

### **AC Championship Specific Rules**

Each team will be allowed to turn in 6 total walleye for judging. Because of our unique Catch, Photograph, Record format, we can change the size of fish that can be entered in to the challenge. The Burt Lake Challenge & AC Championship limit will be the same as the state legal limit to keep, which is 15 inches.

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#### **Rules Meeting**

We are going to a "virtual" rules meeting. We will be at the launch site for check in at 5:30 am, where you can pick up your challenge package with a copy of the rules and everything else that you will need to compete that day. We will also be available to answer any questions that you may have at this time.

We chose to do this to accommodate as many schedules as possible. By doing it this way, no one is excluded just because they can not make the Saturday night rules meeting and it may prevent some people from having to pay for lodging.

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#### **Boundaries**

**AC Championship** - the entire Inland Waterway is open for the championship challenge and you will be able to launch from any ramp on the entire waterway (details about this coming soon).

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#### **Tournament start time**

You must have your boat ready to go at 6:30 am promptly. The tournament ends at 3:30 pm. You must have all of your information with one team member in line to turn it in by 3:30:59 pm.

The official "Check In" location will be at Maple Bay Marine located at 3859 US-31, Brutus, MI 49716. Check in time is from 5:30 am - 6:30 am. any later than 6:30 am will result in a 30 min penalty and you will be able to check in and be released to leave at 7:00 am - 7:15 am for late check in at which time you will receive your challenge package. Late launches will also have a 4" penalty deducted from your total inches at judging time.

Announcement/Awards meeting will start promptly at 4:00 pm. All team members must be present at awards meeting. If you have late or missing team members, it will be governed under the same time rules that the turn in time is governed by, costing teams inches and if more than 5 min late forfeiture. The only exception to this rule is by special prior authorization from the tournament committee and is based entirely upon their discretion.

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#### **Starting Location**

The official "starting" location will be at Maple Bay Marine located at 3859 US-31, Brutus, MI 49716 on the corner of US-31 and E Brutus Rd.

No matter where you fish, your end check in time and location is the same as everyone else, so please be aware of your time because late check ins for any reason will be penalized.

## **Weigh In Location**

The official "Weigh In" location will be at Maple Bay Marine located at 3859 US-31, Brutus, MI 49716

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## **Boats/Safety**

All boats must have a serial # on the hull 2) have a current registration displayed properly 3) not exceed the horsepower or load limits stated on the NMMC tag 4) contain all the required safety equipment including a "kill" switch. **PFDs MUST be worn by each angler any time the boat is operated above trolling speed. PFDs must fit properly and be securely fastened.** Kill switch must be attached to the boat driver anytime the main outboard is running.

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## **Rules Clarification**

### **Fish Weigh In**

Angling Challenge is a "no weigh in" event and no fish will be brought to the scales. At check-in prior to launch the day of the event, each team will be given a boat board with a boat # and a random object. When a fish is caught it needs to be measured and photographed meeting the following criteria:

- 1) nose of the fish tight against the bar of the ruler
- 2) fish laid flat on ruler
- 3) random object and boat board must be visible in picture.

Teams will record the length of the fish to the nearest  $\frac{1}{4}$ " (rounding down) on their designated tally sheet.

### **Photographing Fish**

Each team is responsible to provide their own cameras for photographing their catch. This means that:

- 1.** Each photo submitted for measurement must be clear and easy to see the measurement markers on the "bump board" style measuring device.
- 2.** There are only 2 options for submitting photos for entry.
  - a.** If using a digital camera, you must have your photos on an SD card to turn in to judges at the "weigh in" with no additional photos on it. Your SD card will be returned to you at the end of the judging event.
  - b.** Camera phones are acceptable, but you must be able to email your photos to the designated email account before the end of the event. Angling Challenge personnel will not provide any assistance in the submission of your photo entries. This means that we will not accept a phone and a USB cable for submission. If all you have is a phone, we recommend a back up plan of being able to remove the photos from the phone and put them on an SD card to submit.
- c.** Each fish photo must be clearly marked to designate the corresponding number position on your catch report.



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### **Measuring Device (Bump Board)**

Each team needs to have a metal measuring device with a perpendicular piece to place fishes nose against. You can see an example of it below.

