



11th ANNUAL MICHIANA STEELHEADERS BUFFALO BILL MEMORIAL LAKE TOURNAMENT

APRIL 21st, 2012/BLOW DATE APRIL 22nd, 2012

REGISTRATION:

5:30AM- 6:00AM CST @ Michigan City Yacht Club/ Pierside Grill (all times Central Standard Time)

DATES AND HOURS:

- Tournament will be held Saturday, April 21st, 2012, blow date April 22nd
- All times are Central Standard Time, (Michigan City time)
- Registration begins 5:30AM to 6:00AM
- Captains meeting at 6:00AM
- Shotgun start at 7:00AM initiates fishing period which ends at 1:30PM /all lines out of the water at 1:30PM.
- Weigh-in Station opens at 1:00PM however all entrants must have signed in at the Weigh Station no later than 2:15PM. Weigh Station sign-ins after 2:15PM will be disqualified.
- The contest will be considered official if a total of two (2) hours are fished.
- Prizes will be awarded based on total points accumulated during the fishing time that was available.

ENTRY FEES:

- \$75.00 per boat if paid by April 14th, 2012. \$100.00 per boat after April 14th. Late entries will be accepted up until 6:00 AM CST April 21st, 2012.
- Captain must be a paid member for 2012 of the Michiana Steelheaders. Dues for 2012 are \$25.00.
- All captains must sign and insure completion of the 2012 tournament entry form. Failure to sign will eliminate captain and crew from tournament and they will forfeit any cash awards.
- \$25.00 optional big fish pot will be paid to the three heaviest fish weighed as follows 50% to the heaviest fish, 30% to the 2nd heaviest fish, and 20% to 3rd heaviest fish.
- In case of emergency, which prevents an entrant from participating in the tournament, said entrant may apply to the tournament committee for a refund of their entry fee. The decision to refund shall be made by the tournament committee and their decision will be final. No refunds will be given after April 14th, 2012.
- In the event of cancellation due to weather the tournament committee reserves the right to retain 10% of the entry fees paid to cover costs incurred. The balance of the entry fees will be refunded to the entrants by mail within twenty days of cancellation. The decision of the tournament committee will be final in this matter.

CASH PAYOUT FROM ENTRY FEES COLLECTED:

- Total prize fund will be determined by number of boats entered x \$75.00 x 90% to compute total prize fund. (10% kept by the Michiana Steelheaders to offset expenses).
- Cash awards will be paid to the top ten entrants on basis of total points scored (see scoring in weigh-in section).
- Based on fifty boat entries the cash payout schedule would be: 1st Place \$1,000.00, 2nd \$675.00, 3rd \$500.00, 4th \$275.00, 5th \$200.00, 6th \$150.00, 7th \$125.00, 8th \$100.00, 9th \$75.00 and 10th \$50.00.
- The total prize fund & final awards amounts will be calculated after tournament entry closes and will be announced during weigh-in.

FISHING RULES:

- There are no distance rules on where a tournament boat may fish other than all DNR rules for any state fished must be adhered to.
- Once tournament starts no tournament boat can be transported outside of the Michigan City limits by trailer until the tournament has ended.

FISHING RULES CONTINUED:

- The captain and each team member must possess a valid Indiana fishing license and trout stamp for Indiana as required by law and must follow the DNR rules and regulations for any other state fished.
- All fish must be fairly caught on hook and line in accordance with conservation laws. No meat lines or other similar devices may be attached to any part of a boat or its downriggers.
- There is a maximum of nine (9) rods in the water at any one time, with no more than two (2) lures per line in use. Dodgers, attractors, or similar hook less devices do not qualify as lures.
- From the start of the fishing period (7 AM CST) until the catch is deposited at the weigh-in station, a boat entered in the tournament may not run gunnel to gunnel with any other boat, nor may any object of any kind be passed to any participants in the tournament or any other person. Violation is an automatic disqualification.
- All DNR rules apply so catch and release is allowed.

