



Colorado Walleye Trail

Colorado's Premier Walleye Tournament Series

Registration and General Information

1. Each team must complete, electronically agree, and submit an official "Colorado Walleye Trail" (CWT) entry form found at Alleysonfishing.com or Coloradowalleyetrail.com on the CWT tournament tab. The entry fee for each team is \$400 per event, plus a \$30 administrative/ insurance/team of the year fee. Each team's payment is required at the time of registration. Electronic payment, check or money order are the only forms of payment acceptable during the registration process.
2. Contestants must enter as **two-person teams, per boat**. Any person under 18 years of age must be teamed with a parent or guardian. Any change of team members must be approved by representatives from the CWT and a new application must be submitted and approved by an authorized CWT representative. Entry registration must be completed and received by 7:00 am MST Friday, at least 7days before the event. Once registered and processed, a PIN number will be sent via email or text. This PIN number is randomly selected for your team. Your PIN number will be used for your scorecard and posting of the leaderboard. Other than CWT / AEOF Staff and yourself, nobody will know your PIN until after the event. This is for your anonymity to alleviate tail-piping and to create a neutral field. Do not share your identifying PIN unless you want others to know your identity.
3. Boat numbers will be given out at the mandatory Tournament Rules meeting. Your boat position will be randomly selected and will be your boat position through the entirety of the tournament. Once you complete the rules meeting you will be given a scorecard and boat number sticker. The sticker must be affixed to your boat on the port side of your windshield, boat or main boat engine for the entire event.
4. Refunds: Entry fee refunds will be made only if CWT Staff receives a written cancellation notice 7 days prior to the tournament date. A cancellation fee of \$125 will be assessed for each tournament cancelled.
5. Tournament Cancellation: In the event there are less than 15 boats registered for a tournament, the event will be cancelled and rescheduled. Reschedules / cancellations can happen at any time up until the start of the event. In the event of extreme weather, causing unsafe travel or unsafe lake conditions, the event will be rescheduled. All registrations will automatically be transferred to a rescheduled date/location. The same cancellation rules will apply to all rescheduled events. Participants are required to complete the steps listed in item #5 to get a partial refund should they not be able to fish the rescheduled event. Should an event be partially cancelled or fishing time limited, the event will be counted as a completed event.
6. The CWT is a Ranger Cup sponsored event. Ranger will pay additional monies to top finishing Ranger boat owners who have registered with Ranger Boats through their Ranger Cup program. If you are a Ranger Boat owner and participate in Ranger Cup, you need to provide this information to CWT staff at the end of each event if you are the top placing Ranger Boat owner. Participants must comply with Ranger Cup apparel guidelines outlined in Ranger Cup rules to be eligible.

Pre-Tournament Practice & Rules Meeting

1. All participants fishing a Colorado Walleye Trail event will comply with the rules and regulations of the governing body of water for the CWT's event location and the park rules. All participants fishing in the CWT must be off the water with boats trailered by 6:00 pm on the Friday prior to the event. Participants must plan to be off the water on time. In case of an emergency or unforeseen situation that would prevent a team from being able to comply with this rule, a member from the AEOF staff must be contacted for guidance at 970-227-0401 or 303-514-1078 prior to 6:00 pm. Violations of this rule will result in that team only being able to weigh four fish per day for the tournament. There will be no fishing, on the days of the event, outside the scheduled tournament times. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification for the tournament.
2. Any watercraft that will be used for the CWT tournament is required to undergo a mandatory ANS inspection and abide the regulations set forth for the body of water the CWT is fishing. It is the sole responsibility of the participants registered to follow the ANS procedures and be ready for the tournament at the official start time. If the participating team does not have their boat inspected prior to the event or fails the inspection, that team will forfeit their order of boat launch and will go to the end of the line and can only launch after successfully passing the required ANS inspection.
3. The mandatory rules meeting / boat inspection will be held at 5:20 am on the first day of the event. On the second day of the event a mandatory boat inspection will be at 6:00 am. The location of the rules meeting will be announced within one week of the tournament start time and will be at the boat launching area of the lake determined by the permit.
4. At the time of the rules meeting the participants will get their tournament bag that will include multiple things such as your team number, rules and regs, scorecard, and bump board. It is the responsibility of all participants to read and understand all the rules for this event. It is also the responsibility of the participants to have an operating cell phone that has enough power and storage to meet the needs of the fish capturing process and downloading process.
5. Prior to the start of the event, it is highly recommended that all participants view the catch, photos, video record release (CPVR) procedure and understand the instructional videos on how to use the document each catch you wish to apply towards your virtual live well. Instructional video(s) can be found on the Colorado Walleye Trail web page at Coloradowalleyetrail.com or Alleyesonfishing.com. No other form of pictures / videos will be permitted for submission unless directed by the CWT Staff, prior to the tournament.
6. At the end of the rules meeting the National Anthem will be played. At the end of the National Anthem participants will start getting their boats ready to launch. Prior to launch the participating teams must pass through the ANS inspection area and then will have a live well check completed by AEOF / CWT Staff and your boat will be tagged. This is a catch, photo(S) and video record release tournament. At no time is a live well or portable structure allowed to keep fish except for minnow-type bait.

