

Official Rules

2026 Lewis & Clark Big 10 Showdown

September 25-26, 2026

- Headquarters:** White Earth Bay
- Teams:** 100 – 2 person teams will be accepted.
- Flights & Times:** Teams will be separated into (2) flights and will leave and return at the following times –
Flight 1 will leave at 8 AM and return at 4 PM
Flight 2 will leave at 9 AM and return at 5 PM
- Flight times will swap the second day (1st flight day one become 2nd flight day 2).
- We will do our best to accommodate flight requests, but cannot guarantee flight choice. First come first served for choice. Get your application in early.
- All boats must check in with the patrol boat outside the bay prior to the 4 PM and 5 PM deadlines. Late boats will get a zero weight score for that day!
- Eligibility:** Any participant under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult. **All tournament contestants must be off the water by 4:00 PM Thursday.**
- Regulations:** All contestants must observe US Coast Guard and North Dakota State Game & Fish rules and regulations. Teams are required to have (2) participants.
- Entry Fees:** Entry fee is \$1,000 USD. No refunds unless tournament is cancelled.
- Sportsmanship:** All contestants will be expected to be courteous, safety conscious and practice fundamental sporting principles. Any infraction can result in immediate disqualification.
- Tackle & Equipment:** Artificial & live bait may be used. Each contestant can use (2) rods and spare rods can be carried in the boat. LIFE JACKETS **MUST** be worn at all times the boat is above idle speed!
- Fishing area:** Take off is from Lewis and Clark State Park. Boundaries are as follows: West boundary is Camp Chereth (just west of Lewis & Clark State Park) and the East boundary is the New Town bridge. You cannot cross under any bridges. **Absolutely no fishing inside the marina walls at Lewis & Clark State Park.**
- Boats & Motors:** Boats and motors must comply with State regulations. All boats **MUST** have a livewell. **Boats will be given an ID number and the number should be placed on the DRIVER side above the water line.**
- Scoring:** Only walleye, sauger, and saugeye will be weighed. Only fish 15 inches or greater will be weighed (pinched tail measurement). This is a live release tournament. Dead fish (as judged by

the weighmaster) will be subject to a 20% penalty and are NOT eligible for the “big fish” prize. Because “culling” and “party fishing” are illegal in North Dakota, no more than 10 fish (based on a two- person team allowing for five fish per person) are allowed in the boat. No more than five fish will be weighed. Scale will open at 10 AM and will be open all day. Once a fish is weighed it is included in the eligible 5. Culling is cheating and all cheaters will be disqualified and not eligible for future tournaments.

Any ties will be determined by the biggest fish weighed by each tied team.

Inspection: All boats will be subject to inspection prior to the tournament. Please arrive early both days. All boats are also subject to inspection at any time during the tournament. Anyone found to be cheating will be immediately disqualified and will forfeit all entry fees and will be barred from future entry.

Spirit of the Rule: All rules have loopholes. It is the intention of the sponsor to provide an honest, sportsmanlike tournament. In the interest of good sportsmanship, contestants are reminded that the “spirit of the rule” will prevail in all situations.

Payouts and prizes: All payouts are cash based on a 100-team field

Rules Meeting: At least one team member is required to attend the rules meeting on Thursday September 25, 7 PM at the Upper Missouri Valley Fairgrounds. Failure to attend this meeting will result in disqualification and forfeiture of entry.

Miscellaneous: No participant may leave his boat for any reason during the fishing day.

All questions or problems relating to the rules of this tournament or any situation which arises regarding a possible disqualification are to be referred to the tournament committee. Their decision will be final in all cases.

All winners agree to provide signed W-9 forms to the organizers for tax purposes.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS: For on the water tournament day emergencies, please call Jeff 701-770-0199 or the State Park Office 701-859-3071.