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**Attention: Mr. Richard Grant
Chairman of the NBAA**

NBAA DEVELOPMENT REPORT – WINTER CLASSIC 29 JUNE 2019:

The NBAA and NALAA collaborated to host the 2019 Winter Classic on 29 June 2019 at S. Von Bach Dam in the Otjozondjupa region. This event typically has cold and windy weather conditions being in the middle of winter, and this year was no exception, with a brisk and cold wind welcoming the hardened anglers the morning of the event.

The tournament format was based on the standard NALAA rules, which allowed anglers to target all available species in the dam, and measuring their catches on the weigh mats on the boat, and a video is made of the entire process including the release of the fish. This system proved to work excellently, especially from a conservation point of view, as the fish are released immediately in the area they are caught. There was also the option to bring the fish to the weigh station for measurement, however most anglers supported the initiative to use the weigh mats.

In total, 16 anglers attended the event, 9 senior men, 2 senior women and 5 juniors, which is considered an excellent turnout given the conditions. The last of the registration details were taken care of and the weigh master set the boats off at 07:30 to go and look for that big one.

Results:

The fishing turned out to be very tough given the conditions and time of year. In total, 7 fish were caught, consisting of 4 bass, 1 carp and 2 barbel. The results were as follows:

1. Senior Champion - Johan Coetzee (3 bass measuring 108cm)
2. Senior Runner Up - Wilbur Slabber (1 barbel measuring 94cm)
3. Senior Second Runner Up - Volsie Slabber (1 carp measuring 58cm)

1. Junior Champion - Alexander Sowden (1 barbel measuring 95cm)
Alexander was also the overall Runner Up.

Executive Council:

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Conclusion:

The event was considered a success, seeing that 5 juniors attended, speaking to the development of freshwater fishing in Namibia, and also having anglers fish in winter conditions, which is not something typically done in Namibia.

A special word of thanks to the sponsors for the amazing prizes, without them this event would not have been possible:

- Bank Windhoek
- Deepcatch Trading & Score Energy Drink
- Gondwana Collection Namibia
- Campworld Bushwhackers

The collaboration between the NBAA and NALAA in this event proved extremely successful. This not only broadens the participation levels for development events, but also extends the development footprint of these events. Not to mention, the great friendships formed between the two facets. This collaboration will definitely be considered for future development events.

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