

# HighSchoolFishing.Org

## Start a SAF School Club!



### (Here's How) - Pre-Meeting Check List Club At Your School.

1. Schedule a meeting with your principal or superintendent, and try to find a faculty fishing advisor prior to that meeting. The process for school clubs tend to be easier for the principal when faculty advisors are involved.
2. Start finding other interested club members, and try to have a ballpark number of students prior to the meeting. Keep your numbers realistic; don't say there are 100 interested anglers only to find out there are seven. And remember female anglers make up about 15% of our membership nationwide! Girls can fish too! This program is FULLY title 9 compliant.
3. Show the SAF introduction video at your meeting, a laptop or iPad work well. Here's the link to the video, [http://youtu.be/YeAAW\\_frzeI](http://youtu.be/YeAAW_frzeI). We made it to help you remember all the details of the program; be sure to use it!
4. Familiarize yourself with the Insurance coverage. It's important to have a good idea of how it works; refer to the FAQ sheet provided or call us with questions.
5. Strategize on how to raise money to support the club. Check out our SAF clubs fundraisers and think of ways to gain local sponsors to help support your club events, team jerseys, etc.
6. Highlight the educational components of the program. Your administrator needs to be assured the program is about promoting education through fishing. Here are a few keys:
  - Gives students a reason to go to school, roughly 60% of our members do NOT play stick and ball sports.
  - It could be the first time a student has to meet eligibility requirements.
  - SAF has a terrific online education program, which is FREE to all SAF members just for the asking.
  - SAF Scholarship opportunities run into the MILLIONS each year!
7. Create a timeline of tentative events. Even if there's not an established trail in your area, your club can plan to run 3 or 4 events for its members, fish the SAF State Championship or MLF Open and/or the High School Fishing World Finals/National Championship.
8. Have a plan to find boat captains; it doesn't have to be concrete, but you need a plan. Consider family, friends, adult bass clubs and other volunteers. Start with competitions around a pond if you have to.
9. Have a plan to handle volunteers. Most school volunteers go through a background check. Also, SAF requires you to follow the 2017 Youth Safe sports Act. ALWAYS 3 to a boat (2) HS anglers and a boat captain; anglers cannot fish alone with an adult in an organized youth event, It is against federal law!
10. List some conservation or community service projects you plan to do. Also, if you plan to have a professional speaker (Pro angler, college coach or angler, etc.)
11. Subject to their approval, inform them you'd like to hold an informational meeting to gauge interest in a HS fishing club, and that you'd also be willing to bring students to a board meeting if necessary.
12. Be sure to thank them for their time! Remember if the answer is no by the school system, SAF clubs can always run as an after-school program or a stand-alone club outside the school just like FFA or the Scouts do.

