

York Region Bassmasters do more than just wet a line

Marc Coratti has some ideas he would like to incorporate within the membership of the Aurora Bassmasters.

Taking over the reins as the angling club's president this year from Des Barnes, who left the area for work purposes, the Unionville resident would like to see the club become more visible within the boundaries of York Region and keep the doors open to any piscators who might wish to join in on the fun.

To do this though, he feels its membership needs to take a more active stance in their planned endeavours for the upcoming season.

While the Aurora Bassmasters are known for the series of angling tournaments they stage throughout the year, they are also involved in other projects pertaining to the sport.

And for those that lend their time, Coratti said it will go a long ways towards earning participation

points which in turn are part of the criteria considered when the club hands out its member and angler of the year awards.

"The person who participates in the most programs that we have, stuff like our casting with kids program, rehabilitation work programs and in attending our meetings and in fishing our tournaments will get the awards," said Coratti, who has been a member of the Aurora Bassmasters since 1996.

In the years that he's been actively involved with the club, Coratti noted that most of the work was carried out by just a handful of individuals.

"You tend to get the same dozen or so guys who do all of the leg-work," he cited. "I would like to see more of our members get involved. I got involved (with the club) to get more people involved," he said.

With close to 36 anglers in their group that come from all over York Region, the Aurora Bassmasters still welcomes any new anglers that

OUTDOORS



Mike Hayakawa

would like to join.

Coratti said the club welcomes individuals 16 years of age or over of both genders.

Meetings, he said, are held on the first Wednesday of every month at the Optimists Club of Newmarket (56 Forhan Ave.).

One notion that Coratti wishes to dispel is that members need to own a boat.

Not true, he says.

In their two-person live release tournaments, the Aurora Bassmasters pairs up a member who has a boat with one who doesn't.

"It's a good learning experience," notes Coratti, who at one time was a non-boater himself and credits his time spent with the club in enhancing his angling knowledge and interest in competing in tournaments.

This season, he said the Aurora Bassmasters will have 10 qualifying tournaments, which will also be used as fundraisers, and three non-qualifying events.

PIKE TOURNEY THIS SATURDAY ON COOK'S BAY

One of the non-qualifying competitions will take place this Saturday at Cook's Bay when they hold their sixth annual catch and release northern pike tournament.

Setting this event apart from others is the co-operative partnership the club has with the Ministry of Natural Resources' Aurora District office.

Together, the two concerns have worked on an annual project where several of the pike caught during the event are transferred to nearby Fairy Lake in Newmarket.

Here the pike will add additional urban angling opportunities and help balance that local fishery. This has all been done in accordance with ministry guidelines and through their Community Fisheries and Wildlife Improvement Program.

In past years, this popular event has seen anywhere from 20 to 40 two-person teams take to the waters of Cook's Bay in pursuit of the cash purse. The two other non-qualifying events take place in the fall and include the Crackle Cup and Bragging Rights Tournament, an event that involves two other Bassmasters clubs from Barrie and Simcoe.

For further information on the Aurora Bassmasters and their tournaments, Coratti can be reached at (905) 940-1344.

SPORTSBOARD

E-MAIL: sports@econsun.com

GYMNASTICS

York Stars Rhythmic Gym Club

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
OTTAWA MAY 17-19

LEVEL 2: Katie Jurbala - ninth overall (sixth Free and 12th Ball).

LEVEL 3: Michelle Lo - Provincial Champion-first overall (first Free, second Rope and first Ball); Nicole Kushevsky - fifth overall (fourth Free, fifth Rope and sixth Ball).

LEVEL 5: Kelsie Ojaste - Provincial Champion-1st over-

all (first Free, second Rope and first Hoop); Kristy Titanic-fifth overall (third Free, fourth Rope and sixth Hoop).

LEVEL 6: Tiffany Kwong - 15th overall (26th Ball and 12th Hoop); Ashley Gyamati - 28th overall (29th Ball and 23rd Hoop).

LEVEL 7: Laura Chin -Provincial Champion-first overall (first Rope, first Ball and third Hoop); Amanda Chung - fourth overall (fifth Rope, fourth Ball and sixth Hoop); Jessica Singh - seventh overall (9th Rope, seventh Ball and 11th Hoop); Veronika Viinamae - 16th overall (16th Rope, 14th Ball and 16th Hoop).

LEVEL 8: Hanna Wickstrom - third overall (second Rope

and third Ribbon); Zlata Volfson - ninth overall (ninth Rope and seventh Ribbon).

LEVEL 9: Alex Khan - seventh overall (sixth Rope, fifth Ribbon and 10th Clubs).

SLO-PITCH

MORSL

STANDINGS OF MAY 20

TEAM	W	L	T	P
Unionville Motors	3	0	0	6

Fathers	2	0	1	5
Floyd's Barber Shop	2	0	1	5
Col. Mustards	2	1	0	4
Great Northern	2	1	0	4
Sams Garage	1	1	1	3
Red Hot Bistro	1	1	1	3
Sgt. Peppers	1	2	0	2
Stephen Tar-Century 21	1	2	0	2
Balloon Experts	1	2	0	2
Dales Pharmacy	0	3	0	0
Frankie Tomato's	0	3	0	0

Markham Women's

STANDINGS OF MAY 17

TEAM	W	L	T	P
Cotterill/Sutton	2	0	0	4
Fitzpatrick Physio	1	1	0	2
Garden Basket	1	1	0	2
Lyndem	1	1	0	2
Markham Vet's	1	1	0	2
Unionville IGA	1	1	0	2
Unionville Motors	1	1	0	2
M and M Meats	0	0	0	0

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