

2025 Benzie Fishing Frenzie - Ladies Classic Official Rules

WHEN: Friday, August 22, 2025

REGISTRATION

Thursday, August 21 at 5:30 PM

Location: Mineral Springs Park Pavilion

CAPTAIN'S MEETING:

Thursday, August 21, 2025 at 7:00 PM

All teams are required to have at least one member attend

Entry Fee: \$125 per team (includes captain and all crew)

4% processing fee applies to credit card entries

Checks payable to: Benzie Fishing Frenzie

TOURNAMENT DETAILS

Fishing Time: 6:30 AM – 1:30 PM

All boats must remain within ½ mile of the Frankfort/Elberta pierheads before 6:30 AM

Official "GO FISH" call at 6:30 AM on VHF Channel 68

Boats must be inside the pierheads by 1:30:00 PM sharp or will be disqualified

Communication:

Not a radio-silence tournament

VHF Channel 68 will be used for all official communication

Port Rules:

Boats may leave from any marina/launch on Betsie Bay

Teams must declare their launch location at the Captains Meeting

Boat & Cooler Checks:

Boats and coolers may be inspected on tournament day

Captain & Crew Requirements:

Minimum two female crew members per team

Maximum 9 rods, which requires 3 licensed anglers

Unlimited crew size

Observers:

Not required, but may be assigned at the Tournament Director's discretion

FISHING RULES

Ladies Only: Must remove rod, set hook, fight, and net the fish

Men: May drive the boat and set lines only; may not touch rod or reel, or adjust drag while fish is in the water

Max Lines: 9 lines total in the water at one time, A fish hooked is considered a line in the water

Line Rules: Max 2 baits per line; sliders must be under 72"

BOAT REQUIREMENTS

Minimum 18' length (per state registration)

Must have a working marine radio

No physical contact with other boats or shore unless pre-approved

Boats not returning under their own power are disqualified

Tournament Flags:

Provided flag must be clearly visible on the port side during tournament hours

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FISHING LAWS & LIMITS

All Michigan DNR laws apply
Fishing must occur from a moving boat
No gaffing or shore fishing
All anglers must carry a valid MI fishing license

Catch Limits:

One angler legal limit
Trout & Salmon species only
Max 2 Lake Trout
Size limits per DNR regulations

SCORING SYSTEM

10 points per fish + 1 point per pound
Ties broken by largest fish, then split prize if still tied

WEIGH-IN PROCEDURE

Begins at approx. 1:00 PM on Friday at Mineral Springs Park Pavilion
Coolers (max 5 fish) must be in line by 2:30 PM
Extra fish: One extra fish results in loss of that fish plus one more
Loose ice/water in cooler = -5 points
Foreign substances (e.g. ice in mouth/body cavity) = disqualification
Team is responsible for transporting its own cooler

WEATHER POLICY

Weather committee of 3 captains (varied boat sizes/types) will advise Tournament Director
3+ hours of fishing between 6:30 AM – 1:30 PM required for valid tournament
In case of weather stoppage, radio call will announce end of tournament
All boats must return to port and coolers must be in weigh-in line within 1.5 hours

CANCELLATION POLICY

If canceled, a portion of the entry fee will be retained to cover expenses

PROTESTS

Must be submitted in writing with a \$50 deposit within 5 minutes of the last fish leaving the scale
All Tournament Director decisions are final

COMMUNITY CONDUCT

We are guests in the city of Frankfort, please treat the community with respect. Any actions by an individual that could reflect negatively on the Benzie Fishing Frenzie in the eyes of the Frankfort community could result in team disqualification.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Tournament Director:

Steve Joslin – (231) 633-6775

**On behalf of the Tournament Director, committee, and our
sponsors — thank you, stay safe, and have fun!**