



**June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, One Hundred and Forty Second Edition**

**President's Note**

Hello Chapter 33 Members,

I hope everyone enjoyed a great Memorial Day weekend.

For those who fish Leech Lake, the fin-clip study is still underway, and the DNR is asking for continued angler participation. More details are included in the newsletter flyer.

**St. Louis River Tournament sign-ups will open in June.** Keep an eye out for the registration on our website so you can secure your spot early.

Please also take a moment to confirm that your membership is current. Staying up to date ensures uninterrupted access to all member benefits and communications. Thank you for giving it a quick check.

As a reminder, we will not hold monthly meetings again until October. Wishing everyone a successful season on the water.

Sincerely,

Joe Grupa

*President - Lake Superior Muskies Inc. Chapter 33*



As of May 28, 2026

**Men's Master Division**

<b>Jason Kahler</b>	<b>1 Fish</b>	<b>16 Points</b>	<b>Avg Length 42.25</b>	<b>Largest 42.25</b>
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**Men's Division**

<b>Joe Grupa</b>	<b>1 Fish</b>	<b>8 Points</b>	<b>Avg. Length 34.00</b>	<b>Largest 34.00</b>
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**Women's Division**

**Juniors Division**

**Lunker of the Month**

<b>(May)</b>	<b>Jason Kahler</b>	<b>42.25 (pending)</b>
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# LEECH LAKE MUSKIE

## Population Estimate

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Division of Resource Management are using genetics to measure the Leech Lake muskellunge population.



### Get Involved!

By taking fin clips from any size muskie during the 2026 season, you will contribute to the first-ever population estimate on Leech to **help guide future muskie management.**



Over 300 fin clips collected by anglers in 2025

*Look for these drop boxes to find instructions and collection envelopes*



Always practice safe fish handling techniques



Spread the word with fellow anglers, guests, or clients

**mn** DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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**For more information contact**  
Kristen Patterson, Fisheries Research Scientist  
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
218-308-2334

[kristen.patterson@state.mn.us](mailto:kristen.patterson@state.mn.us)

## 2026 Lake Superior Chapter: Upcoming Events

General meetings take place on the second Tuesday of each month from October through May at the Grand View Grill & Bar, located at 2820 Midway Road, Duluth, MN 55810. Board meetings begin at 6:00 pm, followed by the general meeting at 7:00 pm. All board and general meetings are open to both members and the public.

### June

- June 6 – MN Muskie Opener – Inland Waters
- June – Sign-ups for St. Louis River Shootout Go-Live

### July

- July 31 – Youth Fishing Day – Hi-Banks on Fish Lake

### September

- Sep 11-13 – Frank Schneider Memorial Muskie Tournament
- Sep 19 – St. Louis River Shoot Out Tournament

### October

- Oct 13 – General Meeting – Speaker TBD

# MEMBERSHIP

To renew your membership or become a first-time member, either:

- 1). Fill out the online form found here (<https://muskiesinc.org/public/miWjoin1>) - be sure to select **Chapter 33**, or

Example of online form below:

Check If Ever A Member Before

<p><b>First Name</b> First Name</p> <p><b>Address</b> Address</p> <p><b>Select State</b> Select State</p> <p><b>Email</b> Email</p> <p><b>Sponsor</b> Full Name of Sponsoring Member</p> <p><b>Birth Date</b> mm/dd/yyyy</p> <p><b>Gender</b> --</p>	<p><b>Last Name</b> Last Name</p> <p><b>City</b> City</p> <p><b>Zip</b> Zip Code</p> <p><b>Select a Chapter</b> 33 - Lake Superior</p> <p><b>Home Phone</b> Home Phone</p> <p><b>How Found</b> Select Found</p>
<p><b>Mobile Phone</b> Mobile Phone</p> <p><b>Volunteer/Partner With Us</b> Select</p>	

Membership Types

Auto Renew for PayPal Members only

Individual --	Family --	Web Only --	Junior --	Military --
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- 2). Print and complete the form below and mail to the listed address – be sure to indicate **Chapter 33** for the Chapter Affiliation Choice number

