

**Southern Alberta Walleye Trail Invites You to Our 2026 Chin Lake  
Walleye Tournament CFE # 636412  
Proudly Sponsored by Solution Services Inc.**



**DATE:** Saturday May 23rd and Sunday May 24th

**LOCATION:** Chin Lake Park. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/1FEtQSeEb1AMV72V6>

**TIMES:**

- Pre-fish ends 2:00pm Friday
- Check in 4:30pm Friday – In the Campground Area
- Rules Meeting and Dinner 5:00pm Friday – In the Campground Area
- Boat Check 6:00 -6:30 AM Saturday and Sunday
- Numbered Start 7:00am Saturday and Sunday
- Fishing Complete 3:00pm Saturday and Sunday
- Social Event (BYOB) Saturday night at the Camp Ground 5:30pm
- Awards banquet 4:30pm Sunday – In the Campground Area

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** Early Bird Registration: April 1<sup>st</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup> \$500.00  
Regular Registration: May 1<sup>st</sup> to May 22<sup>nd</sup> \$550.00

**Big Fish Pot = \$50.00 per Team**

**Last Day to Register: Friday May 22<sup>nd</sup> , 2026**

**CAMPING:** Limited campsites are available, (FCFS) please let us know when you are registering if you want a site and we will do our best to reserve you one.

**TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR:** Steve Mrakava (SAWTFISHING@GMAIL.COM)

**QUESTIONS:** Contact Steve Mrakava or Trevor Hazell

REGISTRATION:

ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY – <https://sawt.ca/>

Teams will also need to download the app and register on the E tournament website: <https://etournamentfishing.com/>

**!!!NEW FOR 2026!!!**

Early bird Registration: - if you register before May 1<sup>st</sup>, you get to select your boat number and starting position.

**Maximum 40 boats – Register early!!**

# Southern Alberta Walleye Trail Invites You to Our 2026 Chin Lake Walleye Tournament CFE # 636412

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## Southern Alberta Walleye Trail (SAWT) Tournament Guidelines & Rules 2026

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### 1. WARNING

- Any individual found violating the rules of this tournament may be **disqualified from the current event and all future SAWT tournaments.**
  - At the discretion of the SAWT Tournament Committee, offenders may also be **charged with fraud under the Criminal Code of Canada.**
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### 2. ELIGIBILITY

- All participants **18 years of age or older** are eligible to compete.
  - Anglers under **18 years of age** are eligible to compete but must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or someone over the age of 18. (with written permission of a parent or guardian)
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### 3. WAIVER OF LIABILITY

- Tournament promoters, sponsors, assisting organizations, and their agents assume **no responsibility** for death, injury, damage, theft, fire, liability, or loss.
  - By signing the entry form, each participant acknowledges and accepts this waiver.
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### 4. REQUIREMENTS

All contestants must comply with the following:

- Possess a **valid Alberta Sportfishing license.**
- Carry a **U.S. Coast Guard or Transport Canada–approved Personal Flotation Device (PFD).** Wearing a PFD at all times is strongly encouraged.
- Observe all **Canadian boating safety regulations.**
- Boats must meet **U.S. Coast Guard or Canadian safety standards.**
- Boats must carry **valid provincial or state registration.**
- Electric trolling motors are permitted.
- Electronic equipment such as depth finders, thermometers, oxygen meters, and similar devices are permitted.
- All contestants must strictly comply with **all Alberta Irrigation District Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Program rules**, including inspections, decontamination, permits, and access restrictions.

- Failure to comply with AIS requirements may result in **immediate disqualification**.
  - **A signed hard copy of the “Schedule A” must be accessible in your boat at all times**
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## 5. TOURNAMENT BOUNDARIES

- Provincial **no-fishing zones** will be enforced.
  - Additional SAWT boundaries may be implemented on a **lake-by-lake basis**. These Boundaries will be geofenced within the E Tournament Fishing APP. Anglers may not cross, or angle into out of bounds your boat, your lure, your line must all be within the eligible water boundary.
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## 6. PROTESTS

