

Release Tournament RULES and REGULATIONS



FISHING HOURS

FRIDAY, June 12, 2009 - Registration: 5:30-8:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, June 13, 2009 - Fish 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

SUNDAY, June 14, 2009 - Fish 7 a.m.-12 p.m.

OFFICIAL RULES

1. Contestants must enter as 2-person teams. All contestants must have a valid Wisconsin license.

2. All boats will be required to meet U.S. Coast Guard safety regulations as well as those of the State of Wisconsin. Safe boating conduct and all safety precautions must be observed at all times. Each entrant will be required to have a U.S. Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD). **IT MUST BE FASTENED AND WORN AT THE START OF EACH DAY.**

No alcoholic beverages are allowed during tournament hours. Intoxication by any contestant during the tournament hours will not be tolerated and shall be the cause for immediate disqualification.

Each boat **MUST** display their tournament team numbers at **ALL TIMES**. Failure to do so could result in disqualification of the team.

3. Permitted fishing waters are: Starting at Watersmeet Lake, Yellow Birch, Duck, Lynx, Otter, Scattering Rice, Eagle, Voyageur, Catfish and Cranberry. Cut off points: bridge at Wisconsin River, bridge at Mud Creek, creek mouth of Rice Creek, first bend north on Wisconsin River, creek mouth north of Cranberry Lake, and Chain O'Lakes Campground on Cranberry Lake.

4. **Tournament fishing hours are from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, June 13 and from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Sunday, June 14. Boats will start according to team number and must be available for prestart inspection with live wells open. If checking in late, you must go through inspection at the headquarters.**

5. All fish must be caught live and in a conventional sporting manner on hook and line using **artificial bait only**. All fishing must be done from a tournament inspected boat.

6. During tournament fishing hours contestants permitted to go ashore at the authorized "pit stops" only. Except for emergencies, any other landing will be the basis for a contestant's disqualification.

7. In "Slow No Wake Areas" **no boats are allowed to pass each other**. If a team is reported by 2 teams passing in a No Wake area on the first day, they will start at the end of the line on the second day. If reported again on the second day, that team will be disqualified from the tournament.

8. No fishing within 100' of another angler.

9. Each team will receive a yellow flag (\$5.00 deposit required, returned when flag is handed in). The flag is to be used to signal judge boats to register a fish. Other means of communications to signal judge boats may include air horns, cell phones and marine band radio.

- ★ **PICK YOUR PARTNER**
2 Person Team Event
2 Persons per Boat
- ★ **NO LIVE BAIT-Artificial Only**
- ★ **Fishing Limited to
LOWER EAGLE RIVER CHAIN**

10. Fish are the responsibility of the team. Team will measure the fish in their own boat with judge overseeing. One point will be awarded for each inch of length of a legal fish (over 34 inches). Increments will be in 1/4 inches. In the event a fish is unsuccessfully released, a 50% reduction in points will be assessed. An angler who has unsuccessfully released a fish must cease fishing for the day.

11. Participants must possess a "cradle" or landing net of sufficient size to allow a musky to remain upright in the water at boat side.

12. When a musky is caught, the boat cannot be moved under power except within the immediate vicinity of the capture site to avoid eminent danger and to facilitate a quick and safe release of the fish. If the boat is moved for greater distance, or for any other purpose, the fish must be counted towards the angler's daily bag limit, pursuant to s. NR 20.05(7), Wis. Adm. Code.

13. The musky must be held in a net in the water at boat-side and should not be boated except as absolutely necessary to remove hooks or to avoid eminent danger as described in 11.

14. Upon landing a musky, the angler must immediately initiate the official tournament registration process.

15. The musky should be released immediately following registration or when it is capable of swimming upright under its own power.

16. Any angler who catches a musky may not resume fishing until the fish has been successfully released.

17. Any contestant has the right to protest against another team or contestant. However, the protest must be filed in writing with the tournament officials in person no later than 1/2 hour after the close of the fishing day. A \$100.00 fee must accompany any protest. A three (3) man protest committee will convene to hear both sides of the issue. Their decision shall be final in all cases. The protest fee shall be returned if the protest is found to be valid. However, the fee will not be returned if the protest is found to be invalid.

18. Any contestant found cheating will be immediately disqualified and the reason for the disqualification announced at the conclusion of the tournament.

19. Any contestant receiving a citation for a violation of any boating or fishing regulation is subject to immediate disqualification.

20. All ties will be broken by the first fish recorded.

21. All prizes not awarded will be raffled to teams not winning prizes already.

22. Any questions or problems connected with the rules of this tournament are to be referred to the tournament officials.