



*is proud to present*

# **The 2025 Erie PA Sport Fishing Association “SUMMER SLAM”**

**Amateur Division (walleye only) Rules**

**One or Two-Day Competition**

**2-day overall division winner**

**Saturday July 19<sup>th</sup> and Sunday July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Captains meeting Location: Friday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 PM

between the Sloppy Duck restaurant and Perry's Marina boat lift off the Bayfront highway

Weigh-ins will be held

Sloppy Duck Saloon 726 W Bayfront Pkwy, Erie PA beginning at 2:00 pm

90% of all entry fees will be paid back in cash prizes

For more information or to enter visit <https://epsfa.com/summer-slam/>

**[www.epsfa.com](http://www.epsfa.com)**

Questions? Call Paul O. at (814) 566-4995

## 2025 "SUMMER SLAM" Amateur Division Rules:

**PRO division Definition:** Any captain or team member, who is a licensed fishing charter boat captain or ex-fishing charter boat captain, fishing guide, commercial fisherman, currently represents a major fishing related product or who currently promotes a major fishing product will be required to enter the PRO Division. Anyone can choose to fish the PRO division.

1. **Membership in the EPSFA is not required** but is encouraged. Individuals that have had their memberships terminated or suspended by the EPSFA are unable to compete in this event. Teams that compete with a suspended or terminated member will be disqualified without refund.
2. **Entry fee:**
  1. **Main amateur event (walleyes only):** Participants have the option of fishing Saturday (for \$200), Sunday (for \$200), or \$400 for both days. Entry Fee(s) must be paid prior to the start of tournament. Big walleye entry of \$10.00 per team, per day, is included and will be paid out in full. Big walleye will be determined by weight.
  2. For the amateur division only, there is an **optional steelhead, brown trout, or salmon Calcutta** (no Lake Trout) of \$20 per day, payable at captains meeting. Big trout/salmon will be determined by weight. This is 100% **cash** payback.
  3. **Online Payment for the main event is due by 11:59 pm Friday, July 11th, 2025.** Payments must be made online at <https://epsfa.com/summer-slam/>. No online entries will be accepted after July 11th, 2025. There will be no refunds (unless cancelled due to weather and 100% of entry fee is returned). **Late entries will be accepted at the captain's meeting, at 5:00pm, Friday July 18th, 2025, along with an additional \$100 late payment fee.**
3. **An optional \$400 cash only "double down" Calcutta** is also available. You must fish both days to be in Calcutta. This is 100% **cash** payback Calcutta. Combined points from Saturday and Sunday will determine placement. You must **"RSVP"** on <https://epsfa.com/summer-slam/> **by 11:59 pm Friday July 11th, 2025.** The "Double down" **cash** payment is due at the captains meeting. Any **"RSVP"** not paid at the captains meeting is cause for disqualification. There will be no refunds (unless cancelled due to weather and 100% of Calcutta is returned). Late entries only can sign up at captains meeting. The Calcutta will be paid out in the same top 20% of the field format as the main entry. (see #4) The more teams we have in the Calcutta, the more places are paid in the Calcutta.
4. **This is a 90% payback tournament.** The EPSFA retains 10% to pay for equipment rental, processing, and administration fees. The remaining entry fees will be paid out in the form of checks. The top 20% of paid entries will earn a check with a limit of 10 checks distributed. Example: 16-20 boats pay 4 places, 21-25 boats pay 5 places, 26-30 boats pay 6 places, 31-35 boats pay 7 places, 36-40 boats pay 8 places, 41-45 boats pay 9 places, and 46 boats and up pay 10 places.
5. **Captains meeting** will be held at **5:00 pm "sharp" on Friday July 18th, 2025, between the Sloppy Duck restaurant and Perry's Marina boat lift** off the Bayfront highway. All Captain's or a competent crew member must attend. The remainder of the Team does not need to attend.
6. Each team must fill out their **disclaimer form** completely, take a picture of the disclaimer and send it to tournament director Candie Wright at 814-602-8436. The picture must be received and readable prior to start fishing time of 6:00 AM. Please do not text disclaimers prior to 4:30 am each morning of the event. Disclaimers will be accepted between the hours of 4:30 AM and 6:00 AM only. **Team disclaimer pictures not sent to Candie by 6:00 AM will be disqualified for that day.**
7. **Random boat checks:** morning and afternoon, may be randomly conducted by EPSFA officials on the day of the tournament. Random coolers may be collected by EPSFA officials upon returning to the listed departure point on disclaimer. They will be sealed and transported to Bayfront Park and Ride weigh-in by EPSFA officials. **Any team refusing the random boat/cooler check will be automatically disqualified for refusal.**
8. All boats may leave the docks after their Captain or teammate have texted their disclaimer form and have been **released from port** depending on weather.
9. **Weigh in location:** Sloppy Duck Saloon 726 W Bayfront Pkwy, Erie PA
10. **Start Time:** No fishing lines may enter the water until 6:00AM. The EPSFA will use satellite time (from GPS or cell phones) when determining start and end times. Planer boards can be deployed, and electronics used prior to 6:00AM. There is no stop fishing time. **Coolers must be in the weigh-in line by 3:00pm at the designated weigh in location or that team's catch is disqualified for the day.**
11. This is a trolling tournament only.
12. **Points** will be awarded as follows: 10 points per fish and 1 point per pound.
13. **Fish must be 18"** or larger for this tournament. Squeeze the tail to get the longest measurement. Short fish will be disqualified, and your team will be assessed a 10-point penalty.
14. **Main amateur event: A maximum of 6 legal fish: walleye only** can be brought to the weigh in. There will be a **25-point penalty** for bringing more than 6 walleye to weigh-in. Pick your 6-best walleye and bring those fish to the weigh-in site. Tournament boats can keep their legal limit of Walleyes and trout per licensed angler if they choose to do so. Teams can choose to let fish go if they are unharmed. Teams can have one non-walleye fish in their cooler in conjunction with their 6 walleyes if in Calcutta.
15. **Optional daily steelhead, brown trout, salmon Calcutta** (no lake trout): For an optional \$20 per day, paid at the captains meeting, anglers can bring in and weigh their largest steelhead, brown trout or salmon (no Lake Trout). Big trout/salmon will be determined by weight.
16. The maximum rods allowed to be fished in this event will be (9) if there are (3) licensed anglers on board. At no time will teams be allowed to place more than (9) rods in the water at one time. However, you will only be allowed (3) lines per licensed angler if