- Any and only contestant may file a protest against another contestant.
  - Protest forms are available from the Tournament Directors.
  - Protests must be submitted **within one (1) hour** after results are posted.
  - A **\$150 protest fee** must accompany all protests.
  - The fee will be refunded if the protest is upheld.
  - All parties involved in a protest must remain **on call for three (3) hours** following the end of the fishing day.
  - **All protest decisions will be made by the Tournament Directors and the decision is final. If available, photo or video evidence from the protestor will be considered.**
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## 7. PRIZES

- Prizes are awarded based on **total combined weight** from both tournament days.
  - All prizes are awarded on a **team basis**.
  - In the event of a tie, the team with the **greater weight on the final day** will be declared the winner, subject to official verification.
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## 8. FISH SUBMISSION & CPRV FORMAT

- All SAWT events use a **Catch, Photo, Release Video (CPRV)** format unless otherwise specified.
- Holding fish on stringers, baskets, coolers, live wells, or portable containers during tournament hours is **strictly prohibited**.
- Possession of any fish species (excluding **minnow-type bait**) is prohibited.
- All fish must be **immediately released** after digital documentation.
- **eTournament Fishing App**
- Use of the **eTournament Fishing app** is mandatory.
- At least one team member must have the app installed; both are strongly encouraged.
- Teams must check in prior to fishing while cellular or Wi-Fi service is available.
- A maximum of **20 fish per team, per day** may be entered.
- Only the **five (5) largest fish per day** will count toward total weight.
- **Measurement Photo Requirements:**
  - Immediately after catching a fish to be submitted, the participant *must* take the measurement photo.

- The measurement photo *must* be taken from directly overhead ("straight down perspective") with no angle. Avoid casting shadows on the fish.
  - The measurement photo *must* clearly show the entire fish and be in focus. Providing a clear photo for accurate verification is the participant's sole responsibility.
  - Only the Left side of the fish is eligible for measurement. This is with the Vertical of the bump board, the fishes head, and the Anglers left hand closest to the fishes head and the right hand closest to the tail. Commonly referred to as "belly to belly" with the fishes head on the left.
  - The measurement photo *must* clearly show the fish's top or bottom jaw touching the front of the bump board as well as the tail (pinched or un-pinched) on the measuring board for accurate length measurement. If the tail touches or crosses a graduation line, rounding up to the nearest cm is permitted.
  - Competitors Can ensure the most optimal measurement captured in a photo by making the longest part of the tail cross the measurement lines on the top or bottom of the bump board for an unmistakable measurement. It will be the Tournament directors final decision to length of measurement when the fishes longest tail measurement is in the middle of a board and does not intersect a graduation line.
  - Mirror film has been added to the Bump Board. The intent of the mirror film is to assist the Tournament directors in determining that the fishes top or bottom Jaw is touching the front of the bump board. The decision is made by ensuring the color of the fishes reflection, touches the color of the fishes top or bottom jaw making contact with the reflective surface. If there is reflective gap in the photo between the fishes reflection, and its top or bottom jaw, the fish will be disqualified. Mirror Film does not obviate the requirement of competitors to take a photo from directly overhead ("straight down perspective")
- **Release video Requirements**
    - The release video will be started while the fish is on the bump board, the fish will then be moved to the water and respectfully released and shown swimming away.
    - Video will not exceed 1 min in length.
    - The intent of the release video is to ensure the fish was not retained but placed back immediately after measurements were taken, does not show signs of stress, and to ensure the fish swims off on its own strength.
  - The minimum length for fish submission is 40cm. Fish not reaching the 40cm mark do not meet the minimum length requirement and cannot be submitted.
  - At the discretion of the Tournament director reviewing the photos and release videos. If one or more of your submissions do not meet the minimum criteria outlined in these rules, your fish entry will be declined. In the event this happens, your next largest fish submission from the day will be judged and entered.
  - At the sole discretion of the Tournament Director any participant can be disqualified if it is shown that a participant is not displaying proper handling techniques towards the fish or the due care they deserve.
  - At the sole discretion of the Tournament Director two release videos in the same day that display stressed, or dead fish that were deemed non-releasable will result in a zero weight for that day.

### **Fish deemed non scorable**

- At the sole discretion of the Tournament Director if a fish is deemed non scorable for any of the above mentioned rules, the next largest fish in that teams scorecard for the same day may be used.
- All fish caught and recorded as eligible may count towards the 5 scorable fish per day.
- Only fish caught from the same day may count toward that days 5 fish total.
- In the event there is no other scorable fish to replace a non scorable fish in the teams total, That team will only be able to count as many eligible fish as they entered.

