

Rafferty Dam Walley Tournament (RDWT)

1. The entry fee for the 2026 Rafferty Dam Walley Tournament is \$500CDN. Optional entry for Big Fish \$100. Entry fees can be paid via e-transfer, cash or cheque received no later than May 20th, 2026. Late entries will be accepted on the night of the rules meeting paid for with cash or e-transfer.

2. The RDWT is based on a field of 100 two-angler teams. Once the field is full, a waiting list will be established. Tournament organizers may choose to expand the field by up to 10%, starting May 1st, 2026. Expansion availability will be noted on The Dam Store website.

3. Team numbers will be flighted when registration and full payment are received.

4. If one of the two paid and registered team members needs to drop out of the RDWT, the remaining team member can choose to replace them with another qualified angler. The tournament organizers must be notified of the change before 7pm on the night of the rules meeting. If an entire team drops out, a new spot will open at the bottom of the field, to be filled from the waiting list. As of May 1, entry fees will only be refunded if that spot is able to be filled by another team.

5. The RDWT Tournament Director reserves the right to refuse entry to any individual or team for any reason. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated and will result in disqualification.

PARTICIPATION

6. The RDWT is conducted in accordance with all current Saskatchewan Fishing Regulations, except for those variations noted within these rules. It is the sole responsibility of all participating anglers to familiarize themselves with both the up-to-date regulations and these variations, and to abide by them.

7. All participating anglers must be 18 years or older on the date of the rules meeting for the RDWT and in possession of both a valid Saskatchewan fishing license and a Pleasure Craft Operator Card if they intend to do any driving of the boat. Any angler under the age of 18yrs on

the date of the rules meeting must fish with either their parent or a qualified legal guardian over the age of 18. (A written letter from one of the youth angler's parents will be required.

8. RDWT participating teams fishing from out of province/country are REQUIRED to contact Saskatchewan Government's Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Coordinator to plan to have your boat inspected and if necessary decontaminated prior to putting it in the water at Rafferty Reservoir. Failure to do so may result in the team being disqualified. Contact information for the AIS Coordinator will be posted on The Dam Store Facebook page one month in advance of the tournament.

9. There will be no alcohol or marijuana – unless prescribed by a licensed physician - consumed by any participating angler during tournament hours or the Friday pre-fish unless their boat has been taken off the water. Doing so will result in the immediate disqualification of that angler's team. Anyone under the influence of intoxicating prescription medication is prohibited from driving the boat or the tow vehicle. Any angler determined to be under the influence while driving the boat or tow vehicle will result in their team being immediately disqualified.

10. Electronic luring or attracting devices and underwater cameras are prohibited during the RDWT.

11. Each participating angler is required to wear a U.S. or Canadian Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD) when travelling on the water during tournament hours. This is common now in almost all walleye tournaments. Self-inflating ones are the most common.

12. All participants are required to observe current Canadian Coast Guard rules, regulations, and requirements concerning safe boating.

13. The participating angler driving the boat must be tethered to the kill switch either physically or via wireless connection at any time the boat is on plane.

14. Each team registered in the RDWT is responsible for ensuring that their boat is properly registered and insured in accordance with the regulations of the home province or state of the boat owner.

15. All boats used by anglers competing in the RDWT must have a properly functioning live well with aeration. Anglers are strongly encouraged to have sponges in the live well, to make use of fin weights, and to consider making use of the various live well additives and upgrades available. Please limit your angling depth to under 30 ft depth.

16. Each team must submit their boat to inspection by RDWT tournament officials prior to launching each morning of the tournament. Only when cleared by tournament officials can the boat be launched for participation in the RDWT.

17. Each team shall clearly display their team identification number on the port side of their boat. It is the responsibility of each team to ensure that tournament officials record their team number when returning.

