

TWIN RIVERS
FISHING REGULATIONS
As amended 11 Feb 2024

Pursuant to Paragraph 26 of the Twin Rivers Development Declaration of Restrictions as Amended and Restated July 10, 2004 (“Declaration”) and Article VII, Section 1(a) of the By-Laws of the Twin Rivers Property Owners' Association, Inc. (“POA”), the Board of Directors of the POA (“Board of Directors”) adopts these regulations pertaining to fishing on the Watauga River and the Boone Fork Creek within the boundaries of Twin Rivers, the planned community created by the Declaration.

General Information

These regulations have two purposes:

- To provide owners of property in Twin Rivers with a fair system of allocating fishing privileges; and
- To promote a healthy and productive fishery and ecosystem by moderating fishing pressure.

These regulations do not create vested rights in owners and may be changed by the Board of Directors in its discretion at any time.

Fishing may be suspended by the Board of Directors in its discretion at any time if it determines that such suspension is appropriate to protect the fishery (e.g., when a combination of high water temperature and fishing pressure could increase fish mortality).

Trespassing and poaching by non-owners entering from outside Twin Rivers unfortunately has been a recurring problem. Please report suspected violations **immediately** by telephoning Joe Sanders at 828-773-5400 and/or the Watauga County Sheriff's Department at 828-264-3761.

Any vehicle parked in a common area (e.g., at roadside) in Twin Rivers must have a sticker on its windshield or a rental placard or other identification near its windshield to indicate affiliation with Twin Rivers (to distinguish the vehicle from a poacher's).

Questions regarding these regulations may be directed to the POA's Property Services Manager, Joe Sanders, at 828-773-5400 or MantisManagementNC@gmail.com.

Designated Anglers

- Fishing privileges are allocated in Twin Rivers through the designation of **Designated Anglers**.
- Each owner of a platted lot in Twin Rivers may designate up to two **Designated Anglers** per lot owned, provided that:
 - The owner is current in the payment of dues, assessments, fines and all other sums owed to the POA.

- Where lots are titled in joint ownership, the result is the same: the joint owners may designate up to two **Designated Anglers** per lot owned. (Example: if a lot is titled in Mr. and Mrs. Conestoga, they can designate two **Designated Anglers** for their lot.)
- Where the same owner(s) owns two or more lots, the owner(s) may designate up to two **Designated Anglers** per lot owned. (Example: if Ms. Tioga owns three lots, she can designate up to two **Designated Anglers** for each of her lots.) However, no person can be designated as a **Designated Angler** for more than one lot, thereby multiplying his or her own individual fishing privileges. (Example: if Mr. Yakima owns three lots, he cannot designate himself as a **Designated Angler** for each of his lots and thereby triple his fishing privileges.)
- Where a lot is owned by one person, each **Designated Angler** for the lot must be either the owner, the owner's spouse, or a child of the owner between the ages of 16 and 23. Where the lot is owned by two or more persons, they must jointly designate each **Designated Angler**, and each **Designated Angler** must be one of the owners, a spouse of one of the owners, or a child (between 16 and 23) of one of the owners.
- Where a lot is owned by a single legal entity (such as a corporation, limited liability company, partnership or trust), each **Designated Angler** must be either a person who is a shareholder, member, partner, or trustee or beneficiary of the entity, the spouse of such a person, or the child (between 16 and 23) of such a person. Where the lot is owned by two or more legal entities, the entities must jointly designate each **Designated Angler**, and the **Designated Angler** must be either a natural person who is a shareholder, member, partner, or trustee or beneficiary of one of the entities, the spouse of such a person, or the child (between 16 and 23) of such a person. Entities must submit written proof of the relationship between the **Designated Angler** and the entity, as well as written proof of the authority of the representative making the designation on behalf of the entity.
- For types of lot ownership not addressed above, the Board of Directors reserves the right to determine how the owner(s) may designate **Designated Anglers**.
- A **Designated Angler** who at any time ceases to meet the foregoing qualifications automatically and immediately ceases to be a **Designated Angler**.
- An owner may designate its initial **Designated Anglers** upon the closing of the owner's purchase of a lot. Thereafter, the owner may re-designate the same persons, or different qualifying persons, as **Designated Anglers** each year in response to the Twin Rivers Fishing Club ("TRFC") letter sent each February/March ("Letter").
- Owners cannot change their **Designated Anglers** at any time except once a year in response to the Letter.

Fishing Badges

- To fish within Twin Rivers, a **Designated Angler** must have and use a Twin Rivers magnetic fishing badge bearing a photo ID ("Badge") and a current annual renewal sticker. No persons other than **Designated Anglers** are allowed to have or use Badges.
- A **Designated Angler** will be issued a Badge upon application and provision of an ID photo to Joe Sanders: (828) 773-5400. A Badge issued to a **Designated Angler** who is a child between

the ages of 16 and 23 will bear the **Designated Angler's** 23rd birthday as the Badge's expiration date.

