



Press Release

Ontario B.A.S.S. Nation



Friday, November 22, 2013

2013 Hank Gibson Provincial Qualifier The Battle on Big Rideau

Rideau Ferry, Ontario Rideau Lakes Township - The 19th Annual Hank Gibson Provincial Qualifier will be heading back to Big Rideau Lake in Rideau Ferry, on August 23 – 24 2014. It has been 13 years since the OBN Provincial Qualifier was last held on Big Rideau Lake. It is anticipated that up to 150+ anglers from the Ontario B.A.S.S. Nation will compete for the opportunity to represent both Ontario, and Canada, at the B.A.S.S. Nation Eastern Divisional in 2015.

Each year the top 12 anglers from over 20 OBN chapters vie for a coveted spot at the Bassmaster Classic. No one has ever represented Ontario except the late Hank Gibson, to which this event was named, qualified in 1990. The road to the Classic begins at the Qualifier by making Team Ontario who then must compete against teams from New York, Maine, Rhode Island, Vermont, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Spain, at the B.A.S.S. Nation Eastern Divisional. The top angler from each team then qualifies for the B.A.S.S. Nation Championship wherein the top angler from each Division will move onto the Bassmaster Classic.

The Ottawa Valley South Bassmaster Chapter 2014 OBN Qualifier Committee, lead by Tim Baker, have been working feverishly for the past month to secure necessary resources to ensure both a great event as well as the survival of our cherished sport. The committee has arranged for a stage, weigh scales and a crew from a local bass series. They are also awaiting confirmation in the coming weeks on the use of a “live release” boat from another organization. We are proud to announce that after a successful 2013 event at Quinte West, Reno Viola has agreed to return and be the emcee for the 2014 OBN Provincial Qualifier.

The Qualifier Committee will be having ongoing talks with Rideau Lakes Township and other area Town Councils regarding the upcoming event. These communities can expect a boost to their economies through accommodations, shopping, dining, as well as the use of facilities hosting the 2014 OBN Provincial Qualifier. Discussions with local businesses will also be forthcoming to help ensure that this event is a rewarding experience for both the competitors and the Township.

Future announcements will be made through the local media and on www.ontariobass.com, Twitter (@ontarioBASS) and Facebook.

The Ontario B.A.S.S. Nation, affiliated with Bass Anglers Sportsman Society (B.A.S.S.), serves as an organization in which the individual B.A.S.S. chapters in the Province of Ontario encourage youth fishing, promotes and supports approved conservation policies while practicing the highest standards of sportsmanship. The OBN is united in the benefit of their common interests and causes.

For any questions about the Ontario B.A.S.S. Nation or the Hank Gibson Provincial Qualifier please contact the Media Director, Chris Kilgore (media@ontariobass.com).

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“Family First – Then Work – Then Fishing”