IT’S A NEW YEAR WITH GOOD FISHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO

Yes, it’s a new year, and hopefully a great year for all of you and your families. We hope too, that’s it’s a great year for Striper Fishing on Lake Norfork.

The LNSC Board of Directors is always looking for ways to improve our meetings and tournaments so that your membership continues to be a valuable part of your fishing life. This year there are a couple of changes, plus a few items of importance to share.

First of all, there are some changes to the tournaments for 2019. Over the years, the tournament entry fees have been paid out in full to the top three places. The tournament raffle rod & reel, or alternate choice, has been paid out of club funds that come basically from your dues and any money made from the club meeting raffles. This year the entry fee for one day tournaments will be raised from $5 to $10. Payouts will actually be higher, and thirty percent of the total entry fees will go back to the club to fund the tournament raffle prize. This will allow the club to offer more meeting raffle prizes of higher value and help fund other programs, equipment or events for our club. Please see page 3 for full details and examples of the tournament changes.

Also, we are discontinuing the multiple bucket raffle, so our raffles will now be that all tickets are in one bucket and each winner will get his or her pick of remaining raffle items on the table. This appears to be favored by a majority of members.

Please! Donate unused fishing related items for our raffle. We all have good items we no longer use, but ones that others would love to have a chance to win. This will give us a better selection and allow us to continually buy better items for the raffle, making it more fun for all of us.
2019 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

March 16th: Saturday, 6:30am – 11:30am

Weigh-in at Henderson Campgrounds launch ramp. Live bait or artificial bait are allowable for this tournament. $10.00 entry fee for each person.

April 27th: Saturday, 6:00am – 11:00am

Weigh-in at Henderson Campgrounds launch ramp. Live bait or artificial bait are allowable for this tournament. $10.00 entry fee for each person.

May 17th & 18th: Friday & Saturday, 5:30am Friday – 10:00am Saturday

Two weigh-ins at the Henderson Campgrounds launch ramp on Friday at 10:00am and on Saturday at 10:00 am. Live bait or artificial bait are allowable for this tournament. Entry fee is $20.00 per person and a $5.00 big fish entry (optional). The single biggest fish weighed in pays out 100% of the big fish entry pot. Each contestant in any boat that has entered the big fish contest must also pay the big fish entry fee. Contestants may weigh up to 3 fish at any time, but no more than a total of 3 fish will be weighed in for the tournament. When the 3 fish limit is reached there will be no culling allowed. Total weight for up to 3 fished weighed in will determine the winner.

June 13th: Thursday, 5:15am – 10:00am

Weigh-in at the Quarry Park Launch ramp. Artificial bait only allowed for this tournament. Entry fee is $10.00 per person.

July 18th: Thursday, 5:15am - 10:00am

Weigh-in at the Quarry Park Launch ramp. Artificial bait only allowed for this tournament. Entry fee is $10.00 per person.

August 15th: Thursday, 5:45am – 10:30am

Weigh-in at the Quarry Park Launch ramp. Artificial bait only allowed for this tournament. Entry fee is $10.00 per person.

September 13th & 14th: Friday & Saturday, 6:00am Friday 10:00am Saturday - (same rules as May)

October 5th: Saturday, 6:30am – 12:00pm

Weigh-in at Henderson Campgrounds launch ramp. Live bait or artificial bait are allowable for this tournament. $10.00 entry fee for each person.
LAKE NORFORK STRIPER CLUB 2019 TOURNAMENT RULES

1. LNSC tournaments will be confined to the boundaries of Lake Norfork.
2. All USCG and MDOC rules and regulations must be followed.
3. Anyone ticketed for violation will be disqualified and ineligible for club tournaments for one year.
4. Anyone breaking the tournament rules as set by the tournament committee will be disqualified and ineligible for tournaments for one year.
5. Only LNSC family members and children 18 yrs. old and under (and/or still in High School) may fish club tournaments. Children must be registered and pay the same entry fee as adults. Children compete as equals with adults and are eligible for the same prizes. Active military and National Guard may fish our tournaments without a LNSC membership if they are fishing with an LNSC member. They pay tournament entry fees only. They will be asked to show their active military card.
6. Starting times will be posted for each tournament on the tournament schedule. You may be on the water 30 min. before official starting time, but you may not have a line in the water until the starting time.
7. A minimum of 10 entrants are needed to hold a tournament. In the event there are fewer than 10 entrants, the event will be cancelled. In the event the tournament is cancelled; all attempts will be made to hold it one week later if we meet the 10 entrants minimum.
8. For all tournaments, Stripers and Hybrids are treated equally, i.e. 20-inch min. length.
9. Entry fee for all one-day tournaments will be $10.00 per person. The entry fee for two-day tournaments will be $20.00 per person.
10. The payout at one-day tournaments will be 70% of the entry money;
   
