

## **Metro-West Steelheaders River Angler of the Year Award, (RAOYA) Rules**

- A minimum of 3 MWS Members must participate in a River event for it to qualify toward RAOYA.
- Only trout/salmonid species count toward RAOYA.
- The River Chairperson for an event can determine species & specific rules for that event, but still can only be trout/salmonid species.
- Fish must be caught in the river to count.
- Foul-hooked fish are not eligible.
- A river angler is permitted to enter a river-caught fish in the Club's Big Fish Award competition.
- Measurement for RAOYA is by fish length for a one person Daily Possession Limit. Applies the same, whether catch & release or catch & keep.
- A club Release of Liability Waiver is required. To be signed & left on shore, prior to start of event & turned in to River Chairperson at weigh-in. NO waiver is interpreted as you did not participate.

### Point System

Adopt the following points system:

- 10 points for 1<sup>st</sup> place
- 8 points for 2<sup>nd</sup> place
- 6 points for 3<sup>rd</sup> place
- 4 points for not placing 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>, but caught fish
- 1 point for attending a River event but no fish caught
- Only Metro West Club members are eligible for RAOYA.
- The person with the most cumulative points at the end of the year wins RAOYA.

### River/Stream Event Schedule

- River tournaments must be listed on the MWS calendar qualify toward RAOYA.
- Each River Chairperson is responsible for setting event-specific rules for: Boundaries, Schedule & trout/salmonid eligible species.

### Measurement Rules

Adopt IGFA standard for Catch & Release: "All fish entered for Length Records must be measured by anglers at the site of capture and released so that it swims away on their own and in good condition."

- Fish must be measured using an approved by River Chairperson measuring device on a flat surface.
- The Fish's snout must be touching the nose stop or starting end of approved measuring device with the mouth closed and free of lures or lifting devices.
- With the fish lying on top of the measuring device, measurements will be taken from the most forward part of the fish's snout with the mouth closed to the rear center edge of the tail. No tail pinch.
- All measurements will be made in inches.
- Fish that measure between 1/4 inch increments, shall be recorded at the lower of the two increments. Example, a fish that measures between 20-1/4" and 20-1/2" will have a recorded length of 20-1/4 inches.
- Photographs used to enter released fish at the weigh-in must contain the following information: The full length of the fish on the measuring device clearly showing the position of the snout and tail. The fish may be held in position, but must be done in a manner to not obscure the view of the fish on the measuring device.
- Close up photo showing the snout and tail on the measuring device if not clearly visible in photo resolution of the whole fish photo.
- Photo of the angler with the fish.

Effective 1/10/2024