

2015 IMC
19th Anniversary Edition



Tournament
Handbook

Presented by:
Hoosier Muskie Hunters
Chapter of Muskies, Inc.

INDIANA MUSKIE CLASSIC

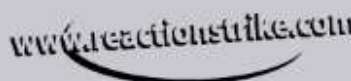
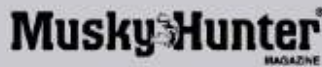
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STEALTH TACKLE



ANDY MYER'S LODGE
ON BEAUTIFUL EAGLE LAKE, ONTARIO

"Clearly The Leader"



Our Purpose

- To promote a high quality Muskellunge sport fishery;
- To support selected conservation practices based on scientific merit and carried out by authorized federal and state agencies;
- To promote Muskellunge research;
- To establish hatcheries and rearing ponds and introduce the species into suitable waters;
- To support the abatement of water pollution;
- To maintain records of habits, growth and range of species;
- To disseminate Muskellunge information;
- To promote good fellowship and sportsmanship among men, women and children.

Purpose of the Hoosier Muskie Hunters Chapter of Muskies, Inc.

- Hoosier Muskie Hunters goal is to maintain, enhance and expand the muskie fishery throughout the state in natural lakes, rivers and reservoirs.

Frequently Asked Tournament Questions:

Accommodations: This year's host hotel is the **Wyndham Garden, 2519 Center Street, Warsaw IN**. This five star facility is located in north central Indiana and is approximately a 45-minute drive from Ft. Wayne, 2 ½ hours from Indianapolis and 2 hours from Chicago. Reservations are available by calling **574-269-2323**. A special rate of **79.00 for a double occupancy** is available on a first call basis so inform the hotel you are fishing in the Indiana Muskie Classic tournament.

Restaurants and Dining: The Wyndam Garden has a great restaurant and reasonable prices. In addition, the Kosciusko County area has numerous places to eat- ranging from fast food to casual dining to gourmet meals. While on the lakes, you will be able to dock your boat and enjoy a meal. On Webster Lake, the Pizza King restaurant is available. When you are on the Barbee Chain be sure to visit the small tavern located on the channel between Big & Little Barbee. Pie Eyed Petey's is a restaurant located at the ramp on Tippecanoe.

Boat Fuel, Battery Charging and Parking: There are numerous gas stations, several marinas and many convenience marts where you can gas up your boat. **The Wyndham Garden will have facilities to charge your boat batteries with a newly paved and lighted parking lot. Please do not park boats or use electrical outlets connected to the Wyndham Gardens sign in the guest parking lot.** The hotel provides minimum security in the parking area so common sense with your valuable equipment is expected.

Fishing License Information: Not only is fishing the 19th Annual Indiana Muskie Classic going to be a lot of fun, but Indiana fishing licenses are reasonably priced. Licenses can be purchased at any sporting goods store, bait shop, Walmart or on line at www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild

Silent Auction and SUPER raffle: Saturday night join us at our silent auction as well as unbelievable raffles. Your registration fee includes the Saturday night dinner. **Cash, checks and credit cards are accepted. All our proceeds go directly to the Hoosier Muskie Hunters Research and Educational Funds.**

Awards Presentation: Prizes will be awarded at the Wyndham Garden on Sunday, May 17th at 3:00pm. Everyone who catches a 30 inch muskie or larger is entered into a random drawing with a chance to win fishing merchandise prizes. Additional prizes will be awarded for **First thru Fourth place, Largest Muskie Released and Largest Youth/Women Muskie Released**. Please make a note that you are required to be present at the awards ceremony to claim your trophies and prize packages.

19th INDIANA MUSKIE CLASSIC
MAY 15, 16, 17, 2015
TOTAL RELEASE MUSKIE TOURNAMENT

Tournament Rules and Regulations

ONLY RELEASED, INDIANA (30 INCH MINIMUM) MUSKELLUNGE OR TIGER MUSKELLUNGE
WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR AWARDS.

1. **TOURNAMENT LAKES:** Fish must be caught in Tippecanoe / James, Barbee Chain, or Webster lakes during the tournament hours:
 - a. Friday, May 15 7:00am – 3:30pm
 - b. Saturday, May 16 7:00am – 3:30pm
 - c. Sunday, May 17 7:00am – 1:30pm

2. **PRE-FISHING:** Any time prior to 11:59pm May 14, 2015

3. **OFFICIALS:** All decisions by tournament officials are final. All tournament official boats will have an ORANGE RIBBON. Anglers must register prior to fishing the tournament. Failure to register will result in loss of credit for fish caught in the tournament. Registration times are Thursday, May 14, 2015 from 5:00pm to 9:00pm; Friday May 15, 2015 from 6:00am to 6:30 am.

