



**PRE TOURNAMENT RULES MEETING** All teams are required to be at the Friday night pre-tournament rules meeting. One team member must attend meeting but both members of the team are highly encouraged. Boat numbers will be listed at the rules meeting. During boat check the morning of the tournament, official boat number card will be distributed upon completion of boat check. If both team members are unable to attend rules meeting they will be the last boat out at blast off in morning. Teams are completely responsible for any rules or rule changes given out at the Rules Meeting. By fishing this event teams are required to know all the rules of event. Which include pre tournament and written rules. Any case of unsportsmanlike conduct is grounds for disqualification in the case of not agreeing with the director, staff, and sponsors, in regard to all rules or unsportsmanlike conduct.

**CONTESTANTS ENTRY** Contestants are completely responsible for having entry / membership forms completely filled out and signed in order to fish this event. All contestants agree that by paying an entry fee that they have read all the below rules and choose to abide by them to the highest standards for Bass/Walleye/Muskie/Pike or all. All contestants agree that by participating in a this tournament that they are completely responsible for knowing and following the rules of the event. All contestants voluntarily waive their rights for any legal ramifications against the hosts of this event and there sponsors by competing, paying entry, paying membership, and participating in this tournament. Anglers can enter online and must agree to liability release, and terms and conditions of entry. Visit [www.tonkafishing.com/event](http://www.tonkafishing.com/event) for more information.

**BOAT NUMBERS AND TAKE OFF** The tournament director has the authority to change boat numbers. Changes in boat order from tournament director could incur due to safety, weather, tardiness of contestants, missing pre-tournament meeting, avoidance of rules, missing boat check, and unsportsmanlike conduct. Teams missing pre-tournament meeting will be last boat out during take off. Take off will occur in sequence of boat numbers listed at pre-tournament meeting. Boats will idle by take off in numerical order and use the utmost in safety when leaving on directors signal. If contestants leaves in order not in sequence of boat number that team may be disqualified at directors discretion for unsportsmanlike conduct.

**BOAT INSPECTION** A full interior compartment check prior to “take off” will be conducted at this event. Please have compartments on boat open for morning boat inspection. Boats will be checked at take off location or on the water and boat take off will be determined by boat number. Once take off is in progress all teams who have not been through boat check because of being late will be last out. Teams are responsible for getting boat inspection on time. It is at the director’s discretion and staff to inspect any late teams getting to boat inspection after takeoff. Teams are not allowed to leave takeoff area once boat is inspected. Teams without a boat inspection before participating in tournament are subject to disqualification. No teams fishing event will be able to submit CPR photos any fish for prize/money without being inspected. All teams must also provide proof of boat insurance.

**TOURNAMENT BOUNDARIES** Eligible tournament waters will be determined by the tournament director prior to the start of the tournament and will be in compliance with any state and federal laws including any specific permit regulations.

**OFF LIMITS PERIOD** The off limits period for the tournament will from 5:00 PM the evening of the pre-tournament meeting until the official “launch time” the day of the event. There will be no pre fishing allowed during or after the meeting or before take off in the morning.

**SAFETY** We ask all competitors to be extremely safety conscious during all parts of this event. Each competitor fully accepts complete responsibility of their own safety while participating in all parts of this events. Safe boating conduct will be observed at all times by each competitor. Each competitor will be required to wear a Coast Guard approved life vest, securely fastened, at all times while the boat is being propelled by the big combustion engine. Boats must have a kill switch attached to driver of boat when big motor is engaged. Failure to comply is grounds for disqualification. Running lights must be on if necessary and functioning properly at the take off of each tournament. Each competition boat must be equipped with an aeration live well or similar devise capable of keeping a tournament limit alive throughout the course of the competition day. Grounds for disqualification from event will occur if competitors does not comply with local, state, federal, or safety guidelines. Competitors are responsible for their own

safety during this event. Each competitor agrees to accept full responsibility for their personal safety by entering this event. In participating in this event contestants are fully aware that in no way are the staff, or its sponsors liable for contestants safety once contestant enters event. Contestants voluntarily waive all legal rights regarding safety and any incurring injuries including death by participating in this event. All contestants must completely read the rules to participate in this event in regards especially to safety. Safety is the full responsibility of the contestant. All contestants must provide up to date boaters insurance prior to fishing this event.

