

2022 MAJOR RULE CHANGES

As Covid-19 cases are still challenging our area, we are planning for the Tournament to continue as we have done in the past. We have a tentative plan for the events to be at the Stoddard Park. If numbers continue to climb or there are any other restrictions we need to follow—we will update Anglers via our Facebook Page, our Website and your email from the registration form. Thank you for your patience as we navigate these challenging times. We appreciate your continued support.

ALL \$40 Adult and \$30 Junior Entry include entry into Mystery Fish Drawing.

What is the Mystery Fish Drawing?

\$5.00 of adult and the junior entry fee is used to pay randomly drawn prize winners for any Walleye, Saugeye, or Sauger over 15" that is registered. "Any fish can win."

Rain or Shine, the tournament will go on unless river navigation on the river is closed.

You must keep your copy of the weigh-in slip to be turned in for the top 40 payouts.

This year Pool 7 has been added. To register fish caught in pool 7 participants will need to lock through Dresbach Dam and proceed to register at the Municipal Landing 1700 Marcou Dr. La Crosse (Pool 8-La Crosse) weigh-in site.

- Lock and dam phone numbers and how to lock through Dresbach are on the back of this Major Rule Changes page.
- All fish must be transported to weigh-ins by boat in the water only. No trailered boat registration allowed.

REMINDER Pool 9 regulations has a protected slot limit of 20-27 inches for Walleye. Walleye within this slot limit are to be released immediately

- No fish 20 to 27 inches long from Pool 9 will be weighed; absolutely no exceptions.

Weigh-ins will be located at the Municipal Landing 1700 Marcou Dr. La Crosse (Pool 8-La Crosse), Stoddard Public Landing (Pool 8 – Stoddard) and the Dairyland Landing (Pool 9 – Genoa). Pool 7 Fishermen will have to lock through Dam #7 (507)895-2170, to register a fish at the Municipal Landing stated above. The Stoddard weigh-in site will be closed at 12' River Stage. **Scales are open from 9:00am – 3:00pm**

<http://water.weather.gov/ahps2/index.php?wfo=arx> for current river stage.

All entries must be **POSTMARKED by April 22, 2022 or by Midnight for Online Registrations.** Late entries and check will be mailed back, and you will not be qualified for the tournament.

Read and understand all rules on the entry form and be sure to fill out and sign both sides.

Online Entrants are responsible for stopping by Stoddard Fire Station the day before tournament or Tuna's Bar – Genoa, Stoddard Village Hall, Thirsty Turtle –Stoddard, Ace of La Crosse or one of three weigh-in sites the morning of the tournament to pick up blaze orange participant ribbon.

COVID-19 UPDATES

- Social distancing and face masks are the new norm and remain in effect.
- **Masks are to be worn at the tourney weigh-ins and at all the events held at the Stoddard Village Park.**
 - Please mask up prior to getting in line for weigh-in.
- Participants are still responsible for bagging their own fish with water and bringing it to the weigh-in tent
 - Participants are required to wait outside of the tent, and give the SBFDD personnel their information and sign the weigh-in slip verifying the length and weight of their fish.
 - **Keep the slip to collect any winnings.**
- Activities at the Stoddard Village Park will require face masks unless you are eating/drinking or with your small social group.
- Everyone must wear a mask when making any kind of purchase, i.e., beverage, food, raffles, bathrooms.
- Please respect the social distance of others around you.

SBFDD Tournament Officials are requesting email addresses from all entrants. Emails will only be used for Tournament Reminders and Updates on the following:

- River Stage/Navigations
- Flood Date/Cancelations
- Fishing rule changes for Mississippi River Pools 7, 8 & 9

Based on Covid Restrictions—We will update anglers on the Website and Facebook page of changes as to Friday and Saturday events.

Those fishing in this tournament may not have any non-participants in the boat at any time during the hours of 6AM to 3:00PM on the day of the tourney. **Fishing time starts at 7:00AM.**

Participants are allowed to launch 1 hour prior to the start of the tournament - no earlier - no exceptions. You are required to launch your boat from a WI public boat landing to facilitate inspection of your craft by tourney officials prior to departure. Any launch fees must be paid. **After launching your boat, you must stay within sight of the landing until 7:00AM.**

WISCONSIN TOURNAMENT SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

1. Areas where fishing is prohibited:

Tournament participants need to stay in the water body, and navigation pools listed on the permit and are not allowed outside of these areas.

2. Redistribution of released fish:

For catch and release tournaments, mass dumps of fish are prohibited. Fish should be returned in small lots per area and only into the appropriate habitat.

3. Permit conditions necessary to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species:

The transportation of live fish or eggs from waters of the state except for minnows purchased from a Wisconsin bait dealer is prohibited. For tournaments, participants are allowed to transport live fish to weigh-in locations immediately adjacent to the permitted water body, BUT NOT ON ANY PUBLIC ROAD.

All boaters are required to drain water from bilges, ballasts, minnow buckets (unless the purchased minnows will be used in the same water), boat trailer, boating equipment, fishing equipment, and live wells immediately after leaving these waters.

Possession on the water and use of live bait (crawfish, frogs, and minnows) from outside Wisconsin are prohibited, except minnows imported in compliance with USDA APHIS and DATCP import and health requirements and except bait obtained from MN or IA and used on the Mississippi River between the railroad tracks.

The possession of the water and the use of dead fish, fish eggs or parts except if preserved by a method other than refrigeration or freezing are prohibited.

Information from the **CENTRAL AREA LOCKMASTER**

SUBJECT: Usage of Mississippi River Locks during Fishing Contests

To improve lockages through our lock sites and ensure the safety of all, we are providing you with the following information to share with boaters planning to navigate through our locks during your event:

- Approach the lock away from the posted restricted area marked by buoys in front of and below the dam areas.
 - 600' Above the dams and 150' Below the dams
- Let the lock personnel know you wish to pass through the lock via Marine Channel 14 or pull the small boat signal cord that is usually found in ladder recess on the lock wall. One call is sufficient!!
- Watch the signal light and enter only upon a green flashing light.
- Once given the green light, enter the lock at no-wake speed and pull forward to allow other boaters to enter the lock chamber behind you.
- Use your bumpers.
- Secure your boat by holding onto the lines provided. "DO NOT TIE OFF." Simply take in or pay an outline as the water level changes.
- When the lockage is complete, our staff will signal permission to leave with one short blast on our horn.
- Leave at NO-WAKE speed.
- Continue NO WAKE until you are clear of any waiting vessels and show them common courtesy.
- USE CAUTION AROUND COMMERCIAL VESSELS.
 - Do not cut in front of towboats to be first to the lock. Even though you may appear to have arrived first, and the lock operator will decide who has priority. By law, a tow has the right-of-way.
 - If you cannot see the pilothouse of a tow, then the pilot cannot see you!!
 - Tows require lots of room to navigate and approach our locks.
 - They have priority to lock through our locks; however, between each commercial vessel locking through, we will lock pleasure and fishing boats.

Contact numbers for Lockmaster:	Lock & Dam 7	507-895-2170
	Lock & Dam 8	608-689-2625
	Lock & Dam 9	608-874-4311
	Lock & Dam 10	563-252-1261