**Join Muskies, Inc.  
or give a membership  
as a gift.**

Regular Membership:  
Family Membership:  
Junior Membership:  
(Under 18)

1 Year-\$45.00\*   
  2 Years-\$75.00   
  3 Years-\$105.00  
 1 Year-\$57.50\*   
  2 Years-\$100.00   
  3 Years-\$142.50  
 \$30.00\*   
 Military Membership:   
  \$35.00\*   
  For Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**RENEW ONLINE NOW! WWW.MUSKIESINC.ORG**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City & State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Affiliation Choice Number \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. (required) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_  
(to find the number of the Chapter you wish to join, see the Chapter News & Views section)

Old Address (for address change only) \_\_\_\_\_

City & State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

My Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Check One:  New Member  Renewal  Address Change  Gift

Email (required) \_\_\_\_\_

Payment:  Check or  Credit Card:  VISA  MasterCard

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\*All addresses OUTSIDE THE U.S. are defaulted to website only membership and pay by credit card. \*No checks from outside the U.S. will be accepted.

Name of Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ D.O.B. \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_

Junior Member(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (DOB)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_

**How did you hear about us :** \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO: MUSKIES, INC.**

**PO BOX 1509  
WAUKESHA, WI 53187-1509  
1-888-710-8286**

# 2026 Chapter Officers



President Joe Grupa



Vice President Drake Peterson



Secretary Peter Krause



Treasurer Candy Ellestad



Chapter Rep Cade Busche



Membership Amanda Monge



Contest Chair Terry DeMenge



Banquet Chair Curt Ellestad



Fisheries Jason Kahler



Newsletter Keith Okeson



Youth Director Robert Jenko



Member-at-Large Robert Busche

Lake Superior Chapter of Muskies Inc.

**2026 Rules for the Lunker of the Month**

Lunker of the Month Awards is for the largest released Muskie for each month. The angler releasing the largest Muskie in that month will receive a Lunker of the Month Award.

The rules are as follows:

1. The Muskie must be **40** inches or longer for adults and 30 inches for junior members. There will be one award overall per month (not a separate award for adults and juniors).
2. **Photographed and the photo sent to the contest chairperson within 30 days of the catch via mail or email. Photos will not be returned. Photos can be digital or via a smartphone, however, digital is preferred.**
3. **Muskie registrations without photos will not be eligible for lunker awards.**
4. All entries must be recorded on a Muskie Inc. Fishing Contest Entry blank or entered online at [www.muskiesinc.org](http://www.muskiesinc.org). Entry blanks are found at the Muskies Inc. website or are available from your Fishing Contest chairperson. Entry blanks may be copied for recording additional Muskies caught.
5. Fishing Contest Entry blanks (paper or online) must be:
  1. **FILLED OUT COMPLETELY** on the front page or online to be eligible for points or awards. This includes the name of the body of water and bait used. **THIS REGULATION WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED TO COMPLY WITH THE PURPOSES OF MUSKIES, INC.**
  2. Entered online or received (via mail) by the Lake Superior Chapter Contest Chairperson within 30 days of the date of the catch.
6. In case of a tie, the winner for the month will be decided by their next biggest fish caught during that month. In case of a 2<sup>nd</sup> tie, winner will be decided on a coin flip.
7. You must be a member of the Lake Superior Chapter #33 in good standing for 45 days prior before entering. If the membership is a renewal, it must be completed prior to the expiration date. If a transfer from another chapter, the 45-day waiting period applies from the date of transfer.

**Contest review committee will consist of at least 3 members which will include the following: Lake Superior Chapter Contest Chairperson and at least 2 other members (one of which will be a non-board member). The committee will be established to review all disputes or questions on entered Muskies. They will arbitrate any dispute and their decisions shall be accepted as final.**

**2026 Committee:**

**Terry DeMenge (contest director)**

**Bob Busche (board member)**

**Ron Krause (board Member)**

**Lake Superior Chapter of Muskies Inc.**  
**Prize for largest Muskie of the year**  
**“Replica Award” for 2026**

The largest Muskie caught and released by any member will receive a free graphite Muskie mount from Lax Reproductions, courtesy of Lax Reproductions & Lake Superior Chapter Muskies Inc.

