serviced it and they knew the water would be clear and refreshing.

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Meanwhile Calvin Boyette and Lewis Robertson were planning their day. Calvin had tied on his Live Target Baitball square bill crankbait. In this clear water, he thought it would look very natural but Lewis was going with the Keitech Swing Impact. Both represented shad and both were working early. They put a good limit together but had failed to get that good bite they needed. Calvin was thinking about that new house that Tiia Cartwright had shown him and his wife that week. It would make a great place to retire but he was going to check their websites for some more choices later. In the meantime he had let his bait just sit on the top of the water when the it disappeared. He set the hook and up came a good one. He skillfully brought it to the net and Lewis put her in the boat. She would weigh 4.12 pounds and earn them a nice second place finish.

Alex Udvari and Kyle Anderson were hard at work catching fish. Good fish were hard to come by but little ones were easy. Finally Kyle saw an area of coontail grass just under the surface. He was only able to see it because of the brand new Costa Del Mar Sunglasses he had just purchased from T. A. Mahoney Co. Inc. They had over 300 pairs to choose from so he was able to pick the style that best fit his face. They had such a large selection of boating accessories we has there for a couple of hours just looking around. And with the club discount he got, you can't get a better deal anywhere. He also put a Chums Eyewear keeper on those new glasses so he wouldn't loose them. He was also thinking of calling Paul Phaneuf and see if Allstate could insure them. He had his home, auto, and boat insured with this great agent so why not his glasses. Anyway, back to fishing. He saw that grass and casted his Culprit Incredi-Swim just past it. As he slowly worked his swimbait through the moss, he felt a light tap. Kyle set the hook and put a solid fish in the boat. Alex told him, "That will help" as he culled a 12" fish. Alex was putting on some Dr. Dan's SunStick SPF30 sunscreen on his nose and checks. It was sunny and hot and he didn't want to burn. It also moisturizes and keeps him looking his best. They kept working this area and culled up to 11.03 pounds to earn a third place finish.

Steve and Ryan Mekdeci like to fish a bunch of spots during the day and they catch a bunch of fish. They knew that they wouldn't hesitate to beach their boat in search of another spot so they had a Keel Guard installed on their Ranger. Now they felt confident that their hull would be safe from any damage if they even ran it up on the ramp. They had found a number of beach areas and would push the boat up on the sand then drag a worm up the ledge. This was working quite well for them as they put together a nice limit that would earn them a fourth place finish of 10.21 pounds. Steve had seen a pro do this on his 58" big screen TV that he had purchased at Buddy's Home Furnishings. He got it on a great rent to own plan and would have that thing paid off in another four months. With this check, maybe 3. Ryan was just happy they had made it to the water that morning. His wife had gone on a business trip and they had no one to watch Betty Lou, their 2 year old lab. Then he remembered Lucky Dog Pet Resort. He knew that Mike Hardy and his crew would take great care of Betty Lou for as long as he needed them. In fact all dogs are treated so well, some don't want to leave.

Fifth place belonged to Chris and Rick Walters. They are a new team with Bay Area. In their first two tournaments they earned checks. This is a team we might want to keep an eye on. They could be next years TAOY champs if they keep this up. Chris also wrote a nice article about his first Bay Area tournament. It follows this novel. Read it and enjoy. Chris and Rick had some issues this time in practice. They had stopped at a little tiny gas station in the middle of no where and filled up their gas tank. They didn't know that they were pumping water into the truck but that is what happened. The truck started running bad and missing but they got it home. The next morning Rick drove it over

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to Richards Quality Automotive. Tom took a look at it, diagnosed it quickly, and had him on the road that afternoon. It ran like new again and he was ready to get to the lake. Now Chris also was worried about this tournament. He knew that the weights would be so close that one dead fish could move you in the standings. He had heard us talk about the New Pro V-T2 Livewell Ventilation System and new this would be something that would help. He got it ordered a couple of days before the tournament but couldn't get it in time to install it. He also got some Fishlife fish care products ordered to be able to take care of his catch. He hoped everything would go well this month and he would be ready for the dog days of August. Unfortunately the dog got here early. It was ugly out there and they lost a fish. They were so busy trying to take care of the ones they got, they forgot to put fish five in the well. They still brought in 9.54 pounds and had a 4.02 pound kicker.

