

# ROCHESTER BASSMASTERS BASS NEWS

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AUGUST 2019

## BIANCHI

**TAKES CAYUGA  
WITH 19.31 LBS.**

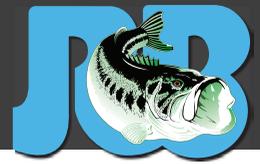


**SENKO'S WERE THE KEY  
TO BIANCHI'S WIN**

PHOTOS BY: MARK HAROLD



**CAYUGA LAKE**  
DEANS COVE, ROMULUS, NY  
ANGLER OF THE YEAR SERIES - JULY 7, 2019



**WILL ROGERS**  
2nd Place - 17.74 lbs.

On July 7th, 2019, **Jim Bianchi** took the VP Innovations Angler of the Year Series at Cayuga Lake.

Jim said, "Cayuga is probably my favorite place to fish, but this event was plagued by string grass which seemed to take a lot of things out of play. It took me a full day of practice to realize the string grass was basically everywhere and it was just a matter of slowing down and dealing with it. 4" and 5" senkos did much of my damage and the highlight of the day was when I caught a 4lb fish while taking a lea... well, let's just say taking a break. Let's hope for better weed in the future."

Continuing his streak of Top 3 finishes, **Will Rogers** finished in 2nd Place with 17.31 lbs.

Will said, "Cayuga Lake proved to be a tough tournament. I was happy to get 3 days of practice there leading up to the event versus my normal 1 day before these events. I spent 1 day on the south end looking for both largemouth and smallmouth. Since I was unsuccessful in finding enough quality fish to make the run

worthwhile, I decided to spend my time on the North end. Throughout the 2 days I spent there, I found 3 areas that were producing better than average fish and decided that's where I would spend my tournament day. Little did I know, I would share the 2 areas with the great **Steve Levine**. We talked throughout practice and we knew we would be in the same area to start the day, but we didn't realize we found the same fish at the second area.

My first stop produced a very small limit, 5 fish for 6 pounds.

At 9:30 I looked at my co-angler and said we need to move. So we moved right across the lake. Pulling up there I quickly explained the area to **Drew Damtoft**. He cast out his bait and within 15 minutes of being there, he boated 3 quality fish. After he boated a 5 pounder, I looked back and asked him how he was fishing the secret Senko and I immediately switched out my drop shot for a weightless Senko. My first cast yielded a bite, but I would lose it in the grass as the rod I tied it on was more for open water. I switched and within a few casts I had 2 culls. I decided that's how I would fish the remainder of the day. It was at about this time that I looked over my shoulder and saw **Steve Levine** pulling up. We had a good laugh over finding the same fish. From there I culled every fish from spot #1. I culled 7 times in that area to get to 17+ pounds.

All the fish I weighed in were caught on a weightless Senko. Both areas were similar with grass and access to deep water, about 5-8 feet of water. I used a Douglas LRS 744xf with 15lb power pro and 10lb fluorocarbon, 5/0 Gamakatsu hook with a 5 inch GP Senko.

I want to thank **Drew Damtoft** for a fun day on the water and for helping me to figure out how to capitalize on

those fish. He was very courteous and fun to have on the boat.

Congrats to **Kyle Sweers** on an absolute giant bass and to **Jim Bianchi** for a great bag on a tougher day. I want to thank my Wife for her continued support with my fishing obsessions, and give a quick shout out to my little man on the way (it's a boy!) -I can't wait to share this sport with him. I also want to thank **Mike P. and the staff at Douglas Rods**, they do a great job and put out a great product, be sure to check them!"

3rd Place went to 2010 Angler of the Year **Chris O'Brien**. Chris found his fish anywhere from shallow to deep water. Chris brought in 5 fish limit weighing 17.66 lbs. to the scales.

Taking 4th Place fishing docks was Sean Brown. Sean threw a 4" Black Worm on a Slider head to catch his fish. Sean weighed in 17.63 lbs.

*Continued on page 3*



**CHRIS O'BRIEN**  
3rd Place - 17.66 lbs.



**SEAN BROWN**  
4th Place - 17.63 lbs.

Always in the hunt **T.J. Valle** brought 17.21 lbs. to the scales.

