

WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC FISHING ASSOCIATION

2021 WIFA STATE HIGH SCHOOL ICE FISHING CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday, February 20, 2021



2021 Tournament Rules and Regulations

Fishing hours: 7:00am - 3:00pm - February 20, 2021

OPEN TO ANY PUBLIC WATER ACCESSIBLE BY ICE

ELIGIBILITY AND REGISTRATION-----

1. As a coach, you and your team represent not only your school but WIFA. It is expected that you will ensure that yourself and any team members or assistant coaches comply with all State of Wisconsin and WIFA rules. It is also expected that you and your team act in accordance with the WIFA Mission, Vision and Values. Any violation of the below rules could result in team disqualification and or possible suspension from coaching future WIFA events.
2. Any and all violations are subject to review by the WIFA Board of Directors; they will have the final say in any and all matters pertaining to WIFA, including infractions of rules or safety violations. Any decisions by WIFA or the tournament board will be final and may not be challenged.
3. Each team must represent a school in Wisconsin or WI Non profit, have a designated adult coach (Adult is considered 21 years of age or older, a member of the school faculty or designated parent).
4. Each team will consist of up to 4 coaches only. Additional parents are welcome but will be the support only as identified in Competition rules below.
5. TEAMS MUST REGISTER WITH FISHDONKEY USING THEIR SCHOOL NAME-SEE WIFA WEB PAGE FOR FISHDONKEY INSTRUCTION SHEET. THIS IS HOW FISH WILL BE TRACKED AND VERIFIED. SCHOOLS MUST BE REGISTERED WITH FISHDONKEY BY THE START OF THE TOURNAMENT on FEB 20TH.
6. Teams are responsible to pay for and secure their own lodging.
7. All participants must contain a valid fishing license for any tournament waters being fished.
8. A team will not consist of more than 12 high school student members and a minimum of 1 angler. High schools may not have more than one team representing their school.

9. WIFA reserves the right to refuse any angler or team from competing who have not demonstrated the mission, vision or core values expected of WIFA anglers.

Vehicle/ATV/UTV/ snowmobile usage on tournament waters -----

1. Any team member found in violation of any Wisconsin DNR rules, tournament rules or receives a violation while fishing tournament will be immediately disqualified and be cause for team disqualification.
2. It is the responsibility of each coach to ensure the safety of their student anglers, and as such could be held liable by WIFA officials for team members not following designated rules.
3. These rules include any vehicle used for transportation or use on tournament waters during tournament.
4. No more than 2 anglers per vehicle unless the vehicle is equipped for additional seating per manufacturer's specifications.
5. The on ice speed limit of no more than 25 miles per hour for any vehicle will be imposed during the tournament.
6. No horseplay i.e. riding on racks, speeding, doughnuts, wheelies or excessive throttling or revving engines is permitted. Violators will be immediately disqualified from the tournament and if necessary will be removed from tournament waters and coach may be subject to disqualification as well.
7. Any additional "horseplay" including but not limited to riding on vehicles or being dragged behind a vehicle for pleasure will be subject to immediate disqualification from tournament competition.
8. Any anglers or coaches riding an ATV/SUV/Snowmobile must follow Wisconsin rules and regulations.
9. The use of boats, hovercrafts or airboats is prohibited during the event.
10. All vehicles must be registered and in compliance with local and state laws.
11. Any team member found in violation of any Wisconsin DNR rules, tournament rules or in compliance with WIFA mission and values is subject to disqualification.

FORMAT AND SCORING -----

1. Fish Donkey App will be the main scoring platform that will be used for this event. Ensure that you have this app ready by tournament day. SEE WIFA web page for FishDonkey instruction sheet
2. The 1-4 Coaches are the only ones that should be measuring and entering fish into the app-coaches are also responsible for using the FishDonkey App - students are not allowed to enter fish.
3. ALL FISH ENTRIES/ DIGITAL LIVEWELLS MUST BE UPLOADED BY 4:00 P.M. (THIS MEANS YOU MUST HAVE WI-FI OR CELL SERVICE FOR YOUR FISH TO BE UPLOADED TO THE FISHDONKEY APP.)
4. This is a multi-species tournament and student anglers may use artificial or live bait.

5. Every fish must be measured and verified using the RAPALA 60" Magnum Ruler. This is the official (AND ONLY) measuring device allowed for the State Tournament Teams must provide their own Rapala Boards. Photos of fish may be verified at any time by tournament directors of WIFA designated board members.
6. Take a minimum of two pictures: 1) A picture of the entire fish on the bump board 2) A picture of the student holding the fish.
7. All fish must be clearly visible while being measured - A closed mouth and tail must be clearly visible on the bump board.
8. All legal fish (Fish must be of legal size to begin with) **MUST BE ROUNDED DOWN to the nearest 1/4 inch.** Fish must meet or cross the line of the next ¼ " in order to be counted, otherwise must be rounded down!
9. **Fish must be measured with the MOUTH CLOSED.** Failure to do so will result in a fish being disqualified in the photo verification process.
10. Only fish caught by student anglers are eligible for submission for official weigh in. Coaches cannot fish or have additional lines out that students use.
11. THIS IS A CATCH-PHOTO-RELEASE TOURNAMENT! All healthy fish should be released after being measured, etc. Only fish of legal size are able to be counted toward tournament scoring. It is the coaches' responsibility to know and understand tournament water regulations.
 1. Bass must be 14" minimum
 2. Walleye/Sauger must be 15" minimum
 3. Northern has no minimum
 4. Bluegill, pumpkinseed, Crappie, and Perch must be a minimum of 6"
12. Any fish altered (after being caught) to enhance length or circumvents tournament rules will not be allowed and will be grounds for immediate disqualification if so determined by the tournament committee or WIFA officials.
13. All fish must be caught on hook and line in a conventional sporting manner. Anyone guilty of netting or snagging fish (That is not hooked in the head per state regulations) will be disqualified.
14. Photos of fish may be used for display at the awards ceremony, FishDonkey, and on WIFA website and to promote future WIFA events.
15. Species of fish include: 10 Bluegill/Pumpkinseed, 10 Crappie, 10 Perch, 5 Walleye/Sauger, 5 Largemouth/ Smallmouth Bass, 5 Northern Pike (45 total tournament limit)

