



# Registration Confirmation Packet

May 31, 2025 | Gull Lake, Brainerd

Sponsored by: **Fleet 4 Farm**

You are registered for the 2025 Minnesota Fishing Challenge!

Please make sure that your **TEAM NAME** and/or **TEAM NUMBER** is on **all** checks and on the outside of **all** envelopes mailed to MnTC.





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Thank you for entering the 2025 Fleet Farm Minnesota Fishing Challenge. You are supporting youth and adults at Mn Adult & Teen Challenge centers in Brainerd, Duluth, Minneapolis, Mankato, Rochester, Alexandria, and Buffalo.

The 17th annual Fleet Farm Minnesota Fishing Challenge is set for Saturday, May 31, 2025. The event will take place on Gull Lake near Brainerd. The Fishing Challenge, hosted by Al Lindner, is a multi-species fundraising tournament. Two-person teams may elect to fish any of five divisions.

This will be an exciting weekend of fishing fun! It will start with a great "Rules Dinner" in Brainerd on Friday evening, May 30 and end with the weigh-in event at Cragun's Resort on Saturday, May 31. We have so much to share with you about that weekend. Please read this brochure thoroughly and keep it handy as a resource. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

## For questions about...

Registration and fundraising, contact Sue Van Hal, MnTC Events Manager: 218.833.8752 | Sue.VanHal@mntc.org

Tournament rules and format, contact Bernie Barringer, Tournament Director: 218.820.8459 | Bernie.Barringer@mntc.org

## ABOUT MN ADULT & TEEN CHALLENGE



Mn Adult & Teen Challenge (MnTC) is a drug and alcohol treatment and recovery program that has been in operation since 1983. We serve people ages 13-74 years with many locations throughout the state with a full range of services including long-term recovery and short-term intensive treatment programs. Additionally, the Know the Truth™ Prevention Program speaks in more than 160 high schools and middle schools across the state, sharing personal stories of addiction with students to help prevent substance use.

## Event Format and Schedule

### FRIDAY, MAY 30

#### Mandatory Rules Dinner

5 p.m.-8:15 p.m. at Heritage Assembly of God in Baxter

5:00 Registration open (until 7:00)

Come early to enjoy the meal and trade fish stories with your friends.

5:00 Free optional meal for all registered anglers (\$5 for guests). Serving until 6:15.

6:00 All fundraising funds must be turned in to count toward prizes, including raffle ticket funds.

7:00 Mandatory Rules Meeting for all teams

We will review rules, hear the MnTC choir and hear from celebrity fishermen.

Many prizes will also be given at this event.

Sponsored by:



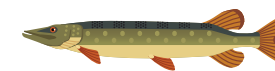
### SATURDAY, MAY 31

#### Gentlemen's Start at 7 a.m.

Gull Lake, Brainerd

The team entry fee of \$200 allows teams to enter one of five divisions. Teams can decide division while fishing:

#### PIKE DIVISION



Sponsored by Nor-Son  
Weigh two northern pike under 30"

#### BASS DIVISION



Sponsored by Lindner Media  
Weigh three largemouth bass

#### WALLEYE DIVISION



Sponsored by Navillus Land Company  
Weigh three walleyes

#### PANFISH DIVISION



Sponsored by Nisswa Lions Club  
Weigh three panfish: bluegill, sunfish, crappie, rock bass or perch in any combination.

#### MIXED BAG DIVISION



Sponsored by Premier Marine  
Weigh one pike, one walleye, one bass and one panfish

#### RON LINDNER BONUS

Bring in one rock bass, and this weight will be added to the total weight in any division.

## Weigh-in Scales Open at 1 p.m.

All boats must check-in no later than 3 p.m. at Cragun's Resort.

Teams arriving earlier than the deadline will help streamline the weigh-in process.

