

Hoosier Coho Club Classic Tournament

May 5 & May 6th, 2018

Official Tournament Rules

1. Dates and Times

- a. Tournament dates are Saturday May 5th and Sunday May 6th, 2018.
- b. Registration will be held at the Michigan City Yacht Club Pavilion on May 4th from 5:00 to 7:00 PM (CDT). The Captain's meeting will follow immediately at 7:00 PM. **ALL CAPTAINS MUST ATTEND.**
- c. The awards ceremony will commence following the weigh-in on Sunday May 6th at the Michigan City Yacht Club Pavilion.
- d. Time limits for both days are 6 AM-1:00 PM (CDT) (NO RUN TIME).
- e. The contest is considered official if a minimum of three (3) hours are fished between Saturday and Sunday. Prizes will be awarded based on points accumulated during the official fishing periods.
- f. There shall be no fishing by tournament contestants except during tournament hours either day of the tournament. Nor shall a boat registered in the tournament leave the harbor for any reason on Saturday and Sunday except during the official periods.

2. Eligibility

- a. All captains must be a member of the Hoosier Coho Club and be a minimum of 18 years of age. Proof of membership is required at registration on May 4th. All non-members may join the club for \$20 annual dues.
- b. All boats must be equipped with a VHF marine radio in working order.
- c. Teams designated as "pro" must fish in the Pro Division. If one crew member is designated as "pro" then the entire team shall be designated as "pro." "Pro" shall be defined as follows: All licensed charter captains or anyone who has worked as a captain in the two (2) years prior to the event.
- d. A point system will be instituted. Once you reach 6 points in a 3-year timeframe you must move up to Pro Division or if you finish in 1st place, you automatically will move to Pro Division.

3. Entry Fees

- a. Pro Division: The basic entry fee is \$600; after April 29th, the fee is \$625.
- b. Amateur Division: The basic entry fee is \$200; after April 29th, the fee is \$225.
- c. All entries fees must be received **NO LATER THAN 7:00PM** on May 4th, 2018.
- d. If the tournament is cancelled due to weather conditions, all entry fees minus 10% will be refunded. In the case of a last-minute emergency that prevents an entrant from participating in the tournament, said entrant may apply to the tournament committee for a refund. The decision to refund shall be made by the committee.

4. Scoring

- a. Winners will be determined by a total accumulation of points based on:
 - i. Ten (10) points per legal fish weighed, plus:
 - ii. 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, and so on.

c. The following fish shall be eligible: Salmon and Trout greater than 14" in length, except Lake Trout that must be 15" minimum in length. **DNR rules will apply.**

5. Prizes—100% Payout

a. 1st place Pro Division pays out \$12,000 (based on 30 boats participating). Additional prizes may be awarded.

b. 1st place Amateur pays \$2500 (based on 30 boats participating). Additional prizes may be awarded.

c. Winnings will be paid down 10 places.

d. All prizes will be issued to winners at the tournament.

6. Second Day Shoot Out

a. Entry fee is \$150 Pro and \$100 Amateur. All entries must be received by 3:00 PM on May 5th, 2018.

b. The payout will be 70/30 of the pot to 1st and 2nd places for each division. The winner will be determined based on total points for day two.

7. Big Fish Contest

a. Entry fee is \$50. All entries must be received by 7:00 PM on May 4th.

b. One fish may be weighed in each day. The captain designates the first fish to be weighed as the big fish. **No test weighing. No exceptions will be made.**

c. There will be a sponsored payout paying down 10 places—all one division.