   **Example: 20 entries = $200.00 received**
   
   **70% payout = $140.00**
   
   1. 1st place 50% = $70.00
   2. 2nd place 30% = $42.00
   3. 3rd place 20% = $28.00

   Leaving $60.00 to apply toward the rod & reel drawing

   Payout will only be for the places awarded. If no fish are weighed in (in any category), the entry fee for that category will go into the LNSC treasury. No fish weighed in, all the money will go into the LNSC treasury.

11. Payout for two-day tournaments will be 80% of the entry money;

   **Example: 20 entries = $400.00 received**

   **80% payout = $320.00**

   1. 1st place 40% = $128.00
   2. 2nd place 30% = $96.00
   3. 3rd place 20% = $64.00

   (continued on next page)
Leaving $80.00 to apply towards the rod & reel drawing

Big Fish winner will receive 100% of the big fish pot. $5.00 to enter big fish and all contestants in the boat must be entered.

Payout will only be for the places awarded. If no fish are weighed in (in any category), the entry fee for that category will go into the LNSC treasury. No fish weighed in, all the money will go into the LNSC treasury.

12. The prize drawing will be held at the weigh-in. Registered and paid-up entrants must be present at the weigh-in to get a ticket for the drawing.

13. All entrants must register with the tournament director no later than 5:00 pm. of the evening before each tournament, either by mail, phone call, or in person.

14. If you register, you must pay even if you end up not fishing. Entrants must pay by the time of the weigh-in. If entry fees are not paid promptly, entrant will be ineligible to fish future tournaments until after the delinquent payment is made. NO REFUNDS except for a cancelled tournament. All pre-paid entries for cancelled tournaments will be returned or credited toward the next scheduled tournament. (entrants' choice).

15. There will be a point system to determine the “Angler of the Year”. It is as follows;
   a. 10 points for entering tournaments
   b. 1 point for each ounce of your total fish weight. Applies only to your largest fish in the single day tournaments. In two-day tournaments, points will be awarded for up to a maximum of three fish total.
   c. Points will be awarded per placing in the top five for each tournament. 10 points for 1st place; 8 points for 2nd place; 6 points for 3rd place; 4 points for 4th place; and 2 points for 5th.

16. Rules and/or dates may be subject to change by the tournament committee if needed. Check the tournament schedule for more information.

**Decision of the Tournament Director is final!**

*If storm approaches, play it safe and get to a shelter.*

*Please use your own judgement.*

**Tournament Director: Forrest (Moose) West**

*Email: moosew@centurytel.net*

*Phone: 870-847-4088*
President’s Message

Remember where you were on Feb 23rd, 2004?

Red Van Scoyoc and Ron Schneider were leading an informational meeting about Striper stocking on Lake Norfork. It was hosted in the Fellowship Hall at Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Among those attending were State Representatives Johnny Key and Shawn Womack, as well as local and Little Rock Fish & Game reps. This led to the start of the Lake Norfork Striper Club on March 8th, 2004. A copy of the minutes from that first meeting of the club will be posted on the message board shortly.

So, as we go into this New Year of 2019, it is my hope that the club will continue to thrive and be a voice in the community. Help where you can, be involved when asked, and continue to support. Remember the new Tournament rules, and come fish them as often as you can. Or just show up to hear the stories afterwards. Keep the reports coming, both successful and not.

Wishing you and yours all the Best in the New Year,
Ron Schneider, President

JANUARY 2019

This coming meeting will be about fishing with live bait. When I started fishing these lakes, I read books and lots of articles about fishing stripers. Fishing Lake Norfork is not the same as the northern lakes where most of the fishing is in shallow water compared to here. Some of the best information I got on Striper fishing came from fishermen in our own club.

Finding stripers is only part of the job. Catching them is the other part of the job. Some of the methods are fishing live bait, jigging, casting, trolling with shallow and deep diving lures, trolling with snap weights and downriggers.

