

**INTERPRETATION OF THESE RULES AND FINAL DECISION SHALL BE LEFT EXCLUSIVELY TO THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH TOURNAMENT RULES SHALL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION AND FORFEITURE OF ENTRY FEE. ALL RULES HAVE 'LOOPHOLES'. IN THE INTEREST OF GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP, CONTESTANTS ARE REMINDED THAT THE 'SPIRIT OF THE RULE' WILL PREVAIL IN ALL JUDGEMENT CASES.**

**1. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY:** Participation in this tournament is open to anyone accompanied by a teammate 18 years or older. Persons under the age of 18 years of age must have the signature of his/her parent or guardian. A maximum of two people per boat is permitted. Proof of age is the responsibility of the competitor to the tournament directors. A properly completed and signed official application form and entry fee must be turned in prior to the start of the tournament.

**2. ENTRY FEE:** Entry fee is \$250.00 per team /boat for the two day event for all entries received by **JUNE 1, 2018**. Any entries purchased/postmarked after this date will include a \$50 late fee. All prizes are based on two man teams. Contestants are responsible for any taxes due on any prize. First place prize of \$10,000 is guaranteed. Payouts based on amount of entries. Additional prizes may be offered. Any such will be announced at the rules meeting prior to the start of the tournament. Minimum of 75% will be payed back.

**3. SAFETY:** Safe boating conduct **MUST** be observed at all times by all entrants. All North Dakota boat and water safety guide requirements will apply. Coast guard approved life vests must be worn anytime the combustion engine is operating above trolling speed also safety kill switch must be in working order.

**4. LEGAL FISH:** Walleye, minimum length 15 inches. Each team will be allowed to weigh 5 walleyes per day. Only 7 walleyes will be allowed in the holding well. Any team bringing in more walleye than the tournament limit will result in immediate disqualification for that day. No fish will be kept on a stringer or in a fish basket, they must be kept in an aerated live well or cooler. All fish will be weighed in pounds and hundreds of a pound on a scale provided at the tournament headquarters. The bump board at the tournament headquarters will determine fish length. Weigh scales will be open throughout the fishing day each day of the tournament. Any team can weigh their catch at any time. Contestants may not return to fishing after their official "weigh in" for the day until the conclusion of the tournament.

**5. DEAD FISH PENALTY:** Any dead fish brought to weigh station will not be weighed.

**6. SHORT FISH PENALTY:** Short fish will be culled from sack, and no replacement will be accepted.

**7. TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT:** All ND Game & Fish State Rules apply. All legal live bait and legal artificial presentation pursuant to North Dakota Fishing guide will be allowed. All live bait will be

procured locally. Do not dump your old bait in the lake, tournament headquarters will provide a disposal. All fish must be caught live and in a conventional manner. Contestants must possess a North Dakota state fishing license. Cellular phones, CB or marine radios are allowed for emergency situations only. They may not be used during the tournament to talk with other boats.

**8. SPORTSMANSHIP:** No alcoholic beverages, drugs or other stimulants or depressants will be allowed at the tournament site or in the boat.

**9. BOAT AND MOTOR:** All boats must be equipped with some type of ignition kill switch. A small gas or electric motor may be used for short maneuvering. Every boat will be given an inspection check by a tournament official and a boat identification marker to be displayed.

**10. BOAT INSPECTION:** Each entered boat must be brought to tournament headquarters at Spirit Lake Marina for verification of cleanliness prior to pre-fishing. North Dakota Game & Fish has adopted ANS (Aquatic Nuisance Species) Laws: All water must be drained from watercraft, equipment or confined spaces when out of water. This includes live wells and bait wells. Plugs must be pulled. Boats or equipment coming in from other states or provinces must not contain any water. Remove all aquatic vegetation from the boat, trailer, and fishing equipment. It is illegal to leave access site with plant fragments. Aquatic plants or fragments are not allowed in bait containers, coolers, etc. when in transport. It is illegal to import live aquatic bait into North Dakota (participants may not bring any aquatic bait—leeches, frogs, live baitfish—into North Dakota. It will be mandatory for the contestant's to ensure that the live/bait wells, boats and trailers are cleaned thoroughly before entering the lake during pre-fishing and tournament. All boats will be inspected each day before launch and are subject to inspection during the tournament. All equipment will be required to be onboard at that time.

