

2011 OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

TWIN CITIES CHAPTER MUSKIES INC. GEORGE WAHL MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT
SEPTEMBER 24, 2011 – 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM

DESIGNATED TOURNAMENT WATERS: LAKE MINNETONKA • LAKE INDEPENDENCE • LAKE WACONIA
EAGLE LAKE (HENNEPIN COUNTY) • WHITE BEAR LAKE • BALD EAGLE LAKE • FOREST LAKE • LAKE ST. CROIX
LAKE OWASSO • LAKE HARRIET • LAKE CALHOUN • CEDAR LAKE • LAKE OF THE ISLES

YOU MUST HAVE A COPY OF SATURDAY'S MINNEAPOLIS STARTRIBUNE OR ST. PAUL PIONEER PRESS (NO WEEKLY PAPERS) WITH YOU TO INCLUDE IN YOUR PICTURE OF A REGISTERED FISH.

1. Boats, equipment, and conduct must comply with all Minnesota State laws. Minnesota State Fishing Licenses are required. If you are fishing Minneapolis city lakes, you must comply with regulations regarding gas motors.

All contestants must be wearing an approved life vest when boat is under power.

All fish must be caught during tournament hours in the designated waters using legal sportfishing tackle. ONLY ARTIFICIAL LURES/BAIT MAY BE USED.

2. THERE MUST BE A MINIMUM OF TWO PERSONS IN EACH BOAT. ALL OCCUPANTS IN THE BOAT, INCLUDING GUIDES, MUST BE REGISTERED TOURNAMENT CONTESTANTS whether they fish or not.
3. All muskies entered must be a minimum of 40 inches in length.

Contestants must remain with the muskie until it swims away unaided. Fish must be returned to the water alive in the presence of one witness. Fish may not be transported.

Fish that have been taken to a scale will be disqualified.

The first muskie registered by each contestant qualifies contestant for an entry into the Grand Prize Drawing.

4. **TOURNAMENT HOURS:** 7:00 am to 4:00 pm.
5. **FISH REGISTRATION:** To register a fish, contestant must call in to tournament headquarters, turn in a Fish Registration form, and download a photo.
 - Call in to tournament headquarters when you catch a muskie 40 inches or longer (phone numbers are printed on the Fish Registration form). TIME OF REGISTRATION WILL BE THE TIME OF YOUR CALL TO TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS.
 - All Fish Registration forms must be turned in and photos downloaded by 5:00 pm.

A fish is not considered officially registered until a Fish Registration form and photo are turned in and they have been reviewed by Tournament Officials.

6. **PHOTO OF FISH:** Digital photo must show you holding your fish. It is preferable to hold the fish in a horizontal (not vertical) position.

You must have a Saturday newspaper (Minneapolis Star Tribune or St. Paul Pioneer Press - no weekly papers). The newspaper must be visible and identifiable in the photo.

Phone cameras, film cameras and disposable (one-time use) cameras are not acceptable. Photos will be downloaded at the Awards. You must have the USB cord for your camera available. Downloaded photos will become the property of Muskies Inc.

6. **POINT SYSTEM:** You will receive 10 points for each 40 inch muskie released. In addition, you will receive one point or fraction thereof for each inch or fraction over 40 inches measured to the nearest 1/2 inch. 1/2 inch gets 1/2 point.

Examples: 40 inches = 10 points
42-1/2 inches = 10 + 2-1/2 = 12-1/2 points

7. In the case of multiple contestants having the same number of points, the order of place will be determined by the time of the first fish registration by each contestant, with the earlier time getting the better place.

8. **CONTESTANT CONDUCT:** All contestants must be courteous to others. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to disqualify a contestant for any obvious misconduct on the water or at a launch site.

9. Any protest of violation of Tournament Rules must be presented in writing and signed. Protests must be turned in at Awards before 5:00 pm. Issue will be resolved in person with all parties involved and Tournament Judges.
10. ALL DECISIONS OF JUDGES AND/OR TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS ARE FINAL.
11. Judges may inspect boats at any time during the tournament.
12. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to require a POLY-GRAPH TEST of any winners at contestant's expense.
13. **JUNIOR DIVISION:** Contestants under age 18 are eligible for the Junior Division. All tournament rules are the same. Junior Division will have 3 places with its own prizes. Junior Division entries are eligible for the Grand Prize.

GRAND PRIZE DRAWING

1. To be eligible for the Grand Prize, a contestant must register ONE muskie.
2. Contestant's name will be entered into the Grand Prize drawing ONCE AND ONLY ONCE, regardless of the number of muskies registered.
3. The Grand Prize winner will be selected by draw at Awards Program.

MARY VILLNOW MEMORIAL AWARD FOR WOMEN ANGLERS

The three women contestants of any age with the highest number of points will receive:

\$250	\$125	\$75
HIGHEST POINT TOTAL	2ND HIGHEST POINT TOTAL	3RD HIGHEST POINT TOTAL

to be awarded in cash by Paul Villnow in memory of Mary Villnow.

Minnesota statute 84D.09 prohibits the transportation of aquatic vegetation on any public roadway including state forest roads. This statute also prohibits the placement of any watercraft or trailer into State waters that has any aquatic vegetation, zebra mussels, or prohibited exotics species attached. Tournament sponsors will require inspections of all watercraft when entering or leaving tournament waters. Inspections will include a thorough search, inside and out, for the presence of any aquatic vegetation, and other prohibited exotic species, including zebra mussels. No boat may be launched when entering tournament waters until all vegetative materials have been removed and properly disposed of, and until all live wells and bilges have been drained and boats have been made free of any prohibited exotic species. Similar inspections must be made when leaving tournament waters.

Tournament officials and/or contestants may not usurp the boat ramp(s) or parking spaces at a public access. Tournament anglers may not usurp an area of the lake to the exclusion of non-tournament anglers. All anglers, whether participating in the contest or not, must be allowed access to all areas of the lake surface.

Muskellunge entered in the catch and release division shall not be held in livewells... Culling or livewell sorting is prohibited. ...Fish released by anglers must be capable of holding themselves upright in the water and have a high probability of survival. Under no circumstances will a muskellunge exceeding the legal length limit in poor condition, likely to succumb to post-release mortality, be released. (M.S. 6212.2600, subp. 2)