



Volume 21, Issue 10

OCTOBER 2018

Matt McDonald Wins Frank Schneider Tournament

from Casey Friskney, Tournament Director

The Twin Cities chapter's 51st Annual Frank Schneider, Jr. Memorial Muskie Tournament was held September 7-8-9 on over 20 prime muskie waters in northern Minnesota.

Matt McDonald won the event with four nice muskies – 51.25, 43.25, 51.50, and 47 inches – from Leech Lake. In addition to the Abu Garcia rod and reel, Spiderwire line and Sébile lure courtesy of Pure Fishing all the top ten were presented, Matt also received a week stay at Red Wing Lodge on Sabaskong Bay, Lake of the Woods courtesy of the Mike Bartlett family.

Over 450 anglers participated in the three-day event and they caught a lot of muskies. Ninety-four muskies 40-inches or over were registered by 75 participants over the course of the three days. In addition to Matt's four muskies, two anglers tripled and twelve people doubled. Eleven muskies 50-inches or longer were caught. Each of those anglers received a \$50 gift certificate from Thorne Bros.

Chance Hinrichs took the Junior Division for the second year in a row with a 43.75-incher from Big Lake. In addition to the rod, reel, line, and lure, Chance won a stay at Pine Beach Resort and Campground on Lake Garfield.

Three ladies registered muskies and they received Women's Bonus cash bonuses. Big fish award and a replica courtesy of Lax Reproductions went to Joe Peterson with one of two 53.5-inch muskies turned in. Because Joe's fish was caught first, he won the award. Bonus awards from Abu Garcia were also presented to the top three fish caught using an Abu Garcia reel.

Every angler who registered a muskie got their name in the hat for the Grand Prize drawing for cash. This year we implemented splitting the Grand Prize in three equal amounts, tripling the chances of winning. The three Grand Prize winners were Joe Peterson, Matt Seifert, and John Groteberg. They each received a check for \$4,340.

During the Sunday awards program at Northern Lights Casino in Walker, the Frank Schneider tournament presented a check for \$3,500 to Jonathon Gustafson, MN DNR fisheries specialist from the Walker office. The funds will be used for the muskie fishery in the tournament area.



Grand Prize winners for 2018 Frank Schneider, Jr. Memorial Muskie Tournament were, left to right, Joe Peterson, Matt Seifert and John Groteberg. This year the Grand Prize was divided equally in three that gave every angler who registered a muskie in the tournament a 1-in-25 chance of taking home some cash. Each of the three received a check for \$4,340.



Matt McDonald took first place in the 2018 Frank Schneider, Jr. Memorial Muskie Tournament with four muskies from Leech Lake – two over 51 inches. This 51.5-incher is the longest. In addition to the Abu Garcia rod and reel, Spiderwire line and Sébile lure courtesy of Pure Fishing all the top ten were presented, Matt also received a week stay at Red Wing Lodge on Sabaskong Bay, Lake of the Woods courtesy of the Mike Bartlett family.

SCHNEIDER MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

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Getting Kids into Muskie Fishing

Don't miss our October 9 meeting featuring Jason and Fischer Smith discussing the subject of getting kids into muskie fishing and growing the future of this sport.

Seeking Youth Chairperson

The chapter is looking for a person to take over as Youth Chairperson. Our chapter's current Youth Chairperson, Terry Schar, will be retiring soon and moving out of state.

The Youth Chair does not necessarily need to be a member of the Board of Directors. Duties include:

- completing and submitting an application for a Hugh C Becker grant for the youth program and submitting an accountability report
- coordinating a qualifying event for the state High School tournament
- working with the sponsorship committee to obtain prizes and awards for the high school qualifier
- coordinating work with Fishing for Life including the club's donation which helps FFL run activities like the Armed Forces Family Fishing Celebration
- handing out lures to youths at monthly meetings

Terry also works with the other club members to make approximately 100 spinners which are given to youths (high school tournament participants and Fishing for Life events).

Contact Terry at twschar@yahoo.com or 612-865-4200 or any current board member if you would be interested in taking over for him.

From Our President, JIM DOYLE

The Fall is at last upon us! Now is the time of pleasant, peaceful fishing on the lakes!

Many thanks to the rookie chairman Casey Friskney and the rest of the group that put on another excellent Frank Schneider Tournament. The weather cooperated all three days and there were lots of fish caught to get people in the running for big prizes.

Thanks as well to Denise Olson and her crew for last weekend's George Wahl metro-wide tournament. Pretty cool that even in a cold front the metro produced good numbers in a single day tournament. Two anglers with three fish to enter in that short of an event is spectacular!