- **Designated Anglers** are eligible to join the TRFC, which gives them additional fishing privileges. Details of the costs and benefits of membership are described each year in the Letter.
- A **Designated Angler** who is a member of the TRFC does not have to pay for a Badge, but one who is not a member must pay \$20 (including for replacement of a lost Badge).
- Annual renewal stickers are required for Badges, and they are issued each year when owners respond to the Letter. There is no cost for renewal stickers (but a \$20 fee will be charged to replace a lost renewal sticker).
- **Designated Anglers** who are members of the TRFC can purchase one or more "convenience" Badges (i.e., duplicates of their Badge) and renewal stickers for them. The cost of such a Badge (including any replacement) is \$20, and the cost of such a renewal sticker is \$5. Convenience Badges are only duplicates of the primary Badge and do not confer additional fishing rights or create additional **Designated Anglers**.
- Blue badges are issued to **Designated Anglers** who are not members of the TRFC. Green badges are issued to **Designated Anglers** who are members of the TRFC. Any holder of a green badge who ceases to be a member of the TRFC must promptly surrender that badge and thereafter may purchase a blue one.

Restrictions on Fishing

- Any person who fishes in Twin Rivers at any time must be either (i) a **Designated Angler** or (ii) a guest of a **Designated Angler**. Such a guest must be accompanied by the **Designated Angler** and fish on the same beat as the **Designated Angler**. A guest is not required to be an owner or related to or affiliated with an owner. A **Designated Angler** may have a maximum of two guests per beat per session. Thus, the maximum number of anglers allowed to fish per beat per session is three.
- **Designated Anglers** are responsible for their guests' adherence to these regulations and may be sanctioned for their guests' violation of these regulations.
- **Designated Anglers** must wear a Twin Rivers fishing hat or a visible sewn-on Twin Rivers fishing patch while fishing, whether they are fishing alone or with guests. Hats and patches are available from Randy Carter (Property Manager): (828) 264-8022.
- A **Designated Angler** loses his or her status as such when the owner who designated the **Designated Angler** becomes delinquent in the payment of dues, assessments, fines, or any other sums owed to the POA. Such a **Designated Angler** must promptly return his or her Badge to the POA. He or she may regain the status of a **Designated Angler** and re-apply for a Badge only upon the owner's payment in full of all such sums.
- A **Designated Angler** may hire a professional fishing guide, and the guide will be considered a guest of the **Designated Angler** and count toward the three-angler maximum per beat per session. **Designated Anglers** themselves may not guide guests for compensation.

- Only fly fishing (using a fly rod, fly line and an artificial fly) with barbless single hooks is permitted. Only catch-and-release fishing is permitted.
- To minimize fish mortality, anglers must:
 1. use a rubber or rubberized net,
 2. handle fish properly,
 3. exercise care to avoid playing fish to exhaustion, and
 4. wet their hands before handling fish, try to keep fish in the water, and release fish promptly (with brief exposure to air allowed for photos).
- “Chumming” by any means (including chow, insects, or pebbles) is prohibited.
- North Carolina law requires that anglers older than 16 have a license to fish, even on private property such as in Twin Rivers. Anglers lacking such a license risk being checked by North Carolina Wildlife Commission officers and fined.

Reservations and Sign-Up

- **Designated Anglers** may fish only by reserving sessions on a first-come, first-served basis, as described further below.
- A **Designated Angler** can reserve a beat for a session only by placing his or her Badge in the box corresponding to the beat on the sign-up board at the Check-In Station (located near the bridge over the Boone Fork Creek on Twin Rivers Drive). A beat can be reserved for a:
 - Morning Session: from first light until 1:00 p.m. (i.e., exiting the beat at or before 1:00 p.m.): or an
 - Afternoon Session: from 1:00 p.m. until dark.
- **Designated Anglers** designated by the same owner(s) may not reserve separate beats for the same session.
- A **Designated Angler** who is not a member of the TRFC may reserve a Morning Session at or after 7:00 a.m. on the day of the session and may reserve an Afternoon Session at or after 1:00 p.m. on the day of the session.
- A **Designated Angler** who is a TRFC member may reserve a Morning Session, or an Afternoon Session, **or both**, of any **weekday**, and may make the reservation at or after 6:00 p.m. the evening before. However, to maximize opportunities for all anglers on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays (including Thursday through Sunday of Thanksgiving week), such a **Designated Angler** can only reserve a Morning Session **or** an Afternoon Session, but not both, on those days, and may make the reservation at or after 6:00 p.m. the evening before. If the **Designated Angler** fishes a Morning Session on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, he or she may reserve an Afternoon Session of the same day, but may only make that reservation at or after 8:30 a.m. that day.
- A reservation lasts until the earlier of: the end of the session or the **Designated Angler’s** removal of his or her Badge from the Check-In Station’s sign-up board. **Designated Anglers** are required to remove their Badges from the sign-up board when their session ends or when they have

finished fishing, whichever occurs earlier.

- A **Designated Angler** willing to share a reserved session may use the +1 or +2 placards on the Check-In Station's sign-up board to invite other anglers to join him or her (provided that the maximum of three anglers per beat per session is never exceeded).
- Anglers must stay within their reserved beat unless invited by anglers in another beat to join them (provided that the maximum of three anglers per beat per session is never exceeded). The absence (apparent or actual) of anglers in another **Designated Angler's** reserved beat cannot be used as a pretext for fishing in that beat.
- Violations of these regulations may result in a suspension of fishing privileges as described in the Penalty Guidelines for TR Fishing Rule Violations on the Twin Rivers website.