If you do not have a measuring device that meets the rules. You can purchase one at the Saturday night rules meeting. Ours are metal 48" rulers so you can measure most any fish. They will be available for \$25.00 or you can order on our store page hosted by Walleye 101 at [http://walleye101.com/angling\\_challenge](http://walleye101.com/angling_challenge)

For a more thorough list of rules, click below

[2015 Angling Challenge Rules](#)



### **2015 Angling Challenge Rules**

#### **General Event Rules**

1) All teams must have the following items: A) digital camera. Fish recorded on multiple camera will NOT be allowed B) a metal measuring device with a perpendicular piece to place fishes nose against---example of an accepted ruler can be found below

If you do not have a measuring device that meets the rules. You can purchase one at the Saturday night rules meeting. Ours are metal 48" rulers so you can measure most any fish. They will be for sale for \$25.00

#### **Fish, Fish Photos and Fish Recording**

1) Before takeoff Sunday morning take a picture with one of the team members holding the boat board and random object

2) Each challenge will have it's own rules as far as fish length and number of fish to be

measured. Because we do not do a live fish weigh in, some tougher bodies of water we may measure shorter than the legal limit as we don't have to keep them. We will just photograph and release.

3) Each fish that will be used in the tournament **MUST** be photographed with the following showing: A) Complete ruler showing nose of fish tight against nose bar B) ability to read the inch markings on the ruler C) Boat board must be in picture D) random object must be in picture E) If photo is blurry and ruler is illegible, the fish will not be counted.

4) Each fish must be recorded on catch sheet showing time caught and the fishes length (rounded **DOWN** to nearest  $\frac{1}{4}$ " )

5) Before handing in the catch report sheet, place a check mark in the column marked "Tournament" next to the fish you want counted in your tournament total. The AC staff will **NOT** select fish for any team. Once boat bag with catch sheet is handed it, there will be **NO** additions or changes allowed.

Each team is responsible to provide their own cameras for photographing their catch. This means that:

1. Each photo submitted for measurement must be clear and easy to see the measurement markers on the "bump board" style measuring device.
2. There are only 2 options for submitting photos for entry.
  - a. If using a digital camera, you must have your photos on an SD card to turn in to judges at the "weigh in" with no additional photos on it. Your SD card will be returned to you at the end of the judging event.
  - b. Camera phones are acceptable, but you must be able to email your photos to the designated email account before the end of the event. Angling Challenge personnel will not provide any assistance in the submission of your photo entries. This means that we will not accept a phone and a USB cable for submission. If all you have is a phone, we recommend a back up plan of being able to remove the photos from the phone and put them on an SD card to submit.
  - c. Each fish photo must be clearly marked to designate the corresponding number position on your catch report.

See example below for a good fish picture

- this fish "OFFICIALLY" measures  $17\frac{1}{4}$ " as it's tail does not quite reach the  $17\frac{1}{2}$ " mark
- It's nose is completely touching the perpendicular end
- Has boat number in picture
- Has Random "token object" in plain view



Check in procedure

**\*\*UPDATED\*\***

- 1) Only one member of the team **MUST BE PRESENT** to hand in the teams fish recording package to the check in area. You must have your fish record sheet into the tournament headquarters by 3:00 pm. All members of the team must be present at awards location by 3:30 pm. It is the anglers responsibility to plan accordingly. Any teams without a team member in line line to hand in sheets at 3:00:59 pm will be counted as LATE and will have longest fish disqualified. Any teams without a team member in line by 3:04:59 will have total catch Disqualified.
  
- 2) Before handing in the catch report sheet, place a check mark in the column marked "Tournament" next to the fish you want counted in your tournament total. The AC staff will NOT select fish for any team. Once boat bag with catch sheet is handed it, there will be NO additions or changes allowed.
  
- 3) Have the SD card you took fish pictures or pictures emailed and clearly labeled and available to be viewed by the tournament staff.

### **Report in times**

To be able to keep track of everyone and take photographs and video during the event, you have to text how many fish you have caught so far and your position (GPS coordinates) at 8:30 am, 10:00 am and Noon to 810-931-2119

## **Event Judging**

- 1) When all catch recording sheets are handed in the tournament committee will tally the lengths of each fish entered, resulting in a "total length: measurement for each team, minus any late penalties.
- 2) Photos of the top 5 team's fish will be reviewed by the tournament committee. Tournament committee reserves the right to view photos from ANY team.
- 3) When the Tournament Committee is satisfied with the results, the winners will be announced.
- 4) Payouts are as listed on the Angling Challenge website and will be paid in the form of a check to EACH team member for their share of the prize money.
- 5) Any prize money over \$600 will require the submission of a W-9 form before check is issued.