Hope to see you at upcoming monthly meetings. We try and bring in the big names over the winter as speakers, so join us and learn what you can.

Schneider Tournament Shirts Available

As we do every year for the Frank Schneider tournament, we had a supply of t-shirts available for purchase. Shirts for the 2018 event are a different fabric – softer, sport-tek in a heather grey with dark green imprint. This year, the t-shirts were ordered in a variety of sizes usually not available in tournament t-shirts. We have men's small, medium, large and extra-large shirts available for \$15. 2XL and one 3XL shirt for \$18.

In addition, for the first time ever, we ordered shirts in women's sizes. For the ladies, heather grey shirts crew-neck shirts are available in small, medium, large, extra-large and XXL for \$15. Ladies V-neck shirts are available in medium and large, also for \$15.

We also ordered Simms SolarFlex® long-sleeve shirts. The men's sizes have sold out, but we have a few have ladies shirts with plain front, "Catch & Release" on the right sleeve and the undated Frank Schneider tournament logo on the back. They are available in women's small, medium and large for \$50.

We also have the Simms SolarFlex® shirts with the 50th Anniversary Frank Schneider logo on them in both men's and women's sizes for \$35. Standard 50th Anniversary Schneider t-shirts are \$5 each. A few of the grey long-sleeve t-shirts in sport-tek fabric with the Twin Cities chapter logo on the front are also available in men's sizes small, medium, and XXL.

T-shirts will be at the next chapter meetings until gone. If you want to reserve one before they sell out, please send an email to tcmi.sponsor2@gmail.com.



T-shirts in women's sizes were ordered for the Franks Schneider tournament this year and are still available for purchase.

George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament Raises Funds for Metro Area Muskie Fishery

A day that started out with near-freezing temperatures and never got too warm produced a record number of fish in the 10th annual George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament this past Saturday. In all, 21 muskies 40 inches or over were registered by 17 anglers. The top five anglers were presented a plaque, an Eagle Tail lure (George Wahl was the creator of Eagle Tail), and a \$50 Thorne Bros. gift card. The top three anglers received cash in addition.

Chris Fusco earned the most points in the tournament with three muskies from Lake Harriet. All three, 41, 46, and 42 inches, were boated before 10 am. Chris stated this is the first time he has been out on Harriet all year, although he fished Harriet in past tournaments. Those three muskies earned Chris a \$1000 check for first place.

Second place winner was Lonny Hess who also registered three muskies, 41.5, 43 and 41 inches, from Bald Eagle Lake. Lonny received a \$500 check. Matt McDonald, with a 48-inch muskie from Minnetonka, the biggest fish of the tournament, finished in third place. He received a \$250 check.

Two ladies caught muskies and received a Mary Villnow Memorial plaque and a cash bonus. Re La registered a 42.5 inch muskie for a ladies bonus of \$250. Jenna Rocek with a 42 inch muskie received the second Mary Villnow award and a \$175 check.

With the exception of Chris Fusco's Lake Harriet fish and a lone muskie caught by Chris Thury on White Bear Lake, all fish in the tournament were from Lake Minnetonka (10) or Bald Eagle (7).

The day ended with a feed at Thorne Bros. The Awards program culminated with the Grand Prize drawing. Every person who registered a muskie was entered in the drawing. Winner of a trip for 4 to Whitefish Bay Camp on Lake of the Woods and \$500 was Scott Bringle who placed 4th in the tournament with a nice 46.5 inch muskie from Lake Minnetonka.

For the first time since this event started, winners did not receive a custom Phantom or Sinister lure created by Todd Cleveland. Ten years ago when the tournament began, Todd was the first person who called and asked to be part of it as he so admired George. Todd will be missed for all he contributed to this event.

The muskie anglers who spent the day fishing contributed a little something toward our metro-area muskie fishery by participating in the George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament. One hundred percent of the proceeds will be put back into the local metro-area muskie fishery.

Funds raised at the George Wahl tournament have enabled the Twin Cities chapter to purchase and stock close to 10,000 muskie fingerlings in metro-area lakes and the St. Croix river over the past several years. The chapter has also been able to provide funds to the Minnesota DNR to purchase equipment for their hatcheries and to provide pit and floy tags for their studies on stocking.

Thanks to all the anglers who participated for helping preserve our great metro-area muskie fishing.



