

# 2015 CABELA'S MASTERS WALLEYE CIRCUIT OFFICIAL RULES

**1. RULES:** These rules & safety regulations have been "time tested" over many years and represent great effort, study and research in their formulation. The following rules will remain unchanged, except for special tournaments announced and conducted. Interpretation and enforcement of these rules shall be left exclusively to Tournament Officials. In the event of a rules violation, officials may impose such sanctions, as deemed appropriate including, without limitation, disqualification, forfeiture of prizes and prohibition from participation in subsequent tournaments. The decisions of Tournament Officials shall be final in all matters and will not be subject to appeal.

**2. PARTICIPATION:** All MWC participants must be active members of The Walleye Federation, (TWF) or join/pay for a membership at time of registration. Memberships expire on 12/31 each year. Memberships are non-transferable and non-refundable. Any person under the age of 18 (19 for Alabama or Nebraska Residents) must have the signature of a parent or legal guardian on the liability release. No persons under age 12 may participate without explicit MWC approval. Proof of age to the satisfaction of tournament officials may be required. Participants must enter as two-person teams (no "Partner TBD" or unknown partner names on the entry forms). Partner changes can be made up until the close of on-site registration/check in. Each team must complete, sign and submit an official entry form along with payment by the published due dates. Entry deadline is 1pm (CST) on MONDAY prior to the event. Tournament Officials reserves the right to discontinue or extend the acceptance of applications prior to or after this deadline.

During any "official" tournament days no contestant or team may use a boat unless they have documented proof of boating liability coverage in reasonable amounts on that particular boat. Proof of insurance must be with the boat at all times. Random checks may be conducted at events.

Officials specifically reserve the right to refuse participation, including championship or other special event participation, to anyone, for any reason, including but not limited to being suspended, disqualified or banned from this or any other tournament organization, criminal behavior, violation of game laws, and unsportsmanlike behavior that would reflect dishonorably on our sport.

**3. ENTRY:** The standard entry fee for each team per tournament is \$650. **NEW for 2015** - At the request/feedback of anglers there will also be an **OPTIONAL** \$350.00, 100% payback option pot, payable only to those anglers who pay into the option pot. If you do not understand how a side option pot works ask a tournament official before signing up for it. All entry fees including option pot entries must be made before registration closes for the event. Option pots CANNOT be paid on site at check in and option amounts/payout will be announced at the rules briefing. Payments must accompany each entry unless you sign up as a Premier Team in which case delayed billing will apply for the regular \$650.00 entry fee, however premier teams must call in and pay any option pot fees for each event if they want in the option pot. Money order, check or credit cards are acceptable payments (VISA, MasterCard, Discover). A \$25 processing fee will be applied to all declined credit cards or NSF checks. Mailing address is MWC, 5998 N Pleasant View Road, Ponca City, Oklahoma. 74601 – P-580.765.2319 - Fax 580.765.2890 register online at [www.masterswalleyecircuit.com](http://www.masterswalleyecircuit.com)

Registration opens starting at 3pm (CST) on Friday January 2, 2015, you may enter as many events as you wish. Installment billing is an option for Premier Teams ONLY. Premier Teams are those entering at least 3 events at once and will pay for the first event at time of registration. You will pay the balances owed which are due and payable prior to the close of each tournament registration date thereafter. Premier Teams are obligated to pay for all tournaments selected on their initial registration. Only Premier Teams will be eligible for Premier Team benefits including utilizing a substitute following the substitution rules outlined in rule # 18 below.

Entries may be registered online at [masterswalleyecircuit.com](http://masterswalleyecircuit.com) or can be faxed or mailed to MWC or taken over the phone. Normally entries will be accepted based on a first-come, first-served basis until the tournament is deemed full (based on when received at MWC office, regardless of postmark, online registration is time stamped immediately), should an event fill up based on limits set in advance by MWC or by state agency for any event, premier teams will be entered first then any non-premier teams. Once you are entered into the tournament you will receive an email confirmation. **Rosters will be updated on the MWC website ([masterswalleyecircuit.com](http://masterswalleyecircuit.com))** before the event. It is your responsibility to confirm receipt of your entry.

Those entries that are not Premier Team entries must submit **payment in full for all tournament fees** at the time of entry application. No refunds or credits are extended.