T.J.'s 5 fish were good enough for 5th.

T.J. found his in scattered weed beds in about 10 feet of water.

T.J. used his signature Jig pattern to target his fish.

Taking 6th Place was **Nate Kalpin** with 16.54 lbs.

Nate said, "Cayuga is always a tough



**T.J. VALLE**  
5th Place - 17.21 lbs.

lake for me to adapt to. I had only one day of practice that showed me how much I still have to learn there. I was unable to catch any fish (bass) after filtering through some history, mainly in the north end. I did however manage to pick up some pickerel, rock bass, perch, gizzard shad, and even a bullhead.

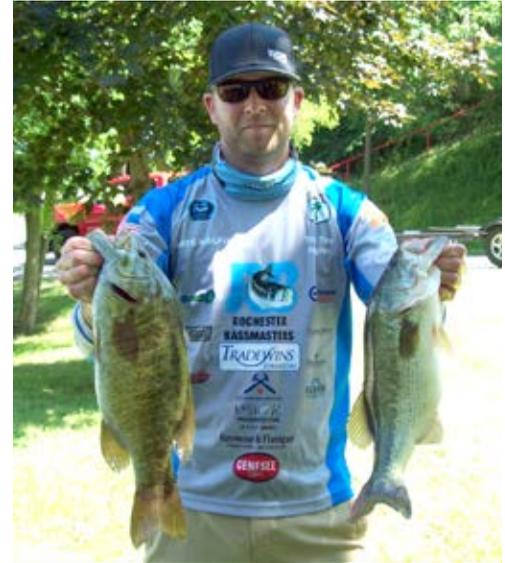
Tournament day I went south, I thought maybe I could pick up some smallies, while that proved to show some promise, I was unable to land my first few fish. I began to struggle into late morning, and eventually scrapped that plan.

About 11:00 am I headed back north and stopped at a new spot I came across where I managed to boat my bags lunker ~4lb Smallmouth. I continued north and stopped at a spot I had seen Largemouth shallow in the past, I made long casts throwing the wacky rig and caught fish to fill out my limit, I ended up culling 3 times in the area.

All my bites came within about a 45min time span just before noon. I left the area and began searching for more active fish in hopes to stumble across a kicker, which was unsuccessful. I am more than happy with the outcome, given my normal struggles at Cayuga on tournament days."

**Jake Zaremski** rounded out the money field with 15.82 lbs.

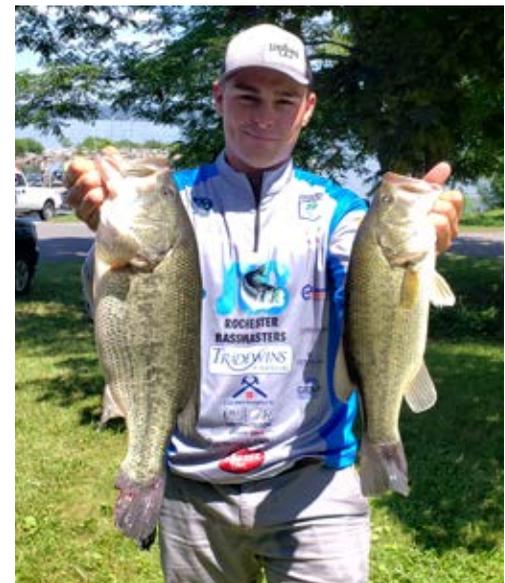
Jake said, "This was my first tournament on Cayuga as a boater. Luckily, the weather cooperated with us this year. The main area I found was a 200-300 yard stretch off a secondary point south of our takeoff at Dean's Cove. The area had three main depth changes with three different types of grass at each depth change. The first step was shallow grass and rocks from



**NATE KALPIN**  
6th Place - 16.54 lbs.

4 feet that dropped to 9 feet. The second step was thicker grass in 9 feet that dropped to 12 feet with taller individual strands of grass with thicker grass near the bottom. I noticed that in the morning the fish were up shallow either under docks or cruising between docks. As the day moved on, the fish slowly moved from the first step, to the

