

2017 Dog Lake Open Official Rules

Tournament Format and Eligibility

- a.** The Dog Lake Open Tournament format is a two person team, one day, live release walleye tournament.
- b.** The Tournament Directors have the right to delay or shorten the Tournament, subject to weather and/or safety considerations or due to reasons deemed necessary.
- c.** The tournament directors retain the right to change and or amend these rules at their discretion without prior notification.
- d.** The Dog Lake Open Tournament, it's promoters, employees, sponsors, organizers, hosts, Directors, Officers and affiliated organizations assisting the operations of any of the Tournament, their agents and/or agents and assigns are not responsible for any death, injury, damage, liability, fire, theft or loss that may result prior to, during or after the Tournament howsoever caused. ALL COMPETITORS MUST SIGN THE ENTRY AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND THE WAIVER OF CLAIM, RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT.
- e.** Competitors must be a minimum of eighteen (18) years of age unless they have the permission of their parents or guardians. All participants under the age of 18 will require a WAIVER OF CLAIM, RELEASE AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT signed by their parents or guardians.
- f.** Entry fee per Team is \$200.00.
- g.** All Anglers must cease pre-fishing by 3:00pm Friday June 02, 2017.
- h. ANGLER REPLACEMENT PROVISIONS** - If, after competition has been started, a team captain or partner is unable to compete because of medical, family or other justified reasons, the remaining team member will be given the option to replace the leaving team member with another angler. The replacement angler must not have been on tournament waters during competition. The director of the tournament operations must be advised and approve of any angler replacements.

Rules Meeting

- a.** The rules meeting will start at 7:30 AM, Saturday June 3, 2017 at the EAST BAY LAUNCH OF DOG LAKE
- b.** At least one member of each team must attend the rules meeting.
- c.** Participation packages with boat identifiers will be passed out at this time.

Live Release of Fish

- a.** Every effort must be made to keep the Walleye alive through the use of built-in or securely fastened, properly aerated or circulating live wells. **Stringers are NOT permitted**
- b.** Under no circumstances can fish be purposely altered.
- c.** Fish, which are brought to the weigh scale, must be alive in order to be weighed in as part of the team's daily limit. Dead or non-releasable fish count towards the 6 fish limit however the weight of the fish will not be added to the total weight for that team. Tournament officials will have final say whether a fish is releasable or not.
- d.** Any fish mauled, stringed, injected with water or other fluids, containing foreign matter to add weight or showing white gill or soft flesh will result in that team(s) immediate disqualification.
- e.** All fish must be released into Dog Lake by tournament officials.
- f.** Any fish deemed unrealisable will be returned to the angler.

Penalty for Late Check-In

- a.** Any team that has not crossed the designated buoys by the appointed return time will not be able to weigh any fish they might possess.
- b.** The official time will be kept on the official tournament clock and a horn will sound at the end of the tournament.

Scoring

- a.** Only Walleye qualify for weigh-in.
- b.** A daily limit of SIX (6) Walleye per team will be weighed, only two (2) of which can be greater than 18.1 inches (46 cm) in length. Any team possessing more than the allowed daily limit of Walleye will have that days catch disqualified. The Daily Ministry of Natural Resources limit may be kept while angling **BUT** once your boat is on plane, whether it be to move spots or to come back to shore, you **must only have SIX** fish in your live well.
- c.** Each team's fish must be presented to the Weigh Master or his/her Assistants in the bag supplied by the Tournament Organizers.
- d.** All weights, upon verbal acceptance by the Team Captain, and then publicly called by the Weigh-Master are immediately official and are not thereafter contestable.
- e.** One team member must sign the weigh-in form recording the weight of the catch.
- f.** The winning team will be the team which weighs in the largest total weight of 6 walleye.

Morning Equipment Inspections

- a. Boat inspections will take place at the EAST BAY Beach on Dog Lake; Boat inspections will start at 6:30 AM Saturday morning.
- b. Teams must have all coolers, hatches and live wells open for easy inspection.
- c. Upon completion of the boat inspection, a tournament official will sign off each boat using an inspection form. Each team must be signed off prior to take off.

Starting Procedure

- a. The Official Starter will release the teams one at a time using a trickle start, beginning at 8:00 AM. Each boat will start approximately 5 seconds apart.
- b. Following check-in, boats will stage inside the buoys next to the East Bay Landing beach until team numbers are called out by the Starter.
- c. The Official Starter will announce the boat number over a megaphone for takeoff. Boat numbers **MUST BE** affixed to the side of the boat motor. Once the starter verifies the team number and the prior boat is safely away, the announcer will announce 'TEAM # __ GO' over the mega phone. The boat can power up after the buoys. All anglers must ensure no wake until they have cleared the buoys.
- d. If a boat is unable to start during its official time, the boat must remain inside the buoys until all boats have started. The official starter will restart the remaining boats after the entire field has departed using the same procedure used for the main field.

Boundaries

Tournament waters are the entirety of Dog Lake, as launched from the EAST BAY launch of Dog Lake. Please use caution as Dog Lake can develop large waves, and safety is our primary concern.

Procedure for Weighing Fish

Weigh-ins with more than 1 hour of fishing time remaining each day:

- a. Boats can approach the beach immediately.
- b. Both members of the team must remain in their boat until a tournament official comes to the boat with a weigh-in bag and weigh-in form.
- c. The tournament official must confirm the walleye are living and fill out the weigh-in form appropriately.
- d. The team is then responsible for placing their own fish in the weigh-in bag and carrying them to the weigh scale.
- e. The fish and weigh-in form are then handed to the weigh scale operators. One member of each team must verify the scale weight and sign the weigh-in form.