You don't want to miss this, even if your livewell is empty! Weigh bags will be delivered to your boat, and information will be shared with you about approaching the weigh station. On shore, you will find plenty of great conversation with other anglers, BBQ food truck, excitement of watching the weigh-in, and enjoy listening to songs of hope from the MnTC men's choir.

Thousands of dollars in prizes will be awarded to top anglers from the incredible prize tent! Many other awards will also be presented at the end of the day on Cragun's beach.

## Prizes and Awards

### Division Prizes

The top 10 teams in each division (50 teams!) will be entitled to a trip through the prize tent for your team with a combined team prize valued at a minimum of \$100 each. Nearly \$20,000 in prizes will be available including rods, reels, tackle, trolling motors, guided fishing trips, gear and much more.

### Additional Fishing Prizes

- **Sea Foam Second Chance Awards** – Ten teams with fish but not placing in the top 10 of their division, will win a case of Sea Foam Marine Pro Motor Treatment. Anglers must be present during the drawing to win!
- **McDonald's Biggest Bass Award** – The winning team will receive a plaque and a giant Rapala lure autographed by Al Lindner and the staff of Lindner Media.
- **Navigate North Biggest Walleye Award** – A plaque and a giant Rapala lure autographed by Al Lindner and the staff of Lindner Media .
- **Beaudry Oil Ugliest Fish Award** – The winning team will receive a plaque and bragging rights!
- **Sea Foam Scholarship – NEW THIS YEAR:** Any 2025 graduate or younger (“youth angler”) will be entered into a competition to win one of six Sea Foam scholarships. The top three ranked teams that include a youth angler will receive a \$500 college scholarships for every youth angler on the team. (Scholarship will be held 2 years beyond the graduation year of the recipient.) It doesn't matter what division and team does not have to be in the top ten of the division. For example, winners could be **5th** place in the walleye division, **7th** in the mixed bag, and **10th** in the bass division. **NOTE:** The team could be two youth anglers or adult/youth combination. Student teams in which both partners are under 16 years of age must have an adult in the boat who does not fish.
- **AGAIN THIS YEAR: – Excellence Award:** Both anglers on teams that raise \$10,000 for the tournament will receive a choice of a cooler filled with fishing gear or a \$250 gift card. You will not want to be a penny short of this goal; this prize is amazing!



### New Prize Tent Procedure

Teams will go through the prize tent in groups. All 1st place teams from all 5 divisions will enter the prize tent together and have one minute to choose a prize. (Read your prize list ahead of time!) Then all 5 teams in 2nd place will enter and have one minute to choose a prize, then all 3rd place teams and so on. We are endeavoring to make it more fair and expedite the process.

### Early Bird Awards

Enter now and start your fundraising right away! Three teams who register by April 1 will be eligible to win an Early Bird prize of an AquaVu camera. One winning team will win complimentary lodging for up to six people (Thursday, May 29 with checkout on Sunday morning, June 1 by 9 am) at Sandy Beach Resort on Gull Lake's west shoreline. Both team members must be registered to qualify for these Early Bird prizes.

## PRIZE DONATIONS

We're always looking for people to donate great prizes for our event! Do you know someone who manufactures or sells outdoor equipment? Do you know a business who has access to hunting or fishing supplies, or someone who owns a dealership that might donate something large or small? Do you know a resort owner who would donate a resort stay?

If you have any connections, please contact Bernie Barringer, Tournament Director, at 218.820.8459 or Bernie.Barringer@mmtc.org.



## Cast Your Line and Win Fundraising Awards!

Every dollar raised in this fundraising tournament helps bring hope and healing to so many struggling to find freedom from addiction. Each team is asked to set a suggested minimum goal of raising \$500. The top three teams will win fishing trips with Al Lindner, Walleye Dan Eigen, or Scott Bonnema! The prizes below are cumulative for each level raised.

