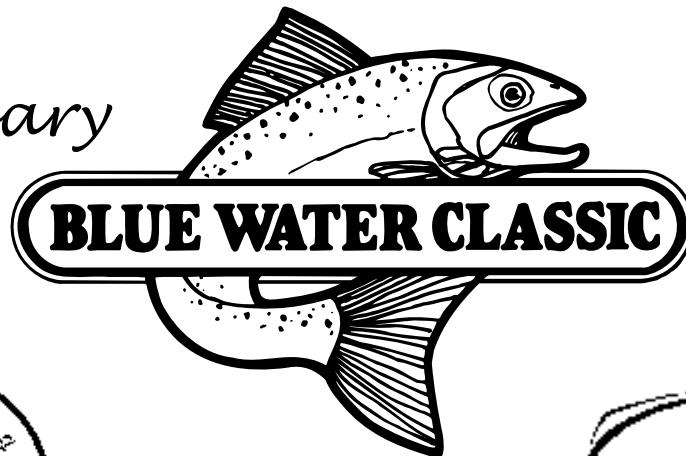
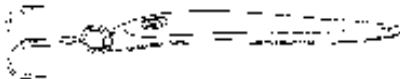


2004 OFFICIAL RULES

20th
Anniversary



SILVER STREAK



WOLVERINE TACKLE CO.



Special Thanks to our Sponsors and Volunteers for Providing their Time and Support to Insure a Successful Tournament

THE 2004 BLUE WATER SPRING SALMON CLASSIC

OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

The following rules shall govern the tournament. The tournament chairman and the committee shall be sole interpreters of the rules and their decisions shall be final. The rules for the tournament are set by the committee and may not be protested by any entrant.

ELIGIBILITY

Any person 18 years of age or older is eligible to enter the tournament. Youngsters under the age of 18 may enter provided that they are accompanied by a parent or guardian of legal age who also is entered in the tournament and with whom the youngsters must fish during the event.

LIMITED FIELD

The field shall be limited to the first 300 teams correctly filing the official entry form. Entries received after the field is filled shall be immediately returned.

ENTRY FEES

The entry fees must accompany the **Official Entry Form**. (See fee schedule) If the field is filled, the entry fee will be immediately returned. A team may withdraw from the tournament with full refunded fees until midnight, May 1, 2004. After May 1, 2004, no refunds of fees will be made for any reason. **Absolutely no exceptions!** A team will consist of three (3) or more participants.

TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS

The tournament headquarters will be located at the Acheson Seaway Terminal, 2336 Military Street 1 mile South of the Black River.

FISHING LOCATION

All tournament fishing must be from a boat. Teams may fish the waters of the United States in the St. Clair River and the south portion of Lake Huron. The north boundary on Lake Huron is Lat. 43 Degrees 57 Min. 50 Sec.N. (*Landmark reference – Port Hope Spire.*) While fishing, all anglers must abide by the laws of Michigan. **No Canadian waters!**

TEAM TOURNAMENT

Each boat entered must have at least three (3) members aboard, including the Captain, and as many more as considered safe by the Captain. One space must be reserved for the inclusion of an observer, if so ruled by the tournament committee.

BOAT AND MOTOR

Due to the tournament being held both on the river and the open waters of Lake Huron, only boats 16' (LOA) or larger may be used. Each boat must be equipped with a VHF Marine Radio. Tournament officials for notifying fishermen of pertinent data will utilize channel 68 during the course of the day.

BOAT SAFETY

All boats participating will be required to pass United States Coast Guard requirements for the Great Lakes and/or Michigan Department of Natural Resources boat safety requirements. (ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST WEAR PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICES (U.S.C.G. APPROVED) AT ALL TIMES WHEN THE BOAT IS UNDERWAY TO AND FROM A FISHING AREA. FAILURE TO COMPLY WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION FOR THE DAY.)

