

2025 Salmon Unlimited Jackpot Series

1. ELIGIBILITY, ENTRY FEE, AND REQUIREMENTS

- a. This tournament is only open to current or new Salmon Unlimited - Wisconsin (SU-WI) members. All parties on each boat must be current with their SU-WI membership to participate. Membership can be engaged or renewed online up to midnight prior to the individual event's date. A boat's team may change members for any/all events, so long as all parties are active SU-WI members.
- b. Entry fee is 250.00 per boat for the entire series. This allows the team to compete in all four events and be eligible for the end of year series top three and fish of the year.
- c. All applications and payments must be received no later than 6:00 PM May 16th for the first event and 6:00 PM June 6th for the series.
 - You may enter the series after the first event and before the second. You will pay the full \$250.00 price for the series and the first event will automatically be your dropped score. You will be eligible to compete in events two, three and four and for all prizes associated with series and fish of the year.
- d. Entry fees for the series are non-refundable after the start of the first event. Any refunds will be made by mail via check.
- e. Every boat must be equipped with an operating VHF marine radio that can transmit and receive channels 16 and 68. All boats should monitor channel 68 for contest information.
- f. All boats will compete in one, open division.
- g. A boat identification number will be provided at the captains meeting and must be displayed on the Starboard side of the participant's boat during the contest.
- h. All entrants will be required to provide at least one of the following forms of contact to be used for updates and communications regarding the tournament. These contacts will only be used for official tournament business and will not be provided to any other organization or person for any purpose.
 - Phone number capable of receiving text messages (preferred)
 - E-mail
 - Phone number capable of receiving voice call.

2. DATES AND HOURS

Tournaments are scheduled for the following dates:

- May 17th, 2025
- June 7th, 2025
- August 9th, 2025
- August 23th, 2025

Rain Dates

Each tournament will have a rain date that is always the following day (Sunday):

- May 18th, 2025
- June 8th, 2025
- August 10th, 2025
- August 24th, 2025

If the associated Sunday rain date does not work, there are two last chance rain dates which can be used for any of the four events.

- September 6th, 2025
- September 7th, 2025

a. Captain's Meetings - There will be an in-person captain's meeting hosted on Friday, May 16th, 2025, 6:00PM, at the Reefpoint Marina Member's Lounge. While it is encouraged for each team to come in person, the meeting will also be broadcast via the Jackpot Challenge Series by Salmon Unlimited of Wisconsin Facebook page. Tournament supply packs will be distributed at the captain's meeting or teams can arrange to collect their pack any day PRIOR TO the captain's meeting.

b. Each crew must have at least one member in attendance at the captain's meeting or virtually attend to acknowledge their understanding of the rules. Any team/boat joining the competition after the first event must get in touch with one of the committee members to review the rules and collect the tournament supplies pack.

c. Fishing Periods. (Rain dates for each event will have the same times.)

- May 17th, 2025. 5:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- June 7th, 2025. 5:00 AM – 1:00 PM
- August 9th, 2025. 5:30 AM – 1:30 PM
- August 23th, 2025. 5:30 AM – 1:30 PM
- September 6th, 2025. 6:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Last Chance Rain Date #1
- September 7th, 2025. 6:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Last Chance Rain Date #2

d. The contest will be considered official if a total of three (3) hours are fished.

3. START AND FINISH

a. All boats must start from and return to the Racine staging area (see image 1 on next page) by water.

b. Check in will begin at approximately the following for each event.

- May 17th, 2025. 4:15 AM
- June 7th, 2025. 4:15 AM
- August 9th, 2025. 4:45 AM
- August 23th, 2025. 4:45 AM
- September 6th, 2025. 5:15 AM. Last Chance Rain Date #1
- September 7th, 2025. 5:15 AM. Last Chance Rain Date #2

The Tournament Committee Boat will check-in all boats by visual and/or VHF radio (Channel 68). All boats will be subject to a random cooler check before or during check in.

c. Run Time. There will be a shotgun start as soon as all boats are checked in approximately 30 minutes before the start time of each tournament. The official run time start will be announced by Tournament Control on VHF channel 68.

d. The official start of the fishing period will be announced by Tournament Control at the start times listed section 2C on VHF channel 68.

e. No lines may be placed in the water before the start announcement via radio and times in section 2C. You are on your honor.

f. By the end of the fishing period each boat must be back within the check in area. The check in area is defined as West of the green can and no further North than the main harbor entrance and West of the green can and no further South than a line from the green can East to shore. Boats that do not arrive by the time listed in section 2C will be disqualified, no exceptions. (See Image 1, next page)



Image 1 – Check In Area

- g. Each boat must check in with Tournament Control, by VHF radio on channel 68 as they enter the check in area. A tournament boat will be posted near the green can for visual confirmation.
- h. Each boat must seal their cooler before it leaves the boat.
- i. Each boat must have their boat name on the cooler. The catch log attached to the cooler is acceptable naming of the cooler.
- j. A crew member must stay with the cooler until weigh in.
- k. The weigh in will be held at the Pershing Park Boat Launch Pavilion. 1 5th St, Racine, WI 53403. See Section 4 for details on the weigh-in procedure.
- l. All coolers must be in the weigh-in line within 30 minutes of the end times listed in section 2C.

4. WEIGH-IN

- a. A crew member will disembark with the sealed cooler of fish and signed catch log and proceed directly to the weight station.
- b. Once arriving at the weigh station, the cooler must be sealed and remain closed until opened by a Jackpot official.
- c. Entrants are responsible for determining what fish will be part of their catch to be weighed. Rubber Bands will be provided to assist on this before bringing cooler to the line by scale. Tournament scales will not be used to sort fish. The first 5 fish on the scales will be used for the official weight.

