

WALLEYES UNLIMITED USA FISHING CONTEST RULES



EFFECTIVE
January 1st, 2012
(Amended December 21st 2011)

Walleyes Unlimited USA Fishing Contest Rules

Fishing Contests - Code of Conduct (Adopted 11/18/09 - Board of Directors)

The purpose of our club's fishing contests is to provide recognition for outstanding angling ability as well as good fortune for our participating members. The club's intention is that the contests be fun, educational and entertaining for our membership. The contests recognize member's fishing talents on a variety of waters and they also assist in educating other club members. All contest participants must inform non-club witnesses of these principles and codes prior to signing a contest entry.

Code of Conduct:

1. Sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, honesty and conservation are expected from each contestant. Any infraction of these fundamental sporting principles may be deemed cause for disqualification.
2. A contestant must adhere to any state or provincial laws as they apply to the number of rods, lines, hooks and/or lures used at any one time. Each contestant may have other rods and tackle assembled for use, provided such tackle are not in the water.
3. If multiple anglers are on the water, (open or ice) rods and/or lines being used must be specifically identified. Subsequently, fish caught on another angler's rod and/or line will not count as your entry in any club contest.
4. When fishing on a head boat (party boat) charter, (i.e. Lake Michigan, Lake Erie, etc.) an angler should abide by the following limitations.
 - A. A fish may be entered in the contest only when actively fishing your own rod/line.
 - B. Reeling in a fish on a rod/line that another angler has been fishing with is not allowed.

Walleyes Unlimited USA

Fishing Contest Rules

There are **eleven contests** available to club members. A member may win one or more contests. Interpretation of the rules remains with the Contest Chairman and the Board of Directors for Walleyes Unlimited.

General Rules

1. Contests are open to current paid members in good standing with Walleyes Unlimited USA.
1. Youngsters may participate in Club contests if they have paid the appropriate membership dues.
2. All entries must be legally caught in accordance with state/province fishing regulations. Snagging or spearing is not allowed.
3. Deliberate falsification of entries will be grounds for disqualification of the entry and may result in loss of membership for the participant and the witness
4. **Photos are required for all contests. NO EXCEPTIONS** Any alteration, by any means, of any portion of a photo submitted for the contest shall disqualify the entry. This includes but is not limited to the use of Photoshop, marking pens or any other means to improve or degrade the quality of the photo, the size of the fish, or disguise the background. **(Amended 2/16/2011)**
5. Entries must be complete and when required signed by a witness. Incomplete entries may be disqualified.
6. The contest chairman must approve delayed photos not submitted with entries.
7. All entries and photos become the property of Walleyes Unlimited U.S.A. and may be used for promotional material, articles or publications.
8. All fish / entries submitted for **WEIGHT** contests must be weighed on a quality spring scale which weighs in pounds and ounces. The scale must have calibration capability. **DIGITAL SCALES, DELIARS AND RAPALA GRIP LOCK SCALES ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.** The Club endorses, sells and calibrates **Chitillon Scales**. Your scale should be verified yearly before the start of the season.
9. To qualify a fish as a new club record, **ONE** of the following criteria must be met:
 - A. Weight must be obtained on a certified scale and the location of said scale must be noted on the entry form along with the owner's name and phone number.
 - B. If the fish is weighed on the participant's scale, the scale must be given to the contest chairman, president or vice president within 30 days from the date of the catch for verification.
10. The Board of Directors, Walleyes Unlimited USA will have final judgment on all contest entries if a ruling is required.
11. If there are questions in regards to an entry, the applicant will have no more than two consecutive board meetings to provide an in person explanation of the entry.
12. Entries must be postmarked or given to the contest chairman **by the 15th of the following month**. Entries for December must be submitted no later than **January 15TH of the next year**.
13. Fish entered will be eligible for all contests as long as the entry meets the specific requirement for the contest.
14. Trophies and awards will be dispensed at the annual awards banquet. Reasonable effort will be made to distribute awards to those who cannot attend.
15. Contest waters are limited to the continental United States and Canada

Walleyes Unlimited USA Fishing Contest Rules

Overall Club Champion

Beginning in 2010 the Overall Club Champion will be determined by the member who accumulates the highest total number of points in the Aggregate, Club Lakes and Catch and Release Divisions combined.