Tournament officials are not responsible for determining fishability or weather conditions. Each team captain determines his own area of fishing and conditions for fishing. Patrol boats may be available to assist disabled boaters. If any boat registered in the Tournament is disabled or in distress, any boat able to give assistance is encouraged to do so. Both boats will be required to report their current catch and tag numbers to the Tournament Committee in advance of any physical contact.

BOAT INSPECTION

All boats are subject to inspection by the Committee and/or its agents at any time. Any boat failing an inspection will be disqualified. Any untagged whole fish will result in disqualification from the tournament.

DISCLOSURES

By signing a registration form, the team captain offers implied consent to the committee for the following:

- a. Disclosure of fishing conditions and manner in which a fish was taken.
- b. Submission to a polygraph test issued by licensed polygraph examiner.
- c. There will be a \$25.00 replacement fee for any lost paperwork.

TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT

The limit of rods allowed shall be for three persons as defined by the DNR of Michigan. All spare rods must be kept below deck or in horizontal rod holders.

SCORING

This is a classic salmon tournament. Only salmon and members of the trout family may be entered into the tournament. However, only one (1) lake trout per day per team may be entered for a maximum of two (2) lake trout per team for the entire tournament. Any fish brought over the gunnel must be tagged. Total weight per team for the 2 days of the tournament will determine tournament standings. No team may have in its possession more than 9 fish per day. All fish to be weighed may be subjected to an inspection and/or X-ray equipment, in which case the decision of the Tournament Committee will be final as to the eligibility of the fish. All eligible fish must be at least 18" long.

INSPECTION PROCEDURES

Many safeguards are built into the system to insure that sportsmanlike behavior will prevail at all times throughout the tournament.

- a. The eligible waters of the St. Clair River and Lake Huron will be patrolled regularly by a series of both marked and unmarked vessels.
- b. A biologist may be checking each fish as they are entered. The tournament committee reserves the right to dissect or question the methods of catching any or all of the team's fish. Other scientific methods of determining how long the fish has been dead, etc., will be used.
- c. Patrols may be made by air.
- d. By signing the registration form, the team captain gives implied consent of the entire team to a polygraph test.
- e. Observers may be placed on the top 10 boats on Sunday subject to availability.
- f. Each team must bring their tagged fish to the check-in area at each port. Port Sanilac is the Park Pavilion; Lexington is the North, city parking lot; Port Huron's weigh-in station will be located near the Shell gas dock on the south side of the Black River before the first drawbridge. Fish will be checked and unused tags taken. (See enclosed map).
- g. A receipt will be given to your team, which must be turned in at Port Huron weigh-in station.

Teams are requested to observe and report all violations of tournament regulations to tournament officials including:

1. Rafting, attaching to, exchanging equipment, fish or personnel between tournament boats or between tournament boats and non-tournament boats.
2. Use of equipment other than that authorized under the rules as promulgated.

DOCKAGE

Teams must check dockage directly with their harbormaster. The numbers to call are:

Port Sanilac	(810) 622-8818
Lexington	(810) 359-5600
Port Huron	(810) 984-9746

LARGEST FISH

It is up to the team captain to notify weigh-in officials of a fish in contention for the "Largest Fish" category. Weigh-in officials must be notified before the catch is weighed. Once a team has weighed in their daily catch, they forfeit the right to single out a particular fish.

IMPORTANT

During the Tournament Marine radio VHF Channel 68 will be used to communicate with the Tournament Committee at each port or any patrol boat.

PRESS ATTENTION

If there is anything unique about your team, boat, etc., (i.e., oldest/youngest tournament entry), please contact the Tournament Committee at the banquet. We can use that information for press purposes.

TAGGING

You must use the red tags for Saturday's catch and the blue tags for Sunday's catch. **All** fish, regardless of species, must be tagged if brought over the gunnel. **No** untagged fish of any species are allowed in the boat. Possession of untagged fish will result in disqualification from the tournament. If you break a tag, and if it is not replaceable, you will lose a possible entry.

Helpful Hints:

The Tournament Committee recommends tags should be used in sequence beginning with the lowest number first. Also, do not lift fish using the tag. Be sure to carefully check your tags when you receive them. This is the only time that you can get replacement tags.

