



PFC Geoffrey Morris Memorial Fishing Tournament

to the benefit of "THOSE WHOM HAVE BORNE THE BATTLE"



The Purple Heart



Pro Division

Revision Date: 2014.01.16

I. ELIGIBILITY

Open to any boat with:

- A. A Captain, hereafter referred to as "*Captain*". A *Captain* is in ultimate command of the vessel. The *Captain* is responsible for its safe and efficient operation, navigation, crew management and ensuring that the vessel complies with federal and local laws, as well as Tournament policies. All persons on board, including crew, are under the *Captain's* authority and are his ultimate responsibility.
- B. Minimum registered length of 22'
- C. An invitation to participate (permission from the Tournament Committee).

II. ENTRY FEES

- A. The entry fee is \$575.00.
- B. 30% or \$165.00 of the entry fee will go directly to the "military families from the heartland"
- C. After 01 June (of the Tournament year) no entry fees will be refunded although boat substitutions will be allowed upon formal request to the Tournament Committee (TC).
- D. In case of a last minute emergency that prevents an entrant from participating in the tournament said entrant may apply to the **TC** for a refund of his or her entry fee. The decision to refund shall be made by the **TC** and its decision shall be final
- E. In the event of the cancellation of the tournament due to weather or other reasons beyond the control of the **TC** entry fees maybe returned to the entrants. The decision of the **TC** shall be final in this regard.

III ENTRIES

- A. Entries are limited to 80 boats and are accepted on a first come first served basis.
- B. Entries received after the limit of 80 boats has been reached will be kept on file and used to fill any vacancies that occur. The entry fee submitted with such applications will be refunded in full no later than the last day of the Tournament weekend if no openings develop.

IV. PRIZES

- A. CASH PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED PER RULE ACCORDING TO THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE: (Pro div limited to 80 boats, below based on 70 boats)

1 st	Guaranteed Purse	\$10,000
2 nd	Guaranteed Purse	\$6,000
3 rd	Guaranteed Purse	\$5,000
4 th	5.0 % of purse	\$1,408 (with 70 boats)
5 th	4.0 % of purse	\$1,127 (with 70 boats)
6 th	3.5 % of purse	\$ 986 (with 70 boats)
7 th	3.0 % of purse	\$ 845 (with 70 boats)
8 th	2.5 % of purse	\$ 704 (with 70 boats)
9 th	2.2 % of purse	\$ 620 (with 70 boats)
10 th	2.1 % of purse	\$ 591 (with 70 boats)

In case of a tie between two or more places the prize money will be combined and divided equally between the tied participants. Those who placed below the tied participants do not automatically move up.

- B. All prizes will be awarded within 15 business days after completion of the tournament. The tournament judges reserve the right to administer a polygraph test to any participant. The polygraph test is to be completed within seven (7) business days of the end of the tournament.
- C. Reminder: 25% of prizes in excess of \$5,000 must be withheld by the foundation for IRS tax purposes prior to release of the prize money.
- D. 1099's will be issued for prize winnings paid to any one prize winner that meets or exceeds IRS statutes for such reporting. As of 2008 that amount is \$ 600.00

V. SCORING

- A. All winners will be determined by the **TC** and their decision will be final.
- B. Winners will be determined on the total accumulation of points based on the following:
1. Twenty (20) points per species (section V. Subsection D.)
 2. Ten (10) points per legal fish boated
 3. One (1) point per pound figured to the nearest one-tenth (1/10) pound of total
- C. The contestant accumulating the highest number of points over all hours of the tournament shall be the winner. The contestant with the second highest accumulation shall be the second, and so on.
- D. The following species shall be eligible:
- Coho and/or Atlantic salmon (same)
 - Chinook salmon
 - Lake trout
 - Brown trout
 - Steelhead or rainbow trout

VI OBSERVER TEAM

- A. Each team shall consist of at least three fishermen plus an observer to serve aboard another boat during the tournament. It is not necessary to provide the same observer for each fishing period.
- B. The **Captain** is responsible to see that the observer **provided by his team** is on board the assigned boat by 5:00 am on each day of the tournament. If the observer fails to be at the assigned boat on time a "tournament observer" will replace that person. Failure of the observer to be at his assigned boat on time will be considered cause for disqualification penalty of the team to which the observer belongs.
- C. Observers are not allowed to use any communication devices of any kind, including but not limited to a GPS, cell phone, iPod and/or an iPad during the official fishing period. All devices must be powered down/off (not just placed in airplane or alternate mode) and placed in the quarantine bag provided. Violation will result in disqualification of the team that the observer represents.
- D. The observer must be at least 18 years of age, must not be visually impaired, possess a valid driver's license and be able to identify the different species of fish. The observer is responsible to see that all rules of the tournament are followed. The observers must report any and all infractions of the rules to the tournament judges. Failure of the observer to report rules infractions could result in disqualification of the boat involved in the infraction and the boat the observer represents.
- E. An official, "tournament observers log sheet" will be provided for each fishing period. The observer must record each fish as soon as it is boated.
- F. **The tournament observers log sheet will be signed by the observer and the boat Captain.** The observer must submit this sheet to the **TC** at the weigh station.
- G. The observer must stay with the catch from his assigned boat until it has been officially scored.
- H. Each boat *Captain* must be prepared to report the location where his / her boat is docked to the observer assigned to his/her boat.
- I. The **TC** may assign a different observer if in their opinion they feel it is justified. The decision of the **TC** in this regard will be considered final.

