

Fish Derby press release April 1, 2024

By now you have likely heard that fishing regulations in Manitoba have changed. What does this mean for the Russell Lions Prairie Walleye Classic?

- You are no longer allowed to possess a fish over 45cm. This means you can-not bring in a big fish to be weighed.
- We have determined for this year's tournament we will continue with a weigh-in tournament. Therefore, only fish up to 45cm can be presented.
- Our Big Fish Prize money will be re-distributed to the top 10 prizes.

(Please note: We have received a number of questions regarding live bait, Nothing has Changed for 2023. Reminder - Live bait is to be purchased in Manitoba - keep your receipts)

It should be no secret that we are not big fans of catch photo release, seeing is believing and "in person" adjudication is much preferred by the tournament committee. One thing is for certain, this strategy is going to tighten up the field and show the skill set of the perfectionist!

We realize there is no way to please everybody, some would prefer us to do this, some would prefer us to do that. You can be guaranteed that we will strive to put on *the best tournament by a dam site!*

Catch photo release, in our opinion, has too many variables that we simply don't understand at this time. There are technological challenges, communication challenges, and logistical challenges. It may well be that this is the future for tournament fishing but at this time we feel that we are not ready, nor do we have time to implement change for the 2023 tournament. Rest assured - We will conduct a survey after our tournament so that we could listen to your feedback.

Should you decide this is not for you this year, we understand and respect your decision. We will permit a full refund of your entry if you provide notice of your intention to withdraw before May 1, 2023.

This should be done by emailing fish@lakeoftheprairies.com

We will issue e-transfers, so please provide the email or cell number you would like that sent to. If you would prefer to receive a cheque, please confirm the mailing address for the Team Captain.

We look forward to welcoming you in June!

Kevan McCarthy & Ritchie Davidson
Co-Chairs



