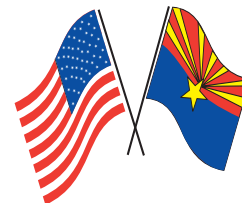


MIDWEEK BASS ANGLERS OF ARIZONA INC

Bass Bites

FISHING WEDNESDAYS - NOT WEEKENDS!



FEBRUARY 2022 EDITION

17 YEARS OF SERVICE TO FISHERMEN

CLUB ESTABLISHED JANUARY 27, 2005

EDITOR: TERRY TASSIN



President's Perspective

By Gary Grimes

Forty-one (41) boats in attendance for the February 2022 Midweek Bass Tournament is a new record for boats on the water, and that's after we had two boats drop-out. February, water temps were in the low 50's, second full moon, and fishing on the full moon. It doesn't get much better than that, right? Pre-spawn action at its finest, right? Guess again. Very, very, tough fishing. It was a challenge just to get 5 fish in the boat. The only thing harder, you might ask, would be getting 5 fish that weigh over a pound each. But someone always figures a way to make it happen. Congratulations to the team of Phil Brewer and Amaro Tovar on the win and for catching the tournament's big fish at 5.32 lbs. Nice job gentlemen.

No real problems to speak of during the tournament. It took a little longer to get all 41 boats in the water, but that's ok. We don't start until everyone is ready. You may question why we don't do the meeting earlier? Well, safety is the reason. Because of our unique club pairing style, just about every co-angler is backing up a boat he is not familiar with. 90-percent of all Midweek mishaps occur during the morning

launch. So, the later meeting allows the majority of the boats to launch with enough light to see what they are doing. The launch goes much faster and safer with even the faintest glow of morning light.

Lots of new faces this month. Glad to see you all and we at Midweek hoped you enjoyed your day. Since we are unable to have face to face monthly meetings because of Covid (damn-it!!), let me educate you and remind others of our basic tournament protocols. Firstly, pay your boater. We have listed the amount to pay for each lake on the tournament entry form. Pay your boater before you begin. Don't want to pay, then don't fish. These fees are a pittance compared to the cost of most of the boats on the water. Secondly, be at the mandatory pre-tournament meeting. Third, at the start you must idle your boat beside (20 feet) and beyond the start boat. Do not attempt to get on plane until you pass the start boat. Fourth, know your boat number and which flight you are in, as well as what time you are supposed to return. Return late? DQ. Problems on the water? Call

Continued on page 2

**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.

Happy St. Patrick's Day



“We Practice Catch and Release”

tournament director or let another team know. If you do not have fish and are not weighing in, please let us know so we don't send the search team looking for you. During weigh-in, use the official club bag for weighing your fish and please bring your own bag for returning the fish to the lake. And finally, be safe on the water, be smart, keep your head on a swivel at all times and know what is going on around you.

Next month we venture to Alamo Lake, one of the club favorites. We have secured camping at the group use area from Sunday through Wednesday. No water, no electricity, but it does have a porta-potty. We will be hosting a barbeque on Tuesday night. Hope to see y'all there. Let's go fishing!



Tournament Reports
Lake Bartlett
February 16, 2022

All teams weighed fish at this tournament, and all fish were released back into the lake to live and fight again another day. Now let's hear from our winners.

Team Phil Brewer & Amaro Tovar
Win 1st Place and Five Pound Pot

Taking home **1st Place Overall**, **Team Phil Brewer & Amaro Tovar** brought to the scales the winning creel of five bass weighing 11.02 lbs. Thanks to Phil's 5.32 lb. bass the team also

Next Meeting - Next Tournament

Our next club meeting for 2022 normally scheduled for **Wednesday, 2 March** 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 **16 March 2022**. Club launch headquarters and weigh-in location will be announced. Tournament hours are **Safe Light to 3 PM**.

took home the **5 lb Pot** honors.

Phil Brewer: I first want to thank my co-angler Amaro Tovar on fishing his first ever tournament and being a new member to the club. Great guy! Also, thanks to the weigh-in team for a job well done.