**No refunds apply at any time.** No refunds will be made nor will credit be extended for any cancellations. Disqualification from a tournament for any reason will result in forfeiture of entry fee. No refunds or credits are extended to

teams that choose not to fish due to inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances. Choosing installment billing as a premier team does not negate the need to pay for all tournaments selected, even if plans have involuntarily changed.

**4. PRE-TOURNAMENT PRACTICE, ONSITE REGISTRATION & COMPETITION:** There are no restrictions on how early a team can pre-fish, as long as state law is followed and there are no "official" practice days unless otherwise announced in advance for a specific/special event. On the day of onsite registration and rules meeting, all MWC participants must be off plane, within site of the boat launch and no longer fishing by 4pm local time. In case of emergency please contact us immediately on the **MWC tournament hot line at 580.716.4291**, or other designated contacts specified.

At least one (1) member of each team must sign in and register in person with official MWC staff at the appointed time and place prescribed for onsite registration in the tournament's fact sheet. At least one team member must be present for the mandatory rules and safety meeting held the afternoon/evening prior to each tournament. In the case of an emergency or unforeseen situation, arrangements must be made with a tournament official if you are unable to attend. (Please call the tournament hot line above) Otherwise, if a team arrives 15 minutes or more late without approval they will be disqualified.

There will be polygraph/truth verification tests given at random throughout the year. All competitors and teams are subject to official inspection, boarding or a truth verification testing during and after the tournament and agree to facilitate and participate in those inspections at any time so requested. During the official competition day(s) competitors nor teams may not seek, nor accept the advice or assistance of anyone for the purposes of locating or catching fish or otherwise affecting the daily catch of fish for any reason from anyone except from another confirmed competitor in the same event. During the tournament hours a competitor may not transmit by any form of communication including but not limited to a cell phone, a CB radio, a VHF marine band radio, texting, any other type of communication device for the purpose of locating, catching fish or discussing your daily catch of fish nor receive any form of communication to aid you in the locating or catching of fish. Contestants are permitted to transmit by radio or telephone, texting, etc. only in an emergency. During the tournament no competitor, team or teams may buy or barter a fish, fishing information or a fishing location.

**5. SAFETY & TOURNAMENT INTEGRITY:** Safe boating conduct must be observed at all times by tournament competitors. Participants must abide by all local navigation laws and avoid restricted areas at all times. All participants are required and agree to wear a Coast Guard-approved type III or greater chest type personal floatation device anytime the boat is on plane. Tournament officials have the right to delay or cancel the start of an official tournament day because of bad weather or other factors that would endanger the safety of the competitors. Tournament waters may also be restricted at any time.

In the event of a storm, lightning, severe weather or any unsafe condition, participants should remove themselves from competition and seek safety or shelter until it is safe to continue. Participants may not leave their boats during tournament hours except in case of emergency. Each boat must have a U.S. Coast Guard rating plate attached to the boat by the manufacturer if required. The horsepower rating of the outboard engine must not exceed the rating specified on this plate. Changing or altering standard factory motor parts to increase horsepower over factory rated horsepower is forbidden and will result in disqualification. All MWC qualifying tournaments will have published days of competition, unless delayed or shortened due to weather or unforeseen circumstances. Tournament boundaries or restricted fishing zones will be announced at the rules meeting and may be further restricted if needed.

**6. SPORTSMANSHIP:** Participants will conduct themselves in a true sportsmanlike, courteous, safe and ethical manner at all times maintaining professional demeanor in public and in communication with officials. Any unfavorable conduct, speech or action by a participant in our efforts to promote sportsmanship, clean waters and conservation could be grounds for disqualification or rejection of entry. Each competitor is expected to participate in the marshaling of the field to help maintain the highest integrity of competition. Use of alcohol or drugs (other than those purchased over the counter or prescribed by a licensed physician) by any competitor during the event or use of alcohol until after you have weighed in will not be tolerated and shall be cause for disqualification. Any incidents observed during tournament hours should be reported to tournament officials for investigation. Any violation of these basic sporting principles may be deemed cause for disqualification.