Aggregate Contest

The Aggregate contest is based upon weight. The fish you catch is compared to the state or province record of where you caught the fish. Your fish's weight is divided by the weight of the state record. The result is multiplied by 100 and that is the point value of your fish. For example if you caught a 50 pound musky where the state record is 75 pounds you would receive 66.666 points, $(75/50 \times 100 = 66.666)$.

To be eligible for the contest, you are required to enter three or more species of qualifying size during the calendar year. The contest winner will be the eligible person with the most total points as calculated using up to five fish with not more than two of any one species. The database automatically calculates your best combination of fish.

1. Best 5 fish of 3 or more species, but only a maximum of 2 of any one species.
2. Eligible species include Walleye, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, northern pike and musky.
3. Points will be awarded by comparing the weight of the entry against the current state/province record.
4. Members may enter as many fish as desired.
The contest chairman (data base) will determine the best 5 eligible fish.
5. Trophies will be awarded to the top 10 finishers.
6. A witness who saw the fish on the scale is required to sign the entry form.

Club Lakes Contest

Club Lakes contest is based on the length of the fish. Fish caught in designated Club Lakes also qualify for Aggregate (if weighed) and Catch & Release Contests (if released) and if all rules are adhered to for each contest.

All entries must be caught from the following waters:

Wisconsin	Illinois
1. Geneva Lake	1. Shabbona Lake
2. Pewaukee Lake	2. Lake Shelbyville
3. Big Green Lake	3. The Illinois Fox Chain including; The upper river to the Rt. 173 bridge, Channel & Catherine Lakes, the lower river to the McHenry Dam including the tailrace
4. Madison Chain from Cherokee Marsh through Kegonsa	
5. Lake Delavan	

Walleyes Unlimited USA Fishing Contest Rules

Total points will be awarded. To be eligible for the contest, you are required to enter two or more species of qualifying size during the calendar year. The contest winner will be the eligible person with the most total points as calculated using up to five fish with not more than two of any one species. The database automatically calculates your best combination of fish.

1. Members may enter as many fish as desired. The contest chairman will determine “up to” the best 5 eligible “fish with only “a maximum” of 2 from any one species.”
2. Entries must be measured to the nearest $\frac{1}{4}$ inch.
3. When witnessed, the entries must have a photo with the participant holding the fish. If you fish alone, **the photo must clearly show the length of the fish lying on scale (yardstick, bump board etc.). The length of the fish must be clearly and easily determined by the contest chairman, No Exceptions.**
4. Points scoring will be determined by the following format:

Species	Minimum Size	Points Per Inch
Musky	34”	1.4
Northern Pike	30”	1.55
Walleye	20”	2.1
Largemouth Bass	17”	2.9
Smallmouth Bass	16”	3.2

5. The Release of fish from the Club Lakes is encouraged but is optional. Fish that are kept must comply with state or local regulations.
6. An award will be presented to the top 5 finishers based on the program’s report for most points. This can be won with less than five fish entries, but you must have at least two different species entered.
7. **Recognition will be given** for the largest fish of each species by weight.

Catch and Release Contest

The Catch and Release Contest is based on the length of the fish. To be eligible for the contest, you are required to enter three or more species of qualifying size during the calendar year. The contest winner will be the eligible person with the most total points as calculated using up to five fish with not more than two of any one species. The database automatically calculates your best combination of fish.

1. Best 5 fish of 3 or more species, with only a maximum of 2 from any one species.
2. Eligible species include walleye, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, northern pike and musky.
3. Minimum lengths and points will be determined by which region in North America that the fish were caught. The regions will be the same as determined by the In-Fisherman magazine for their catch and release contest. Region 5 (Great Lakes) will not be used and any fish caught in those waters will be put in the region associated with the catch.