We started the day working flats, points, and structure with A-rigs south of Verde Head. we had a limit by about 8:30. The fish were in 10-20 feet of water. We went up to Bartlett Flats and worked our way back to the main body of the lake. We caught several more on the A-rig and even some on a Shakey head worm. We finished the day fishing in the Log Corral Cove area, where I caught the 5.32 lber. which hit the A-rig with a vengeance. Overall, we had a great day and caught around 15 fish total.

Amaro Tovar: I want to give a big shout out to Gary Senft for introducing me to Midweek Bass Anglers.

Also, a big shout out to my boater Phil Brewer for telling me to buy an A-rig. Probably needless to say but I managed to get it snagged and lost it. Pretty much being a shoreline fisherman, I had been reluctant to get an A-rig but I was glad I did because I did manage to get a decent size bass with it before I lost it. The

Alamo Good News

Great news for our Alamo tournament. Gary Martlage secured the group use area for our tournament. NOTE: We have the smaller Group Area 'B', located next to the one we normally use.

This site is available starting Sunday afternoon, and we must be out of there by Wednesday afternoon. So, make sure you clear all your stuff out of the site before you drive down for the tournament on Wednesday morning. You still have to pay to use group use; the cost is \$15 per day, and you must register at the Ranger Station. There is no power or water, but there is a porta-potty and Ramada.

We plan on hosting a barbeque on Tuesday evening before the tournament, time To Be Determined. We supply food, you bring your beverages and a chair.

few other fish I managed to catch were with my trusty Shakey head on my Dobyns Fury 7' medium-heavy with 12 lb Pline. Being new to using the A-rig I probably wouldn't have lost it had I used 25 or 30 lb line, as my partner did, on my Dobyns Fury heavy 7' casting rod.

For the fish we caught, we did best on edge drop-offs, areas close to cages (habitat), main lake points and river flats. We pretty much covered the lake from river to dam looking for and casting to staging pre-spawn bass. It was a fun day.

Tiny Lures Work Magic For Team Baca & Matt 2nd Place Overall

In **2nd Place** Team **David Baca & Joe Matt** weighed five bass for a total weight of 9.66 lbs.

David Baca: First of all, congrats to Phil and Amaro for the great finish and proof there still is a bass over 5 lbs. in Bartlett. I also want to thank my co-angler Joe Matt who contributed to a great day on the water. The weather turned out better than I thought it would along with the wind that allowed us to be able to focus a little more on the fishing and having a great time on the lake.

Our first two fish were our best ones and they came on a pumpkin single tail Yamamoto spider jig in 2 to 6 feet of water. We cut the four-inch jigs down about a 1/2 inch to make them as small as we could. What is really crazy is that about 20 years ago I had to make my jigs as big as I could to get a quality bite and fish them very fast. It has taken me 20 years to finally down size as small as I can and fish them as slow as I can to get a decent bite on Bartlett. What a pain until you catch a fish and then it gets a little more tolerable. I think all of our fish came on the small jigs and most of them were in 2-8 feet toward the back of coves around rocky structure. Thanks to all who give of themselves and time to put on a great tournament. As soon as I get our home completed, I will be able to fish more of these events.

Membership

As of February 18, 2022 the Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona consists of **146** active members.



2nd Place Joe Matt & David Baca

Roger Root & Kevin Finn Share Tie For 3rd Place

Team **Root & Finn** weighed five bass for 8.05 pounds and took home **Third Place** honors.

No fishing and catching report provided by the team.

Team Lindhorst & Sapyta Work Drop Shot And Share 3rd Place

Taking home **3rd Place**, Team **Troy Lindhorst & David Sapyta** weighed five fish for a total weight of 7.38 pounds.

