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**26th Annual Summer Fishing Tournament**

Saturday, July 12, 2025 – 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. (Alternate date: Sunday, July 13)

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 11, 2025. Refunds will not be issued after July 1, 2025.
2. **Price:** $300/team
3. **Headquarters:** Site of contest will be Muskeg Bay on Lake of the Woods (Warroad City Boat Ramp).
4. **Pre-Tournament Meeting:** Pre-Tournament social will be held at 5:30pm on 7/11 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:** Boat check-in will be from 6:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. Every boat’s contents and live well will be inspected at check-in prior to the start of the tournament. Please have all compartments open for pre-tourney inspection.

Alcohol will not be allowed in the boat. Boats and trailers will also be inspected for (and must be free of) vegetation prior to start of tournament. Tournament officials or other fishermen may observe teams.

1. **Fishing Hours:** The tournament will feature a staggered start at 7:45, 8:00, 8:15, 8:30 and 8:45 a.m. Fishing hours end at 3:15, 3:30, 3:45, 4:00 and 4:15 for the respective flights. 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 us by 5:15pm on 7/12/25. To ensure everyone is off the water this is mandatory and will be a DQ if not done.

**Flight Start and End Times: End of Flight/**

 **Take Off** **Last Possible Time Stamp Complete Stringer Deadline**

Flight 1(Boats 1 through 25): 7:45 3:15 4:15

Flight 2(Boats 26 through 50): 8:00 3:30 4:30

Flight 3(Boats 51 through 75): 8:15 3:45 4:45

Flight 4(Boats 76 through 100): 8:30 4:00 5:00

Flight 5(Boats 101 through 125): 8:45 4:15 5:15

1. **Tournament Start:** We will be starting the boats from the city dock area. We will be doing this in flights of 25 boats at the times outlined above. You will be responsible to present your boat number at the time your flight is to depart. It is mandatory that you depart in numeric sequence within your flight. You are responsible to line yourself up while you are waiting for your scheduled departure time. If you are not in sequence within your flight you will be asked to move to the end of your flight. If you miss your scheduled time you will leave at the end of the last flight.
2. **Fishing Area:** Lake of the Woods (Minnesota waters) only.
3. **Tackle/Bait/Equipment Rules:**  Live or artificial bait may be used. Down Rigging will not be allowed. Only one Forward Facing Sonar is allowed per boat.
4. **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.
5. **Measuring and Photo Documenting:**
	1. All Photo’s and Videos must be taken through the FishDonkey App and on the measuring board that you will be provided.
	2. We have paid for 125 teams to participate on the app. One person per team can use the app for this tournament.
	3. It is your responsibility to know and understand how to use the app.
		1. The app will date and time stamp pictures and videos even if you don’t have cell service.
		2. If you need technical assistance with the app, please call 701-388-6980 or 218-232-8052.
	4. Fish should be recorded immediately and measurements noted by length
		1. **Recommended Measuring Process:** The mouth 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. Keep hands out of the gills and mouth. 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”.
	5. **All entries must include:**
		1. **One picture of you holding the fish**
		2. **One picture of the entire fish on the board – only this picture will be used to determine length**
			1. The fish can have an open or closed mouth, and a pinched or non pinched tail. The mouth must clearly touch the bump of the board. Hands must not be inside gills or mouth. 1/2” will be deducted if the fish is not in contact with the front of the bump board or hand is inside gill or mouth.
		3. **One video that shows the fish on the board plus you releasing the fish into the lake. 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.**

1. **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 13th. Should the weather continue to be uncooperative, the event will be canceled; entry fees would be refunded in their entirety.
2. **On the Water Inspections:** We will be on the water observing participants as they fish. We may come aboard your boat.
3. **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, mechanicaldifficulties, or other emergency situations. 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.

1. **Scoring:**  Prizes will be based on the total length of each teams 5 Walleye stringer. The stringer may have one Walleye 28” or over(before deductions). If you have more than 1 over we will deny all but the shortest Walleye that is 28” or over. All other Walleye must be 23” or shorter(before deductions). Only 5 Walleye will 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 and so on through the complete stringer of 5 fish. In the event there is still a tie, the first team to complete their stringer(adjusted for start time) will win. 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:**

1st place $6000 4th place $3900 7th place $1600 10th place $1000

2nd place $4800 5th place $2400 8th place $1400 11th place $900

3rd place $4200 6th place $1800 9th place $1200 12th place $800

1. **Awards Ceremony** will be held after the tournament. Social at 5pm with awards at 6pm. There will also be door prizes and other attractions for those in attendance.

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.