

# 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

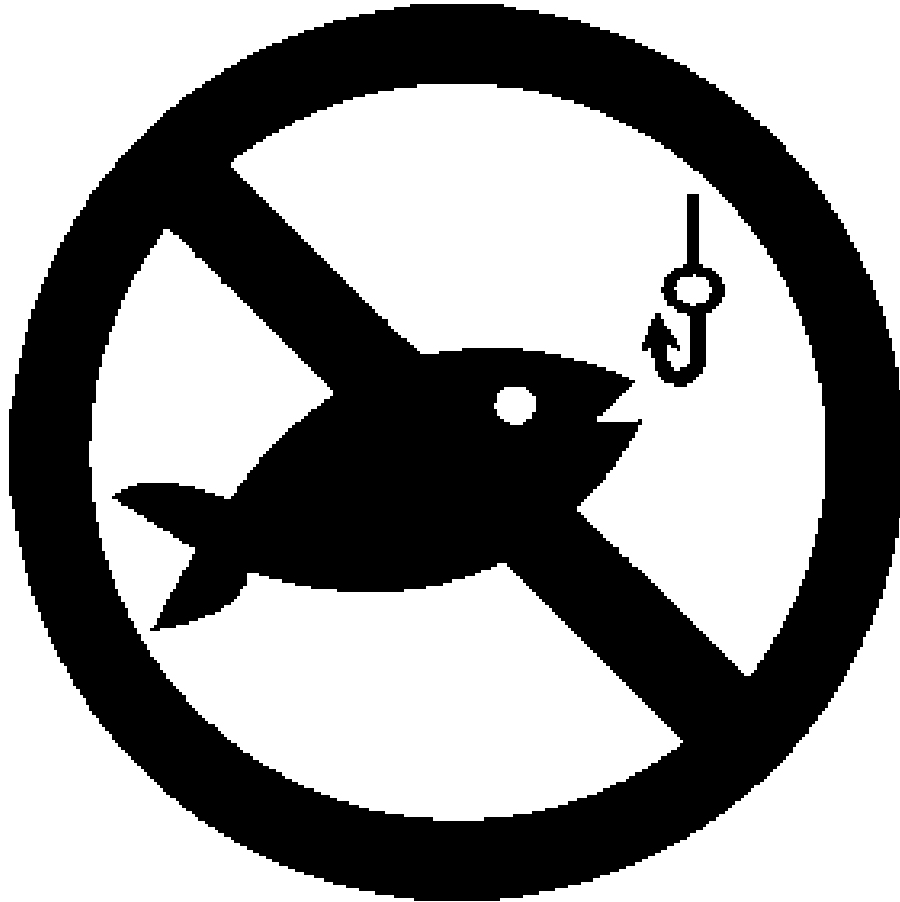
Best Regards,

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.**

# WML Fishing Club Minutes

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

Attendees:

Name
Benjamin Peretto
John D
Keith Small
Ken Trickilo
Tom Grobleski

The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 8:05 p.m. in person in the Trophy Room at the WML Clubhouse. Thank you, Keith for running the meeting tonight!

1. January 2026 Minutes approved.
2. Old Business:
  - Cash Tournament Letter: Discussed the fishing tournament fee. Not sure which event, but this came up years ago (not fishing) and it was knocked down because of our 501 nonprofit status. We will bring to March Board Meeting (March 18) to read the letter during Good & Welfare. A response is not expected, but will be requested.
  - 2026 Contest Calendar reminder:

## 2026 Contest Calendar

**\*Excludes Carp**

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

3. Fishing Club Updates and information
  - Reminder: Meetings will now be the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 8 pm. Next meeting is March 25, 2026.
  - Sponsored Trout-We need to give Musky the final quantity by March 18. Ben P will give an update to Lauren.

- Ken T brought in the trout check from Cafe Navona \$150,00. Keith to bring it to the office on Thursday.
- Lake would like us to revise the NO FISHING from March 28-April 3 and close the full lake for any fishing. Unanimous to keep the lake closed to ALL fish until opening day. Signs will be made and posted.
- Scale to weigh fish at designated contests, lure making kits, and raffle tickets for the trout stocking event purchased. The cost for these items is \$74.63 from Line 521.06.
- New Fishing Regulations go into effect February 17. The 2026 Freshwater Fishing Digest is available online. Some updates include: Official Opening Day of Trout Season is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in April going forward (I don't know if that is applicable for this year or begins next year), Removal of pre-season closure on trout-stocked lakes and ponds.

#### 4. Trout Stocking

- On March 28, we will have the Trout Stocking Event. Setup is at 7:30 AM on the lawn next to the Boathouse Ramp. Women's Club will have activities for the kids after the stocking. HOWEVER- If Lake is frozen, Kurt will open the lake with the Kubota if needed AND if the lawn is still snow covered refreshments can't be outdoors due to the electric cords. We will ask the Office if there is room inside as a contingency plan. That Saturday is also when 2nd boat spots are scheduled.
- We have ordered:
  - One 21-23" tagged trout-sponsored by WMLFC
  - 200: 12"-14" trout
  - 50: 14"-15" trout

The cost is \$2,927 from line 521.03 and motion passed at the February Board Meeting.

5. Other Events-We need to discuss dates at a future meeting to get it into the calendar-
  - Clinic to teach casting-will reach out to Cub scouts for date/ time-Sent a text, but no response.
  - Lure Making-There is a new system to request locations and times. It opens March 7. At that time, we will reserve Beach 3 for Lure Making on May 30 or May 31.
6. 2026 Potential Club Activities
  - Field trip to Musky Trout Hatchery-Jeff said we are welcome to visit the hatchery in May or June-ROAD TRIP!

The meeting was officially adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Minutes written by Keith Small and Lauren Bianchi

The next meeting is: March 25, 2026

# NOTICE

**MARCH 28 until April 3**

**NO FISHING**