The rules are as follows:

1. The Muskie must be a minimum of **52 inches** in length.
2. Fish must be measured on bump board and photograph with fish on bump board.
3. Photographed and the photo sent to the contest chairperson within **30 days** of the catch via mail or email. Photos will not be returned. Photos can be digital or via a smartphone. Please sent via email.
4. Muskie registrations without pictures will not be eligible for the award.
5. All entries must be recorded on a Muskie Inc. Fishing Contest Entry blank or entered online at [www.muskiesinc.org](http://www.muskiesinc.org). Entry blanks are found at the Muskies Inc. website or are available from your Fishing Contest chairperson.
6. Fishing Contest Entry blanks (paper or online) must be:
  - A. **FILLED OUT COMPLETELY** on the front page or online to be eligible for points or awards. This includes the name of the body of water and bait used. THIS REGULATION WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED TO COMPLY WITH THE PURPOSES OF MUSKIES, INC.
  - B. Witnessed by at least one person and must have the phone number and signature of that witness.
  - C. Entered online or received (via mail) by the Lake Superior Chapter Contest Chairperson within 30 days of the date of the catch.
7. You may only win this once in your lifetime.
8. If the winner turns down the replica prize, it will go to the next member with the largest fish. The original qualifier will be eligible again after 3 years.
9. You must be a member of the Lake Superior Chapter #33 in good standing for **45 days** prior before entering. If the membership is a renewal, it must be completed prior to the expiration date. If a transfer from another chapter, the **45-day** waiting period applies from the date of transfer.
10. The winner must attend at least **2 monthly meetings or 1 outing and 1 meeting all between January 1, 2026 and December 31, 2026**. The annual chapter banquet qualifies for **2 meetings**. If a junior member wins, a parent or guardian must attend the meetings as noted above.
11. In case of a tie, the winner will be decided by their 2<sup>nd</sup> largest fish of the year. In case of a 2<sup>nd</sup> tie, the winner will be decided by a coin flip.

**Contest review committee will consist of at least 3 members which will include the following: Lake Superior Chapter Contest Chairperson and at least 2 other members (one of which will be a non-board member). The committee will be established to review all disputes or questions on entered Muskies. They will arbitrate any dispute and their decisions shall be accepted as final.**

**2026 Committee: Terry DeMenge (contest director), Bob Busche (board member), Ron Krause (board member)**

# MUSKIES INC MEMBERS FISH POLICIES, CONTEST RULES AND REGULATIONS 2026

## (Lunge Log Rules)

Rules governing the Lunge Log and the Members Only Fish Contest

The Lunge Log and the Members Only Fishing Contest - The Lunge Log is a standardized voluntary reporting system through which members of Muskies, Inc. register Muskies they catch and by doing so may participate in an annual Members Only Fishing Contest (MOFC). Muskies must be 30 inches or longer. The Lunge Log serves as a valuable resource to our members, fisheries, scientists and managers who work with muskies.

- All muskies must be caught on legal sports fishing tackle (hook and line) in the United States or Canada in strict compliance with all local, state or provincial laws.
- The fish must be hooked and played by only one person and only that person may enter the fish. Assistance in landing the fish is permitted.
- Entrant must be a member in good standing of Muskies, Inc. as defined in the Bylaws prior to catching the fish (note exception below for Lunge Log entries which do not qualify for MOFC).

Fish submissions for the MOFC have firm deadlines. Most members choose to enter their own fish via the Website, and must enter them within 30 days of the catch to count toward the MOFC (note rule for end of the year below). As an alternative, entries may be mailed to the chapter contest chairperson and postmarked within 20 days of the date of the catch. The chapter chairperson will enter them on the Muskies, Inc. Website within 30 days of the catch date or mail them to the Lunge Log Administrator postmarked within 30 days of the date of catch. The MOFC entry periods get shorter each day, starting December 12th, as all entries must be received by the Lunge Log Administrator by January 10th of the following year. The annual MOFC ends on December 31st each year.

Muskies entered more than 30 days after the catch will still be included in the Lunge Log and in each member's "My Fish List". Every muskie is an important record in the Lunge Log database.

