

CHBA – Simcoe County – Ice Fishing Tournament Rules

Please bring an ice chisel or axe to re-open holes if needed (a cold spell may cause holes to freeze over from 1 to 2 inches)

1. **EVERY PARTICIPANT MUST BRING A CONTAINER (WE SUGGEST A COOLER) LARGE ENOUGH TO CARRY A FISH TO THE WEIGH STATION. DEFINITION OF A COOLER:** a container large enough to contain a 30 inch pike i.e. minimum length (not height) of 24 inches. The participant must be able to carry it to the weigh station. WE DO NOT recommend sharing a cooler. (See rule #14)

2. **ELIGIBLE SPECIES:** The eligible species are outlined in the **“Recreational Fishing Regulations Summary 2009-2010”** prepared by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

3. All ice fishing tournament holes will be in rows approximately 30 feet apart.

4. Official Fishing Tournament Applications for registration will be accepted until February 13th, 2010. To qualify for the Early Bird Draw, a Registration Form must be received or postmarked by January 7th, 2010 along with a cheque or money order payable (no cash in mail), or credit card payment to the Canadian Home Builders Association – Simcoe County. Post dated cheques will not be valid until the date on the cheque.

5. All participants will abide by Ontario Fishing Regulations. **A Fishing license is not required due to the Ontario Family Fishing Weekend February 13-14, 2010.**

6. If you leave your hole unattended for a distance more than 60ft (distance of 2 holes) you have to remove your line from the hole (no exceptions.)

7. A participant breaking any of the tournament rules and/or any applicable Ontario laws will be disqualified with no refund of entry fee.

8. Any participant may be disqualified and prosecuted under the Criminal Code of Canada for using fraudulent means to acquire prizes.

9. There is no minimum age for participants however all participants under the age of 16 must be with a parent or guardian at all times during the tournament.

10. The tournament is scheduled for February 13, 2010 from 2:00 noon to 3:00 pm on Lake Simcoe, in Barrie (on Kempenfelt Bay), at the South Shore Community Centre. In the event of very cold temperatures, before starting time we will announce the tournament will be shortened by one hour and ending at 2:00pm. The distribution of draws and prizes will be advanced by one hour.

11. Prizes are determined by the heaviest weight and time registered. In the event of a tie, the first fish registered wins. For example, if three 4-pound Northern Pike are the largest fish entered in the tournament, the one registered earliest will take 1st place. The fish entered next will take 2nd and the one registered the latest will take 3rd place. **If still tied, the participant having registered for the tournament the earliest will win.** All fish are counted in each weight/time category starting from the largest registered and then proceeding down to the smallest.

12. Each person will be allowed to fish two holes maximum. You may register as many fish as you want, but only the heaviest fish per hole will qualify for a prize.

13. Only participants with two holes become eligible for two prizes.

14. To reserve a hole (or two), a participant must stick a strap beside the hole (or holes.) The other sticker goes on the cooler. A hole with a sticker on the marking stick is reserved: **DO NOT TOUCH!** Participants must look after their own hole(s) only. No saving holes for your friends!

15. Fishing holes will be determined on a first come first served basis. If you arrive first in the fishing area and have chosen a hole, set your sticker on the marking stick. Thus you have identified your fishing hole.

16. If a participant is caught reserving more than two holes (maximum allowance), he/she will be disqualified and so will the participant owning that registration number.

17. Participants will not be allowed to drill their own holes. All holes will be pre-drilled within the fishing area.

18. Any entrant found to be sharing caught fish as determined by tournament officials, can be disqualified.

19. All fish entered must be brought to the Judges' stand on food immediately and alive **in containers (see rule 1)** Dead or frozen fish are ineligible. Judges will have the right to verify that fish were legally caught. The judges' decision is final. Fish may be registered by rightful owner/possessor with his/her tag and a sticker on the cooler (exceptions made for the handicapped.) Please bring a container partly filled with water to carry the live fish to the weigh station. This is a catch and release tournament; a cooler (or other such container) and a small sleigh are recommended.

