

# FREELAND WALLEYE FESTIVAL



## 2026 TOURNAMENT RULES



Open again to the Saginaw Bay!

Weigh-in one fish and you can win – see below....

**1. PARTICIPANTS & ELIGIBILITY:** Participation in this tournament is open to any person with a valid Michigan Fishing License who has properly completed and signed an Official Entry Form and returned it to the Tournament Headquarters with a \$15.00 entry fee no later than Midnight on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Youth under 17 years of age may enter for \$5.00 and will qualify for only the prizes in their division. **No refund of entry fee will be made.** The Tournament Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any applications.

**2. TOURNAMENT DATES & TIMES:** The Tournament begins at 12:01 AM on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 and runs thru 3:00 P.M. on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**3. ELIGIBLE FISH:** All fish entered in the contest must be Walleyes and must be caught under the legal rules set down by the State of Michigan. Any fish that has been tampered with or foul hooked will be disqualified at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. All entered fish must be caught on the Tournament Dates. Contestants may submit up to 4 legal fish per day.

**ALL LEGAL FISHING WATERS IN THE STATE OF MICHIGAN QUALIFY.**

**4. WEIGH-IN:** Contestants must have their catches entered at the Official Weigh Station, located at: **Hayes Park, 9000 Midland Road, Freeland, MI 48623** during the following hours:

Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026 – 10:00 AM through 5:00 PM

Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026 -- 10:00 AM through 3:00 PM

Tournament results are announced as soon as they have been verified after the 3:00 PM closing of the weigh-in.

**5. PRIZE CATEGORIES:** **A.** Most pounds for 8 fish (Limit of 4 fish per day). Tiebreaker will be earliest time entered. Top (15) fifteen places receive prize packages. **B.** Largest Walleye (by weight & time entered); one prize. **C.** Prizes will be awarded for the top 10 kids prizes. **D.** Entrants weighing in one or more legal fish will qualify for a drawing of the remaining prize packages.

**6. GENERAL:** All fish entered will have one fin clipped. All fish entered **MUST** have been caught by the person who enters them. Giving to or receiving fish from another person will be considered grounds for disqualification. After weigh-in, contestants are responsible for their own fish. Fishing competition is over at the designated times each day or when weigh-in has been completed. Only one weigh-in per day is allowed for each contestant. The top (5) five winners will submit to a polygraph test as deemed necessary by the Tournament Committee. Prizes will be withheld pending the settlement of disputes. By signing an entry form, contestants absolve the Freeland Lions Club of all connected sponsors of any and all liabilities due to injury to themselves or other during the two-day event.

Please note the Registration prices are \$15.00 for Adults and \$5.00 for kids.

**7. CASH PRIZES:** 1<sup>st</sup> Prize - \$1,000.00 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - \$500.00 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - \$250.00



## 40<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FREELAND WALLEYE FESTIVAL

2026 OFFICIAL WALLEYE TOURNAMENT ENTRY FORM (Print clearly)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_  Check here if Youth (under age 17)

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/Postal: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

In signing this application, I hereby waive and release all other Contestants, the Host, Sponsors, and Tournament Officials from all claims of injury and/or damage incurred in connection with the Tournament. I hereby have read and agree to ALL rules & regulations of this Tournament.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check or money order in the amount of \$15.00 per entry (\$5.00 for Youth) To: **(SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED!)**

Freeland Lions Club, P.O. Box 767, Freeland, MI 48623

Access and drop off Entry Forms at: Pat's Hardware, Tittabawassee Township Offices, Freeland Sports Zone, Frank's Great Outdoors & Linwood Beach Marina & Campground

Credit/Debit Cards cannot be accepted for Registration fees.