**7. TACKLE & EQUIPMENT:** MWC participants must possess all necessary fishing licenses and commit to following all regulations. All state rules regarding fishing will be observed unless more stringent regulations are specified at the rules meeting. MWC will follow state/local laws or lake limit's whichever is more restrictive on the number, limit and size of rods that can be used. **HOWEVER, NO sliders, clips, or other removable or detachable "type" lines are permitted to be**

used. All lines and or baits must originate from and be permanently tied to the one main line coming off of one (1) main reel, per each rod. No lines may be unfastened or able to be unfastened, unclipped or unsnapped from the one main line to facilitate landing a fish or aiding in landing a fish, all lines must be permanently tied or attached to the one main line coming off of one (1) main reel, per rod. The only exceptions herein is traditional walleye hand line set ups which are allowed. The intent of this rule is clearly to limit detachable lines, sliders, "curtain rings" or other such similar devices, which may result in too many lines in the water at one time per state laws. If ANY set up is in question, the "more restrictive" interpretation will always be used. Any questionable homemade multiline sets up should be reviewed by tournament officials prior to use and the most restrictive interpretation will always be used. Only fish caught on hook and line in a normal and usual manner will be accepted. Live bait and artificial lures are permissible in MWC events, except for any special tournaments announced and defined by MWC.

**8. BOAT, MOTOR & SAFETY EQUIPMENT:** All tournament boats are required to have in their possession all Coast Guard-required safety equipment, including but not limited to approved type III or greater chest type personal flotation devices, a type IV throw cushion, fire extinguisher, distress horn/flag/whistle, and display boat marker (supplied by MWC). Great Lakes and Canadian border water tournaments require flares. Tournament boats are required to have a functioning bilge pump and be equipped with a functional emergency ignition-shutoff device that must be securely attached to the driver anytime the boat is on plane. In addition it is recommended to have a marine band radio on board.

All tournament boats must be cleaned of all harmful exotic aquatic species prior to entering the water and upon departure from infected waters.

Tournament boats will be inspected for functioning and empty live-wells and operating emergency ignition stop switch. Gas tanks must be properly secured or strapped in a boat. Any additional fuel used during the tournament day must be purchased from a retail facility with safe methods and service open to all contenders and/or the public.

**9. BOAT IDENTIFICATION:** Each boat MUST be given, prior to each day's start, a livewell and SAFETY INSPECTION check by a tournament official, also a boat marker, which MUST remain in or on the boat and turned in during check-in at the end of each day. MWC reserves sole discretion to assign boat numbers in any manner.

**10. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS:** Tournament waters shall be established by Officials for each tournament. Each competitor must obtain this information from the MWC. Fishing on Tournament waters is permitted anywhere except: Any water within these tournament boundaries posted "off-limits or no fishing" by state or federal agencies will be OFF-LIMITS. Also, any live fish release area established by Tournament Officials will be Off-limits and will be announced at the Tournament Briefing. No contestant may "Buy" or "Barter" a fish or a fishing location. Only that water open to ALL public fishing will be considered tournament waters. Any water closed to public fishing will be closed to tournament contestants. All angling must be done from the boat. On tournament days, participants are prohibited from fishing except during designated tournament fishing hours. Participants should stay off tournament waters before and after tournament hours except to navigate to and from the check-in site and launch facilities. If repairs and/or a test-run are needed an MWC staff members, appointed tournament official or sponsor service technician should ride along.

**11. CONTESTANTS MUST REMAIN TOGETHER/ BREAKDOWN INSTRUCTIONS:** Contestants must not depart the boat to land fish or to make the boat more accessible to fishing waters. Boats must remain in tournament waters during tournament days. Contestants must leave and return to official checkpoint by boat. Both competitors must remain in boat at all times except in case of dire emergency, if they wish their fish to be counted for the day. In case of break down or emergency, in which a team is not able to travel back to the weigh-in site under power, anglers should contact tournament officials. The only legal way to return for weigh-in without your own power is; 1.) By being towed in by a boat operated by another competitor in the event or a designated rescue boat. 2.) By one team member transferring their clearly marked fish to another boat as described above and proceeding directly to the weigh in. 3.) If a tournament official cannot be reached or a official tournament boat is not able to assist, the team with mechanical problems may seek assistance from a fellow competitor or any vessel on the water. This may *not* be done by phone or transmitting on the radio *to link up with a particular team*. Physically flagging down another boat would be allowed or a radio call that was seeking help from *any* boat in proximity to return to the weigh-in site. No one in that rescue boat is allowed to fish until after proceeding directly to weigh in site and all parties communicating directly with tournament officials. Arriving late, because of offering or needing assistance, even with the aid of a rescue boat, as the towed boat or the towing boat is still late and all late penalties will apply as they would to any other competitor. No exceptions.