Sportsmanship and Safety

1. Each participant must always observe safe boating and follow the rules of the governing body of water and state law. Consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages, marijuana products or illegal drugs are not allowed in the tournament boats during tournament fishing hours. Participants must abide by all state laws and park regulations. Any participant cited for breaking any game and fish or state park regulation from 6:00 pm Friday until 6:00 pm Sunday could be disqualified, from the event at the discretion of the CWT Staff.

2. All tournament boats have the responsibility to carry and have all Coast Guard required safety equipment, to include type IV throw cushions, fire extinguisher, and distress horn, flag, or whistle. It is recommended that all boats be equipped with a marine radio. Boats will be permitted to launch only from the predetermined launch location. There will be no off site or on the water inspections for any tournament unless directed by the CWT Staff. Any boat not checked in inspected and tagged by 6:30 am will be required to wait until all boats have launched and will lose their boat launching position for that day and will go out after all boats have left the starting area for the day.
3. Once all boats have launched, an air horn will sound. The air horn will indicate that boats will need to start lining up according to their boat number (example 1-50). On day two the order will be reversed (example 50-1). The start boat will then be launched and will head out to the starting location of the lake. Tournament boats are to file into a single line and follow the CWT start boat. The start boat will move to the middle of the lake well away from shore with the tournament boats following. At some point the start boat will turn 180 degrees and drive towards the field on the port side of the field, traveling parallel to the field. The start boat will move parallel to the field and will signal each boat once it is alongside the start boat to takeoff.
4. The tournament hours are scheduled for 0700-1600 on day one and 0700-1500 on day two. Times are approximate. There may be times they will be adjusted for multiple flights or if boats are launched quickly and we are ready to go. If the launching of boats is slower than anticipated the start time could be delayed. The key is the audible sound for the participants is the air horn. After the blast of the airhorn the tournament will launch 10 minutes later. The official time is time associated with GPS / wireless phones, no other measurements of time are allowed, and it is the responsibility of each team to check in at the required time. If a team is late for check in, they will be disqualified for the day. The check in location will be at the same location of the where boats launched that morning. The check in boat will be at that location 30 minutes prior to the end of the fishing time. Each team must be within clear visual sight and acknowledged by the check in boat to officially be checked in for the day. If a team wants to check in earlier than 30 minutes prior to the end of the days fishing they will need to call the CWT Staff or designee and arrange a place to meet by the loading ramps to be officially checked in. Failure to check in or check in on time will result in you being disqualified for the day. This is also for safety as we want to make sure that everyone has returned safely for the day.
5. Tournament Staff boats may come alongside and board a boat to conduct inspections at any time. Participating boats should be respectful when fishing next to each other and stay approximately 75 feet away from each other. Participants should also stay a minimum of 75 feet away from a buoy being used by a tournament boat. At no time is a team allowed to drop a buoy if they are not actively fishing within 75 feet of the buoy they dropped. If this is a protested topic CWT Staff has the authority to penalize the violating team from a verbal warning all the way up to disqualification for the day.
6. No fishing information may be given to participants during tournament fishing hours by anyone in any fashion. Cell phones are allowed for safety purposes, documenting participant violations and for the use of CPVR capture / document only. No contact between participants or non-participants is allowed during tournament hours. No binoculars/monocular are allowed during tournament hours. No internet access is allowed, nor is text messaging, paging, or walkie-talkies allowed during tournament hours.

