



MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



JANUARY 2021 EDITION
16 YEARS OF SERVICE TO FISHERMEN

CLUB ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005
EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN



President's Perspective

By Gary Grimes

What an incredible turnout for the first tournament of the 2021 Midweek Bass season. Thirty-four teams showed up to fish, and 34 teams brought fish to the scales. Congratulations to Nick Teschler and Rick Harang on the 16 pound sack and the win, great job guys. Thanks and much appreciation goes to the weigh-in team for a great job on the scales. Tonto National Forest threw us a last minute curve ball, requiring an additional permit because of our group size. Gary Martlage spent several days working the project before finally receiving approval and the additional permit. We should not have to worry about problems for our next two tournaments, as we will be in state parks. Hope to see you at Alamo.



Tournament Reports Lake Bartlett January 20, 2020

Team Nick Teschler & Rick Harang Catch 5.10 Iber Win 1st Place Team, 1st Place Big Fish And 5 lb Pot

Taking home **1st Place**, Team Nick Teschler & Rick Harang brought to the scales the winning creel of five bass weighing 16.02 lbs. Thanks to Nick's 5.10 lb bass the team also won **1st Place Big Bass** honors and the **5 Pound Pot**.

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE - WATCH FOR EMAILS

Monthly Breakfast Meeting
Deer Valley Airport Restaurant
702 W. Deer Valley Rd
Phoenix, AZ
1st Wednesday of Each
Month 8:00 A.M.

Nick Teschler: So we started the morning deep cranking and it was pretty slow to start. We were up the river and switched to the south bank and I immediately caught our 5.10 pounder on a deep crank bait in about 15 feet of 49 degree water. We caught a bunch of small clones through out the day burning through the same areas. 1.5 lbs seemed to be the standard size. I knew the barometric pressure was going to be dropping around noon so when noon came around and the wind shifted from the south we started to power fish hard.

I caught all my fish on jigs and deep to medium cranks and Rick had some on a dropshot and crank. The flurry of bites lasted for about an hour and was able to add a 4.9 lber for our 2nd big fish. After that we had two under 1.9 lbs we needed to get rid of. Rick ended up catching a 2.8 lber just north of the Yellow Cliffs and I felt we had a pretty good shot after that to get the win. After that fish we didn't catch any the rest of the day. We probably had 20-25 fish and those big girls really helped separate us from the rest of the teams.

We fished clean and didn't lose any. We almost lost the 4.9 lber. As Rick went to net it, the crank got stuck on the net and it was hanging on the outside of the net. Luckily I was able to reach it because we probably would have been around 13 lbs if we had not gotten the fish.

Stoked to join Midweek Bass and get my first win ever. I haven't done better than 3rd place the last 4 years! Thanks for allowing us to compete on a Wednesday, way more fun than fishing on weekends.



"We Practice Catch and Release"



1st Place Nick Teschler & Rick Harang

Rick Harang: Neither Nick nor I had a chance to pre-fish for Bartlett so we discussed our game plan on the ride to the lake. It turned out that not only did we have a great draw at boat #3, but Nick had recently moved into a new home and lives only 3 miles from me on the west side. Talk about convenient.

We headed up lake about as far as you can go and just started searching for bites. We tried all the usual stuff, cranks, chatterbaits, jigs and T-rigs. It was a slow start for us as we didn't get a fish until about 8 o'clock. Nick put the first two in the boat sometime between 8 – 9AM, including that nice hog which weighed-in at 5.10 pounds. I caught the next 2 on drop shot around large boulders. Our 5th fish was the only one we caught all day that was less than 12 inches and after a very short discussion we tossed it back thinking it might be good Karma; turns out it was.

