



# ROCHESTER BASSMASTERS BASS NEWS

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NOVEMBER 2020

## ZAREMESKI TAKES ONONDAGA LAKE

**JAKE WINS THE LAST  
TOURNAMENT OF  
THE 2020 SEASON  
WITH 17.38 LBS.**



*Vics Sports Center*

2039 Tallmadge Road | Kent, OH 44240

ANGLER OF THE YEAR SERIES AT  
**ONONDAGA LAKE**

**ONONDAGA LAKE PARK, LIVERPOOL, NEW YORK  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2020**





## 2020 Angler of the Year



**TJ VALLE**  
2nd Place - 16.74 lbs.

**J**ake Zaremski won 2020 Vic's Sports Center AOY Series at Onondaga Lake with 17.38 lbs. Jake said, "I had a tough start to the morning as we stayed up a little too late the night before playing stump (see Tige Noni for official rules and entry fee information). I was really



**MARK HAROLD**  
3rd Place - 15.21 lbs.

excited for this tournament as I usually fish a college fundraiser tournament this time of year out of Onondaga and I was able to duplicate what I've done in years past.

I started in a crowd of boats as Onondaga usually fishes really small. I caught all my fish throwing moving baits all day along grass edges and drop offs. They definitely were not easy to get to bite. I rotated through 3 or 4 main areas throughout the day and managed to catch a few in each area. The highlight of the day for me was catching one of my bigger fish on an A Rig later in the day. Thank you to everyone in the tournament staff who helped with setup, tear down and recoding weights."

2nd Place went to **TJ Valle** with 16.74 lbs. That 2nd Place finish gave TJ the 2020 Angler of the Year title for the first time in his Rochester Bassmasters Career. TJ finished the year with 101.46 lbs.

3rd Place was taken by **Mark Harold** with 15.21 lbs. Mark said, "The first and only time I ever fished Onondaga Lake was on the Tuesday prior to the tournament and it was not what I expected. The touted weed beds were basically nonexistent. I had wisely accepted a lake tour offer from longtime club member Steve Sanca. He gave me double the three hour tour that the captain promised his customers on the TV show Gilligan's Island (you have to be old to get that reference). After our six hours I had learned some good areas that unfortunately weren't good that day (for me). Steve left the boat to go to work having caught some random



**ADAM FURANO**  
5th Place - 13.14 lbs.

fish with finesse techniques, while I missed a few and boated none. My power fishing approach wasn't working.

I spent about five more hours fishing alone and decided to try some very shallow water. I caught my only

*Stats & Story cont'd on page 3*



**ROD BROWN**  
6th Place - 12.15 lbs.



**DAN PATANE**  
6th Place - 12.03 lbs.

bass of the day when I cast about a foot from shore in a foot of water. I also had a follower on the next cast in the same area. I spent the rest of day shallow and had many fish follow a swim bait. I was sold on fishing shallow in the tournament using lures that fit my more aggressive style, but also gritted my teeth and rigged up some of the Sanca style finesse baits, hoping they would stay dry all day. I didn't mention that in practice I had at least five fish react to my signature series Jackpot topwater lure. Steve and I watched one bass gingerly approach the lure and when it finally got close it didn't actually bite it, I described to Steve that the bass "just licked it". Needless to say the Jackpot was going to be my early morning go to bait.

At my first stop tournament morning I got a very non-aggressive bite on the Jackpot and after a one second fight it was gone. At the next area I fished I was working a flat in about four feet of water that had some old weeds and also some puffy weeds that looked like boulders.

Place	Angler	Fish Caught	Fish Alive	Lunker	Weight
1	Jake Zaremski	5	5	0.00	17.38
2	Tj Valle	5	5	0.00	16.74
3	Mark Harold	5	5	0.00	15.21
4	Ken Golub	4	4	4.96	13.65
5	Adam Furano	5	5	0.00	13.14
6	Rod Brown	4	4	0.00	12.15
7	Dan Patane	4	4	0.00	12.03
8	Rein Golub	3	3	4.09	10.06
9	Todd Keller	3	3	4.25	9.71
10	Dom Cerasoulo	4	4	0.00	9.10
11	Fred Blom	4	4	0.00	8.48
12	David Livingston	3	3	0.00	7.53
13	Eric Hughes	3	3	3.78	7.43
14	Mark Saile	3	3	0.00	6.92
15	Jon Skirment	2	2	0.00	6.45
16	Tyler Austin	2	2	4.89	6.27
17	Jim Walters	2	2	0.00	4.55
18	Doug Walker	1	1	0.00	3.52
19	Matt Ferrante	1	1	0.00	3.13
20	Wes Vyverberg	1	1	0.00	2.35
21	Kyle Sweers	1	1	0.00	2.27
22	Bob Manley	1	1	0.00	1.91

I was soon greeted by the most aggressive topwater bite I had seen on Onondaga and boated my best bass of the day. This was definitely not a licker, one hook was deep in its mouth and the other was hooked on the outside. As I brought that fish to the boat I spotted another one following it so I put the power pole down.

