

Great Lakes Fish Decoy Collectors and Carvers Association
2010 World Champion Fish Decoy and Carving Contest Rules
September 11, Holiday Inn Express, Monroe MI

1. Competitions are open to all carvers. All entries must have been completed after the last GLFDCCA show. All visible marks that would identify the carver must be covered; dark colored masking tape is recommended for decoys.

2. Only natural wood may be used as a carving material. Wood composites, resins, or other plastic are not permitted. All fins or barbels are to be made from wood, leather or metal. Epoxy or urethane may be used to attach fins or eyes but not molded as a part of the fish. Materials used to for ballast, or to cover lead cavities or make repairs are not restricted. Eyes, screws, snap swivels, and "cheater" hooks are the only pre-formed material that may be used.

3. All decoys should display proper swimming attitude in the water. Decoys should suspend at a relatively horizontal attitude and respond favorably to the jigging stick. This generally means that the decoy, when dropped into the water, will move forward and "swim" in a circle when jigged.

4. There will be six Categories as follows (category classes are listed on the Registration Form):

A. Working Fish Decoys - Only the basic mouth shape, single gill coverings, and delineations for the beginning of the tail fin may be carved or burned into the fish. See diagram #1. A simple open mouth is allowed. No texturing allowed, and no painted scales. Judging criteria: swimming ability- 60%; likeness to species 30%; craftsmanship 10%.

B. Decorative Fish Decoys - Maximum details allowed. Judging criteria: swimming ability- 40%; likeness to species 50%; craftsmanship 10%.

C. Folk-Art Fish Decoys - Fish must be generic in both form and paint, and critters must be generic in paint. Decoys in the "cheater" class must have a hook or hooks, and can represent anything from the Working or Folk-Art Categories. For the Two-Color Class eye colors do not count but fin colors do, and for the Natural Finish Class no paint is allowed, except on the eyes. Judging criteria: swimming ability- 60%; design and innovation 30%; craftsmanship 10%.

D. Jigging Sticks. Deluxe - maximum detail allowed; Working - no carving, burning or texturing allowed; Natural Finish - no paint allowed. Judging criteria: design 60%; functionality 30%; craftsmanship 10%.

E. Decorative Fish Carvings - Must be original; contestants must create all elements from wood or metal, except display plaques, support structures, and substrate (all pieces of non-created bottom material must be less than 3/8 inch in size). Judging criteria: (emphasis will be on the fish) likeness to species 80%; design 20%.

F. No-holds-Barred Fish Decoys - The only rule in this Category will be rule #1, however the carver is expect to have made the majority of the decoy. Examples include: mermaids; fish painted 1/2 musky 1/2 pike; animal combinations, the use of reflective tape etc.

5. The misplacement of fins will not be penalized in **any** Fish Decoy Category.
6. Juniors are carvers who are 16 years of age or younger.
7. Entry fee is \$5.00 per individual entry; however there will be no charge for juniors.
8. Only one entry per contestant allowed in any decoy carving class (Categories A, B & C). There is no limit to the number of entries per contestant in Categories D, E, & F or any junior class.
9. Species allowed are limited to native freshwater fish found in the United States and Canada with the addition of brown trout and common carp. Salmon will be considered freshwater fish. Coldwater fish are all fish with an adipose fin, except catfish, bullheads, and madtoms.
10. Judges reserve the right to drill a small hole in any entry to check its composition in the event of a concern or protest as to permitted materials. All decisions are final.
11. All contestants must agree to the rules, and complete and sign the Registration Form.

Diagram # 1

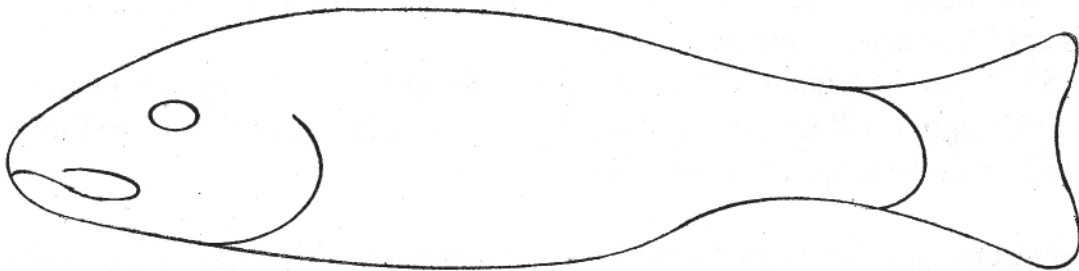


Diagram # 1 shows what can be carved or burned into a working fish decoy. Rules state – “Only the basic mouth shape, single gill coverings (one on each side), and delineations for the beginning of the tail fin may be carved or burned into the fish”.

