

# 2025 Benzie Fishing Frenzie - Pro/AM Rules

**WHEN: Saturday & Sunday, August 23rd & 24th 2025**

## **REGISTRATION**

Friday, August 22nd at 5:00 PM

Location: Mineral Springs Park Pavilion

## **CAPTAIN'S MEETING:**

Friday, August 22nd, at 7:00 PM

Entry Fee: \$550 per Pro Team, \$300 per AM team (includes captain and all crew)

4% processing fee applies to credit card entries

Checks payable to: Benzie Fishing Frenzie

## **TOURNAMENT DETAILS**

Fishing Time: 6:30 AM – 1:30 PM

All boats must remain within ½ mile of the Frankfort/Elberta pierheads before 6:30 AM

Official "GO FISH" call at 6:30 AM on VHF Channel 68

Boats must be inside the pierheads by 1:30:00 PM sharp or will be disqualified

### **Communication:**

Not a radio-silence tournament

VHF Channel 68 will be used for all official communication

### **Port Rules:**

Boats may leave from any marina/launch on Betsie Bay

Teams must declare their launch location at the Captains Meeting

### **Boat & Cooler Checks:**

Boats and coolers may be inspected on tournament day

### **Captain & Crew Requirements:**

Maximum 9 rods, which requires 3 licensed anglers

Unlimited crew size

### **Observers:**

Not required, but may be assigned at the Tournament Director's discretion

## **FISHING RULES**

Max Lines: 9 lines total in the water at one time, A fish hooked is considered a line in the water

Line Rules: Max 2 baits per line; sliders must be under 72"

## **BOAT REQUIREMENTS**

Minimum 18' length (per state registration)

Must have a working marine radio

No physical contact with other boats or shore unless pre-approved

Boats not returning under their own power are disqualified

### **Tournament Flags:**

Provided flag must be clearly visible on the port side during tournament hours

## **FISHING LAWS & LIMITS**

All Michigan DNR laws apply

Fishing must occur from a moving boat

No gaffing or shore fishing

All anglers must carry a valid MI fishing license

### **Catch Limits:**

Pro Division: 2 Angler Legal Limit. Salmon & Trout Species. No More Than 4 Lake Trout

AM Division: 1 Angler Legal Limit. Salmon & Trout Species. No More Than 2 Lake Trout

Size limits per DNR regulations

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## SCORING SYSTEM

10 points per fish + 1 point per pound  
Ties broken by largest fish, then split prize if still tied

## WEIGH-IN PROCEDURE

Begins at approx. 1:00 PM on Saturday & Sunday at Mineral Springs Park Pavilion  
Coolers (TOURNAMENT CATCH ONLY) must be in line by 2:30 PM  
Extra fish results in loss of that fish plus one more  
Loose ice/water in cooler = -5 points  
Foreign substances (e.g. ice in mouth/body cavity) = disqualification  
Team is responsible for transporting its own cooler

## WEATHER POLICY

Weather committee of 3 captains (varied boat sizes/types) will advise Tournament Director  
3+ hours of fishing between 6:30 AM – 1:30 PM required for valid tournament  
In case of weather stoppage, radio call will announce end of tournament  
All boats must return to port and coolers must be in weigh-in line within 1.5 hours

## CANCELLATION POLICY

If canceled, a portion of the entry fee will be retained to cover expenses

## PROTESTS

Must be submitted in writing with a \$50 deposit within 5 minutes of the last fish leaving the scale  
All Tournament Director decisions are final

## PRO TEAMS DEFINED

Pro Teams are required to fish in the Pro Division. A Pro Team is defined as any licensed charter boat. Any crew member who is a current licensed charter captain or been a licensed charter captain in the previous two years. Official representative of any major sportfishing brand. It is your responsibility to know Pro/AM status. Any questions, please contact the Tournament Director before registering. Tournament Director will have final say on Pro/AM Status.

## COMMUNITY CONDUCT

We are guests in the city of Frankfort, please treat the community with respect. Any actions by an individual that could reflect negatively on the Benzie Fishing Frenzie in the eyes of the Frankfort community could result in team disqualification.

## QUESTIONS?

Contact Tournament Director:  
Steve Joslin – (231) 633-6775

**On behalf of the Tournament Director, committee, and our sponsors — thank you, stay safe, and have fun!**