Both parties (the team with boat trouble and the team lending assistance) should file separate incident reports with tournament officials. **Any Team involved in a break down "Ride In" that involves transferring fish in which either boat/team wins or places high in that event, in the Tournament Officials sole opinion, WILL BE POLYGRAPHED.**

**12. OFFICIAL CHECK POINT:** There shall be an official safety checkpoint for checkout in the morning and check-in in the afternoon and this point shall be designated at the tournament briefing. At the time of check-out all competitors and their boats shall be in full conformance with all safety and tournament rules set forth by Tournament Officials. At check-in all boats shall identify themselves, and proceed immediately to the designated weigh-in area. **YOU MUST CHECK-IN EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY FISH.** Failure to check in at the end of the day could result in a \$50 fine or prohibition from future participation in any TWF affiliated event.

**13. LATE PENALTY:** Competitors who are not at the official safety check in point as described above at the appointed return time shall be penalized at the rate of one pound per minute to be deducted from the total weight of their catch that day, including any "Big Fish Award". Any competitors more than fifteen (15) minutes late shall lose all credit for that day's catch. There shall be no excuse for tardiness and in no case will a competitor be allowed to make up "lost time." Return time shall be defined as off-plane and plainly visible by the official timekeepers.

**14. SCORING:** Scoring shall be determined by the pound and ounce weight of each team's catch during the tournament. Each team's total weight will determine the final standings. Walleye, sauger and saugeye will be weighed where permissible by state law. Length and bag limits of eligible fish will be set for each tournament and will be announced at each event.

All fish weighed must be kept in aerated livewells to keep fish alive and as fresh as possible for release. Any fish mauled, mashed, frozen, stringered, containing foreign or unnaturally placed matter to add weight or showing white gills, soft flesh or other signs of decomposition in tournament official's sole discretion will result in disqualification. An external snap weight, the purpose of which is to keep fish alive/upright in the livewell, should be removed before arriving at the bump tank. Failure to do so will result in a 1 pound penalty for that day.

At no time shall a competitor have in possession more than the stated tournament possession limit. Tournament Officials will conduct checks for violations of this provision. In the event a competitor has in their possession more than the stated limit, officials shall cull, where legal, starting with the largest fish first, etc., down to the stated limit.

The official ruler will be "The Judge." Fish will be measured by a tournament official with fish's mouth closed and longest straight line. Only fish which measure the official length(s) on the longest straight line shall be weighed-in. Any fish presented for weigh-in which fails to measure the official length limits shall accrue penalties at the rate of one pound for each non-legal fish plus loss of the fish. Once a competitor's catch has been presented to tournament officials, that team may not alter nor add to their catch or return to their boat until their catch has been weighed and recorded.

**15. PROTESTS & TRUTH VERIFICATION TESTS:** RANDOMLY ANNOUNCED TRUTH VERIFICATION TESTS WILL BE GIVEN THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. Additionally, anyone has a right to protest a team. An official written protest with \$150 fee must be made with a tournament official within 1 hour of completion of daily weigh-in. The fee will be returned if the protest is found valid. Following interviews with concerned parties or truth verification testing if required, a final ruling will be made. In the event rules infractions occurred a penalty of daily and/or tournament weight may be applied, and cash, prizes and awards must be returned if so requested. If a protest is found valid, the disqualified party must pay all investigative costs.

Each competitor or participant agrees by their signature on the entry forms and by their participation in the tournament, to submit to a polygraph or voice stress analyzer test, I.E. Truth Verification Test, should they be asked to for any reason and to abide by its conclusion. Tournament officials shall have sole discretion to select scope, when, where and who shall administer such an exam. Participant will make themselves available at their own expense for testing as scheduled. In the official's sole discretion, refusal to submit to exam or failure to pass a truth verification exam will result in disqualification.