Our bite started getting better after noon. I think Nick caught at least 3 fish to every 1 of mine. His second hog, a 4.7 pounder came between 1 and 2 o'clock. It was

Next Meeting - Next Tournament

Our next club meeting for 2021 scheduled for **Wednesday, 3 February** starting at 8:00 AM, at **Deer Valley Airport Restaurant** (just one mile north of I-101 at the intersection of 7th Ave & Deer Valley Road) [has been cancelled](#) due to the Corona Virus situation. Pairings will be announced by email when completed.

The next club points tournament is scheduled for **Lake Alamo on 17 February 2021**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 3 PM**.

mostly one here and one there for us. I caught our last cull fish about 2 o'clock; it went 2.8 lbs. We had a lot of 1.4 to 1.5 lb clones that we were lucky enough to get to cull. Nick had me jumping for the net a lot but ended up just lifting a bunch of them into the boat before I got there; guess I'm getting a little slow these days.

Nick is a great guy and we had a great time fishing together. I look forward to fishing with him again in the future. Welcome to the club Nick, you couldn't have made a better start. By the way, the cranks were shallow runners and our best banks were the more shallow sloping ones. We stayed up lake all day. Thanks to the club for another well run event.

Tom Savage & Jeff Mason Mix Baits For 2nd Overall Finish

In **2nd Place** Team **Tom Savage & Jeff Mason** weighed five bass for a total weight of 13.61 lbs. Jeff's 4.45 lb bass earned the team **2nd Place Big Bass** honors.

Jeff Mason: Once again I had the pleasure and good luck to partner up with Tom Savage. Tom and I have fished together in the past and have always had a good time and have also done pretty well. Both of us pre fished and neither did that well; we caught fish but no size. My plan was to fish past spots and move around hoping to run into a couple of big bites. We tried three spots with jigs towards the dam early with no luck. We then moved up the lake to the Tempe Beach area and I caught our first fish, a 4.45 lber in around 20-25 feet of water on a jig which turned out to be 2nd Place Big Fish of the tournament. Our 2nd fish also came on a jig and our 3rd fish came on a spinnerbait near the camping area. Tom caught our 4th and 5th fish on a brush hog and a jig towards the river. We retraced our steps and went back through the area where we caught the spinnerbait fish and Tom caught a 2 lber on a chatterbait. We were moving back towards the launch and we were working our way into a bay where I had caught some nice fish in the past on a crankbait in about 11-15 feet of water. I tied on a black and silver DT14 and on my first cast caught a 3 plus pounder; lucky or what. Tom caught a 2 plus on a jig right before we came in to give us our final weight. Thanks to the weigh-in crew for once again doing a great job under tough conditions.

Tom Savage: What was supposed to be a cold and wet day, turned out to be a pretty nice day for our first tournament of 2021. Congratulations to Nick Teschler and Rick Harang for their very impressive bag. This is the fourth time I've had the pleasure of fishing with Jeff Mason. All four times I had a great time, and we always did well. Jeff is one of the best anglers I've ever fished with.

We started our day near the dam, but couldn't get a bite, so we started working our way towards the river. It wasn't until 8:30 that Jeff put our first fish in the boat using a jig. It turned out to be our biggest fish, which weighed in at 4.45 pounds and was the second biggest fish of the tournament. From there it was one here one

there. We couldn't get more than one fish in each spot, so we moved around a lot. Later in the day Jeff caught our second biggest fish on a crank bait. We caught our fish on jigs, spinner baits, crank baits, chatter baits and Texas rigged brush hogs.

Team Neil Burns & Jim Buchanan Jig Rocky Banks For 3rd Place Finish

Team **Neil Burns & Jim Buchanan** weighed five bass for 11.81 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors.

Neil Burns: Congratulations to the 1st Place winners; that was a special bag of fish for Lake Bartlett.

It was my first Midweek tournament in awhile, and it was nice to see everyone; I missed you guys. I had the pleasure to fish with Jim Buchanan, a great fisherman, fun to talk to, and spry as a 40 year old.