7. Protests or allegations of misconduct by another tournament participant must be directed to the CWT Staff within 45 minutes of the boat check in time for the day. A protest must be in written format and directly state what violation is alleged, by whom and at what time the alleged violation occurred. The written protest also needs to be accompanied with a cash protest fee of \$100 dollars that will be refunded if the stated allegations are found to be valid. The investigation into the allegation will be composed of staff from the CWT. For the purpose of a filed allegation CWT Staff will investigate and will make a ruling which will be final and not able to be appealed. If the allegation is not founded or is inconclusive the \$100 dollar protest fee will be forfeited and will be added to the event payout.
8. The CWT Staff may request phone records during investigating an alleged violation. All contestants agree to provide such records if requested of them for records of phone usage during tournament hours.
9. Each contestant must wear a Coast Guard approved personal flotation device when the main motor is operating above idle and a wake is made. Contestants in violation of this rule will be disqualified for the day. This is in accordance with regulations and insurance riders for the event. Again, all Coast Guard safety rules apply, including local liability insurance requirements. In the event of a thunderstorm, lightning, severe weather, participants may pull into the nearest shoreline until it is safe to continue fishing. Participants may not leave their boats during tournament hours except severe weather forces them to shore or upon permission of the CWT Staff or designee.

Documentation of Fish

All CWT tournament formats are a catch, photo(s) & video release (CPVR) event unless otherwise directed by CWT Staff. All tournament participants are not allowed to catch a fish, during tournament hours, and keep the fish on a stringer, basket, cooler, live well or in any way possess the caught fish. For the purpose of this tournament, all fish determined to be documented by a team will be digitally captured and immediately returned to the water. This CPVR format is being done to promote conservation and not harvest any fish out of a body of water during the tournament. Documentation of fish that a team wishes to digitally capture will be as follows:

1. One team member is required to have an operational cell phone for the tournament as this is the only permissible way to capture your catch.
2. Each team will be given a scorecard at the start of each day. The scorecard is a team's way of documenting their catch. Each scorecard will have 8 empty slots, boat number and confidential PIN. Teams will be allowed to only fill their 8 slots (virtual live well) during the day's events, so teams need to decide which fish they want to place into one of the 8 spots in their virtual live well.
3. When a decision is made to place a fish into their virtual livewell and use one of the 8 slots, they need to do the following:
 - a. Use your cell phone to take a photo of a team member holding the fish in front of their body, then.
 - b. Take a photo of the fish on the provided Frabill 1936 expandable bump board. It is mandated that the photo be clear and readable, and your provided PIN chip be clearly visible in the photo. The fish must be lying on its right side with the belly facing the angler holding the fish on the board waiting for the photo. The mouth must be closed and tail pinched.

- c. With the closed mouth touching the bump board end and the tail pinched the holding angler will review the length of the fish on the Frabill 1936 expandable bump board. If the tail touches or goes over the quarter inch graduation line the angler will round up to the next quarter inch to determine the fish's length. (Example: If a fish's tail hits the line of 19 inches, the angler will record the length as 19 1/4". If a fish's tail shows 19 1/8", the angler will record the length as 19 1/4").
 - d. Once the photo is taken the video button will be started and show the angler picking the fish off the Frabill bump board and dropping the fish into the water.
 - e. The team must then document the digitally captured fish onto their scorecard, using one of the original 8 slots. This must be done within two minutes of the video releasing the fish back into the water. A team angler will hold the scorecard in front of their body and a photo will be captured of the filled in scorecard.
 - f. The team will then submit the 3 photos and one video to the CWT Staff for verification by texting the information. When submitting the photos and video, it is also required to include your PIN number.
 - g. A team has now completed the documentation process for one fish. In review, for each slot used in their virtual live well they will have 3 photos and one video for each slot in their personal photo library. This library must be maintained for the duration of the tournament. (A video of this process is on the CWT web page and will clearly show all aspects of how to successfully document and submit a fish from your virtual live well).
 - h. It should also be noted that once a fish is photographed, videoed and placed on your scorecard it cannot be culled off your scorecard. If any portion of your submission is not followed correctly or any portion is unreadable the submission will be counted as using one of your slots but will not be verified and the length to weight conversion will not take place for that specific fish.
 - i. Should cell phone service be poor, anglers will send their catch info as soon as you have enough coverage. If there is poor or no coverage during the tournament day, one member will take the cell phone information and immediately show it directly to CWT staff at the tournament tent location at the conclusion of your fishing time. Each team must be in line within 30 minutes of the conclusion of their fishing day or the results will not be tallied unless otherwise directed by the CWT Staff.
1. Each team is allowed 8 fish in their virtual live well for the day. Once a team submits their 8th fish they are done fishing for the day and need to check in with the CWT Staff to complete the day.
 2. On the scorecard the participants will circle their five best fish to have their best fish converted from length into weight. The weight will be determined using the Aim Walleye conversion chart. The conversion chart starts at 14 inches so no fish can be verified or weighed under 14 inches in length.
 3. The total weight will then be tabulated and documented on the scorecard. The participants' weight will then be initialed by the tournament staff and a team member.
 4. There will be a leader board published at the end of day one. The leader board will not have team numbers nor names on it. The leader board will have the individual weights for each team, but those weights will only be associated with a confidential PIN. If a team wishes to share their confidential PIN that is up to each individual team.