**16. CATCH & RELEASE:** An 8 ounce deduction will be made for each legal fish presented to the bump master for weighing that is determined to be dead. Every boat must have adequate livewell space, properly aerated, to sufficiently maintain, in a healthy condition a limit catch by competitors using the boat. MWC recommends the use of livewell additive such as G-Juice and ice, in warmer water months to improve oxygen levels and promote a healthy release of fish into natural habitat. Tournament Officials shall have the sole responsibility for determining whether aeration and capacity is "proper and adequate" and for accessing any penalty points.

**17. TIES & POINTS:** If a tie occurs at a regular season event, Tie breakers are as follows. 1.) Most number of legal fish weighed, 2.) Most number of legal fish weighed alive, 3.) Heaviest single days catch, 4.) Second heaviest single days catch, 5.) Means selected by tournament officials. However, no cash awards will be given to any zero weights. For a tie in the Team of the Year standings 1.) Most number of legal fish weighed in counted scores, 2.) Most number of legal fish weighed alive in counted scores, 3.) Prior event yearly points standings, 4.) Next closest previous yearly standings in which there is no tie.

As defined below, in most cases MWC teams will receive 2 sets of points added together: **1.) Performance-based points**  
**2.) Weighted points based on field size.** No Points will be awarded to teams that do not weigh fish:

**Performance points:** 150 points for first place, 149 for second place, etc. with each place reducing by one point down to the last team to weigh-in a fish.

**Weighted Points Based on Field Size:** Qualified event participants will receive bonus points ADDED to performance points which are weighted based on field size so that ALL teams in a given field size benefit. The larger the field-size the more bonus points are awarded to ALL participants as follows: For events with 50 or less teams zero - 0 - field size points are awarded. For 51-60 teams/3 points, 61-70 teams/6 points, 71-80 teams/9 points, 81-90 teams/12 points, 91-100 teams/15 points, 101-110 teams/18 points, 111-120 teams/21 points, 121-130 teams/24 points, 131 -140 teams/27 points, 141-150 teams 30 points, 151-160 teams/33 points 161-175 teams/36 points.

The Performance Points and field size Weighted Points will be added together to determine the team's total points for the tournament. Teams must check-in and launch at least one tournament day to be eligible for points. Points are distributed to teams and may not be transferred because of partner change except as defined in rule #18. In the event of unauthorized partner changes as defined by rule or otherwise, a partner change constitutes a new team.

**18. PREMIER TEAMS:** MWC Premier teams are those teams that faithfully support the circuit by signing up and committing to fish three (3) or more events at one time. They are committed to paying for those events even if something happens that prohibits their attendance to one of more of them. There are no refunds even for single event entrants so, Premier teams are no different and are not to be penalized for signing up for three events however there are some nice perks for Premier teams that want delayed billing and guaranteed spots. Premier teams **WILL NOT** be given preferential treatment by MWC that might give them a competitive advantage in any single event, to help them place better, start earlier, choose their flight, etc., as we believe strongly that the playing field should be level for all participants. However, MWC premier teams do have a long list of benefits in exchange for their support of MWC (see [www.masterswalleyecircuit.com](http://www.masterswalleyecircuit.com) for full details.) The partial list includes but not limited to, Premier Teams priority registration into all events, Premier teams ONLY received any reallocated slots past 50<sup>th</sup> place in the points standings for the World Walleye Championship as defined in rule #19, custom Premier team branded items, installment billing, we routinely seek out premier teams to feature on Federation Angler TV. Premier teams (only) will be allowed to **PRE-DESIGNATE** a team substitute before the season starts just in case a team member is UNABLE to attend. For 2015 all MWC premier teams will be allowed to designate a substitute member to be considered for use with the following restrictions; A designated substitute MUST be a TWF member and must be identified as your team's substitute in advance by full legal name with MWC national office PRIOR to you fishing your first event, unless otherwise approved by MWC. Your regular team member must be unable to attend. Substitute team members cannot be nor ever have been a professional guide, nor won a state, regional or national event on the body of water they are being utilized for. If the substitute is not activated they may not be in the boat during tournament hours in no case will more than two team members be actively fishing in any boat during tournament hours. A spouse or your under age child who meet all other conditions contained herein may be utilized in a case of sudden unavoidable emergency. Tournament Officials (whose decisions are final) must agree that: a.) the original partner CANNOT attend and b.) the designated substitute is not a "ringer" or local expert and must investigate and approve a substitution on a case by case basis.