4. Boats may be inspected at the launch areas and on the water at any time. Any protested rules violations by any contestant must be submitted in writing to a tournament official prior to the awards ceremony. Violations of tournament rules will result in disqualification for the team in the offending boat and the forfeiture of the entry fee.

5. **Single** or two (2) person teams will be accepted. Entry is limited to the first 90 teams.

6. **LAUNCH AREAS:** Official launch sites are public access areas except for Lake Tippecanoe where we'll launch on private property. *All launching fees are included in your registration fee-* There is no launch fees on Webster or the Barbee Chain. See your tournament map packet for launch locations. *Please help police the area and keep it free of litter.*

7. **SAFETY:** All contestants must wear USCG life vests while traveling. Boat and motor must comply with USCG regulations. All state laws will be in effect and will be enforced. Safe boating and fishing practices must be observed at all times.

8. **TACKLE & EQUIPMENT:** *No gaffs, stringer or live bait is allowed. Each boat must have a hook cutter and hook out.* CONTESTANTS ARE ALLOWED THE USE OF ONLY ONE ROD AND REEL AT A TIME.

It is recommended, but not required, that boats be equipped with a live well and aerator or other means capable of holding a fish until a witness can inspect the fish prior to the release.

Contestants must comply with all Indiana fishing regulations. MUSKELLUNGE: Only muskellunge or tiger muskellunge at least 30 inches in length, legally caught by a contestant during tournament hours on a duly assigned lake shall be eligible for registration as a tournament fish.

9. REGISTERING FISH: Measuring of the fish must be witnessed by two contestants or tournament officials. One witness can be the team partner and the second witness must be a tournament official or registered contestant from another team. *All fish must be registered the day they are caught.* A digital picture is also requested. Fish must be alive and in good condition.

It is acceptable and **required** to use a digital camera and your name badge to document your fish for judging purposes, if a witness is not available. Position the fish against a measuring device and take 2 photos: first photo must show the entire length of the fish and the second photo must show the incremental inches marked on the measuring device. **Make sure to include your name badge in the photos.**

10. POINT SYSTEM: The point system that we use is as follows: Contestants will receive four (4) points for each 30-inch muskie released. In addition, contestants will receive one (1) point or fraction thereof for each inch or fraction over 30 inches measured to the nearest QUARTER (1/4) inch. (Official Muskie Inc. MFOC Fishing contest scoring system in effect)

11. OFFICIALS: There will be *non-participant* officials available during the event. Please call 317-373-1270 if you need any assistance.

12. LAKE ASSIGNMENT: To maintain a reasonable amount of boats on each lake, a random drawing of all teams entered will determine each team's tournament lake assignment. The lake assignment designates the date and lake where each team will fish. **TEAMS MUST FISH THEIR ASSIGNED LAKES.** Tournament officials will verify lake assignments. Each registered team will be assigned one full session on each of the three tournament lakes (double blind draw).

13. AWARDS: All awards are to be presented at the awards ceremony at the Wyndam Garden on Sunday, May 17, 2015 at 3:00pm. Everyone who catches a 30 inch muskie or larger is entered into a drawing with a chance to win fishing merchandise prizes. **You must be present to win prizes.**

14. EVENT: Each contestant acknowledges that participation in the Indiana Muskie Classic ("EVENT") involves the possibility of personal injury or damage or loss of property and he or she is participating in the Event at his or her own risk. Each contestant, by participating, agrees to release and discharge Muskies, Inc., The Hoosier Muskie Hunters Chapter, it's officers, directors, members or other participants in the event from, and waive all rights relating to any claim, demand, action or cause of action he or she may have or may hereafter acquire, for any personal injury, damage or loss of property he or she may sustain in connection with the Event that does not arise from their willful misconduct.

15. ALCOHOL: Indiana Law prohibits any open alcoholic containers on board any boat.

16. BOATERS INSURANCE: All Indiana Muskie Classic tournament participants are responsible for their own boat insurance with Public Liability, Property Damage and medical coverage for the boat, the owner and any passengers. The boat owner/operator must be responsible for their actions/behavior on the water.

17. LAKE SPEED LIMITS: Restrictions are as follows: Webster Lake has restrictions in the Channel and Backwater area. James specifies "Idle Speed Only" between Tippecanoe and James Lakes. Many of the smaller lakes on the Barbee Chain have restricted speed limits through out the day. Signs are posted between lakes in most of the channels. If you are not certain of the speed regulations, please exercises IDLE ONLY.

