

2024

Washington State Pond Jumperz TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

ELIGIBILITY:

Participation in "Members Only or Invitational" events is restricted to current club members or approved guests. Tournaments designated as OPEN events are open to anyone with a valid Washington State Fishing License. Contestants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian that is also participating in the event. All contestants under the age of 18 must always wear a PFD. Each lake has a set limit of the number of allowed boats that may participate in an event. Available spots are filled in the following order. (1) Pre-Registered Club Members in good standing. (2) Pre-Registered non-members (3) Day of the event registration.

"Individual Tournament" - Each angler is in direct competition with all other anglers. Two anglers may fish from the same approved boat, but they are considered individual competitors. All fishing must be done from a boat. All local, state and federal laws are to be followed for your boat. All tournaments unless otherwise specified are "Idle Only" Use of the outboard motor is permitted but speeds cannot exceed 5mph. All boats must be equipped with a working aeration system (live well).

EQUIPMENT AND FISHING METHODS:

All U.S. Coast Guard approved safety equipment is required. Only artificial lures and pork trailers are permitted. NO LIVE BAIT. Only one rod may be used at a time. Trolling as a method of fishing is prohibited. All boats must be equipped with an aerated live well and the fish cared for to ensure live release. A rod of 8' in length may be used in any manner apart from vertically fishing for bedding bass.

FISHABLE WATERS/OFF LIMITS:

Fishable waters include any water reachable by boat and will be open to all contestants unless otherwise restricted by local, state, and/or federal regulations. All fishing and landing of fish must be done from the boat. Fishing within 50 yards of another contestant without permission is not permitted. Giving permission to one competitor and excluding another is prohibited. When a contestant is anchored there will be a 50-yard radius around them of non-fishable water unless otherwise permitted by said contestants. Off limits to pre-fishing is one week prior to the tournament date. No boats may be launched prior to the start day of the tournament date.

ENTRY:

Tournament registration will be announced prior to the event. The driver's meeting starts fifteen to twenty minutes prior to launch time. Each angler will need to complete registration, live well check, Invasive Aquatic Species form, Waiver of Liability form and have all registration fees paid no later than 15 minutes prior to stated start time. The draw for the starting position will take place at the drivers meeting. **Late entrants** – After the start of the drivers' meeting all registrations will be halted. If registration is missed an angler may find the Tournament Director on the water and enter the event at that time. No fishing is to be done until arrangements with the Tournament Director have been made.

ENTRY FEE:

The entry fee for club members in good standing is \$40.00 with \$35.00 to the tournament payouts and \$5 to the end of year bonus pot. The entry fee for non-club members is \$50.00 per angler and \$10.00 of that entry goes to the club. \$35.00 to go toward the various tournament payouts. Tournament pays top 3 to 4

spots based on number of entries. The number of payouts based on entries is made by the Board of Directors at the time of the tournament.

SCORING:

Largemouth and smallmouth bass may be targeted. A 12" minimum length will be enforced, measured on a flat board, mouth closed and swing the tail. Any fish determined to be less than 12" will result in a one-pound penalty per short fish and short fish will not be weighed. Any angler to bring in more than the tournament limit of 3 fish will be disqualified. In the event of a tie in the total weight of two or more anglers, the largest bass from each bag will determine the winner. All culling of fish must be done immediately upon landing the fish. Any culling at the weigh in site will not be permitted. Dead fish cannot be culled and must be retained. Each angler is allowed 1 re-weigh and final call is made by the tournament director. That angler must keep the second weight regardless of the result.

PENALTIES:

Official tournament time will be announced before take-off. Official time will be kept by the tournament director.

- For each minute a contestant is late, there will be a pound deducted from that angler's total weight. Any angler that is more than 10 minutes late will be disqualified.
- All contestants must pass a live well and safety equipment check prior to take off and be officially "checked in: at the designated place and time, for their score to count.
- There will be a 1.00-pound penalty for every dead fish brought in to weigh in. This will be deducted from that angler's total weight, however, will not be penalized for the big fish contest.
- An angler or non-participant may tow a competing vessel back to weigh-in under emergency/breakdown situations.
- There are **no "restarts"** for any reason.
- Boats are never to be boarded by any competitor or non-competitor at any time **INCLUDING WEIGH-IN**.
- All anglers weighing fish must leave their boat in the water until after their fish are weighed.
- The use of cell phones or electronic communication devices is strictly prohibited during events for the purpose of gaining information about the current lake or fishing tactics for that lake. They may be available for emergency purposes. Mapping or Navigational Apps on cell phones can be used.
- During the entire tournament, a strict 5mph speed limit is enforced. Anyone found to exceed the 5mph speed will be immediately disqualified. The only exception will be that the current tournament director may run open throttle to the tournament weigh-in to perform his duties in a timely manner.

PROTEST:

All protests must be made in writing within 10 minutes of the last call for fish the day the violation occurred. Written protests will result in a binding decision being made. If the director is unable to resolve a dispute by substantiated evidence or admission of the accused, a polygraph will be required as instituted by the director only. The results of that polygraph will be binding. Both the filing party and accused must post deposit in the amount of \$650 for the cost of testing. Refusal to post a deposit by either party will result in a binding decision being made at that time. Deposit will be returned to the party in which the polygraph found in favor of. A decision of the protest will be governed by event officials only unless the protest involves an official. Any participant is subject to polygraph at request of the director at any time with or without cause. Any protests and/or official findings of rule violations will be available for public review on pondjumperz.com.

SPORTSMANSHIP:

The laws of good judgment and sportsmanship as well as **courtesy towards others** on or off the water will be strictly always adhered to. Any person found to be cheating or unsportsmanlike conduct by officials will be disqualified from participating in the event.

LIABILITY:

All contestants must sign a waiver absolving the club, sponsors, co-sponsors, and tournament officials from any responsibility for any damage and or personal injury sustained as result of their participation in this tournament or related activities. Boat owners will need to fill out invasive aquatic species form. All boat owners are expected to have their own boat insurance.

WINNINGS:

There are no substitutions for prizes awarded. All taxes, local state or federal along with licensing and registration are the sole responsibility of the winner.

CONCLUSION:

- ALL FISH MUST BE TAKEN BACK OUT TO DEEP WATER TO BE RELEASED
- WSPJ reserves the right to adjust tournament times or outright cancel/reschedule either day or the entire event due to emergency/severe/unforeseen conditions.
- It is each participant's responsibility to make individual decisions about their own safety in the event of severe weather.
- Any rules, interpretation of the rules, or rules not covered will be governed by event officials only and those decisions will be binding.
- WSPJ reserves the right to accept or refuse any entry received.