

# On the Water



Volume 22, Issue 9

SEPTEMBER 2019

## Support Your Local Fishery: Participate in the George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament

If you've ever fished for muskies in a metro-area lake, do your part for this fishery. Make plans to participate in the 11th annual George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament on September 28. The price of your entry to participate in the tournament guarantees funds to be able to stock at least one muskie in a metro-area lake. One hundred percent of the proceeds from the tournament will be put back into the local metro-area muskie fishery.

Funds raised at the George Wahl Memorial Muskie Tournament have enabled the Twin Cities chapter to purchase and stock close to 10,000 muskie fingerlings in White Bear Lake, Bald Eagle Lake, Lake Independence, Lake Waconia, Lake Minnetonka, 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.

Tournament anglers have their choice of 13 metro-area lakes: Minnetonka, Independence, Waconia, Eagle (Hennepin County), White Bear, Bald Eagle, Owasso, Forest, Harriet, Calhoun, Lake of the Isles, Cedar and the St. Croix River. Tournament hours are from 7 am to 5:30 pm.

First place is \$1000 cash. Second and third places will also win cash. Prizes, including Thorne Bros. Gift Certificates, are awarded through 5th place. Every person who registers a muskie in the tournament is entered into a drawing for the Grand Prize – a trip for 4 to Whitefish Bay Camp on Lake of the Woods and \$500.

Tournament headquarters and the Awards Program will be at Thorne Bros. in Blaine. A barbeque pork meal will be served prior to the program. There will be raffles and other opportunities to win prizes.

Entry for the tournament is \$50 – a small price to pay to ensure that the quality of our local fishery will continue for years to come. You can register in-person through Friday, September 27, at Blue Ribbon Bait & Tackle in Oakdale, Joe's Sporting Goods in St. Paul and Thorne Bros. in Blaine and new this year the Gander Outdoors in Lakeville and Eden Prairie. You can also register on the chapter website: [www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org](http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org) through September 23.

We hope to see everyone doing their part for the local muskie fishery by participating in the George Wahl Tournament on September 28.



Ben Tollefson shared his story while out fishing for the summer league last week. "I had the opportunity to introduce a young kid to Muskie fishing the other night. Upon having a mid-30's eat in the 8 at the dock, I immediately offered the rod to him and asked him to fight it while I got the net. He did great. Unhooking went very well and after a quick picture, the fish swam off strong. The dad texted me that night thanking me. Hopefully, we have an up-and-coming Muskie angler!"

### Mini Challenge 2

The second "Mini Challenge" with North Metro chapter is scheduled for Tuesday, September 17 from 4-8 pm on Lake Minnetonka. We would like to see that at least one person in your boat is someone from the North Metro chapter. That way each boat will have at least one person from each chapter. The chapter that catches the most fish (points awarded using Muskies, Inc. point system) will win. All participants are invited to gather for a little adulation/groaning after fishing at Narrows in Navarre. The losing chapter will treat the other chapter. Let's have a good turnout. We want to see the North Metro be paying for the snacks.

# From Our President, JIM DOYLE

*Hello, TCMI members! Last chance to get into the Frank Schneider Tournament is Thursday at Reed's Family Outdoor Outfitters in Walker and One Stop in Longville! Additionally, the George Wahl Metro-wide tournament is not far off. so keep an eye out for the signup for that as well.*

*We also have some exciting news on the fish stocking front. We will be stocking Lake Minnetonka this fall with nearly 3,000 Muskie fingerlings purchased with TCMI chapter donations and fundraising, Hugh C Becker grant funds, North Metro members personal donations, and North Metro chapter funds.*

*This is being done to bolster the quality of the fishery by making certain the stocking target is met consistently. The planned stocking target for Minnetonka has not been met for several cycles. It was hit in the last stocking cycle and this effort will ensure it is met again to ensure good fishing in the future. We can't thank all the contributors enough for their donations in this effort.*

*See you on the water!*

## Chapter Members Only Contest

from Members Only Chair, Mike Darley

Three months in to our Minnesota musky season, and it already seems as if the fall is moving in. The humidity has dropped significantly, and water temperatures are decreasing. Days are shortening, and more fish are getting registered.