David Sapyta: First thanks to the weigh crew and the board of directors. I fished with Troy Lindhorst on a cold day. Troy is new to the club but not new to fishing. He knows how to fish! We started out using blades and then we

Tournament Statistics

Eighty-two contestants fished 8.5 hours each, bringing 175 bass to the scales for a total weight of 212.54 pounds with a 2.59 pound average total catch per fisherman. The average weight of each fish was 1.21 lbs. All fish were released alive back into the lake after weigh-in to fight again another day.



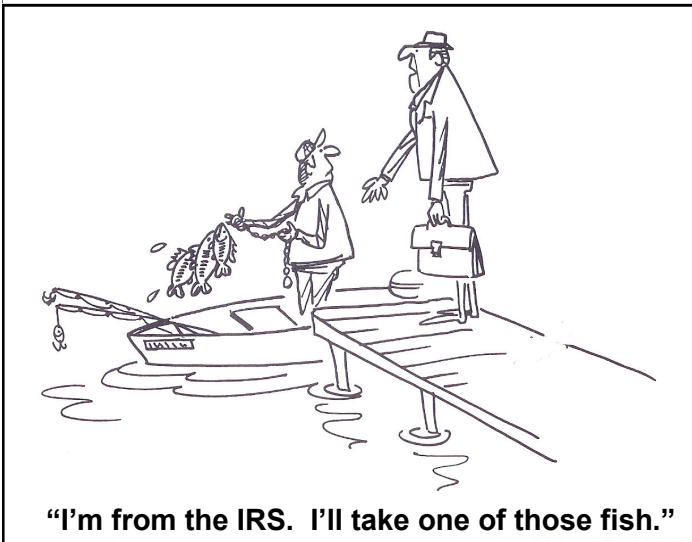
3rd Place Troy Lindhorst & David Sapyta

caught a couple on drop shot using ox-blood worms. We had a great time!

Team John Hilland & Rodney Scates Work Jigs & Craws To 5th Place

A five fish bag weighing 7.53 lbs was enough to earn Team Hilland & Scates the 5th Place money.

John Hilland: Congrats to the winners with a monster 5.32-pounder and great bag for Bartlett. I had the pleasure of being paired up with Rod Scates. Without the benefit of being able to prefish we hit the lake with a few ideas,



"I'm from the IRS. I'll take one of those fish."

a hope, and a prayer.

Rod and I decided to start on a few deeper spots and throw some reaction baits. That didn't pan out but we could see fish on the graph all over. Feeling we were in the right area we stuck around and started throwing some plastics. Right away Rod got a bite and shortly after that I was able to put one in the boat. We stayed in the same area for a few hours and had 4 in the boat, one being a nice 2 plus and decided to move. Nothing else seemed to produce for us until we headed over to a bank close to Rattlesnake, I handed Rod one of my rods to get a feel for it as I had been telling him how much I liked it, a few casts later he stuck our second-best fish and we had our limit. We ran around the rest of the day culling a few times enjoying what turned out to be a beautiful day. Our fish came on jigs and Texas rigged craws. Thanks to Rod for being such a great partner and to the club for another stellar event. Hope to see everyone next month.

Rodney Scates: First, I want to say thank you to Midweek Bass for a great tournament. Secondly thank you to John Hilland; he is a great boater. He is a very informative and courteous individual and a pleasure to fish with. It was a tough day on the lake. My fish were few and far between. I had



5th Place - John Hilland & Rod Scates

multiple opportunities to boat more fish, however, I missed and lost some fish. I caught all my fish on rocky banks in water 15 to 25 feet deep on a Texas rig Hula grub and jigs. John is a great fisherman and knows how to locate fish. Looking forward to Alamo next month.

Team Jackson & Rubenstein Work J-Rigs To 6th Place

Team **Robin Jackson & Steve Rubenstein** weighed five bass for 7.08 pounds and took home **6th Place** honors.

Steven Rubenstein: Well, this tournament turned out to be a tough one. Many small fish were caught. First, I want to thank the weigh in team, Floyd for helping launch in the morning, all the officers and our tournament director for doing terrific work. Also, I want to thank Robin Jackson for a terrific day. He is a great partner.

