

2018 Can-Yak Fishing Tournament Rules
Mercer Area Chamber of Commerce
Mercer, WI

1. Participants must be fishing in a canoe or kayak only.
2. Registration is on Saturday June 30th from 5:30AM to 6:30 AM
3. All participants must check in and sign a release waiver and understanding of rules document prior to fishing.
4. Tournament times are 7AM-3PM Saturday June 30 and 7AM-noon on Sunday July 1.
5. We care about the long-term health of our lakes, so Can-Yak is a Catch-Photo-Release (CPR) tournament. Fishing species include pan fish (crappie, pumpkin/sunfish, bluegill, and perch) walleye, bass (including rockbass), northern, and musky.
6. There will be a reporting "bag limit" of a baker's dozen (yes, that's up to 13 fish) per day of which up to 9 can be pan fish of any species and up to 4 can be game fish of any species (musky, walleye, bass, northern).
 - a. Four points will be awarded per inch of length, regardless of species (one point per quarter-inch).
7. All participants will be registered as individuals to compete for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place prizes.
8. Participants catching at least one of each of the 5 species will be entered into a drawing for a \$100 "FULL FISH" prize.
9. Both live and artificial bait is acceptable.
10. Fish must be recorded on the official "Clam Sponsored" bump board showing at least the top end and slightly beyond the end of the fish.
11. All fish must be photographed using a cell phone only where the time and date can be verified. Digital cameras will not be allowed.
 - a. Fish must be placed on the assigned board clearly show the left side of the fish with the mouth butted up to the end with tail pinched.
 - b. You will be given a Saturday stickers for your Saturday catches and upon the end of the day check-in on Saturday you will receive your Sunday stickers for Sunday's catches.
 - c. Bump boards measure up to 43". An additional DNR tape will be included in your registration packet that you must take with you in the event you catch a fish larger than 43".
13. Battery operated motors only and only used for navigation.
 - a. No gas powered motors allowed.
 - b. No motor trolling allowed.
14. Fishing will be allowed on any lake that is **PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE** in Iron County south of County Hwy G (which is located in central Iron County).
 - a. A full size map will be provided to all participating anglers upon check in.
 - b. To keep our lakes pristine, anglers will be provided with a boat washing kit. If you boat has been on any water within 14 days prior to the tournament, please clean your boat with the provided kit before entering our waters.
 - c. If you change lakes at any time throughout our tournament, you must clean your boat with the kit provided before doing so.

d. In order to ensure safety, we will be asking all anglers to let us know what lake/s they intend to fish on. We will NOT share this information with anyone, but in the event of an emergency, we have an idea of where to start looking for you.

16. Fishing will be 7AM – 3PM on Saturday and 7AM – noon on Sunday. All boats must report in with their catch no later than 4:30PM on Saturday and 1:30PM on Sunday with their daily catch.

17. Catch photos must be verified by our designated Can-Yak officials. Participants can either come in to the registration check in between 3 and 4:30 on Saturday and noon to 1:30 on Sunday, email the photos to info@mercerc.com, or text them to the Chamber at 715-904-1502. If you are emailing or texting, be sure you receive a confirmation of receipt back from the Chamber. Emails or texts “lost in cyberspace” will not be counted and judge decisions are final

a. **When sending in your catches, please include your name in your message with the photos so we know who it is coming from.**

18. This is a Chamber sponsored event, so we are all about promotion, however, we do understand this a competitive event, so

a. The Mercer Chamber will promote on social media the number of fish caught and the largest fish caught on Saturday, but will not disclose pictures or who caught them, unless the participant gives their approval.

b. All winners and info will be posted at the end of the tournament.

c. Along with recorded bump board photos, we encourage candid shots of you and the fish for promotion

i. Feel free to post on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MercerCanYak>

19. If the same fish is caught twice by the same person, it only counts as one. Although uncommon, yes, this has happened in the past.

20. All DNR Rules apply except those governed by stricter rules above. This includes legal size and bag limits for the particular lake you are fishing on.

21. Both bump board and boat washing kit need to be turned into the registration table at the end of the tournament. We appreciate your cooperation on this.

Rules as of January 8, 2018

PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT, RELEASE, AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK – MUST BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED!

In Consideration of the services of the Mercer Area Chamber of Commerce Inc., all the Can-Yak sponsors, the agents, owners, officers, volunteers, participants, employees and all other persons or entities acting in capacity on their behalf, I hereby agree to release and discharge Mercer Area Chamber of Commerce Inc., all of the Can-Yak sponsors, on behalf of myself, my children, my parents, my heirs, assigns, personal representative and estate as follow:

1. I acknowledge that certain known and unanticipated risks which could result in physical or emotional injury, paralysis, death or damage to myself, to property, or to third parties. I understand that such risks simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity. The risks cannot include among other things: Collision with other boats or objects in the water, or other fixed objects; falling out of boat; my own equipment failure or the failure of other's equipment; my own or other's negligence; objects or conditions that may cause injury. Furthermore, employees and volunteers have difficult jobs to perform. They seek safety, but they are not infallible. They might be unaware of participant's fitness or abilities. They may give inadequate warnings or instructions and the equipment being used might malfunction.

2. I expressly agree and promise to accept and assume of all of the risks existing in this activity. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary, and I elect to participate in spite of the risks.
3. I hereby voluntarily release, forever discharge and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Mercer Area Chamber of Commerce Inc. and all of the Can-Yak sponsors from any and all claims, demands, or causes of action, which are in any way connected with my participation in this activity or my use of Mercer Area Chamber of Commerce Inc., all of the Can-Yak sponsors equipment or facilities, including such claims which allege negligent acts or omissions of.
4. Should the Mercer Area Chamber of Commerce Inc., all of the Can-Yak sponsors or anyone acting on their behalf, be required to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce their agreement, I agree to indemnify and hold them harmless for all such fees and costs.
5. I certify that I have adequate insurance to cover any injury or damage I may cause or suffer while participating. Or else, I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage. I further certify that I have no medical or physical conditions, which could interfere with my safety of this activity. Or else, I am willing to assume and bear the costs of all risks that may be created, directly, or indirectly, by any such condition.
6. In any event that I file a lawsuit against the Mercer Area Chamber of Commerce, Inc., all of the Can-Yak sponsors, I agree to do so solely in the state of Wisconsin. I further agree that the substantive law of that state shall apply in this action without regard to the conflict of law rules of that state.
7. I agree that if any portion of this agreement is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining portion shall remain in full force and effect.

By signing this document, I have read and understand all of the above liability and risk statements and I agree that if anyone is hurt or property is damaged during my participation in this activity, I may be found by a court of law to have waived my right to maintain a lawsuit against the Mercer Area Chamber of Commerce Inc., all of the Can-Yak sponsors, on the basis of any claim from which I released them herein. I have had sufficient opportunity to read this entire document. I have read and understood it, and agree to be bound by its terms.

I also have read and understand all of the tournament rules.

Name (Please Print): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR MINOR CHILDREN

In consideration of _____ (print minor's name) being permitted by _____ (print parent or guardian's name) to participate in its activities and to use its equipment and facilities. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Mercer Area Chamber of Commerce Inc. from any and all claims which are brought by, or on behalf of the said Minor, and which are in any way connected with such use or participation by said Minor.

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____