STARTING POINT

The starting points for the 2004 Blue Water Salmon Classic are Port Huron, Lexington and Port Sanilac. Captains will have the opportunity to select their port of departure. Once a port is selected, it shall remain the port of departure throughout the tournament. Rules and policies governing the port check-in and final weigh-in will be announced at the Captain's meeting.

TIES

Ties will be broken by the greater number of fish entered per team. If more than one team has entered the same number of fish, the team having entered the largest single fish will break the tie. In the event there is still a tie, a flip of the coin will break the tie.

PROTEST

Any contestant wishing to officially protest the conduct or score of another entrant must do so in writing to the tournament committee within 30 minutes of the concluded weigh-in of the day. The protest must contain the signature of all team members and must be accompanied by a \$100.00 protest fee. The tournament committee shall be the sole judge in determining if an infraction of the rules or spirit of the tournament has taken place and shall take whatever action/time it deems appropriate. If the protest is disallowed, the accompanying fee will be forfeited. If the protest is honored the fee will be refunded. All decisions by the committee or law enforcement officials are final.

DISQUALIFICATION

A team may be disqualified for the following reasons:

1. Unsportsmanlike conduct as determined by the committee.
2. Possession of untagged fish.
3. Improper use of tackle and equipment.
4. Violations of safety regulations and fishing regulations as established by the United States Coast Guard and the Department of Natural Resources of the State of Michigan .
5. Beaching the boat, docking, or rafting along any other boats during the fishing hours.
6. Entering a fish, which shows fouled hook marks.
7. Failure to have proper safety equipment on the vessel and failure to wear PFD while underway.
8. A team failing to report its safe return to a port of call within 1/2 hour of the announced check-in time.
9. Any other violation of regulations and policies established by the committee.

Rules for the tournament are set by the committee and may not be protested by any entrant.

THE 2004 BLUE WATER SPRING CLASSIC SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, May 14th Final Team Registration

<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
3:00-6:45 PM	All Teams must check in to make sure that all forms have been signed, port chosen, received fish tags and dinner tickets.	McMorran Pavilion (Jr. Arena)
6:45-7:00 PM	Captain's Meeting (At least 2 team members must attend.)	McMorran Pavilion (Jr. Arena)
7:00 PM	Dinner will be served. (Dinner Tickets required.)	McMorran Pavilion (Jr. Arena)
4:00-7:00 PM	Drawing for Door Prizes and 50/50 Raffle.	McMorran Pavilion (Jr. Arena)

Pre-Start Inspection for Saturday and Sunday

All boats must be available for inspection from 5:00 AM – 5:45 AM with lights on, radio on and set to channel 68. Tournament flag and team number must be properly displayed and all equipment and coolers aboard.

(If your boat has not been inspected by 5:45 AM you may depart the harbor to the staging area.)

Saturday, May 15th

6:00 AM	Official Team Starting Time. Boats must stay within the staging area outside the harbor wall until released by Port Captain. NOTE: In the event of severe weather, please listen to channel 68 for alternative release instructions.	Inspected boats may exit harbors at 5:30 AM. All boats are subject to be checked as they exit the harbor. Boats will be checked out as they pass by the South pier at Port Sanilac and the North pier at Lexington. Port Huron boats will be inspected at the Shell dock on the South bank of the Black River or at the marina dockage. Check out crews will be on shore wearing hunter orange vests.
2:00 PM	Deadline for teams to be in line at marked check-in locations.	CHECK IN LOCATIONS: Port Sanilac - Park Pavilion Lexington - North City Parking Lot Port Huron - Shell Gas Dock on the Black River
5:00 PM	Weigh-in closes. All fish must be within the confines of weigh-in station area.	Weigh-In Site: One mile south of the Black River on 2336 Military Street at the Acheson Seaway Terminal on the river level.