Our day started out tough. I started with a jig and Robin threw a J-rig. For the first few hours I just practiced casting and Robin managed to catch a few small fish while we worked a few mid-lake points and coves. Finally, Robin hooked into our big fish (2.4 lbs.), and we felt a little better. Robin lent me a J-rig and then I caught a small bass, my first one. We kept moving around and managed to catch one here and there and slowly upgraded. Then Robin hooked into another good one that we culled. I did not get another bite the rest of the day, but had opportunities to perfect my netting technique. We were surprised we had 7.08 lbs.



6th Place Robin Jackson & Steve Rubenstein

and were really surprised that we finished 6th. But we will take it. Thanks again Robin for a fun day.

Team Todd Gentner & Bob Jolley Drop Shot For 7th Place

Team **Gentner & Jolley** weighed five bass for 6.99 pounds and took home **7th Place** honors. Thanks to Todd's 3.14 lb bass the team also won **1st Place Big Bass** honors.

Todd Gentner: And so it happened that one quick, little low pressure front rolls through and the fish move from main lake points where we found them Saturday during pre-fish, to mid-

Help Wanted—Club Secretary

This will be **Terry Tassin's** last year serving as club Secretary for the Midweek Bass Anglers. Terry has been the Secretary since the club started 17 years ago and he is worn-out. In preparation for his departure, we are looking for someone to assume the responsibilities of Secretary when he leaves, but more importantly we would like to bring this person aboard later this year so that Terry can provide some training and oversight. As Secretary the minimum job requirements are to maintain minutes of each meeting and report the proceedings at the following meeting. He will also be responsible for all required correspondence concerning the club. Maintaining the club membership roster is also part of the Secretary duties. This position does require a vote and approval by the club in November, but your approval is very likely with the support of the board behind you. The term of all club officers is two years, and you should be active in the majority of the club's activities, whether meetings or tournaments. Interested? Let us know.

Gary Grimes, President. garv@bestexpression.com or Terry Tassin, Secretary terrytassin@cox.net.



7th Place Todd Gentner & Bob Jolley

cove and deep-cuts four days later.

Ask yourself, would you rather catch our limit of five fish and then hunt for a kicker, or catch a kicker early and stress-out the rest of the day about not being able to add anything of size to it. Let me tell you when you cull and upgrade for an ounce at a time, it stinks. Bob Jolley and myself had a fun couple of days trying to figure out those fish and that lake.

We caught all our fish on drop shot and jigs. Nothing special here. We started on points and moved in toward the banks throughout the day finally locating them closer to the bank. Our big fish actually slammed a jig, not a pressure bite, so I knew it was a good one when I set the hook. I must say It's always a good time fishing with Bob Jolley.

Bob Jolley: Todd and I pre-fished on Saturday and caught nine fish which were typical cookie cutter size for this time of year at Bartlett. On tournament day we caught ten, mostly small fish, until Todd hooked into our kicker bass that weighed 3.14 pounds. This catch got us to our seventh-place finish and 'Big Fish' money. Todd and I spent most of the day on the main lake, with frozen hands, fishing drop shots and jigs which were the two techniques that caught our five biggest bass.

This was the first time I have been paired

with Todd and I was lucky to draw such an accomplished fisherman. Todd was very accommodating which made it easy for me as a co-angler. He also has a great boat to fish out of! We fished well as a team, had a fun time talking about fishing and golf, and we managed to win some money. I hope to get another opportunity to be paired up with Todd at a future tournament.

Thanks to the weigh-in team for another great job and thanks for the shuttle service and the hot dogs which really hit the spot after the tournament.

Team Floyd Vaughan & Ken Muecke Fish C-Rigs For 8th Place

Team **Vaughan & Muecke** weighed five bass for 6.75 pounds and took home **8th Place** honors.