18. Anglers must be off the water by 4pm, Friday, May 22th.

19. There will be a rules meeting starting at 7pm, May 22 held at Pederson Place in Mainprize Regional Park the Friday night before the RDWT tournament. Each team is required to have at least one (1) member of their team in attendance. Registration packages and team numbers will be handed out at that time. Failure to attend will result in the team being disqualified.

20. The RDWT will have three (3) flights, 7:00am to 3:00pm, 7:30am to 3:30pm, and 8:00am to 4:00pm, with each flight taking off via a trickle start. Flights are determined by the first digit of your three-digit boat number. On Day One, flights will be launched as normal. For Day Two, flights will launch in reverse order, with Flight Three launching at 7:00am. Depending on the number of teams, it may be triple start.

21. All teams are required to check in at the end of each day with tournament officials. If a team decides not to come into the weigh station, they are required to text the Tournament Director and advise that they are off the water.

22. Any team returning late at the end of their flight will be assessed a penalty of 20% of their total finalized basket and will be disqualified from any "big fish" prize for that day. Any team returning later than 5min after their flight check-in time will be disqualified.

THE FISH

23. Only Walleye, Sauger or Saugeye will be defined as "fish" for the purposes of the RDWT.

24. Participating teams may weigh a basket of up to five (5) fish in total each day. Teams may cull fish but may have no more than five (5) fish in their live well at any given time.

25. Only two (2) fish may exceed 55cms.

26. Fish under 30cms are not RDWT tournament legal.

27. Fish are to be measured with the tail pinched to the width of the Judge Ruler. Fish will be measured once fish belly to weigh master's belly.

28. The judge ruler is the official measuring board of the RWDT.

29. A metal detecting device may be used to pass over the fish to detect any foreign objects that would result in disqualification. No modifying of fish allowed, trimming, etc.

THE WEIGH IN

30. The weigh scale will be open from 9 am until the end of the RWDT weigh-in each day.

31. An unloading area will be designated immediately in front of the weigh-in area. Once presented for inspection, all fin weights must be removed prior to the Dock Master entering the boat to determine the viability of the fish in the live well. Anglers are encouraged to use a "lip clip" to identify their big fish for quicker weigh-in once the Dock Master clears them to proceed to the scales.

32. Any fish determined to be stressed or dead in the live well at the sole discretion of the Dock Master will be subject to a penalty of 1lbs if the fish is 30cm to 55cm, and 3lbs for fish over 55cm. More than three stressed or dead fish in the basket will result in the team being disqualified. Stressed or dead fish are ineligible for Big Fish prizes or recognition.

33. Once the Dock Master has made their decisions, team members will basket the fish and take them up to the weigh station. Once basketed, only the Weigh Master may handle the fish until the basket weight is determined. The singular exceptions to these fish-handling rules are the Conservation Officers. They may inspect your fish at any point during the day. Adamant care of your fish is essential for the continuation of this tournament or any others.

34. One big fish per team, per day MUST be weighed for purpose of breaking any ties between basket weights with the larger fish determining the higher finishing place. It is the team's sole responsibility to determine their 'big fish' for weigh-in.

35. Once the basket weight is determined, a team member will sign for their weight and receive a copy of their scale ticket.

AWARDS

36. Standings and prizes will be based upon each team's finalized "basket" weight for the tournament. Weights will be recorded to the second decimal place in pounds. In the event of a tie, the team's Big Fish will be used to as tie breakers. If all else fails to break the tie, the teams will share the prize 50/50.

37. All prizes and prize values are based upon a full field of 100 paid entries, and the full participation of the sponsors. Prizes, be they cash and/or products and/or services, are subject to change without notice.

38. The pay out to top 7 teams will be a guaranteed % of the total \$ value paid by the number of entries. No shuffling of prizes or % paid out will be or ever modified by RDWT.

39. The % payout will be posted on the entry application website. See entry form.

MISCELLANEOUS

41. The Tournament Director reserves the right to delay launch times, shorten fishing times, declare "out of bounds" areas, or if necessary, cancel the day's competition in the event of dangerous weather and/or other safety concerns.