Sunday, May 16th

- | | | |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| 6:00 AM | Official Team Starting Time. Boats must stay within the staging area outside the harbor walls until released by flares. | Inspected boats may exit harbors at 5:30 AM. All boats are subject to be checked as they exit the harbor. Boats will be checked out as they pass by the South pier at Port Sanilac and the North pier at Lexington. Port Huron boats will be inspected at the Shell dock on the South bank of the Black River or at the marina dockage. Check out crews will be on shore wearing hunter orange vests. |
| | NOTE: In the event of severe weather, please listen to channel 68 for alternative release instructions. | |
| 2:00 PM | Deadline for teams to be in line at marked check-in locations. | CHECK IN LOCATIONS:
Port Sanilac - Park Pavilion
Lexington - North City Parking Lot
Port Huron - Shell Gas Dock on the Black River |
| 5:00 PM | Weigh-in closes. All fish must be within the confines of weigh-in station area. | Weigh-In Site: One mile south of the Black River on 2336 Military Street at the Acheson Seaway Terminal on the river level. |
| 5:30 PM
(approximately) | Winners will be announced at the weigh-in site. Please be present if you are receiving an award. It prevents a delay in delivering the prizes. | |

Please practice safe boating and good sportsmanship.

Entry Fees - Blue Water Spring Salmon Classic

- Per team (3 to 4 persons including the Captain) \$300.00
 Additional per person over 4 person team \$100.00
 Late fee if postmarked later than May 1 \$ 25.00

Registration at the Captain's Dinner will be cash or credit card only. **No checks.**

CASH & PRIZE LIST • All Cash Prizes are Team Prizes

1st Prize \$10,000 CASH • Guaranteed

Balance of Cash Prizes 2nd to 10th, depends on number of Boat Entries.

Largest King caught in the tournament, Mercury Motor Plus a Plaque (Donated by Jan's Sport Shop).

2nd largest King caught in the tournament, \$400 Gift Package Plus a Plaque (Donated by Bass Pro Shops).

3rd largest King caught in the tournament, \$250 CASH Plus a Plaque (Donated by McDonald's Restaurants of Port Huron).

PAY OFF SCHEDULE FOR 2004 BLUE WATER CLASSIC TOURNAMENT					
BOAT ENTRIES	180	170	160	150	140
1st Prize	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
2nd Prize	4000	3692	3416	3140	2864
3rd Prize	1500	1377	1266	1156	1046
4th Prize	1000	938	883	828	773
5th Prize	850	816	768	720	672
6th Prize	700	653	614	567	528
7th Prize	500	449	422	396	370
8th Prize	450	408	384	360	336
9th Prize	350	326	307	288	269
10th Prize	300	286	269	252	235

Largest Steelhead caught in the tournament, \$200 Gift Package Plus a Plaque (Donated by N & D Tackle, O'KI Tackle).