*Stats & Story cont'd on page 4*



**JAKE ZAREMSKI**  
7th Place - 15.82 lbs.



second and ended up in the 12 foot range throughout the deeper grass. In the morning I would skip stick baits and jigs around the shallow water. I did end up finding my big fish, 5.26 lbs, on a bed near the back of a dock in practice and was able to catch it first thing tournament morning. As the fish moved to the second step I would alternate between a dropshot in the holes in grass, and a shallow diving jerkbait. As the sun got higher and the water heated up, I switched exclusively to a jerkbait and fished it between the taller strands of grass. Most of the bites in the taller grass were because I was able to rip it cleanly out of the grass. The jerkbait ripping out of the grass would cause a reaction strike. I had a couple small fish I could not get rid of but I had a blast catching a lot of fish on a jerkbait.

Thanks again to everyone who helped move boats/trailers and setup/tear down the weigh in!"



**KYLE SWEERS**  
**LUNKER -6.70 lbs.**

Place	Angler	Fish Weighed	Fish Caught	Weight	Dead Fish	Penalties	Lunker	Total Weight
1	Jim Bianchi	5	5	19.31	0	0		19.31
2	Will Rogers	5	5	17.74	0	0		17.74
3	Chris O'Brien	5	5	17.66	0	0	4.25	17.66
4	Sean Brown	5	4	17.88	1	0.25		17.63
5	TJ Valle	5	5	17.21	0	0		17.21
6	Nate Kalpin	5	5	16.54	0	0		16.54
7	Jake Zaremski	5	5	15.82	0	0		15.82
8	Kyle Sweers	5	5	15.76	0	0	6.70	15.76
9	Rod Brown	5	5	15.60	0	0		15.60
10	Tige Noni	5	5	15.52	0	0		15.52
11	Wes Vyverberg	5	4	15.39	1	0.25		15.14
12	Rich Bush	5	5	15.07	0	0		15.07
13	Drew Damtoft	5	5	14.51	0	0	4.98	14.51
14	Matt James	4	4	14.02	0	0	5.44	14.02
15	Dave Livingston	5	5	13.99	0	0		13.99
16	Orlando Roman	5	4	13.91	1	0.25		13.66
17	Matt Ferrante	5	4	13.87	1	0.25		13.62
18	Dan Patane	5	5	13.54	0	0		13.54
19	Mark Harold	5	5	13.20	0	0	3.68	13.20
20	Jim Shamp	5	5	12.72	0	0		12.72
21	Bill Wittman	5	5	12.55	0	0		12.55
22	Paul Caldwell	4	4	12.24	0	0		12.24
23	Tyler Austin	4	4	11.48	0	0		11.48
24	Doug Walker	5	5	10.93	0	0		10.93
25	Steve Levine	5	5	10.86	0	0		10.86
26	Fred Blom	5	5	10.82	0	0		10.82
27	Rich Calabrese	5	5	10.15	0	0		10.15
28	Terry Gartz	5	5	10.00	0	0		10.00
29	Kurt Keller	4	4	9.99	0	0		9.99
30	Dom Cerasuolo	5	5	9.66	0	0		9.66
31	Fred Ratcliffe	5	5	8.78	0	0		8.78
32	Liane Livote	3	3	6.05	0	0		6.05
33	Dylan Mackaravitz	2	2	5.21	0	0		5.21
34	Tyler Muhs	1	1	3.55	0	0		3.55
35	Merritt Diamond	1	1	2.99	0	0		2.99
36	Rob Browe	1	1	1.40	0	0		1.40

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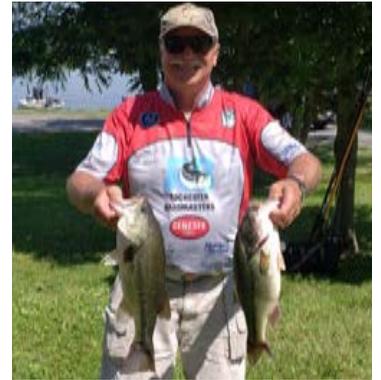
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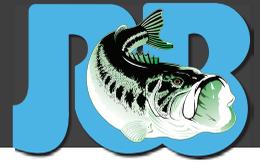