42. There will be a NO WAKE ZONE from the weigh-in station to the Marshal Boat in the morning, and past the Marshal Boat into the marina when returning to weigh fish. A penalty of 1 lb. will be assessed against any team determined to have deliberately created a wake within these areas. In the event there isn't a Marshal Boat, the mouth of the marina will be used to determine the end/start of the NO WAKE ZONE.

43. There will be a NO WAKE/NO STOPPING/NO FISHING ZONE on either side of the causeway bridge. A penalty of 2lbs will be assessed against any team that is determined to have deliberately stopped, caused a wake, or fished within this zone. There will be markers on either side of the causeway to clearly mark a new non fishing zone. White pails with flags will be 150 yards east and west of the causeway on both shores. No fishing within 150 yards on either side of the causeway.

44. The deliberate touching of boats, leaving the boat to untangle equipment, or passing any items other than a tow line, first aid equipment or a fire extinguisher or battery booster between boats shall result in both teams be disqualified.

45. If a team beaches, to get off the water in the event of extreme weather, the boat captain must contact the Tournament Director and advise where they are, when they came off the water, and when they got back on. They must also notify the Weighmaster during weigh in.

46. In the event an angler needs to leave their boat to come ashore and use a washroom, they must come into the weight station, use the facilities closest to the weigh in area, and be willing to submit to re-inspection before casting off. They cannot get additional bait or equipment during this time.

47. All participants agree to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, and conservation, and to conduct themselves in a manner that is a credit to themselves, to the RDWT, the sponsors, and the sport of fishing. While reasonable expressions of legitimate disagreements, be they with the organizers or other anglers, may arise, attacks upon fellow anglers, volunteers, sponsors, this tournament, or its officials may result in disciplinary actions. Future entry eligibility will be denied.

48. In instances where an angler feels that the conduct of a fellow participating angler, volunteer, or tournament official may directly interfere with safety or issues involving fairness where discussion "after the fact" would be considered "too late", participating anglers may file a protest. A protest form will be available from the tournament organizers and must be filled out and presented to the Tournament Director within one hour of the last team weighing their fish. A \$250CDN protest fee will be required to accompany any formal protest. The fee shall be returned if the protest is found to have merit by the protest committee. The protest shall be adjudicated before the awards ceremony.

49. No matter how comprehensive a set of rules and regulations are, there may always be loopholes and grey areas. In the interest of good sportsmanship and ethical conduct the participants in the RDWT are reminded that the "spirit of the rule" will prevail in ALL judgment cases. Always remember that although this is a competitive event, we have come together to enjoy a good weekend of fishing amongst family and friends. Continuation and future expansion will be determined by participation, patience, and sportsmanship.

50. All participating anglers agree to co-operate with members of the press and tournament organizers for interviews and photographs relating to their participation in the RWDT. They further agree to grant to the RWDT any event-related press the irrevocable and unrestricted right and permission to use their image and likeness, in whole or in part, as part of a composite, without restriction as to changes, medium, or alterations, for illustration, promotion, art, editorial, advertising, trade, publishing, or any other purpose whatsoever except pornographic and/or libel in nature.

51. Organizers, sponsors, promoters, and organizations/individuals assisting in tournament operation, their agencies and agents are not responsible for death, injury, damage, liability, theft, fire, or any loss to any participants and/or their entourages.

52. It is the absolute responsibility of each participating angler to ensure that they have read these rules, that they understand them, and that ALL their information is correct at registration and on the weigh-in receipts. The Releasees (see the registration form) are in no way responsible for any confusion or loss of prizes/points due to incorrect information on the part of the participants.

53. The tournament director, weigh master and officials are not part of the hosting entity, The Dam Store owners, or employees. Therefore, the owners of The Dam Store and its employees are allowed to enter and compete with no conflict of interest whatsoever.