

# *Mighty Miss Walleye Series*



## ***Open Team Events***

*For the Weekend*

*Mississippi River Walleye Angler*

# ***2012 Mighty Miss Walleye Series (MMWS)***

*Hosted by: Radcliffe Promotions LLC*

## **2012 Tournament Schedule:**

- 1.) March 17<sup>th</sup>: **Alma, WI** (Pool 5)
- 2.) May 12<sup>th</sup>: **La Crosse, WI** (Pools 8 &9)
- 3.) June 9<sup>th</sup>: **Fountain City, WI** (Pools 5, 5A, 6)
- 4.) July 21<sup>st</sup>: **Trempealeau, WI** (Pools 6 & 7)
- 5.) September 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>: **2012 MMWS Series Championship: Alma, WI** (Pools 4 (Lake Pepin) &5) (*Top 15 Teams*)

**Tournament Format:** Each MMWS Tournament will be a one day format, except for the September Championship which is a two day format. Anglers can pre-fish up to 5:00 p.m. the day before the event. The qualifying events all will be held on Saturdays in 2012.

**Pre-Tournament Meeting:** A mandatory pre-tournament rules meeting will be held on Friday night at 6:00 p.m. prior to the event. **One team member must be present to register.** The meeting location will be the event landing or at an alternative location in the event of inclement weather. Team registration, boat number designation, rule review, and questions will be taken at that time.

**Participation and Eligibility:** There will be no age limit; however an adult must accompany each person under the age of 18. Only two (2) persons will be allowed per boat. The tournament director(s) reserve the right to refuse any entrant. **Full Field is limited to ONLY 50 teams.** If the field fills, alternates will be placed on a waiting list in the order of entry received. **SEE FLIGHT OUT ORDER in rules for important details.\***

**Application and Deadline:** Entry fee deadline is Tuesday at 5:00 p.m. the week of the event. No late entries will be accepted in any circumstance. A completed application by both team members must be signed and submitted (or have Tuesday's postmark) with payment in full at that time. Refunds will only be given up to this deadline as well with a \$50 penalty to the team(s) not electing to fish. Reminder: 50 boats limit per event.

**Substitutes:** A team may substitute one member but not both to maintain their championship points and status. In the event neither team member can compete, the entry fee will not be refunded, but included in the final payout. Please contact the director if an emergency situation does arise.

**Sportsmanship:** Each team is a representative of the event and is expected to follow a high standard of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety, and conservation. Any team failing to uphold this professionalism may be disqualified.

**Alcoholic Beverages and Drugs:** NO alcoholic beverages or other stimulates or depressants shall be allowed in the tournament boats or in possession of the contestants prior to morning check in or during the tournament hours. Absolutely NO Exceptions!

**Liability:** **The MMWS (Mighty Miss Walleye Series), its officers and employees, promoters, tournament directors, sponsors, volunteers, and organizations assisting in the tournament**

**operation, their agencies, etc are not responsible for deaths, injuries, damage, liability, theft, fire, or any loss of any kind to entrants. Each entrant, upon signing and entry form, will be signing a waiver form.**

**Disqualification:** \*Disqualification from the tournament for any reason will result in forfeiture of entry fee.\*

**Photo Release:** We agree any photographs, video, or other promotional material taken during a MMWS event is property of the MMWS and may be used by the MMWS, its sponsors, or the media without royalties or prior consent.

## **REGULATIONS**

**Permitted Fishing Locations:** MMWS tournaments will be based on Pools 4 - 9 on the Upper Mississippi River. See which pools will be fished per event on the official entry form page (attached). Tributaries can be fished but must be accessible by boat and proper WI, MN, and IA state licenses and regulations must be upheld and followed by both team members. All angling must be done from the boat. Contestants must not depart boat to land a fish. Both anglers must remain in the boat during the tournament during the tournament day. Contestants must leave and return to the official checkpoint by boat. Both competitors must remain in the boat except in case of emergency or life threatening weather. Trailing of boats during tournament hours is prohibited except for coming to the scales directly from the launch ramp to weigh-in stage.

**Tournament Hours:** Flight out will begin at 7:00 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. Any boat not checked in by 2:30p.m.is disqualified. It is your responsibility- no exceptions.