Coming in sixth place is Team Walpole. Their company is one of the largest bulk carriers in the southeast. You see their trucks on the road almost every place you go. They are always on the look-out for good drivers so if you've got a CDL and want to work for a great company, give Walpole a call. John and Perry would love to have you on their team. We love having the Cincotta's on our team. We are proud to have them in our family. They also support some of our other great sponsors. In the loading bays you will find Toyota forklifts from Southern State Toyota Lift. They use Southern because of their great service and trouble free products. They also used Richards Power and motion. When moving all that bulk material you needs conveyors and those conveyors run on electric motors. Those motor and controllers are stock items for RPM. They keep a full line of Baldor products for all of their customers needs. Jeff will take care of your needs whether you need a 100 HP 440V 4 stage motor or just a 1 HP 110V. If you need motors, whether electric or tow, give these fine sponsors a shot. You'll be happy you did. So how did they do? They got a check. That's better than the rest of us did. They ended up with a limit that would go 8.85 but more importantly, they earned lunger honors. She would go 5.05 pounds. She would come off of a Culprit Incredi-Craw pitched to the heavy Kissimmee grass. They caught five fish off five different baits. Keitech, Gambler, Lungerhunt, and Live Target all produced fish for this dynamic duo.

The last check of the tournament went to Jeff and Jared Crandon. I tried to get some information from them at the end of the tournament but they kinda of ignored me and kept wiping their boat down with Bass Boat Saver. All they could say is; "Man this stuff sure cleans those water stains right off. I sure am glad we do this after every tournament. This boat has never looked better. This stuff is liquid gold" That's all they would tell me. I do know that they had a limit that went 8.70 pounds.

Overall we had 17 limits although the smallest limit went only 4.80 pounds. 135 fish were brought in with an average weight of 1.63 pounds. We only lost five fish on this scorcher of a day so good job everyone.

(This story is true to the best of this author's knowledge. Only the facts were change to glorify the sponsors. See you Tuesday night)

(The End)



1st Place

Jared and Bruce Young

The Car Shop Clermont Clash Winners



2nd Place

Lewis Roberson & Calvin Boyette



3d Place

Alex Udvari & Kyle Anderson



4th Place

Steve Mekdeci & Ryan Mekdeci



5th Place

Chris Walters & Rick Walters



6th Place and Big Fish

John Cincotta & Perry Cincotta



7th Place

Jeff Crandon & Jared Crandon

We are dedicating this months tournament to Bill Polanowski. He was a long time member of our family and will be missed greatly. Come to our August meeting and share some of the ways he made fishing fun.



Chris Walters steps up this month to give us a play-by-play of their first Bay Area Bassmasters tournament

Joining the Bay Area Bassmasters has got to be one of the best decisions my brother Rick and I have made in a while. Sitting in the water at Anderson Park before the tournament, just looking at all the other boats we realized we had stepped up a level, and would need to step our game up as well to be competitive.