Walleyes Unlimited USA Fishing Contest Rules

Minimum sizes and points per inch are:

Region	Walleye	SMB	LMB	Pike	Musky
	24" min. length	16" min. length	18" min. length	32" min. length	35" min. length
1	2.1 pts	3.2 pts	2.9 pts	1.55 pts	1.4 pts
2	2.1 pts	3.2 pts	2.6 pts	1.7 pts	1.4 pts
3	2.1 pts	3.2 pts	2.6 pts	1.7 pts	1.55 pts
4	2.1 pts	3.1 pts	2.9 pts	1.45 pts	1.35 pts

- When witnessed, all entries must be accompanied by a photo with the participant holding the fish. If you fish alone the photo must clearly show the length of the fish lying on a scale (yardstick, bump board, etc.). The length of the fish must be clearly and easily determined by the Contest Chairman. NO EXCEPTIONS
- Fish must be measured and immediately released in the same body of water it was caught, providing the fish is in good condition. If the condition of the fish is questionable, then it may be kept in the live well to help revive the fish. The fish must be released as soon as it has revived. A healthy fish put in the live well while trying to decide whether to keep the fish or release it is no longer eligible for the catch and release contest.

Taking a fish from the boat onto piers, docks, shorelines, etc. will disqualify the entry from the Catch and Release contest.

- Entries must be measured to the nearest ¼ inch.
- A Trophy will be awarded to the top 10 finishers.
- A Catch and Release patch will be awarded for the first qualifying entry of each species. Only one species patch will be awarded for each qualifying species.
- Members may enter as many fish as desired. The contest chairman will determine the best 5 fish for the total points.
An example of how points are calculated in this contest:
A 38" musky caught in region 1 would have a value of 1.4 points x 38 = 53.2 points.

Best 5 fish of the Year Contest (Same rules as Aggregate contest)

- Eligible species include walleye, pike, largemouth, smallmouth and musky.
- A trophy will be awarded to the member entering the 5 largest of each species.
- The winner will be determined by using the aggregate scoring method.

Best of Species Anywhere Contest (by weight)

- A trophy will awarded to the member who enters the **largest fish by weight**.
- Eligible species include walleye, musky, smallmouth, largemouth, and pike.

Walleyes Unlimited USA Fishing Contest Rules

Walleyes 8 pounds and larger

1. A trophy will be awarded to each member catching their first walleye 8 pounds or larger. The trophy will have a brass plate indicating the weight of the fish and the year it was caught. For multiple entries, only one plate will be awarded indicating the number of fish in each pound category. In subsequent years additional plates will be awarded.
2. A walleye patch will be awarded for the first walleye 8 pounds or more with an additional patch specifying 8 pounds, 9 pounds, etc. for the first one entered at that weight.

Best One Day Limit Contest - (A day starts at midnight & ends at 11:59 PM)

1. A trophy will be awarded to the member who enters the best "limit of up to five fish" "caught in one day."
2. Species include walleye, smallmouth, largemouth, northern pike and musky.
3. The winner will be the member with the most points using the aggregate scoring method.
4. Entries must be submitted and designated "one day limit".

Spouse's Contest (If not a member) determined by aggregate points

1. A trophy will be awarded to the member's spouse who enters the best fish of the year.
2. The winner will be determined using the aggregate scoring system.
3. Eligible species include walleye, musky, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, and northern pike.

Take a Kid Fishing Contest determined by length of fish in inches

1. Open to any child 16 years old and under.
2. The child need not be a member but must be fishing with a club member.
3. The **winner** will be determined by **length of the fish in inches**.
4. An award will be presented for the best fish of the year for each category of fish.
5. Eligible categories include walleye, smallmouth, largemouth, northern pike and musky.
6. The child who wins will be presented an award or rod & reel combo.
7. Only one award per child per year.

Fish of the Month Contest determined by aggregate points

A Fish of the Month patch, certificate and 6 months dues will be awarded to the member who enters the best fish caught each month.

1. Eligible species include walleye, smallmouth, largemouth, pike, and musky.
2. The winner will be determined using the aggregate scoring system.
3. Minimum qualifying points: 25.
4. A member may win FOM more than once but, will only be awarded a maximum of 6 months free dues.

Panfish Contest

1. Individual contests for bluegill, crappie, and perch.
2. One winner in each species will receive a trophy.
3. The total length of the three longest fish will determine the winner. Fish are to be measured to the nearest ¼ inch.
4. The fish may be kept or released.
5. When witnessed, all entries must have a photo with the participant holding the fish. If you fish alone, the photo must clearly show the length of the fish lying on a scale (bump-board, ruler, yardstick, etc.). The length must be clearly and easily determined by the contest chairman. No Exceptions.