

NOWT Championship Qualification Process

The championship will consist of a field made up of anglers qualifying from their previous years fishing. There will be a total of 40 spots available for the 2025 Championship to be hosted in Longlac. The 40 spots will be allocated as follows: 7 spots from the previous years sanctioned NOWT tournament winners with the remaining spots to fill the 40-team field based on the previous years Angler of the Year Points ranking. Starting from the highest-ranking individual and moving down the rankings until all 40 teams are determined.

Qualification criteria for the 7 NOWT tournament winners:

These 7 spots will be awarded to a team that places first in one of the 7 sanctioned NOWT events in the qualifying year.

The qualification requirements are outlined below:

- First Place in one of the seven sanctioned NOWT events for the qualifying season.
- Must fish a minimum of three sanctioned NOWT events in the qualifying season.
- Only one championship entry will be awarded to the winning team.
- If both anglers fish at least 3 sanctioned events in the qualifying season, they must either fish together as a team or only one of the anglers can fish the championship under the awarded spot with another unqualified angler.
- If only one of the two members of the team competes in three sanctioned events the championship entry will be awarded only to the qualified angler. The qualified angler can then choose his or her partner according to NOWT championship rules.
- If an angler qualifies for the championship both by winning a sanctioned event as well as earning enough points from the previous years AOY race to secure a top 40 spot, the angler will be required to use the top AOY spot.

Qualification criteria for the remaining spots to fill the 40-team field. These spots are assigned based on the Angler of the Year points:

Angler of the Year points calculation process and formula:

- Anglers are awarded points at each of the seven events. Points gained from their top three tournaments will be used to determine NOWT angler of the year ranking.
- The points system is calculated as follows $(1 - (\text{team placing} / \text{size of field})) \times 100$ ex. the first-place team of a 55-team event is as follows $(1 - (1/55)) \times 100 = 98.182$ points. same example with 115 teams would be $(1 - (1/115)) \times 100 = 99.130$ points.
- 10 bonus points will be given to each team that launches at least 1 day. This means a team finishing last will get 10 points for their participation. Disqualification from tournament due to rule violation results in 0 points.
- Only points gained in the anglers top three finishes among the seven events will be used to determine the "Angler of the Year" points and ranking.

- Should two or more anglers tie at the end of the year with “Angler of the Year” points the rankings will be determined by their fourth best event. If this does not break the tie the fifth tournament rank will be used and so on using all seven events. If this does not break the tie the anglers will be deemed to be ranked the same.

Qualifying anglers may choose to fish with another qualified angler or a partner of their choice.

In the event that two individuals tie for the 40th and final NOWT championship spot based on the Angler of the Year rankings, both individuals will be eligible to fish the NOWT Championship together or separately.

If the tied individuals decide to fish separately, the Championship field will have an extra spot allocated based on Angler of the Year ranking.

Notice of Championship Invitation

Anglers who have qualified for the championship will receive a formal invite from the NOWT board of directors the second week of October (email or phone call).

Anglers will have one week to submit their intention to fish the event and must supply the following information:

- Both angler’s names and addresses
- Copy of boat insurance
- Copy of boat operator(s) card(s) or number
- Team bios and photos
- Signed Photographic and video consent and release form
- Championship anglers will be required to pay a \$300 entry fee (80% of the entry fee will be used to supplement the prize pool for the championship.)

It is the Anglers responsibility to register with the host tournament immediately following their confirmation with the NOWT board to fish the event

It is the Angler responsibility to pay for any host tournament registration fees

Host Tournaments will be given advanced notice of qualified Championship competitors

Host tournaments will reserve 40 spots in the tournament for championship participants.

In the event that a team drops out of the championship with more than two weeks prior to the Championship event the NOWT reserves the right to fill the position with the next highest ranked individual on the previous year’s angler of the year ranking.

In the event that a team drops out of the championship with less than two weeks prior to the Championship event the NOWT reserves the right to not fill the spot.

NOWT Championship Rules

The event will run simultaneously with an NOWT event

Championship teams must abide by the rules of the NOWT sanctioned tournament

Championship teams will compete in both the championship as well as the NOWT sanctioned event

Championship teams are eligible for prizes in the championship as well as the NOWT sanctioned event

The championship winner will be determined by the team weighing the heaviest two-day weight

In the event that two teams tie with the same weight the following tie breaker procedure will be used:

1. Heaviest day 1 weight
2. Angler of the Year rank from previous year
3. Flip a Coin

Code of Conduct

- Anglers attending the championship event will be representing the NOWT and it is expected that the anglers act in a professional manner.
- NOWT Championship anglers are expected to be aware of and respect the rules of the individual tournament hosting the Championship. There may be differences in rules among the seven events so it is recommended that anglers take the time to carefully read the rules prior to participating.
- We expect all Championship anglers to take the utmost care with their fish to ensure a safe return to the lake.
- Maximum courtesy must be practiced at all times, particularly with regard to boating and fishing in the vicinity of non-competitors and competitors alike.
- All competitors must practice safe boating at all times during practice and tournament fishing.
- All competitors should demonstrate a respectful attitude toward host volunteers and officials, NOWT volunteers and officials and sponsors.
- Violations in the NOWT code of conduct or an individual tournament violation may result in the immediate disqualification of the angler from the NOWT championship.
- Any disqualification of an angler from the NOWT Championship will be made via a majority vote of the Board of Directors. These decisions are final and no reimbursement of any fees will be made.