## **Protests and Other challenges**

- 1) A formal protest can be filed by any team. Protest must be in writing and submitted no later than 3:30 pm on Sunday. Protest must include an exact description of the team and action being protested. Protest must be accompanied by a \$50 non-refundable fee. The Tournament Committee will examine the protest and the decision of the Tournament Committee is final.
- 2) All rules have "Loopholes". The intent of the Angling Challenge is to provide a fun, family friendly competition. Any team found to be in violation of any tournament, fishing, or other laws will be disqualified and banned from future participation.

## **Teams/Lure Limits/Registration**

Teams can consist of 2-4 anglers. The lure limit per team will always be 6 lures with the exception of the Detroit River, as long as the tournaments are in Michigan water. All anglers must have a valid fishing license for all waters that are open to fishing during the event. At least one angler in each boat must be 21 years of age. Teams do NOT need to fish every event together, and can enter multiple tournaments with different team members. Registration must be done online through the Angling Challenge website and paid in full for a team to be considered entered in an event. At least one member of each time must attend and sign in at the mandatory rules meeting the evening before the event—no exceptions. Failure to sign in on time for the rules meeting will result in disqualification from event and no refund of entry fee. Rules meeting date, time and location will be included in a confirmation email when entry fee is paid and registration is processed via the Angling Challenge website.

## **Boats/Safety**

All boats must have a serial # on the hull 2) have a current registration displayed properly 3) not exceed the horsepower or load limits stated on the NMMC tag 4) contain all the required safety equipment including a "kill" switch. PFDs MUST be worn by each angler any time the boat is operated above trolling speed. PFDs must fit properly and be securely fastened. Kill switch must be attached to the boat driver anytime the main outboard is running.

**Start instructions**

You will be released on land from Maple Bay Marine

**Challenge Check In Time**

At least one member per team has to check in with challenge personnel before launching for that days challenge. Check In will start at 5:30 am and will cut off at 6:30 am

**Boundaries**

Boundaries will be listed in a confirmation email. Boundaries will be set with the following criteria in mind:

1) Safety 2) access to launches 3) to permit smaller boats to participate 4) to monitor activity during event 5) to aid in getting pictures/video of the event.

**Weather**

The decision to cancel a fishing day is solely up to the tournament committee. If a day of fishing is cancelled, anglers will be instructed where to meet on Sunday morning. A drawing will be held to determine money payouts. There will be no rescheduled events, no refunds for non-fishing and no "carry over" of entry fees. All prizes will be awarded on the scheduled day of the event.

**Communication**

Communication between boats is allowed via any device. You will be given tournament committee phone numbers and radio call signs at the Saturday rules meeting in case you need to contact them.

**Prefishing**

There is NO closed pre-fishing for any body of water.

**Launch/Return**

Teams can launch at any launch they choose but must report to the check-in boat(s) in the morning before fishing and in the afternoon when returning. Locations of the check-in boat(s) and time of take-off and return will be announced at the Saturday evening rules meeting. Any team found fishing before the designated take-off time or returning after the designated return time will lose their weight for the day. Once teams have checked in for the afternoon return, they must IMMEDIATELY navigate in a straight line to the launch they used, load boats onto trailers and return DIRECTLY to the weigh in location.

**Championship**

Any angler who has fished in at least one event in 2015 is eligible to fish the Championship. Championship can consist of ANY 2-4 anglers, as long as each angler has fished at least 1 event in 2015. Championship team roster must be submitted with \$50 per boat entry fee via the website before September 25, 2015. All rules apply to the Championship event. The Championship is a winner take all event.

**Spirit of the Rule**

all rules have “loopholes”. It is the intention of Angling Challenge to provide an environment of friendly, sportsmanlike competition. Any questions or problems are to be referred to any member of the tournament committee, whose decisions are final.

**CHEATING**

Anyone determined to be caught cheating by the tournament committee will immediately forfeit any winnings and will be lifetime banned from any Angling Challenge/Walleye 101/Lance Valentine events.