

FLATS FAIL to FIRE for ALL BUT ONE

Submitted by: Nick Angiulo

The second New Jersey Bass Federation point event of 2015 was shaping up to be a slugfest. With relatively stable weather, clear water and hungry post spawn fish, all signs pointed to a great event. Then came the rains Four inches worth to be exact. Yes, as is often the case, Mother Nature intervened and threw a monkey wrench into the works, with torrential rains hitting the Northern Chesapeake Bay (colloquially known as the Susquehanna Flats) just hours before the beginning of the June 28, 2015 event. The result was very high and stained to muddy waters, putting the fish in a negative feeding mood. With these challenges facing them, the field of anglers struggled mightily to catch fish; except for one angler, who obliterated the field by an unfathomable 11 pounds.

Boater Division

In a dominant performance, Derick Olson posted only one of three five-fish limits in the event, weighing 21.15 pounds, to easily win the Boater Division. Olson, of Honey Brook, Pennsylvania and a member of the Quickfire Bassmasters proved that good-sized fish could be caught even in the tough conditions and weighed in five nearly identical-sized four-plus pound fish. His near 11 pound victory is one of the most dominant performances in Federation history and gave him the well-deserved victory and the Boater Division first prize of \$660.

In what amounted for a race for second place, Jason Orecchio barely edged out Sean Loll with a five fish limit weighing 10.18 pounds compared to Loll's 10.10 pound limit. Orecchio, from Highland Lakes, New Jersey and also a member of the Quickfire Bassmasters received \$484 for his second place Boater Division finish while Loll, from Montvale, New Jersey and a member of the United Bass Anglers received \$330 for his third place finish.

Taking the Boater Division lunger prize was Brian Calloway. Calloway, from Cherry Hill, New Jersey and a member of the Big D Valley Bassmasters brought a 4.57 pound largemouth to the scales to collect the \$110 Boater Division lunger award.

Co-Angler Division

The Co-Angler Division had a tough time given the conditions. However, some anglers managed to figure out how to get the stubborn bass to bite. Winning the Co-Angler Division with his first-ever Federation victory was Terry Stevens with two fish weighing 6.65 pounds. Stevens, the Federation's trailer puller, is from Teaneck, New Jersey and a member of the United Bass Anglers. For his victory, Stevens received the Co-Angler Division first prize check worth \$420.

Second place was taken by veteran Co-Angler Larry Kantrowitz. Kantrowitz, from Mays Landing, New Jersey and a member of the South Jersey Hawg Hunters only managed one keeper on the day. However, that fish, weighing 4.15 pounds, not only was enough for second place, but also captured the Co-Angler Division lunger

prize. Kantrowitz received \$308 for his second place finish and an additional \$70 for his lunker.

Third place in the Co-Angler Division went to Kevin Danna of the Gloucester County Bass Club. Danna, from Bridgeton, New Jersey caught two fish weighing 3.69 pounds and received \$210.

Miscellaneous Notes

1. Only three anglers brought five-fish limits to the scales and 59 fish totaling 147 pounds were weighed in. All fish were released alive.
2. Hutchinson Cabinets has once again graciously sponsored this season's points tournaments where in each event, the Boater and Co-Angler not in the top three with the next highest weights in their Division who **are present at the awards presentation at the end of the weigh-in**, each will receive \$50. In this event, the \$50 was awarded to George Hutchinson in the Boater Division and Cody Barry in the Co-Angler Division.
3. By virtue of being the highest placing eligible Ranger Boat owner in the event, Derick Olson will receive \$120 in Ranger Cup bonus money. The second highest placing eligible Ranger Boat owner, George Hutchinson, will receive \$100 in Ranger Cup bonus money.