Weigh-ins with 1 hour or less of fishing time remaining each day:

- a. Participants must stop and check in at the beach where they will be given a weigh in form.
- b. Both members of the team must remain in their boat until a tournament official comes to the boat with a weigh-in bag.
- c. Boats will be given a weigh-in bag in the order they arrive at the beach.
- d. The team is then responsible for placing their own fish in the weigh-in bag and carrying them to the weigh scale.
- e. The fish and weigh-in form are then handed to the weigh scale operators. One member of each team must verify the scale weight and sign the weigh-in form.

Sportsmanship and Courtesy

- a. It is strictly prohibited for any competitor to give, offer, accept or suggest the exchange of **any item including** weighable fish to, from or with any competitor or non-competitor.
- b. All competitors must remain one hundred (100) feet from another competitor's boat.
- c. Maximum courtesy must be practiced at all times, particularly with regard to boating and fishing in the vicinity of a non-competitor.
- d. Use of cellular phones, CB's or VHF radios are prohibited unless for emergency purposes.

Rules(s) Violations, Protests and Appeals

- a. Where a team is charged with a rule infraction by an authorized Tournament Official which could result in disqualification, the team has the right to appeal the decision to the Tournament Protest and Appeals Committee. Appeals must be submitted to Tournament Director at the weigh-in site within 10 minutes after weigh-in, on the day of notice of the rules infraction.
- b. An infraction witnessed by a competitor can be reported to the Tournament Protest and Appeal Committee at the weigh-in site. In the event that an infraction is reported or a protest is lodged, a three person Protest Committee, appointed prior to the Tournament, shall convene.

c. Each Team Captain has the right to file a Protest when they have firsthand knowledge that a rule or rules may have been broken or violated by another Team. A Protest must be filed within ten (10) minutes of weigh-in at the weigh-in site to be considered.

d. Witness (es) may be called to appear before the Protest Committee to provide evidence relating to the alleged rule infraction.

e. The Protest and Appeals Committee will interpret the rules according to their spirit and intent. The decision of the Protest Committee is final and not subject to review of any kind.

f. General Penalties: Teams may be disqualified from the tournament for frequent or major infractions of the rules and will not receive a refund of their entry fee. Examples of major infractions include unsafe boating practices, gross angling ethics violations and violations that clearly give the competitor an unfair or illegal advantage over other competitors, such as; movement of fish, fishing out of bounds, caged fish, violation of provincial and federal fishing and boating regulations, exchanging fish between teams and unauthorized use of underwater cameras, drug and alcohol violations.

Safety

a. All competitors must practice safe boating at all times during practice and tournament fishing.

b. Every competitor must wear a fully secured Coast Guard approved life jacket or chest type floating device whenever the main combustion engine is in operation, unless at trolling speed.

c. No alcoholic beverages may be consumed by competitors during the tournament fishing hours.

d. In the event of a thunderstorm, lightning, or severe weather, teams may pull onto the nearest shoreline until it is safe to continue fishing.

e. Competitors may not leave their boats during the tournament except at the Official weigh-in site or if severe weather forces them ashore.

f. Every team, whether weighing fish in or not, must check in with a tournament official at EAST BAY DOG LAKE BEACH located at the starting location.

g. Only tournament official boats are allowed to tow a competitor's boat during fishing hours if the team wishes to weigh in their catch. **However those boats requiring to be towed by tournament officials are still required to check their catch prior to end of day fishing time. The tournament official is not responsible to get the towed boat back in time.**

h. A team that has a mechanical problem may use a different boat to finish the day's fishing. The switch must be made at the DOG LAKE EAST BAY BEACH.

i. ***Teams must notify a tournament official if an emergency or breakdown has occurred by calling 807-632-6572***

j. All boats must check in at tournament headquarters prior to and following fishing.

Tackle and Equipment

a. Live bait and artificial lures, manufactured baits, pork rind and commercially available liquid attractants may be used.

b. Landing nets may be used.

c. The use, in live wells, of commercially available fish care chemicals is permitted, **Stringers ARE NOT permitted.**

d. The use of the underwater cameras or any similar device is prohibited during fishing hours and cannot be present in the boat during tournament fishing hours.

Tie Breakers

All prizes will be split equal for all position ties.

Registration Ticket Purchase

a. If tickets for the 2017 DOG LAKE OPEN are purchased before May 10th, 2017, they will be eligible for the early bird prize and will be entered into the draw for takeoff position.

b. The draw for takeoff position will take place at Wacky Wings on Friday, May 12th, 2017 at 7:00p.m.

This will be a good time to come out and meet some of your fellow anglers who are participating also. If you can make it, please rsvp with me by phoning 632-6572 so I can reserve a large enough table.

c. Entries received after May 10th, 2017 will be added to the starting position in order of receipt of entry.

d. If two individuals enter the tournament draw separately, and then later decide to amalgamate and become one Team, the newly created single Team will receive the LOWER of the two spots initially held by each individual.

e. Any starting positions guaranteed due to the tournament draw are only guaranteed to those individuals whose names were on the original registration form submitted for the draw. Therefore at least one of the original names on

the original registration form submitted for the draw must remain on the team for it to retain its draw position. If no angler from the original registration form submitted for the draw remains on the team, the team's starting position will be moved to the bottom of the starting order.

Tournament Cancellation

a. There is a \$25 processing fee for those teams which withdraw from the event.

b. There is no refund for teams who withdraw with less than one week notice prior to the event.