

*Rules for the
2019 World Championship Musky Classic*

- 1). Fishing during “The Classic” will be conducted according to Wisconsin DNR rules with these following exceptions:
 - A) Musky will only be accepted for recording on the Leaderboards and for Release Pins if they are Tournament Legal, which is 35+ inches. Musky can only be TRANSPORTED to a registration station for recording on the Leaderboards and Trophy Eligibility if they are DNR Legal, which is 40+ inches. DNR Legal applies to all trophies with exceptions being made for the “Ann Deakin Memorial” trophy and the “Sherer Fly Fishing” trophy. If no 40+ inch fish are caught in these categories, trophies are awarded on the basis of reported “on the water released” tournament legal fish 35+ inches.
 - B) Tournament fishing schedule for “The Classic” is:
 1. **Friday, September 6, 2019, 12:00 noon to 6:00 P.M.**
 2. **Saturday, September 7, 2019, 7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.**
 3. **Sunday, September 8, 2019, 7:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.**
 - C) No “jug” or “bottle” fishing will be allowed.
 - D) No motor trolling will be allowed (this includes back trolling).
 - E) **No more than two (2) lines per fisherman.**
 - F) No spearing will be allowed.
 - G) **The Classic board recommends that all fish registered should be transported to the registration station in a live well. If your boat does not have a live well please ask a nearby boat to transport the fish for registration for you. This will better insure the LIVE release of the Musky. We ask all sportsmen to honor a request by other fishermen to transport the fish as a gesture of true sportsmanship.**
 - H) Contestants must use artificial baits only.
- 2). Contestants registered in “The Classic” may fish only on the lakes designated for “The Classic.”
- 3). **Contestants must register with the landing personnel or Musky Base each time they enter a lake or chain BEFORE they start fishing. It will not be required to check out upon leaving, but the Classic will not be held responsible for the whereabouts of contestants after the hours of tournament fishing.**
- 4). Contestants may fish alone or with other contestants but fishing partners must be registered in the same division. All people in the boat must be registered in “The Classic.”
- 5). Individual divisions are:
 - A) Sportsman (amateur, non-compensated fishermen)
 - B) Open (Licensed guides, people hiring guides, guests of “The Classic,” “pro” or compensated fishermen or fishermen wishing to fish all four townships.
- 6). Contestants are responsible for obtaining all their own equipment.
- 7). Musky will be accepted for registration only during the specified hours. Only musky registered at official “Classic” stations will be recognized as being in the contest. **The definition of “time caught” on the leaderboard equals the time registered at a “Classic” station. Musky can be registered at ANY “Classic” registration station on the lake or chain of lakes under Rule #3 so as to shorten travel time as much as possible.**
- 8). All musky entered in the contest will be judged on length only. If there is a tie at a particular length, time registered will be used to determine the winner, with the earliest time declared the winner. If both length and time caught are the same, duplicate recognition and awards will be presented.
- 9). There will be three (3) trophies awarded (1st, 2nd & 3rd place) in the “Club Division” A Club consists of eleven or more (11+) members who are registered in the tournament as a member of that Club, **regardless of designated or prior year classification of said Club.** The longest musky (maximum of three) caught by members of the same club will count as that club’s total toward the “Club Division” championship. The club registering the longest combined length (up to 3 per club) will receive the championship trophy. There can only be one (1) club affiliation per contestant as per the entry form, and that club affiliation must be listed prior to the start of the contest. Second and third place will be the next longest length totals.
- 10). There will be three (3) trophies awarded (1st, 2nd, & 3rd place) in the “Team Division.” A team consists of one to ten (1-10) members, **regardless of designated or prior year classification of said Team.** There can only be one (1) Team affiliation per contestant, as per the entry form, and that Team affiliation must be listed prior to the start of the contest. The longest length total of musky (up to three per team) will receive the first place trophy. Second and third place will be the next longest length totals.
- 11). There will be five (5) places in the “Sportsman’s Division.” The longest five musky entered in that division will receive, respective to their length, first through fifth place trophies.

- 12). The longest single musky released will win the “Largest Musky Released” trophy, along with a replica mount to be presented at the following year’s award ceremony.
- 13). The longest single musky released by a female contestant will win the “Ann Deakin Memorial” trophy.
- 14). The “Harry Nordquist Memorial” trophy, will be awarded to the individual who caught the most inches total of registered fish. (Must be more than one fish.)
- 15). The Sherer Fly Fishing trophy will be awarded to the individual who caught the longest musky while fly fishing. Fishermen must abide by Fly Fishing techniques to be eligible for this trophy.
- 16). Contestants **MUST** register their catches at official Musky Classic registration stations if they wish to have their fish entered in the competition. Length will be determined by using the registration station measuring boards at the landings, to the nearest 1/8 inch.
- 17). There will be three (3) places in the “Open Division.” The longest three fish, respectively, will win first, second and third place trophies.
- 18). A registered fish may be examined by “Musky Classic” personnel, if and when the Board of Directors deems that action necessary.
- 19). If a contestant has a question about the rules or any part of the “Musky Classic,” he/she should first ask the personnel at the landings. If further clarification is necessary, “Musky Base” should be contacted. If “Musky Base” cannot answer the question or deems the question a matter for Board action, The Board of Directors will be contacted for a final ruling.
- 20). Any contestant not following the rules may be disqualified from participating in the World Championship Musky Classic for whatever period of time the Board of Directors determines is appropriate.
- 21). **Contestants releasing 40 inch or larger musky “on the water” without registering them at the appropriate Musky Classic registration station will receive *gold* “release pins” if they notify the landing personnel of the release the same day the fish was caught. Contestants releasing 35 to 40 inch musky “on the water” will receive *silver* “release pins” if they notify the landing personnel or Musky Base of the release the same day the fish was caught.**
All registered fish on the leaderboard that are successfully released are also eligible for a *gold* “release pin.
- 22). Fishermen wishing to register a musky at a registration station should transport the musky from their boat to the measuring board themselves. If a contestant needs help, he/she may request help from the landing personnel and they will help to the extent that they can. The fisherman is still in charge of the disposition of the musky after each musky is measured. “The Musky Classic” recommends the release of all musky, but it is not mandatory during the tournament.
- 23). **Any registrant under 16 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian or be in possession of a boater’s safety certificate.**

NOTE: The DNR has stated that they consider a musky transported to a registration station as a fish “in possession” of the person who caught the fish. In the case of musky, the daily bag limit is one (1), which means that a fisherman registering a musky at a registration station has caught his/her daily bag limit and may not catch another that day. Even if the musky is released unharmed immediately following the registration, it is still interpreted by the DNR as “in possession.” DNR Regulations state the following:

NR 20.40 (p) “Possess” for the purposes of this section means to **own, control, retrain, transport, or keep**. **Once a fish is possessed, it shall be counted toward the angler’s daily bag limit** pursuant to s. NR 20.05 (7). **Any of the following conditions constitute possession:**

1. **Holding a fish out of the water longer than necessary to remove hooks and measure the fish for weight, length or both.**
2. **Placing a fish into a live well except to revive a fish or to avoid imminent boating danger.**
3. **Holding a fish at the side of a stationary boat for longer than necessary to register and revive the fish.**
4. **Resuming fishing by any angler in the boat prior to release of the fish.**