**Lunge Log Entries by New Members** - Chapters often use fishing events to recruit new members. To encourage joining Muskies, Inc. and the use of the Lunge Log new members are allowed to make entries into the Lunge Log for muskies caught up to 7 days prior to joining M.I. These entries will NOT be included in the MOFC.

**Lunge Log Entries by Previous Members** - If a previous member rejoins Muskies, Inc. after a lapse in membership they are allowed to make entries into the Lunge Log for muskies caught up to 30 days prior to rejoining M.I. These entries will NOT be included in the MOFC.

**Release & Measurement;** Muskies, Inc. encourages members to release any healthy Muskie that is not a true trophy to them. Acknowledgment of the release is available to the member by either a patch, a yearly summary of all catches or individual certifications for each fish (unless the member indicates that he or she does not want the patch or certificate sent). This process of selecting and receiving the awards is coordinated through the Chapter chairperson.

Total length is measured from the tip of the lower jaw to the farthest tip of the tail.

Members are encouraged to enter his/her own catches via the "My Lunge Log Entry" screen on the Website. A printable version of the release forms to record the information manually is available on the website.

Muskies Inc. has suggested guidelines for the proper holding and handling of fish that is to be released on the Website. The guidelines are printed periodically in MUSKIE Magazine. Stress on the fish should be kept to the absolute minimum and the fish should be safely returned to the water as soon as possible.

A Muskies, Inc. Members Only Fishing Contest Committee has been established to review all entered fish. It will arbitrate any disputes or questions and their decisions shall be accepted as final. At its discretion the committee may require additional documentation including photographs and/or additional witnesses before any entry is accepted or any awards are finalized.

All entries submitted must have a state or province listed for the body of water and at least a lure type and the name of the Lake or River. No Exceptions. Listing the specific body of water for each Muskie makes the Lunge Log a better research tool for the various departments of natural resources in the United States and Canada. All members are encouraged to list the specific lure name a Muskie was caught on. This allows members of Muskies, Inc. to learn from the successes of fellow members.

## **Muskies Inc. Awards**

Annual Awards based on release points will be presented each year. Release Points or length of Muskies which qualified for the MOFC will be presented each year for the leaders in each division will be assigned and displayed in the MOFC Reports on the Website and in MUSKIE Magazine. Each muskie 30 inches or longer approved for the MOFC will count toward the

individual member's point total. Release Points are based on 4 points for each release and 1 point for each inch or fraction of inches over 30 inches.

### **Awards based on angler point totals by division:**

10 Awards for Men's Masters Division

5 Awards for Women's Masters Division 10 Awards for Men's Division

10 Awards for Women's Division

5 Awards for Junior's Fry Division (age 12 or under on January 1st of year of Award)

5 Awards for Junior's Fingerling Division (age 13-17 on January 1st of year of Award)

6 Awards for Muskie Fly Fishing Division

### **Awards based on length of released Muskies:**

At least one witness is required to be eligible for any MOFC award, replica, or other prize based upon length of individual Muskies.

1 Award plus replica\* for Men's Longest Release (all male members age 18 or older) 1 Award plus replica\* for Junior's Longest Release (all Junior members)

1 Award plus replica\* for Women's Longest Release (all female members age 18 or older) 1 Award plus replica\* for Longest Release of a Hybrid

12 Awards for Lunker of the Month. One per month. Will include duplicate awards for ties within any month.

Availability of replicas is strictly contingent upon advertising partnerships with replica artists. In the event of a tie for Longest Release in any category the value of the replica as per the advertising partnership will be divided equally between the winners and they will receive gift certificates of equal amounts from the replica artist. No adult member may win more than one Longest Release replica during his/her entire membership in Muskies, Inc. No Junior member may win more than one Longest Release replica during his/her years as a Junior member; however, they could win one additional replica during their years as an adult member. In the event that a previous replica winner has the Longest Release of a subsequent year in their category the replica will go to the member with the next Longest Release

# 2025 Supporters of the Lake Superior Chapter of Muskies Inc.



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& fabrics



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The Fisherman's Corner



FishLax LLC.