there are less than (3) licensed anglers on board. PA Fish and Boat Commission fishing laws apply to this event. A valid PA license and applicable permits are required.

17. This is a **“NO Communication”** tournament. Teams cannot use cell phones, VHF radios or any other form of communication for this event. All participating boats must be equipped with an operational VHF radio. Tournament control will operate on Channel 88. All teams must monitor channel 88 until 6:00am, in case of delays or changes. All boats are required to monitor channel 16, except when directed to Channel 88 for communication. After being directed to channel 88, all teams must return to channel 16. **channel scanning is not permitted.** Cellular phones may be present on the boat. However, prior to the 6:00 start time, all devices must be turned off or put in airplane mode. Devices shall not be used (except in the case of emergencies) until the returning boat is secured in docking slip or trailered.
18. **Bad Weather:** If there is a delay it will be announced at 4:45 am, the next announcement will take place at 5:45 am and so on until teams are **released from port**, or that day’s tournament is cancelled. If that day’s tournament cannot begin by 10:00am due to weather, that day will be cancelled. In the event of questionable weather or rough water conditions, the Captain will ultimately be responsible for making the Team’s decision whether to fish that day or not once released.
19. **In case of a boat failure**, and a tow is required. The towed boat’s day’s catch, and one team member, may be transferred to another team’s boat to make the weigh-in deadline. However, the tournament committee (or tournament director **Candie @ (814) 602-8436** must be notified on channel 16 or **via cell phone** in advance, prior to ship-to-ship contact. The towed team’s cooler must still be in line by 3:00pm, no exceptions.
20. **All contestants must fish from a boat.** All boats must have a registered length of 18ft. or larger, have a working marine radio, and all necessary US Coast Guard approved safety devices on board.
21. **Each team must display a flag** provided by the EPSFA. This flag must be permanently attached to the boat where it can be easily seen 360 degrees. Failure to display flag will result in 25-point penalty. Pro division (red) flags & amateur (yellow).
22. **All teams must depart from any Pennsylvania port.** All teams **MUST** return to their original departure point, with their entire cooler of fish. There will be no exception to this rule. (unless seeking shelter from inclement weather or dangerous seas). However, the tournament committee (or tournament director **Candie @ (814) 602-8436** must be notified on channel 16 or via cell phone in advance, prior to docking. The team’s coolers must still be in line by 3:00 pm, no exceptions.
23. **Fishing is prohibited outside of Pennsylvania waters.** If you are caught fishing outside of the PA water boundaries, your catch will be disqualified.
24. **Weigh in and award ceremony** will be held at the designated weigh in location. Weigh-ins will begin at 2:00 pm. **Cooler must be in line by 3:00pm or your catch will be disqualified.** The day’s catch must not leave the boat under any circumstance until the day’s fishing is over (exception rule 16) and the boat is docked or trailered. At least one team member must remain with the day’s catch until it has been weighed in. All coolers brought to the scale shall be free of foreign objects, loose ice cubes and water. Block ice, bag ice or frozen containers is acceptable. A 25-point reduction penalty will be assessed against teams that violate this rule. It is the Captains responsibility to ensure that fish are free of ice or any foreign objects prior to being brought to the weigh in. Fish will be checked for any foreign objects or ice in mouth.
25. **Big Fish Overall:** All teams must mark their **big walleye** with a colored zip tie. Largest walleye by weight will be used.
26. **Tie breakers:** If a tie occurs, the first tie breaker is big walleye weight, second tie breaker is big walleye length, 3rd tie breaker will result in a coin flip.
27. Anyone caught **cheating** or in violation of these rules will be disqualified. No entry fees will be returned, and that Captain may be banned from any future EPSFA fishing competitions. Furthermore, anyone caught cheating in EPSFA tournaments, or any other fishing related competitions will be banned from entering any EPSFA events.
28. **All protests** must be made within 15 minutes after the last team has weighed in and voiced to a member of the EPSFA rules committee or Tournament Director. Protests must be accompanied by a \$100 fee. Protests are only refundable if the protest is won by the protesting Team.
