

2025 FEBRUARY FESTIVAL ICE FISHING CONTEST RULES

1. The contest is scheduled for **Saturday, February 1, 2025 from 1:00-3:00 p.m.** on Lake Ann in Chanhassen.
2. Contestants may purchase one or two tickets, giving each contestant the opportunity to fish with one or two lines. One ticket per line, and one line per hole. Tickets must be attached to fishing poles or tip-ups by rubber bands, which will be provided on the ice.
3. No fish houses, fish house sleds, enclosures, wind breaks, coolers, large containers, glass bottles, ice augers, or ice chisels are allowed in designated fishing area. Chairs, heaters, five-gallon buckets with gear, bait pails, depth finders, thermos containers, fishing poles/sticks, and other miscellaneous small gear is allowed.
4. No motorized vehicles/ATV's allowed in the designated fishing areas other than those being used by emergency personnel.
5. Contestants are allowed to set up in the fishing area prior to contest, but no pre-fishing is allowed. **In order to claim a fishing hole, a fishing pole or tip-up with an attached fishing ticket must be present.** Weighted lines without hooks or bait can be used to check depth prior to 12:45 pm. No lines are allowed in the water from 12:45 pm to the start of the contest. No underwater cameras are allowed in the water after 12:45 pm. Contest marshals will strictly enforce compliance. All fishing must take place within the contest area.
6. To enter a fish, bring it to the judge's stand immediately upon catching it. **Fish must be alive in order to be eligible.** All eligible fish will be returned to the water after weigh in.
7. **Pursuant to DNR regulations, all largemouth bass and northern pike from 24"-36" must be immediately returned to the water. These fish are ineligible for the contest and DNR regulations will be strictly enforced.**
8. All "largest fish" prizes are determined by weight and will be awarded following the contest. You may enter all the fish you catch, but only one "largest fish" prize will be awarded per person. In the event of a tie in weight, the contestant with the first entry wins the higher prize, the second fish places next.
 - a. Please note: In the event that a portion of the "largest fish" prizes are not awarded using this method, a drawing from all fishing ticket stubs will be held to determine winners. Each winner will be asked a trivia question – if they answer the trivia question correctly, they will be awarded the prize. If they answer incorrectly, a new ticket stub will be drawn.
9. Only fish you personally catch are eligible for the contest. Fish that are caught by one individual and given to another person are NOT eligible. **No sharing fish.**
10. All fish must be registered or on the way to the judges station when the siren signifying the end of the contest is sounded at 3:00 p.m.

Flip over for more rules →

11. Fishing licenses are required for all individuals 16 years of age and older. No licenses will be sold on the lake. Must have prior to competition.
12. All contestants must obey State of Minnesota fishing laws and contest rules.
13. Ethical and sporting conduct is mandatory. Failure to comply with any contest rules subjects contestants to disqualification and removal from competition site, as determined by contest officials. Right to refuse to sell and/or revoke competition ticket to anyone is hereby reserved. Please be considerate of your fellow contestants and enjoy the contest.
14. All Feb Fest attendees are eligible to receive one free door prize ticket from 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The drawings will take place from 1:00-2:30 p.m. Winners will be announced by loud speaker. To claim a door prize, bring your ticket to the door prize station. Winners must be present to win.
15. Parking will not be available on the lake. Parking is available throughout the park, within walking distance of the contest. Handicapped parking is available in the boat launch parking lot.
16. In the event of a severe weather cancellation the contest may be held on Sunday, February 2 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. If the weather is in question, call (952) 227-1128 for more information.
17. Each person attends the contest/festival at their own risk. The City of Chanhassen or its agents/independent contractors shall not be liable for any personal injuries sustained including those caused by negligence of the sponsoring agencies.