

# Springfield Crappie Club Meeting Minutes --- January 27, 2019

The spring meeting was held at the Knights of Columbus Council #4179 on Lake Springfield. President Brian Cuffle called the meeting to order at 1:05 P.M. 18 members were present. The 2019 E-Board, President, Brian Cuffle; Vice President, Brian Bucannan; Treasurer, Mike Rockford; Secretary, Jim Tintori; and Tournament Director, Arick Clark took their seats up front.

The reading of the minutes from the fall meeting was waived by membership. Secretary Jim Tintori had printed copies on the table for anyone interested. The financial report was given by Treasurer Mike Rockford. He reported the club has \_\_\_\_\_ in checking and the savings balance was not available. Mike told members the E-board approved moving \$1,000 from savings to checking in case the money is needed to pay winners at the 2019 Bash. Any part of this money not used will be returned to the savings account. The treasurer's report was approved. Retiring VP Rick Montooth was not present due to recent knee surgery, therefore no report. Retiring Tournament Director Jerry Jallas reported the 2018 club tournaments had 26 teams' fish. JJ repeated the spring open tournament figures with Sangchris having 16 boats (\$240) and the Crappie BASH at Shelbyville having 22 boats (\$24). The fall open at Lake Decatur had 8 boats even though the morning temperature was only 17 degrees. He said it could be a good tournament in the future because Lake Decatur is well fished. He finished by informing members the 2019 tournaments voted on last fall have been approved by DNR, Corp of Engineers and local authorities. President Cuffle reminded us the 2018 50/50 Raffle earned more than \$300 to help boost the payout of the Fall Classic and stated there will be a 2019 raffle. Danny Runkle asked if the club intended to keep the Bash if participation did not increase. Brian said the Bash needs to significantly increase in 2019 with a target of \$500 profit to continue. The prizes are set for 2019, but there may be discussion at the fall meeting about a new prize structure for the Bash in 2020 if it is to continue.

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The following lakes are approved for the 2019 spring tournaments and applications can be found at [www.springfieldcrappieclub.com](http://www.springfieldcrappieclub.com)

OPEN	March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Lake Sangchris	\$50 Entry Fee	\$10 Big Fish
CLUB	April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Lake Springfield		
BASH	April 27 <sup>th</sup>	Lake Shelbyville	\$100 Entry Fee	\$10 Big Fish
CLUB	May 5 <sup>th</sup> (Sunday)	Lake Sangchris		
CLUB	May 18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup>	Mark Twain Lake		

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2018 SCC Anglers of the Year are Arick Clark & Kyle Gehrs. They weighed in 21.31 pounds and were awarded AOY jackets. The jackets were purchased at Henderson's Advertising on Cook Street. Congratulations to Arick & Kyle. The 2018 SCC Big Fish of the Year went to Brian Cuffle & Dale Smith. They won \$100. Their fish was caught at Lake Shelbyville in the spring and weighed 1.33 lbs. The 2nd place big fish went to Arick Clark & Brian Buchannan. It was also caught at Lake Shelbyville in the spring and weighed 1.25 lbs.

Jerry Jallas told us he is in a conversation with Central Illinois Crappie Club and Heart of Illinois Crappie Club concerning an "Illinois Crappie Angler of the Year" state championship. More to come at the fall meeting.

**New Business:**

President Cuffle proposed changing the Angler of the Year (Team) to Angler of the Year (Individual). Each fisherman in the boat would receive the team weight as an individual total. This would allow for situations when team members fished with someone other than their partner or when one team member was not present at all of the qualifying tournaments. There would still be Co-Anglers of the Year if each team member had the same total weight. Cuffle volunteered to be the record keeper of the weights if it passed. Dan Runkle made the motion to change our AOY format to an individual prize beginning this season. It passed unanimously.

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**By-Law Change:**

**The Angler of the Year shall be determined by the highest total of the angler's four best weights recorded at any regular club tournament. The weight in the fall classic is not included in the AOY total weight. Each angler present and physically in the boat will have the total team weight credited to their AOY total weight. Effective with the 2019 season.**

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**By-Law Confirmation:**

There was a discussion about the Big Fish of the Year determination, prizes and qualifying tournaments. The original intent of the members was that the big fish in the fall classic was a qualified entry for this award. However, that was not the case in the first two years. Members voted to confirm they wanted the classic included and it will be going forward. In the case of ties, prizes will be divided by the number of winners. The SCC puts \$100 into the first place prize money. In years past, members have also donated cash or prizes to other prize levels not supported by the SCC.