**Boat Qualifications:** All tournament boats must measure a total length of fourteen (14) feet and a minimum of 15hp for safety reason. Each boat is required to possess liability insurance for their boat in any MMWS event- it is the owner's responsibility to possess this. All boats participating must be in good operating condition and have a functioning recirculating live well system capable of adequately maintaining a tournament weight. We strongly encourage the use of a catch and release agent such as (Rejuvenade) [www.bassmedics.com](http://www.bassmedics.com) and/or ice to assist in maintaining the best possible condition of the fish.

**Life Jackets:** Life jackets must be zipped and buckled. Kill switch must be attached to the life jacket of the boat operator anytime the main combustible engine is in operation above idle speed. All life jackets must be US Coast Guard approved.

**Tackle and Equipment:** All fish must be caught in a legal and sporting manner per the state regulations. Intentional snagging of fish will not be allowed. State certified live bait or artificial lures may be used. It is the contestant's obligation and responsibility to produce adequate documentation to ensure all state and local bait regulations are followed. Violation or issuing of a citation by a DNR official will result in immediate disqualification.

**Invasive Species:** Aquatic invasive species can crowd out native plants and animals and threaten the future quality of the waters we fish. Boaters can take action to prevent the spread of these. Inspect and remove aquatic plants, animals, and mud from your boat, trailer, and equipment before leaving the landing. Drain water from live wells and bait containers before leaving the landing. Dispose of

unwanted bait in the trash. Pressure wash your boat and equipment at a car wash or at home with hot water, especially if moored for more than a day. Otherwise let your boat dry for a minimum of five days before the next use. Wisconsin laws prohibit launching a boat, boat trailer, or boating equipment if there are any aquatic plants or zebra mussels present. Unfortunately, the Mississippi River has several exotics and we all need to do our part to ensure they do not spread to other bodies of water

## **RULES:**

The following rules will remain unchanged throughout the events unless State or Local Laws are in conflict. Interpretation and enhancement of the rules will be left to the tournament director and ethics committee. In the event of a rule violation, the committee may impose such sanctions, as they deem appropriate, including without limitation to, disqualification, forfeiture of prizes, entry fee and prohibition from participation in subsequent tournaments. The decision of the Tournament Committee shall be final in all matters. It is the committee's discretion to make changes where safety is concerned. All participants must comply with all Coast Guard, State, and Local Regulations. ANY competitor receiving a citation for violations of any Coast Guard, State, or Local regulations will be disqualified immediately. It is the contestant's responsibility to know and follow these regulations.

**Permitted Fishing Locations:** Each event the Director will discuss the permitted pool or pools at the pre-tournament meeting as designated on the registration form. Tributaries can be fished but must be accessible by boat and proper WI, MN, and IA state licenses and regulations must be held and followed by both team members. All angling must be done from the boat. Contestants must not depart boat to land a fish. Both anglers must remain in the boat during the tournament waters during the tournament day. Contestants must leave and return to the official checkpoint by boat. Both competitors must remain in the boat except in case of emergency or life threatening weather. Trailering of boats during tournament hours is prohibited except for coming to the scales for weigh-in at the launch landing. **Only** in the event of a boat breakdown or malfunction can a team member board another competing team's boat. One member of the team may bring his catch to the scales with another team, but his catch must be separated into a separate live well or section of the live well to insure fish are segregated or tagged. Only a competing team can bring in another team. Any other non-tournament or non-director authorized boat will disqualify the team's catch. The captain of the disabled boat must stay with the vessel until a proper rescue boat can tow them in to the nearest safe harbor or landing. This is the responsibility of the owner of the boat. The director must be notified immediately if this situation occurs.

**Protest and Grievances:** Sportsman like conduct and boating safety is highly enforced. Any protest grievance by any individual(s) must be brought before the director prior to the end of weigh-in. A \$75.00 cash fee must be filed with the grievance and the person filing it must put it in writing. If the grievance on the other team or individual is found to be unquestionably true the fee will be reimbursed to the individual. An ethics committee appointed along with the director(s) will meet in this instance to decide the fate of the grievance. If the team is found to have violated the tournament rules, penalties up to, and including disqualification **will be enforced**. If the violation is found to be without merit the \$75.00 protest fee will go towards promoting future events.

**Pre-Tournament Inspection:** All boats are required to use the prescribed landing the morning of the event for put in. A trailered inspection of the boat's livewell prior to the event is mandatory by a

designated tournament official. Failure to have this done will result in disqualification. Orderly launching of the boats is expected. Please respect other local recreational anglers and allow them priority access to the ramp as they may arrive during the launch process. Please be respectful and give room as this is their landing as well.