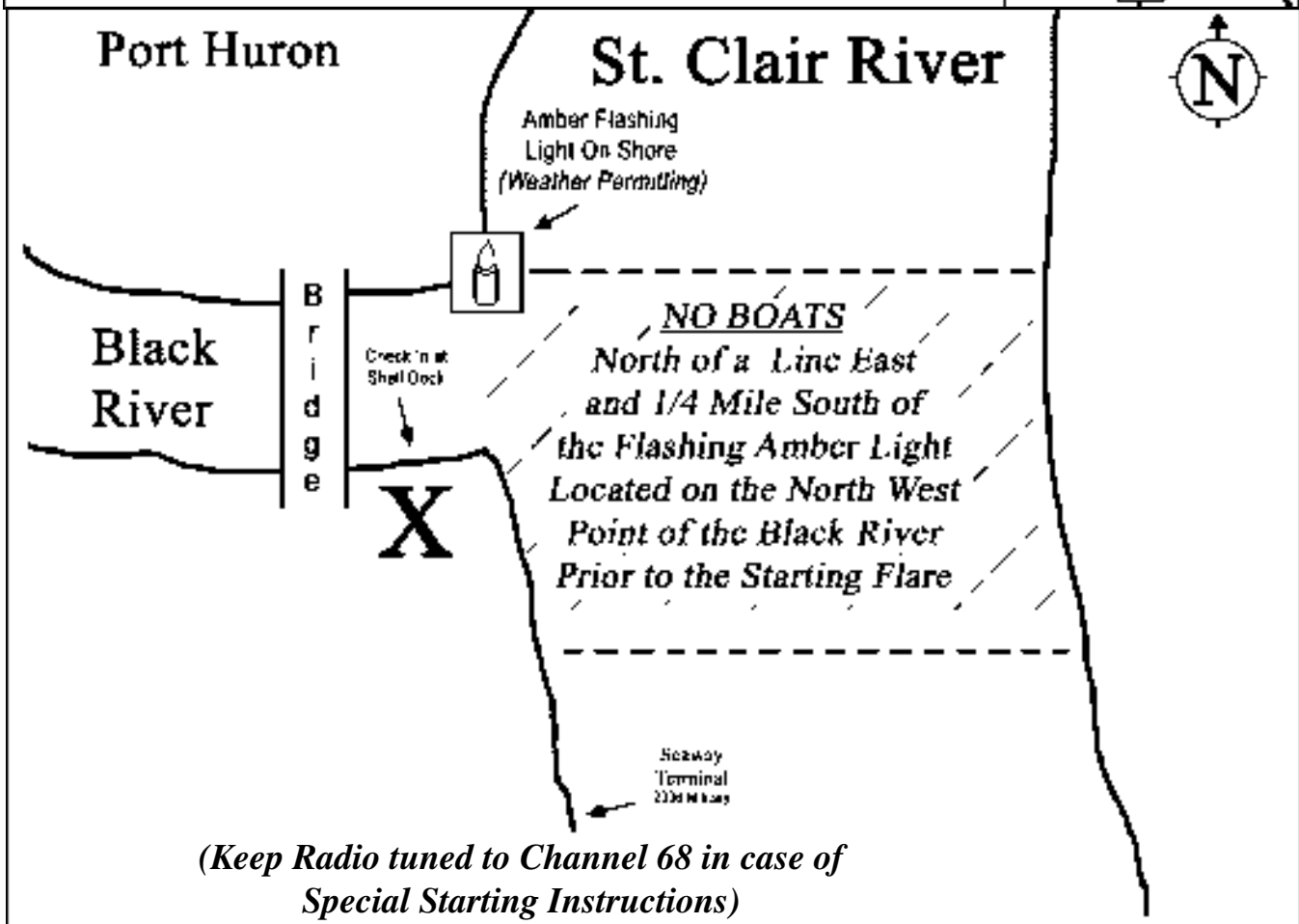
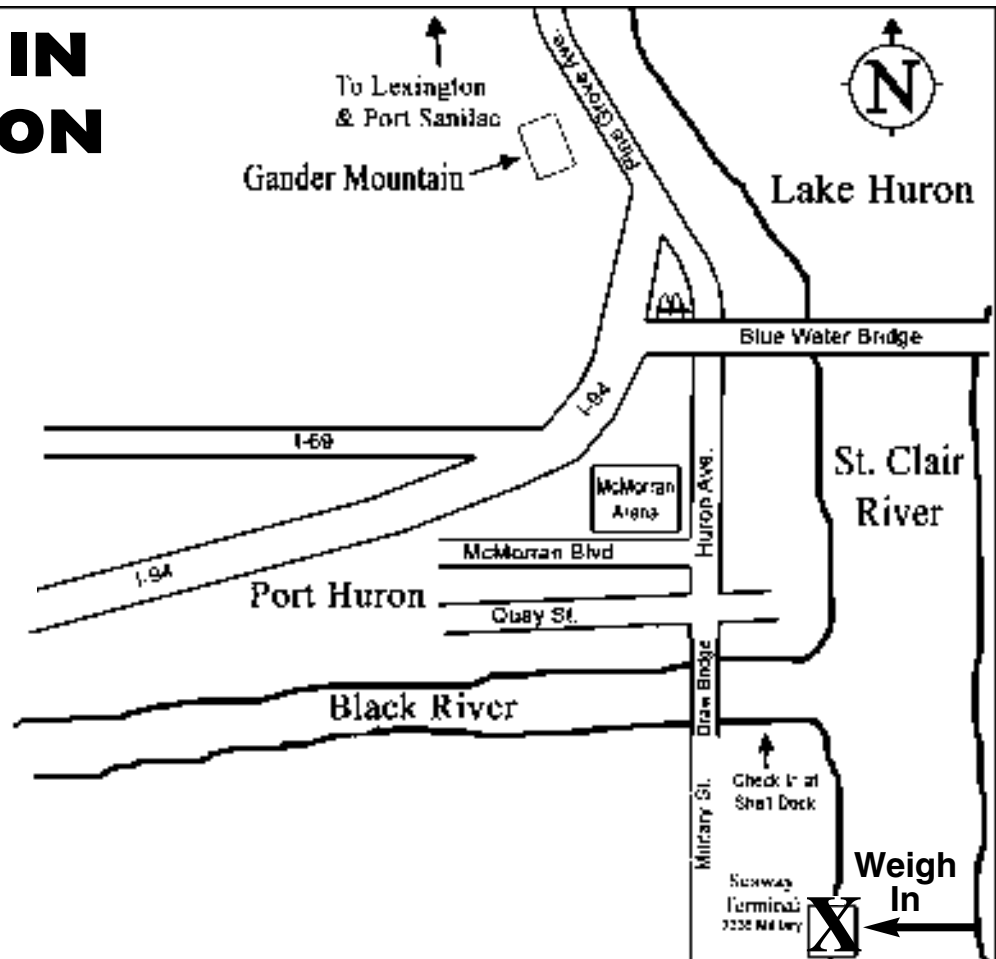
Largest Lake Trout caught in the tournament, \$200 Silver Streak Gift Package Plus a Plaque (Donated by Wolverine).

