



BYRON BEAR FISHING TEAM Handbook



2026

Mission Statement:

- The Byron Bear Fishing Team is a non-profit organization that educates our youth in grades 1st -12th with the knowledge of fishing tackle, fishing presentations, fishing knots, and boating safety. To be good stewards of our natural resources and the conservation of the fisheries, lakes, streams, and rivers.

Team Goals:

1. Teach Anglers boaters safety and fishing techniques that they can use to succeed on the water.
2. Improve angling skills of all anglers on the team.
3. Enjoy the sport of fishing.
4. Create a lifelong angler.
5. Help kids become stewards of the sport of fishing and our natural resources.

Team Member Expectations:

1. Attend the registration meeting and complete the registration form and pay the registration fee.
2. Attend as many meetings as possible, a minimum of four monthly meetings.
3. Volunteer for a minimum of 2 volunteering events and 1 fundraising or community service event per year.
4. Respond to email communication as needed.
5. Represent the Byron Bear Fishing Team in a professional manner.
6. Learn and use boater safety skills on and off the water.
7. Be respectful to other people and their property.
8. Be prepared for all types of weather at an event. We are in an area where the weather can change from one extreme to the next in a very short period.
9. Be sure to come to the tournaments prepared (food, drinks, life jacket tackle, rods, etc.) and give 100% effort the entire time during the tournament.
10. Adhere to the Student Angler Tournament Trail (SATT) and Lund Virtual Fishing League (LVFL) official rules of the tournament.
11. Maintain satisfactory grades in school.
12. Promote the program in a positive way.
13. Anglers will wear the official jersey or uniform of the Byron Bear Fishing Team. Unless approved by the head coach.

Meetings:

1. Regular meetings and clinics will be scheduled throughout the year.



2. Arrive at meetings prepared and on time.
3. Listen to speakers and participate in any hands-on activities.
4. Meetings will be held in the Byron High School cafeteria unless announced with a different location.

Communication:

1. Email will be our most effective way of communication. Please respond as needed and as quickly as possible so we can coordinate events, etc.
2. We have a team Facebook page, Byron Bear Fishing Team.
3. Check out our website at [Byron Bears Fishing Team \(byronbearfishingteam.com\)](http://byronbearfishingteam.com) for the schedule and other information.

Team Conduct:

1. We are a team! Help each other, encourage each other, and practice good sportsmanship.
2. Conduct yourself in a mature, orderly, and respectful manner at all times. You are representing not only our team but our sponsors when you are wearing your jersey.
3. Thank your BOAT CAPTAINS, other VOLUNTEERS, and PARENTS. If it weren't for them, we wouldn't have a team!

Fundraising and Volunteering:

1. As a team, we will be participating in fundraising and community volunteering events throughout the year. These will be announced with as much advance notice as possible. Watch your email and check the website for these announcements. These events are not only to raise money for our team but to give back to the community and businesses that have supported us.
2. We will volunteer at many LOCAL non-profit events (TBA).

Membership / Registration: January-December of the given year

1. The annual registration fee is: **\$75** (Grades 1-6) and **\$150** (Grades 7-12).
2. Registration includes: Membership in the Student Angler Federation (SAF), The Bass Federation (TBF), and Fishing League Worldwide (FLW) www.highschoolfishing.org

Insurance (included in the fee)- Every member, boat captain, and SAF club will have insurance coverage for all official SAF school club events, which includes: \$1 million of liability coverage, \$25,000 excess medical coverage, \$1 million for any allegations of misconduct and \$25,000 Amber

Alert coverage, and Rapala Student Angler Tournament Trail (SATT) fees - www.studentangler.org. Team sponsored seminars and education.