**IF ALL these conditions are met with official approval,** an official team substitute can replace a team member who CANNOT attend an event and premier team points will NOT be lost. Please use this benefit as it is intended which is to help keep you fishing if your partner is UNABLE and CANNOT attend an event, it is NOT intended to give you a substitution to use anytime you wish to gain a competitive advantage and will not be allowed as such. MWC reserves the right to STOP or alter this benefit if attempts to abuse it get out of hand. Do not attempt to abuse this customer service benefit or in MWC's sole judgment it will cease for all anglers and abusers will be identified.

## 19. STANDINGS, AWARDS & QUALIFICATIONS:

**NEW FOR 2015 - STATE CHAMPIONS AWARDS:** All MWC event(s) will be PRE-designated as one or more "State Championship qualifying events" for the state(s) that the event is being held in. Additionally, for any state where MWC is **NOT** hosting an event in for the current year, the **FIRST** event on the schedule where (10) ten or more teams from such a state signs up and registers that event will be designated as that states, State Championship. In states where MWC hosts only one event each year the winners of that event earns a State Champions title for that year for that state regardless of where they live. There may be other "highest finisher" state champions crowned as well in dual events. In states that MWC hosts 2 or more regular season MWC events in the **SAME** state, teams will be required to count scores for all events designated as hosted in that state to earn the state champions title. State Champions from multiple states may be crowned from one single event as defined above. **NO** state champion can be crowned without a minimum of 10 teams participating from that state. In the event of a MWC team whose anglers reside in two different states the state designation will follow the boat captain whose boat the team fishes from. State Champions prizes will include at a minimum, Custom State Champions trophy's, Custom State Champions decals for boat and truck, a Spot in the Cabela's NTC, pictures up on the New State Champions wall of fame page on the website, and more TBA.

**NEW FOR 2015 - MWC WILDCARD EVENT:** MWC may pre designate (1) or more late season events as a World Walleye Championship WILDCARD qualifier. Teams must sign up and fish the regular season MWC event that the wildcard qualifier is attached to in order to enter the wildcard qualifier. Additionally, teams **MUST** have fished at least two (2) other events during the season to be wildcard eligible, which would make the wildcard qualifier a team's 3<sup>rd</sup> event of the season (minimum). Yearly points standings do not apply to the wildcard qualifier. There will be an additional wildcard entry fee of \$200 per team a minimum of 80% of which will be added directly to the World Walleye Championship payout. There will be (1) one WWC spot allocated for each 10 Wildcard entries. **For example:** If 33 teams sign up for the wildcard qualifier, 3 teams will earn spots to the WWC and each qualified team adds \$1,760.00 to the WWC payout or an additional \$5,280 to the total WWC pot. The balance will go to help support the Team of the Year and State Champions prizes.

**WORLD WALLEYE CHAMPIONSHIP** - Those teams invited to the World Walleye Championship from the Masters Walleye Circuit shall be: the top 45 places in the point standings, (who fished 3 or more events). Also MWC may invite the reigning Cabela's National Team Champions, reigning MWC World Walleye Champions, Wildcard qualifiers and all 2015 MWC Qualifying Tournament winners (who fished 3 or more events) will be invited to the Championship. Additionally, MWC reserves the right to introduce new events, qualifiers and/or spots to the championship or refuse participation to any team for any reason. Any team disqualified and/or banned from participation in MWC events can also be disqualified and/or banned from any championship. **NEW!** Double your money entry fee! MWC will charge an entry fee of \$750 per team for the World Walleye Championship and **GUARANTEE** each WWC team who attends and catches at least one legal fish a **MINIMUM** payback of \$1500 or double your entry fee back for every qualified team!