VII BOAT IDENTIFICATION

- A. The tournament will furnish each boat with a colored flag and a boat identification number
- B. This flag must be flown in full view from all directions at all times during the contest.
- C. **Boat ID numbers must be displayed on Port and Starboard side windows superstructure but in all cases above the gunwale, as appropriate in view at all times during the contest.**

VIII DATES AND HOURS

- A. The Tournament will be held on the FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, following Fathers Day in June.
- B. The tournament schedule will be as follows (all times are local time):
 - FRIDAY - fishing period - 0600 (6:00a.m.) to 13:00 (1 p.m.)
 - SATURDAY - fishing period - 0600 (6:00a.m.) to 13:00 (1 p.m.)
- C. The contest will be considered official if a total of (3) three hours are fished between Friday & Saturday. Prizes will be awarded based on the point accumulation during the fishing time that was available
- D. **Attendance is mandatory** by all *Captains* at the *Captains* meeting Thursday night prior to start of the fishing tournament (refer to tournament schedule for location and time). A sign-in sheet must be signed acknowledging a copy of the most recent revision of the tournament rules has been received and reviewed.
- E. All boats fishing the Tournament must be tied up and in their respective North Point Marina slips (or on trailer in provided lot) by 1830 (6:30 p.m.) Thursday night, prior to the Tournament Check-in/Registration and *Captains* meeting(s).
- F. Attendance by each pro division observer is strongly encouraged but not mandatory at the *Captains* meeting held Thursday night prior to start of the fishing tournament (refer to tournament schedule for location and time).
- G. There shall be NO FISHING on any day of the tournament by any boat or any participant in the tournament except during tournament hours.

IX. START AND FINISH

- A. All boats must be in water and remain within one thousand (1,000) yards of the breakwater prior to the start of the tournament. Boats may start check-in at 0500 (5:00 a.m.) each day of the tournament.
- B. All boats will be allowed one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour run time prior to the start of each fishing period.
- C. The official signal will be given on VHF marine radio channel # 72.
- D. The committee will keep the official clock for the contest.
- E. The committee shall issue a call ten (10) minutes prior to the end of a fishing period and again at the end of the fishing period. Only fish aboard the boat at the end of the fishing period maybe entered.
- F. Each boat must be inside the north point marina turning basin within thirty (30) minutes after the end of the fishing period. Each boat must proceed directly to the weigh-in station or as otherwise directed by the tournament committee.

X. FISHING RULES

- A. There are no distance limits set on where a tournament boat may fish (**subject to IX and XII-B**).
- B. Tournament boats may not be transported by trailer once the fishing tournament has begun.
- C. Each team member must possess an Illinois fishing license and trout stamp as required by law.

- D. All fish entered must be fairly caught on hook and line in accordance with the conservation laws. **No meat (Trot) lines** or other similar devices may be attached to any part of a boat or downrigger
- E. **FISH MAY BE SORTED.** If it is determined to release a fish, it maybe netted and handled but best efforts to immediately release the fish must be made. Once the fish comes over the gunwale the fish must be placed in the cooler and counted for the 15 fish creel limit.
- F. **Rules for fishing this Tournament are based on three (3) man legal fishing limits and regulations as stipulated in the IL DNR current year Lake Michigan Fishing Regulations guide.**
 - a) There will be a maximum of nine (9) baits in the water at any one time. dodgers, attractors and other hookless devices do not count as lures.
 - b) There will be a limit of fifteen (15) fish per boat each official day of the tournament. no more than **six (6)** of these fifteen (15) fish may be lake trout. The first fifteen (15) fish, that meet or exceed IL DNR regulations must be counted as described below.
- G. Each boat that reaches the limit of fifteen (15) fish will immediately stop fishing; bring all rods in and return for check-in. After check-in. No further fishing shall be allowed.
- H. At the close of each fishing period, all fish must be placed in your cooler and the cooler sealed with tape.
- I. No fishing inside pier-heads that identify a harbor entrance or inland navigable waterway.
- J. Boats may not run gunwale to gunwale with any other boat nor may objects be passed between any participating boats or any other boat or person on the lake. **Violation of this rule is cause for immediate and automatic disqualification.**