**Flight Out Order:** Flight out number for morning take off will be determined by date of paid entry fee. \*Those teams who prepay for **ALL Four Qualifying** scheduled events AND \$40 BIG FISH POT (\$560.00 total) prior to March 1st, 2012 will be eligible for the flight out priority spots and will be allowed to go out in that order. All other teams thereafter will then be added by date their entry fees were received OR added to the waiting list. **DO NOT DELAY OR YOU MAY NOT GET TO FISH-FIRST. PAID IN FULL, FIRST ON THE LIST!!!**

**Main Dam Lockage:** THIS IS NOT A RACE. **First boat in is first boat out.** Period! **Failure to follow this will result in Automatic Disqualification.** Safe locking rules must be followed by all teams. Please be considerate and respect your fellow teams and take into account differences in boat sizes and abilities.

**Weigh-in procedure:** **Tournament scales will open at 1:00 p.m. Once your team weighs in, you are DONE fishing for the day.** A drive through weigh-in format will be used at all events. We ask you fill your livewell FULL and have water recirculate on the fish prior to, during, and after the fish are weighed. It is each team's responsibility to take care of their fish after they are weighed at the scale. Bags or baskets are available upon request at the scale. We insist that patience and courteous conduct be used during the weigh-in procedure, please form a line, or check in even if not weighing any fish so your team is accounted for.

**Scoring:** Placing will be set upon total weight of **FOUR (4) 15"** > fish weighed. Walleye, Sauger, and Saugeye only can be weighed with a minimum state law length of 15". Six fish may be in possession per team when arriving at the scales. The team must choose their best four to be weighed. **Any short walleye not measuring the 15" size limit will result in disqualification.** Fish will be measured with the mouth closed and the tail pinched. "The Judge" is the official measuring board of the MMWS Trail. A courtesy "Judge" bump board will be provided if needed. The weigh master's discretion is final on all measured length and dead fish. Large fish in contention for big fish pot will be inspected closely and are recommend to be weighed in live to ensure their safe release. Weight cheating (i.e. adding sinkers) or excessively obvious long term dead or caged fish are grounds for immediate disqualification from current and all future events.

**Ties:** Ties between places will be determined by the team's largest fish recorded at the time of weigh-in, then by flip of the coin.

**BIG WALLEYE POT:** Your selection of the (one) largest fish will be given to go for the 100% additional BIG FISH POT. Each team is highly encouraged to weigh their largest fish. In the event of a weight tie, the pot will be split equally between the top big fish teams.

**The MMWS Executive Director's ruling is the final decision to all rules interpretations. ALL decisions are FINAL.**

## **ENTRY FEE and BIG FISH SIDE POT**

**Entry Fee:** Each two man team is required to pay a **\$100 entry fee plus \$40 Big Fish Pot**. A percentage of the proceeds will go to cover tournament administration fees, permits, insurance, prizes, and future promotion of the trail. Payouts and number of places will be determined based upon the number of boats competing in each event. Payout schedule will be announced at the pre-tournament meeting Friday night. All winnings are subject to tax per federal laws in excess of \$600 per angler (\$1,200 per team).

**Points System:** Points accrued through the season determines who is invited to the Series Championship. Each team is given 10 (ten) show points for fishing an event. In order of weight placing an additional point is given per team placing for each event. If a team zeros at an event only 10 (ten) points will be given. The higher the points accrued through the season the higher the chance to make the Pool 4&5 MMWS Championship in September.

**MMWS Series Championship:** New for 2012!!! The top overall points placing 15 teams will be invited to a **two day Championship on September 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> on Pools 4 (Lake Pepin) and 5 (Alma)**. This event will launch out of the Alma Marina on the south end of Pool 4. This will be a 90% payback event with \$150 entry fee per team and will include plaques for the top place. Total two day weight will determine the 2012 MMWS Champions. More details will be given to those select teams who qualify preceding the event. Your team must fish all four qualifiers to be eligible to fish the season championship.

**BIG WALLEYE POT:** From each entry fee \$40 goes towards the Big Fish Pot which is 100% payback. Only one place will be paid out to the largest individual walleye weighed. This pot will be awarded with the prize money at the event. In example (50 boat full field with all teams in) **\$2,000.00**  
**ADDITIONAL POT = WINNING TEAM TAKES ALL!**

**News & Updates:** Please be sure to put your current e-mail address and cell phone number on your entry form. All press releases, rule alterations, location and date changes will be sent to you direct so it is very important you have a working e-mail address. Other updates will also be posted on [www.walleyefirst.com](http://www.walleyefirst.com) on the Walleye Tournament Forum if for some reason you do not have e-mail. This will be the official website for information until a site is needed. If you should need to contact us please do so via e-mail at [MMWSdirector@live.com](mailto:MMWSdirector@live.com) or call 608-498-9900 evenings.