Teams can only qualify for the World Walleye Championship once, and the order they will be taken will be; 2015 Top 45, which is 1-45 places in the Points Race, special event winners, 2015 Cabela's National Team Champions (NTC); Reigning World Walleye Champions; 2015 Qualifier winners, wildcard qualifiers; any duplicate qualifiers in the above will proceed down the standings as far as 50<sup>th</sup> place, then to **Premier Teams ONLY** past 50<sup>th</sup> place. Teams may fish as many events as they wish however, only a team's top 3 scores will be used for WWC qualification standings. No partner changes are allowed during the year for the Championship or for accumulating qualifying points as a team with the exception of Premier teams following rule number 18 above on substitutions. For all others, if one partner is unable to fish the Championship or a qualifying tournament, the remaining partner may fish alone, with an MWC-appointed, non-fishing observer, or at the discretion of the MWC.

MWC Circuit will payout over 100% in cash and prizes each year. (In 2014 MWC paid back nearly 130% in cash and prizes). Payout for each event will be announced at the pre-tournament meeting and will be based on the total number of paid teams entered in each tournament with a minimum payback of 80% in cash and prizes distributed to 20% of the field. The remaining amounts are earmarked to help fund the State Champions awards, the World Walleye Championship purse and Team of the Year awards.

**TEAM OF THE YEAR:** Teams fishing at least 4 events are eligible to compete in the Overall MWC Team of the Year race, which will award the team their **choice of ONE (1)** of the following Team of The Year prize packages;

1. **NWT - Living the Dream by TWF** - \$25,000 value sponsorship package can be awarded to a qualified team - TWF WALLEYE Living The Dream Sponsorship package consisting of; A spot with paid entry fee into the 2015 Cabela's

NTC, Fully paid entry fees into the 2015 Cabela's National Walleye Trail as 1 Pro and 1 Co-angler. Custom MWC/TWF Living The Dream jerseys for both anglers, use of one (1) custom Ranger 600 series boat for the season, a custom equipment\clothing package, and a \$500.00 travel expense stipend for each of the four (4) Cabela's NWT events and (2) - \$500.00 Cabela's Gift Cards.

2. **MWC – Living The Dream by TWF** - \$12,500.00 value sponsorship package can be awarded to a qualified team - TWF WALLEYE Living The Dream Sponsorship package #2 consisting of: A spot with paid entry fee into the 2015 Cabela's NTC, Fully paid team entry fees into any four (4) 2015 MWC events you (the same team) wish to fish, use of a custom wrapped Ranger 600 series walleye boat for the events, a professional photo shoot, a custom equipment\clothing package, custom jerseys, a travel expense stipend of \$250.00 for each event and (2) - \$500.00 Cabela's Gift Cards.
3. Or \$5,000 in cash and a spot with paid entry fee into the 2015 Cabela's National Team Championship.

Teams accumulating enough points from any 4 events to finish in the top 5 teams will qualify for the 2015 Cabela's National Team Championship (NTC) with their entry fees paid. PLUS teams finishing in 2 - 10<sup>th</sup> place(s) will be share a total of \$5,000.00 cash PLUS an additional \$5000.00 in Cabela's Gift Cards to be divided among 2<sup>nd</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup> place at the following percentages: 2<sup>nd</sup> place, 23% + 2015 Cabela's NTC slot with entry fee paid, 3<sup>rd</sup> place, 15% + 2015 Cabela's NTC slot with entry fee paid, 4<sup>th</sup> place, 12% + 2015 Cabela's NTC slot with entry fee paid; 5<sup>th</sup> place, 10% + 2015 Cabela's NTC slot with entry fee paid; 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> places, 8%. If a team already has a NTC spot secured the next highest team that does not have a spot will be awarded this prize.

From regular MWC events and standings a minimum of sixteen (16) MWC teams will qualify for the 2016 Cabela's National Team Championship (NTC) with a minimum of their entry fees paid. The top 5 teams in the 2015 TOTY standings defined above and 11 tournament winners (or highest finishers not already NTC qualified) will each receive a \$1,000 Cabela's NTC prize package and will be invited. If any team does not use or already has a Cabela's NTC spot secured, the next-highest team will be offered the prize.

**20. PATCHES, SIGNAGE & PROMOTIONS:** MWC has no intention to restrict the use of logos, patches or signage and encourages their use to promote your various supporters. Realizing we are in a TV \ media \ sponsorship field that MAY sometimes restrict the use of some signage MWC reserves the right to restrict the use of such signage in our promotional endeavors with as much advance notice as possible. Further all anglers agree to use any and all "Official" products, equipment or jerseys so specified and provided by MWC if asked to in our efforts to promote MWC, TWF, youth, conservation and clean waters, if applicable. Further if you are being filmed for television no tobacco products may be used while filming.

