



## 2025 Derby Rules & Information

1. Derby Date: Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Location: Dakins Lake, Zearing Iowa
2. Iowa Fish & Wildlife regulations must be obeyed. Must have a current 2025 fishing license.
3. Children under 16 years of age are not required to have a license.
4. All fish must be kept alive for measuring and returned to the water. A dead fish will not be measured. (zip lock bags will be provided to transport fish to judges station) CATCH & RELEASE ONLY DERBY
5. Ice Derby Organizers will drill holes if you do not have an auger.
6. Bait (wax worms) will be available for purchase on site at the registration trailer.
7. Registration Fee: \$10.00 per person. Youth & Adult. Each paid / registered person will receive a derby tag.
8. Prizes: Adult, Youth, Tagged Fish & Door Prizes. (all youth will receive a prize)
9. All contestants must register before fishing. Each registrant will receive a tag with their registered derby #.
10. Youth – ages 15 and under. Will receive a youth tag with a registered derby #.
11. Pre-registration – go to [zearingiowa.com](http://zearingiowa.com) for registration form. (pre-registration not required)
12. Ice shacks and portable shelters are allowed. Cannot be placed over holes until contest starts.
13. Registration on-site starting at 6:30 a.m., February 15<sup>th</sup>, day of contest.
14. Contest rules meeting will be held at 7:30, prior to start of the contest.
15. Derby start time 8:00 a.m., Derby finish time 1:00 p.m.
16. No fish will be measured after 1:00 p.m., February 15<sup>th</sup>.
17. Derby boundaries – fish anywhere through the ice on Dakins Lake, Zearing IA. (upper or lower lakes)
18. Fish species for Derby: LMB, SMB, BLC, BLG, YP, CC, WL
19. All fish submitted will be measured for length, if tie (turn in time is tie breaker)
20. Judges decision is final on all fish and contest rules.
21. Prize distribution for the largest fish categories and tagged fish will begin after the derby results are finalized. (Not before 1pm) Contest Awards Location: Lake Shelter House
22. Tagged Fish: Black Crappie, Bluegill, Bass, Walleye, Yellow Perch have been tagged and released for the ice derby. Any tagged fish caught by a registered contestant during the derby hours will be awarded a cash prize. A tagged fish must be certified by a contest judge before release. No exceptions!
23. Fish Derby Prize Categories:
  - Adult largest overall fish, largest Bluegill and largest Crappie/Yellow Perch. By length per fish.
  - Youth largest overall fish, largest Bluegill and largest Crappie/Yellow Perch. By length per fish.
  - Top 3 places in each age division & fish category. (Adult & Youth)**One place prize per contestant.** You may turn in a larger, (longer) fish to replace an earlier entry.
  - Any remaining prizes will be random draw door prizes. Must be present to win
24. Organizers and Sponsors or anyone else concerned with the Dakins Lake Ice Fishing Derby are not responsible for any personal injuries or property damage.
25. By registering for the Dakins Lake Ice Fishing Derby you agree to abide by these rules even if you have not read them.
26. In the event that the Ice Derby must be postponed. This would be due to weather or unsafe ice conditions. An alternate date may be considered by Derby Officials. If the ice derby is cancelled, refunds will be made to any pre-registered contestants.
27. If any questions, call Jerry Johnson at 641-844-8110 or Dave Skinner at 515-290-3478.