

HOOSIER COHO CLUB PRO/AM TOURNAMENT APRIL 28th, 2012

OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Dates and times
 - a. Tournament date is Saturday April 28th with Sunday April 29th as the rain date.
 - b. Registration will be held at the Washington Park Tent from 6:00 to 6:45 AM. The Captains Meeting will be at 7:00 AM. All captains must attend.
 - c. The awards ceremony will commence following the weigh-in at the Washington Park Tent.
 - d. The time limits are 8:00 AM lines in and 2:00 PM lines out. NO RUN TIME.
 - e. The contest is considered official if a minimum of three (3) hours are fished. Prizes will be awarded based on points accumulated during the official fishing period.
 - f. There shall be no fishing by tournament contestants except during tournament hours. Nor shall a boat registered in the tournament leave the harbor for any reason except during the official fishing period.
2. Eligibility
 - a. A licensed charter captain must fish in the Pro Division even when participating as a crewmember. All non-charter captains and crews may register in either division.
 - b. All Captains must be a member of the Hoosier Coho Club. Proof of membership is required at registration. All non-members may join the club for \$20 annual dues.
 - c. All boats must be equipped with a VHF marine radio in working order.
3. Entry Fees
 - a. Entry fee is \$250 per Pro boat, \$100 per Amateur boat, and \$50 per 24U(boats 24ft. or less in length) boat.
 - b. If the tournament is cancelled due to weather conditions, all entries minus 10% will be refunded.
4. Scoring
 - a. Winners will be determined by a total accumulation of points based on:
 1. Ten (10) points per legal fish weighed, plus:
 2. One point per pound (nearest hundredth pound) total weight.
 - b. The team accumulating the highest number of points will be the winner, followed by the team with the next highest accumulation, etc.
 - c. A maximum of 10 Salmon and/or Trout may be weighed and no more than three (3) Lake Trout may be included.
5. Prizes
 - a. First place Pro pays \$3000 based on 30 boats participating. Additional prizes may be awarded.
 - b. First place Amateur pays \$1000 based on 20 boats participating. Additional prizes may be awarded.
 - c. First place 24U pays \$500 based on 20 boats participating. Additional prizes may be awarded.
 - d. Approximately 90% of the entry fees will be awarded. The remainder of the entry fees will be used to defray the costs of the tournament.

6. Big Fish Contest

Entry fee is \$25. There will be a separate big fish contest for the Pro, Amateur, and 24U Divisions. The captain designates the first fish to be weighed as the big fish. No test weighing. No exceptions. First place will receive 70% of the pot and second place will receive 30% of the pot for each division.

7. Fishing Rules

- a. All boats must depart and return to the port of Michigan City, IN.
- b. All DNR state laws and regulations apply while fishing within that state's jurisdiction. Fish may be released in accordance with DNR rules. This means that you can release a fish when it is first caught and cannot exchange a fish from your cooler for a larger fish, as returning a dead fish to the water would be in violation of the DNR rules.
- c. Maximum number of rods fishing at any one time is nine (9). Fishing means "line in the water". One slider per rod allowed. Maximum 2 baits per rod. If you choose to use a rod for pulling attracters only, it will count as one of your nine fishing rods.
- d. A maximum of ten (10) Salmon and/or Trout may be weighed and a maximum of three (3) Lake Trout may be included within the 10 fish weighed.
- e. Minimum size is 20 inches for Lake Trout and 14 inches for all other Salmon and Trout.

8. Start and finish

- a. The tournament committee will use channel 9 to start and end the fishing period. No lines in the water until the start is announced.
- b. You must not depart a one-half mile radius from the pier heads until the announcement of the start of the tournament. THERE IS NO RUN TIME.
- c. Your boat must enter the Michigan City Harbor by 2:00 PM or you will be disqualified. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- d. All boats must radio in to Tournament Control on channel 9 upon entering the harbor at the end of the fishing period.
- e. Once the fishing period is declared closed by the tournament committee, no more fish may be boated. All boats must proceed directly to the weigh station and be in line not later than 45 minutes after the end of the fishing period.

9. Weigh-in

- a. At least one crewmember will transport the fish to the weigh station and stay with the catch until it is officially scored.
- b. Weigh your best 10 fish. Only 10 fish can be brought to the weigh-in station. A maximum of three (3) Lake Trout may be included within the ten (10) fish. More than 10 total fish or 3 Lake Trout in the cooler will constitute disqualification
- c. No water or loose ice will be allowed in the coolers at weigh-in. Bagged ice may be used in the coolers at all times.
- d. All fish may be tested for time in possession. The tournament committee may retain any fish for any reason.
- e. Fish may not be left at the weigh-in station. Disposition of fish must be in compliance with state and local laws.

10. Boat Identification

The Tournament Committee will provide a flag and boat number at registration. The flag shall be flown on the boats radio antenna in full view from all directions and the ID number shall be prominently displayed on the starboard side from the start of the fishing period to the conclusion of the weigh-in.

11. Protests

Tournament judges will resolve disputes. Their decision will be final. Protests must be presented to the Tournament judges in writing within 60 minutes of the end of the fishing period with \$100. If the protest is upheld, the money will be returned.

12. Cancellations

- a. The Tournament Committee may cancel the tournament, when in their opinion, conditions could be dangerous to persons and property. The committee will announce their determination of a delayed start or cancellation 45 minutes before the fishing period.
- b. After fishing has begun, an announcement will be made on channel 9 if cancellation or postponement is imminent. A minimum of 15 minutes notice will be given prior to the early termination of a fishing period.
- c. If a fishing period is shortened, all boats must proceed as described in Section 9.

13. Disqualifications

- a. Disqualification for any reason will result in the forfeiture of all entry fees and official side pots.
- b. Failure to comply with any of the rules listed in Section 7 will result in disqualification.
- c. Failure to proceed directly to the weigh-in station will result in disqualification.
- d. If you arrive at the weigh-in station with more than 10 fish or more than 3 Lake Trout in your cooler, you will be disqualified.
- e. Any fish taken in violation of DNR rules will disqualify your catch. Size limits are 14 inches for salmon and 20 inches for lake trout.
- f. Failure to dispose of fish per state and local laws will result in disqualification.
- g. Running gunnel to gunnel or passing any item from boat to boat will result in disqualification. However, a tournament boat may stop to assist a vessel in distress.

14. Liability

- a. All reasonable precautions will be taken by the Tournament Committee to protect persons and property during the tournament. Neither the Tournament Committee, Rules Committee, officers and directors of the Hoosier Coho Club, or sponsors can or will be responsible for the safety of persons for accident, theft, damage by fire, vandalism, or any other cause for loss to a contestants property.
- b. Participants understand and agree to hold harmless the aforementioned groups and individuals from liability or damage as may be incurred from participation in the tournament.

15. Rules Changes

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to change any of these rules and post changes up to 45 minutes prior to the start of the tournament.