

Official Rules and Regulations

FishUSA Lake Erie Steelhead Showdown (FLESS)

1. All participants shall display honorable, ethical, and sportsmanlike conduct in regards to the FishUSA Lake Erie Steelhead Showdown (FLESS) rules and their own competitive fishing.
2. FLESS is a Catch Log Submission Tournament. This means that all fish submissions must be entered honestly through the Fishing Chaos App.
3. FLESS is a Length only tournament. Although you can submit weight in the catch log, only Length will be judged.
4. All Participants must be registered with Fishing Chaos and registered for the FLESS tournament.
5. Participants may use Fishing Chaos app on the Apple or Google Play Store or <https://app.fishingchaos.com/tournament/fishusa-lake-erie-steelhead-showdown>
6. Participants must enter all the information required per tournament in order to be fully registered.
7. All participants are encouraged to Like and Follow FishUSA, the FishUSA Pro Shop and Fishing Chaos Instagram and Facebook pages:
 - a. Instagram
 - i. @fishusa <https://www.instagram.com/fishusa>
 - ii. @fishing_chaos https://www.instagram.com/fishing_chaos/
 - b. FaceBook
 - i. FishUSA <https://www.facebook.com/fishusa>
 - ii. FishUSA Pro Shop <https://www.facebook.com/fishusaproshop>
 - iii. Fishing Chaos <https://www.facebook.com/fishingchaos>
8. Participants fish at their own discretion and accept full responsibility for their crew and vessel whether on land or water.
9. All fish entered must be caught during the official times of the tournament posted on the Tournament page.
10. All tournament winners will be determined by the combined length of their two (2) top fish. These lengths will be combined to get total length.
11. All fish in pictures must look fresh and will not be accepted for submission if fish has been gutted, mutilated or fileted by any means.
12. All fish submitted must be caught by the participant registering the fish and it must be caught with a rod and reel or pole and line.
13. All fish submitted must comply with state and federal regulations. If there is a maximum or slot size to a fish, the fish and its length may be submitted but the fish must be released alive. The angler must obtain proper fishing licenses under state law.
14. A participant may be disqualified from the tournament if deemed to be cheating or any other dishonest activity.
15. FishUSA employees and their immediate family members are not eligible to participate.

16. Weighmaster in the tournament has final say on any interpretation of these rules or size of fish. No protest will be accepted.
17. These rules are subject to change and can be changed at any time during the tournament.

Catch Log Submission Process

1. After registering properly for the tournament in the Fishing Chaos app, a submit catch button will be visible in the tournament homepage.
2. You must select the fish type from the drop-down or start typing the fish type in the drop-down to search.
3. You must enter a length of the fish based on utilization of a measuring device.
4. In order to measure the fish, the mouth of the fish must be closed and at the zero mark of the measuring device. The belly side must be down. A quarter inch deduction will be taken off the length if the mouth is not closed.
5. The tail may be pinched in order to get the longest length.
6. The measuring device may not be bent in any way.
7. Please submit the fish's length to the nearest hundredths of an inch.
8. You may enter the weight of the fish for your own personal records, but it will not be taken into consideration when judging the fish.
9. With each catch, a picture of the fish on the measuring device must be clearly visible and submitted via this process. You may submit multiple photos to ensure your measurement is clear enough in the picture to be judged. **In this picture, you must have somewhere located the Code "STEEL"**
10. The code "STEEL" may be written on the tournament identifier token, a piece of paper, your hand, or any other item.
11. Although you can use the app to take the picture, you may also use your phone's camera app to take multiple pictures and choose from your photo album during the submission process of which photo(s) you wish to submit.
12. If you are in an area with poor cell service, you can take pictures with your phone and submit your fish with pictures later once you're back inside cell service.
13. You may also include a grab and grin picture. This picture may be used in posting on social media.
14. After you have added all pictures required, you must click the submit button. Note, you must wait until all images have been uploaded and a successful catch message appears on the screen.
15. All entries will be judged and become official after the end of the tournament. You may always go see the status of your catch in a catch log portion of the app. If the fish has been rejected for any reason, the reason will be listed inside the catch log.
16. Once the fish has been approved, if your fish is long enough to make the top five, you will see your name appear on the leaderboard page. Only a weighmaster may make any changes to the fish entered after the fish has been submitted.

17. In the event of a tie, the winner will go to the fish - of the two fish aggregate - submitted with the earliest time stamp. Its timestamp is the time that fish was submitted and not approved.

Categories

1. Steelhead - Top two (2) longest fish will be combined for a total length displayed on leaderboard
2. Lunker Steelhead - Longest fish

Prizes

1. For the Steelhead category, three prizes will be awarded:
 - a. 1st Place will be a Lamiglas The Closer Centerpin Rod (Model CCP13ML) valued at \$599.99 + FishUSA Swag valued at TBD
 - b. 2nd Place will be a \$100 FishUSA Gift Card + FishUSA Swag valued at TBD
 - c. 3rd Place will be a \$50 FishUSA Gift Card + FishUSA Swag valued at TBD
2. For the Lunker Steelhead category, one prize will be awarded:
 - a. 1st Place will be a \$25 FishUSA Gift Card + a Death Roe prize pack valued at \$50
3. There will be four random drawings for anyone who registers for the tournament. These drawings will be brought to you by Fishing Chaos and occur throughout the link to the tournament. Prizes will include:
 - a. Prize Pack 1: Death Roe product valued at \$25 - \$50
 - b. Prize Pack 2: VooDoo Custom Tackle product valued at \$25 - \$50
 - c. Prize Pack 3: Blood Run product valued at \$25 - \$50
 - d. Prize Pack 4: Raven product valued at \$25 - \$50

Safety of Angler. By Registering for this tournament, you agree to fish safely and in accordance with your state law. This includes any regulations that the state has deemed necessary due to COVID-19. While fishing, you must obey all regulations put forth by the state on social distancing.

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