

2010 Junior Bassmaster State Championship

The Maine BASS Federation Nation held the 2010 Junior Bassmaster State Championship at Pleasant Pond/Cobbossee Stream on August 28. The Gardiner Sportsman's Club was the host site as twenty five Junior Bassmaster members from across Maine gathered to compete for the state title. As volunteers from the Maine BASS Federation inspected the boats for aquatic plants and launched the boats, the anglers completed registration. All the anglers received a door prize of a spinner bait donated by Grizz Baits (www.Grizzbaits.net). After the rules briefing, the contestants were paired up with the volunteer boaters and the anglers headed out to fish for five hours in bright sunshine & light winds, trying to catch a limit of five bass to bring to the weigh-in scales.

In the 11-14 age group, Jonathan Curran of Kennebunk was crowned state champion after catching a limit of bass weighing 7.68lbs. Second place was awarded to Alex Williamson of Gorham, who had a 6.16 lb limit of fish. Third place was captured by Hunter Reed of Georgetown, with 4.48 lbs of fish. Hunter Beyea of Arundel won the trophy for the biggest fish in the 11-14 age group with a largemouth bass weighing 2.76 lbs.

State champion in the 15-18 age group was awarded to Derek Woodbury of New Castle, who brought in a limit of bass weighing 9.16 lbs. His limit of fish included a 3.85 lb largemouth, adding the big fish trophy for the 15-18 age group to his winnings. Brian Volkernick of Dixfield caught a limit weighing 8.45 lbs to reel in second place. Third place was awarded to Chase Laflamme of East Waterboro with a 6.53 lb limit of fish.

The anglers caught a total of 52 bass weighing 75.8 lbs and all of the fish were released alive. Only seven anglers got skunked for the day, but John Crocker of Pittston turned his luck around by winning a prize package of baits donated by Hawg Wild Lures (www.hawgwildlures.com) in the skunk draw. After the tournament, all the anglers, parents and volunteers enjoyed a cookout provided by the Gardiner Sportsman's Club.

State Champions Jonathan Curran and Derek Woodbury will advance to compete at the 2011 BASS Federation Nation Eastern Divisional on Lake Champlain in Vermont. The Maine Junior Bassmaster program is sponsored by Triton Boats, Mercury outboards, Motorguide trolling motors, and Grizz Baits. Complete standings and photo gallery from the tournament will be posted on www.mebass.com.



Maine Junior Bassmaster Champions - Jonathan Curran, Derek Woodbury



The Junior Competitors



Brian Volkernick, Alex Williamson, Hunter Beyea, Chase Laflamme, Derek Woodbury, Jonathan Curran, Hunter Reed.