

Rules for 2024 Hagg Lake Fishing Tournament



A. Interpretation, Regulations, and Enforcement

1. All federal, state, and local laws, rules, markings, orders, and warnings must be followed and will always supersede tournament rules. It is the responsibility of each competitor to understand and act in accordance with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations for the area they are competing in, including, but not limited to, fishing license, fishing regulations, watercraft registration (if necessary), aquatic invasive species permits, parking permits, and any other pertinent regulations.
2. All violations of laws will be turned over to the proper authorities for investigation and possible prosecution. This includes, but is not limited to: cheating, fraud, harassment, wildlife violations, illegal drug use, and any other illegal activity.
3. If tournament officials become aware that any competitor has failed to comply with any pertinent laws and regulations, it may result in penalties or disqualification from any and all applicable tournaments.
4. It is the responsibility of each competitor to read and know the Rules. Ignorance of the Rules is not a defense. Interpretation and enforcement of these Rules will be left exclusively to tournament officials. If there's a rule you don't understand, reach out to the Tournament Director (contact info below).
5. Oregon requires all watercraft operators to possess a Waterway Access Permit. For more information, visit the Waterway Access and Aquatic Invasive Species permits page on the ODFW website <https://myodfw.com/articles/waterway-access-and-aquatic-invasive-species-permits>. If tournament officials become aware that any competitor has failed to comply with these regulations, it will result in disqualification.

B. Fish Eligibility

1. Species: there are five eligible species for the tournament: **Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Crappie, Rainbow Trout, Yellow Perch**
2. **Largemouth and smallmouth bass are NOT eligible** and must be immediately returned to the lake if caught.
3. Condition: Fish must have been hooked in the mouth or jaw. It may not appear to have snagged, snatched, or hooked only in the body or a fin. If hooked in the mouth, a second treble hook that snags a gill plate, fin, or body is considered incidental and does not eliminate that fish from contention.

C. Competition Period

1. Day-of Schedule
 - 7:30 – 9:30 AM – Check-in
 - 7:45 AM – Captain's Meeting
 - 8:15 AM – Fishing begins, anywhere on lake, from shore or boat
 - Noon – Fishing ends
 - Noon – 1 PM – Judging
 - 1:30 PM – Awards
2. Anglers MUST check-in to tournament between 7:30 – 9:30 AM. Check-in is closed at 9:30 AM. Captain's Meeting will be held at 7:45 AM.
3. Anglers MUST be in line for Judging and Awards by 1:00 PM to be eligible for any and all winnings/prizes. Failure to do so will result in angler disqualification.

D. Competition Area

1. All of Henry Hagg Lake is in-bounds for this tournament.
2. Once an angler has checked-in, anglers can fish anywhere on the lake starting at 8:15 AM. That includes driving to another area, to fish, or launch their watercraft.
3. Motorized watercraft must abide by the No-Wake Zone on the northwest end of the lake.

E. Cooperation and Assistance

1. Competitors may not receive assistance in catching fish that are photographed and submitted for scoring, including boat positioning, casting, retrieving, hooking, playing, landing, or capturing submission photos of a fish. This includes touching or holding another competitor's watercraft. Violation will result in both Competitor's disqualification.

F. Fishing Tackle, Equipment, and Methods

1. A bump board or tape measure must be used to certify the length of fish. Tape measure should be laid on top of the fish, or alongside the fish.
2. There will be a measuring station at C-Ramp Pavilion to assist anglers in getting their fish measured and photographed.
3. All fish submitted for score must be caught live by the Competitor who submits them for scoring using only equipment and legal methods that comply with all sportfishing statutes and regulations of the states and body of water in which they are taken. Competitors are responsible for research of and compliance with all applicable fishing and boating regulations. Snatching or snagging fish is not permitted.

4. All fish must be caught by the Competitor on rod, reel, line and hook with artificial lures or live bait (limited by local regulations). Fly fishing is allowed. No traps, snares, set lines or other methods of fishing other than rod, reel and line are permissible, even if legal under state game laws. Violation will result in disqualification from the Event.
5. Only ONE fishing rod may be used at a time.
6. Trolling lures attached to a single rod and towed by a watercraft while underway is permitted in competition.

G. Photo Submissions

1. Anglers must be able to present their photos to the Tournament Director for judging. Digital photographs of each fish submitted for scoring must meet the following criteria:
 - Unique: Each digital photo submitted in each Event must be of a different fish. Subsequent digital photos of the same fish submitted by the same Competitor will be denied, and in some cases, the Competitor may be disqualified if the duplicate submission is deemed intentional.
 - Visible/Legible: Each photo must be in sharply focused and clear enough for a judge to:
 - Verify the fish's condition. Violation will result in denial of photo.
 - Verify the fish's length. Judge will score fish at the greatest length of which they are certain.
 - Except where covered by hand or fingers, the entire fish, from its mouth/jaw to the tip of its caudal (tail) fin, must be visible in photos. If either end is covered or cropped off, the photo will be denied.
2. Identifiable: Official identifier (bracelet) must be visible in the photo. Violation will result in denial of photo.
3. The competitor's hand may be on top of the fish; but may not cover so much area of the fish that it is impossible for the judge to verify that the fish is not a duplicate submission. Ruling for this potential violation will be at the discretion of the Tournament Director and may result in denial of photo.

H. Scoring

1. Fish length is determined by its caudal fin (tail fin) touching or crossing the manufacturer's quarter-inch mark (e.g., ridges, grooves) on the measuring board or tape measure. If it falls short of a 1/4-inch factory mark, the length is rounded down to the next lower 1/4-inch mark that the fish's caudal fin actually touches or crosses. In reviewing photographs, judges will visualize as accurately as possible where a 1/4-inch factory mark would be if it extended the full width of a board and use that imaginary line to determine a fish's length.
2. Each angler may submit their single longest fish for each of the five allowed species (Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Crappie, Rainbow Trout, Yellow Perch).
3. In the event of a tie in length for two or more fish of the same species and same length, one of the anglers will be selected at random for the prize.
4. All judging results by Tournament Director are considered final, and indisputable.

I. Scoring Criteria

1. Blurry photo/length unclear: Scored at the highest mark of which there is no doubt
2. Blurry photo; completely unable to judge: Deny
3. Multiple digital photos submitted of the same fish; unintentional violation: Deny
4. Multiple digital photos submitted of the same fish; evidence indicates intentional: Disqualify Angler
5. Entire fish not in picture: Deny
6. Bracelet not present in photo: Deny
7. Fish appears to have been snagged, snatched, or hooked in the body rather than mouth: Deny and Disqualify Angler

J. Safety

1. During competition, every Competitor utilizing watercraft must have all required Coast Guard safety equipment. See www.uscgboating.org
2. The Tournament Director has the right to postpone or cancel the start of an official tournament day because of adverse weather conditions or other factors that would jeopardize Competitors' safety. Tournament waters may also be restricted at any time because of bad weather.
3. In the event of an emergency situation, Competitor should call 911 first and then notify tournament officials as soon as possible.
4. Use of alcohol or drugs (other than those purchased over the counter or prescribed by a licensed physician) by any Competitor will not be tolerated and will be cause for automatic disqualification from Event.
5. Smoking or vaping is not allowed at the Awards Ceremony. Smoking must be done away from directors and large groups of anglers. Please be respectful of others.

Questions? Contact the Tournament Director: Marvin Forte (602) 410-1002