Chris Fusco took first place in the 2018 George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament. Chris boated three muskies from Lake Harriet during the Saturday, September 29 event. The three muskies – 41, 46 and 42 inches – earned him \$1000 as well as a plaque, Eagle Tail lure, and a \$50 Thorne Bros. gift card.



Matt McDonald registered the longest fish of the George Wahl tournament – a 48-inch muskie from Lake Minnetonka.



This 42.5 inch muskie earned Re La the top place for the Mary Villnow Award for women. This was her first time muskie fishing.

Twin Cities Chapter Members Only Contest

from Mike Darley, Chapter Members Only Contest Chair

The George Wall and the Frank Schneider have passed and Fall is here! The leaves are starting to change here in the metro, and are well underway in the North Country. Water temperatures are dropping further and further and seem to be getting closer and closer to that T word... turnover! Fishing tactics have been starting to change for some and we will probably start to see some more fish on suckers and trolling.

The last day of August, we had a giant caught by Nolen Ryba measuring 55.5"! This is setting the bar for the longest fish in the club so far this year. Additionally, Ryan Boomer caught himself an early September 54.5" giant! Other notable fisherman and fish include Matt McDonald with a 48", 51.25", 51.5" and 43" in the Frank Schneider tournament, Todd Lindberg and Will Kilber each with 48", and Jon Meyers with a 49.5" also in the Frank Schneider!

A lot of fish have been caught on bucktails followed closely by plastic. Popular colors this September have been Black and Perch. Most fish have been caught in 10 ft. of water or less and a lot over sand, especially earlier in the month.

We had an update to the Tiger rankings as a fish was marked as a tiger that wasn't actually a tiger. Thank you for the call from Cindy Hegdahl to me to update this in the standings!

As the weather cools, don't forget to bring those extra thermoses of hot water, use WD-40 to keep the ice from building up on your trolling motors, and consider flipping your line on your reels to keep the line from freezing up as easily. Until next time, stay warm in search of your fall muskies!

Reports were pulled on 9/30 to generate the following results.

WOMEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

	NAME	POINTS	NO. FISH	LONGEST
1ST	Cindy Hegdahl	83	6	47"
2ND	Kimberly Hartman	47	4	45"
3RD	Linda Knutson	24	1	50"

MEN'S DIVISION

1ST	Dale D Mueller	363	23	53.5"
2ND	Matt McDonald	290	16	51.5"
3RD	Nolen Ryba	263	15	55.5"
4TH	Ryan Boomer	120	12	54.5"
5TH	Mike Darley	108	8	48.25"
6TH	Chris Dahl	82	4	54"
7TH	Dave Niewolny	77	6	44"
8TH	Tom Batina	66	4	52"
9TH	Brent Lenke	66	3	54.5"
10TH	Jeremy M Knutson	64	4	45.5"



Nolen Ryba has the biggest muskie turned in so far this year with this 55.5 x 22 incher caught the last day of August from Minnetonka.

MEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

	NAME	POINTS	NO. FISH	LONGEST
1ST	Brent Hirsch	171	12	48"
2ND	Eric Bakke	147	9	48"
3RD	Mark Fredrick	11	1	37"

HYBRID DIVISION

1ST	Luke Manthey	48	5	48"
2ND	Kimberly Hartman	18	2	37"
3RD	Josh Hawke	12	1	37.5"

LUNKER OF THE MONTH

MAY - Casey Friskney - 5/26 - 38" - Bone Lake (WI)

JUNE - Brent Lenke - 6/2 - 54.5" - Mille Lacs

JULY - Nolen Ryba - 7/26 - 53" - Minnetonka

AUGUST - Nolen Ryba - 8/31 - 55.5" - Minnetonka

SEPTEMBER (unofficial) - Ryan Boomer - 9/3 - 54.5" - Waconia

Share Your Muskie Tale

While you're out chasing muskies, keep in mind events that happen that might make a good "Muskie Tale". We're not necessarily looking for the "big fish" story. We're looking for stories that are something a little out of the ordinary – what happened while fishing; on the way to fishing; on the way back. Maybe some kind of mishap happened while you were out fishing; or you found something interesting on the end of your line.

Muskie Tales will be told at our chapter Awards Program at the end of the year. The person with the best Muskie Tale will take the Muskie Tale Award home with them for the year. The award is a replica of the tale of the biggest muskie on record.

Share your story with us by emailing your "tale" to Denise Olson at olsonat3pete@gmail.com.