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After some discussion, Ken Barlow made a motion to raise the entry fee for club tournaments from \$50 to \$100. Dan Runkle asked Ken to amend his motion to raise the entry fee to \$75 and also raise the optional big fish entry from \$10 per boat to \$10 per man. The vote was 8 for and 8 against. President Cuffle broke the tie with a vote against the proposal.

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Dan Runkle made a motion to raise the entry fee for our two day club tournaments from \$50 to \$80 and also to raise the optional big fish entry from \$10 per day to \$10 per day per man. A one man team would pay \$80 + \$10 + \$10 to enter a two day tournament while a two man team would pay \$80 + \$20 + \$20, assuming entry into the optional big fish competition. This would become effective with our 2020 season since our applications are already made up for 2019. This proposal passed with 14 yes votes.

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**Tournament Rule Change:**

**The entry fee for SCC two day tournaments shall be \$80 per boat. The entry fee for the optional Big Fish competition shall be raised to \$10 per man - per day. This change will become effective in the 2020 tournament year.**

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President Cuffle brought up a member's concern about a situation known as "Dock Sitting". This is believed to be where a non-member arrives early at a location and appears to be reserving the location until a member arrives to take over that spot. After discussion, it was agreed this is not a practice the club would encourage, but there is no way to know this is actually happening and no way to police the practice either. **Do Unto Others**

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**By-Law Confirmation:**

The discussion about "guest" fishing our club tournaments continues. There was no agreement whether a guest could fish one or two club tournaments before being required to join the SCC. Also, these questions came up: Can a guest fish with a different member each tournament? Can a member have a different guest in each tournament? A motion was made by Ken Barlow and amended by Carlo Catalano to have the rule state "A guest may participate in one SCC club tournament per year" and "A member can have a guest at any SCC club tournament, providing the guest has not participated in any other club tournament this year." Hopefully, a shortened time period will make it easier to manage guest participation. Motion Carried.

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It was brought up that in years past, we required members to fish four of our six club tournaments to qualify for the fall classic. That requirement was lowered to two tournaments in recent years. A motion was made to change that requirement to 3 club tournaments. Motion passed unanimously.

**By-Law Change:**

**To qualify for the fall classic, a member must physically fish three (3) club tournaments that tournament year. This will become effective with the 2019 tournament year.**

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**Tournament Rule Change:**

Dan Runkle said he is not a fan of the rule giving the tournament director the number one takeoff at club tournaments. A motion was made to eliminate this perk and everyone is released by entry number. Motion passed 10 to 6.

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It has been a long time practice to break club tournament ties by the team's entry numbers. The lower entry would be declared the winner. President Cuffle suggested that this E-board would like to change that practice. His recommendation would be to have ties at club tournaments broken by the "Big Fish" recorded for each of the tied teams. It was pointed out that every team should present a fish for "Big Fish" even if that team is not entered in the optional competition. Of course if a team chooses not to weigh a big fish and they end up in a tie, their big fish entry would be zero lbs. Motion made and passed.

**Tournament Rule Change:**

Club tournament ties shall be broken by the heavier weight of the tying teams recorded "Big Fish" for that day. If a two day tournament results in a tie, the heavier recorded weight of the "Big Fish" from each day shall be the tie breaker. Neither team is required to have entered the optional "Big Fish" competition to weigh a fish as a tie breaker, however, in the event a "Big Fish" was not recorded as a tie breaker, a zero will be recorded for that team.

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Steve Mosley asked if the club would consider helping CWLP build and place structure in Lake Springfield. Materials and labor would be required. That was a resounding yes.

President Cuffle asked if anyone had thoughts about the clubs trailer. Ken Barlow pointed out the service work and sponsorships done to the trailer in the near past. The cost to keep the trailer is minimal and it makes a good impression at open tournaments. We will keep the trailer for now.

Fishing has no Boundaries has an event on Lake Springfield on September 21<sup>st</sup>. They will operate out of the TRN club. Members are asked to get involved by volunteering to take someone on their boat or pontoon and helping their guest experience the joy of fishing. Talk to President Cuffle for more information.

\$50 to K of C for the generous use of their hall.

Brian Cuffle won the 50/50 for \$50.

Member Ken List and his crew were thanked for frying our delicious fish.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

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Respectfully Submitted,  
Jim Tintori  
SCC Secretary