Largest Coho caught in the tournament, \$200 Gift Package Plus a Plaque (Donated by Gander Mountain).

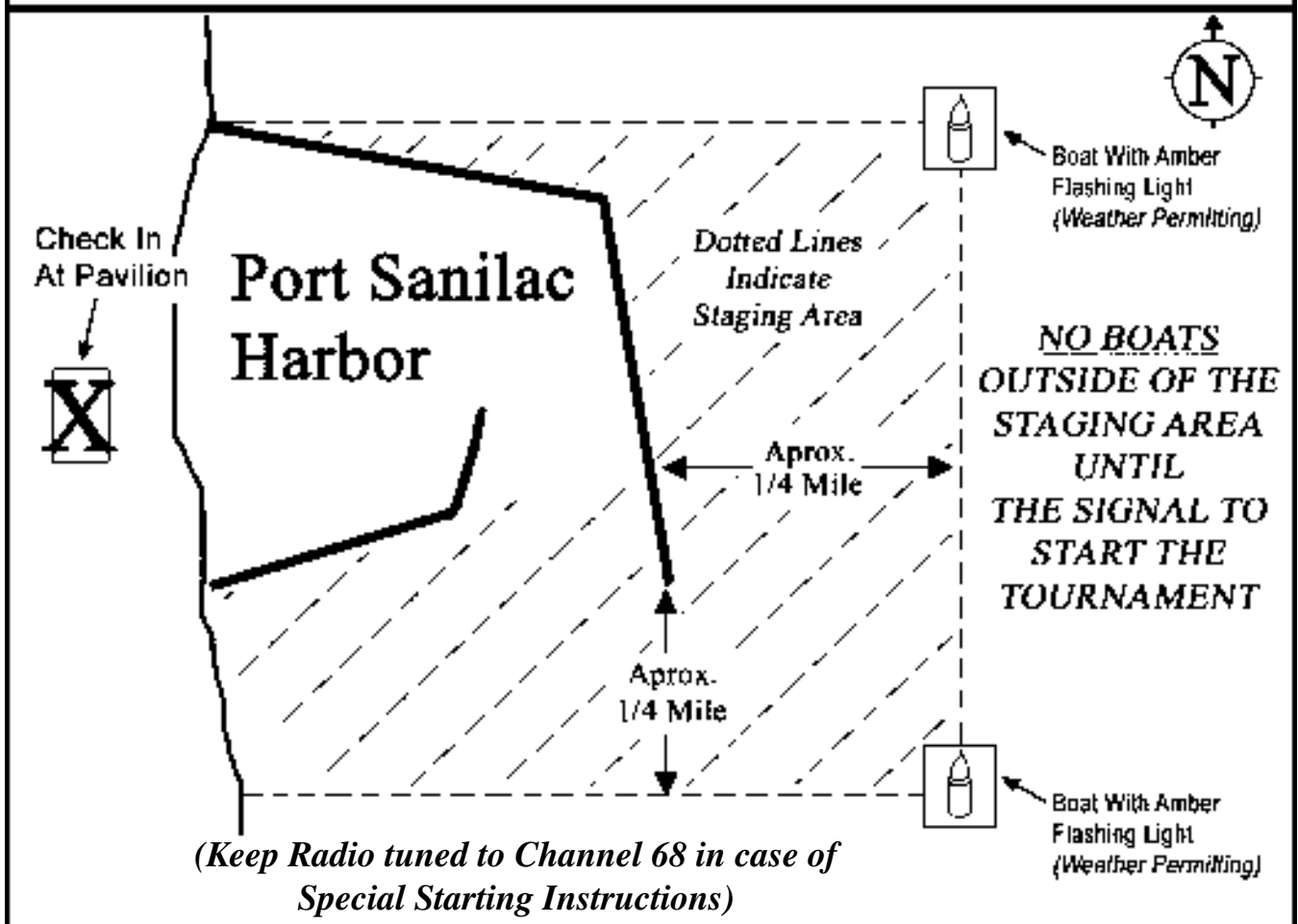