We had a late boat number so we fished around the ramp to start. After about an hour without a bite we moved up towards the river. The majority of our fish came off a little stretch of rocky bank above the no wake buoys. They were caught on green and brown jigs in 10 to 20 feet of water. Thanks to the Tournament Director, Board members, and the weigh-in team for a job well done in difficult times. Hope to see you next month.



3rd Place Jim Buchanan & Neil Burns

Team Joe Denson & Warren Brackey Take 4th Place Fishing Swim Senkos Mid-Lake

Membership

As of January 22, 2021 the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona consists of **107** dues paid active members.

Taking home **4th Place**, Team **Joe Denson & Warren Brackey** weighed five fish for a total weight of 9.93 lbs.

Warren Brackey: Slightly warmer weather welcomed in the MBA 2021 season opener at Lake Bartlett. Easterly winds held off the rain and the warmer breezes made for a mostly pleasant inaugural day on the water.

It was another fun, well run event put on by our club staff, our awesome weigh-in team, and our member volunteers. Major league kudos to tournament director Gary Martlage for securing the necessary permits in record time so we could fish this event. Also, a special thanks to all who assisted with getting the bass we love to chase, back to the lake to fight another day.

It was my good fortune to be paired with Joe Denson to fish Lake Bartlett. Joe's name was unfamiliar to me and for good reason. This was Joe's first MBA event! Joe was so new that his contact info hadn't been posted in the club roster. The day after the pairings were announced, Tom Alauria called me to let me know that I had drawn a good partner and he gave me Joe's phone number. Tom then proceeded to tell me the story about how he met Joe. Ironically, Tom was pre-fishing Bartlett for last December's grudge match and found a boat out there sitting on his favorite spot. He didn't recognize the boat and whoever it was wasn't moving. Tom motored up to get a closer look and met Joe Denson. They got to talking about MBA and the grudge match and the rest is history. Tom and Joe fished the grudge match together and finished third! As it turned out, Tom had introduced me to Joe at the grudge match cookout.

Joe and I were able to pre-fish the Sunday before the tournament. We had a great time out there sharing our favorite fishing stories and we even caught a few fish along the way. Tom was right; Joe is a very good fisherman. He stays very positive and is a very experienced tournament fisherman. Even better, Joe knows Bartlett Lake. Our strategy for Wednesday was sound, now we just needed the weather gods to cooperate.

We were 32nd boat out, so our plan was to find some good water in the mid-lake channel. Joe caught our first fish about 7:30 in 10 to 15 feet of water on a weighted swim Senko. Our next stop was straight across to the west side of the channel. There we fished a stretch of shoreline with large vertical rock faces above and submerged rubble below, with shallower reefs and humps about forty yards out that were likely holding the shad. Fifteen minutes later Joe hooked our big fish of the day, a 3.25 pounder. We had an okay limit in the live well (maybe 8 pounds) by 9:30. Not surprisingly we focused on this spot the rest of the day. We fished a short distance to the north and to the south. We offered up jigs, creature baits and even spinner baits, but all our good fish came on green pumpkin swim Senkos with chartreuse paddles. Before it was all said and done we upgraded four or five times and I even caught a two pounder that made it to the weigh-in!

All-in-all it was a great day on Lake Bartlett. Joe and I were happy with how we finished. Congratulations

to team Nick Teschler and Rick Harang on their outstanding performance, a well deserved victory, 1st Place Big Fish and the 5 pound pot. Talk about running the table, well done guys.

Thanks again Joe for a great trip, for the fishing lessons and for a memorable day on Lake Bartlett. It would be a pleasure to be paired with you again anytime. Welcome to our club and hope to see you at Lake Alamo.

Steve Grier & Mike Adamson Work Rocky Points To Finish 5th

A five fish bag weighing 9.83 lbs was enough to earn Team **Grier & Adamson** the **5th Place** money.

