

2022 Northern Oahe Series Qualifying and Championship

Friday, July 22nd and Saturday, July 23rd – Rules meeting at Akaska Community Center on
Thursday July 21st

Rules, Participation Agreement and release of Liability

1. **Championship Eligibility and Registration:** Teams may qualify by placing in the top 25 in any one of the 4 qualifying tournaments. Anglers that have participated in at least two (2) tournaments regardless of tournament placing may claim a Championship berth by registering no later than July 18th. Entries must be complete, signed and returned along with entry fee of \$300 per team. Must have a valid SD fishing license and be 18 years of age unless accompanied by parent or guardian. **All teams must also enter the South Dakota Walleye Classic-which will run concurrently with the championship.** Entry fee for the South Dakota Walleye Classic is \$300 and must be paid by July 18th.
2. Qualifying Teams wishing to fish the Championship must pay their entry fee within the given time frame. Failure to do so forfeits your points from that tournament. Championship will be limited to 100 teams.
3. **Fish Limits:** State regulations apply for fish allowed in competitors boat. Can weigh (7) fish (2) 20" and over and (5) under 20" fish must be 14" minimum. **All fish will be donated to charity.**
4. **Fishing Hours:** Friday July 22nd and Saturday July 23rd from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.
5. **Boundaries:** Lake Oahe – **North to the Hwy 12 bridge-under but not beyond-South to the Hwy 212 bridge-under but not beyond-and all of the Moreau River.**
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 *prior to start of* the tournament. A minimum of 2 of 4 named team members must fish an event to be considered for Team of the Year points and Championship qualification.
7. **Team of the Year Points:** Points will be accumulated by place in each qualifying 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 the balance of the Northern Oahe Series entries.
8. **Team name and Captain must be listed on all tournament entries.**
9. **Championship Purse Pot:** Each team wishing to fish the Championship *and* have points accumulate towards Team of the Year honors must submit \$50 per team *before* each Qualifying Tournament. **Teams must enter a minimum of 2 Qualifying Tournaments to be eligible for the final pot at the Championship. Half of the proceeds going to the Championship winning team and half to the Team of the Year.**
10. **Weighted points for Championship:** For Team of the Year, the top two scores, if registered properly, will be used for consideration going into the Championship. Championship Tournament **points will be awarded for places by a two-point spread increment, 200 for 1st place, 198 for 2nd place, 196 for 3rd, etc. This will be calculated on final two-day weight total for place.**

- 11. Checkpoints:** The Championships and the South Dakota Walleye Classic Tournament will both launch at the same time the first day from Swan Creek Bay in the order the entries were received for the SDWC by the tournament director of the SDWC. There will be one release boat. **The second day the order will be reversed last entry goes out first.** Failure to go through the boat inspection in the morning or failure to check in upon returning, will result in disqualification for that day. All fishing must cease upon check in at Swan Creek Bay.
12. **Safety:** All boats must follow U.S. Coast Guard and South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks regulations. Boats will leave Swan Creek Bay in single file by team number. A tournament boat will start the flights. No boat shall leave until signaled by the tournament boat.
- 13. Sportsmanship:** Contestants are expected to practice good sportsmanship and safety practices. ***At all tournaments-at all times. On and off the water.*** Proper respect shall be paramount, and these rules will be applied towards competitors as well as recreational anglers. To achieve this: no boat shall alter course or impede progress of another boat or lines (such as planner boards or bobbers kept within 150 feet of fishing vessel). A minimum distance of 50 feet is always to be kept from boats or lines. All rules will be strictly enforced. Violations will result in disqualification from the tournament where infraction occurred. Tournaments where infractions (other than late return) occur will not count towards tournament participation requirements to qualify for the Championship. If determined to be a flagrant infraction by Advisory Board and or Tournament Officials, ALL team members will be disqualified from any future events for the season. **Disqualification will result in forfeiture of all money paid into the Championship Purse Pot.**
14. **Tournament Headquarters:** Will be at the Akaska Community Center. Tournament activities begin July 21st **with registration from 3:00 – 5:00 pm and social hour beginning at 5:00 pm. Food, rules meeting and Calcutta for both the Northern Oahe Championship and the South Dakota Walleye Classic runs from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Anglers must be off the water by 2:30 pm on July 21st.**
15. **River Checkpoint:** The check point for boat inspection and the bump station will be located at the entrance to Swan Creek Recreation area.
16. **Scoring:** Prizes will be awarded to teams based on total weight caught during the days of the tournament. **Anglers may weigh a total of seven (7) walleye, sauger and saugeye , of which two (2) may be 20" or over and five(5) under with a minimum of 14". No culling or sorting in accordance with State Law. All fish will be donated to charity.**
17. **Weigh-In:** Anglers may check their fish in at the bump station starting at 2:30 P.M. The bump station will be located at the entrance to Swan Creek Recreation Area. **Drain all water from boats upon leaving the dock area, ice will be required to keep the fish fresh for the Official weigh-in at the Akaska Community Center.**
18. **Late Arrival:** **If you are late for check in you will be disqualified (from that day's competition). You may fish the subsequent day, if available. In the event that a tournament boat has maintenance issues and cannot proceed in time to make the official weigh-in time they must call or text the Tournament Director immediately. They must declare the number and size of the fish in their possession. The time of contact will be noted. Only once this has been done may they radio, text or call for assistance from any angler. The assisting boat must contact the Tournament Director by phone or text and declare the number of fish and size onboard their**

boat prior to loading the team member(s) and their fish onto the rescue boat. The rescue boat must then immediately and directly proceed to and report to check in boat and bump station. The official weigh-in time still prevails.

19. Non-Tournament Fisherman: Tournament fisherman cannot fish with non-tournament fisherman.

20. **Rules Meeting:** All Team members must be present at rules meeting. Must be present to win prizes. ID required to collect prizes.

21. **Bad Weather:** If inclement weather results in tournament being cancelled for safety concerns, there will be no refunds of entry fees. **If day one is cancelled, the tournament will be reduced to Saturday only. Should Saturday need to be cancelled due to safety concerns, a drawing will be held for places and subsequent prizes.**

22. **Regulations:** All South Dakota regulations will be followed, or disqualification will result.

23. **“Golden Rule”:** **The Golden rule will be used as the official tournament ruler. All fish will be examined by the measure master and all decisions will be final.**

24. **Be Advised:** 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 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 have read them and understand them. In addition to the terms of entry and competition, these rules relate to the safety of all participants as well as the fair sporting conduct of this event. Tournament Director shall act as the referee in all disputes and his/her decision based on the rules shall be final. I understand that there are no refunds for entry fees.

-----Date _____

First Entrant

-----Date _____

Second Entrant

-----Date _____

Third Entrant

_____Date _____

Alternate