**19th Annual
Indiana Muskie Classic
May 15-16-17, 2015
Total Release Muskie Tournament**

General Information and Lake Directions

The Hoosier Muskie Hunters Chapter of Muskies, Inc. is pleased to have your attendance at our 19th Annual Indiana Muskie Classic. This 3-day tournament will feature three lakes in Kosciusko County. Please note the lake assignments for each day enclosed in this packet for your team. They were determined by a blind draw and all entrants will be required to fish their official lake assignment.

All boats are required to check in at the designated launch areas listed below and participants are required to have their tournament identification in their possession. Tournament officials will check your boat at the launch site. You must have your tournament-identifying marker affixed to your boat while you are on the water.

Please stay on the lake you are assigned to for that day. *Fishermen not fishing their assigned lake during official tournament hours will be disqualified from the tournament.*

You should follow tournament rule #9 when registering your fish. Please complete the fishing registration form enclosed in your registration packet for all fish released. Please call 317-373-1270 if you need an official.

Webster Lake, Kosciusko County

Webster Lake is located in North Webster, Indiana. Webster Lake's public boat launch is located by going east on US 30 from the Wyndham Garden headquarters in Warsaw and north on Route 13. Turn east (right) on Backwater Road continue approximately 1 mile to the boat ramp on the south side. Due to the very limited parking available on this ramp, we will be offering a continuous shuttle running from the boat ramp to the assigned parking area. Shuttle service will begin 1 hour prior to the 7:00am start and 1 hour after the 3:30pm close of the daily fishing.

Tippecanoe Lake/James Lake (Little Tippy), Kosciusko County

Lake Tippecanoe and James Lake will be considered as one lake assignment, since they are connected and will be using the same designated boat launch. James Lake is where the current Indiana state record muskie was caught in 1994 as well as the Indiana state record caught on April 1, 2002. James Lake has no access and must be reached by launching at the Tippecanoe area boat launch, which is located at *Pie Eyed Petey's Marina* on the south side of Lake Tippecanoe. To reach Pie Eyed Petey's Marina, head east from the Wyndham Garden headquarters on US 30 and north on Route 13. At Route 500 N turn west. 500 North becomes Armstrong Road and continues west, turn right (north) on 450 East. Take the 3rd right turn available and follow to the Marina (look for tournament signs along the route). We have exclusive use of the Marina ramp and this should make for quick launching with out having to shuttle. The Pie Eyed Petey's Marina private property and your launch fees have been paid through your registration please help police the area and keep it free of litter.

The Restaurant / Bar facilities at the ramp are open for lunch. There is a *porta-potty* available at the ramp.

Barbee Chain (Kuhn Lake ramp)

The Barbee Chain ramp can be accessed by driving North on IN 13 towards Webster IN. Approximately 2 miles South of Webster you will turn (west) on B7, this is a small access road that leads directly to the ramp. (B7 is located approximately 300 yards north of the One Stop Tackle Shop on IN 13). A remote parking area will be used for this ramp and is only a short walk to the ramp (150 yds). The parking area is located directly across the street from the ramp and will be on private property, please help police the area and keep it free of litter.

The Restaurant / Bar facilities on the channel between Big and Little Barbee lakes is open for lunch. There is a *porta-potty* available at the Kuhn Ramp.

2015 Indiana Muskie Classic Schedule of Events

Thursday May 14, 2015

Wyndham Garden

Registration Opened

Hospitality / Cash bar

Rules Clarification Meeting (*Invited, but not required to attend*)

Mike Hulbert Q&A

(Current up to date information on the tournament lakes)

2517 Room

5:00pm – 10:00 pm

6:00pm – 10:00 pm

7:00pm - 8:00 pm

Friday May 15, 2015

Tournament Fishing

“On The Water”

Dinner

Wyndham Garden

Hospitality / Cash bar

Tournament Updates:

Speaker: Steve Heiting

Super Raffle:

7:00am – 3:30pm

on your own

2517 Room

6:00pm – 10:00pm

6:45pm – 7:00pm

7:00pm – 8:30pm

8:30pm – 9:00pm

Saturday May 16, 2015

Tournament Fishing

“On The Water”

Wyndham Garden

Hospitality / Cash bar

Tournament Updates:

Seating for Dinner

DNR Presentation- Indiana Muskie Program Review

Banquet Dinner

Silent Auction / Super Raffle

7:00am – 3:30pm

2517 Room

6:00pm – 10:00pm

6:00pm – 6:15pm

6:15pm - 6:30pm

6:30pm – 7:30pm

7:30pm – 9:00pm

Sunday May 17, 2015

Tournament Fishing

“On The Water”

Wyndham Garden

Awards Presentation**

7:00am – 1:30pm

2517 Room

3:00 -- 4:00pm