

Location and Insurance

Tutorial **06** /24
EVENT PLANNING SERIES

Develop location criteria based on the type of event. If shore fishing, it is essential to have adequate safe space where participants can fish. Most fish are not far from shore, so shoreline fishing can be very productive. Docks, piers, or other permanent shoreline structures can also provide great fishing opportunities. Those with safety railings are ideal, but others should not be overlooked, provided adequate supervision is in place.

Another important consideration is the amount of room each angler will have. Ensure that participants have enough room to cast without accidentally hooking another person.



With the use of boats, a nearby boat launch is a must. Ensure that the launch is in good condition and has ample parking nearby. It's a good idea to have at least two volunteers present to assist boaters in launching. This is a good time to check each boat for all the required safety equipment. The Canadian Coast Guard Safe Boating manual can be acquired from the Coast Guard website (www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca).

Boat operators should produce their Boater Competency Card. Depending on the nature of the event and the body of water, you might want to limit the maximum horsepower of a boat.

Ensure that all necessary permits and insurance are obtained once a location is selected. Some jurisdictions require a licence to host a fishing event. Call your local office (district fisheries offices by jurisdiction) to see if you require a licence or permit.

A check list of site selection questions will help you in your quest for the perfect location for your event.

- Is the site safe?
- How many people can the site handle?
- Is there adequate parking?
- Is the fish population appropriate for the event?
- Are there user/rental costs?
- Are the owners of the site willing to host this event?
- After visiting the site, are you satisfied it meets your organization's needs?
- Organizers must consider other resource users, marina operators, cottagers, etc., when setting tournament fishing boundaries and off-limit fishing areas. Registration should be limited to a finite number of teams and governed by the size of the water body.

READ BEFORE THE EVENT

Canadian National Sportfishing Foundation
2035 Fisher Drive Peterborough ON K9J 6X6
Phone: 705-745-8433 Toll Free: 877-822-8881
Fax: 705-742-4038 www.catchfishing.com

Catch Fishing®

It is important to verify your organization and partnering organization's coverage and to purchase any necessary liability insurance prior to the event. The organizer should look into obtaining a general liability policy to cover the event with suggested limits not less than \$2,000,000. The policy should include coverage for contractual liability, personal injury, employer's liability, non-owned automobile and non-owned watercraft and owned watercraft, if applicable. This policy should not contain any restrictions with respect to liability to participants or spectators. If you have partnered with a service organization, they may already have a blanket liability policy available through their national office, which could be extended to cover your event. Release forms are needed if you plan to use photos of individuals taken at your event in future promotional materials. Registration is a good place to capture these releases.

Although this will not replace insurance coverage, you may want to include a disclaimer in your entry form. Here is a sample.

By signing the entry form, the contestant agrees that he/she shall not hold liable (name of organization), (name of the event) and or its participating sponsors, their employees and associations (hereinafter referred to as the Organizers) for any act, omission, debt, claims, damage, losses, expenses or any other obligation arising out of the performance of (name of organization) in operation of the event, including, but not limited to, advertisement, promotion thereof and the awarding of prizes caused in whole or in part by the Organizers' act of omission, or that of anyone employed or associated with the Organizers. Contestants agree to indemnify and hold the Organizers harmless against any such claim arising directly from, or in connection with, the sponsored event.



Release forms are needed if you plan to use photos of individuals taken at your event in future promotional materials.