

TREELAND PREMIER MUSKY FLY FISHING CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

I. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

- 1) Any properly licensed person is eligible to enter the 2023 8th Annual Treeland Premier Musky Fly Fishing Championship.
- 2) All children under 18 years old must be accompanied by a parent or guardian, and have a license if applicable.
- 3) No entries accepted after 6PM, Thursday, September 28th at Treeland Resort.
- 4) Entry fee includes three nights of complimentary dinners, as well as complimentary craft beer. In addition, there are thousands of dollars in door prizes given away on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
- 5) Tournament contestants limited to the first 100 entries received.

II. REQUIREMENTS

- 1) All Wisconsin fishing and boating regulations apply.
- 2) Entrants must sign a waiver (on registration form) to hold the sponsors of the tournament, their agencies and agents, harmless for any death, injury, damage, theft, fire or any loss that might result from participation in this tournament.
- 3) **NO REFUNDS ON TOURNAMENT ENTRIES. ALL ENTRIES FINAL AND NON-TRANSFERRABLE---NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- 4) ALL occupants of a boat must be registered contestants to fish "The Treeland Premier Musky Fly Fishing Championship". Only permitted exceptions would be Film or Press boats working for/with Treeland Resorts.
- 5) Entrants can fish independently or in 2 or 3 person teams. No more than 3 in a boat.
- 6) ALL occupants of a boat must be registered in the sidepot bet for any sidepot fish entered from a boat.
- 7) All registrants MUST have the official tournament icon while fishing and registering fish, and tournament icon must be visible in every picture to be counted.
- 8) All contestants give permission to use photos of entrants and their catches for promotion of tournament.

III. TOURNAMENT BOUNDARIES

- 1) All publicly accessible waters in Sawyer and surrounding counties (Price, Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, Washburn, Rusk)

IV. TOURNAMENT FISHING & FISH REGISTRATION HOURS

- 2) Friday, September 29th, 7AM until 5PM
- 3) Saturday, September 30th, 7AM until 5PM
- 4) All fish must be registered at tournament headquarters by 7PM on Friday and Saturday, September 29th and September 30th.

V. FISHING

- 1) Trolling is not permitted
- 2) Chumming is not permitted
- 3) This is a conservation-focused event. Safe fish handling is of the utmost importance.
- 4) All decisions of the tournament director are final.
- 5) Wading is permitted

VI. EQUIPMENT

- 1) Fly fishing gear only. This means commercially available rods, reels, fly lines and leaders.
- 2) Fluorocarbon bite tippet must be a minimum of 60lb test. Wire bite tippet is highly encouraged.
- 3) No conventional fishing gear, spinning gear or lures may be present on any boat, even if it is not used.
- 4) Tournament officials will spot check equipment throughout the event in all locations.
- 5) Fish may only be gently lifted horizontally using great care to support their midsections.
- 6) We want to avoid the possibility of transport of invasive species that can come from these types of tournaments where there are lots of different water bodies in play. Boats need to be washed before traveling to an area that is not downstream or connected to the area they have already fished. A bleach solution will be available at the tournament headquarters so people can give their boat a rinse after fishing for the day if entrants do not have their own.

VII. SCORING

- 1) 2 points will be awarded for any musky 25" – 31½".
- 2) 8 points will be awarded for each 32" musky released, plus 1-point for each additional inch, and ½ points for ½ inch.
- 3) Fractions will be measured to the nearest ½ inch.
 - a) Example: 34½ inch musky receives 10½ total points
 - b) 41¼ inch musky receives 17 points

- 4) Winners will be decided on a cumulative point total either by individual or team and longest fish by its exact measurement.
- 5) Fish will be measured to the last full inch from the tip of the nose, which is clearly against the bump board to the end of the tail. Fractions of an inch will be reviewed and judged by the Tournament Director only in the event of a tie.
- 6) Each team must provide their own digital camera or high-quality phone camera and have the ability to share those pictures with the tournament director.
- 7) Must take a photo with the daily tournament icon, and a legible bump board under the fish. For the fish to qualify, the nose of the fish must be at the "zero" end and the tail at the point of official measurement with the numbers clearly visible to read the fishes length.
 - a) Bump boards that slide out from the center are NOT advised, if you have any question regarding if your bump board will work send a picture of it prior to the tournament or bring it into Treeland's lodge for inspection.
- 8) The fish must then be RELEASED live & uninjured. The angler MUST then bring the photo in to register during the same registration hours to Treeland's main lodge, along with a signed fish registration form.
- 9) **If there is any discrepancy on the legibility of the photo, the registration staff has the right to not accept a photo entry. It is the responsibility of the competitor to clearly demonstrate the fish's length, without doubt, through clear photography using the reference icon provided.**
- 10) There will be 2 daily tournament icons, for each fishing session (Friday & Saturday). The icon may be picked up the night before each fishing session. ANY PHOTOS WITHOUT THE ICON WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR REGISTRATION INTO THE TOURNAMENT.
- 11) Each team must have their own bump board for their official photos - measuring sticks and measuring tape will not be allowed.
- 12) No points will be awarded for dead or injured fish.
- 13) Overall championship is awarded to the individual or team scoring the most points. The Big Fish Award goes to the individual with the longest verifiable fish.
- 14) If there is a tie the tournament director will go to the longest fish from each of the tied teams, with the longest fish representing the winning team. If there is still a tie, it will then go to the 2nd longest fish, etc. until a winner is declared. If all fish are tied, cards will be drawn with ace high.

VIII. SIDEPOT BET

- 1) Optional for all anglers, but all anglers in the boat MUST be in the pot to be eligible to win.
- 2) Pot will be split 50/50 for biggest musky registered Friday and Saturday.
- 3) Optional sidepot bet is \$30 total per angler for two days. Pay-out equals 50% of the pot daily to the largest musky.

IX. PROTESTS

- 1) Written protests must be made prior to 7pm on Saturday, September 30th, 2023.
- 2) Parties involved may be called before the protest committee.
- 3) Committee will meet within two hours of any protest being formally presented.
- 4) A protest fee of \$25 will be required to accompany any formal protest. This fee will be returned if found to be valid by committee. If the protest is invalid, the protest fee goes to the alleged violator.
- 5) Any contestant under protest may continue fishing, however, the catch will not be tallied until the protest is resolved.
- 6) The tournament committee, acting in the best interests of the tournament, may initiate a formal protest against a contestant at any time during the tournament.
- 7) The decision of the tournament committee is final **in all cases**.

X. "SPIRIT OF THE RULE"

- 1) All rules will have loopholes. It is our intention to provide an honest, sportsmanlike tournament. In the interest of good sportsmanship, contestants are reminded that the "spirit of the rule" will prevail in all judgment cases.

XI. MISCELLANEOUS

- 1) All decisions of the judges are final.
- 2) The tournament committee reserves the right to reject any entries.
- 3) Any infraction of these rules will call for immediate disqualification.
- 4) The tournament committee reserves the right to use any legal means to authenticate the fish registered in each division.
- 5) My signature on my entry form verifies I have read and will abide by the rules of the tournament and will adhere to good sportsmanlike conduct.
- 6) By signing the entry form, I also give permission for the use of my name and photographs of me for future promotions.