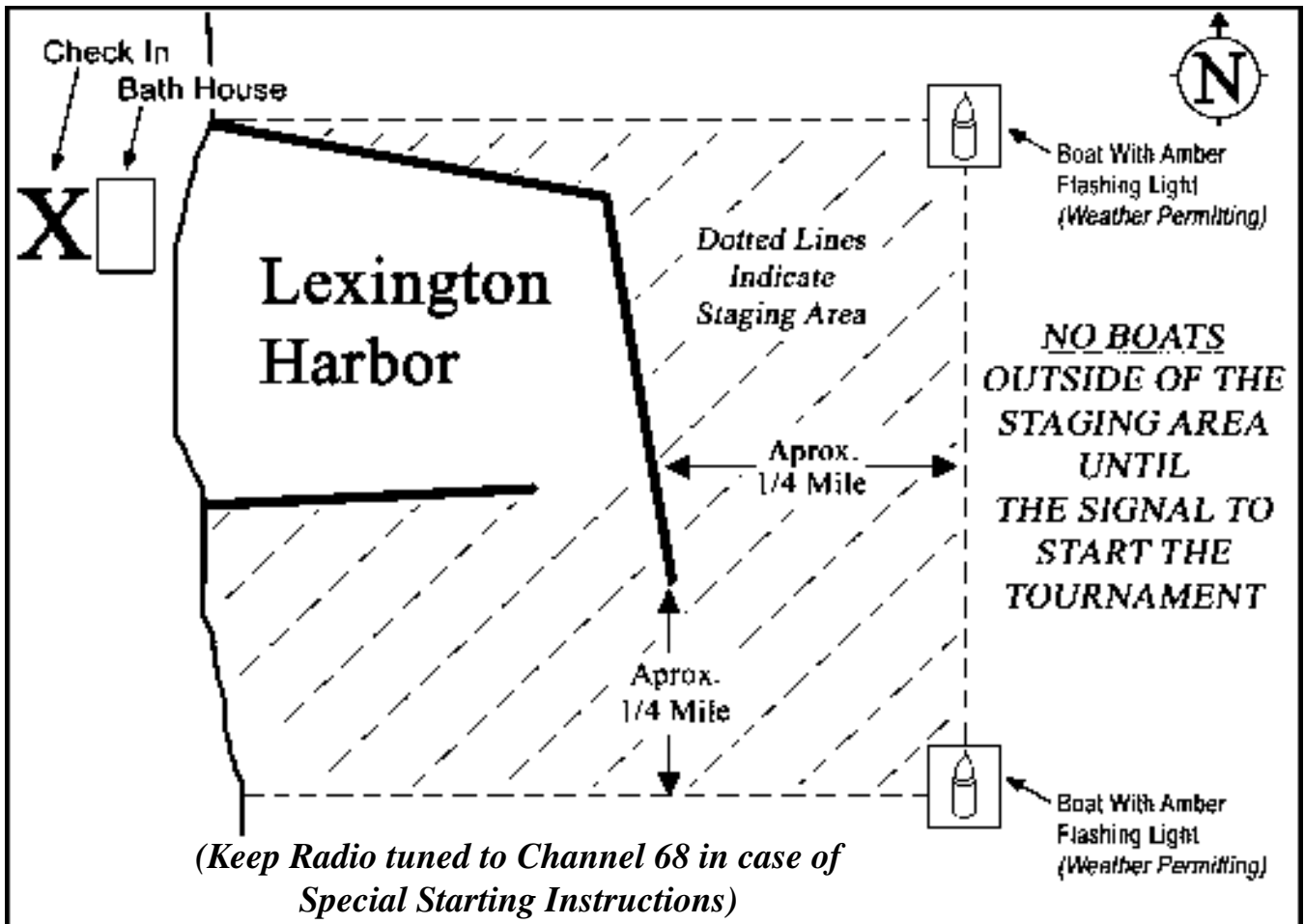
Largest Brown caught in the tournament, Room Air Conditioner Plus a Plaque (Donated by Dependable Refrigeration and Carrier).