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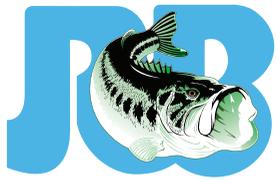




# 2019 STANDINGS

## ANGLER OF THE YEAR SERIES

Place	Angler	Lake Erie Day 1	Lake Erie Day 2	Cayuga Lake	Conesus Lake	Chaumont Bay Day 1	Chaumont Bay Day 2	Sodus Bay	Keuka Lake	Total	AOTY
1	Will Rogers	22.05	24.33	17.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	64.12	46.38
2	Chris O'Brien	22.76	23.13	17.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	63.55	45.89
3	Jim Bianchi	21.04	23.31	19.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	63.66	44.35
4	Dan Patane	18.99	23.16	13.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	55.69	42.15
5	Mark Harold	21.60	20.50	13.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	55.30	42.10
6	Rod Brown	21.08	19.68	15.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	56.36	40.76
7	Tyler Austin	19.60	21.00	11.48	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	52.08	40.60
8	TJ Valle	19.22	21.00	17.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	57.43	40.22
9	Tyler Muhs	22.49	17.56	3.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	43.60	40.05
10	Jake Zaremski	19.98	19.90	15.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	55.70	39.88
11	Steve Levine	19.10	19.48	10.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49.44	38.58
12	Wes Vyverberg	17.71	19.05	15.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	51.90	36.76
13	Nate Kalpin	17.94	18.75	16.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	53.23	36.69
14	Matt Ferrante	18.85	17.36	13.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49.83	36.21
15	Todd Keller	16.84	19.11	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	35.95	35.95
16	Fred Ratcliffe	16.62	19.29	8.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	44.69	35.91
17	Paul Caldwell	17.67	18.12	12.24	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	48.03	35.79
18	Jim Shamp	18.66	17.10	12.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	48.48	35.76
19	Jon Skirment	14.82	20.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	35.24	35.24
20	Dom Cerasuolo	14.28	20.91	9.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	44.85	35.19
21	Sean Brown	15.15	17.23	17.63	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.01	34.86
22	Drew Damtoft	16.62	18.19	14.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	49.32	34.81
23	Dave Livingston	14.89	18.92	13.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	47.80	33.81
24	Tige Noni	9.34	18.26	15.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	43.12	33.78
25	Bill Wittman	16.57	16.37	12.55	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	45.49	32.94
26	Kyle Sweers	16.88	15.70	15.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	48.34	32.64
27	Rich Bush	16.01	16.04	15.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	47.12	32.05
28	Jack Kleinman	14.55	17.23	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.78	31.78
29	Matt James	15.89	8.98	14.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	38.89	29.91
30	Orlando Roman	16.15	0.00	13.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29.81	29.81
31	Kevin Kinnear	16.80	12.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	29.76	29.76
32	Doug Walker	15.66	13.33	10.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	39.92	28.99
33	Kurt Keller	0.00	17.11	9.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27.10	27.10
34	Terry Gartz	10.63	15.32	10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	35.95	25.95
35	Merritt Diamond	16.38	7.90	2.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27.27	24.28
36	Rich Zajac	0.00	19.72	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.72	19.72
37	Devon Talbot	19.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.14	19.14
38	Dylan Mackaravitz	0.00	13.41	5.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18.62	18.62
39	Bob Manley	7.12	11.47	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	18.59	18.59
40	Tom Haley	0.00	17.26	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.26	17.26
41	Dalton Talbot	13.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.07	13.07
42	Liane Livote	0.00	5.56	6.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.61	11.61
43	Ben Levy	3.31	7.77	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.08	11.08
44	Fred Blom	0.00	0.00	10.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.82	10.82
45	Rich Calabrese	0.00	0.00	10.15	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.15	10.15
46	Don Joffelyn	2.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.56	2.56
47	Rob Browe	0.00	0.00	1.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.40	1.40



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