What happened next was both fun and frustrating. As I fan cast the area I had several fish swirl on my lure and it would actually get pulled under, but I would never feel the fish. Because of the way the fish were "biting" in practice I had rigged up a smaller walking bait (a no longer made Luhr Jensen PJ Pop) to try, just in cast. This was a just in





case situation. As soon as I switched to the smaller bait my strike to hookup ration went to 100%. I had four bites and boated four fish, the last was a non-keeper. My theory, for what it's worth, is that the fish were basically trying to vacuum the lure into their mouths and the big jackpot was so

buoyant it wasn't getting pulled down and in, while the smaller less buoyant PJ Pop was clearly inside the mouth of all four that bit (vacuumed) it. I never got another bite in that area after I released the short fish. Did it spook

the school, I don't know. With four bass in the boat all over three pounds from this one spot, I lifted the power pole and moved along. I never got another bite on top.

I spent most of the rest of my day on the windy east shore throwing a swim bait. At about 11 a.m. I boated my limit fish, a two pounder. I caught a couple more on the swim bait after that one but none bigger than what I had.

Ending the day with 15.21 pounds and in third place far exceeded my expectations. Especially sweet was finishing one place ahead of **Ken Golub**. Ken has never let me forget the Cayuga tournament where he beat me by .02 pounds after one of my fish regurgitated a seven inch perch in the livewell. Until next time Ken, I'm savoring this."

In the 4th Place spot was **Ken Golub** with 13.65 lbs. and 4.96 lb. lunker.

Ken said, "All 3 of my fish came in the first 5 minutes on a Zara Spook including the 4.96.

I lost 2 big fish early on the same bait.

One fish came later on a chatter bait.

I struggled the rest of day once the fish moved out and started to suspended."

Taking 5th Place was **Adam Furano**.

Adam came in with a 13.14 lb. limit.

Adam said, "As with the majority of water this year, this was my first time fishing Onondaga Lake. I came in thinking something moving has to work with an early fall transition....then went slower....then slower... then couldn't crank the handle slow enough only to give it a pop to clear the grass. Got about 7 doing that with none to cull, and ran out of trailers. It was a grind in the same spot all day for sure mentally, but it panned out to be a good day!

I've been wanting to join and fish a club for over 20 years now and I've finally been able to do it as a non-boater...what a great season! Thanks again to **Steve Levine** for the much needed checks on the water and on the whole process of tournament fishing, and thanks to the club for welcoming me!



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**MARK HAROLD**  
3rd Place - 15.21 lbs.