20. Participants must fish in the area designated for the tournament and will be required to have their tag(s) visible at all times. Tag checks along with cooler inspections will be performed before entering the fishing area.

21. Every time you enter the fishing area you must enter an inspection gate and your tag(s) should be visible. Only access to fishing grid is through the two inspection gates.

22. You are responsible for your safety and actions at all times: before, during and after the tournament.

23. As Shelter, a clear plastic sheet or tarp 6ft by 10ft anchored by 7ft posts will be allowed and must be removed after the event. Sheltering may be on two sides of the hole only or as approved by official. Participants must remain in plain view at all times. Fish huts are not allowed.

24. Sleeping bags, blankets, coolers, heaters, chairs, depth finders and underwater cameras are permitted in the designated fishing area. Weighted lines without hooks can be used to check depth prior to 11:45am.

25. Participants will be allowed to change to a different unmarked hole in the contest area. You are allowed to bring as many fishing rods as desired, but cannot use more than one rod per hole at a time.

26. Participants will not be allowed to carry cans or bottles into the tournament area. Thermos containers are allowed. A coffee hut and concession stand will be on the site. **Please do not litter.**

Garbage barrels will be placed throughout the fishing area. Use them! This is your resource: take care of it!

27. No motorized vehicles are allowed in the tournament area other than those of tournament officials, the handicapped, police and security personnel. Any participant bringing a motor vehicle within 100 yards of the contest perimeter may be disqualified.

28. The Departure Format on February 13, 2009 will be:

- The first 150 entries received will be referred to as Group 1. They will be allowed into the fishing area to choose their holes(s) at 8:30am.

- Entry 151 to 300 will be referred to as Group 2. They will be allowed into the fishing area to choose their hole(s) at 9:30am

- Entry 301 – 450 will be referred to as Group 3. They will be allowed into the fishing area to choose their hole(s) at 10:30am.

- Entry 451 – 1,000 will be referred to as Group 4. They will be allowed into the fishing area at 11:30 am to choose their hole(s). So don't delay. Enter early to get your choice of hole(s) and location in the fishing area.

29. Upon registration at the event, each participant will have to sign an **INSURANCE WAIVER.**

30. All rules are subject to the interpretation of the Canadian Home Builders Association – Simcoe County Ice Fishing Tournament Executive Committee.

31. By entering the tournament, all participants declare having an understanding of all tournament rules and agree to abide by them.

32. Send Entries to the Canadian Home Builders Association – Simcoe County Ice Fishing Tournament, P.O. Box 305 Barrie, ON L4M 4TG5, along with a cheque or money order payable to the Canadian Home Builders Association – Simcoe County or use your VISA or MasterCard to register by calling the CHBA – Simcoe County office at 705-728-5030 or by faxing a completed registration form to (705) 728-3690 or via website – www.icefishingbarrie.ca

33. **TO CANCEL:** Contact Sheila Hissa at 705-72805030 before Feb. 1, 2010 and your entry fee, less \$20 (service fee), will be returned. After Feb 1, 2010, refunds will be left to the discretion of the Canadian Home Builders Association – Simcoe County Ice Fishing Tournament Executive Committee.

34. After Feb. 1, 2010 only money orders or VISA/MasterCard will be accepted. On registration day, cash, MasterCard or Visa only will be accepted.

35. Prizes will be awarded at 4:5pm. In order to collect your prize, you have to **show your tag and your weigh receipt.**

36. Participants are required to park in the provided areas. Watch for signs and obey them. Participants are encouraged to carpool.

37. For handicap or senior access information, please call 705-728-5030.

38. To qualify, all fish must be registered or out of the water prior to the siren signalling the end of the contest. (participants waiting in line to register their fish will be included.)

39. If we have to cancel due to Ice conditions or Inclement Weather, the prizes will be drawn at the South Shore Community Centre, February 13th 2010 at 2:00pm. Registered participants are not required to be in attendance to receive a prize.