XI. **WEIGH IN**

- A. **At the close of each contest period the *Captain* is to proceed immediately to the weigh-in station. There, he will drop one crew member and the observer with completed and signed observers log and the sealed cooler of fish.**
- B. The cooler of fish must remain sealed until opened by an official at the weigh-in-station. Boats with a cooler that is improperly sealed will be disqualified.
- C. The observer and crew member must remain with the catch until it has been officially scored.
- D. Bagged or block ice only must be used. Water must be drained from cooler at Lakeside and prior to arriving at Weigh-In station.
- E. After making the drop-off at the weigh-in station the boat must return to its slip.
- F. Failure of a boat crew member and the observer to report to the weigh-in station. Whether or not any fish have been caught will result in disqualification.
- G. All fish caught become property of the tournament committee who may, at their discretion, return the fish to the entrants.
- H. Ice or foreign objects found lodged in the fish will cause immediate disqualification.

XII. **RADIO & COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURE**

- A. Every boat must be equipped with an operating vhf marine radio. This radio must include channel # 72
- B. Any vhf radio used during the tournament must be tuned to channel #72 and only channel #72. No scanning of other channels is allowed, violation of this rule will be disqualification of that days catch.
- C. The use of cell phones, walkie talkies, pagers and/or any other type of communication device is prohibited during designated fishing tournament hours. Disqualification will occur. Cell phones may not be used from 0530 (5:30a.m.) until after the boat is checked into the harbor following the fishing period.
- D. Neither *Captain*, nor crew nor observers are allowed to use any communication devices of any kind, including but not limited to a cell phone, iPod and/or an iPad during the official fishing period. All devices must be powered down/off (not just placed in airplane or alternate mode) and placed in the quarantine bag provided. Violation will result in disqualification of the days catch. (see section VI par. C for additional rules) .
- E. **Communications using any type of signaling or electronic device** with any other boat or persons other than with **shore based** tournament officials is prohibited.

XIII. DISQUALIFICATIONS

- A. Any participant who violates any of the rules of the contest or acts in an uncooperative or disorderly manner shall be disqualified or penalized. The judges may, at their discretion, deduct any number of earned points from a contestant for violation of the tournament rules or improper or unsportsmanlike conduct.
- B. Automatic disqualification shall result from the following actions:
 - a. Running gunwale to gunwale with any other boat
 - b. Passing objects of any kind between boats.
- C. Failure to report directly to the weigh station at the close of each fishing period.
- D. Possession of fish during tournament hours other than fish fairly caught while participating in the tournament.
- E. Use of any communication device other than marine radio.
- F. All tournament participants shall be duty bound to report any and all violations of the rules they observe on boat.
- G. **Any participant who abuses either physically or verbally any tournament official shall be disqualified or penalized at the discretion of the judges**

XIV. PROTESTS

- A. All protest must be made on an official GSM Tournament Protest Form
- B. All protests must be accompanied by a \$250.00 deposit.
- C. All protests must be made within one hour of the close the weigh station.
- D. If said protest is judged valid, deposit will be returned.
- E. The decision of the tournament committee and/or its duly appointed panel of judges shall be final and binding in all situations or disputes. Awarding of prizes can be delayed should a protest be filed.

XV. CANCELLATIONS

- A. The tournament judges may cancel the tournament at any time when. In their opinion, they feel fishing conditions are dangerous to persons or property. The committee will announce by radio one half (1/2) hour before each tournament period their decision as to whether or not the contest shall be run. Announcements of cancellations will also be made on vhf marine radio via channel # 72.
- B. The tournament judges may decide to delay the start of any fishing period or to shorten any fishing period due to deteriorating weather conditions. A delay in the starting time will be announced on vhf marine radio channel # 72. The shortening of a fishing period will be announced by radio and there will be at least a fifteen (15) minute warning by the committee before the shortened fishing period is ended.
- C. If a fishing period is shortened all boats must proceed to the weigh-in-station.
- D. A decision by the tournament judges to cancel. Delay or shorten the contest will be final.

XVI. LIABILITY

- A. Every reasonable precaution will be taken by the tournament committee to protect persons and property during the contest; however, neither the PFC Geoffrey Morris organization, nor their tournament committee. Nor judges, nor any officers. Directors or employees of the same are responsible for the safety of persons or property of participants as regards to accident. Theft, damage by fire, vandalism or any other cause.
- B. *Captains must take all necessary precautions to preserve the safety of their vessels and crew. The Captains furthermore take full responsibility for their actions and those of their crew as those actions or inactions pertain to the health, safety and welfare of their vessels and crews throughout the duration of the tournament.*
- C. All participants further understand and agree to hold harmless the aforementioned groups and individuals from damages incurred as a result of participation in the tournament in whatever form or manner said liabilities or damages might be incurred.

GOOD LUCK!!!!!!

