



23rd Annual Summer Fishing Tournament
Saturday, July 16, 2022 – 8am to 3:30pm. (Alternate date: Sunday, July 17)
Lake of the Woods (Muskeg Bay, Warroad, MN) • Limited to 125 teams

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- 1. Eligibility:** Fishermen 18 years old and older may compete in the tournament. Persons under 18 may participate only as a teammate of a person that is 18 or older. All entries must be two person teams. Boat numbers will be assigned on a first come, first served basis. There is room for 125 boats in this tournament. Entry forms must be received by 6:00 p.m., July 15, 2022. Refunds will not be issued after July 1, 2022.
- 2. Price:** \$250/team
- 3. Headquarters:** Headquarters will be Lake of the Woods Brewing Co in Warroad, MN. Docks are available here should you need to come to shore.
- 4. Pre-Tournament Meeting:** Pre-Tournament social will be held at 5:30pm on 7/15 at The Woods. It is mandatory that at least one member from each team be in attendance by 5:30. Rules meeting will begin at 6pm.
- 5. Pre-Tournament Inspection:** There will not be a pre-tournament boat inspection. Out of respect for lakeshore property owners, and those places who are working hard to keep accesses open, we are allowing you to start from anywhere on the lake. You are allowed to travel to a fishing area of your choice prior to the tournament start. Pre-Fishing on 7/16 is strictly prohibited and will be a DQ.

At 8am each team is required to submit a check in video that clearly shows the inside of all storage, livewells, and coolers to be not containing fish, alcohol, or downrigger equipment. The video must also show each team member and a scan of the entire boat so as to prove no lines are down. This video must be done in the fish donkey app prior to fishing, and starting at 8am. This video will be done in the same manner as your fish video but you will select "livewell video" as the species when submitting. Only fish caught and submitted after the time stamp on the video will be counted.

Tournament officials and other fishermen are encouraged to observe teams at all times.

- 6. Fishing Hours:** All participants can begin fishing after they have completed their 8am check in video. Fishing time will end at 3:30pm for everyone. The Fish Donkey app will time stamp your entry the second you press submit (even if you don't have cell service). We will verify time stamps and any fish submitted that has a time stamp outside of your fishing hours will result in a team DQ. Each team will have one hour from the end of their flight to ensure all fish are correct on their stringer. There will be no boat check in at the end of the tourney. All participants are required to return their block and ruler to The Woods by 6pm on 7/18/22. We will be collecting blocks and rulers at the weigh in.

Flight Start and End Times:

	Start	End of Flight/ Last Possible Time Stamp	Complete Stringer Deadline
Boats 1 through 125:	8:00am	3:30pm	4:30pm

- 7. Fishing Area:** Lake of the Woods (Minnesota waters) only.
- 8. Tackle:** Live or artificial bait may be used. Down Rigging will not be allowed.
- 9. Fish Requirements:** This is a tournament for Walleye only. Any fish judged not to be fresh (caught that day) will result in team disqualification. No fish can be entered outside of flight designated fishing times.
- 10. Optional Big Fish Contest:** Each team will be given one single use clip to tag a big fish if you choose to. This fish must be over 28" and must be kept with the tag fully clipped in its lower jaw. The heaviest fish of the day wins \$1,000. Ties are broken by the longest fish on your teams stringer. The clipped fish also counts toward your 5 fish stringer and must be entered in the app in the manner noted below. Big fish must be brought in by boat and weighed before 5:15pm. If you keep a fish to weigh you must take it after the awards ceremony. We will have a weigh station set up to the East of the Lake of the Woods Brewery on River Street. If you are bringing a big fish to weigh please access the weigh area with your truck from the East (Security State Bank road).

