

# 2023 OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS VIRTUAL

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: BLAKE KOLQUIST



## PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

- Participation as an individual.
- Each contestant must possess a valid fishing license from the State in which they are fishing.
- The Kolar Toyota ALS Fishing Tournament reserves the right to refuse entry to any individual who has been barred from other tournaments for rules violations or unsportsmanlike conduct. Decision will be made by Tournament Director only.
- Anglers may not obtain or receive fishing information and/or assistance in the catching of fish from a non-competitor during the tournament day. Competitors may not follow a non-competitor's boat or allow a non-competitor to anchor and/or hold spots for competitors. Competitors may not pay non-competitors to practice fishing for them. Violations of this rule or the intent of this rule will result in disqualification.
- Contribution Amount: The minimal contribution for the tournament is \$200 per person and is nonrefundable. Anglers are encouraged to collect donations to meet and exceed the minimum \$200 individual amount. Individual anglers are eligible to win incentive prizes for pledges at various levels—per angler, not team. Entry forms and fees must be in the charity's possession no later than June 2, 2023.

## 2023 PRIZE PAYOUTS (Based on individual's longest length of fish by species)

- There will be prizes for the anglers catching the longest fish in each of the four species competition in addition to one random prize per species for anglers in the virtual tournament.
- **Walleye:** Each angler may submit walleye with a minimum of 12 inches in length. Fish will be measured on a store-bought ruler (bump board) with mouth closed. Any infraction of State DNR rules will result in disqualification.
- **BASS:** Each angler may submit bass with a minimum of 12 inches in length. Fish will be measured on a store-bought ruler (bump board) with mouth closed. Any infraction of DNR rules will result in disqualification.
- **Crappie:** Anglers may submit crappies measuring more than 8 inches long. Fish will be measured on a store-bought tournament ruler (bump board) with mouth closed. Any infraction of Minnesota DNR rules will result in disqualification.
- **Northern Pike:** Each angler may submit northern pike, measured on a store-bought ruler, (bump board) with mouth closed. Anglers measuring a northern pike must ensure the fish is at least 20 inches long. Any infraction of Minnesota DNR rules will result in disqualification.

## AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

- Prior to entering the body of water, all watercraft that have been in waters known to be infested with zebra mussels, must be thoroughly dried or washed down with hot water of at least 140 degrees Fahrenheit, both inside and out.
- Participants must clean all aquatic vegetation from trailers and watercraft, including wet wells and other internal locations, upon leaving the lake.

## TO HELP PROTECT ALL WATERS, YOU MUST:

- **CLEAN** visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels and other prohibited species from watercraft, trailers, and equipment before transporting from any water access.
- **DRAIN** water from bilge, live well, motor, ballast tanks and portable bait containers before leaving water accesses or shoreline property.
- **KEEP** drain plug out and water-draining devices open while transporting watercraft.
- **DUMP** unwanted bait in the trash.
- All State laws must be followed to ensure watercraft is clean and decontaminated. This can be achieved with the aid of hot water as mentioned above, drying for extended periods of time (5 days or longer) and having the watercraft power washed to rid the watercraft of all zebra mussels.

## **PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS**

- Contestants may fish anywhere on any body of water accessible by boat, except designated federal, state, or local posted or permitted areas.
- Contestants may not fish within 75 feet of another competitor's boat which was solely and first anchored before another competitor's boat was inside the same 150-foot circle. A boat is considered anchored only if it is tied to a fixed structure or has an anchor line over its side with the trolling motor out of the water and a yellow marker placed in the water. When the marker is placed in the water, it will establish a 150-foot fishing circle which may not be fished or navigated through by another competitor. A marker may not be placed in water currently being used by competitors or non-competitors. Violators of this rule or the intent of this rule will be disqualified.
- All angling must be conducted from the boat. At no time may a contestant leave the boat to land a fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing water. The boat must remain in the tournament water during the tournament day. Contestants must leave and return to the official checkpoint by boat and must remain in contact with the boat at all times except in case of emergency.