1

**BUILD**  
your fundraising page  
fishingchallenge.org

2

**SHARE**  
your fundraising page



3

**RAISE \$3,000**

or more and win a super nice jacket with our Mn Fishing Challenge logo for each team member



BREAK DOWN THE GOAL:

**40 + 30 + 20 + 10**  
@ \$10 each @ \$20 each @ \$50 each @ \$100 each

**RAISE \$1,460**

(cost for one month of services for one client)

and win a personalized official 2025 Fishing Challenge jersey at the Rules Dinner!

BREAK DOWN THE GOAL:

**1 + 50**  
donation @ \$460 raffle tickets @ \$20 each



Your fundraising must be submitted by May 15 to have your jersey ready before the tournament. If you reach this goal after May 15, your jersey will be mailed to you at a later date.

**WIN THIS BOAT!**



**RAISE \$500**

Each team that raises \$500 will get their name in a drawing for a brand new Lund boat powered by Mercury and rigged with electronics. For each \$500 raised, another entry will be added into the drawing.

(Team of two anglers win one boat. Ownership papers will be given to the team captain; both team members will receive equal IRS#990 for the prize. Team members are allowed to win the boat only once in the lifetime of the MN Fishing Challenge.)

Again this year – Your \$200 registration fee counts toward your fundraising total.

## Fundraising Ideas & Resources

We want to help you with your efforts to support MnTC with some great fundraising resources! The following pages will give you helpful tips and break down ways to utilize your own network of contacts to meet your fundraising goal and get you one step closer to winning some amazing prizes. All donations made to Mn Adult & Teen Challenge are 100% tax deductible. Looking for more fundraising tips? Visit our angler resources page at [fishingchallenge.org/angler-resources/](https://fishingchallenge.org/angler-resources/)



### Contact family, friends and businesses with a phone call or in person.

Did you know that the best way to get your friends, family, or employer to support you is to just ask them? Don't be afraid. Most often people want to support us if they know what is important to us.

**Here's an easy conversation starter...** "Hey, I'm so excited about a great fishing tournament that I'm fishing in on Gull Lake in May. It is a fundraiser for Mn Adult & Teen Challenge. They are an addiction recovery program that has great success at changing lives and offering hope to men and women stuck in addiction. Would you be interested in sponsoring me? I have a goal to raise at least \$500 (or \$1,460, or \$3,000)."

Don't forget to ask your employer or other corporate donors like your insurance guy, your auto mechanic, or the local realtor. Some may do it for publicity but many will donate just for goodwill and support of MnTC. (See page 8 to learn more about incentives for corporate donors.)

★ We've included an envelope and chart in this registration confirmation packet that will help keep track of donations. This envelope and money must be turned in at the Rules Dinner (or preferably mailed sooner) in order to be counted toward your team fundraising goal.

## PAST LUND BOAT WINNER



Congratulations to Ben and Chris Reiersen for winning the 2024 Lund boat. This was a brand new team in 2024 who almost exclusively did their fundraising on Facebook. They shared their story and asked for a donation. Over 80 of their friends responded, giving them 31 tickets in the drawing! On the day of the event they drove away with a brand new 2024 boat!



### Sell raffle tickets

Selling raffle tickets is the easiest method for some people to sell (and donate) to our Fishing Challenge fundraiser. Some amazing raffle prizes are available again this year, items of interest to anglers and non-fishermen. Wouldn't you love to spend a few days in a houseboat with a handful of friends? Fishing or not, this prize ranks in high demand among our past donors.

- Teams may sell raffle tickets up until the end of the Rules Dinner on Friday, May 30 to be included in the drawing.
- Ten great items shown on the raffle poster (see page 10) will be awarded by random drawing on Saturday, May 31. You need not be present to win.
- Tickets are \$20 each. Buyers must be 18 or older to purchase.
- Raffle ticket purchases are NOT tax deductible.

★ Raffle ticket sales count towards your \$500 fundraising prize boat entry and other levels of your fundraising goal. Sell only 25 tickets and get a ticket in the drawing for the boat!