This meeting on Monday Jan. 28, we will be talking fish locations, live bait, rod & reels, types of fishing line & leaders, hooks, how to rig your outfits and fishing tactics. Also, there will discussions on fishing with balloons and planer boards.

There will be a table set up with rigged rods & reels along with everything mentioned above, except live bait.

I am looking forward to seeing you all there. John Gerard
LNSC FISHING REPORT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Your submitted fishing reports have been a very important feature of club membership. They are greatly appreciated by all. Thanks to all anglers who have, and continue to share this valuable information.

For 2018 the program will change and be even better for all participants. Details are as follow:

A quarterly special drawing will be held for each reporting period. **Drawing prize:** A choice of new Rod & Reel or $75 Pre-Paid Visa Card.

**Reporting Periods are:**

A. January 1 to April 20\(^{th}\). Drawing at April 23\(^{rd}\) meeting.
B. April 21 to June 22\(^{nd}\). Drawing at the June 25\(^{th}\) meeting.
C. June 23\(^{rd}\) to Sept. 22\(^{nd}\). Drawing at the Sept. 24\(^{th}\) meeting.
D. Sept 23 to Dec. 6\(^{th}\). Drawing at the Christmas party.

Participants do **NOT** have to be present to win.

**PROGRAM RULES:**

1. 15 maximum reports eligible per period. (more appreciated).
2. Report date must be no later than one day after fishing date.
3. Area fished
4. Water depth where fish were hooked
5. Depth fish were at when hooked
6. Catch kept or released
7. Fishing method (bait, trolling, spooning, etc.)
8. Bait/lure used
9. Time of day & general lake conditions.
10. Your Name.
11. Pictures optional –Always appreciated by members. (pictures of lures also appreciated.

**Note:** Only the angler submitting the report shall be credited with the report. Reports when no fish are caught also count and are greatly appreciated.
Happy New Year to all. I hope the fantastic weather we have been having is allowing you to get out on the lake and do a little fishing. Norfork Lake is one of the best lakes I have had the opportunity to fish and I enjoy it most every day. Even though I have been out of pocket for the last couple of weeks I am back out on the lake finding and catching fish. Yesterday (1/7) was my first day out on the lake for 2019 and I spent the day traveling to different parts of the lake, doing a lot of graphing and looking for striped bass with very little fishing. Today was a different story. I retraced my travels from yesterday to the spots where I found fish. My first area at about 8AM was the Cranfield and Pigeon Creek area. I found bait and fish, but very few takers. I fished this area for about an hour with little luck then headed to a mid-lake creek that the wind was blowing into. Again I found scattered bait with fish following, and this time they were feeding. The fish were 40 to 60 feet down. The hybrids and whites were in the 40 - 50 foot range and the deeper fish were stripers. I was vertical jigging with a spoon and caught many big whites, a hybrid and 2 striped bass. I was jigging for the suspended fish 60 feet down and a small school of big fish came under me on the bottom at 80 feet so I dropped my spoon to the bottom. The spoon did not have a chance to hit the bottom as a striper just inhaled the spoon and the fight was on. The fish in this area were scattered though out the deeper water so I had to keep moving around until I located them. I finally decided to move to my next location and was pleasantly surprised to find a lot of active fish. I was in between the two bridges in 90 to 100 feet of water. This time I found schools of fish only 20 to 40 down, but lots of them. They would not hit my spoon jigging, but when I dropped it though the fish and reeled up fast though them they hammered it before the spoon got to the surface. One of the striped bass caught here hit the spoon almost on the surface then took a straight down dive to about 60 feet before I could turn its head. It ended up being a nice 14 pound fish. I ended up catching fish all the way up to 2PM, when I decided it was time to go home, but the fish were still there.

Winter time fishing can be a blast. The fish, as you have read, can be at any depth from surface all the way down to the bottom, located in very deep water. I did have a couple of live baits out part of the time and never got a bite on them, but they liked my spoon. Each place that I fished today are typical winter time locations based on prior years experience. It does take some time to locate the fish, but when you do, hang on. I still only use 8 pound test monofilament line so I do have my drag set a little loose. What is a little different this year, so far, is that the fish and bait typically move into the deep channels, but I am finding them near the channel or on very deep flats, but not in the channel.

Nothing to report on other species at this time as I am just getting back into the groove. But winter time bass and crappie fishing are both typically very good and lots of fun.

The lake is in great shape and the fishing is looking to be a lot of fun.