## **SCORING**

- Scoring shall be determined by the length of each person's catch during the tournament.
- Walleye, bass, crappie and northern pike are the only accepted species.
- The official length for walleye and bass shall be twelve (12) inches. Crappie must be at least 8 inches and northern pike must be at least 20 inches in length. Fish measuring shorter than the minimums listed will not be considered a valid entry. Any infraction of Department of Natural Resources rules will result in disqualification.
- All measurements must be using a valid ruler and submissions uploaded to the FishDonkey application and include at least two (2) photos per the instructions below:
  - Close the fish's mouth, with a closed mouth the fish's nose/mouth must touch the vertical bump of the measuring board with the belly facing you.
  - Take a photo of the fish on the measuring board (with closed mouth touching the bump) showing both the whole head and complete tail in a single photo, a minimum of two (2) photos required of the fish on the measuring board. YOU MUST ENSURE THE ENTIRE FISH IS INCLUDED IN THE PHOTO to ensure accurate measurements.
- If the fish's tail is touching the graduation line of the board, then that is the exact measurement. If the tail crosses the graduation line, round up to the next ¼ inch.
- Take a video of you releasing the fish alive back into the water.
- All participants must have their fish submitted before the end of the tournament. Fish submitted after their designated flight time will not be allowed.

Using the FishDonkey application in poor reception areas: The app will work without internet. Open the app before heading out to poorly covered areas. Tap on the name of the tournament. Once you see the button "enter a fish" head out and fish away. Fish should be entered as normal in bad reception areas. Your digital live well (fish icon) will show you if there are fishing waiting for an internet connection to get pushed into the leaderboard. When you get back to a well-connected area, open your digital live well and leave that screen open/active until all fish are "received." Until your photos are received, do not delete or alter the photos on your phone as FishDonkey will not accept photos as originals. Photos outside of the FishDonkey app will not be considered for official scoring.

## **LATE PENALTY**

- Contestants who fail to upload their catch on the FishDonkey app at the appointed time shall have their day's catch disqualified.

## **TIES**

- In case of ties, positions will be determined by:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> tiebreaker.....total number of fish
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> tiebreaker....longest fish of said species
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> tiebreaker.....coin toss

## **RULES AND INTERPRETATIONS**

- Contestants will be responsible to know the Kolar Toyota ALS Fishing Tournament rules as well as state and local rules and regulations which pertain to the waters in which they are fishing.

- All disputes must be logged with the Tournament Director within thirty (30) minutes of completion of weigh-in. Following interviews with concerned parties, a ruling will be made. The Tournament Director will interpret rules according to the spirit and intent of the rule, and his decision in all disputes is final.
- In the event that rule infractions are brought to the Tournament Director's attention at any time and investigation proves a violation occurred, disqualification from the Tournament could result. Cash prizes and awards given to contestants subsequently disqualified must be returned if so requested.

#### **SAFETY**

- Each competitor must observe safe boating conduct at all times.
- Each angler is required to wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved chest-type life preserver which is fully secured whenever the main combustion engine is running.
- Anglers on boats equipped with an emergency ignition shut-off device need to have it attached when the combustion engine is in operation above trolling speeds.
- Each boat must have all required U.S. Coast Guard safety equipment.
- Use of and/or possession of alcohol or drugs (other than prescribed by a licensed physician or purchased over the counter) during the Tournament is prohibited and will result in disqualification.
- In the event of severe weather while on the water we advise you use your best judgment and get to land if necessary.

#### **SPORTSMANSHIP:**

- All contestants are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, and conservation. Any infraction of these fundamental sporting principles may be deemed cause for disqualification.
- Maximum courtesy must be practiced at all times, especially with regard to boating and angling in the vicinity of non-competitors who may be in Tournament waters. Violators of this rule will be disqualified.
- Any radio communication (broadcasting or monitoring) during Tournament hours, except in cases of equipment breakdown or for safety reasons is prohibited. Violation of this rule could result in disqualification.

#### **Please send any questions or forms to:**

Never Surrender Inc  
4894 Miller Trunk Hwy  
Hermantown, MN 55811  
Email [sandy@neversurrenderinc.org](mailto:sandy@neversurrenderinc.org)