**JAKE ZAREMSKI**  
1st Place - 17.38 lbs.

**TJ VALLE**  
2nd Place - 16.74 lbs.  
2020 Angler of the Year



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# 2020 STANDINGS

## ANGLER OF THE YEAR SERIES

Place	Angler	Chaumont Bay Day 1	Chaumont Bay Day 2	Cayuga Lake	Keuka Lake	Keewaydin State Park Day 1	Keewaydin State Park Day 2	Sodus Bay	Onondaga Lake	Total Weight	Lowest Weight	AOY Weight
1	Tj Valle	11.58	9.09	13.99	12.75	16.74	15.35	14.31	16.74	110.55	9.09	101.46
2	Rod Brown	17.14	17.16	15.99	7.85	14.66	13.32	5.15	12.15	103.42	5.15	98.27
3	Dan Patane	13.51	17.76	13.01	11.17	14.38	13.63	8.61	12.03	104.10	8.61	95.49
4	David Livingston	17.40	12.66	13.96	13.75	11.21	13.97	9.61	7.53	100.09	7.53	92.56
5	Jake Zaremski	10.42	11.43	11.22	4.62	14.79	14.00	6.70	17.38	90.56	4.62	85.94
6	Mark Harold	14.51	10.20	17.01	8.70	6.66	13.22	2.12	15.21	87.63	2.12	85.51
7	Adam Furano	15.65	7.93	11.64	10.35	13.88	12.12	3.73	13.14	88.44	3.73	84.71
8	Eric Hughes	6.63	13.70	18.54	9.83	11.34	6.67	0.00	7.43	74.14	0.00	74.14
9	Jim Bianchi	9.47	0.00	15.62	0.00	19.15	17.73	12.16	0.00	74.13	0.00	74.13
10	Matt Ferrante	14.24	14.48	0.00	3.68	7.78	11.58	10.94	3.13	65.83	0.00	65.83
11	Nate Kalpin	20.21	12.45	9.11	0.00	9.96	13.48	0.00	0.00	65.21	0.00	65.21
12	Wes Vyverberg	5.77	12.97	8.38	3.11	4.19	14.47	14.04	2.35	65.28	2.35	62.93
13	Tige Noni	10.03	4.93	13.75	4.21	5.28	9.60	13.52	0.00	61.32	0.00	61.32
14	Dom Cerasuolo	10.56	9.13	11.26	1.67	6.68	12.50	1.39	9.10	62.29	1.39	60.90
15	Tyler Austin	12.41	5.43	3.03	3.54	0.00	13.16	14.66	6.27	58.50	0.00	58.50
16	Todd Keller	0.00	7.52	4.63	7.29	2.74	10.78	13.24	9.71	55.91	0.00	55.91
17	Jon Skiment	7.57	7.08	5.89	0.00	9.21	11.03	7.67	6.45	54.90	0.00	54.90
18	Kyle Sweers	13.43	7.83	0.00	7.30	13.45	10.09	0.00	2.27	54.37	0.00	54.37
19	Jack Kleinman	0.00	8.33	4.77	10.67	13.06	13.26	2.86	0.00	52.95	0.00	52.95
20	Steve Levine	11.32	1.28	10.22	1.76	13.59	11.86	0.00	0.00	50.03	0.00	50.03
21	Bill Wittman	12.60	3.66	4.70	1.11	14.24	4.88	0.00	0.00	41.19	0.00	41.19
22	Orlando Roman	15.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.36	11.78	0.00	0.00	40.92	0.00	40.92
23	Ben Levy	5.47	12.89	0.00	3.43	11.27	7.57	0.00	0.00	40.63	0.00	40.63
24	Bob Manley	0.00	8.06	0.00	3.27	3.74	8.46	14.72	1.91	40.16	0.00	40.16
25	Jim Walters	10.76	4.96	0.00	5.10	0.00	0.00	14.73	4.55	40.10	0.00	40.10
26	Terry Gartz	5.30	8.51	0.00	0.00	11.10	9.17	5.75	0.00	39.83	0.00	39.83
27	Kurt Keller	0.00	15.68	10.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.46	0.00	35.41	0.00	35.41
28	Doug Walker	4.53	4.45	0.00	7.59	6.87	1.92	0.00	3.52	28.88	0.00	28.88
29	Rob Browe	0.00	0.00	8.24	3.51	3.94	2.60	8.43	0.00	26.72	0.00	26.72
30	Rich Calabrese	5.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.44	9.62	0.00	0.00	26.68	0.00	26.68
31	Sean Sims	14.09	9.12	1.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.86	0.00	24.86
32	Greg Mitrousis	7.90	5.74	0.00	10.31	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	23.95	0.00	23.95
33	Mark Saile	6.60	2.26	0.00	0.00	6.73	0.00	0.00	6.92	22.51	0.00	22.51
34	Fred Ratcliffe	0.00	0.00	5.57	1.67	10.11	0.00	4.64	0.00	21.99	0.00	21.99
35	Tom Saile	12.58	5.79	1.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	19.97	0.00	19.97
36	Fred Blom	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.53	0.00	0.00	8.48	18.01	0.00	18.01
37	Matt James	7.90	9.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	17.51	0.00	17.51
38	Chris O'brien	0.00	0.00	16.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.56	0.00	16.56
39	Ken Golub	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.65	13.65	0.00	13.65
40	Liane Livote	3.28	1.94	0.00	3.39	0.00	0.00	5.01	0.00	13.62	0.00	13.62
41	Tom Haley	13.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.03	0.00	13.03
42	Merritt Diamond	4.85	5.97	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.82	0.00	10.82
43	Don Wenzel	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.43	0.00	10.43
44	Rein Golub	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.06	10.06	0.00	10.06
45	Rich Bush	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.32	0.00	9.32
46	Dennis O'brien	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.12	0.00	9.12
47	Rich Zajac	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.56	0.00	4.56
48	Gabriel Barraclough-Tan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.34	0.00	1.34	0.00	1.34



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