



WISCONSIN INTERSCHOLASTIC FISHING ASSOCIATION

Bringing our youth into the outdoors

WIFA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

2018 Tournament Rules and Regulations

-All Coaches are mandatory reporters of rule violations-

2018 Tournament director = Ted Bonde 920-698-6133

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 of 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 who have the final say in any and all matters pertaining to WIFA including infractions of rules or safety violations. Any decisions by WIFA board will be final and may not be challenged.
3. Each team must represent a school in Wisconsin, have a designated adult coach (Adult is considered 21 years of age or older, a member of school faculty or School Designated Adult).
4. Each team must register and submit a registration form complete to tournament director by cutoff date.
5. Teams are responsible to pay for and secure their own lodging.
6. All participants must of age contain a valid fishing license for any tournament waters being fished.
7. As a condition of participation each team must complete a Release of Liability. The release indemnifies WIFA and any sponsors.
8. A team will not consist of more than 10 high school student members and a minimum of 1 angler. High schools may have more than one team represent their school but must be broken into separate teams and identified as such.

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 vehicle is equipped for additional seating per manufacturers specifications.
5. A speed limit of no more than 25 miles per hour for any vehicle will be imposed during 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 tournament and if necessary will be removed from tournament waters and coach may be subject for 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. All vehicles must be registered and in compliance with local and state laws.
10. Any team member found in violation of any Wisconsin DNR rules, tournament rules, or local ordinances will be removed from the event.

FORMAT AND SCORING

1. Weigh in sheets will be brought to official weigh in spot designated by tournament director by 3:00. Your sheet must be in the weigh in line by 3:00, if not, your team is subject to penalties or disqualification.
2. This is a multi-species tournament and student anglers may use artificial or live bait.
3. Every fish must be measured and verified and WIFA nameplate must be displayed in photo by designated coach and photographed on official WIFA approved bump board. Photos of fish may be verified at any time by tournament directors of WIFA designated board members.
4. All legal fish (Fish must be of legal size to begin with) may be rounded up to nearest 1/4 inch. Rounding up however does not count in terms of making fish legal size.
5. Only fish caught by student anglers are eligible for submission for official weigh in.
6. This is a catch and release tournament however if student anglers decide to keep any fish they must be in compliance with any and all DNR regulations. It is the coaches' responsibility to know and understand tournament water regulations.
7. 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 tournament committee or WIFA officials.
8. All fish must be caught on hook and line in a conventional sporting manner. Anyone guilty of snatching or snagging of fish (That is not hooked in the head per state regulations) will be disqualified.
9. Photos of fish may be used for display at awards ceremony, on WIFA website and to promote future WIFA events.

RULES MEETING

1. A mixer will take place Friday night _____ Feb 16th 2018 _____ at ___Hall of Nations Convention center _____.
2. The rules meeting is MANDATORY. At least one coach from the team is required to be present for the entire meeting. If at least one coach is not present at the tournament meeting that team will be disqualified. The only exception is if prior arrangements are made or there are extenuating circumstances and approved by tournament directors.

PRE FISHING

Remember when pre fishing you still represent your school and WIFA. It is expected that your team act 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 of Feb 16th_____ and tournament waters are off limits including any parents, friends or other relatives that would share information giving any anglers and advantage for the tournament.
2. All equipment will be removed from lake after pre fishing is closed this includes vehicles, shacks, and any anglers. No one is allowed to hold a fishing location for a WIFA contestant under any circumstances.

COMPETITION

1. The WIFA state tournament is restricted to the body of water identified as tournament waters. You cannot exit the designated lake and fish any other body of water not specified by tournament officials.
2. Any team caught fishing before tournament hours will be disqualified from tournament.
3. Lake will be off limits from end of pre fish until one hour before tournament start. No team shall impeded access to lake for local anglers.
4. No radios, cell phones or electronic communication is allowed during tournament hours between anglers from other schools.
5. Coaches are expected to use safe judgement for any emergencies or inclement weather.
6. Only student anglers are allowed to fish! To be clear: Coaches, Parents, Guests, Assistant coaches or friends are not allowed to set, bait or fish, operate electronics, scout in anyway.
7. Sharing of fish between teams is prohibited and will result in immediate disqualification and possible suspension from future WIFA events.
8. The tournament director has the right to delay, shorten or cancel the start of the tournament due to unsafe conditions.
9. Student anglers may use multiple lines but no more than three as defined by state law or as directed by tournament director. Each angler is responsible to know what lines are theirs at all times. If an angler leaves the immediate area for any reason for s i.e. bathroom break or concessions visit lines should be removed until said angler returns to immediate area.
10. 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.
11. All fish must be measured to the nearest ¼ inch and verified by any teams coach. **A CLEAR photo of the fish must be captured on WIFA approved bump board and available for proof if requested by tournament officials.**
12. **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 team could be either penalized or disqualified from the tournament including after tournament results are posted and final.

- 13. All decisions made by tournament director or WIFA 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 substance are prohibited by anglers.
2. All participants including parents or friends of team members are expected to act in a sportsman like 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 of WIFA core values as determined by 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.

AWARDS

1. The awards ceremony will be held at ___Torpy Park_____ and will begin after the weigh in process.
2. It is strongly recommended that teams stay for awards presentations to support those teams that placed.

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