

RIVERSIDE FISHING CLUB

BIG FISH CONTEST RULES for US, Canada, and ANGLER OF THE YEAR Award

Contest Purpose: The Big Fish Contest is to provide recognition of accomplishment and exposure of our member's exceptional fish caught. It is the RFC's desire that this friendly competition be a fun way to educate and encourage those desiring greater success.

Rules:

1. Contest is open to all paid members of the RFC.
2. **Contest is run from November 1st through October 31st**
3. US Fish must be caught in US waters within 600 miles drive of the Moose Lodge in Berwyn, IL as determined by Google Map. Canada Fish must be caught in Canada and do not compete with any US Fish categories
4. **US Fish categories:**

- 1) White Bass/Striped Bass
- 2) Bluegill/Sunfish
- 3) Perch
- 4) Largemouth Bass
- 5) Smallmouth Bass
- 6) Catfish
- 7) Carp
- 8) Walleye
- 9) Sauger/Burbot/Sturgeon/or some other species
- 10) Northern Pike
- 11) Lake Salmon
- 12) Lake Trout
- 13) Musky
- 14) Sheephead a.k.a. Freshwater Drum
- 15) Crappie
- 16) Inland Trout

Canada Fish categories:

- 1) Musky
- 2) Northern Pike
- 3) Walleye
- 4) Smallmouth Bass

5. Entries to be submitted by text or email or in-person at a RFC club meeting to Big Fish Chairpersons within 45 days of catch (NO Exceptions)

Email to one of the Big Fish Chairpersons: jim.svestka@gmail.com or Text: 630-697-9576 or Adam Bielawski email: photobra@gmail.com or Text: 630-460-1140

All entries must include the following:

- **A picture showing a clear depiction of fish alongside a ruled measuring device of at least the length of the fish. Measure the fish from tip of the nose (or lower jaw) to the tip of the tail in a straight line. DO NOT measure in a curve around the body from nose to tail. Measure to nearest 1/4"**
- **Body of water, Species, Date caught, Your Name**
- **Optional info: weight, girth, bait used etc...**

6. A “Leader Board” depicting current leader and fish length for each fish category will be kept and displayed on Dry-erase board and presented at each monthly meeting.

7. Club members will be awarded points for each fish that finished in first, second or third place as of October 31st. However, only one \$20 prize will be awarded per person per contest year for a 1st place entry. If a member has multiple 1st place winners, the cash prize will be awarded in the category of their largest fish. The runner up fisherman in each category to the 1st place entry will qualify for a \$10 cash prize. No member is eligible to receive more than one cash prize in a contest year (except Angler of the Year which may receive two \$20 prizes).

9. Although it is expected that all state and waterway fishing regulations be adhered to as related to the catch, submitted fish do not need to meet specific size regulations.

10. Please include a picture of you holding your entry whenever possible. Pictures submitted with you holding fish and also fish with measurement tool within 45 days of catch will be awarded 2 raffle tickets to the club table raffle. Pictures submitted without a measuring tool will qualify for 1 raffle ticket but are not eligible for a cash prize.

11. In the case of “ties” regarding fish length, the earlier submitted fish will be the winner.

12. Questionable or contested entries will be reviewed by a Big Fish Contest Board Chairpersons whose decision will be final. Existing “leaders” will be given preferential priority in determining the outcome of any questionable entry.

Angler of the Year Calculation: At the end of annual contest in November, points will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place entries in each category. 3 points will be awarded for 1st place, 2 points will be awarded for 2nd place and 1 point will be awarded for 3rd place. The member with the most total points will be awarded Angler of the Year and \$20 cash prize - or - framed certificate/plaque at a shared cost with the member and RFC.