

**16th ANNUAL MICHIANA STEELHEADER'S
BUFFALO BILL MEMORIAL
LAKE TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

APRIL 22nd, 2017/ BLOW DATE APRIL 23rd, 2017

REGISTRATION:

5:30AM- 6:00AM CST @ PORT AUTHORITY PAVILLION Same as Previous Years (ALL TIMES ARE CENTRAL STANDARD TIME)

DATES AND HOURS:

- **TOURNAMENT WILL BE HELD SATURDAY, APRIL 22nd, 2017, BLOW DATE APRIL 23rd**
- **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 BOATS MUST BE INSIDE THE MICHIGAN CITY PIERHEADS BY 1:30PM, ALL BOATS NOT IN SIDE PIERHEADS AT 1:30 PM WILL BE DISQUALIFIED

- **WEIGH IN STATION OPENS AT 1:00PM HOWEVER ALL ENTRANTS MUST HAVE SIGNED IN AT WEIGH STATION NO LATER THAN 2:30PM. WEIGH STATION SIGN INS AFTER 2:30PM 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 15th, 2017. \$100.00 PER BOAT DURING REGISTRATION PERIOD APRIL 22nd 5:30 AM – 6:00 AM. LATE ENTRYS WILL BE ACCEPTED UP UNTILL 6:00 AM CST APRIL 22nd, 2017, IN THE EVENT OF A BLOW DATE REGISTRATION PERIOD WILL RE-OPEN APRIL 23rd 5:30 AM – 6:00 AM. LATE ENTRYS WILL BE ACCEPTED UP UNTILL 6:00 AM CST APRIL 23rd**
- **CAPTAIN MUST BE A PAID MEMBER FOR 2017 OF THE MICHIANA STEELHEADERS. DUES FOR 2017 ARE \$25.00**
- **ALL CAPTAINS MUST SIGN AND INSURE COMPLETION OF THE 2017 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 HEAVIEST FISH WEIGHED IN THE OVERALL TOURNAMENT.**

IN THE EVENT OF CANCELLATION DUE TO WEATHER THE TOUNAMENT 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 MICHIANA STEELHEADERS TO OFFSET EXPENSES)**

CASH PAYOUT CONTINUED:

- CASH AWARDS WILL BE PAID TO THE TOP 3 ENTRANTS ON BASIS OF TOTAL POINTS SCORED. (SEE SCORING IN WEIGH-IN SECTION)
- 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 LINCENSE AND TROUT STAMP FOR INDIANA AS REQUIRED BY LAW AND MUST FOLLOW THE DNR RULES AND REGULATION FOR ANY OTHER STATE FISHED.
- ALL FISH MUST BE FAIRLY CAUGHT ON HOOK AND LINE IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONSERVATION LAWS.
- 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 HOOKLESS DEVICES DO NOT QUALIFY AS LURES.
- FROM THE START OF THE FISHING PERIOD (7AM 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 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 IT'S SLIP AND WALK THEIR FISH TO THE WEIGH-IN STATION
- NO LATER THAN 2:30PM CST A CREW MEMBER MUST DEPOSIT AND STAY WITH THEIR CATCH UNTILL THE CATCH IS OFFICIALLY SCORED AND THE SCORE SHEET SIGNED AND RETURNED TO THE WEIGHMASTER.
- WEIGH-IN STATION WILL CLOSE AT 2:30PM CST. ALL ENTRANTS MUST BE SIGNED IN BY THEN OR WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.
- BRING ONLY YOUR 10 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 WEIGH MASTERS 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 IB. KING WOULD SCORE 10PTS FOR BEING WEIGHED AND 10 POINTS FOR IT'S 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 WEIGH MASTER. 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 1ST.
- THE OPTIONAL BIG FISH AWARDS WILL BE DETERMINED BY WEIGHT ONLY AND THE POT DISTRIBUTED TO THE LARGEST FISH OF OVERALL TOURNAMENT.
- 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 DISECTION 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 THOURGHOUT THE TOURNAMENT DAY.

- IF THE TOURNAMENT IS SHORTENED DUE TO DETERIORATING WEATHER CONDITIONS THE COMMITTEE BOAT WILL ANNOUNCE IT'S 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 RESPOSIBILITY 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 2:45PM 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. IT'S 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 , UNRULELY, 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 IT'S 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 AFORMENTIONED 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