



2013 General Rules

1. Time and Dates
 - a. Begins: August 24, 2013 at 5:00 AM EDT – earliest weigh-in is specific to the opening time of the weigh-in location.
 - b. Ends: September 2, 2013 at 3 PM EDT – all fish must weigh-in or be in line to weigh-in before this time. Note: It is the derby participant's responsibility to verify the open hours of any weigh station and plan accordingly for fish entry.
2. Eligible Fish Species: Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, Steelhead/Rainbow Trout, Lake Trout, Brown Trout
3. Only fish caught from Michigan waters of Lake Michigan and these drowned river mouths can be entered in the derby: Lake Macatawa, Muskegon Lake, White Lake, Pentwater Lake, Pere Marquette Lake, Manistee Lake, Betsie Lake, Loon Lake and Platte Lake.
4. Derby entry must be purchased a minimum of 8 hours prior to entry of any fish being entered in the derby.
5. Derby Tickets
 - a. Adult Full Derby Individual Ticket (age 18+) -- \$30
 - b. Youth Full Derby Individual Ticket (age 12-17) -- \$15
 - c. Individual Daily Ticket -- \$15
 - d. Personal Boat Tickets -- \$150 per boat per derby – anyone catching a fish while fishing on the registered boat during the derby can enter the fish (no need for individual registrations/tickets)
 - e. Charter Boat Tickets -- \$300 per boat per derby – anyone fishing on the boat during the derby including the owner, employees, and customers can enter a fish caught on the registered boat
6. Eligibility
 - a. All persons aboard the same boat (private or charter) over 12 years old must be registered in the Derby or the boat must have a boat ticket for the Derby. In the event that there are any persons on board the boat who are not registered (whether they are fishing or not), all fish caught during that particular outing may not be entered or considered for any prizes. A fish caught by an angler under 12 years old may be entered under a registration/ticket of someone 12 or older on the same group.
 - b. Shore/Pier anglers can enter/participate in the Derby but fish must be caught from eligible contest waters (See rule 3 above).
 - c. Examples
 - i. 6 people on a boat. 2 are under 17, 1 is 17, 3 are over 17 – All must be entered in the derby with appropriate adult, youth, or daily registrations
 - ii. 4 people on board. All over 17. 2 will be fishing. 2 only along for the ride. – All 4 must be entered in the derby.
 - iii. 4 anglers, all are 16 years old. All must purchase derby entries.
 - iv. A boat has been registered with a boat ticket for the derby. On one day four people go fishing. The next day four people go fishing – two are from the first day are fishing along with 2 new anglers. Everyone on board is entered in the derby via the boat ticket.
 - v. A charter boat has a charter with the captain, a mate, plus 6 anglers. If the boat is registered with a charter boat ticket for the derby, all onboard are entered and can enter fish. If the boat does not have a charter boat ticket, then each person in the charter party (client/customers -- not captain/crew) will all need individual derby tickets (daily or full derby). If the boat's captain and/or crew want to enter a fish, they will also need to be registered. Without the charter boat registration, full derby or daily derby tickets will be needed.
 - d. Under-age (less than 12 years old) anglers can still catch fish in the derby, but must be fishing with an angler registered in the derby (preferably parent or guardian). Any fish caught by the under 12 angler can still be weighed in the derby by the derby angler being fished with.
 - e. All people aboard the boat must be present at the entry of the fish at the weigh-in station and supply their name and entry number on the entry form. By doing this, it affirms the integrity of the catch and also that no unregistered person was aboard the boat. The Charter boat captain and crew/mate do not need to be present but you will need the name of the boat and captain.

7. The entered fish must be whole, not gaffed, gutted or showing evidence of being snagged or modified. Any fish containing foreign materials (including but not limited to water, ice, and weights) will be disqualified and not allowed to be entered in the derby. Fish will be examined for gill net marks, bleached or slimy gills, hook and/or gaff marks, freezer burn, dried gills, clouded eyes, unresponsive flesh -- the presence of any of which can disqualify the fish.
8. Fish must be weighed the same day they are caught or within 2 hours of the weigh station opening the next day if the fish is caught after the weigh station was closed on the day the fish is caught.
9. Prior to weighing; any baitfish or ice in the mouth of the fish will be removed prior to weighing.
10. Fish will be weighed on Michigan Salmon Spectacular provided scale at the weigh-in station. Weights from other scales (even state certified) will not be allowed. The derby scales are not state certified, but are calibrated to be accurate and consistent across weigh station locations.
11. Weight will be to the hundredth of an ounce (For example: 17 pounds 6.35 ounces)
12. Ties in weight for daily port, daily derby, and overall derby entries will be broken based on time of weigh-in with the fish weighed earliest deemed the higher placing entry.
13. All fish must weigh a minimum of 15 pounds to be entered in the derby. Fish will be weighed and only if above the minimum will it be recorded on an entry form for participant completion.
14. Once weighed, each entered fish will be marked to prevent the fish from being entered more than one time in the Salmon Spectacular
15. It is the responsibility of the entrant to properly preserve and take pictures of the fish which will be used in preparation of the taxidermy mount for the first place prize. The taxidermy prize is a maximum of \$500 toward the mounting of the fish.
16. Prize recipients are responsible for payment of all taxes on prizes of \$600 and more. Refusal to submit proper federal and state tax identification information will result in disqualification. Information will need to be submitted prior to distribution of prizes.
17. Michigan Salmon Spectacular, LLC employees, event sponsors, and their immediate families are not eligible to enter the derby. This does not include owners or employees of weigh station locations.
18. All Michigan DNR rules and regulations must be followed when fishing in the derby. All state DNR fishing laws must be observed. Any DNR written violation during the derby disqualifies the derby entrant and all fishing with him or her regardless of outcome.
19. The timeframe for daily port and derby prizes will be the weigh in times for the day at the weigh in station(s). A fish caught the late the day before but not entered until the next day, will be eligible for the daily prize on the day it is weighed – not caught.
20. All participants who weigh fish and are eligible for cash and prizes may be required to submit to a polygraph examination. Failing test or failure to comply will result in immediate disqualification and forfeiture of any and all cash and prizes.
21. All prizes will be awarded within one week of the end of the derby.
22. A maximum of three derby prizes in the top 100 entered fish can be won by a single derby entrant. More than one daily prize can be won in addition to the overall prizes. For example: a derby entrant enters 6 fish in the derby; two are daily port prize winners and one is a daily derby big fish winner and the other three are not daily winners; in the overall derby the three place 7th, 20th, 65th, 90th, 200th, and 290th. The entrant will get prizes for the two daily port prizes, the one daily derby prize, and the 7th, 20th, and 65th place overall prizes. The 90th place fish although in the top 100 will not qualify for a prize in the overall derby standings.
23. All prizes (both daily port and derby wide) will be paid out by check after the end of the derby and review of all entries.
24. Prizes advertized are based on a minimum of 1,300 full derby individual entries. Prizes may be reduced proportionately if the 1,300 entrant level is not reached.
25. No refunds of derby entry fees except if the derby is canceled before the start date.
26. When you elect to fish in the Michigan Salmon Spectacular derby event you agree by your signature to abide by the policies, rules and decisions set forth by Michigan Salmon Spectacular, LLC. Failure to comply with any of the rules will result in automatic disqualification, forfeiture of all prizes, recognition as a prize winner and the right to enter any future Michigan Salmon Spectacular events. Michigan Salmon Spectacular, LLC reserves the right to deny participation in a Michigan Salmon Spectacular event to anyone for any reason.