



# 2024 Wine & Walleye Festival – July 26, 27 & 28, 2024

## Pro-Am Walleye Tournament Rules & Regulations

### Saturday, July 27, 2024

Amateur:	Walleye	Steelhead	Pro:	Walleye	Steelhead
1 <sup>st</sup> Place	\$2,500	\$300	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	\$2,000	\$300
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	\$800		2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	\$500	
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	\$250		3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	\$200	

#### WHERE

Walleye Headquarters (WHQ) will be at the Transient Dock on the Ashtabula River, Ashtabula, OH. This is located on the west side of the river, north of the Bascule Lift Bridge. Weigh-in will be held at this location. Anglers may leave from their ports in Ashtabula, Conneaut, Red Brook, Geneva, etc. but must weigh-in at WHQ before they return to their respective ports. Start time is 6:15am – no early departures. Finish time and cutoff is 2:30pm sharp.

Boundaries: Ohio waters of Lake Erie

#### WHAT

Kind of event: This is an individual event with amateur and pro divisions. Minimum 2 anglers per boat. Minimum boat size is 18' and must be equipped with a working marine radio. Ohio DNR Division of Watercraft and US Coast Guard safety regulations shall prevail. Any ticket given by ODNR or USCG for misuse of boating or fishing will immediately disqualify offenders.

#### WHO

Any Ohio fishing licensed angler or youth when accompanied by a parent or guardian. Every boat team must have at least one adult aboard. Ohio Division of Wildlife personnel will be present and checking license requirements. All participating boats must have liability insurance coverage. When completing the registration form, please include the name of the boat (if applicable) and the boat's captain.

#### COST

Registration Fees: All persons on board, including youths, must be entered and pay entry fees. **In person registration will begin at 5:30pm at WHQ Friday July 26<sup>th</sup>.**

Registration forms must be completed by each person on board (per boat) and signed for release of liability.

- Amateur registrations - \$50 per person.
- Pro registrations - \$250 per boat with a \$50 deposit for pre-registration, with entry fees due by July 26<sup>nd</sup>, before the mandatory meeting (pay at WHQ). Charter captains, **please contact Kevin Severino for more details – cell 440-218-0060**

#### FINAL CHECK IN

Boats must return to WHQ by 2:30pm. Measuring of fish will begin at 11:00am.

Every fish being entered into the contest must be at WHQ by 2:30pm sharp – no exceptions. The fish must be taken to the measuring station (WHQ) prior to the boat returning to port, dock, ramp, etc. **Mandatory meeting to cover specifics will be at WHQ Friday, July 26, 2024 at 7:00pm. \*At least one person per boat must attend.**

Amateur and Pro Division fish entry: Entry will be the total length of five (5) walleyes. No weights will be taken. In the event of a tie, the longest individual walleye amongst the five (5) entered will determine the winner. If a winner still cannot be determined, the 2<sup>nd</sup> longest, and so forth, will be used until a winner is determined. The longest individual steelhead will be determined the winner. In the event of a tie, weight will determine the winner for steelhead only.

#### BLOW DAY

The Wine & Walleye Fishing Tournament will be Saturday, July 27, 2024. Should a Blow Day occur, the Tournament will be held on Sunday, July 28, 2024. If the lake conditions are questionable, listen to Channel \_\_\_ regarding status of the Tournament. A Blow Day decision will be made by 6:00am. Should the fishing tournament not run due to inclement lake conditions both days, registrants will have the option of a 75% refund of registration paid or a complimentary 2025 Wine & Walleye Tournament registration.

#### OTHER DETAILS

Fishing regulations: Ohio DNR fishing regulations prevail. This a no-cull tournament; all legal fish must be kept. If you would like to donate any of the fish you catch, we will gladly accept donated fish for the Wine & Walleye Volunteer fish-fry held at a later date.

There will be unlimited use of marine radios and cell phones. Emergency marine radio channel is #16, Tournament information Channel is #68.



A trophy will be awarded to the pro division boat captain, which captures the winning walleye.

**Awards ceremony to be held at 4:00 pm at Walleye Headquarters at the Transient Dock on the Ashtabula River.**

**Rulings:** The tournament officials' decisions are final in all matters pertaining to the rules and conduct of participants. All top prize qualifiers could be required to take a polygraph. If any fraudulent attempt is made to acquire prizes the person and/or team will be disqualified – no exceptions. Such attempt may be considered a felony and subject to the violator(s) to prosecution and jail.

**Protests:** If anyone knows of a reason that an attempt has been made to defraud the tournament you may file a protest at WHQ. (\$50 fee will apply)

**Liability:** The tournament committee is taking all reasonable steps to host a safe tournament. However, the safety of all persons and property aboard any boat involved in our tournament is the exclusive responsibility of the owners and/or operators. All persons involved in the tournament will be required to sign a liability disclaimer which includes an acknowledgement that each person understands he or she is involved at his or her own risk, and agrees to hold the sponsors, tournament committee, judges, officers, directors and volunteers harmless from and against any and all claims for injury to persons or damage or loss to property. Minors will be required to have their parents or legal guardians sign the liability disclaimer form, which will constitute an agreement on the part of the parents or guardians to be responsible for the minors' safety. Failure to have a properly signed liability disclaimer on file will disqualify a participant from any and all prizes.

These are the basic rules and guidelines. Other rules and amendments may apply as necessary. For the most updated copy of the Wine & Walleye Festival Tournament rules and regulations, visit [www.wineandwalleyefestival.com](http://www.wineandwalleyefestival.com).