Team of the year and NTC spots

1. The CWT is granted four (4) Bass Pro/Cabela's National Team Championship (NTC) spots to be awarded to the top four teams who have fished three or more of the CWT points tournaments. All four CWT points tournaments will count towards team of the year and NTC spots but only a team's best three finishes will be used to calculate team standings.
2. Points will be awarded to teams based on their final placing in each point tournament as follows: 1st place = 100 points, 2nd place = 99 points, 3rd place 98 points and so on.
3. Team of the year will be awarded to the team consisting of the same two anglers and finishing with the highest combined points total from their top three events.

4. An NTC spot will be offered to the team of the year and three other spots will be offered to the next three CAPTAINS in the final point standings. The person listed as “angler 1” on the entry form is the Captain of the boat and all points follow the Captain (angler #1) of that team.
 - a. For example: If angler #1 fishes all four points tournaments with four different partners (angler #2) and finishes as one of the top four points holders, that Captain will be eligible for one of the NTC spots. That person is **not** eligible for team of the year considerations.
 - b. Angler #2 has no claim to the points earned during the points tournaments.
5. NTC spots will be offered to team of the year and the remaining top three Captains. If one of those four spots cannot be filled, the spot will then be offered to the 5th best Captain and down from there until the spot can be filled.
6. The four teams occupying NTC spots will be given additional money and/or prizes to help with travel expenses. The amount of additional money given to both team of the year and NTC Captains will vary based on the number of participants entered in the four CWT points events.
7. Team of the year will be awarded additional money and/or prizes.
8. Additional money will not be awarded to any Captain until they have officially entered the NTC.
9. If at any time a Captain receives money and does not attend the NTC for **ANY** reason, that Captain will be responsible for reimbursing the CWT within 30 calendar days of the CWT being made aware that Captain will not be attending the NTC. If the Captain fails to return the monies within the 30 days a late fee of \$100 per month will be added until those monies are returned to the CWT. In the event the Captain fails to return the monies, they will be barred from participating in the CWT events until the monies and late fees are paid in full. If legal action is necessary to recover the CWT funds, the Captain is responsible for all legal costs and legal fees incurred during that process.

Side Pots

1. The CWT will organize 2 side pot categories. No monies provided by entry fees will be diverted to side pot payouts. Side pots will be entered after the rules meeting on the morning of the first day with cash entry by each team wishing to participate. CWT will organize and administer the side pots for each event.
2. There will be a **BIG FISH** side pot where each team can enter for \$20 per team. You must enter independently from the tournament if you wish to be eligible for the BIG FISH payout.
 - a. At the end of each day there will be a big fish payout that will be awarded to the team with the biggest fish measured/weighed that is entered in the BIG FISH side pot. The total amount of money provided by entering teams will be split in half and given out to the BIG FISH winners per day.
 - b. In the event of a tie, the tie will be broken by the next biggest fish recorded on the teams score card. If the second fish on each team score card result in a tie, then the third fish and so on will be checked until the tie is broken. In the event both teams result in a 5 fish tie then the winning team will be decided by a coin toss.
3. The second side pot will be a two-day **CALCUTTA** payed out at the end of each day.
 - a. Each team entering the Calcutta will pay \$20 to enter and those teams will be randomly split into smaller groups. The team in each group with the biggest weight for that day will win that groups Calcutta. New groups will be randomly selected before each day.
 - b. For Example: If all 50 teams enter the Calcutta, the teams will be split into 10 separate 5 team groups. The biggest basket in each group will win \$50 for that day.
4. **SPONSOR MONIES/PRODUCT DONATIONS**
 - a. Individual sponsors will be given the opportunity to add funds/product donations to each side pot. Teams must enter the side pots to be eligible to win.
 - b. Sponsor monies/product contributed to each side pot will be posted on All Eyes on Fishing/CWT webpage under **tournament info** prior to the event.

02-28-2020

