

# OFFICIAL RULES for the TRIPLE FISH CHALLENGE

## April 17 & 18, 2021 on Banks Lake, Electric City, WA

The following rules will remain unchanged throughout the event unless State or local laws are in conflict. Interpretation and enforcement of rules will be left to the Tournament director. In the event of a violation, the Tournament director may impose such sanctions as deemed appropriate, including without limitation: disqualification, forfeiture of prizes, entry fees, and the right to participate in future events. The Triple Fish Challenge reserves the right to refuse entry.

**Participation and Eligibility:** This event is open to any angler with the adult age category including anglers 15 years of age and older and the junior category including anglers 14 years of age and younger. Boats may register up to 4 adult anglers per boat, ensuring that the boats capacity rating is not exceeded. During the event, any junior anglers must be accompanied by an adult angler, and a written authorization must be presented by a parent or legal guardian to register. Junior registration is available with the online registration package.

**Registration:** Pre-registration online is encouraged, and an early bird discount is offered until March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Online registration will be available from February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 thru midnight, Sunday February 28<sup>th</sup>. Online registrants will receive their derby tickets with their boat numbers at the drivers meeting Saturday morning the 17<sup>th</sup> of April. Onsite registration will be available Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> of April, from 5:00 to 7:30 pm and on Saturday Morning, 6:00 to 8:00 am.

**Drivers meeting:** Meeting will follow morning registration and will assign blast off numbers. Depending on the number of boats, blast off may be divided into two or more flights. Flight weigh in will be separated by a period of thirty minutes and blast off order will be reversed day two. Your boat number is important and must be shown at weigh in, do not lose it! Official time is the weigh master's cell phone time, ensure you "sync" with that time at the drivers meeting. Blast off for day one will commence after the drivers meeting. Blast off day two will be at 9:00 am.

**Boat inspection and Safety:** All boats must be inspected prior to launch on Saturday April 17<sup>th</sup>. Boat inspections will begin at 6:00 am. All boats must meet all Washington State and Grant County boating ordinances. Life jackets, throwable flare devices, fire extinguishers, and sound devices are required. Motors on the boat may not exceed the recommended horsepower rating by the boat manufacturer. Boat inspectors will be in orange vests for easy location, inspectors may need to board your boat to check safety gear and live wells, please make entry for them easy. Kill switches must be attached to the boat driver anytime the main engine is running. Life jackets must be worn anytime the main motor is running.

**Insurance:** Adequate liability insurance is required on boats participating in this event. Contestants are required to have proof of that insurance with them at this event. All contestants must sign a liability release form absolving the tournament sponsors, co-sponsors, and their employees, event volunteers, the town of Electric City, and the Grand Coulee Dam Area Chamber of Commerce.

**Tackle and equipment:** Only artificial lures and lure products may be used. Scented products, Pork rind, Power bait, Yum, Gulp, or applied scents may be used. NO LIVE BAIT MAY BE USED. NO FROZEN OR DRIED LIVE BAITS MAY BE USED. All fish must be caught in a legal and sporting manner. Only one rod per angler may be in the water at any time. When a boat has multiple rods out, each rod must be dedicated to a specific angler. Anglers may only weigh fish THEY caught. No swapping of fish is acceptable! Trolling, casting, jigging, drifting, flipping, pitching are all acceptable fishing methods. Landing nets, preferably knotless, models are allowed. Live wells operating in good condition are required. A minimum 58-quart cooler, with an approved cooler conversion aeration system such as a Seachoice # 50-19481 or similar may be used.

Sportsmanship: Each participant is expected to follow a high standard of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, and conservation. In keeping with that, during event hours, including registration and awards, no alcoholic beverages or drugs may be used/consumed, legal prescriptions are exempted. We also encourage those who may not have “got the big one” to stay for the awards. It is the “right” thing to do!

Off Limits times/areas, General regulations: There will be no “off limits” prior to the event. Following day one weigh-in, boats may not go back out on Saturday. No fishing is allowed inside the log boom of the host marina, over the buoys at the north inlet, no angler may leave his/her boat to land a fish. All fishing must be done from an inspected boat. No fishing within 50’ of an anchored boat without their permission. If an anchored vessel allows a boat in, any boat may enter the area without complaint. Only registered event anglers may be in each boat. Rest stops may be conducted, but all angling must stop until all anglers registered to that boat have returned. Anglers may need to OPT out during the event; this may be especially true for our junior anglers. In that event, if the tournament director and weigh master can be reached, and the scales are available, youth weights will be recorded for daily prizes. Adult anglers opting out will forfeit their chance for prizes. All other anglers must present their fish during the designated weigh in to remain qualified for the grand prize.

Check in for weigh in: An official timekeeper, (wearing an orange vest) will be posted at the entrance of the marina. The official time for each boat will be logged at the time it comes “off Pad”. Each boat must clearly display their boat number to the timekeeper. If there is a time issue, the timekeeper will signal the boat with an orange flag. It then is the boater responsibility to contact the timekeeper and resolve any time issues prior to weigh in. If the timekeeper reports a time issue to the weigh master, it will affect the weight of all fish on that vessel. An 8-ounce penalty for each minute late will be enacted on each qualifying fish, up to ten minutes, at which point, all weight will be lost. Only One, (1) fish in each category may be weighed for each angler. Walleye must meet the 12” minimum length to be weighed in, any short walleye will be rejected. There is a 12” minimum length requirement for Smallmouth Bass and Rainbow trout as well. Walleye, smallmouth bass, presented alive for weigh in must be released. Rainbow trout may be retained, no dead fish penalty will be imposed on rainbow, Dead Smallmouth or walleye will have an 8-ounce penalty deducted from the total weight of the dead fish. Dead fish must be retained, discarding a dead fish to avoid penalty is both unsportsmanlike and illegal. Fish that appear to be frozen or display foul hooking will result in disqualification of that angler. Weigh master/tournament directors’ rulings are final.

Information sharing/communications: During the off-limits period, and the event, anglers may not solicit and or receive fishing information from anyone other than those registered on their boat. The purchasing or bartering information or the hiring of services will not be tolerated and will result in disqualification. Communications, including cell phones, CB radios, VHF radios or any other communication device may only be used in an emergency, to check weather, to report malfunctions or check time.

Prizes and responsibilities: Each day, the heaviest Rainbow trout, Walleye and Smallmouth Bass, in each age class, will be awarded prizes. Junior anglers will receive prizes for each day’s heaviest 3 fish string. Adult anglers will be awarded cash or prizes for each winning fish. In the Adult class, the angler with the heaviest 6 fish total, (2 Smallmouth, 2 Rainbow, and 2 Walleye) will win the Grand Prize, valued at \$3,000.00. Total payouts, except for the grand prize, will be dependent on total number of registrations. All winners are responsible for any taxes, licensing, or fees on their prizes. Winners shall submit to the tournament director any tax information required for prize transfer (a completed W9). Merchandise prizes will have no taxable cash value. All prizes shall be final after the awards ceremony. Entrants must be present at the awards ceremony to collect their prizes. The event will not “ship” prizes.

Grand Prize: If the two day “Triple Fish” is not achieved, adult anglers that were able to catch all three species in one day will be eligible for the grand prize. The eligible anglers will be scored on overall weight from both days.

Tiebreaker: In the event of a tie, the largest walleye from either day will be used. If the tie continues, then it will be the largest bass, and then the largest trout if needed.

Polygraph: All contestants, winners, and non-winners, may be subject to a polygraph. Failure to submit to or to pass a polygraph test will result in immediate disqualification.