WEIGH IN:

- The weigh-in station will open at 1:00PM CST
- Each boat must proceed to directly to the weigh-in station or its' slip and walk their fish to the weigh-in station
- No later than 2:15 pm CST a crew member must deposit and stay with their catch until the catch is officially scored and the score sheet signed and returned to the weighmaster.
- Weigh-in station will close at 2:15 PM CST. All entrants must be signed in by then.
- Bring only your five heaviest fish to the weigh-in station (**Lake Trout are not eligible**). Eligible fish are Atlantic Salmon, King Salmon, Coho Salmon, Steelhead, and Brown Trout.
- The captain and/or his crew must select and place the big fish first to be weighed and after it's weighed then the remaining fish they wish to enter can be placed in the basket or net to be officially scored. Our Weighmasters are not allowed to handle your fish.
- Scoring is as follows, 10 points for each qualified fish weighed and 1 point for every pound weighed. Example one 10 lb. King would score 10pts for being weighed and 10 points for its weight or total 20 points. Five fish weighing 39 lbs would equal five fish x 10 points or 50 points plus one point per lb or 39 points for a total of 89 points.
- If you have any questions feel free to talk to the Weighmaster. In the event of total score tie the finish place would be determined by the heaviest fish weighed. Make sure you determine and weigh your heaviest fish.
- The optional big fish awards will be determined by weight only and the pot distributed to the three largest fish. 50% of the pot to first, 30% to 2nd and 20% to 3rd (ties will be spilt, example if 1st and 2nd place are tied the 50% and 30% would equal 80% and each fish would be paid 40% of the pot).
- Every boat must proceed to slip or Weigh-in station and check in with Weigh-in Station regardless if fish are not being weighed.
- All fish caught become the property of the Tournament Committee who may at their discretion, return said fish to the entrants. All winning fish are subject to dissection at the discretion of the Weighmaster or Tournament Committee.

CANCELLATIONS:

- The tournament committee may delay or shorten and or cancel the tournament at any time when in their opinion they feel fishing conditions could be dangerous to persons or property. Any announcement regarding this will be made on VHF radio channel 68. This channel should be monitored throughout the tournament day.
- If the tournament is shortened due to deteriorating weather conditions the committee boat will announce its decision first by proving a fifteen minute warning on channel 68 as to the time the tournament fishing time is terminated.
- If tournament is shortened and termination time announced, all boats must proceed in the same manner as they would have at the end of a normal tournament.
- It is the responsibility of each captain to determine whether conditions including weather and wave conditions are safe for their boat and crew to participate in the tournament and are ultimately responsible for their own safety and that of their crew and boat.

PROTESTS:

- Any and all protest must be made to the tournament committee before 2:00 PM CST on the day of the tournament by describing the alleged infraction.
- Upon the filing of a protest the tournament committee will resolve the dispute. Its decision will be final and binding.
- All participants are duly bound to report any and all violations of the rules they observe on the boat.

DISQUALIFICATION OR PENALTY:

- Any participant who violates any rules of the tournament or is ruled to be uncooperative, unruly, or disorderly shall be disqualified by the tournament committee and will not be allowed to collect any prizes or awards from this tournament.

RULE CHANGES:

- The committee may change or modify any of these rules. Any changes will be announced during registration.

LIABILITY:

- Every reasonable precaution will be taken by the tournament committee to protect persons and property during this tournament. However, neither the Michiana Steelheaders club, nor the Tournament Committee, Officers, Directors, or its Members, are responsible for the safety of persons or property of participants as regards to accident, theft, and damage by fire, vandalism, or any other cause.
- All participants further understand and agree to hold harmless the aforementioned group and individuals for damages incurred as a result of participation in this tournament in whatever form or manner said liabilities or damage might be incurred.

GOOD LUCK AND REMEMBER TO MONITOR VHF CHANNEL 68