Pre-fishing

This was my first experience on Lake Tarpon but Rick said he knew some spots where there had always been hydrilla beds sense when my dad fished the lake 30 years ago. So I let him take the wheel as we set off to find some fish. I had been dreaming about catching 20 pounds in the vast hydrilla I was sure was going to be there. We realized something was wrong when cast after cast came back without any sign of vegetation. None of the hydrilla Rick knew about was still around and after thoroughly fishing 4 spots, we were ready to give up. We are guessing the hydrilla had been removed at some point and that thought hurt. At noon, in the ridiculous heat of Florida without a cloud in the sky we were beat. We moved to the south canal to flip a bit and maybe try the bridges. No fish flipping and about the time I was going to ask if hooters sounded like a better afternoon than fishing we saw about a 7 pound bass come out of the water and eat some kind of bait fish. That gave us a little more energy to keep trying I mean hey, some fish were obviously biting and if we could only find a school and have a little fun the day could be salvaged. We stayed around the bridge for about 30 minutes and I eventually caught one small bass on a vibrating jig as they pushed a school of baitfish through the bridge. We noticed the water temperature was pushing 90 degrees and the sun was cooking us. We decided to try to find some shade and maybe some cooler water. AS we pulled up to the mouth of Booker Creek I had to smile. This is more like it, this is the kind of water I'm used to fishing. I pulled out my Zoom horny toad and went to work under the trees on one side of the creek while Rick was throwing a ¼ oz swim jig on the other. It didn't take long. I had a limit within 20 minutes and Rick was catching one here and there as well. The water temperature was much cooler around 85 degrees in the creek and there were blue gill beds all over the place. It was like we found a bass oasis in the middle of the time again. We also fished Hunt's Canal with some success and found it to be the closest thing we could find to Booker Creek. We had about 9 pounds and were both discouraged that we weren't able to capitalize on the hydrilla fish and excited that we were able to salvage what seemed to be a good bite that could at least keep us from embarrassing ourselves. But then Rick said he wanted to check one more spot out before we left. Oh boy another one of those old hydrilla beds. We pulled up to the spot and started to cast at what I was sure to be nothing. But that rattle trap caught in hydrilla right off the bat and after just 10 minutes of ripping it through the grass we had caught 2 bass. A dink, and one close to 4 pounds. This changed our whole outlook and because we knew the hydrilla bed was big enough to fish for hours, the creek top-water bite was immediately put back as our secondary pattern. We came here to find these fish and we had found them. Would they all be 4 pounders? Probably not, but as long as one or two were we would be feeling good at the end of the tournament.



Bay Area Bassmasters - Lake Tarpon Tournament – June 11, 2016

Let me start by saying that one of the main reasons I started fishing these tournaments, other than to have fun, see my brother a little more often, and meet a bunch of great guys, is to learn how to fish tournaments. I mean really learn and get good at tournament bass fishing. I learned a lot over the first 5 months of the year fishing various open tournaments, but what a lesson I learned at this first tournament with Bay Area Bassmasters. Execution starts way before the tournament starts. By the end of the tournament we knew we had found the winning fish, got them to bite, and because of a lack of proper preparation and in my part a lack of knowledge, we didn't get it done. I know, I know the old, "you shoulda saw the one that got away" line. But in order to learn this lesson I wouldn't want to make the sting any softer by thinking anything other than we had it in the bag.

We were planning on throwing rattletraps through the hydrilla but wanted to start off throwing some top-water baits. Rick had bought and spooled a new bait caster the morning of the tournament (Planning is important). He tied a 20 lb fluorocarbon leader on thinking that he was going to be throwing a rattletrap on that rod. It was an early start and I found myself squinting to see my toad on the water. Before long I had a nice hit, gave it a second, and set the hook hard. My toad came whizzing past my head, no fish. Rick switched to a toad and sure enough, he had a lapse in thinking and tied it straight to the fluorocarbon leader. Before we went another 100 yards down the bank he had a big hit and snapped the line setting the hook. He knew his mistake and we shook it off. We caught a couple little keepers and Rick switched to the rattletrap. He had a 4 pounder to the boat within 20 minutes. We filled out a limit of about 8 lbs before I watched a 4 or 5 pound bass zigzagging shoulders out of the water behind my toad. He finally got it good and I set the hook. SNAP. I forgot to mention Dick's Sports were having a deal on 20 lb braid that week. I now know, 50lb braid minimum for top-water baits. The lesson was ingrained a little deeper near the end of the day when another big bass came out of the water on my toad.... Snap. And I also learned to not set the hook so hard when fishing a rattle trap. I broke one off on one of those as well. Poor planning led to breaking off 4 times in one day. We upgraded little by little and probably caught between 15- 20 bass throughout the day but with just over 10 pounds, we were discouraged. We thought 16 -18 pounds minimum would take the tournament and our weight might not break the top twenty. The afternoon thunderstorm was intense trying to drive through the rain to get back to the ramp and added a little insult to injury. We got to see our first BAB weigh in which was cool and even had lunch cooked. It was a really nice set up and we were happy to be involved. After the weights started coming in we started to get our hopes up and were elated to pull off a 4th place finish in our first tournament. Apparently the fish were being stubborn for the most part that day and we lucked into a good sack of fish. It did hurt though to know the day we should have had. We fish a lot and Rick has even won a couple IFA redfish tournaments and been on TV 5 or 6 times so the knowledge that we did this to ourselves was rough. But I still feel like it was a great learning experience and that's what we were looking for. I don't know if anyone cares to read this but I've enjoyed writing it. I will probably continue to write a review of each tournament for myself and would gladly post it for the club if anyone is interested.

