

## **Lucky Seven Fishing Tournament - Official Rules**

**WHEN: Thursday August 24th 2023**

**CAPTAIN'S MEETING: 7:00 pm - Wednesday August 23rd**

**REGISTRATION:** Register online at Fish-Benzie.com or On-site registration opens Wednesday August 23rd at 5:30pm at Mineral Springs Park Pavilion ~ Frankfort, MI

**CAPTAINS MEETING:** Wednesday August 23rd @ 7pm. Each team is required to have one crew member, preferably the captain, attend.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$700 per team. All online and credit card entries will be subject to a 4% processing fee. Checks should be made out to Fish-TC, LLC.

**TOURNAMENT TIME:** 6:30 AM - 1:30 PM - Boats must remain with-in ½ Mile of the Frankfort/Elberta pierheads prior to 6:30 AM. A "GO FISH" call will be made on the tournament radio channel at 6:30 AM. This is the official tournament time. Back inside Pier heads by 1:30 PM SHARP - Boats not inside pier heads by 1:30:00 PM will be disqualified.

**COMMUNICATION:** This is NOT a radio silence tournament. All official tournament communication including shotgun start and call to stop fishing will be made on radio **Channel 68**.

**FINAL PAYOUTS:** Based solely on paid 2023 registrations. All previously posted payouts are no longer valid.

**PORT:** Boats may leave from any marina or launch on Betsie Bay. Teams must disclose what marina or launch they are leaving from prior to the 7pm captains meeting.

**BOAT/COOLER CHECKS:** All Boats/coolers MAY be checked on fishing days!

**CAPTAIN & CREW:** Any number of crew members can be on a team. A maximum of 9 rods can be used. The 9 rod limit requires 3 licensed fishermen.

**OBSERVERS:** Observers are not required however they may be placed on boats at Tournament Director discretion.

**BOATS:** All boats must have a marine radio and be at least 18' in length. Absolutely no physical contact with other boats or shore is permitted unless approved by the tournament director. Disabled boats that do not return to port under their own power will be disqualified.

**RULES:** All state and federal fishing laws as designated by the MI D.N.R. are to be followed. All fishing must take place from a moving boat. No shore fishing. Gaffing of fish is not permitted. All anglers must have a current Michigan fishing license and may be asked to show their license at any time by any tournament official.

**FISHING:** Maximum 9 lines in the water at any time, a hooked fish is a line in the water until the fish crosses the gunnel of the boat. No more than 2 baits per line, sliders must be under 72" in length.

**LIMITS:** 7 Fish in any combination of salmon, lake trout, steelhead or brown trout. Must have 4 licensed anglers on board to weigh 7 lake trout. DNR size limits are in effect. Complete details will be discussed at the Captain's Meeting. Extra fish or undersized fish will be disqualified and penalties will be applied.

**SCORING:** Points & Pounds. 1 point per pound, 10 points per fish. Place prizes will be determined by number of entries. In the event of a tie, the largest fish will win. If still tied, the prize will be split.

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**WEIGH-IN / COOLERS:** Weigh-in will begin at approx 1:30pm Thursday in Mineral Springs Park Pavilion. Tournament coolers with only the tournament catch may be brought to weigh in at Mineral Springs Park by 2:30 PM. Each extra fish will result in the loss of that fish and one more fish. LOOSE ICE OR WATER IN COOLER WILL RESULT IN DEDUCTION OF FIVE POINTS. (The team is responsible for transporting the cooler). Foreign substances including ice packed into the mouth or body cavity disqualifies the team.

**WEATHER:** A weather committee will be appointed at the captains meeting. To constitute a full and complete tournament, THREE (3) hours of fishing must occur between 6:30am and 1:30pm. If weather forces a stoppage of the tournament announcement will be made on the radio, fishing must stop immediately, boats must return to port and coolers must be in line for weigh-in within 1 ½ hours of tournament call.

**CANCELLATION:** If Tournament is canceled for any reason, entry fee will be fully refunded less 4% Processing fee. Three hour minimum fishing time required to complete this tournament.

**PROTESTS:** Protests are to be submitted to the tournament director with a \$50 deposit within 5 minutes of the last fish leaving the tournament scale. All decisions of the Tournament Director are FINAL!!

**QUESTIONS:** Direct all questions to the Tournament Director Steve Joslin: 231.633.6775 Entry forms available online at [www.Fish-Benzie.com](http://www.Fish-Benzie.com)

**On behalf of the tournament director, tournament committee and our sponsors, we want everyone to be safe, and have fun!**