



## Rules for The Lough Ree

### International Pike Classic 2017

These are the rules of the Lough Ree International Pike Classic and we have taken every care to ensure that they are comprehensive and fair. However it may be necessary to amend these rules from time to time. If this happens the updated rules will be posted on the following website; [Loughree.ie](http://Loughree.ie). A full copy of the rules will be provided in each anglers pack at the start of fishing on the first day. To ensure fair play the rules will be strictly enforced by the Judging/Dispute panel and if you are unsure of anything in the rules then you should contact Michael Galvin at [camlinanglers@gmail.com](mailto:camlinanglers@gmail.com) or on 086 – 8715207 for an explanation or speak to the Chief Steward.

#### General Rules

1. The competition will take place on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of June 2017 and is open to all anglers fishing by boat.
2. The entry fee is €120 per boat and is payable in advance. All anglers wishing to fish both days must have confirmed their entry by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> of June.
3. Applications will be accepted, subject to rules 23 and 24, on a first come first served basis. Applications will not be accepted after Friday 15<sup>th</sup> of June or after the maximum number of boats, which is 80, has been reached, whichever comes first.
4. The following are the times allowed for fishing on each day  
Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> – 9.00am to 6.00pm  
Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> – 9.00am to 5.00pm  
**All SD cards must be handed up within 15 minutes of the end of each days fishing whether fish are caught or not.**  
Angling may not begin until the start whistle has been blown. The Chief Steward may change these times should circumstance dictate and competitors will be informed as soon as is practicable.
5. This is a boat fishing competition and anglers must be in a boat while fishing. The boat must not be anchored, moored, grounded or rendered unmovable by the natural water current in any way while fishing; this includes driving the boat into reeds.
6. Boats may only launch at Ballyleague or on the Longford shore near the duck pond in Laneshborough. Inland Fisheries Ireland staff will be on hand to disinfect boats and equipment on arrival and departure due to the Asian clam threat. Competitors must attend the official start point at Ballyleague to collect their packs each day. Boats

arriving late will not have their fishing time extended and they must finish at the allotted time along with the other anglers.

7. Boats must return to the official starting point at Ballyleague each day to return their pack regardless of whether they have caught a fish or not.
8. **Day 1:** Prizes for the 5 longest fish caught on the first day.  
**Day 2:** Winners will be decided based on **the cumulative length of the longest five fish caught over 50cm, over both days.**  
Each boat will be given a measuring board and unique marker to be used in measuring the exact length of the catch. Each boat must have a digital camera for recording this (see rules on taking photographs).
9. Each boat must have a mobile phone which must be switched on at all times and the number must be the one which was noted on the original entry form. If this number changes then the Chief Steward must be informed before the angler goes fishing.
10. Lure fishing, fly fishing and dead baits are the only methods allowed. Anglers may only use two rods. There must be at least two people in each boat and a maximum of three anglers and a maximum of four rods fishing at a time.
11. The Chief Steward and anyone he/she appoints along with Officers of Inland Fisheries Ireland have the right to search any competing boat at any time prior to launch, during the competition and after fishing finishes.
12. Anglers must follow instructions received from competition stewards, Inland Fisheries Ireland Officers and other appointed safety boats, failure to follow instructions or being abusive to any official may lead to expulsion from the competition.
13. Angling is confined by the boundaries identified on the maps contained in the pack.
14. The use of fish/depth finders is allowed.
15. For Insurance purposes, all competitors will become members of the Camlin and District Angling Club.
16. The Judging/Dispute panel will consist of the Chief Steward or an Officer from Inland Fisheries Ireland and a nominated member of the Lough Ree Angling Hub.
17. In the event of a dispute or an incident occurring which is not specifically covered in the rules a decision will be made by the Chief Steward or an Officer from Inland Fisheries Ireland and a nominated member of the Lough Ree Angling Hub and any decision rendered will be binding on all parties.
18. A decision made by the Judging/Dispute may only be appealed to the Judging/Dispute panel if it can be shown that new information has been found which could alter the decision.
19. All appeals or complaints must be registered with the Chief Steward in writing within one hour of the end of the Competition. The incident being appealed or complained of and the decision rendered will be final and binding on all parties.

20. It will be the decision of the Judging/Dispute panel as to what penalty for breaches of the rules will be imposed. The penalty can range from “No action to be taken” to “Disqualification from the Competition”.
21. By entering this competition and paying the appropriate fee you agree to be bound by these rules.
22. Once angling has commenced on the first day no refund of the fee will be given regardless of the circumstances under which the angler has to leave the festival.
23. **The organisers of the Lough Ree International Pike Classic 2017 reserve the right to refuse any person entry to the competition, including the right to refuse any application to participate in the competition. The organisers may in their absolute and sole discretion disqualify any person who it believes has failed to comply with the competition rules or engages in any unlawful or other improper misconduct or acts in a manner which is likely to bring the organisers and/or the event and/or the sponsors of the event into disrepute. The organiser’s decision in relation to all matters pertaining to the competition is final and no correspondence will be entered into.**
24. **An angler may only be substituted or replaced with the express permission of the organisers.**
25. **All entrants accept that the organisers of the Lough Ree International Pike Classic 2017 reserve the right to use all images and video taken in future promotions.**

### **Rules for Taking Photographs and Measuring Pike**

1. Each boat must bring a digital camera to be used for **photographing the fish**. Camera phones and their memory cards are not acceptable.
2. Each boat will be given, by the organisers, a measuring board and a unique marker and these are the only ones which must be used in the photograph. Photographs which do not have the correct measuring board or the correct unique marker will not be considered.
3. All fish must be measured in the boat and not on the shore.  
The board must be placed in the horizontal position and the fish placed upon it in a relaxed manner.
4. The angler or companion will hold the fish carefully with the hands placed at a third and two thirds along the pike’s body with the numbered tag clearly visible on the board. (An example photograph will be included in your angling pack). **Hands may be used** to keep the fish in place; they should be placed lightly upon the fish and the hands should not be gripping, squeezing or stretching the fish in a manner that is likely to cause damage to or adversely increase the length of the fish and only fish measured in this manner will be counted.
5. Hands should not be placed anywhere on the head of the pike and the pikes eye should be visible in the photograph.