One trend that was successful for boating fish in August is casting. This month, every fish registered was caught casting. There have been 55 fish registered YTD and 12 fish registered in August. Of those 12 fish, it seems blades have caught the majority of fish, with chartreuse being a popular color of choice.

Our club had our fish registered via the fly this August by Tom Keith. Another first of the year, was we had our first Junior register a fish. Isaiah Chrissis landed a 39.5-inch muskie to put himself in first place for the juniors.

Josh Hawke and Nolen Ryba both measured fish over 50 inches this month at 51.5" and 52.88" respectively. That .88" gave Nolen the slight edge over Ethan Stout in the Men's Division as the current leader.

Don't forget to bring a new or old friend along with you on your next outing. Keep on registering your fish.

Standings as of August 27, 2019:

### JUNIORS DIVISION

	NAME	POINTS	NO. FISH	LONGEST
1st	Isaiah Chrissis	14	1	39.5

### WOMEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

1st	Cindy Hegdahl	20	1	46
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### MEN'S DIVISION

1ST	Nolen Ryba	122	7	52.88
2ND	Ethan Stout	121	8	46.5
3RD	Brent Lenke	58	2	57.25
4TH	Mike Darley	52	5	43.75
5TH	Ryan Boomer	51	4	42
6TH	Josh Hawke	47	3	51.5
7TH	Erik Chrissis	39	3	42
8TH	Matt McDonald	29	2	41.5
9TH	Derek Boomer	28	3	39
10TH	Colin Hulke	27	1	52.75

### MEN'S MASTERS DIVISION

1st	Brian Hanson	51	3	46
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### HYBRID DIVISION

1st	Ethan Stout	9	1	35.5
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### LUNKER OF THE MONTH

**JUNE** - Brent Lenke - 6/1 - 57.5" - Mille Lacs

**JULY** - Colin Hulke - 7/24 - 52.75" - Minnetonka

**AUGUST (unofficial)** - Nolen Ryba - 8/8 - 52.88" - Minnetonka

## Summer League

League has resumed after taking a break for a few weeks while water temperatures were high; and participants didn't waste any time making up for it. Seven fish have been registered in the last two weeks, including a 47-incher. There has been a lot of movement at the top of the leaderboard. Ben Tollefson is currently holding the top spot with 55 points, but Matt McDonald is close behind and planning a comeback.

There are still six weeks left in league so it's still anyone's game. Cooler temps in the coming weeks should get the muskies fired up. All participants are encouraged to get out on the water and remember that you get a point for checking in, even if you don't put anything in the net.

	USER NAME	POINTS	FISH CAUGHT
1	BenT	55	4
2	MattM	32	2
3	Mbplog	25	1
4	ALGOULD	21	1
5	ntr0880	20	1
6	jharmon	20	1
7	biteson27	15	1
8	MKWILDFAN	14	1
9	Jesse31687	13	1
10	jttauer	9	1

*Note: This league is not run by our chapter and is open to anyone, so some of the participants may not be chapter members. It also only tracks participants by user names, so you may or may not recognize them all.*



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## Clean Out Your Tackle Box

Take some time this season to go through your lures, rods, reels and other fishing equipment. Once we start meeting again in September, we will have a donation box at chapter meetings for new or gently-used items. Our Youth Chairperson, will use the donated lures, rods, reels for youth activities throughout the year.

# next meeting

SEPTEMBER 10

Speaker:  
Duff Thury

*Twin Cities Muskies Inc welcomes Duff Thury of Supernatural Big Baits. Duff designed the Headlock trolling bait, the first wandering action trolling bait. Duff will talk about muskie fishing from the perspective of a bait maker.*



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## ***Return Service Requested***

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*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.).*

## **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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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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