



Prez Sez

The season is now upon us. Thank goodness! I hope all of you had a chance to get a few lures wet and maybe had some success last month. I finally made it down to Lake Geneva. I was very impressed by this clear and deep body of water. The lake is stocked with trout, so I imagine the muskies are getting bulky eating all those fatty baitfish. I did not have any luck, but one of the bass anglers near me announced that he had caught a 46 the day before on bass lure. Incidental catches always seem to stick in my craw a little bit. I know the source of my annoyance. Several years ago, I had raised a rather large fish on Lake Monona several times. I knew the general area that the fish was hanging out and often would fish that spot during the prime fishing times in the hopes of getting the fish to eat. It was a weekday afternoon and I had taken a half day off work in order to fish. I had put the boat in and was driving to the spot thinking, "this is the day!" I dropped the trolling motor down and had not initially noticed a bass boat fishing the inside weed line in front of me. Before, I could put a lure in the water the angler hooked up with what appeared a very nice fish (I thought a bass). I watched in awe as the fish took several runs and eventually coaxed into a tiny net. I quickly made my way over as the angler had asked me for some assistance. He unhooked the fish as I snapped a few pictures and assisted him in holding the fish for release. The fish swam away strong and I distinctly remember the width of the behemoths shoulders. I had given him my bump board and it topped out at 48 inches long. As he handed me my bump, he thanked me for my assistance and in a wry smile noted that this had been his second over 45 that day. I almost drove back to the landing to leave. However, I did experience a moment of redemption later that summer. I was fishing during a Madison bass league event. I was fishing near several bass boats when I hooked up with about a five-pound bass. As I unhooked the fish, I held it way out for all to see, much like those fancy bass weigh in shows, before letting it go. Getting over things has never been one of my strengths, but I hope that by the end of the month all of us will be "over" the pandemic.

As always, "Stay safe and go make some memories!"

Sincerely,

Winston Hopkins - President CCMi

There will not be an on-the-water meeting for June.

The **Bill Wood Memorial Lake Winter Outing** has been canceled.

The **Wisconsin Youth Muskie Championship** has been canceled.

The 2021 WYMC will take place on June 12, 2021.

2020 Schedule of Events

August 10..... On the Water Meeting @ Goodland Park
August 15-22..... Lake of the Woods Outing
September 14 General meeting @ Coliseum Bar 7:00 PM
September 26 Pit Tag Challenge
October 9-10 Vilas County Outing
October 12..... General meeting @ Coliseum Bar 7:00 PM
October 17..... CCMi Fall Musky Tournament sponsored by Chaos Tackle
November 9..... General meeting @ Coliseum Bar 7:00 PM
December 14..... General meeting @ Coliseum Bar 7:00 PM

37th BILL WOOD MEMORIAL / LAKE WINTER OUTING JUNE 26-27, 2020

As a result of Sawyer County and Wisconsin Department of Public Health Public Health Orders, Guidelines, Declarations and advisories, **the 37th Annual Bill Wood Memorial/Lake Winter Outing is cancelled for 2020.**

We will plan on having the outing in late June 2021 and apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you.



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CCMI Release Report

Brian Falleck- Release Chairman / ccmireleasechair@gmail.com

18 Muskies registered as of May 24th, this is quite a drop from last year at this time where there were more than 50 registered. I know more fish have been caught this year, at least that is what I'm seeing on social media, don't forget that you must register your catch with Muskies Inc. within 30 days for it to count towards national awards. Only one Lunker so far, Congratulations Aaron. As the water temps rise I hope the muskie action does as well.

As always, send pictures of your 45+" fish to CCMIREleasechair@gmail.com to be entered into the replica contest.

May Lunkers

Member Name	Length	Date Caught	Lake Name	Lure
Aaron Laking	46.00	05/21/2020	Madison Chain	Homemade Bucktail

Standings

<u>Men's Division</u>	Muskies	Points	Avg Length
Dustin Loveland	4	43	36
Gottlieb Brandli	2	23	38
Aaron Laking	1	20	46
Mike Thoreson	2	20	36
Chris Clark	2	18	35
Kyle Kramer	1	18	44
Shane Nesheim	1	15	41
Justin Rackow	1	15	41
Justin Gibbons	1	9	35
Mike Scofield	1	8	34

<u>Women's Division</u>	Muskies	Points	Avg Length
Doris Dahlk	1	16	42
Angela Sondalle	1	11	37



Link - <http://www.muskie.com/>



Link - <http://madisonmuskyguide.com/>

Capital City Muskie Inc. (Chapter 8) Muskie Angler Scholarship

The Capital City Chapter (#8) of Muskies Inc. (CCMI) has conducted the Capital City Muskie School for many years at Waunakee High School. CCMI is grateful for the use of their wonderful facility for this event. Our thanks this year comes in the form of two \$1000 scholarships to qualified Waunakee High School seniors.

