

METRO WEST 2024 BOAT TOURNAMENT AND BOAT OUTING RULES

1. General:

- A) Boat must have a Metro West member aboard, no paid charters, and a club flag is recommended.
- B) D.N.R. fishing rules apply with a maximum of nine (9) rods per boat.
- C) Eligible species are Atlantic, Chinook, Coho, Pink Salmon, Brown or Lake Trout, Steelhead, or Skamania, White Fish Cisco. Salmonoid species must be a minimum of 16" long to be weighed. Walleye (minimum 15" long) and Perch are eligible for designated events. (DNR rules for pink; DNR rules for walleye Saginaw Bay).
- D) Boats will have at least two (2) persons aboard during tournaments. Minimum age of twelve years old (12) and boaters safety certificate. A working compass and all standard Coast Guard equipment also required.
- E) All participants must sign a release of liability agreement before the tournament starts; forms must be on shore and proof of release given to the port captain before weigh-in is official or the boat is disqualified from that event.
- F) A minimum of three (3) boats to constitute a tournament.
- G) It is encouraged to share information and promote good sportsmanship during tournaments.

2. Time:

- A) **Starting time will be set at the discretion of the port chairman.** Lines shall not be set prior to the designated starting time. All boats will leave from the tournament port or a port within 15 miles by water or by approval by the port captain. Only exception: in Lake Erie Tournaments held from any Michigan port, boats may launch at any of the other Lake Erie Michigan ports.
- B) Tournament weigh in time will be determined by the port captain in advance.
- C) A three (3) hour minimum time is required to constitute an official tournament.
- D) Tournament participants must be in line at the designated time with fish and one crew person, unless approval for tardiness is given by the port chairman, or his designee (boat problems etc.). There will be five (5) points deducted from total score when late and every fifteen (15) minutes after that, up to forty-five (45) minutes. After forty-five (45) minutes you will be disqualified. And to be determined the day of the tournament.

3. Postponements and cancellations:

- A) All decisions regarding postponement or cancellations of a tournament will be made by the port chairman and/or the tournament chairman, with consideration to small craft advisories in the area.
- B) Postponements will be made by start time with automatic review as needed by the port captain. If a tournament is canceled, the tournament will be held the following day, unless otherwise notified.
- C) Sunday tournaments are from the designated starting time with weigh in at the discretion of the port captain.
- D) **THE DECISION TO FISH IS ULTIMATELY UP TO EACH CAPTAIN AND CREW!**

4. Communication:

- A) All tournament boats must have a working radio (channel 72 is the official channel for Metro West).
- B) Call all boats at 9:00 a.m. for check in. Boat captains must respond by 9:30. Failure to do this is a fifteen (15) point deduction from total score.
- C) The port chairman shall designate another captain to communicate to other boats in the tournament.
- D) All captains must call the port chairman or his designee after pulling lines and when they are in the harbor, or indicate they will be staying out, so that all boats are accounted for.

5. Entries:

- A) Entry fee is a minimum \$5.00 per person except for persons of the age sixteen (16) or under. Cost of the meal will be determined by the port captain per person prior to the tournament.
- B) All entry fees will include a \$10.00 big fish fee per boat. Payouts will be per the schedule at the bottom under 6. E.
- C) Any money remaining after the tournament has concluded, will be put into the boat escrow fund.
- D) The port captain will be reimbursed from the escrow fund, if the tournament expenses exceed the amount collected stay in budget.
- E) Registration should be made no later than seven (7) days prior to the tournament and meal, and two (2) days prior for tournament only. Late entries or cancellations can be made prior to the starting time of the tournament by contacting the port captain or other designated persons.
- F) No-shows and cancellations made less than three days of tournament will owe the cost of the meal to the port captain. Members in arrears will not be allowed to participate in any event until all arrearage are paid.
- G) Tournament and big fish winners will be paid within the next two Metro West meetings following the tournament if not collected money will go into the escrow fund.

6. Scoring and prizes:

- A) Weigh in is one person's DNR legal limit out of tournament port. Fish must be culled before weighing; two big fish per boat can be weighed in.
- B) The boat captain is to sign the weigh-in sheet.
- C) One (1) point per pound and 5 points per weighed fish will be used when tabulating each boat's score.
- D) For outings the port chairman's rules apply.
- E) Prizes will be awarded as follows and paid to the boat captain:

# Boats & Big Fish	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
6 boats or less	50%	30%,	20%		

7 to 12 boats	40%,	30%,	20%,	10%	
13 or more	30%,	25%,	20%,	15%,	10%