### Share a video about MnTC with friends, family and business contacts.

On the event website, [fishingchallenge.org](https://fishingchallenge.org), there are two different videos:



**DONOR VIDEO:** Filled with hard-hitting stories from the tournament, this video explains why people should donate to Mn Adult & Teen Challenge. It's short and to the point so it is designed to show at your church, fishing club, civic organizations, and to any potential donors. Located on event homepage.



**CORPORATE DONOR VIDEO:** This video is a little longer and designed to appeal to companies, businesses and potential corporate donors. Hover over "Sponsors" on the top navigation and click "Sponsorship Opportunities" to find this video.

Feel free to request these video links through e-mail or a flash drive to share with your church or friends through email or your Facebook account. These are available at no cost to you.

Direct your contacts to the Minnesota Fishing Challenge Facebook page (@mnfishingchallenge). There they can see the videos and see the constantly updated photos and information.

★ April 27 is designated as "Show the Fishing Challenge Video at Church" Sunday. Across the state, the Sunday before fishing opener is the perfect Sunday to ask your church to support your team. Showing the video is a great resource to start that conversation.

## Fundraising Ideas & Resources



### Fundraise via e-mail, social media and other online platforms.

In order to fundraise online, you will need to set up a giving page. Follow the easy steps below:

**If you registered online:** When registering online, you were asked to create a username and password. This is your log-in information needed to work with your online donation page.

**If you registered by mail:** Once your registration arrived, an online fundraising page was created in your team's name. If you provided an email address on your registration form you should have received an email with a direct link to the participant center and your online fundraising page.

#### Follow these steps to get started:

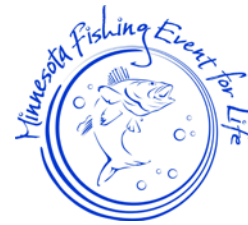
- #1: Check your email for a direct link to your fundraising page.
- #2: Walk through each of the tabs on this page to update each of these sections: Overview, Story, Donations, Emails, and Details.
- #3: Click around on this page for many other ways to access and/or update your page.

#### Customize your fundraising page, and check your progress anytime.

- #1: Go to [fishingchallenge.org](http://fishingchallenge.org)
- #2: Click on the "register now" page and go to the upper right corner and click on the "Go To" dropdown list.
- #3: You can choose either your personal page or your team page from this dropdown list.
- #4: You can send links to your page with the little gray envelope, or you can use the resources through the "manage" button in the top right corner. You will want to connect with potential donors and send thank you notes often.

If you have any questions when setting up your giving page, call Sue at 218.833.8753 or email [Sue.VanHal@mntc.org](mailto:Sue.VanHal@mntc.org) for help with this process.

## Thank you to our 2025 Minnesota Fishing Challenge Sponsors



Nisswa Lions Club

Pillager Lions Club



Jeff Collins Photography



## Another Great 2025 Fishing Event



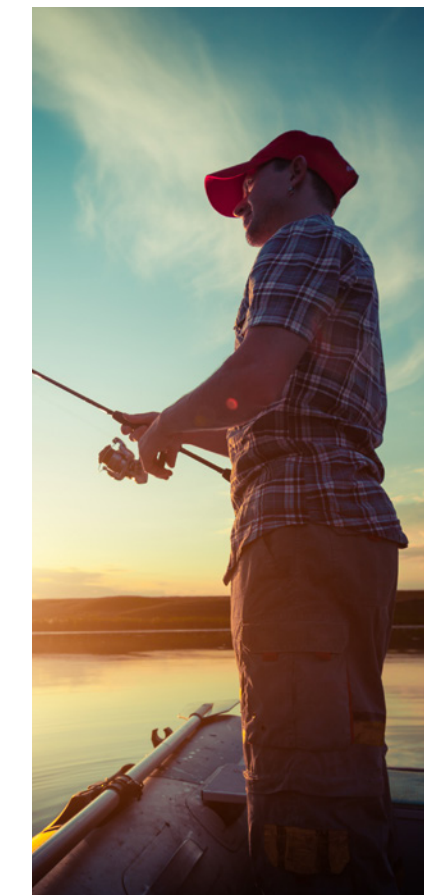
### The Minnesota Fishing Event for Life

June 7, 2025 | Mankato, MN

This is a fundraiser for Mn Adult & Teen Challenge and Young Life.

