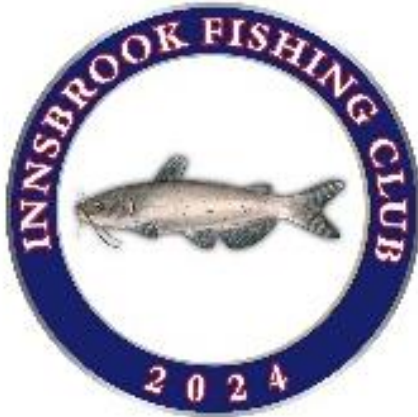


# Innsbrook Fishing Club

## Newsletter – Spring 2024



### The Innsbrook Fishing Club is Now a Non-Profit Organization



The Innsbrook Fishing Club has been granted 501(c)3 status as a non-profit organization. To that end, the Club has adopted new bylaws and established an initial Board of Directors. The bylaws focus on education, conservation, and community involvement. Our purpose is to enhance fishing education and opportunities, lake improvements and conservation, and community engagement. **Your club membership is now tax deductible.** Don't forget to support our cause by becoming a member. You might consider upgrading your status to take advantage of the tax break.

#### Initial Board of Directors

Chris Chivetta, Member, Chairmen, President

Mark Birchler, Member, Treasurer

Jim Schuessler, Member, Secretary (Large Lake Representative)

Joe Kinnison, Member, Vice-President (Large Lake Representative)

John O'Toole, Member (Small Lake Representative)

John Strain, Member (Small Lake Representative)

Charlie Boyce, Member (IBK Corporation Representative)

### Key Dates

**March 8-10** - **Spring Habitat Days**

**April 6** - **Spring Fishing Tournament**

### Spring Tournament

The Innsbrook Fishing Club along with the Innsbrook Corporation will be hosting this year's April 6th fishing tournament. This tournament runs from 6 am to noon. The children's division is for anglers up to 15 years of age. The children can catch any species of fish and trophies for first and second place are awarded based upon heaviest stringer and biggest fish. Adult division is a two person bass only tournament with all bass over 12 inches. Adult division will have trophies for first and second place

# Innsbrook Fishing Club

## Newsletter – Spring 2024



based on heaviest stringer and largest bass caught.

The IBK Fishing club is adding a new division to the spring fishing tournament, the “Pro-Am” division. This new division is to encourage participation by novice and younger anglers and their family members, “Amateurs”. In this division, a “Pro” will be teamed with novice or young angler(s) (chaperoned by a parent or grandparent). Kids will need to be 7-15 years old. The Pro will serve as a guide. Fishing will be from boats on several of the larger lakes.

**IBK Fishing club is looking for volunteers to be a “Pro”.** Pros will need a boat that can fit 2 to 3 people. Your team can fish on your home lake or any lake where you can trailer your boat at IBK. If you are interested in being a “Pro”, please send an email with your contact information to Jim Schuessler by March 17. [drjimsch@yahoo.com](mailto:drjimsch@yahoo.com)

### Small Lake Stocking Initiative

Would you like to start enjoying fishing again? Are you getting frustrated only catching 10-inch bass every time you fish on your lake? Well, the Innsbrook Fishing Club has a solution to your dilemma. With the cooperation of the Fishing Club, Innsbrook, and you, we can all work together to improve the size and quality of the bass on your lake in a relatively short time. The program is available for lakes with **10 surface areas or fewer**. (The Fishing Club website has the size of each lake, under Resources)



There are only a few simple criteria to follow:

1. You must be a paid member of the Innsbrook Fishing Club at Lake Captain Level.
2. Have several people fish your lake. Keep records of fish caught using Innsbrook Fishing Club forms (available on our website).
3. Improve fish habitat on your lake. Real or artificial. In 10 feet of water or more. At least two habits per acre.
3. Cost of stocking your lake depends on total acreage. Plan for at least \$500 per lake. Price will vary by volume and species of fish stocked. You may put together a group of anglers to share this cost.
4. Consider placing automatic fish feeders (at additional expense)

The Innsbrook Fishing Club will:

1. Make recommendations as to what type of fish and how many to stock, based on

# Innsbrook Fishing Club

## Newsletter – Spring 2024



proven lake management principles.