Final Chapter Summer Fishing League Event is October 27

The Chapter Summer Fishing League is an opportunity to participate and enjoy a little friendly rivalry with fellow members on lakes throughout the metro area. The league started in June and ran through the summer with different lakes being options for fishing. Next week, October 7-13, is the last scheduled week of fishing with White Bear Lake, Lake Minnetonka and Bryant Lake being the lakes for the week.

The league has proved very popular this year with over 40 people signing up. Ben Tollefson, who started off the league season with a 53-inch muskie, cemented his lead with 4 more fish, including a 50-incher on October 1.



Winner of the chapter's Summer Fishing League will keep this 24-inch Phantom created by Todd Cleveland for the next year.

Each week league anglers participated, they had a ticket put into a drawing for prizes including a custom rod from Joe Oprosko. Points are also given each time an angler participates. Each fish registered also earns points following the Muskies, Inc. Members Only system. At the end of the season prizes will be awarded for the most points earned, the longest fish, and the longest tiger. Winner with the most points will also keep the traveling 24-inch Phantom lure created by Todd Cleveland for the coming year.

Final event of the chapter's Summer League will be an outing from Grey's Bay on Lake Minnetonka. League anglers

who have earned 25 points or more will fish from 7 am to 5 pm on Saturday, October 27.

Jon Best is heading up the league. If you have questions, please contact him at tcmi.fishingleague@gmail.com.

League Standings

League standings can be found at www.fishingclash.com. Follow the league on Facebook.

Ben Tollefson	143 Points
June 6 - 53 inches (27), August 21 - 36 inches (10)	
September 8 - 40 inches (14), 34 inches (8)	
October 1 - 50 inches (24)	
Jim Harmon	94 Points
June 12 - 40 inches (14), June 19 - 41 inches (15)	
Jesse Amundson	93 Points
June 12 - 45 inches (19), August 28 - 40 inches (14)	
Jeff Borchardt	60 Points
Luke Manthey	59 Points
July 13 - 35 inches (9)	
Craig Centofanti, Tim Norris	55 Points
Ernie Heifort	40 Points
Nate Seeger, Nolan Ryba	35 Points
Cory Owen	29 Points
August 20 - 40 inches (14)	
Jon Best, Ethan Stout, Casey Friskney	25 Points

White Bear, Bald Eagle and Minnetonka Tagged Muskies

Muskies stocked in Lake Minnetonka, Bald Eagle Lake and White Bear Lake for several years are part of a multi-year DNR study on stocking. All muskies stocked in those lakes have a small yellow tag near the dorsal fin. When fishing those lakes, you should be looking for fish that have the yellow tags. By this time, the tags may be covered with algae and other material, so look closely.

If you see a yellow tag on any muskie, the DNR needs data from you

to complete the study. DO NOT REMOVE THE YELLOW TAG. It is important that they get data on the re-catchability of fish. They will need the number on the yellow tag, the name of the lake, and the length of the fish. They would also appreciate your name and phone number in case they need to follow-up. You can go online to the



DNR tag reporting website page http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fisheries/tagged_fish_reporting/index.html or leave a message for BJ Bauer at 952-826-6771.

Upcoming Meetings

We've scheduled some interesting, informative speakers for our upcoming chapter meetings, so don't miss out.

Our October speaker is Jason Smith and his 9-year-old son Fischer who has 23 muskies so far this year. They will discuss getting kids into muskie fishing.

Representative(s) from the MN DNR will be at our November meeting to give updates on the muskie study taking place on the St. Louis River. We may also have DNR representatives giving updates on the study on the St. Croix river as well.

December speaker will be Josh Borovsky who will talk about the past muskie season, trends being seen and possibly what's in store for next season.

January will be representatives from the MN DNR who will discuss a new muskie study taking place on Mantrap Lake in Hubbard County.

We also can possibly schedule a swap meet if there is any interest. Please give contact Greg Ide if you're interested or have any suggestions for future meetings.

Muskie Shootout October 13-14

The last tournament of the season hosted by a Minnesota Muskies, Inc. chapter, the Brainerd Lakes chapter's Muskie Shootout, will take place October 13-14 on Leech Lake in northern Minnesota.

The event is being headquartered at Hiawatha Beach Resort, just north of Walker, MN. There are still openings for a few more teams to participate. Cash prizes are paid to the top five teams with scoring based on the Muskies, Inc. point system. The entry for a 2-man team is \$160 and includes two days of fishing, and one meal. Participants can purchase a meal plan from Hiawatha Beach Resort that includes breakfast each day, bag lunch and one evening meal.

