

# Epping Rural Fire Ice Fishing Tournament Rules

**Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

1. Entry Fee for the Tournament is \$300.00. A minimum of 75% of any entry or participation will be returned to the contestants as cash or merchandise, which must be cash equivalent and cannot include donated merchandise when an entry fee is required. The remaining 25% will be split as follows: 10% to ND Game and Fish and 15% to Epping Fire to administrate the tournament.
2. You must fish in our designated area and always have your Team # in your possession. Ice Fish at your own risk. Waiver of Liability will be required from all contestants.
3. Site of the contest will be as marked on the Site map provided.
4. The operating hours of the Tournament will be from 8am CST to 6pm CST. **Both** Members of the team must be present Saturday morning to receive tournament tags. No exceptions. At end of day all contestants must be checked in at Fire Hall by 6pm CST to be eligible to weigh their fish. Any teams not in line by 6pm CST will be disqualified from awards and door prizes. Any unused tags must be turned in at weigh time. Such as: caught 6 fish, turn in 4 remaining tags to make 10. If you catch zero fish, all tags must be turned in for team accountability purposes. We will have a zero-catch line to turn in tags.
5. One Team member from each team registered in the Tournament must attend the Rules Meeting on January 12th, 2024 at 6pm CST at Epping Fire Long Creek Fire Hall.
6. Weigh-ins will be held at the Epping Long Creek Fire Hall. When Leaving a body of water, fish **MAY NOT** be transported in water. Transportation of fish in or on ice is allowed.
7. All teams may catch a legal limit. Each Team can weigh up to ten (10) Walleye and/or Sauger. Fish must be a minimum of 15 inches in length to be weighed. There will be absolutely **NO CULLING** of Fish. If fish are dead, they will be weighed at the discretion of the weigh master. Following recorded weights of the fish, tails will be clipped.
8. All contestants must have a current North Dakota Fishing License and will abide by all State Laws.
9. Patrol Teams will be present during the Fishing Tournament. All personal articles are subject to search prior and during fishing hours. No Lines are allowed to be in water between the end of the rules and the tournament start time. Any lines found in water following rules meeting and prior to tournament start time will result in immediate team disqualification.
10. Participants must act and behave in an orderly manner and be responsible for their actions.
11. All garbage or debris are to be removed by participants. Pack it In – Pack it Out.
12. In the event of a tie, the biggest fish weighed will be awarded the higher position.
13. Decisions by our Judges will be binding and final.
14. All participants are responsible for license fees. Any winning participants will be responsible for their own taxes and fees if applicable. If a minor participant wins any prize, the parent or guardian will be responsible for all fees and taxes.
15. Failure to comply with all posted rules as printed or announced at meetings will result in disqualification and participation in contest. Any registration fees paid will be forfeited.
16. All participants will be responsible for their fish or may donate fish at the tournament to the approved organization present and accepting the donation of your fish.
17. In the event of inclement weather, the Tournament Official will have the authority to Postpone or cancel the event. If event is cancelled, the winners will be drawn at random by Team number for event prize payouts.
18. We appreciate your participation and look forward to good fun sportsman conduct at all times.