**SPORTSMANSHIP** Participants in this event are expected to follow the highest standard of sportsmanship, courtesy, and conservation. This event prohibits contestants from the use of alcohol or drugs during fishing tournament or pre tournament meeting subject to disqualification. This event expects participants to act in a sportsmanlike manner and obey the intent of the written rules and guidelines. The director of the tournament will have the final word and decision in all sportsmanship protests. If the tournament director feels that unsportsmanlike behavior has occurred you will be disqualified from event. Courtesy on and off the water towards other people including fisherman, families, and tournament contestants is expected to be in the best interest of this event. Contestants are fully expected to be courteous to all staff, volunteers, and event sponsors. No refunds will be given in any disqualification. Unsportsmanlike conduct is grounds for disqualification. Contestants agree that all decisions regarding unsportsmanlike conduct are final from the director.

**WEIGH-IN** will be Catch Photo Release, and will be on a first come first serve basis. The term weigh-in used in this document refers to Catch Photo Release. No fish are to be brought to "weigh in" only photos can be submitted. Once fish have been presented to a Tournament Official to be "weighed" all fish become the property of this event.. Once a team member has checked in or left the boat for the purpose of checking in, neither team member may fish or continue fishing. It is the team's responsibility to be at the weigh in on time and to weigh fish accordingly. Teams need to present themselves in a completely sportsmanlike friendly manner at the weigh in to staff, volunteers, sponsors, and fans. Also competitors should be aware that video, pictures, and interviews will be occurring. All teams will be provided one standard measuring tool and conversion chart the morning of the event (or at the Rules Meeting the day prior).

**LATE POLICY** Competitors who are not checked in by the start of the official "weigh in" will be penalized at a rate of 1 pound per minute, up to 15 minutes at which time their catch will be disqualified. Late penalties will also be deducted from "Big Fish" weight as well as total weight. Weight of fish to be determined by measure, and conversion charts.

**INVASIVE SPECIES** All participants will be expected to closely follow local and state regulations regarding proper protocol to prevent the spread of invasive aquatic plant and animal species.

**RULES INTERPRETATION** All decisions regarding any tournament rules, matter, protest or complaint will be made with the "spirit and intent of the rule" taken into "best context" with the director's decision being final. There will be no refunds of entry fees in disqualifications. All directors' decisions are final. The responsibility of knowing the rules is the contestant's responsibility. All contestants by paying an entry fee into this event agree to abide by the tournament rules. Contestants are required to read the rules before participating. Contestants are required and it is their own responsibility to know all the rules of the DNR, or law ordinances, and abide by any laws or regulations pertaining to this event. Failure to know the rules is not an excuse to not knowing the rules. Contestants are required to know the rules including pre-tournament meeting, director's decisions, and written.

**EMERGENCIES** Competitors shall remain with their partners in the boat at all times during the tournament, except in the event of health concern, severe storm or other weather or boating or navigational hazard. Competitors may leave the boat to dislodge it, but are required to return to the boat in prompt manner. If for any reason either or both team members decide to leave the tournament early, both members shall bear full responsibility for notifying the tournament director. If one team or both team members leave the water early, he/she may not return and resume fishing. One partner may continue fishing for the remainder of the tournament if other team member has to leave. In case of a mechanical breakdown, one partner may return with fish by another tournament boat while the other partner is permitted to stay with the non-functioning boat. It is each competitor's responsibility and not this event or its sponsor's responsibility for each contestant's personal safety.

**LIABILITY RELEASE** All participants and persons involved with TonkaFishing Memorial are involved at their own risk. TonkaFishing, LLC, it's Managing Members and Partners, as well as Hennepin County, and the City of Orono accept no responsibility for any injury or issues that may arise or occur. By participating in this event you agree to these terms, and you agree you have read the rules set forth.