This is truly a fun event in which several of our chapter members have participated since its inception. If you have questions, contact Tournament Director Jon Hagelie at jon.hagelie@gmail.com or call 218-838-5670. If you would like to register, you can do so on line at www.brainerdmuskies.com/muskie-shootout-tourney.html.

The Muskie Shootout is also the last qualifying event for anglers who are signed up for the Minnesota Muskies, Inc. Tournament Trail (M.I.T.T.) this year. M.I.T.T. anglers must participate in a minimum of three of the six tournaments held by Minnesota Muskies, Inc. chapters throughout the season. Points are accumulated during the season and the winner will take home a \$500 prize.

It costs nothing to sign up. It's a way to encourage participation in the Muskies, Inc. chapters events. Go to www.muskiesinctournamenttrail.com. If you didn't sign up for the M.I.T.T. this year, be sure to participate next year. You could bring home that \$500!



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SCHNEIDER MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT

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A Live Leaderboard feature was implemented again this year allowing participants to follow the action in real time instead of waiting until evening at one of the feeds to find out how everyone was doing. Complete leaderboard can be accessed from our website or Facebook page.

I would like to thank everyone who had a part in this year's event. This is our chapter's longest-running fundraising event and it takes many people pulling together to make it happen. Your efforts were all greatly appreciated! We also need to thank all the participants. They are the lifeblood of the Frank Schneider tournament and without them none of this would be possible.

This year we had 487 people enjoy a weekend of great food, camaraderie, and most importantly muskies!

If you happened to miss this year's event, we encourage you to join us next year to experience a great weekend of fishing, competition, camaraderie, and great food! The 2019 event will be September 6, 7, and 8. Mark your calendar and sign up early. We hope to see everyone there!

ADVERTISE IN ON THE WATER. Classified ads to run in the newsletter may be submitted by Twin Cities Chapter members. Charges are \$5.00 per month per ad. Ads can include a photo of an item for sale. Send ad information to Denise Olson at olsonat3pete@gmail.com.

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Support Small Businesses!

Clean Out Your Tackle Box

Take time this month to go through your lures, rods, reels and other fishing equipment. We will have a donation box at our meeting for new or gently-used items. Our Youth Chairperson, will use the donated lures, rods, reels for youth activities throughout the year.

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next meeting

OCTOBER 9

Speaker:

Jason & Fischer Smith

Getting Kids into Muskie Fishing

Jason Smith from Jason Smith's Guide Service will be joined by his 9-year-old son Fischer Smith for his advice as a kid on the subject. Fischer has 23 muskies so far this season to his credit. Learn how to get kids involved in muskie fishing to grow the future of this sport.

EVERY YOUTH MEMBER AT THE MEETING WILL RECEIVE A NEW LURE.

Muskies Inc. Twin Cities chapter meetings (except summer) are held at 7:00 pm the second Tuesday of every month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1114 American Boulevard West, Bloomington, MN (just off I-494 & Lyndale Ave.).



MUSKIES, INC.

7125 17th Avenue South
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Thank Our Sponsors

A big thank you to all the manufacturers, retailers and resorts that have helped the Twin Cities chapter in the past year by donating merchandise and trips used for prizes at our Banquet and Tournaments as well as at the welcome table at each meeting.

Please make an effort to support our sponsors so they have an incentive to keep on supporting us. Without them this chapter could not do what it does for the resource and its members.

If you're looking for a new bait, remember that manufacturers of some of the most productive baits ever designed are among our sponsors. And remember to buy them from sponsoring retailers. If you're looking for a muskie trip, keep the sponsoring resorts in mind.

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Thanks to the Sponsors Who Donate to the Twin Cities Chapter

A big thank you to all the manufacturers, retailers and resorts that have helped the Twin Cities chapter in the past year by donating merchandise and trips used for incentives and prizes for our fund raising events as well as the prizes for the welcome table at each meeting. You will see ads from our sponsors who have made major donations to our chapter in the newsletter throughout the year. The sponsors with ads here have made major donations to the chapter of products, gift certificates, guide trips, and resort stays for our banquet, tournaments and welcome table. The ads are one of the ways we thank them.

Please consider these resorts and/or guides when you are planning a fishing trip or just a day of fishing in the metro area. If you're looking for a new bait, keep in mind that manufacturers of some of the most productive baits ever designed are among our sponsors. And remember to buy them from sponsoring retailers. If you're in the stores, please tell them thank you from our chapter.

Please make an effort to support our sponsors so they have an incentive to keep on supporting us. Without them this chapter could not do what it does for the muskie resource and its members.



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