**11. OFFICIAL CHECKPOINT:** Spirit Lake Marina will be the only checkpoint.

**12. TIES:** All ties will be resolved by using the following methods: 1. largest number of live fish weighed. 2. Heaviest weight on day two (2). 3. Coin toss.

**13. CHECK IN:** You and your partner must check-in and sign the check-in weight slips even if you have caught no fish. Any contestant returning late will be assessed a penalty of one (1) pound of weight per minute late up to 10 minutes maximum. Over 10 minutes will result in disqualification for the day. Failure to check in will result in disqualification for the day.

**14. STARTING TIME:** Safety is the only reason that the tournament will be delayed in starting on time. Starting time will be 7:00 am CST.

**15. LIABILITY:** Spirit Lake Casino, Resort & Marina, its managers, employees, promoters, tournament directors, sponsors and organizations assisting in the tournament operation, their agencies, are not responsible for deaths, injuries, damages, liability, theft, fire,

or any loss of any kind to entrants. Each entrant, upon signing an entry form, will be signing a waiver form.

**16. TAKE OFF POSITION:** Will be determined by order of entries received. Second day placement will be flip-flopped from first day (if you were the first one out on the first day, you will be the last one out on the second day). Tournament launch will be one by one, no flights. All boats are guaranteed eight (8) hours of fishing time unless modified for safety concerns. All teams will check in and out at tournament headquarters each day. All boats will be required to be trailered and launched at tournament headquarters. Pre-fishing will end June 9, 2017 at 4pm CST. Any area of the lake accessible from tournament headquarters will be open.

**17. WEATHER CONDITIONS:** If lightning is a problem at launch we will wait until it passes. If winds are over 25 mph and are going to continue for the day that day will be canceled. If the wind is below 25 mph we will launch and stay out the entire day.

**18. PROTEST AND WAIVER:** A team has the right to protest any other team. The protest must be in writing and accompanied by a \$100 check made out to Spirit Lake Marina. The protest must be handed to the tournament director within 60 minutes after the scales have closed. The burden of proof will be on the team filing the protest. A protest committee, designated by the tournament directors, will resolve any protest with a majority vote. The committee will have the right to use any investigative techniques including: testimony under oath, voice stress, and polygraph examinations. Protest committee is the only recourse and all decision rendered shall be final. Contestants waive all rights of appeal with any court or jurisdiction. If the protest is found to be invalid, Spirit Lake Marina will cash the \$100 check and the team filing the protest will be financially responsible for all investigative costs including any official examinations. If the protest is valid, the disqualified team will be financially responsible for all costs and the \$100 fee will be returned to the filing team. Discussion of this type without an official filing will be considered unsportsmanlike conduct and will result in immediate disqualification from the tournament.

**19. EMERGENCIES:** Contestants must remain in the boat at all times except in the case of dire emergencies. In such an emergency, partners may enter another competitor's or rescue boat. In case of an emergency/disabled boat, at least one partner may return (by boat) with the catch by the official check-in time. Above all, the safety of the competitors is priority.

**20. MANDATORY CHECK-IN:** All teams either pre-registered or not must check in and sign up with the tournament directors the evening of June 8, 2018 at the Spirit Lake Casino between 4:30pm and 6:00pm (local time). There will be free supper served starting at 5:30pm to all contestants only at the Spirit Lake Casino prior to the rules meeting. At least one team member must check in at registration and be present for the Rules/Safety briefing at 6:00pm (local time).

Click here to register online at  
[Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)