Awards-----

1. Awards will sent to each of the coaches in the categories listed below:
 1. Master Angler awards
 2. Team of the Year
 3. Largest fish in each species
 4. Top 10 Finishing teams

PRE FISHING-----

Remember when pre fishing you still represent your school and WIFA. It is expected that your team acts in compliance with the WIFA mission, vision and values and any violations or reported substantiated safety violations to WIFA officials could include disqualification from WIFA tournaments. It is expected that any teams, coaches or team members abide by any rules and regulations and are courteous to any other anglers on the water at all times.

1. Pre fishing will end at sunset on the Friday before and the tournament waters your team plans to fish are off limits including to any parents, friends or other relatives that would share information giving any anglers an advantage for the tournament.

COMPETITION-----

1. The WIFA state tournament is restricted to the body of water(s) identified as tournament waters.
2. A team shall consist of a maximum of 12 student anglers and 4 Head coaches. Head coaches will remain in contact with their team at all times and must be within both visible and voice range. If the team splits into 2 or 4 fishing areas at least one head coach must be within contact of all team anglers.
3. Parents are allowed on the ice with their respective team. However, parents and coaches are not allowed to fish on tournament bodies during tournament hours. Parents are not allowed to tie lines, re-bait hooks or assist physically with angling. Parents can assist with moving on and off the ice, cooking & grilling, cheering and offering advice but nothing further unless it is a safety concern.
4. Only coaches and students can drill holes.
5. Any team caught fishing before tournament hours will be disqualified from the tournament.
6. All lakes will be off limits from the end of pre fish until **one HALF-HOUR before the tournament** starts. No team shall impede access to the lake for local anglers.
7. No radios, cell phones or electronic communication is allowed during tournament hours between Teams and anglers from other schools or other teams. Safety concerns are the only acceptable conversations. Refer your questions to the Tournament directors or this document.
8. **NO TEAMS CAN MOVE ONTO THE ICE UNTIL 6:30 AM!**
9. Tournament fishing officially starts at 7:00am and ends at 3:00 PM. No fish caught after that time will count towards their team's total. Final upload of fish/Digital Livewells on the FishDonkey App must be done by 4:00PM. Fishdonkey will load digital livewell when you get into cell reception
10. Coaches are expected to use safe judgement for any emergencies or inclement weather.
11. During the tournament, only student anglers are allowed to fish! To be clear: Coaches, Parents, Guests, Assistant Coaches or Friends are not allowed to set, bait, fish, operate electronics, or scout in any way.
12. The tournament directors have the right to delay, shorten or cancel the start of the tournament due to unsafe conditions.

13. Student anglers may use multiple lines but no more than three as defined by state law or as directed by the tournament directors. Each angler is responsible to know what lines are theirs at all times. If an angler leaves the immediate area for any reason (i.e. bathroom break or concessions visit) lines should be removed until said angler returns to the immediate area.
14. Any team member found in violation of any Wisconsin DNR rules, tournament rules or receives a violation while fishing tournament will be immediately disqualified and be cause for team disqualification. All anglers must have their fishing license in their possession during the tournament and be able to present it upon request by DNR officials.
15. A CLEAR PHOTO OF THE FISH MUST BE CAPTURED ON THE OFFICIAL WIFA APPROVED BUMP BOARD (FishDonkey App.) The top ten teams should plan to have your catch photo's verified by WIFA officials. (WIFA Board Members will comprise and oversee the photo verification process)
16. Infractions of any kind must be immediately reported to tournament officials. PROTESTS of any kind must be filed with the tournament director within 30 minutes of the end of the tournament. When possible please provide proof via photos. The protest committee will consist of appointed WIFA board members. If protest is found valid, the team could be either penalized or disqualified from the tournament including after tournament results are posted and final.
17. **All decisions made by tournament directors, WIFA, or tournament board are final and cannot be contested. Final interpretation of all rules are at the discretion of the tournament directors or WIFA board and cannot be contested.**

WIFA CODE OF CONDUCT-----

1. The use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal substances are prohibited by anglers.
2. All participants including parents or friends of team members are expected to act in a sportsmanlike manner at all times towards non-participants and participants alike. Violators of this rule can be disqualified.
3. Violations of any rule or any teams or team members not in compliance with WIFA core values as determined by the tournament director or WIFA board shall result in automatic disqualification from the tournament and ineligibility of any awards or prizes.
4. Any teams found in violation after the tournament are subject to recall of any awards and could be banned or suspended from future WIFA events.

*****RULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE*****