For more information, contact:

[tomdavis@daviscomfortsystems.com](mailto:tomdavis@daviscomfortsystems.com)



## DONOR HONOR ROLL

When you are raising money, keep in mind that anyone (business or individual) who donates at a higher level will be listed on our Donor Honor Roll. There are four levels that will be recognized:

CHAMPION LEVEL	HOPE LEVEL	FREEDOM LEVEL	PEACE LEVEL
\$2,500	\$1,000	\$750	\$500

Donors at each of these levels will be listed on the Donor Honor Roll that will be printed in the event program, distributed at the Rules Dinner. Donors can opt to remain anonymous. Money must be received in the MnTC office by May 15 to be included in the event program.

Call 218.833.8752 with any questions.

# FUNDRAISING RAFFLE

benefiting Mn Adult & Teen Challenge



**1 4 Wheeler**  
2025 Polaris Sportsman 570

**2 Rainy Lake Houseboat**  
up to 10 people for 3 days

**3 Original Painting**  
"First Cast"  
by Artist Stuart Nelson

**4 Henry "Golden Boy" .22 rifle**



**5 \$500 Marine General gift card**



**6 \$500 Fleet Farm gift card**



**7 Electric ice auger**



**8 Kayak**



**9 Giant Rapala**  
Autographed  
by Al Lindner

**10 Aqua-Vu Camera**  
Underwater  
Viewing  
System



## SELLING RAFFLE TICKETS

Raffle tickets can be purchased with check or cash (only). Send your request and funds to the address below.

Mn Adult & Teen Challenge  
Attn: Fishing Challenge  
2424 Business 371  
Brainerd, MN 56401

### PLEASE NOTE:

- Please include your team name/# on all ticket orders in order to be credited to your fundraising totals.
- If you wish to acquire raffle tickets to sell, call Jodi at 218.833.8764 for arrangements.
- Raffle tickets will not be available for purchase at the Rules Dinner.
- Must be over 18 to participate.

## 2025 Minnesota Fishing Challenge Rules & Regulations

### I. Participants and Eligibility

- Contestants must register online at [fishingchallenge.org](http://fishingchallenge.org) OR use a paper official registration form and mail the \$200 entry fee per team to Mn Adult & Teen Challenge, 2424 Business 371, Brainerd, MN 56401. Confirmations will be mailed or emailed.
- Contestants may pay with check, money order or credit card.
- This is a two-person per boat fishing tournament. If both contestants are under age 16, a non-fishing guardian or parent must be present in the boat.
- Contestants must attend the Friday, May 30, 2025 Rules Dinner at Heritage Assembly of God church in Baxter. Celebrity anglers and special guests will make this a great event, along with any last minute instructions. The meal is free for registered anglers, \$5 charge for guests.
- Adult and youth contestant door prizes will be awarded by draw at the rules meeting.
- Contestants over 16 must possess a valid Minnesota fishing license.

### II. Team Sponsorship Challenge

- Teams are urged to raise team sponsorship funds and to begin the fundraising process as soon as possible. The minimum amount requested that each team raise for your team is \$500; there is no maximum. Top fundraising teams will win fishing trips with Al Lindner, Scott Bonnema, or Dan Eigen.
- When you register online, an automatic online donation web page will be created for your team. This page will allow you to watch your donations grow and will keep all "Fishing Challenge" info at your fingertips. Call Sue or Jodi, 218-833-8752 for suggestions and assistance. (If you register with a paper registration form, a donation web page will set up and you will be notified of how to access it.)
- A number of items will be available to help you with your fundraising, including a video! Share the video with friends, church family, businesses, groups, Facebook, etc., to enhance fund-raising and attract new teams.
- Fundraising money collected should be sent to Mn Adult & Teen Challenge as soon as they are gathered. Postage-paid envelopes will be provided for your team if requested.
- Sponsorship funds (100% tax deductible) raised to support your team's donation to Teen Challenge must be submitted to MNTC prior to or at registration at the Rules Dinner to be considered for any prizes.
- A raffle with very attractive prizes makes additional fundraising even easier. (Tickets will be available for all team members to sell)
- A full list of prizes is available. Subject to change.