Happy Fishing and see you on the lake,
Lou

(This report posted on January 8th)  Watch for updates on hummingbird-hideaway.com
The White River system reservoirs of Table Rock, Bull Shoals and Norfork are nationally-known for their high-quality fishing and incomparable beauty. Looking at a map of Missouri or Arkansas, you quickly notice that none of these lakes lie entirely in either state. Their location on the Missouri- Arkansas state line has caused confusion among anglers about fishing regulations. On Bull Shoals Lake, for example, an angler going from Pontiac to Oakland could cross the state line three times in less than two miles. Of course, fishing regulations change with each crossing. To simplify matters, the Missouri Department of Conservation and the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission have worked cooperatively to streamline regulations on these shared waters, as well as to improve fishing. One new development should relieve border concerns for anglers fishing these waters. Beginning March 1, 2001, Missouri residents age 16 years and older who fish the Arkansas portions of Table Rock, Bull Shoals, or Norfork lakes will no longer be required to purchase a non-resident Arkansas fishing license. Thanks to a recent agreement between the Arkansas Game & Fish Commission and Missouri Department of Conservation, residents of Missouri and Arkansas who possess a valid resident fishing permit from their respective states may also purchase a $10 White River Border Lakes Permit each year. The permit allows anglers to fish all three lakes in their entirety, saving them more than $20 per year!

**Alabama Rig Regulations For the State of Missouri**

The Alabama, umbrella and similar rigs may be fished in Missouri so long as they use only three lures or baits. The remaining attachment points can include similar baits so long as their hooks have been removed or other hook-less attractors such as spinner blades are used. This rig is intended to be fished using a rod and reel.

The Alabama rigs we have seen have more than three wires and attachment points. These rigs may be used but only with up to three hooks. (Each bait or lure counts as a hook.) The additional wires and attachment points can be used. However, whatever is attached may not include a hook. You may also clip the extra wires and attachment points off or not use them at all.
Identification of Striper, Wiper, White Bass, and White Perch

Similar appearances, varying length and creel limits, and the recent appearance of the aquatic nuisance species, the white perch, make proper identification of the striped bass, striped bass hybrid (or wiper), white bass, and white perch very important for Kansas anglers. White perch have become established in Cheney and Wilson reservoir and Kingman State Fishing Lake. White perch are capable of out competing native fish for food and space. Therefore, anglers are prohibited from moving white perch from one body of water to another. The following information will aid in the identification by providing distinguishing characteristics of each species. Individuals in a species and differing water conditions may impact the ease of identification and close examination may be needed. There is no daily creel limit on white bass or white perch. Creel limits on wipers and striped bass is 2/day statewide, check your regs for combined/aggregate limits at some lakes.

**STRIPED BASS**
- Common to reach and exceed 20 pounds
- Back of tongue has TWO tooth patches
- Slender bodied, less than one-third length
- Spiny and soft dorsal fins not connected, both fins do not pop-up when spiny dorsal manually erected

**WIPER**
- May exceed 10 pounds
- Back of tongue has TWO tooth patches
- Deep bodied, more than one-third length
- Spiny and soft dorsal fins not connected, both fins do not pop-up when spiny dorsal manually erected

**WHITE BASS**
- Seldom exceeds 3 pounds
- Back of tongue has ONE tooth patch
- Deep bodied, more than one-third length
- Spiny and soft dorsal fins not connected, both fins do not pop-up when spiny dorsal manually erected

**WHITE PERCH**
- Seldom exceeds 1 pound
- Deep bodied, deepest part just in front of or at the beginning of the spiny dorsal fin
- Spiny and soft dorsal fins connected, both fins pop-up when spiny dorsal manually erected
- No distinct stripes

Artwork by Joseph R. Tomelleri
Lake Norfork Striper Club  
Membership Application

Applicant’s Name ____________________________ Email ____________________________  
Mailing Address ______________________________________________________________  
Home Ph. _______________________ Cell Ph. _____________________ Date ___________  
New Membership $20 - $25 Family - Include with Application. * Annual Renewals are $15 per member and $20 per family.  
Membership includes full access to the LNSC website and message board. Members also receive our monthly newsletter via e-mail. The message board and newsletters bring tournament results, club news and continual updates on fishing and water conditions.
LAKE NORFORK STRIPER CLUB

115 Excaliber Pl.
Mountain Home, AR. 72653

JANUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER
www.norforkstripers.org

Next Meeting
Monday, January 28th - 7pm at
the Eastside Baptist Church

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