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## **9. FISHING HOURS & START**

- Fishing hours are **7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**, Saturday and Sunday.
- Each team is allowed **eight (8) hours** of fishing time per day.
- The eTournament app opens at **7:00 a.m.** and closes at **3:00 p.m.**.
- Boats will depart using a **staggered start**, reversing order on Day Two.
- Multiple flights will be used only if **more than 40 boats** are registered and approved at the rules meeting.
- All boats must be **inspected prior to launching**.
- You may fish and enter catches right until 3 p.m. each day at your fishing location. The app will no longer accept photos or video releases after that time. If the app closes at 3pm before your fish entry is submitted, that fish will not count. No exceptions.
- After fishing time closes, **DO NOT RUSH!** Pack away your things and make your way directly back to the takeoff point safely. At 3:30 pm if you are not back at the take off point you are considered late, and missing and we will initiate trying to contact you, and or searching for you at that point. **If you are just late, you will receive a no weight for that day.**

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## **10. BOAT IDENTIFICATION & SECURITY**

- Boats will be assigned a **boat number** at the rules meeting.
- Boats may be inspected **before and during** the tournament.

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## **11. FISHING RULES**

- Eligible species: **Walleye**
- Fish must be caught **by hook and line in a normal manner**.
- Each angler may fish **one line at a time**.
- Spare rods and equipment may be carried in the boat.
- Live bait and artificial lures are permitted.
- **Electronic or electric lures are prohibited.**
- **NO LIVE MINNOWS ALLOWED.**
- Sportsmanlike conduct is required at all times.
- Boats may not touch other boats.
- Any violation of **Alberta angling regulations or the attached Schedule A of conditions** results in disqualification.
- No fishing is permitted **after 2:00 p.m.** on the day prior to the tournament.
- Contestants may **only leave the boat under emergency circumstances (severe weather or health emergency)** anglers may not leave the boat to land fish or untangle any fishing

equipment. If Severe weather occurs SAWT executive or tournament marshals will direct teams to take shelter where safe, and or return to the launch, ending the day of fishing.

- Official SAWT measuring boards are mandatory and the only boards permitted. Each team will receive a board and boat number on the morning of Day 1. Boards *must* be returned to SAWT staff at the end of each day. Failure to return a board will incur a \$150 replacement fee.
- All participants must adhere to safe boating practices, applicable laws, and the rules of the governing body of water. Alcohol, marijuana products, and illegal drugs are prohibited in tournament boats and vehicles during fishing hours.

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## 12. OTHER PRIZES

- Contingency prizes may be offered by sponsors or contributors.
- Additional rules may apply as specified by the prize sponsor.
- Only **live, releasable fish** qualify for Big Fish awards.

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## 13. MISCELLANEOUS

- If one team member withdraws prior to the tournament, a replacement may be made with **written notice** to the committee.
- If an entire team withdraws, the vacancy will be filled by the tournament committee.
- Entry fees will be refunded only if the vacant spot is filled.

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## 14. SPIRIT OF THE RULE

- All rules are governed by the **spirit of fair play and sportsmanship**.
- The decisions of the SAWT Tournament Committee are **final**.

### Payout scale:

SAWT will be operating on a 100% payout model, with the top 8 teams being paid the following:

percentages:

**example:** 35 boat Field payout

| Payout Scale:<br>8 teams paid out |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Payout Total=                     |         |
| Place                             | Percent |
| 1st                               | 35%     |
| 2nd                               | 20%     |
| 3rd                               | 15%     |
| 4th                               | 10%     |
| 5th                               | 7%      |
| 6th                               | 6%      |
| 7th                               | 4%      |
| 8th                               | 3%      |