Mike Adamson: Wow, there were some nice fish caught at the tournament and big bags for Bartlett in January. Congratulations to those folks who caught the big ones. I was lucky to draw Steve Grier who is awesome at reading and understanding graphs which helps locate the fish but you still need to catch them. Steve caught our biggest fish early in the morning throwing a large crankbait along a steep wall. The rest of the fish were caught on jigs and drop shot in 20 to 30 feet of water in main lake areas. We would move around until we would locate shad and look for the fish within them. We caught a good number of fish and were able to cull, but most were the typical Bartlett 1.12 pounders. Let the 2021 year begin and may we all have a safe tournament



5th Place Steve Grier & Mike Adamson

Tournament Statistics

Sixty-eight contestants fished 8 hours each, bringing 161 bass to the scales for a total weight of 251.13 pounds with a 3.69 pound average total catch per fisherman. The average weight of each fish was 1.56 lbs. All fish but one were released alive back into the lake after weigh-in to fight again another day.

season!

Steve Grier: Congrats to Nick and Rick on the win; that's a heck of a bag for January at Bartlett. We found a few good fish during pre-fish including a couple on crankbaits, so we started with crankbaits on steep rocky banks. We caught the 4.15 pounder at about 8:30 AM on a 6XD shad pattern crank bait in about 15 feet. That was our only cranking bite. We filled out our limit with 1 lb fish on jigs, C-rigs and drop shot. We ran around fishing steep rocky points where we had bites in practice and managed to cull 2 fish with bigger fish on jigs in 30 ft but couldn't get rid of the last two 1 pounders. Thanks to the weigh-in crew for another well run tournament.

Team Don Blume & Jon Andrews Crank Their Way To 6th Place

Team **Blume & Andrews** weighed five bass for 9.65 pounds and took home **6th Place** honors.

Don Blume: I had the pleasure to fish with Jon Andrews today. I located a crank bait pattern about two weeks ago at Bartlett and it continued to hold for our tournament. We started in the no wake area across from the camping area down lake not far from Yellow Cliffs. My partner got two or three fish in the boat in about 15 minutes. I then started to catch them too and we had a limit in about 90 minutes.

We targeted steeper rocky banks with water that dropped off quickly to 10-14 feet. Using medium crank baits in shad and various other colors we targeted fish in 9 to 13 feet of water. We covered water all the way to Yellow Cliffs where fishing slowed for us. We then went back to our starting point and worked all the main lake shore line almost to Rattlesnake Cove.

We covered a ton of water and caught fish pretty much all day. We caught 20-25 fish all day unfortunately most of them were 1.5 lb clones that did not help us. I caught our big fish - a 2.60 pounder - on a crank bait at about 1 PM. We tried jigs, Ned Rigs and Jerk baits but nothing else worked except crankbaits. It was a fun day on the water.

Jon Andrews: Being partnered with Don Blume was an awesome experience. He did his homework and put us on fish just as he predicted. We were able to get a quick limit on medium diving crank baits on rocky banks between Yellow Cliffs and Rattlesnake Cove. We continued to cull up throughout the day with the same crankbait. Other techniques were tried, but all of our fish came on the crankbait.

I would also like to thank the Board for their hard work in making this tourney happen at all considering the new lake restrictions on tournaments on local lakes.

Team Richie Rojas & Phil Brewer Work Football Jigs To Finish 7th Overall

In **7th Place Team Rojas & Brewer** weighed five bass for a total weight of 9.06 lbs.

Phil Brewer: Congrats to Nick and Rick on their win. NICE SACK! Richie Rojas and I caught a small limit in the first two hours drop shotting 6 inch worms on rocky points working our way towards the river. The jig bite seemed to turn on about mid morning and we culled around two limits. We were both throwing 3/4 oz. football jigs in several shades of the green pumpkin color to catch our better fish in 15 to 30 feet of water. I had a great time fishing with Richie. It was really windy and he did a super job on the trolling motor keeping us in position.