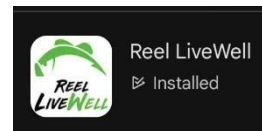
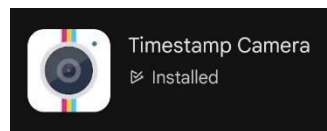
Registration DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Fishing equipment / tackle
- Life jacket
- \$25.00 boat captain fee for tournaments (per angler).
- Travel costs and lodging
- Boat/Boat Captain - We will assist in finding boats and boat captains for tournaments, but YOU may be required to provide your own boat and boat captain!

Requirements to join:

- Complete registration form.
- It is recommended, but not required, to complete the online boating and safety course Boat Minnesota to receive a youth Minnesota watercraft operator's permit and use boater safety skills on and off the water [Boat and water safety education | Minnesota DNR \(state.mn.us\)](http://Boat and water safety education | Minnesota DNR (state.mn.us)).
- Purchase a MN fishing license (16 or older).
- Abide by all MN state fishing rules and regulations.

Contests use the following Apps: Fishing Chaos App, Timestamp Camera App, FishDonkey App, and Reel LiveWell App:



1. BFT Multi-Species event that will run from April 1-September 30. This will be for grades 1-12 competing individually against the other BFT anglers.
2. Byron Walleye Extravaganza will take place on June 6, 2026 (TBD).
3. SAO Virtual Fishing League, following the LVFL rules and regulations.
4. Student Angler Tournament Trail (SATT), following the SATT rules and regulations.

Tournaments:

1. All of our tournaments require advanced notice for participation. Please respond timely to emails regarding registration for individual tournaments.
2. You can choose your own partner for tournaments and or event if you find your own Boat Captain and notify us in a timely manner.
3. If you do not have a partner and Boat Captain, you will be paired up with a partner and a Boat Captain if we can. Finding boats and Boat Captains to take student anglers out fishing is a big challenge. We can't guarantee

that we will be able to provide a boat or Boat Captain for every angler, but we will make every effort possible!

4. We will provide you with as much advance notice of tournament times, regulations, and locations as possible. Note that sometimes we are not notified until only a few days before an event. This will be communicated via email.

Boats, Boat Captains and Team Partners:

1. It is not necessary that you or your family have a boat. We will do our best to pair every angler with a boat and Boat Captain to take anglers out fishing or participate in tournaments.
2. You can choose your own partner for tournaments and or events if you find your own Boat Captain and notify us in a timely manner.
3. If you do not have a partner and Boat Captain, you will be paired up with a partner and a Boat Captain if we have one available.
4. We are looking for Boat Captains that are willing to volunteer their time and use their boats to bring anglers fishing. If you know of someone who is willing to volunteer, please have them contact us or give us their name and number and we will contact them. They can also go to our website and fill out a Boat Captain registration form to be added to our email list for Boat Captains.
5. Boat Captains MUST BE out of high school and a minimum age of 19.
6. All Boat Captains will need to pass a criminal background screening check.
7. Boat Captains need a liability insurance policy of at least \$300,000 coverage.
8. Anglers will qualify for the state tournament by fishing the qualifying tournaments held by the SATT. There will be six qualifiers determined by a point system. In the event one of the six qualifiers are not able to participate, the open position(s) will be filled by the next top qualifier(s).

SATT- Team of the Year, Angler of the Year, and Rookie of the Year:

LVFL - Team of the Year and Angler of the Year:

1. We will award points throughout the year for attending meetings, volunteering, participating in fundraising, tournament performance, grades, attendance, sportsmanship, and behavior.
2. The Team of the Year will be the team with the most points at the end of the year fishing the SATT and LVFL Regular events.
3. The top 5-point student anglers will have a chance for the Angler of the Year award.
4. The Rookie of the Year is the angler with the most points at the end of the year fishing the SATT, their first year.
5. The award(s) will be announced at the year-end banquet (TBA).