11. Measuring and Photo Documenting:

- a. All Photo's and Videos must be taken through the FishDonkey App and on the measuring board that you will be provided.
- b. We have paid for 125 teams to participate on the app. One person per team can use the app for this tournament.
- c. It is your responsibility to know and understand how to use the app.
 - i. The app will date and time stamp pictures and videos even if you don't have cell service.
 - ii. If you notice that you have made a mistake when submitting a fish please call us at 701-388-6980 or 218-232-8052. We will work to fix it for you.
- d. Fish should be recorded immediately and measurements noted by length
 - i. **Mandatory Measuring Process:** Close the fish's mouth. The nose must clearly touch the bump of the measuring board and the belly should face you. Pinch or move the fish's tail so it crosses the nearest ¼" line. The tail must touch the line to be counted as that ¼". If it does not touch the line, round down to the next ¼". In the event that there is a difference in a fish's length between your picture(s) and video(s) the fish will be entered as the shorter length.
- e. **All entries must include:**
 - i. **One picture of you holding the fish**
 - ii. **One picture of the entire fish on the board – only this picture will be used to determine length**
 1. **If the mouth of the fish is open(a front tooth completely visible) in this picture we will deduct ½" off of that fish**
 - iii. **One video that shows the fish on the board plus you releasing the fish into the lake(or livewell if clipped for big fish contest). The video should be quick and is only to prove the fish went back in the lake and will not be used for length verification.**
 1. **If the video doesn't show the fish on the board and then to the lake we will deduct ½" off that fish.**

While you can take as many pictures and videos as you'd like we only allow one of each of the three requirements to be submitted.

***If you submit more than the two pictures and one video we will deduct 1/2" off that fish.

12. **Safety:** All Minnesota fishing and boating regulations must be observed by tournament teams. In case of inclement weather, the tournament will be moved to Sunday, July 18th. Should the weather continue to be uncooperative, the event will be canceled; entry fees would be refunded in their entirety.

13. **On the Water Inspections:** We will be on the water observing participants as they fish. We may come aboard your boat if needed.

14. **Other Rules:** The public has first use of the docks for loading and unloading. Please be respectful of that.

Life jackets must be worn when running to and from fishing areas.

It shall be illegal for any boat to go ashore or come together, other than at the check-in point. Exceptions to this rule would include storm, sickness, mechanical difficulties, or other emergency situations. Marine band radios or cell phones may be used in case of emergency situations only. In the event of an emergency (and if contacted), tournament officials will help notify local law enforcement, emergency services, or the Coast Guard so they may assist you. The tournament will not be responsible for break downs or equipment failures.

Any infractions of tournament rules may result in disqualification; tournament officials will make all decisions.

15. **Scoring** Prizes will be based on the total length of the teams 5 longest Walleye and on the single heaviest Walleye(for optional largest Walleye contest). The single heaviest Walleye must be included in the stringer of 5 fish. Only 5 Walleye can be scored. Ties will be broken by the individual length of the longest fish between the two catches. The next longest fish from each respective catch will determine ties between the longest walleyes. Cash prizes for top 12 teams are based on an 80% pay back; if the field of participants is less than 125, amounts will be adjusted accordingly.

Cash Prizes are as follows:

1 st place \$5100	4 th place \$3200	7 th place \$1300	10 th place \$600
2 nd place \$4100	5 th place \$2900	8 th place \$1000	11 th place \$500
3 rd place \$3500	6 th place \$1600	9 th place \$800	12 th place \$400
Heaviest Walleye – \$1,000			

16. Other Events and Awards Ceremony

There will be a free kids fishing contest from 3 to 5pm on the docks at the Lake of the Woods Brewery in Warroad. There will also be a social hour starting at 5pm. Because of limited parking, please drop your boats elsewhere before coming to the awards ceremony.

Our goal is to have all top teams fish verified so that we can hand out awards at 6pm. There will be door prizes and other attractions.

ALL DECISIONS OF THE JUDGES, OR WEIGH-IN PERSONNEL, WILL BE FINAL.

NEITHER **THE WOODS**, NOR ANYONE AFFILIATED WITH **THE WOODS OR THE TOURNAMENT** SHALL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENT OR INJURY TO PARTICIPANT OR THEIR EQUIPMENT.