Team Hawghunters wins two-day Eastern Regional tournament at Oneida

Club wins Day one lunker, three anglers advance to State Championship

Brewerton, NY June 26, 2010

Hawghunters has struggled in the past with the PA Bass Federation's Eastern Regional tournament. With a team of six anglers representing the previous years' best, they have never finished above 4th place and are usually a couple places out of the money. This past weekend proved to be a tournament where all six members fished as one and proved to be the best team in the tournament. Some members of the team arrived as early as Monday to begin dissecting the lake, learning current conditions and patterns that may be developing by the start of the tournament. The practice days were successful and the team met for dinner on Thursday night to discuss techniques and patterns that were working during their practice on the lake.

Day one concluded with an average finish. They found themselves in 12th place out of 20 teams and just under 11 pounds out of first place. There were some shining moments however that proved a spark for day two. First, Kim Unangst landed the day one lunker; a 4.92 pound largemouth that won \$1200 split evenly amongst the team. This fish also proved to be the largest of the two day tournament. Individually, Kim was in 2nd place with 14.91 pounds. Also in the top of the field was Luis Jimenez in 7th place with 14.04 pounds. Less than one pound outside the cut to make the State Championship was Brad Keding and Steve Corrow.

As a team on day two, they brought the weekend's heaviest team weight to the scales, 78.66 pounds. With the second day's effort they found themselves on top of the leaderboard with a total of 140.41 pounds of bass for two days, only .09 pounds ahead of second place. It took a tremendous effort on day two to win and surpass the 11 teams ahead of them. Day two's weight was comprised of Steve Corrow's 15.9 pounds, Luis Jimenez's 14.38 pounds, Doug Roat's 13.14 pounds, Ed Guidon's 12.84 pounds, Kim Unangst's 12.45 pounds and Brad Keding's 9.95 pounds. It made for a tremendous come from behind victory that earned Hawghunters \$2952.50 in cash. The team will also be awarded trophies from the PA Bass Federation later this year for their team effort.

The Eastern Regional also has individual benefits, the top 23 advance to the State Championship as anglers, and the next 22 as co-anglers. Hawghunters will be represented by three anglers advancing from this tournament. Finishing in 3rd place was Luis Jimenez with 28.42 pounds, 4th place was Kim Unangst with 27.36 pounds and 7th place was Steve Corrow with 26.51 pounds. They will be competing at Lake Chautauqua in New York on October 8th and 9th.

Last year Hawghunters was also represented in the State Championship. Ed Guidon, Jon Hardenberg, Brad Keding, Kim Unangst and Steve Corrow competed, with Guidon and

Hardenberg missing the cut be less than one pound. From the State Championship, anglers can advance to a Mid-Atlantic Divisional tournament. In 2009 Ed Guidon of Hawghunters advanced from the State Championship and competed in the Divisional tournament. He was one of 6 anglers representing the State of Pennsylvania during that tournament and had advanced farther than any member of Hawghunters.

Hawghunters also had further representation at Oneida this weekend. Jon Hardenberg and Brad Keding fished the District tournament on Sunday, one day after the Eastern Regional. Keding had been fishing Oneida since Wednesday in preparation for the Regional tournament and Hardenberg arrived on Saturday morning. The district tournament fielded 42 anglers and 42 co-anglers. Hardenberg landed 13.96 pounds to claim 2nd place on the angler side and win \$588. Keding also claimed 2nd place, however on the co-angler side, with 13.58 pounds and \$294 in winnings.

Including the Eastern Regional and District tournament, Hawghunters walked away from Oneida with \$5034.50 in tournament winnings.