I decided to write a tournament review to have a reference to look back on for future tournaments. After finishing the review I thought some of the other BAB members might appreciate seeing how another angler approached the tournament. I hope you enjoy.
Chris Walters



Richard's Power and Motion Inc. is our August Corporate Sponsor



We would like to thank Jeff, Justin, and Alice Richards for becoming a valuable part of our Bay Area family. Jeff's business, Richards Power and Motion, are our August sponsor. They deal with electric motors, controls, and all the implements that turn electricity into movement. If your company deals with electric motors, switching units, control boxes, or any variation of these, you should give Jeff a call. He will help you out with all your needs. Richards Power and Motion sells Baldor motors and equipment as well as other brands. The members of Bay Area Bassmasters would like to thank the Richards family for their support of our family.



Bay Area Bassmasters Once Again Named Best Bass Club in the State with the Help of Gary Ford, Joe Hobson, Jeff Baker, and Clay Garrett

Our Past champions teamed up once again to fish the Florida B.A.S.S. Nation Team Championship. They took this title in 2012 in Okeechobee and are the first team to repeat as champions in 2016. Joe and Gary found some good fish up in the creek in practice. They capitalize on this for the first day of tournament and brought in 21.11 pounds. Meanwhile Jeff and Clay ran down below the lock into Lake Cypress and managed to bring in 10.71 pounds. This gave them about an 8 pound lead going into day two. On Sunday, Joe and Gary got a much later boat number and found their first spot had a couple of boats on it already. They ran all over Toho and managed to put together an 8.21 pound bag of fish. Meanwhile Clay and Jeff were struggling to catch fish in Cypress. They finally ran up into the creek and put together a bag of 7.33 pounds. together they had a two-day total that went 47.36 pounds. Second place was 39.51 pounds. These guys fish their hearts out on a very hot and miserable weekend to show the state that Bay Area Bassmasters and this team were the best in the state. Congratulations men on a job well done.

August's meeting will be Tuesday, the 9th at R J Wings N Things in Temple Terrace, located at 51st and Fowler at 7:00pm.



2016 Schedule

Month	Meeting/Tour.	Sponsor	Location	Ramp
January	5 9	Bay Area Pool Service	Winter Haven	Lake Shipp Ramp
February	9 13	Allstate Insurance	Lake Istokpoga	98 Ramp
March	8 12	Lucky Dog Resort	Lake Harris	Hickory Point
April	March 29 2	Walpole Inc.	Lake Kissimmee	Camp Mack
May	10 14	Cartwright Realty	Lake Okeechobee	Okee-Tantie
June	7 11	Florida Lift Systems	Lake Tarpon	Anderson
July	5 9	Car Shop	Clermont Chain	Clermont City Ramp
August	9 13	Richards Power & Motion	June in Winter	Public Ramps
September	6 10	T. A. Mahoney Co. Inc.	Lake Kissimmee	Camp Mack
October	4 8	Richards Quality Auto	Lake Istokpoga	98 Ramp
November	8/15 12-13	(Club Classic)	TBD	

Don't forget that this tournament ends at 2:00 PM

A special thanks goes out to Mike Elliot and Frank Jones for a job well done. Bill Noriega and Tim Hibbs had an issue with their boat that caused it to fill up with water. The batteries were underwater and the motor wouldn't start. Mike and Frank stopped to pull them into the ramp. With their help, Bill got it on the trailer and drained out. Because of Mike and Franks help, Bill was able to fix his boat with only minor repairs. Thank you gentlemen!

2016 FBN Central Division

Aug 21 Pro/Am Qualifier Lake Kissimmee Camp Mack

FBN Championship Dates

Aug 27 & 28 Team State Championship St. Johns River City Ramp
 Nov 5 & 6 Pro / Am State Championship Seminole Sneads

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