

2026 Muskies Inc. Hayward Chapter Fall Tournament Electronic Fish Registration

September 25, 26 & 27, 2026

We are allowing/encouraging Cell Phone pictures and email for registering tournament fish this year as an alternative to the traditional paper (witnessed) entries. In the 2025 Tournament, 65% of entries were made electronically. For those who prefer not to use the email option, or are unable to, fish registrations can still be made using the paper form and two witnesses (at least one outside the boat).

Instructions for Cellphone picture registration of fish:

1. Before heading out on the water, ensure that your location services, location tagging, and location sharing settings are on for your (or your boating partner's) phone and the phone's camera App. Make sure that you are able send emails from that device. Take test pictures and check to see that location is included in photos you take and that you are able to email them. You may send us test pictures or screenshots any time before the Tourney to ensure everything is working correctly before you head out on the water. Email – muskiesinchayward@gmail.com
2. Obtain this year's Tournament code that will be posted both on our website <http://muskiesinc-hayward.org/> and our Facebook page "Muskies Inc Hayward Chapter", beginning at 7:00pm on Thursday, 24 Sept 2026. Prepare cards (at least 3"x5") with the code to display in registration the pictures.
3. When you catch a fish, take two pictures of the fish with this year's tournament code displayed.
 - a. One picture is of the fish on a commercially made bump board or ruler—the whole fish must to be in view to verify length. Soak down the board or boat deck, do not lay the fish on a dry surface.
 - b. The second picture is of the angler's face with the fish. This can be holding the fish or leaning down by the bump board or over the side with the fish in the water.
 - c. Ensure that the pictures include the location data.
 - d. Release the fish.
4. Email the fish registration info to muskiesinchayward@gmail.com on the day of the catch by the deadlines: by 7:30pm on Friday and Saturday, and by 12 noon on Sunday. If the fish was caught in an area without cell service, you will need to move to an area with service to send your email(s) to meet the deadlines above.
5. Your registration emails need to include the following:

ANGLER'S NAME

LAKE

DATE & APPROXIMATE TIME

LENGTH (round down to nearest ½")

LURE

CELL PHONE NUMBER

BOTH PICTURES ATTACHED

You may send multiple emails with different attachments.

When sending your emails from both iPhones and Androids, open your mail App (Mail, Gmail, Yahoo, Outlook etc.) and attach the photos as "files", not "pictures". This is generally done by tapping the paperclip or other "attach files" button in your mail App. If your mail App asks if you want to reduce the size of the file/picture, do not; keep it in its original size. If your email App asks if you want to include location, indicate yes. You will receive a confirmation from us that your pictures and emails have been received. If there are problems with your submissions, we'll start a dialog with you via email or cell phone.

6. If you are having difficulty sending pictures which include location, you may consider creating screenshots with the pictures open and the file info (location) displayed. For Android users with the newest version, it is necessary to send two screenshots of each picture, one with the general location shown on the bottom/info area, and another with the expanded map displayed. The expanded map is displayed by tapping the right arrow button at the end of the general location line. The methods for creating screenshots vary by device model. Screenshots can be emailed to us. Screenshots are acceptable if all info can be seen (location, date, whole fish on bump board/ruler, fish with angler's face, tournament code number).
7. For the latest Android version users, we've found a very simple work around to get your pictures to us with the all the data preserved. Open the picture on your device using the "Photos" App rather than the Gallery App or other Apps. Tap the "Share" button on the bottom. Choose your Mail App and send us the email from there. If you have sent us a test email, a shortcut may even appear with our address already filled out.
8. The bottom line is that if you have the pictures on your phone with the time and location data and you have sent us the fish registration info and pictures on the day of the catch by the deadlines, your fish will be registered. We may need to work on the technological challenges of transferring the time/location data to us later or see it on your device later for verification. Retain the pictures on your device. We may ask you to show us your pictures if there are questions/problems. You may also bring them to us at the Hayward Sports Center if you are having problems. We will be setup at the Sports Center 4:30-9:00pm on Friday, 3:00-9:00pm on Saturday, and 10:00am-Noon on Sunday. As long as your original emails to us are sent by the deadlines (see #4 above), or you bring us your required photos (with time & location) by the deadlines, we'll register your fish.
9. For newer iPhone users (iOS 11 or later) there is additional setting that is preventing the location data to be shared with us. To change this: Go to Settings, Camera, Tap Formats, Tap "Most Compatible". Now all your pictures will be taken, stored, and shared using the traditional JPG format and not in the HEIF format which, when sent in emails, strips most of the data away. Of course, location services and permissions need to be on for your camera and you need to attach the picture to your email as a "file". Using this setting should prevent much "after submission dialog" with us to verify the location of your catch.
10. Our Electronic Registration troubleshooting number is 405-227-1789, Wayne is our Electronic Registrar. muskiesinchayward@gmail.com