**Membership Fees and Dues:** MMWS does not require either of these!

Let's Fish!

~ **2012 Mighty Miss Walleye Series – Official Entry Form** ~

Check Line(s) for Tournaments You Wish To Enter: **All Dates are Tentative Upon Permitting**

Please enter us as a team: \_\_\_\_\_ \$560/ Season \_\_\_\_\_ \$140/ Event

**Must Fish ALL FOUR Events to Qualify for MMWS 2-Day Championship (Top 15)**

1. ( ) **Alma, WI (Pool 5)**

March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Saturday 7-2:30

Belvidere Landing (CTH OO)

2. ( ) **LaCrosse, WI (Pools 8&9)**

May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Saturday 7-2:30

7<sup>th</sup> Street Landing

3. ( ) **Fountain City, WI (Pools 5, 5A, 6)**

June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Saturday 7-2:30

City Park Landing

4. ( ) **Trempealeau, WI (Pools 6&7)**

July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012

Saturday 7-2:30

Lock and Dam Landing

**2012 MMWS Series Championship- Alma, WI (Pools 4 (Lake Pepin) &5)**

**(Top 15 Teams) September 8&9<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

Saturday & Sunday 7-2:30

Alma Marina

Additional \$150 Registration Fee for this Tournament

**REMEMBER: 50 BOAT LIMITED FIELD – SO DON'T DELAY!**

\*Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address \_\_\_\_\_

\*City \_\_\_\_\_

\*City \_\_\_\_\_

\*State \_\_\_\_\_ \*Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\*State \_\_\_\_\_ \*Zip \_\_\_\_\_

DOB \_\_\_/\_\_\_/19\_\_\_

DOB \_\_\_/\_\_\_/19\_\_\_

\*Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\*Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\*Daytime Phone/Cell (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\*Daytime Phone/Cell (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\*E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

\*E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Note ALL areas marked with an ( \* ) must be completely **legibly filled out** or you risk your boat position, and will be released as last boat during flight out. (BOTH SHEETS)

~ **Mighty Miss Walleye Series Release of Liability: ~**  
**Radcliffe Promotions L.L.C**

**Please Read Carefully Before Signing!**

I acknowledge that I am voluntarily participating in the tournament(s).

I am aware that my participation in the tournament(s) listed on my entry form creates the risk of my serious personal injury or death. My participation could also lead to loss or damage to my personal property. I expressly agree to assume all risk of injury and/ up to death and loss of personal property which may result from my participation in these Fishing Tournaments. In exchange for being permitted to participate in the tournament(s), I hereby **RELEASE AND DISCHARGE** the tournament's organizer and the tournament sponsor's, their officers, directors, agents, employees and legal representatives (the "Released Parties") from any and all liability for any injury, damage or any loss sustained by me which may arise from my participation in the above tournament, including , but not limited to, any claim I or my heirs may have for loss, personal injury or casualty of any kind, injuries, damages or other loss sustained by me, caused by the negligence or strict liability of the Released Parties. I do not release the Released Parties from liability for willful or intentional misconduct. I expressly recognize that loss of property, injury, or death could arise from (1) the fishing and boating activities contemplated by the tournament. (2) the fact that competition rules contemplate that some participants will fish in boats belonging to OTHER participants in the contest. (3) the fact that the risk normally encountered in open water fishing from a boat may be enhanced by the exposure to the elements and other risks inherent in an outdoors competition. I warrant that I am in good physical and mental health and am physically capable of withstanding the rigors and requirements of a professional level fishing competition

**I have read the release of liability and participant agreement carefully and understand all of its terms and conditions. I sign up voluntarily and without reservations. This waiver is a legal binding contract, I recognize this. This waiver replaces any previous release.**

**\*Signature – Team Member One:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Today's Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Signature – Team Member Two:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Today's Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Both Team Members Must Sign and Date!**

**\*Make Checks Payable to: Radcliffe Promotions L.L.C.\***

Mail To:

Mighty Miss Walleye Series

c/o Dale Radcliffe- Executive Director

N6252 Eric Avenue

Onalaska, WI 54650