2. Make recommendations on how and where to place habitat to improve overall quality of your fishing experience.
3. If necessary, provide advice as to what type of fishing gear to use and recommend different types of lures to enhance your fishing experience.
4. Stock fish in the Spring or Fall.
5. Contribute up to total of \$500 to your stocking program.

Innsbrook and the Fishing Club will select 4 lakes each year for stocking. If more than 4 groups qualify, a lottery will be employed. Applications are due on March 30.

Contact John O'Toole at 314-805-5856 or john.otoole47@ [sbcglobal.net](mailto:john.otoole47@sbcglobal.net). Please provide lake name, acreage, and maximum depth.

### White Crappie in Lake Innsbrook

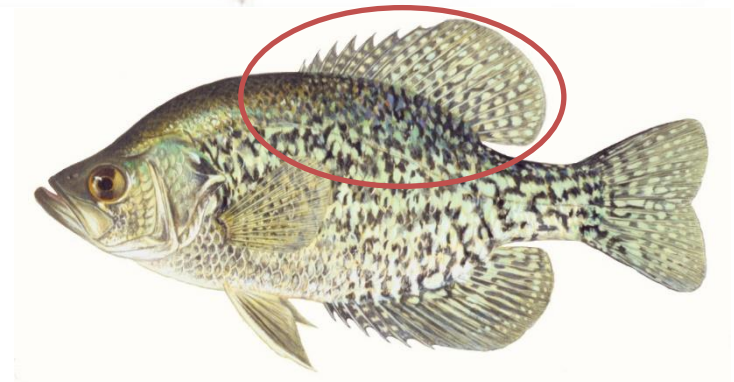
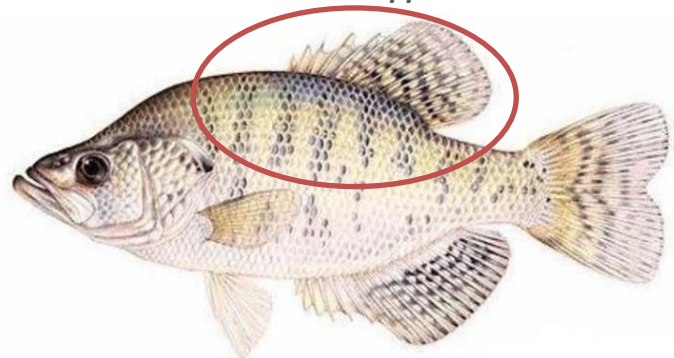
Lake Innsbrook on the west side of Highway F, one of IBK's original Lakes, is loaded with white crappie. White crappie were positively identified by fish biologists during fish shocking surveys done in 2023. White

crappies thrive in big rivers and lakes. Black crappie are better suited for smaller bodies of water with relatively little water movement, like the lakes that we have at IBK.

Fish biologists believe someone mistakenly introduced white crappie in Lake Innsbrook. These fish are often small and will not do well in this environment. ***There is no limit on the number of white crappies that can be taken from Lake Innsbrook.***

The main difference between white crappie and black crappie is their body markings. White crappies have markings that are oriented vertically and look like

*White Crappie*



*Black Crappie*

# Innsbrook Fishing Club

## Newsletter – Spring 2024



stripes on their sides whereas black crappie are spotted in appearance. White Crappie has 5-6 spines along the back. Black crappie have 7-8 spines along the back.

### Trout Fishing

It's time to catch and keep those trout! As water temperatures climb, the trout will begin to slow down. At around 70's, they will start to die due to temperature and lack of oxygen.

Please fish for the trout and keep them. Trout fishing will return next winter.

***Remember Alpine Lake remains Catch & Release for Trout.***



# Innsbrook Fishing Club

## Newsletter – Spring 2024



### Fish Habitat Days – March 8, 9 and 10<sup>th</sup>

Each spring we try to arrange a few days to help place new fish habitats in several lakes. This year we are going to focus on Aspen and Alpine.

- On Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup> we will be harvesting cedar trees in the morning and placing them at Aspen and Alpine at several locations.
- On Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, a group will focus on Lake Aspen in the morning.
- On Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, a group will work on Alpine Lake in the morning.

We will be using the new pontoon boat that the Fishing Club and Innsbrook created last fall as a work platform. Recent use of the pontoon confirmed that placing habitats has never been easier!

