

Rules of Disqualification

SPIRIT OF THE RULE: It is the intention of Mack Days Fishing Events to promote good sportsmanship and fair play. Unsportsmanlike conduct and cheating may result in disqualification. Anglers are asked to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, and conduct themselves in a manner that will be a credit to themselves, Mack Days Events, and the sport of fishing. Fishing event committee/officials reserve the right to disqualify anyone entered in the event who is being rude or disrespectful to any event staff/official or other Mack Days participants or anyone who does not follow the rules.

1. Only event officials or anglers entered in the event have the right to protest the actions of another angler. Protests by anglers must be filed in writing no later than 24 hours after the close of that fishing day. The event officials will convene/conference to investigate and to make a decision. The decision will be a majority vote of the officials and will be final. Contestants waive any right or opportunity to appeal the decision of the officials to a higher authority, including any court of jurisdiction in this or any other state. Any person found violating the rules may be immediately disqualified and the reasons for disqualification announced at the event headquarters. Event officials reserve the right to change or modify these rules at any time.

2. No pooling of fish is allowed, meaning all participants must report only the fish they catch themselves. **All fish are to be entered the same day as caught.** We welcome all forms of angler-assistance during the contest, but make exceptions for those anglers vying for the top prize categories-Top Twenty, Ladies, & Over 70 and Youth prizes. Specifically, for the “top anglers”, the intent is that the contest be an individual competition rather than a team competition. We cannot police this highly competitive category adequately and must rely on those anglers to respect the **principle of fair competition**. The rewards in this category are intended to be more personal than monetary and therefore depend on the **integrity of the competitors**. Anglers may receive assistance from other anglers in the boat but need to respect the competitive nature of the contest, by clearly identifying their rods from those of other anglers present in the boat and being the only angler handling those rods. Every angler- adult and youth in a boat, entered in the contest, must have at least one fishing rod in the water and be responsible for the fish caught on that rod. **Assistance does not include having a driver for a trolling boat unless anglers are rotating driving and fishing and/or separating their fish or dividing them equally.** This means that one person in the boat will not be allowed to continually have a high majority of the catch counted in his/her name. Keeping separate coolers is recommended especially angler identification of tagged fish and fish that are not legal to harvest. **AGAIN-- If there is more than one person reported in a boat fishing and several fish are entered under one name-we have to disqualify those anglers.** **Everyone needs to be on the same playing field-we want this to be fair and fun for**

everyone-please be respectful of the rules. We cannot and will not accept entries from anyone who will not follow the rules of competition.

3. Participants are required to have all permits and licenses required for the event and will be disqualified if these are not in the anglers possession or if the participant refuses to show his/her permit on demand to CSKT Wardens/or Montana Fish & Game officials. Anglers are required to follow all state and tribal regulations.

4. Rude and aggressive behavior toward others will be grounds for disqualification.

5. Harvesting of fish a day/days before and then submitting those fish for entry will be grounds for disqualification. Frozen fish do not qualify. Fish entered in the event are to be harvested on the day of entry.

6. Tagged lake trout are to be turned in the same day as harvested-they will not be counted or credit given if it is evident they were not caught on the same day—event officials will make that determination. Tags are not to be removed or tampered with in any way.