29. All decisions made by the tournament director or rules committee are **final**. It is the intention of the supporters to provide an honest, sportsmanlike event. In the interest of good sportsmanship, contestants are reminded that the “spirit of the rule” will prevail in all judgement cases. Competitors may be disqualified for any violation of the tournament rules, with no refund.
30. All points leaders must be willing to submit to a polygraph examination. All winning fish may be tested for time in possession. All fish weighed in must remain in a designated area until the winners have been determined, and the coolers have been released. EPSFA reserves the right to randomly cut fish.
31. **Misconduct:** Any inappropriate, improper, or abusive conduct by any participant towards any tournament official, volunteer, or fellow participants shall be deemed a violation of the rules and may be subject to disqualification as determined by the tournament committee.
32. **Liability:** Every reasonable precaution will be taken by the tournament committee to protect persons and property during the contest. However, neither the sponsors mentioned, nor tournament committee, judges, officers, directors, volunteers, or employees of the same are responsible for the safety of persons or property of participants regarding accidents, theft, fire, vandalism, drowning or any other cause. The tournament committee is not responsible for emergency assistance. All participants further understand and agree to hold harmless members and previously mentioned groups and individuals by signing the liability disclaimer before the tournament begins.
33. **Fish disposal and drop off:** Any fish found deposited into dumpsters, marinas, or other areas where they will be deemed as unsightly or as trash may lead to prosecution. Those individuals will be excluded from future tournaments being held by the EPSFA. The EPSFA will accept all unwanted fish and will provide a fish drop off cooler at the event.



## Summer Slam Disclaimer Form

By signing below, we agree to the following:

1. This form must be **printed and completed by all captains and team members**. NO EXCEPTIONS  
Failure to report to Captains meeting on Friday July 18th, 2025, or not providing picture of signed disclaimers for the entire team by 6:00 AM each morning of the tournament-to-tournament director (**Candie Wright 814-602-8436**), will disqualify your team. No REFUNDS  
Please do not text these prior to 4:30 am each morning of the event. These will be accepted between the hours of 4:30 am and 6:00 am only.
2. We have received, reviewed, and understand all tournament rules and will abide by them.
3. We will not hold the Erie PA Sport Fishing Association, its volunteers, sponsors, members, staff, or officers responsible or claim that they have any legal or financial liability for any type of accident, incident, Act of God, or event which may cause injury, death, or any type of loss or harm to any Captain, team member, or non-team member.
4. We agree to take a polygraph test if required by the EPSFA rules committee.
5. We agree to allow our boat, cooler and catch to be inspected anytime by a designated EPSFA official upon request. The EPSFA reserves the right to cut open any fish to look for intentional watering or tampering. Random coolers may be collected by EPSFA officials upon returning to the listed departure point on disclaimer. They will be sealed and transported to weigh-in by EPSFA officials.

Division-PRO/AM: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Location (Marina): \_\_\_\_\_ Slip number: \_\_\_\_\_

Boat make: \_\_\_\_\_ Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Colors: \_\_\_\_\_

**PRINT NAME HERE (required)**

**SIGN HERE (required)**

Team Captain: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Required \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Required \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Required \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 3: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Required \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 4: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Required \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 5: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Required \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 6: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Required \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 7: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Required \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member 8: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature Required \_\_\_\_\_