| <b>Payout Scale: Top 8 paid out</b> |                |                     |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| <b>Payout Total=</b>                |                | <b>\$ 17,500.00</b> |
| <b>Place</b>                        | <b>Percent</b> | <b>Amount</b>       |
| <b>1st</b>                          | <b>35.00%</b>  | <b>\$ 6,125.00</b>  |
| <b>2nd</b>                          | <b>20.00%</b>  | <b>\$ 3,500.00</b>  |
| <b>3rd</b>                          | <b>15.00%</b>  | <b>\$ 2,650.00</b>  |
| <b>4th</b>                          | <b>10.00%</b>  | <b>\$ 1,750.00</b>  |
| <b>5th</b>                          | <b>7.00%</b>   | <b>\$ 1,225.00</b>  |
| <b>6th</b>                          | <b>6.00%</b>   | <b>\$ 1,050.00</b>  |
| <b>7th</b>                          | <b>4.00%</b>   | <b>\$ 700.00</b>    |
| <b>8th</b>                          | <b>3.00%</b>   | <b>\$ 525.00</b>    |

**34 or more boats and 8<sup>th</sup> place will pay out over \$500!!**

### **Big Fish Payouts:**

Big Fish payout will also be 100% of the prize pool, Total funds distributed as follows:

**Big Fish Day 1 = 50%**

**Big Fish Day 2 = 50%**

**Note:**

If a big fish sponsor is secured, 100% of those funds will be added to the prize pool. Eg 35 boats x \$50.00 per team = \$1750.00 +\$1500.00 Total big fish payout = \$3250.00

**Big Fish Sponsors, and total big fish buy in will be announced at the rules meeting.**

## SAWT Angler and Team of The Year Points Schedule:

This points schedule will be used to determine standings throughout the year and will be used to determine the team of the year.

### Point scale for Overall standings:

| Place →Points |          |
|---------------|----------|
| 1st →100      | 21st →80 |
| 2nd →99       | 22nd →79 |
| 3rd →98       | 23rd →78 |
| 4th →97       | 24th →77 |
| 5th →96       | 25th →76 |
| 6th →95       | 26th →75 |
| 7th →94       | 27th →74 |
| 8th →93       | 28th →73 |
| 9th →92       | 29th →72 |
| 10th →91      | 30th →71 |
| 11th →90      | 31st →70 |
| 12th →89      | 32nd →69 |
| 13th →88      | 33rd →68 |
| 14th →87      | 34th →67 |
| 15th →86      | 35th →66 |
| 16th →85      | 36th →65 |
| 17th →84      | 37th →64 |
| 18th →83      | 38th →63 |
| 19th →82      | 39th →62 |
| 20th →81      | 40th →61 |
| 40+ =25points |          |

Any remaining teams that register and check-in (but place 40+) → 25

DNF / No Score (fished but disqualified / rules violation) → 0

No Show (did not check-in / did not fish) → 0

## Team of the Year Rules

- **Eligibility**
  - To be eligible for **Team of the Year**, teams must compete in **three (3) of four (4) SAWT events**.
  - Points will be counted from your best 3 events
  - The same two anglers must fish together for 3 of the events to be eligible for Team of the Year points.
- **Points System**
  - Team of the Year standings will be determined using the **SAWT Overall Points Scale**.
  - Points are awarded based on each team's **final placement in each event**.
  - Only events fished with the **same registered team** will count toward Team of the Year points.
- **Team of the Year Determination**
  - The team with the **highest total points** at the end of the season will be crowned **SAWT Team of the Year**.
- **Tie-Breaker**
  - In the event of a tie in total points, the tie will be broken by:
    - The team with the **largest single-day 5-fish basket (by total weight)** recorded during any SAWT event that season.

## Angler of the Year Rules

- **Eligibility**
  - To be eligible for **Angler of the Year**, an individual angler must compete in **three (3) of four (4) SAWT events**..
  - The angler must fish **at least two (2) of the three (3) events with different partners**.
  - Partners must be officially registered for each event.
  - AOY can be a Captain, or a Co
- **Points System**
  - Angler of the Year standings will be determined using the **SAWT Overall Points Scale**.
  - Points are awarded based on the angler's **final team placement in each event**.
  - Points earned by the angler will count regardless of partner, provided all eligibility requirements are met.
- **Angler of the Year Determination**
  - The angler with the **highest total points** at the end of the season will be crowned **SAWT Angler of the Year**.
- **Tie-Breaker**
  - In the event of a tie in total points, the tie will be broken by:
    - The angler with the **largest single-day 5-fish basket (by total weight)** recorded during any SAWT event that season.