5. GENERAL FISHING RULES

- a. All fish entered must be caught on hook and line in accordance with the DNR regulations of the state which has jurisdiction over the waters being fished.
- b. Any violation of USCG or DNR rules will result in immediate disqualification at the discretion of the Jackpot committee.
- c. Each boat is limited to a maximum of nine (9) rods and a three-person limit of fifteen (15) fish, per DNR rules.
- d. Each boat may weigh a maximum of five (5) fish, with a maximum of two (2) lake trout.
- e. Fish entered for bonus prizes do not need to be part of the five (5) fish tournament box.
- f. Fish may be released when caught. Fish to be released must be returned to the lake immediately.
- g. There are no distance limits as to where a tournament boat may fish as long as all traveling is done on the water.
- h. All fish kept must be recorded on the catch log. These logs are not only used for tournament record, but the catch data is also required to be provided to the WDNR at the end of the season.
- i. Each boat that reaches the fifteen-fish limit shall immediately cease fishing, bring in all lines, and return to the harbor.

j. No fishing may take place upstream of the first bridge of any harbor or tributary

k. All fishing must be via trolling. No other means are allowed. For example, jigging, casting, or other techniques from a stationary or drifting boat is not permitted.

6. SCORING

a. Winners will be determined on the total accumulation of points. Points will be assigned as ten points per fish and one point per pound for the five fish weighed.

b. The following species shall be eligible for points: COHO SALMON, CHINOOK SALMON, BROWN TROUT, STEELHEAD/RAINBOW TROUT, LAKE TROUT and PINK SALMON (Pink salmon shall be treated as a Chinook for tournament classification)

c. All winners will be determined by the Tournament Committee, and their decision will be final.

7. PRIZES

a. The top seven boats for each individual event's 5-fish weigh-in will be awarded cash prizes. This will be based on total points for the single event. See section 1b for eligibility.

b. The top seven boats for the season-long series will be awarded cash prizes. A trophy will be awarded to the top three places. This will be based on the sum of each boat's best three points totals from the four single-day events. See section 1b for eligibility.

c. The largest fish (by weight, any eligible species) caught during each of the four individual events shall win a cash prize. See section 1b for eligibility.

d. The largest fish of each of the five species (by weight) caught during each of the four individual contests shall win a cash prize. See section 1b for eligibility. For the species that wins the overall event weight (see 7c), shall be awarded second payout.

- For any species not caught during a single event, the prize will be rolled over to the next event until someone catches it. If during the final leg if a species wasn't caught, that prize will be paid out to the overall series leader of that species.
 - MASTER ANGLER: Throughout the series, every boat's best weight of each of the five species will be total up for a chance to win the Master Angler prize. See section 1b for eligibility. The boat that has the heaviest total of every 5 species will win the cash prize. A boat may upgrade a fish anytime throughout the series for bigger weighed fish to improve their score.
- e. In case of ties, the boat with the largest fish, by weight, shall be the winner.
- For single day events this will be the largest fish caught that day.
 - For the series finale, the largest fish caught during the entire Jackpot Series.
- f. Participants may win more than one prize.
- h. If four events are not able to be completed by using original or rain dates then the prize money for first through seventh for each date not able to be completed will be paid out to seven boats drawn randomly for each place.

8. CANCELLATIONS

- a. The Tournament Committee will announce their decision if the contest will be run no later than one hour prior to when check-in is scheduled to begin. Notification morning of the contest will be made by the tournament committee on VHF marine radio channel 68. If possible, a decision will be made the evening before and communicated via, social media, text, or e-mail as applicable. The Tournament Judges may cancel the Tournament at any time when, in their opinion, the conditions could be dangerous to persons or property.
- b. The Tournament Committee may also decide to delay the start of fishing or to cut short the fishing due to deteriorating weather conditions.
- c. If there is a small craft advisory, the day will be canceled/postponed/delayed.
- d. For rain dates all rules listed for the original contest date apply.
- e. In the event that a single day tournament or its associated rain day cannot be run, that leg will be considered canceled.

9. PROTESTS

- a. All protests must be made in writing to the Tournament Committee before 5:00pm on the day of the tournament.
- b. Any written protest given to the Tournament Committee must be accompanied by a 100.00 deposit, returnable if the protest is judged valid.
- c. A panel of three (3) judges appointed by the Tournament Committee will resolve all disputes.
- d. Winners and any person involved in any formal protest may be subject to polygraph testing, prior to the awarding of prizes. Such persons must be available to be tested within 2 weeks of the event.
- e. The decision of the Tournament Committee and/or its duly appointed panel of Judges shall be final.

10. RULE CHANGES

- a. The Tournament Committee may change or modify any of these rules, as necessary. Any changes will be communicated at the Captain's Meeting. If changes are made between the original date and rain date they will be communicated via, social media, text, or e-mail as applicable, at the captains meeting and by the tournament committee via VHF radio on channel 68 during check in.

11. LIABILITY EXCLUSION

- a. Each contestant shall accept responsibility to protect persons and property from injury or damage during the contest, and Salmon Unlimited of Wisconsin shall not be responsible for the safety of persons or property of participants, regardless of cause.
- b. All participants further agree to hold Salmon Unlimited of Wisconsin, its officers, tournament committee, volunteers and sponsors harmless from any liability for damage incurred because of participation in the Tournament, in whatever form or manner said liabilities or damages might be incurred.