

WML Fishing Club Minutes

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

Attendees:

Name
Benjamin Peretto
Frank Bianchi
Jeff Wadleigh
Keith Small
Ken Trickilo
Lauren Bianchi
Marty Sweinhart

The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 8:06 p.m. in person in the Trophy Room at the WML Clubhouse. We had a moment of silence for Gerry Primavera.

1. December 2025 Minutes approved.
2. Old Business:
 - Cash Tournament Letter: We provided Lake our cash tournament letter in May 2025 and have not heard any updates since. We would like to have information before the 2026 Fishing Season starts. Representatives of Fishing Club will attend the February Board Meeting and read the letter during Good & Welfare.
 - 2026 Contest Calendar reminder:

2026 Contest Calendar

***Excludes Carp**

Date	Type	Name	Species
April 1-Sept. 30	Adult + Kid	Carp Rodeo	Carp
4-Apr	Adult + Kid	Opening Day Fishing Contest	Any*
17-May	Adult + Kid	Fishing Contest	Walleye/ Bass
13-Jun	Adult + Kid	Fishing Contest	Any*
TBD	Adult	Evening Catfish Contest/ Gathering	Catfish
18-Jul	Kid	Festival Weekend Kids Fishing Contest	Any*
9-Aug	Kid	Fishing Contest	Any*
20-Sep	Adult + Kid	Ray Shanahan Bass Contest	Bass

3. Fishing Club Updates and information
 - Distribution List was updated to active members (attended at least 1 meeting in the past 12 months).

- Meetings will now be the 4th Wednesday of the month at 8 pm. Next meeting is February 25.
4. Discuss Trout Stocking
 - Qty of fish and sizes-Fishing Club agreed to spend about ½ the Gamefish budget on trout (similar to what we did in previous years). We want to order:
 - One 21-23" tagged trout
 - 200: 12"-14" trout
 - 50: 14"-15" trout
 - Delivery and tax
 - Potential dates for Stocking Event-Will request **March 28, hopefully Mucky is available.**
 - Logistics of Stocking Event
 - Suggestions for improvement include: Post NO FISHING signs before the event. Put sponsor request in the newsletter. Try and get a donation of bagels for 2026 (otherwise WMLFC will pay from budget line). Have more cocoa, less coffee. Buy munchkins again, Give a raffle ticket to each kid in attendance and raffle off prizes. Request photos from parents to include in the newsletter.
 - Volunteers needed to call Sponsors for 2026 Trophy Trout. We currently have 14 companies/ people on the Sponsor List. We average about 5 sponsored trout per year. We will also have a standing sponsor request in the newsletter. Cost is \$150 and pays for a trout and a \$50 prize.
 5. 2026 Kid/ Adult classes-need to discuss dates to get it into the calendar
 - Clinic to teach casting-will reach out to Cubscouts for date/ time
 - Lure selection-TBD
 - Tying knots-TBD
 - Lure making-May 30 or 31 at Beach 3 gazebo. Put in Newsletter (March, April, May)
 - Fly fishing-TBD
 6. 2026 Potential Club Activities
 - Group fishing trip to Lake Hopatcong
 - Group Fishing Trip to Delaware River
 - Mid-year evening fishing and hangout
 - End of year party-trophies for kids who won contests
 - Field trip to Musky Trout Hatchery
 7. Lake Committee January updates briefly discussed.
 8. Other Topics-How can we increase membership in Fishing Club?
 - Organize different fishing trips
 - Offer cash prizes for contests
 - Have contests that require fish to be weighed in. Members voted to spend budget money on a scale.
 - Create a WMLFC Facebook page for active Fishing Club members to join.

The meeting was officially adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Minutes written by Lauren Bianchi

The next meeting is: February 25, 2026

Date: May 29, 2025

Dear Lake Committee,

In an effort to enhance participation and foster friendly competition, White Meadow Lake Fishing Club proposes implementing an entry fee for our fishing contests. These fees would be used to cover the cost of an official to oversee weigh stations and fund a cash prize for the participant who catches the heaviest fish.