Jerry Askam & Rick Brown Work Yellow Cliffs 8th Overall

In **8th Place Team Askam & Brown** weighed five bass for a total weight of 8.34 lbs.

Jerry Askam: It's always a pleasure to fish with Rick Brown, one of the club's top angler's. We fished mainly mid-lake spots where we have had good luck in the past this time of the year. Of course as luck would have it, we didn't get the bites we had hoped for but we cashed a check and had a good time so all is good.

We both briefly tried spinnerbaits when the wind was blowing hard looking for a reaction bite that didn't come and stuck to fishing deeper. Rick primarily threw a jig with a twin tailed grub and I primarily threw Rick's usual bait of choice, a Carolina rig with a speed craw. Rick caught our biggest fish on a jig in one of his favorite areas near the Yellow Cliffs.



8th Place Jerry Askam & Rick Brown



Weighing-In By Gary Martlage

What a great start to 2021, with a new member Boater taking home the honors. Congratulations to all the winners, and all that attended. I really appreciate what you all did as far as conforming to the Covid-19 rules put

into place. Wearing a mask and social distancing might be with us awhile, and the cooperation is appreciated.

I personally was impressed by the volunteers that stepped up to help during the tournament. With the loss of a few weigh-in crew members, others stepped up to provide a relatively smooth weigh-in. Special thanks to James Duel and Tom Atherton for transporting contestants to and from the dock to release the fish. I did make a drive-by after the weigh-in, and did not see one "floater" at the ramp! All fish were released alive to fight another day. Tom Alauria stepped up to take photos, John Hilland and Greg Prather manned the scales and bump tank. Tom Savage took down the official weights for Terry Tassin and his email standings, and payouts. Others volunteered, offering help where needed, and sure made my job a lot easier. It takes a crew like we have, to make the weigh station run as smoothly as possible.

Our next event at ALAMO should be exciting, as the bass will be in a pre-spawn pattern. I look forward to weighing in some awesome sacks of bass The Group Use Area 'A' has been pre-reserved for camping. Anyone that does not have an upgraded campsite with water and electricity should consider camping with us in the group use area. Plenty of generators, libations, and even a Poker night on Tuesday are on the menu. Not 100% sure, but I think we will be getting back to a club cookout on Tuesday; more to follow.

Again, THANKS for all you guys do, it takes a club like ours, to provide a great fishing experience for all.

The Cynical Philosopher

Denny's has a slogan, "If it's your birthday, the meal is on us." If you're in Denny's and it's your birthday, your life sucks!

The pharmacist asked me my birth date again today. I'm pretty sure she's going to get me something.

The location of your mailbox shows you how far away from your house you can be in a robe before you start looking like a mental patient.

I think it's pretty cool how Chinese people made a language entirely out of tattoos.

Money can't buy happiness, but it keeps the kids in touch!

The reason Mayberry was so peaceful and quiet was because nobody was married. Andy, Aunt Bea, Barney, Floyd, Howard, Goober, Gomer, Sam, Ernest T. Bass, Helen, Thelma Lou, Clara and, of course, Opie were all single. The only married person was Otis, and he stayed drunk!