8. 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 states jurisdiction.

c. Maximum number of rods fishing at any time is nine (9). Fishing means "line in the water". One slider per rod will be allowed. Maximum 2 baits per rod. Maximum of 6-foot slider.

d. Pro Division has a maximum of 20 fish in their possession and fishing stops. Amateur Division has a maximum of 15 fish in their possession and fishing stops. If you net the fish and bring over the gunnel—it's your fish.

e. Pro Division-- a maximum of ten (10) Salmon and/or Trout may be weighed each fishing period and a maximum of five (5) Lake Trout may be included each fishing period.

f. Amateur Division—a maximum of five (5) Salmon and /or Trout may be weighed each fishing period and a maximum of three (3) Lake Trout may be included each fishing period.

g. DNR rules will apply for the waters being fished. 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 on violation of the DNR rules.

h. Minimum size for Lake Trout is 15 inches and all other species is 14 inches. Certified boards will be used at the weigh-in station. **DNR rules will apply.**

9. Start and Finish

a. The tournament committee will use Channel 78 to start and end each 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 fishing period.

c. Your boat **must** enter the Michigan City Harbor by 1:00 PM or you will be disqualified for that

particular day. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

d. All boats must radio in to tournament control on Channel 78 once inside the breakwall to notify that your boat is in at the end of each fishing period.

e. Once a fishing period is declared closed by the tournament committee no more fish may be boated.

10. Weigh-in

a. At the close of the fishing period the fish must be taken directly to the weigh-in station at the Michigan City Yacht Club Pavilion. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.

b. At least one crewmember and the observer (if applicable) will transport the fish to the weigh station and stay with the catch until it is officially scored and must be in line no later than 1 hour after the end of the fishing period.

c. Pro Division can weigh only 10 fish and Amateur Division can weigh only 5 fish. If you have more than the specified limit in your cooler at weigh-in, you will be disqualified for that days catch. **NO EXCEPTIONS! You must take out fish from your cooler to be weighed for side contests-do not present to tournament scales with greater than 10 fish for Pro or 5 fish for Amateur.**

d. ALL coolers will be opened and inspected at the weigh station. No water or loose ice will be allowed in the coolers at the weigh station. Water in the cooler at the weigh station will result in disqualification for that day's catch. Bagged ice may be used in the coolers at all times.

e. All fish may be tested for time in possession. The tournament committee may retain any fish for any reason.

f. Fish may not be left at the weigh-in station. Disposition of fish must be in compliance with state and local laws.

11. Communications

a. All participants should monitor Channel 78 at all times. Important tournament information will be broadcast on this channel. Please restrict communication to vital tournament communication only. Participants who miss these announcements will still be held liable.

12. Observers

a. Observers are required for the Pro Division. Observers may be placed on the 2nd day of tournament on the top 3 Amateur boats or on any boat at the discretion of the tournament committee.

b. Pro Division Captains are responsible for providing their own observer. The observer switch will take place on Friday night after the Captain's meeting. Captains and observers must be present for the switch. Observers must be on board 30 minutes prior to the start of each fishing period.

13. Boat Identification

a. The tournament committee will furnish a boat identification number at registration.

b. The ID number shall be prominently displayed on the port side from the start of the fishing period through the conclusion of the weigh-in.

14. Protests

a. Tournament judges will resolve disputes. Their decision will be final.

b. Protests must be presented to the Tournament judges in writing on the day of the infraction by within 60 minutes of the end of the fishing period with \$500. If the protest is upheld, you will get \$500 back, otherwise the tournament will retain the \$500.

15. Cancellations

a. The Tournament Committee may cancel the tournament, when in their opinion, conditions

could be dangerous to persons or property. The committee will announce their determination of a delayed start or cancellation 45 minutes before each fishing period.

b. After a fishing period has begun, an announcement will be made on Channel 78 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 Sections 9 and 10.

16. Disqualifications

a. Disqualification for any reason will result in the forfeiture of all entry fees.

b. Failure to comply with any of the rules listed in Section 8 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 area with more than 10 fish in your cooler or more than 5 Lake Trout you will be disqualified for that day's catch.

e. Water in the cooler and/or loose ice in the cooler at the weigh station will result in disqualification for that day's catch.

f. Any fish taken in violation of DNR regulations will disqualify that day's catch.

g. Failure to dispose of fish per state and local laws will result in disqualification.

h. 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. If assistance is needed, it must be called in to the tournament committee over the radio on channel 78 to notify them that you are assisting a vessel in distress.

17. 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 contestant's 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.

18. Rule Changes

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