In each class, first through third place ribbons will be awarded. Honorable mention ribbons will be awarded at the discretion of the judges. Judges will determine first through third Best of Show for fish decoy Categories A, B & C. The “Best Decoy in the World” will be selected from the three Best of Show fish decoys (winners from Categories A, B & C). First Best of Show only awards will be selected for **No-Holds-Barred Fish Decoys**, jigging sticks and decorative carvings (Categories D, E & F).

Registration for decoys and carvings will take place on the date of the contest from 8am to 10am, or at the show hotel at the discretion of the registrar. **Mail in entries will also be accepted, see mail-in**

information below. Entries will be returned to the contestant after the final award presentations.

2010 GLFDCCA Spear Contest Rules

- 1.** This year's theme will be smelt/herring. All entries must be smelt/herring spears. Spring-loaded, bungee cord, or gas-propelled spears are too dangerous to safely control and display and will not be accepted.
- 2.** Spear minimum length is 48-inches, no maximum (however, makers should remember shipping length restrictions if they will mail-in their entry).
- 3.** All entries must have been completed after the last GLFDCCA show. All visible marks that would identify the maker must be covered.
- 4. A line should not be attached to the spear, however a line tie must be included.**
- 5.** A written description of the spear should be included with the entry. It is suggested that this description include: a). Materials used for construction; b) how the spear was made; c) .how the entry relates to the theme; and d) any special and/or unique characteristics of the spear.
- 6.** Judging Criteria: Functionality & Design - Balance, weight and hydrodynamic shape; durability of material and points; functionality for species - 50%; Workmanship - Ease of re-sharpening and overall spear maintenance; lasting quality; how the spear was constructed - 40%; Artistic Quality - Curb appeal - 10%.
- 7.** All spears will be subject to judging that will check for the spears temper, durability, and balance. The GLFDCCA will not be held liable for any damage or losses that may occur during this judging process.
- 8.** Registration fee is \$5, no limit on the number of entries per contestant.
- 9.** All contestants must agree to the rules, and complete and sign the Registration Form.

2010 GLFDCCA Spear Point-Guard Contest Rules

- 1.** This year's point-guard must be made for a smelt/herring spear (a spear does not have to be entered).
- 2.** All entries must have been completed after the last GLFDCCA show. All visible marks that would identify the maker must be covered
- 3.** There will be no restrictions on what materials can be used for the construction of the point-guard; however the maker is expected to have constructed the vast majority of the entry.

4. Judging Criteria: Design/functionality 50%; Workmanship 25%; and Artistic Quality 25%.
5. Registration fee is \$5, no limit on the number of entries per contestant.
6. All contestants must agree to the rules, and complete and sign the Registration Form.

The Spear and Spear Point-Guard Contests will be held

September 10th at the Holiday Inn Express - Monroe, Michigan. Registration will begin at 6:30 pm and judging should begin at approximately 7 pm. First through third Best-of-Show places will be awarded. Honorable mention ribbons will be awarded at the discretion of the judges. Entries will be returned to the contestant after the final award presentation. Winners are encouraged to display their entries at the Fish Decoy Contest on Saturday.

All mail in entries should be sent to: Al Reeg, 195 N. Matteson Lk. Rd., Bronson, MI 49028. Phone (517) 369-2364. Entries must be received September 8th. Return shipping and insurance fees, along with a return-shipping label, must be included. These fees will be the actual shipping and insurance costs, or \$10.00 for the first entry and \$5 for each additional entry, however decorative carving, large decoys, and spears will require actual return shipping and insurance costs. Please remember these items will be shipped twice, and should be packaged accordingly. A completed Registration Form, with checks for all entry and return shipping fees must be included. It is suggested that all carvings be doubled boxed, with packing material between boxes.

If you will be completing the Registration Form before attending the show, please bring two copies. Two-part Registration Forms will be available at the show.

For additional information, or questions - contact our Show Chairman:

**Scott Morrison
525 River Lane
Belleville, WV 26133**

**or shelldrakes@earthlink.net
Phone (304) 863-8151**

