

BSWC Official Rules and Regulations

1. ALL entries must be mailed in to PO BOX 348, Milbank, SD 57252. No hand delivered entries will be accepted. Application will be available on the website APRIL 15, 2026 to download, PRINT and mail in. Bigstonewalleyeclassic.com
2. ELIGIBILITY: Anyone 18 years or older is eligible to fish in the tournament (adult/child combination permitted. Father, son, etc.)
3. PRE-TOURNAMENT PRACTICE: Anytime up to 6:00pm Friday evening prior to tourney.
4. SAFETY: Not responsible for accidents. All Contestants must observe U.S. Coast Guard Regulations concerning safe boating. All contestants must be wearing life jackets at the start of tournament and when returning for weigh ins.
5. SPORTSMANSHIP: Contestants will be expected to courteous, safety conscious and practice fundamental sporting principles. Any infractions result in disqualification. ACOHOLIC BEVERAGES are not allowed in boats during tournament.
6. TACKLE AND EQUIPMENT: Artificial and live bait may be used. Contestants may fish with two rods if desired
7. BOAT AND MOTOR: Must meet U.S. Coast Guard regulations for occupancy by two persons. Motor size dependent on size of boat. Contestants required to furnish boat and motor.
8. FISHING AREA: Boundaries for the tournament will be the entire lake of Big Stone. Contestants may not leave boat at any time to land fish.
9. TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS: Hartford Beach State Park will be the tournament headquarters. All contestants must start and end there
10. FISHING HOURS: Tournament will start at 7:00am on Saturday with check in at 3:00 and 3:15pm. Teams and boats must be in the water one -half hour before starting time for inspection. Entrants can come early.
11. LATE PENALTY: Contestants who return later than the prescribed time will be penalized 5% of total weight and be disqualified for largest walleye prize. Over 15 minutes late will result in total disqualification.
12. **SCORING: Prizes will be based on most weight, pounds and 10th of pound, during the tournament. When the 8th fish is caught you are done fishing. Each team will be allowed a maximum of 8 fish in live well. Each team can weigh 6 walleyes. Each team will be allowed only 2 walleyes over 20 inches or longer. Only walleyes 15 inches long or over will be counted. Any walleye mangled, mashed or mauled will not qualify. Largest walleye will be included in total weight and may be declared the winner of the individual prize. Any fish in live well, stays in live well, no culling. Ties in weight will go by biggest fish.**
13. INSPECTION: Boats will be inspected before and during the tournament
14. LICENSE: Fishing licenses will be required by all contestants by law.
15. It shall be illegal for a boat to pull within 100 feet of another boat during the tournament 16. Each boat will be limited to two (2) fishing markers, no further than 100 yards apart.
17. MANDATORY: Contestants must report in and turn in weight card at the end of the day or may be disqualified. Each boat will be issued a marker which must be visible at all times. If marker is not visible you may be disqualified.
18. EMERGENCY: If any emergency arises, boat is allowed to return to shore. You must notify a committee official at Hartford Beach as soon as possible. GENERAL: Interpretation of these rules will be left exclusively to the tournament committee. The decision of the judges and officials shall be final in all matters. Any discrepancies must be in the form of a written/signed complaint by final weigh -in time. All fish are responsibility of anglers.