

## 2014 Club Tournament Rules and Regulations

### Blue Water Sportfishing Association 2014 Boat Tournament Rules and Regulations

The following rules and regulations shall govern our tournaments. The "Tournament Committee" shall be the sole interpreters of these rules. Any changes in these rules must be approved by the board of directors and shall be printed in the newsletter.

#### I. ELIGIBILITY

A. The skipper of all entered boats must be a member in good standing of the Blue Water Sportfishing Association at least one day prior to the beginning of the tournament entered. The skipper must be able to show a current membership card upon request of the tournament committee. Exception, a captain may become a member at the weigh in by paying his membership fee prior to the weigh in start.

B. All entered boats must have at least two (2) persons on board and be equipped with a VHF radio. Channel 68 will be our tournament channel. However, channel 69 or cell phone will be used to register with the Tournament Committee.

C. A parent or guardian must accompany persons under the age of seventeen (17).

#### II. REGISTRATION

A. An entry fee of \$ 10.00 will be paid for each person on board all boats entered in the tournament. Note: All children under the age of seventeen (17) are free.

B. Boats are required to register for a tournament prior to tournament start time.

C. All boats must have registered to be eligible to weigh in and qualify for points.

D. When registering for a tournament, report your name or the name of your boat and the number of persons seventeen years and older on board.

E. Once you have entered a tournament, you may not withdraw for any reason. Entry fees will be collected at the weigh-in. If for some reason you do not attend the weigh-in, your entry fee will be due before the following weigh in begins. Failure to pay your entry fees at this time will exempt you from participating in future tournaments.

F. The captain of each boat registering for the tournament must be the captain of the boat as registered at the start of the year on the club's membership paperwork. The only exceptions will be in case of emergencies such as boat/car/trailer breakdowns, etc. In case of such emergency, the captain is to notify the tournament committee prior to the start of the tournament. The tournament committee reserves the right to rule the situation to be a legitimate emergency.

#### IV. TOURNAMENT TIME

A. All tournaments start and end times will be listed on the published tournament schedule at the beginning of the year, unless a sudden change in boating conditions warrants the Tournament Committee to alter the times. If a change is necessary due to weather conditions, it will be announced on VHF radio, channel 68. If a change is due to fishing conditions it will be printed in the newsletter and be announced at the general membership meeting prior to the tournament.

B. The weigh-in will be at the end of each day's fishing. You must be in line for weigh in by the tournaments designated end time. Please get to the weigh-in as soon as possible.

C. Schedules for the boat tournaments will be available at the general membership meeting in March.

D. If a crew fishing a club tournament does not plan to attend the weigh-in, they must let a Tournament Committee member know via VHF radio, channel 68, or cell phone. Lack to do so will forfeit eligibility for the next scheduled tournament, or the first day of a two day tournament.

#### V. TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION

A. The Tournament Committee may cancel a tournament at any time, when, in their opinion, boating conditions warrant the cancellation.

B. For a tournament to be official, at least three (3) consecutive hours of fishing must take place.

C. If a tournament is delayed due to bad weather, the Tournament Committee will stop and restart the tournament when they feel conditions merit it. All decisions will be announced on VHF radio, channel 68. If it appears the tournament will not restart later that day, and at least three (3) consecutive hours of fishing have taken place, the weigh-in will be within 1-½ hours of the announcement. If three (3) consecutive hours of fishing have not taken place, the Tournament Committee will announce a proposed restart up to 10:00 AM of that tournament day.

D. During a two (2) day tournament, if one day is canceled due to bad weather, the day fished will be the official results.

#### VI. FISHING RULES

A. All fish must be caught on rods and reels, and must comply with the Michigan Department of National Resources rules and regulations. Canadian laws apply if fishing in Canadian waters.

B. No more than a 3 man legal limit of rods may be used on each boat.

C. All boats must fish from port of call. All boats should return to port of call, unless weather conditions or a boating emergency has taken place. You must let the tournament director know of this, or at least someone fishing the tournament.

D. Blue Water Sportfishing Association tournaments are designed to be fun for all participants. Remember that these are "HONOR SYSTEM" tournaments and sportsmanship is vital to their success.

E. Weighable fish will consist of Trout, Salmon, and Walleye.

#### VII. SCORING

A. Only ten (10) fish may be weighed-in. The skipper of each boat must decide which ten (10) fish to weigh. Placing will be based on the combined weight of these fish. If there is a tie, the heaviest single fish will break the tie for that placing. If a tie still exists, the placing will be decided by the toss of a coin.

B. For 2 day tournaments fishing will be conducted as follow:

i. Captains and crew may fish either day or both. If fishing both days, you must register each day and pay for each day. Placing of a two day event will be the heaviest combined weight from days one and two.

C. Preliminary results will be announced at the end of each weigh-in. Official results will be announced at the next general membership meeting. This will allow the Tournament Committee to double check the results and verify entries.

## VIII. PLACING

A. The top 10 boats will receive Captain of the Year points. Also, 2 bonus points for the big fish of the tournament will be awarded B. 1st place boat is not exempt from big fish bonus points.

C. Trophies and or prizes will be presented to the winning captain and crew of an event at the December general membership meeting.

D. Participation points will be awarded to all boats that participate in the tournament.

## IX. CAPTAIN OF THE YEAR

A. The captain who has earned the most points at the end of the year will win the "Captain of the Year" award, First Place. The captain earning the next highest points will win "Captain of the Year" award, Second Place. The captain earning the third highest points will win the "Captain of the Year" award, Third Place.

B. Scoring:

i. 10 points for 1st place

ii. 9 points for 2<sup>nd</sup>

iii. 8 points for 3<sup>rd</sup>

iv. 7 points for 4<sup>th</sup>

v. 6 points for 5<sup>th</sup>

vi. 5 points for 6<sup>th</sup>

vii. 4 points for 7<sup>th</sup>

viii. 3 points for 8<sup>th</sup>

ix. 2 points for 9<sup>th</sup>

x. 1 point for 10<sup>th</sup>

xi. 10 participation points will be awarded to each participating boat

xii. 2 bonus points for the biggest eligible fish caught in tournament

## X. PROTESTS

A. In the event you wish to file a protest, it must be in writing to the Tournament Committee, no later than the general membership meeting following the infraction. The Tournament Committee will meet and make a decision on the matter as soon as possible. The Tournament Committee is the sole interpreters of these rules.

B. The tournament Committee's decision is final.

## XI. LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Tournament Committee and the Blue Water Sportfishing Association will accept NO RESPONSIBILITY for the safety of any participants. All entrants enter and participate at their own risk.

Good luck to all that enter. See you at the weigh-in !

The Tournament Committee Chairman is George Murdick (810) 531-3104