### III. Scoring

- Anglers must declare before fish are weighed which division they intend to enter. There are five divisions: Walleye, Bass, Pike, Panfish, and Mixed Bag.
  - Walleye: Teams may weigh three walleyes
  - Bass: Teams may weigh 3 largemouth bass
  - Pike: Teams may weigh 2 northern pike under 30 inches in length
  - Panfish: teams may weigh a maximum of three panfish (bluegill, sunfish, crappie, rock bass or perch in any combination)
  - Mixed Bag: Combination of one panfish, one walleye, one bass and one pike (under 30").
- One rock bass will be the bonus "kicker" fish and added to any division. (If you already have rock bass in your mixed bag collection, an additional rock bass is your bonus "kicker".)
- Weigh-in headquarters: Cragun's Resort on Gull Lake scales open at 1:00, main weigh-in at 3:00
- Ties will be settled by a coin toss.
- Plaque will be awarded for the ugliest fish, biggest walleye, and biggest bass.

### IV. Tournament Format

- Tournament boundaries are the Gull Lake Chain.
- Launch at any ramp or resort.
- Scales open at 1 p.m. Teams may weigh a limit for any species only once.
- Contestants may be on the water, but may not begin fishing until 7 a.m. (CST) on May 31, 2025.
- All boats must return to Cragun's Resort no later than 3 p.m. (CST) on May 31, 2025. Teams up to 5 minutes late lose half their weight, teams over 5 minutes late forfeit.
- Teams returning earlier than the 3 p.m. deadline will streamline the weigh-in process.
- Artificial lures and live bait are allowed.
- Each competitor must observe safe boat conduct, no-wake zones, and local navigation rules. Competitors are expected to demonstrate courtesy and act in a sportsmanlike manner.
- The tournament director will interpret rules according to the spirit and intent of the rule and his decision in all matters is final.
- All prizes and trophies will be awarded from the weigh-in stage upon completion of weigh-in. Winners must be present to collect prizes or they will be forfeited.

### 2025 Student Angler Teams Rules and Regulations

- All students are eligible for the Student Angler award.
- A student angler is defined as a student graduating in 2025 or younger. The top six individual student anglers will win a \$500 college scholarship from Sea Foam.
- Students can be part of a team where both partners are students or can be paired with an adult.
- Student anglers will bring their fish to the weigh-in, and go through the prize tent if they finish in the top 10 of the division they enter.
- All fishing divisions are open to the student angler scholarships. The top six students will be chosen without regard to the division entered. Student anglers must be at least 16 years of age to fish without an adult in the boat.
- Any student angler teams where both partners are under age 16 must have an adult in the boat who does not participate in the fishing.
- Entry fee is \$200 per team.



Scan to visit our website!



# MINNESOTA FISHING CHALLENGE

To Benefit Mn Adult & Teen Challenge



Scan to learn more!



Adult & Teen Challenge  
Minnesota

## For questions about...

### REGISTRATION AND FUNDRAISING

Sue Van Hal, MnTC Events Manager  
218.833.8752  
Sue.VanHal@mntc.org

### TOURNAMENT RULES AND FORMAT

Bernie Barringer, Tournament Director  
218.820.8459  
Bernie.Barringer@mntc.org

Mn Adult & Teen Challenge, Attn: Fishing Challenge, 2424 Business 371, Brainerd, MN 56401