

# *Northern Oahe Series Fishing Tournament*

## **Championship Event**

*Friday, July 26th and Saturday, July 27th – Rules meeting at Scherr-Howe  
Event Center on Thursday, July 25th  
Rules, Participation Agreement and Release of Liability*

1. **Championship Registration:** All teams that have qualified by placing top 25 in one of the six qualifying tournaments must register for the championship and pay their entry *fee within the given time frame, failure to do so forfeits your points from that tournament.* Championship event will be capped at 150 teams. Any unclaimed spots up to 150 teams will be available prior to the Championship.
2. **Eligibility:** **Anglers that have placed in the first three tournaments must claim their place by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Qualifiers from the rest of the tournaments will have until July 22<sup>nd</sup> to claim their spot.** Entries must be complete, signed and returned along with **entry fee of \$300** per two (or three) person team. Must have a valid SD fishing license and be 18 years of age unless accompanied by parent or guardian. On, July 23rd, any unclaimed spots from the first four tournaments will be open to public for **\$400**. Those teams will be not be eligible for Team of the Year points.
3. **Fish Limits:** State regulations for amount: Can weigh in six (6) fish (two [2] 20” and over and four [4] under 20”). Fish must be 14” minimum.
4. **Boundaries:** Lake Oahe—North to the State Line; South to the 212 Bridge.
5. **Fishing Hours:** Friday, July 26th and Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
6. **Team Defined:** A team is defined as three anglers plus one alternate under one team name. You can register your team when you enter the tournaments of the series or by contacting a series tournament official at the tournament.
7. **Team of the Year Points:** Points will be accumulated by place in each tournament by team name. You only have to register once. 200 points will be awarded to the winner of each qualifying tournament, 199 to second, 198 to third, etc. through 25<sup>th</sup>. In order to qualify for team of the year points; a minimum of 2 team members must fish together as a team in any Northern Oahe qualifying tournament. You may fish more. The top three scores, if registered properly, will be used to go into the Championship. **Team name and captain must be listed on all tournament entries.**
8. **NEW THIS YEAR! Angler Advantage Pot:** Before each tournament, a representative of the Series will be on hand to register teams for the Angler Advantage Pot which is a fisherman funded pot paid out at the Championship. Pay sixty dollars into the pot and be able to claim your points by placement without qualifying. If you don’t enter the pot, you do not receive points. You must enter into this pot at least three times to be eligible for the final pot at the Championship.
9. **Weighted points for Championship:** For the championship, the top three scores, if registered properly, will be used to go into the championship. Points will be awarded for places by a two-point spread increment 200 for 1<sup>st</sup> place, 198 for 2<sup>nd</sup>, 196 for 3<sup>rd</sup>, etc. This will be calculated on a two-day average.
10. **Checkpoints:** There will be only one checkpoint in the morning and one check in point in the afternoon. (Indian Creek west boat ramp) Failure to go through boat check and checkout in the morning or failure to check in, will result in disqualification. All fishing must cease upon entering the bay.
11. **Safety:** All boats must follow U.S. Coast Guard and South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Regulations.

Boats will leave “Indian Creek” bay in single file by team number. A tournament boat will start each flight. No boat shall leave until signaled by the tournament boat. Teams will go out in order of highest team points first and then in ascending order. Those without points will go out in order of date of paid entry received. An official Northern Oahe Series boat will start each flight. No boat shall leave until signaled by this official boat.

12. **Sportsmanship:** Contestants are expected to practice good sportsmanship and safety practices. Proper respect shall be paramount and applied towards competitors as well as recreational anglers at all times. To achieve this: No boat shall alter course or impede progress of another boat or lines (such as planer boards or bobbers kept within 150 feet of fishing vessel). A minimum distance of 50 feet is to be kept from boats or lines at all times. This will be strictly enforced, and violation will result in disqualification. Disqualification will result in loss of all money paid into the Angler Advantage Pot.
13. **Tournament Headquarters:** Will be at the “Scherr-Howe Event Center”, Mobridge, SD. Tournament activities begin July 25<sup>th</sup> with a social from 6:00 pm—8:00 pm, followed by a short rules **meeting at 8:00 pm. Anglers have to be off the water by 4:00 pm the day of the rules meeting.**
14. **River Headquarters:** Will be at “Indian Creek”. Boat Inspection, launch and weigh-in will take place at River Headquarters.
15. **Scoring:** Prizes will be awarded to teams based on total weight caught during the day of the tournament. **Teams will weigh a total of six (6) walleye or sauger, of which two may be 20” or over. Remember, no culling, or sorting will be allowed.** This is a state law. Teams will be able to keep their fish, and will be responsible for cleaning, packaging, storing, and transportation per state regulations.
16. **Weigh-In:** You can start weighing in as early as 2:30 pm. Bump station will be at the Indian Creek Fish Cleaning Station. All water will have to be drained from live wells at this point, so you may want to bring a bag of ice to transport your fish to the weigh ins at Scherr Howe Event Center.
17. **Late: If you are late, you are disqualified.** Any team not returning on or before their assigned return time will be disqualified.
18. **Bad Weather:** If inclement weather, there will be no refunds on entry fees. Fishing tournament will be held on a Sunday, August 21st. If weather is still inclement on Sunday, prizes for places will be drawn.
19. **Rules Meeting: All team members must be present at rules meeting.** Must be present to win prizes. Need to have ID present to collect prizes.
20. **Non-Tournament Fishermen:** Tournament fishermen can’t fish with non-tournament fishermen.
21. **Regulations:** All South Dakota regulations will be followed, or disqualification will result.
22. **“Golden Rule”:** **The “Golden Rule” will be used as the official tournament ruler.** Fish will be measured on both sides and tails will be pinched with benefit going to the tournament angler if one side measurement should differ. Any mangled, mashed or mauled fish will be weighed at the discretion of the weigh-in official and tournament coordinator. All decisions of the measure master, weigh master and tournament coordinator are final at the time of measurement.
23. **Warning:** Under South Dakota law, no fishing tournament sponsor or fishing professional is liable for an injury to, or the death of, a participant resulting from the inherent risks of fishing, pursuant to 20-9-47 to 20-9-51 of the South Dakota Codified Laws.

**Participation Agreement:** I understand that this is a professional sporting event governed by the rules that have been established by tournament organizers. I acknowledge that I have received a copy of these rules and read them and understand them. In addition to terms of entry and competition, these rules relate to the safety of all participants as well as the fair sporting conduct of this event. The Tournament Chairperson(s) shall act as the referee in all disputes and his/her decision based on his/her interpretation of the rules will be final and without legal appeal. I understand there are never refunds for tournament entry fees.

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First Entrant

Date

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Second Entrant

Date

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Third Entrant (if applicable)

Date