

2018 DAV Walleye Tournament Rules

Format and Entry Fee

DAV tournament shall be a two-angler team format. No one may fish alone. The entry fee shall be \$225.00 per team.

Fishing License

Each entrant must enter his Pennsylvania Fishing License Number on the entry form. **Failure to do so will result in disqualification.** Persons fishing the Allegheny Reservoir in New York State are fishing on the Seneca Nation Indian Reservation and require a Seneca Nation of Indians fishing license. Only a small portion of Stateline Bay requires a New York license.

Registration

On site registrations, will be conducted between 12:00 noon and 6:00pm Friday, the day before the event. All teams are required to be off tournament waters by 6:00pm registration day. All teams are expected to have read and understand the tournament rules and in signing their entry form agree that they have read the rules, release of liability, and participation agreement. If a team does not understand the rules set forth they may question the tournament director for clarification at registration. All pre-registered teams will have priority take-off numbers. All on- site registrations will be assigned take-off numbers on a first come first serve basis.

Boat Requirements/Inspection

All boats must meet all U.S. Coast Guard and appropriate state or nation requirements. All boats entering DAV tournaments are responsible for carrying an insurance policy. Each boat must have properly aerated or re-circulating live well space to maintain a live catch. All outboard motors will not exceed the horsepower limitation as indicated on the manufacturers rating plate. All teams are required to be at the official launch site for mandatory boat inspection between 5:00am to 6:30am tournament mornings. No tournament boat may come in contact with any other boat during the tournament hours except in an emergency. Teams are not permitted to exit the boat during tournament hours except in an emergency. All tournament boats and trailers must be free of Zebra Mussels and aquatic vegetation.

Safety

Each contestant must wear a Coast Guard approved personal flotation device at all times when combustion engine is operating above idle or trolling speed. Safe boating must be observed at all times.

Sportsmanship

All contestants are expected to uphold good sportsmanship and courtesy toward other contestants, safety standards set by the DAV, the fishing and boating laws of that state and/or nation, and respect all fish, their habitat, and the conservation thereof. Any contestants that break these rules/regulations will be disqualified and may not receive tournament prizes, money, or participation points.

Off Limits/Boundaries

Teams may fish on any tournament waters that can be accessed by boat unless designated "off limits" by the Tournament Director. All tournament waters are off limits from Friday 6:00pm registration day until 5:00am tournament morning. Off limits means "no fishing, boating, or water travel of any kind". All teams who desire to launch at another site must contact the Tournament Director registration-day for approval.

Weather

The Tournament Director will begin each tournament only during acceptable weather conditions. We will not launch under small craft advisory. It is each team's responsibility to be aware of weather conditions, when on the water, and to take safe shelter if conditions become unsafe. Teams will be permitted to weigh their fish providing they have returned before the tournament deadline time or the ending of bad weather conditions as determined by the Tournament Director.

Release/Check-In

Boat safety/fair play inspections start at the official launch site at 5:00am. Normal tournament start time is 7:00am. Boats will be released by order of take-off boat number. At the tournament start, each boat's take-off number is called from the Tournament Director's boat. Each team must display their take-off number to the starter. They will be recorded as starting when their number is recorded by the starter. If you are late to start, proceed to the Director's boat after the last number is called and identify your team with your take-off number. **Any boat that fails to make the call will be disqualified.** Contestants must return to the official check point by 3:00pm (NO EXCEPTIONS). In the event

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of a breakdown on the water, teams are permitted to be towed in by another team but both teams must be in on time (no exceptions). There are no exceptions to the official check in time. If any team is late returning to the official check in point at the designated check in time they will be disqualified. In the event of a breakdown on the water, one team member may transfer their team's fish (in a closed & sealed container) to another tournament boat and receive a ride to the weigh-in. Upon arrival at the check-in site, that team member MUST notify the Tournament Director immediately of the breakdown situation and the proper steps will be taken to recover the disabled boat.

Bag Limits/Weigh-In

Teams may bring to the scale only five fish per team unless conditions warrant the Tournament Director to change this amount prior to the event. A minimum length of 15 inches per fish is required. State or Seneca Nation size and bag limits will always take precedence over tournament rules. All small fish will be measured on the official tournament measuring board by the Tournament Director/Staff. Species allowed for weigh-in are Walleye, Sauger, & Saugeye.

If a team brings to the official scale more than the tournament limit or an illegal (short) fish, that team will be disqualified for that tournament. All teams will compete for total weight with penalties of 2/10ths (.20) deduction per dead fish. Every reasonable effort must be made to keep and release fish alive after the weigh-in. The Tournament Director/Staff will ensure the proper release of all live fish after they are weighed in.

Before removing any fish from their boat the Teams must notify officials if they have a "Big Fish" to be weighed in.

Ties

In the event of a tie in overall season standings, a team's highest weight of the season shall break the tie. In the event of a tie at any one tournament, tied positions shall be combined and split evenly with the lesser value prize places being eliminated.

Pay-Outs

- The DAV Chapter 75 Walleye Tournaments are a benefit fundraiser event paying back 65%.
- Payout is calculated on \$215.00 per team as \$10.00 per team is designated to the Big Fish Pot.
- Payout percentages are close guideline but actual payout may differ as figures are rounded up or down to an even dollar amount.

1099 Forms

All tournament winners must supply DAV Chapter 75 with all information necessary to issue a 1099 form in accordance with IRS regulations.

Cabela's National Team Championship

Beginning in 2014, the only route to the Cabela's National Team Championship (NTC) is through The Walleye Federation (TWF). We are a qualifier Tournament for the NTC. You must be a member of The Walleye Federation (walleyefederation.com) to compete for a spot at the nationals. The top team from each tournament will be offered a slot at the Cabela's Nationals. Membership in the (TWF) is only required if you want to participate in the NTC and is not required to only fish in our Tournament.

Liability/Waiver

The Disabled American Veterans Pennsylvania Chapter 75 (DAV), its board members, employees, promoters, tournament directors, sponsors, organizations and any other persons assisting in the tournament operation are not responsible for injuries, deaths, damages, liability, theft, fire, or any loss of any kind to contestants and their equipment. Each entrant, upon signing an entry form, will be signing a waiver on that form stating that they assume full responsibility for the above and that their actions are voluntary.

Disqualification

Disqualification from the tournament for any reason will result in forfeiture of entry fee. The DAV Tournament Directors ruling will be the final decision in any rules interpretation.