Previously, WML Fishing Club was advised that charging entry fees could be considered gambling, which is prohibited under New Jersey Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) regulations and could potentially jeopardize our liquor license. However, according to the NJ ABC Handbook (page 33, section on gambling), the prohibition does **not** apply to tournaments in which skill is the determining factor.

To ensure compliance with this provision, WML Fishing Club proposes adopting a rule similar to the NJ Bass Federation's official tournament regulations, prohibiting the use of live, dead, or prepared bait. By requiring participants to fish exclusively with artificial lures, the outcome of our contests would be determined solely by an angler's knowledge and skill, including lure selection based on weather conditions, water temperature, fishing techniques, and targeted fish species.

We would still allow a non-entry aspect of each contest, where the contestant can send photos and compete for a WML fishing club prize.

We kindly request that the Lake Committee confirm this interpretation with legal counsel. Upon receiving approval, we would like to proceed with instituting a nominal entry fee for our fishing contests.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to your guidance on this matter.

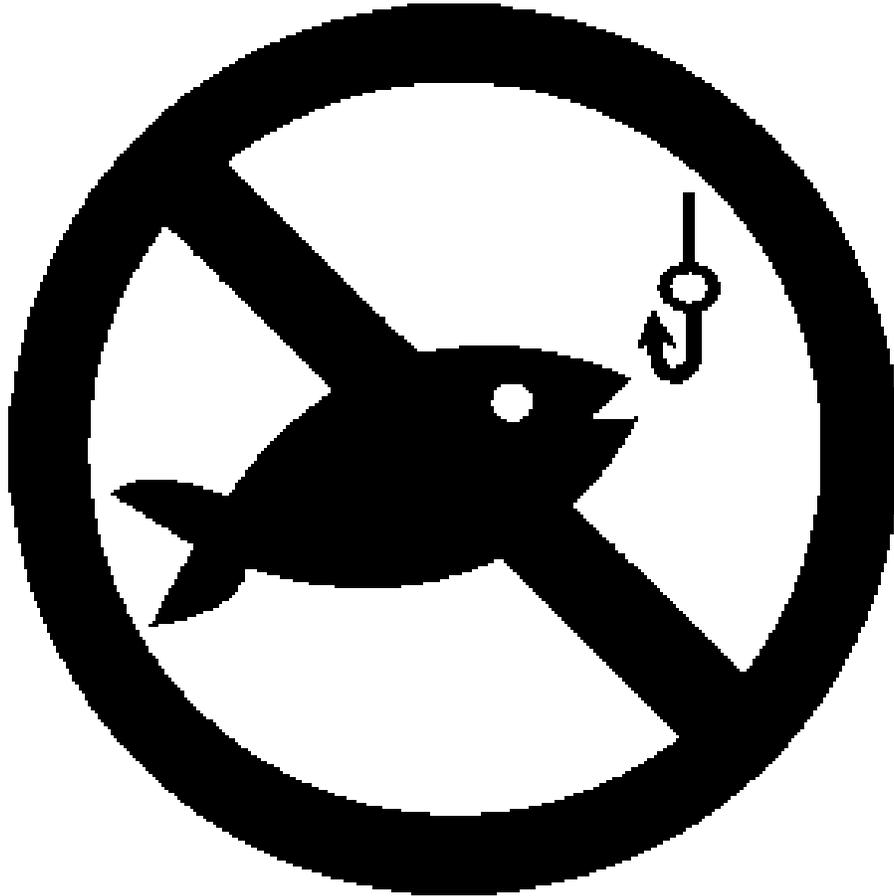
Best Regards,

White Meadow Lake Fishing Club

NOTICE

MARCH 28 until April 1

NO FISHING



April 1 until APRIL 3

NO TROUT FISHING

If trout are caught, release immediately.