

2026 CASINO CUP WALLEYE CIRCUIT RULES

In the event inclement weather on tournament day, the tournament will be held the following day(Sunday), in the event the tournament can't be held on Sunday, places will be determined by players club points earned at the host casino, beginning 3 weeks prior to the tournament.

INTERPRETATION OF THESE RULES SHALL BE LEFT EXCLUSIVELY TO THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH TOURNAMENT RULES SHALL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION AND FORFEITURE OF ENTRY FEE. THE DECISION OF THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS SHALL BE FINAL IN ALL MATTERS. 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.

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 may fish w/ his/her parent or guardian. A maximum of three 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.

ENTRY FEE: Entry fee is \$600.00 per team/boat. Entries may be received up to 5:00pm on the Monday prior to the tournament. Contestants are responsible for any taxes due on any prize.

\$450.00 goes toward tournament & \$150.00 goes toward Team Of The Year.

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. Safety kill switch must also be in working order.

DEAD FISH PENALTY: Dead fish will be weighed, provided a proof of life video is sent to tournament directors prior to bringing fish to scale. One (1) pound deductions per dead fish. Any team who brings dead fish to the scale and did not send proof of life video prior, will not be able to weigh that fish.

TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT: All legal live bait and legal artificial presentation pursuant to North Dakota fishing guide will be allowed. Depending on the location of each tournament, contestants must possess a valid North Dakota or South 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. Fishing platforms must be factory-installed equipment.

No portable platforms may be used in the tournament competition. Fuel tanks may be carried only in Factory-installed (built-in) fuel tanks. Optional remote engine fuel tanks must be factory or factory authorized-dealer installed and be strapped or otherwise secured. Any additional fuel used during the tournament day must be purchased from a retail facility open to the public and pumped through a hose with a nozzle.

FISHING: No more than 10 fish may be held for a 2 person team or 12 fish for a 3 person team. At Grand River Casino, each team may be allowed their legal limit on a 2-3 person team and weigh two (2) fish over 20" and four (4) under 20." Only those fish caught on a hook and line in a formal and usual manner during actual tournament fishing will be accepted. Each angler will be allowed two (2) lines in the water at a time. Spare rods/equipment may be carried in the boat. All North Dakota Game and Fish (or in the case of Mobridge, South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks) rules must be followed.

BOAT INSPECTION: Each entered boat must be brought to tournament headquarters for verification of cleanliness prior to first launch. In the interest of controlling ANS (Aquatic Nuisance Species) transfer from other lakes, all boats shall be cleaned prior to first launch including: hull, trailers, bilge, and live/bait wells, using a diluted Clorox solution in the live/bait wells only. It will be mandatory for the contestants to ensure that the live/bait wells, boats and trailers are cleaned thoroughly before entering the lake during the tournament. All boats will be inspected before launch and are subject to inspection during the tournament. All equipment will be required to be onboard at that time. Boat launch will be at Marina/Bay.

OFFICIAL CHECKPOINT: Checkpoint will be the designated launch point.

CHECK IN: You or one of your partners must check in and sign the check-in weight slips even if you did not catch any 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. Failure to check in will result in disqualification.

STARTING TIME: Safety is the only reason that the tournament will be delayed in starting on time. Starting time will be TBD.

LIABILITY: Host casino, its managers, employees, promoters, tournament directors, sponsors and organizations assisting in the tournament operation, and 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 or registering online, will be signing a waiver form.

TIES: All ties will be resolved by a coin toss.

TAKE OFF POSITION: Boat launch will be at the Marina/Bay. Tournament launch will be by flights. Flights will be announced at the rules meeting. 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. All boats will be required to be trailered and launched at tournament headquarters.

WEATHER CONDITIONS: If conditions change during tournament hours to unsafe conditions, the contestants are required to seek safe shelter until the weather conditions pass.

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.

MANDATORY RULES MEETING: All teams, must be present the evening of the rules meeting. At least one team member must be present for the Rules/Safety briefing.

TOURNAMENT POINT & PRIZE SYSTEM: Qualifying points will be given to the team's captain. At each tournament, the 1st place team receives 300 points. Points decrease by three per place – 2nd place = 297, 3rd place = 294, and so on. The team with most points wins the Casino Cup. The top 11 teams will split the \$60,000 Casino Cup purse as follows: 1st place = \$20,000, 2nd place = \$10,000, 3rd place = \$8,000, 4th place = \$6,000, 5th place = \$4,000, 6th place = \$3,000, 7th place = \$2,000, 8th place = \$2,000, 9th place = \$2,000, 10th place = \$2,000, and 11th place = \$1,000. The \$60,000 purse is based upon all tournaments having full 100-team registration. 100% of the entry fees will be paid out to the participants (winners).

TOURNAMENT PAYOUTS

1ST Place -\$15,000; 2nd Place-\$6,000; 3rd Place- \$3,500; 4th Place-\$2,600; 5th Place-\$2,200; 6th Place-\$2,100; 7th Place-\$2,000; 8th Place-\$1,900; 9th Place-\$1,800; 10th Place-\$1,700; 11th Place-\$1,600; 12th Place-\$1,300; 13th Place-\$1,200; 14th Place-\$1,100; 15th Place-\$1,000.

The \$45,000.00 Purse is based upon 100 team registration per tournament

FORT BERTHOLD: Tribal fishing licenses are required of TAT tribal members 16 years of age and older fishing anywhere within the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation. This applies only to the 4 Bears Tournament.

GRAND RIVER CASINO & RESORT: MAY 15-16 2026 – Launch will be announced at the Rules Meeting and the Boundaries within Lake Dahe Are: North – State Line: South – Highway 212 Bridge: West – Grand River Bridge.

SPIRIT LAKE CASINO & RESORT: JUNE 5-6 2026 – Launch is from the Marina – No Boundaries.

WEIGH IN: All Properties will have weight scales open ALL DAY during the Tournament. Teams may weigh their catch at any time. Once a team weighs in for the day, they are done for the day. Awards will be announced in the Ballroom.

FOUR BEARS CASINO & LODGE: JULY 31 – AUGUST 1, 2026 – Launch is from the Marina – No Boundaries.

BIG SHOW FINALS: AUGUST 20, 21, 22, 2026. WITH RULES ON AUGUST 20, 2026 - 4 BEARS CASINO & LODGE WILL HOST THE BIG SHOW. The Big Show will be a Two-Day Tournament with Full Field Fishing on Both days. The winner will be determined by the combined weight of Both Days. Team of The Year Points will be awarded on Both Days. As Two Separate Events, Day 1 Leader will receive 300, 2nd will receive 297, ETC. Day 2 Points will be awarded based on the Two-Day Total.