

## 2017 MAJOR RULE CHANGES

**\*\* ALL \$35 Adult Entry include entry into Mystery Fish Drawing.**

### **What is Mystery Fish Drawing?**

\$5.00 of adult entry fee is used pay all three random prize winners any Walleye, Saugeye, or Sauger over 15" that is registered. "Any fish can win."

Weigh-In Scales Open at 9:00am - Close at 3:00pm

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 top 40 payouts.

Weigh-in sites at **La Crosse - 7<sup>th</sup> St Landing**, Genoa, and Stoddard public boat landings. The Stoddard weigh-in site will be closed at 12' River Stage. Scales open at 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, 2017, 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.

On-line Entrants are responsible to stop 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.

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

(Over)

Information from the **CENTRAL AREA LOCKMASTER**

SUBJECT: Usage of Mississippi River Locks during Fishing Contests

1. 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 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 out line 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.