**21. WALLEYE CONSERVATION:** As part of our commitment to the preservation of walleye habitat, management, fish and wildlife, all MWC participants and TWF/MWC will donate money to support walleye fisheries where our events are held. Each MWC entry fee includes \$7.50 for each team; MWC will match that with \$7.50 per team for a total of \$15 per team. Those funds will be earmarked to the TWF/MWC walleye support, fish care and conservation fund. These funds will be leveraged at MWC's sole discretion for walleye conservation projects and wherever possible with local, state or federation matching funds to make them go as much as 3 times farther in support of walleye conservation.





**22. PARTICIPANT RELEASE OF LIABILITY – READ BEFORE SIGNING**

In consideration for permission to voluntarily participate in any events, programs or related activities conducted by The Walleye Federation or the Masters Walleye Circuit, (doing business as TWF and MWC ), either jointly or separately, I acknowledge, appreciate, and agree that: The risk of injury, disability, death, loss or damage to my person or property from the activities involved in this program is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while particular rules, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist; and, I have been advised by TWF and MWC, and have had the opportunity to seek legal counsel with respect to the legal effect of this document; and,

I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL RISKS referred to above, BOTH KNOWN AND UNKNOWN, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE WALLEYE FEDERATION and/or MASTERS WALLEYE CIRCUIT, THEIR OFFICERS, OFFICIALS, DIRECTORS, SHAREHOLDERS, AGENTS, AND/OR EMPLOYEES, OTHER PARTICIPANTS, AND SPONSORING AGENCIES, SPONSORS, ADVERTISERS, TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS AND VOLUNTEERS AND, IF APPLICABLE, OWNERS AND LESSORS OF PREMISES AND PROPERTY used to conduct the event (“RELEASEES”) OR OTHERS, AND ASSUME FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR RISKS ARISING FROM MY PARTICIPATION; AND,

I willingly agree to comply with the terms and conditions for participation. If, however, I observe any unusual or significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the immediate attention of the nearest official; and,

I agree to submit, by signature on this document, to a polygraph or voice stress analysis examination. Hereinafter known as truth verification test, and abide by its conclusion. Truth verification test(s) will be used at TWF or MWC sole discretion, and administered by TWF or its agents. I understand that failure to pass the examination as determined by TWF will result in disqualification. I certify that the number shown on these forms is my correct taxpayer identification number.

Having fully acquainted myself with the tournament rules, I have completed this application and submit it for my entry and

I, FOR MYSELF AND ON BEHALF OF MY HEIRS, ASSIGNS, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES AND NEXT OF KIN, HEREBY RELEASE, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD HARMLESS RELEASEES, WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH, OR LOSS OR DAMAGE TO PERSON OR PROPERTY, WHICH I SUFFER OR WHICH I AM FOUND TO HAVE CAUSED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY MY NEGLIGENCE OR INTENTIONAL MISCONDUCT, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, OR OTHERWISE, TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.

In signing this application, and by my presence at the event, I hereby agree to be bound by and comply with all tournament rules, participant release of liability and safety regulations. I expressly assume all risks associated with the tournament.

If I am using a boat during the official practice or during the tournament, I certify that I now have, or will obtain prior to the event, property damage\ watercraft liability insurance having reasonable limits. Said insurance must be issued by a reputable insurer and must cover injury and/or damage incurred in connection with this Tournament and cover the dates of the event(s). Upon request, I will provide satisfactory evidence of said insurance. I hereby waive my rights of privacy or publicity with regard to the unconditional right to use my name, voice, photographic likeness, video and biographical information and fishing tips and instructions in connection with any reproduction of same, video\audio productions and/or articles and press releases by TWF or MWC, their parent or affiliate companies, and those acting under their permission, anywhere at any time, through any medium or media. I shall not be entitled to receive any royalties or other compensation in connection with such use. I further understand and agree that the tournament officials reserve the right to reject my application for any reason whatsoever. I am currently a member in good standing of The Walleye Federation. The Participant signifies by his/her signature below that they have read and understands the foregoing provisions.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_