

**UNITED WAY FISHING TOURNAMENT  
PRESENTED BY LUEKEN'S VILLAGE FOODS  
CATCH, PHOTO, & RELEASE**



**In place of a rules meeting, we are asking that both team members read and understand the rules for the tournament**  
**RULES**

The United Way of Bemidji Area Fishing Tournament presented by Lueken's Village Foods, a live catch and release tournament will be held beginning July 23, 2022 at 6 AM (CDT) and ending July 24, 2022 at 12 PM (CDT). All participants must comply with all Minnesota boating and fishing laws and regulations, as well as the following tournament rules:

**TEAMS**

- A team must have two (2) persons and must fish from the same boat. One (1) team per boat. Entry fee per team is \$200.00. Each team member must agree to these rules in order to participate in the tournament.
- One member of the team must be at least 18 years old
- One team member must register the team through the Fish Donkey App. The team can either share the account or use one phone to record measurements.

**FISH DONKEY**

- All registration and payment must be completed using the app.
- The Fish Donkey App will be used to photo document fish and will generate live leaderboards that will be pushed to all participants. The leaderboards will update throughout the event as fish are submitted. All entries will be considered unofficial until verified by tournament director.

**BODIES OF WATER**

- The tournament is restricted to all public lakes within Beltrami, Clearwater, and Hubbard County.
- Fishing must be legal and in public waters only: no private ponds, streams, lakes, or rivers. Participants may fish in any water that is open to public fishing.
- Fish Donkey App tag's location through their photo process and will be used to validate fish are caught within the eligible area.

**MEASURING & PHOTO DOCUMENTING**

- Stringers will consist of your 5 largest fish per division (Walleye/Bass) per team. **14" MINIMUM**
- All photos must be taken through the Fish Donkey App and measurements must be on the approved, Northland measuring board. Measuring boards can be picked up at Northwoods Bait & Tackle in Bemidji.
- Fish must be recorded immediately and measurements noted by length. All fish entered will be converted from a length to weight conversion which is done by the app.
- All submissions must include two photographs: **1)** A pic of you holding the fish (hero shot) **2)** A pic of the fish on the measuring board with closed mouth and pinched tail (scoring shot).
- The nose should touch the fence of the measuring board (the belly is facing you the angler measuring the fish, belly to belly). The head of the fish must be in the left hand on the angler. The measurement photo needs to include the entire fish on the board. The nose needs to be seen on the fence, the tail clearly visible at the graduation lines and everything in-between.
- If the fish's tail is touching a ¼" graduation line it may be rounded up ¼" for scoring purposes.
- The photo on the bump board must show the left side of the fish, the hero shot of the fish must show the right side of the fish. **NO EXCEPTIONS**
- Samples of qualifying photos will be posted on the tournament website to view before the tournament.
- All fish must be released after documentation
- No fish shall enter a livewell
- All participants must submit their fish at the time of catch and no entries will be allowed after the 12:00PM (July 24).
- All photos submitted may be used for marketing and event promotion

**MEASURING BOARDS**

- All participants must check out and return the tournament measuring board from Northwoods Bait & Tackle (Bemidji)-available beginning 7/16/2022

- \*participants outside of the Bemidji will work with the Tournament Director to receive their measuring board.
- No handmade measuring boards, stickers, or tape measures allowed.
- Participants must use the approved marked tournament measuring board.
- If your measurement is not clearly readable in your submission photo, it will automatically be disqualified. This is up to the discretion of the verification committee and cannot be challenged.
- Measuring Boards must be returned within one week of the tournament
- If measuring boards are returned after 7 days past the end of the tournament, there will be a \$100 fee.
- If instructions fail, please contact the tournament director

### **PRACTICE THE FISH DONKEY APP AHEAD OF TIME**

- Test the app before you get out on the water.
- Download Fish Donkey and click info View on the United Way tournament. Register and create your team, you can use your real names or pseudo names.

### **TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR**

- Your Tournament Director is Shannon Lee, Director of Marketing & Events, United Way of Bemidji Area. If you need to reach your director, their contact info is [Shannon@UnitedWayBemidji.org](mailto:Shannon@UnitedWayBemidji.org) or by phone at 320-260-2979
- The interpretation and enforcement of the rules is at the sole discretion of the director. The tournament director may change rules or impose sanctions as they deem appropriate, including but not limited to disqualifications, forfeiture of prizes, and prohibition from competing in future tournaments. All decisions made by the tournament director are final.

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

- All participants are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, and conservation.
- Any participant who displays poor sportsmanship, violates these rules, or brings unfavorable publicity to the sport of fishing could be disqualified. Encroachment is considered a sportsmanship rule.
- All protests must be brought to the director's attention BEFORE the end of the event.
- Anyone caught breaking the law or disobeying the rules will be disqualified.
- Fish must be hooked and caught live in a conventional manner. Fish cannot be snagged, netted, speared, etc.

### **TIEBREAKERS**

- All ties will be broken by determining the largest fish between the tying teams. If that is also a tie it will go to the next fish and so on and so on until the tie is broken. If all 6 fish were to be a match it would go to the earliest time that the largest fish is caught from the start of the tournament.

### **CLAIMING PRIZES**

- Ensure that your correct address, email, and mobile number appear in your app profile for prize announcements & delivery.
- Cash prizes will be distributed by mail, allow for 1-2 weeks for payment to arrive.

### **KRAUS ANDERSON LEGACY AWARD:**



- The Kraus Anderson Legacy Award will be presented to the top-ranking participant 15 years or younger. The top-ranking participant will be awarded a life-time fishing license.

### **KEG N' CORK BASS BIG FISH AWARD:**



- The Keg N' Cork Bass Big Fish Award will be presented to the largest bass entered in the tournament.

### **LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

- All federal, state, and local laws and all fishing and boating rules apply.
- Failure to comply with any tournament rules subjects' participants to disqualification and removal from the competition, as determined by the tournament officials. The right to refuse sale and/or revoke a competition ticket to anyone is hereby reserved.

### **SAFETY**

- Promoters, tournament directors, organizations, and sponsors are not responsible for death, injury, damage, liability, theft, fire, or loss of any kind to participants in tournament activities.

**QUESTIONS?** -If there are any questions about the rules, reach out to the tournament director.