6. The fish may not be measured in the vertical or semi vertical position or suspended in any manner whatsoever including chinning and using pliers.
7. The nose of the fish, which must be touching the upright section at the top of the board, and the tip of the tail, must be clearly visible in the photograph. It is not necessary to have the anglers face or body in the photograph.
8. The head of the fish must be on the side of the board which says “HEAD OF FISH HERE”.
9. It is the angler’s responsibility to ensure that the picture is clear and that both the head and tail are clearly visible in the picture. If part of either the head or tail is not in the picture and the true length of the fish cannot be ascertained because of the missing piece or the picture is un-readable due to any other circumstance it will not be considered.
10. Anglers can take more than one picture of the same fish to ensure that they get it correct.
11. It is the Anglers responsibility to fill in the daily sheet in with their estimate of the length of the fish; if you do not fill it in, or fill it in incorrectly, we will assume that you have no pictures, or only pictures of fish outside the prizes, on your memory card and we will not examine it so you may miss out on a prize! The sheet cannot be filled in retrospectively and no appeal will be allowed.
12. Anglers have until 20 minutes after the publishing of the preliminary results to appeal a decision on a photograph of the Judging Panel. The appeal is to the Judging Panel and the decision rendered will be final and binding on all parties.
13. The Judging Panel will consist of the Chief Steward or an Officer from Inland Fisheries Ireland and a member of the Lough Ree Angling Hub
14. After fishing on the Saturday and Sunday an event will be held in a local Pub/Hotel and the results for that day will be announced. Photographs of the fish on the winners list each day will be available at the evening events either on hard copy or on a laptop/slideshow. ( See Rules on Prizes and Prize Giving)
15. Photographs must not be manipulated or altered in any way and each photograph will be checked for Exif and properties/details and any that are found to be incorrect will not be considered and the angler may be expelled from the festival.
16. All photos must be in JPG or JPEG Format only.
17. Photographs must be in full colour, black and white or photographs which have their colour altered will not be accepted.



## **Rules for Prizes and Prize Giving Ceremony**

1. The total prize money is a guaranteed €10,000.
2. **Day1:** Prizes for the 5 longest fish caught on the first day.  
There will be 3 boat numbers drawn at random at the prize giving after the first days fishing each receiving €50. However the fishermen must be there to collect it or another number will be drawn.  
**Day 2:** The winners will be decided based on **the cumulative length of the longest five fish caught over 50cm, over both days.**
3. In the event of a tie the boat with the single longest fish will be deemed to be the winner.
4. The organisers may, from time to time, publish a proposed list of prizes and at no time can these lists be construed as the final list of prizes and are not guaranteed.
5. If an angler is unable to attend on the Sunday evening and they have won a prize it will be sent to them by registered post the following week.

## **List of Recommendations For Anglers To Follow.**

We want all anglers to enjoy this event in a manner that is safe for them as well as for the pike so we make the following strong recommendations. The ethos of this event is that the fish are treated with respect and in a manner that does not cause damage to them. When a fish is out of the water it is not in its natural environment, it should be handled with care, unhooked, photographed and returned to the water ASAP. Remember to hold the fish in the water by the tail until it has recovered enough to swim away; anglers should not hurry this as survival is paramount.

1. It is a legal requirement in Ireland that life jackets are worn always while on the water and we would ask that all anglers respect this law
2. Each boat should have the following equipment to ensure that the fish are treated correctly and returned to the water uninjured;
  - A. Each boat should have a suitable landing net of at least 60cm in diameter
  - B. Each boat should have an unhooking mat so that damage to the fish is minimised
  - C. Each boat should have the proper tools for removing the hooks from the fish in a timely and efficient manner.
  - D. Anglers should use pressed down or barbless hooks as they are easier to remove and cause less damage to the fish.

3. Anglers are not allowed to fish alone for two reasons;
- A. In the event of an accident or medical emergency it is important that someone should be on hand to help.
  - B. If you are lucky enough to catch a fish it is very difficult to photograph it correctly as the fish tends to move about.
  - C. In the event of a serious medical emergency you should contact the officers of Inland Fisheries Ireland or dial 999 and ask for the Coast Guard.
  - D. A contact list of all the organisers is also in the pack and they can be contacted at any time to give guidance and help.
  - E. If at any time you become aware of behaviour that is outside the rules of the competition, against the law, is unacceptable or anti social then we ask that you contact the Inland Fisheries Ireland Officers in the first instance so that they may attend the incident and you should then report it to the Chief Steward.

### **List of prizes**

#### **Longest fish day 1**

- 1<sup>st</sup> €500**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> €400**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> €300**
- 4<sup>th</sup> €200**
- 5<sup>th</sup> €100**

#### **Longest cumulative 5 fish day 2**

- 1<sup>st</sup> €2,500**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> €1,500**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> €1,000**
- 4<sup>th</sup> €700**
- 5<sup>th</sup> €600**
- 6<sup>th</sup> €550**
- 7<sup>th</sup> €500**
- 8<sup>th</sup> €450**
- 9<sup>th</sup> €400**
- 10<sup>th</sup> €300**

