

“Early Bird High School Fishing Tournament” Rules

Note - If ice is not out of river/bay, event will be rescheduled for April 22nd.

Registration will be from 6:00 – 6:30am.

Mandatory Rules meeting for all participants at 6:30am Central Time at Marinette High School. Tournament will begin at 7:00am Central Time.

Anglers must be in line to Weigh-in by 3:30pm at Marinette High School.

General Rules:

- **All Anglers must obey Wisconsin and Michigan DNR fishing regulations.**
- Wisconsin Fishing License - (16 years or older) Including Great Lakes Trout Stamp if targeting or intending to keep Trout.
 - Anglers may fish the Menominee River and everywhere south of Menominee River including the whole Southern Bay of Green Bay. **See Map for details.**
- Michigan Fishing - (17 years or older) All Species License
 - Anglers may fish the Menominee River and everywhere north of Menominee River to Cedar River. **See Map for details.**
- Wisconsin and Michigan License
 - Anglers may fish from Cedar River and anywhere south in the Bay of Green Bay and includes the Menominee River.
- **Each student-angler, and parent must sign Tournament Liability- Release Waiver.**
- Make sure that you **DRESS WARM!** Even though it is getting warmer, being on the water will be much colder than on land.

Target Species and Bag Limits:

- Each angler allowed to register 1 Walleye and 3 Trout.
- Each 4-angler team can register up to 4 Walleye and 12 Trout.
 - **Walleyes must be 15 inches in length to register.**
 - **Trout must be 10 inches in length to register.**
- Anglers may begin weighing in at 1:00 pm central time at Marinette High School. Fishing ends at 3:00 pm and anglers must be in line to weigh-in by 3:30 pm.
- **Culling fish is not allowed** - This means no exchanging a smaller fish for a bigger fish by throwing the smaller one back once it is in a cooler, livewell, or on a stringer.

Registration:

- Please contact Luke Maulding to pre-register.
- **Registration materials must be filled (Team Rosters, Medical Release Waiver, and Entry Fees)** and can either be sent to Luke Maulding, or you can turn them in at the rules

Raffle Prizes: (Donations)

- A raffle drawing will be held following the awards ceremony. Prizes have been donated by local businesses and supporters.
- **Please contact Luke Maulding for registration materials: (906) 748-0692**

meeting Saturday morning during registration from 6:00 – 6:30 am. Registration materials need to be turned in by 6:30 am in order to be eligible to participate.

Boating Safety:

Each participant must observe safe boat conduct at all times.

Each participant is required to wear Coast Guard approved chest-type life preserver, which is fully secured whenever the main combustion engine is running above idling speed.

Boats should be equipped with the proper flares, and safety equipment required by state and federal laws.

Tournament officials reserve the right to delay, cancel, or restrict tournaments waters in case of severe weather. (Make-up day is Sunday, April 22nd)

In the event of a thunderstorm, lighting and/or severe weather, contestants may pull into the nearest shoreline until it is safe to continue fishing.

Tournament officials reserve the right to disallow the use of any boat and/or motor they deem to be unsafe, inappropriate, or unsuitable for use. The Tournament Director's decision in this matter is final and may be made at any time.

Boat Advisors (Coaches)

The role of the Boat Advisors (Coaches) is to assist and guide student anglers during the tournament. This tournament was created to be competitive, but it was also created to act as a great learning tool. Boat advisors are encouraged to teach the young anglers how to use fishing gear, set up lines, and boater safety tips during this tournament. Once student-anglers are confident enough to set out lines, boat advisors are encouraged to let student-anglers set up lines on their own.

Each student-anglers must wear a **lifejacket** when boat is under power. **Lifejackets** are optional when trolling or drifting, or on the discretion of the parents and/or boat advisors.

Boat advisors are not allowed to fish during time of the tournament. Boats may not put out extra lines for the boat advisor, nor does their daily fish limit count during the tournament. **They are to serve only as an advisor, or coach, for the student anglers in the boat.**

Student anglers are to be respectful and act in a mature manner while fishing with the boat advisors. Boat advisors are encouraged to make contact with the parents of each student angler in the boat to ensure boat rules and expectations for behavior are communicated.

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The Marinette Fishing Team will be requiring student-anglers, and parents, to sign a medical and behavioral expectation waiver prior to the tournament. We encourage any schools participating in this tournament to do the same.

Coaches/Parents:

- Coaches/parents are not allowed to fish in this tournament. **Remember – This tournament has been set up to get junior high and high school students involved in fishing. Please respect all rules and use this tournament as time to teach kids how to fish!**

Fishing Etiquette:

- Student anglers are to be respectful and act in a mature manner while fishing. Other people will be fishing, so please be courteous and respectful towards the other fishermen.
- **The Marinette Fishing Team will be requiring all student-anglers, and parents, to sign a medical and behavioral expectation waiver prior to the tournament.** We encourage any schools participating in this tournament to do the same.

Open-water Fishing:

- **Every boat must be operated by adult boat coach/advisor.**
- Only two student-anglers per boat.
- Up to two boat coaches in each boat.
- **Each student-angler is allowed to use 3 lines, which equals 6 lines in the water per boat.**
- Each student-anglers must wear a **lifejacket** when boat is under power. **Lifejackets** are optional when trolling or drifting, or on the discretion of the parents and/or boat advisors.
- Boat coaches/advisors can only operate boat, teach student anglers how to fish, and promote boater safety. **Boat coaches/advisors are not allowed to set the hooks or reel in fish. They are allowed to set up lines and net fish.**

Shoreline Fishing:

- The use of waders or hip boots encouraged.
- Remember to show courtesy towards other fishermen. There will be other fishermen in the river who aren't in the tournament so please be aware of that.
- Use public accesses only. **We are providing a map of public shoreline areas to fish from.**
- The Menominee River may be flowing swiftly, please be careful when using waders in the water.

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Boat Accesses:

- You may launch boats from any available access as long as you are fishing in the regulated tournament waters. (Menominee River and Bay of Green Bay)
- There are multiple public accesses that can be used, but boats can be trailed to any boat landing as long as you are fishing in the tournament boundaries. (Menominee River and Bay of Green Bay) They include and are not limited to: Boom's Landing, Mystery Ship Landing, Lighthouse Landing, Menekaunee, and Little River.

Fishing Supplies

A&K Bait and Tackle - 1616 Shore Drive, Marinette, WI 54143 - (715)-732-9595

Hours of Operation

- They are open Monday-Saturday 6am – 6pm.
 - Bait and Tackle

Wind Rose North Bait and Tackle - 427 10th Ave, Menominee, MI 49858 – (906) 424-0206

Hours of Operation

- They are open Monday-Friday 6am – 5pm. Saturday – Sunday 6am – 3pm.
 - Bait and Tackle

Nestegg Marine – 300 Wells Street, Marinette, MI 54143 – (715) 732-4466

Hours of Operation

- They are open Monday-Friday 9am – 5pm. Saturday 9am – 12pm.
 - Tackle only

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