Thank you for participating in this year's Classic and a special thanks to our sponsors who make all this fun possible!

WEIGH IN LOCATION



*(Keep Radio tuned to Channel 68 in case of
Special Starting Instructions)*





P.O. Box 611337
Port Huron, Michigan
48061-1337

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Blue Water Sportfishing Association

P.O. Box 611337 - Port Huron, Michigan 48061-1337

Phone (800) 255-0508 / Fax (313) 841-3786



Spring, 2004

20th Anniversary Edition

Welcome Anglers,

Thank you for your interest in this year's 2004 **Spring Salmon Classic**. Without your participation this tournament cannot continue to be the best Classic in the state of Michigan. The **Classic** is one of the major activities sponsored by the Blue Water Sportfishing Association. Our association's 800 members come from all over Michigan and Canada. This is our 20th consecutive year of hosting this event, a very special year for all of us indeed.

What's New: This year we have a new location for our tournament headquarters. The Port Huron Seaway Terminal located at 2336 Military Street, one mile south of the Black River on the river level, will hold our weigh-in and awards ceremonies. The major landmarks for this location are the dockage of the tall ship, Highlander Sea, and the refurbished coast guard cutter, Bramble. Look for a sandwich sign outside the parking lot and a BWSA flag flying underneath the American and Acheson flags.

We will have a beer sales area, food concessions, fish cleaning station, and various raffles for your enjoyment on both Saturday and Sunday. Announcements will be made for each boat crew's total weight of fish when their totals are placed on the scoreboard. There will be plenty of parking for cars and boat trailers. A shuttle service between Port Huron and the tournament headquarters will be available for the boats mooring on the Black River.

The committee has decided to give an award for the largest Brown Trout caught during the two days of fishing.

Old Standards: There's still the Captain's dinner Friday night at McMorran Arena, with a 50-50 raffle, a super raffle table, vendors and plenty of camaraderie. Also we have our quick and easy registration process and your favorite beverages.

As you can tell this year's committee has attempted to make this **Classic** the most fun filled and exciting ever presented by the BWSA. Please join all of us for your finest fishing experience ever!

Sincerely, Blue Water Classic Tournament Committee