Ken Muecke: My first tournament with the club, and over 20 years since I've been in a tournament. I can't say how impressed I was with everyone in your club, everyone made me feel welcome. Fishing with Floyd Vaughan was a pleasure and I learned so much. The day started off a little on the chilly side, even a little rain from the gods, but what a great finish to the day. We were blessed to put a couple of fish in the boat early in the morning and then it was just trying to figure out what they wanted with the weather changing so much. Floyd had the experience to out smart those little buggers and was putting fish in the boat all day with several different methods. We found fish at several different depths, very light bites, and we were constantly changing our presentation. I look forward to the next tournament. Thanks for letting me fish with you guys, Happy Fishing !

Team Richie Rojas & Spencer Hand Win 2nd Place Big Bass honors.

Spencer Hand: Well, it was cold but a beautiful day. Richie Rojas caught our first bass, the 2.99 pounder. I netted it. Catching was very slow all day for us. Richie caught the fish on a white spinner bait near the dam. Great partner to draw; I was very lucky.



2nd Place Big Fish-Richie Rojas & Spencer Hand



Weighing-In
 By Gary Martlage
 Tournament Director

Tournament two is in the books. Things went smoothly at the weigh-in (what else would you expect?), except we need the members to step up the weights size a little bit, to challenge our crew. Thanks to our regulars (**Tom A, Tom S, Floyd V, John H, Gary G**) plus other volunteers who stepped up - **Dave Convery** for his help in transportation; **Doyle Wofford** at the table, **Rusty Murdock** handling the hot dog table - might have missed someone, but all volunteer help is appreciated. It's your club; step up and keep it the best in Arizona.

One other note is on boater/boat safety. There was a report of aggressive driving (being way too close at a high speed) during our takeoff. Also, I observed a boat in the top 6, that left 200 yards from the start boat. Guys, we have rules in place for a reason. Passing the start boat in single file, in numerical order, keeps both of these things from happening. By leaving in order, it keeps a safe spacing from your competitors, and will avoid most issues. In the future, we will be spacing individual boats at a slower pace, and please note **YOU CAN BE DISQUALIFIED** if you do not idle pass the start

boat within 20 yards. Please don't put me in the position to **DQ** you.

See you all at LAKE ALAMO next month.

Photo Scrapbook - Lake Bartlett
February 16, 2022



3rd Place Overall - Kevin Finn & Roger Root



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

Midweek Bass Anglers of Arizona - 2022 Board of Directors and Committee Chairmen

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SECRETARY

Terry Tassin 623-696-8935

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

Gary Martlage 602-616-1001

VICE PRESIDENT

Tom Savage 602-432-8589

TREASURERS

Vern Ridgway 602-525-5493

Don Worcester 630-567-3038

Committee / Chairmen

PROGRAMS

Tom Savage

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE Gary Martlage - Chairman

Gary Grimes, Terry Tassin, Tom Savage, Vern Ridgway

RAFFLE COMMITTEE - - Vacant

GOVERNMENT LIASION

Jack Hughes

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Terry Tassin

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Tom Savage

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**

Anthony Castelluccio (CO)
Sebastian Fraczek (CO)
Amaro Tovar (CO)

Please meet and greet our new members.



Best Wishes and Happy Birthday
Born in March

- Sean Ballard
- Richard Brookins
- Bryan Colby
- Jimmie Coleman
- Robert Cooley
- Kurt Crawford
- Jim Duel
- Otto Gal
- Robert Plante
- Terry Robertson
- Rodney Scates
- Tim Smith
- Lew Southard
- Luke Spreitzer
- Richard Wheeler



**Midweek Bass Anglers 2022
Tournament Schedule**

- | | |
|----------------|-----------|
| 19 January | Pleasant |
| 16 February | Bartlett |
| 16 March | Alamo |
| 13 April | Havasu |
| 18 May | Roosevelt |
| 15 June | Pleasant |
| 20 July | Bartlett |
| 17 August | Saguaro |
| 21 September | Roosevelt |
| 19 October | Alamo |
| 16-17 November | Apache |