More information will be sent with sign-up opportunities for each day. Please come help make our lakes better for one day, two days, or all three days!!

Contact Joe Kinnison 314-740-0895 or [kinnisjo@gmail.com](mailto:kinnisjo@gmail.com) if you would like to help.



### Lake Aspen Fishery Report

1. 200 fish habitats were installed in 2018.
2. Black crappie were stocked in 2020.
3. 150 fish habitats were installed in 2021.
4. Electroshock survey in spring of 2023.
5. Grass carp were stocked in fall of 2023.

Lake design:

1. With lots of shallows, general cloudiness/turbidity, and a clay bottom, Aspen is well suited for some fish species, and not well suited for others. The crappie that we stocked, were not a great fit. Crappie prefer clear water. The Fishing Club considered walleye, but



# Innsbrook Fishing Club

## Newsletter – Spring 2024



walleye do best with a rocky bottom (which Aspen does not have). All of that said, Aspen is a fantastic bass lake by topology. Those that know the lake well, know that bass are reproducing in high numbers in the waters. The bass do not have a natural predator in the lake, and separately, all of those bass need something to eat.

2. Electroshock surveys show that bass are numerous. However, they are well overpopulated.

### Solutions:

1. For a lake the size of Aspen, fish biologists recommend 10 fish habitat structures per acre. The lake is 150 acres. Doing the math, 1,500 fish habitats. Given the fishing club efforts and some contributions from residents, we estimate that the lake currently has about 300 surviving habitat locations. The need for habitats that stay flooded (underwater) over the winter drawdown is pressing.
2. An electroshocking is needed to remove small bass. Along with that, those that fish Aspen should be removing every bass we catch below 12 inches in length. We should be removing hundreds per year. Please do so.
3. The best forage for our lake type is bluegill. Relative to bass, few bluegill remain in the lake. Fish hatcheries recommend a stocking of about 750 pounds of bluegill (15,000 fish). This is expensive and will require contributions.
4. The fishing club has several fish feeders which Aspen could borrow. These feeders would be used to help bluegill stock grow. We could have the feeders for a few months, but we would be required to fill them every few weeks.

Aspen is an excellent fishery. The largest bass ever caught at Innsbrook was caught on this lake. The fishing club (and Innsbrook through the fishing club) would like to make further investments in Aspen. However, the fishing club funding is limited to a few thousand dollars for this purpose. The fishing club plans to do some work on the lake on March 8-9 of this year.

Contact Joe Kinnison 314-740-0895 or [kinnisjo@gmail.com](mailto:kinnisjo@gmail.com) if you would like to help.

# Innsbrook Fishing Club

## Newsletter – Spring 2024



### Stay Connected and Informed

Online at:

<http://www.innsbrookfishingclub.com/>

On Facebook at:

“Innsbrook Fishing Club – Group”, at this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1758235011089741/>

Through email / newsletter at:

[Innsbrookfishingclub@gmail.com](mailto:Innsbrookfishingclub@gmail.com)

If your email has changed recently, please send us your current information.



# Innsbrook Fishing Club

## Newsletter – Spring 2024



### Annual Fishing Club Membership Levels for 2024

The Fishing Club depends upon our member's support each year to provide educational activities, conservation events such as fish stocking, habitat restoration efforts, and community events like hosting tournaments. Please consider renewing or becoming a member in 2024. Your support is now **Tax Deductible** since we are a non-profit organization.

Membership Levels & Benefits	Children Under 16	Friend	Tournament	Lake Master	Lake Captain
Membership Levels	\$0	\$25	\$50	\$125	\$300
Email Blasts	X	X	X	X	X
Newsletter	X	X	X	X	X
Membership Pin	X	X	X	X	X
Pond Boss Magazine Digital Subscription			X	X	X
Fishing Club Patch				X	X
Fishing Club Hat					X

You can mail a check payable to **“Innsbrook Fishing Club”** to:

Mark Birchler, Treasurer  
 Innsbrook Fishing Club  
 761 Carman Meadows  
 Manchester, MO 63021

Or make an electronic payment to our **Venmo account:**  
 “Innsbrook Fishing-Club”

Innsbrook Fishing Club

@InnsbrookFishing-Club



Venmo QR Code