

## FIGURE 8 MUSKY CLUB 2025 NEWSLETTER

Hello all!

Welcome to the 29<sup>th</sup> year of the Figure 8 Musky. I want to begin by saying thank you to everyone for all the help in my first year. I hope everyone enjoyed the year and was able to put a few fish in the boat. Now that winter is coming to a close, we can all start thinking about getting the boats ready for summer fishing again!

### UPCOMING MEETINGS

Again, I want to thank everyone for the great turnout we have been having at the meetings. It's nice to get together throughout the year, bounce ideas off each other and talk fishing. The next meeting will be May 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at Remi's Reel Em Inn in Cecil. This is the spring meeting for league. We will have two new things going on this year that were brought up at the fall and winter meetings. These are both optional and do not need to be participated in. First will be a Yearly Big Fish Pot which was proposed by Mark Shepard and had a lot of interest. Second Nick Kellet proposed doing a Calcutta for the Wednesday night fishing league. If you are interested in either of these, you can sign up or participate at the Spring meeting. Quarterly meetings will continue to be on the first Wednesday of February, May, August, and November.

### SEASON NOTES

Over the past summer and fall we have had a lot of things happen. Congratulations to the league winner's 1<sup>st</sup>-Randy Lohff, 2<sup>nd</sup>- Hudson Van Ert, 3<sup>rd</sup> Pat Gowey. Overall numbers seem to be increasing with the first spotted fish starting to show up in league hopefully this is a sign of what's to come.

We did have the Mid-Season Outing again this year and overall participation was low. We are going to look to change that up this year watch for more details to come.

Lastly, we had our Fall Outing up at Deer Path Resort. No fish were caught but there were some missed opportunities. This outing continues to be a lot of fun, Deer Path is an outstanding place to stay and treats us great. This year the outing will be held on **October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at Krull's Deer Path Resort**. As of right now we have told Jay to only keep the cabins that we had for last year so please if you plan on attending **plan ahead and get your cabin reserved**. This is a great time to get some Northwoods musky fishing in on the lake of your choosing and sit around in the cabin's afterwards and talk fishing with everyone.

### STOCKING / DNR UPDATES

This fall the club along with the help of Dave's Musky Club was able to stock 344 musky. Upper Red Lake (Gresham) received 188 and Cloverleaf Lakes Chain received 156. These fish were Wisconsin strain musky from Gollons Fish Farm. As of now this will be the last of Wisconsin strain musky that we will be allowed to stock.

Next, we got the great news that the WDNR was going to be stocking. This turned into a very cool event thanks to Mike Homan a club member and teacher at the Shawano Middle School who took the opportunity to get the kids out and learn about the fishery. The kids got to go out and stock fish throughout the lake, learn from the DNR, and practice casting musky poles and lures. Thanks to everyone that helped with the day and making it a great event. For the entire year of stocking the Shawano Lake system ended up receiving 4143 large fingerling Great Lakes Strain Musky. This was a much needed stocking and hopefully this will continue and we will see Shawano get back to where it used to be.

Lastly, we have a new fish biologist, Elliot Hoffman. Elliot has worked in the Shawano office for many years and has a great deal of knowledge on Shawano Lake and the surrounding area. To say he has been excellent to work with would be an understatement. In his first year as the biologist, he has put in great effort with the movement study and procuring fish for stocking. I will work with Elliot to set up a meeting next winter to talk about the latest fish and movement study's on Shawano.

### BANQUET

We will be having a Fall Banquet again this year. This will be our main money maker so the more people we can have attend the better. Date will be announced mid-summer.

### Donations/ Sponsorships

This past winter we donated 500 dollars and 6 beaver dam tip-ups to the Badgerland Kids Classic ice fishing tournament. Special thanks to Gene Fischer for picking up the tip-ups and Mark and Karissa Shepard for personalizing them with the Figure 8 logo. The club also bought a sponsorship with Walleyes for Tomorrow for the walleye wagon for 300 dollars.

### IN CLOSING

The other two things enclosed are membership forms and a schedule for league and club outings. I waited a bit longer with this letter and membership forms this year in hopes we can get a lot of the memberships turned in before league so that is one less thing to worry about on the first night. Anyone interested in Figure 8 apparel can go on Bolin's Speedy T's website and find the store that is set up for the club. You can also follow updates on the club website [www.figure8muskyclub.com](http://www.figure8muskyclub.com). Hope to see everyone this year at some or all the events and please spread the word about the club. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out anytime!

Thanks,

Nick Bystol

1-715-304-9409