CCMI is focused on angler education, improving lake habitat, youth participation, fisheries improvement and research.

After reviewing a number of highly qualified applicants, CCMI awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to students who are pursuing an education in the field of Natural Resources at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. **Congratulations to David Kienow and Zander Borowski.**



Wisconsin Conservation Congress – 2020 Survey Results

Lee Bartolini

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the Wisconsin Conservation Congress scheduled their annual hearing on proposed changes to Wisconsin hunting and fishing regulations on April 13, 2020. The annual hearing normally allows sportsmen and sportswomen to respond to proposed changes in person, as well as by responding to a questionnaire which explains why the proposed changes are offered. The Covid 19 pandemic caused the in-person meeting to be cancelled. Nevertheless, the public was allowed to respond to a 55-question survey online. A total of 64,943 people completed the survey. Of those, 63,536 participants were Wisconsin residents. So, approximately 1,407 non-residents responded to the survey questions.

There were four proposed rule changes on this year's questionnaire that were directly related to muskie fishing. Two additional questions regarding boating safety and DNR funding are identified here because of their general interest to all anglers, including muskie anglers. Regarding muskies: Two questions involved changing the size limit to 50" on specific bodies of water, the Namekagon and St. Croix rivers (Question #37), and the Presque Isle/Van Vliet chain in Vilas County (Question #42). One question was about adding Forest County to the list of counties that only allow one rod per angler for trolling and only a total of three rods per boat (Question #45). The final question about muskies asked if a catch and release muskie season should be created north of Highway 10 (the "northern" section of the state) from the first Saturday in May to the end of May, which would provide an open muskie fishing season consistent with the rest of the state (Question #47.) An additional question asked if the DNR should work with the legislature to change current law to only allow boating in excess of slow-no-wake speeds on lakes with 50 or more acres of surface water that are not already restricted to slow no wake zones (Question #50). Basically, this question asked if all lakes of 50 acres or less should be limited to slow-no-wake speeds. A final question asked if the DNR should work with the legislature to create an alternative funding source to offset declining revenue from fishing and hunting licenses (Question #55.)

The results of the survey are presented below. The number of responses to each question represent the total population, including the non-residents. Generally speaking, respondents approved all of the proposed changes by large margins, although some were closer than others. These questions were “advisory” only. Approval by participants does not mean the proposed changes will automatically take place. The DNR will take the results into consideration for future planning and decision-making.

Question #37. Would you support reducing the daily bag limit for musky on the Namekagon River and St. Croix River to one fish with a harvest minimum size of 50 inches?

YES: 28,065 NO: 6,937 NO OPINION: 21,566

Question #42: Would you support a rule change to increase the minimum size limit for muskellunge on Avril, Presque Isle and Van Vleit Lakes to 50 inches and a daily bag limit of one fish?

YES: 25,413 NO: 5,747 NO OPINION: 25,196

Question #45. Would you support adding Forest County to the list of existing counties in Northern Wisconsin with a 1 line/lure per person, 3 line maximum per boat restriction while motor trolling?

YES: 19,648 NO: 12,953 NO OPINION: 23,633

Question #47. Would you support a change in the musky season opener to the first Saturday in May, with catch and release only through the month of May? This would create a catch-and-release only season from the first Saturday in May to the Friday before the Saturday nearest Memorial Day, with the harvest season starting the Saturday nearest Memorial Day.

YES: 24,508 NO: 9,168 NO OPINION: 22,484

Question #50. Would you favor the Wisconsin Conservation Congress working with the legislature to change boating regulations to only allow boating in excess of slow-no-wake on lakes with 50 or more acres of surface water not currently restricted to slow no wake zones?

YES: 23,434 NO: 14,329 NO OPINION: 18,236

Question #55. Would you favor the legislature creating an alternative funding source in addition to license fees?

YES: 30,232 NO: 15,046 NO OPINION: 10,410



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CCMI Fall Muskie Tournament 2020

Our first cash prize tournament will take place October 17th, 2020. The rules and registration are online at capitalcitymuskiesinc.org. The entry fee is \$75/person for Muskies Inc members and \$100/person for non-members. Your fee includes a raffle ticket for a chance to win some great prizes from Chaos Tackle at the awards ceremony. There will be a Registration meeting Friday evening with a CCMI raffle and super raffle where you can purchase tickets for a chance at even more gear!

- **1st Place \$5000**
- **2nd Place \$1500**
- **3rd Place \$1000**
- **4th Place \$500**
- **Big Fish \$250**

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