Byron Bear Fishing Team lettering criteria: (Not MSHSL endorsed)

1. All anglers in grades 7-12 who start the season on the first day and continue through the last day, demonstrate good sportsmanship, boater safety, have a positive attitude, and represent our team in a professional manner will receive a certificate of participation.
2. Anglers in grades 7-12 must attend a minimum of 4 monthly meetings, participate in a minimum of 3 SATT or LVFL tournaments, and 2 volunteering/fundraising events during the year to be eligible for a school letter.
3. Failure in meeting requirements as stated or personal misconduct will disqualify angler from earning a letter as well as Angler of the Year!
4. The Byron Bear Fishing Team voting Board of Directors reserves the right to make the final decision regarding lettering for any angler.

Scholarship(s): To be eligible for consideration,

1. Must be a graduating Senior.
2. Have Lettered at least 2 years.
3. Fished at least 3 years in the SATT or LVFL with the BFT.
4. The scholarship winner(s) will be selected by the BFT Voting Board Members and presented the award at the end of the year banquet.
5. The numbers of scholarships awarded will vary from year to year.

Discounts:

1. Our team anglers get discounts at many different companies. It is very important that you DO NOT share the discount codes or login information to anyone other than team members. If we abuse this privilege, it will be taken away! Discounts and codes will be provided after the roster is finalized.
2. Examples of Organizations that provide discounts:
 - St. Croix Rods
 - Seviin Reels
 - Rapala
 - Striker
 - Shimano
 - Favorite Fishing USA
 - Lund
 - RLVNT
 - Hook Line & Jig

Tournaments and Events:

1. See website for event dates and details. There will be tournaments and events available for both Junior and Senior high anglers (TBA).

Chemical Eligibility Policy:

1. Byron Bear Fishing Team adheres to a strict NO Tolerance policy by any angler using illegal substances. Any angler caught using these substances during a club event will be asked to leave. The angler will not be able to participate in ANY club events for the calendar year.

Contacts:

1. Jeremy Newton- President – 507-273-1395- newtonjeremy1021@gmail.com
2. Dixon Magnuson - Vice President; LVFL & SATT Tournament Director- 507-251-1763 - strutin22@gmail.com
3. Ginger Kundert – Treasurer – 507259-1991 – gakundert@yahoo.com
4. Stephanie Poulter – Secretary – 507-718-9829 – spoulter1980@gmail.com
5. Eric Jarmuz- Voting Board Member - 507-951-5989
6. Steve Sagdalen- Junior Coach (1st - 6th Grade), Voting Board Member - 507-272-1155
7. Dave Bahr- Ad Hoc Board Member - 507-254-6858
8. Jay Czczok- Ad Hoc Board Member - 5057-250-5936
9. Eric Dickman - Ad Hoc Board Member - 507-273-9826
10. Mary Fremarek- Ad Hoc Board Member - 507-990-9592
11. Olivia Newton- Ad Hoc Board Member - 507-272-7260
12. Matt Poulter- LVFL & SATT Tournament Director, Ad Hoc Board Member - 507-601-9676
13. Joe Schimek – Ad Hoc Board Member– 507-272-4712
14. Abby Fremarek - Junior Coach (1st - 6th Grade), Ad Hoc Board Member – 507-738-0222
15. Desiree Sagdalen - Junior Coach (1st - 6th Grade), Ad Hoc Board Member – 507-251-8888
16. Darren Ewy - Ad Hoc Board Member – 507-421-3680
17. Camryn Kundert - Ad Hoc Board Member – 507-601-9784
18. Parker Nelton - Voting Board Member – 507-429-8239



Angler & Parent Contract & Signature page

I am an angler who would like to participate in the Byron Bear Fishing Team. I have reviewed, I understand, and I agree to adhere to the Byron Bear Fishing Team Handbook. Additionally, I have reviewed the complete "Byron Bear Fishing Handbook," and I understand the rules, expectations, guidelines, responsibilities, and obligations that come with being part of the Byron Bear Fishing Team. I accept them and pledge to make my best effort to adhere to them.

Angler Printed Name: _____

Angler Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____

Parent/Guardian 1 Printed Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____

Parent/Guardian 2 Printed Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____