Natural Laws

1. _ Law of Mechanical Repair _ - After your hands become coated with grease, your nose will begin to itch and you'll have to pee .
2. Law of Gravity _ - Any tool, nut, bolt, screw, when dropped, will roll to the least accessible place in the universe.
3. Law of Probability - The probability of being watched is directly proportional to the stupidity of your act.
4. Law of Random Numbers - If you dial a wrong number, you never get a busy signal; someone always answers.
5. Variation Law - If you change lines (or traffic lanes), the one you were in will always move faster than the one you are in now.
6. Law of the Bath - When the body is fully immersed in water, the telephone rings.
7. Law of Close Encounters - The probability of meeting someone you know INCREASES dramatically when you are with someone you don't want to be seen with.
8. Law of the Result - When you try to prove to someone that a machine won't work, IT WILL!!!
9. Law of Biomechanics - The severity of the itch is inversely proportional to the reach.
10. The Coffee Law - As soon as you sit down to a cup of hot coffee, your boss will ask you to do something which will last until the coffee is cold.
11. Murphy's Law of Lockers - If there are only 2 people in a locker room, they will have adjacent lockers.
12. Law of Physical Surfaces - The chances of an open-faced jelly sandwich landing face down on a floor, are directly correlated to the newness and cost of the carpet or rug.
13. Law of Logical Argument - Anything is possible IF you don't know what you are talking about.
14. Brown's Law of Physical Appearance - If the clothes fit, they're ugly.
15. Oliver's Law of Public Speaking -- A CLOSED MOUTH GATHERS NO FEET!!!
16. Wilson 's Law of Commercial Marketing Strategy - As soon as you find a product that you really like, they will stop making it, OR the store will stop selling it!!!

Remember these?

For those who never saw the Burma Shave signs, here is a quick lesson in our history of the 1930s and '40s. Before the Interstates, when everyone drove the old two lane roads, *Burma Shave* signs would be posted all over the countryside in farmer's fields. They were small red signs with white letters. Five signs, about 100 feet apart, each containing 1 line of a 4 line couplet and the obligatory 5th sign advertising Burma Shave, a popular shaving cream. Here are some of the actual signs - read from the bottom up:

Burma Shave

**HE'S JUST
HOPIN'**

**IS NOT
THINKIN'**

**A CAR WIDE
OPEN**

**A GUY WHO
DRIVES**

Sound Off

Let us hear from you. The newsletter is your vehicle for communicating and sharing with other club members.

Many of you have things to say, opinions to share.

Contact the Editor who would be delighted to hear from you.

Photo Scrapbook - Lake Bartlett - January 20, 2021



CAUTION
FISHING AND HUNTING
STORIES IN PROGRESS
PROTECTIVE BOOTS
MAY BE REQUIRED

Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona - 2021 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen

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CONSERVATION COMMITTEE - Vacant

Access Midweek Bass Anglers Internet Web Site at: <http://www.midweekbassaz.com/>

**Welcome to New
Midweek Bass Anglers
Since the Last Newsletter**

- Terry Batson (B)**
- Shawn Byrne (CO)**
- Joe Denson (B)**
- Mike Hoffarth (CO)**
- Robin Jackson (B)**
- James Neinast (CO)**
- Mark Peiffer (B)**
- Jim Pfeiffer (CO)**
- William Ryan (B)**
- Nick Teschler (B)**
- Joe Vogeli (CO)**
- Keith Weidert (CO)**
- Richard Wheeler (CO)**

Please meet and welcome our new members.

Midweek Bass Anglers
Proudly Made In The USA

Wholesale pricing for members, friends & family.
All products will ship U.S.P.S. Priority mail.

- Midweek Bass Anglers Bottle Stopper
- Midweek Bass Anglers Money Clip
- Midweek Bass Anglers Pin
- Midweek Bass Anglers Refrigerator Magnet
- Midweek Bass Anglers Shot Glass
- Midweek Bass Anglers Keychain

www.NewSpinMetalCasting.com/mba
Click on Special Editions, then select MBA to order your items

**Midweek Bass Anglers 2021
Tournament Schedule**

Best Wishes and Happy Birthday

Born in February

- Jon Andrews
- Bill Briggs
- Rick Brown
- Neil Burns
- Ronnie Jimenez
- Herb Marlow
- Mark Sheldahl
- Steve Simer
- Jeff Stone

- 20 January Bartlett
- 17 February Alamo
- 17 March Martinez
- 21 April Roosevelt
- 19 May Roosevelt
- 16 June Pleasant
- 21 July Pleasant
- 18 August Bartlett
- 15 September Roosevelt
- 20 October Alamo
- 17 November Roosevelt

