Jordan Tough Guy-Not So Tough

Jordan Chapter of Walleyes Unlimited hosted it 19th Annual Tough Guy Walleye Tournament on Saturday April 19. There were concerns about the ice not being off Fort Peck earlier in the week but the majority of the lack was open by tournament day. The tough part not so tough as temperature warmed to 70 degrees by days end providing a much hoped for opener to the Fort Peck walleye season.

46 teams braved the early season fishing to be greeted by a surprisingly good bite considering water temps between 38 and 40 degrees. Approximately 30 of the teams weighed at least one fish which is outstanding for a tournament which has been known have a very difficult bite. No large walleye were caught but the largest walleye of the event, a 5.60 gave Circle’s Todd and Trever Klepplid a boost to their winning weight of 14.30 pounds. Second place for big walleye was caught by the Miles City teams of Taylor Kennedy and Tyler Trogden of Miles City with a 4.70 pounder.

The remainder of the top 7 places which were pair were; 2nd: Clyde and Brem Phipps, Jordan, 11.30 #; 3rd: Jerry Johnston of Jordan & Jerry Evenson of Billing, 10.30 #; 4th-5th tie: Hal Haines Miles City-Robert Johnson-Jordan; Pat Slater-Marc Nuss, Powell Wyoming both teams with 8.13#; 6th: Joe DeJong of Stanford-Curt Wiley of Miles City, 8.09#; 7th Cody Strohm of Richey and Keeley Montgomery of Miles City with 7.12#.

Northern fishing was outstanding with 12 northerns over 10 pounds being weighed in with the largest being a 14.60 # fish being weighed by the team of Chad Formanek and Brian Brumeyer.

Given this early bite it could only be expected that another outstanding year is in store for Fort Peck lake.

The tournament is the highlight of the weekend with the Jordan Chapter hosting its annual banquet on Friday with over 200 attending a highly successful fund raiser for the local organization.

The Jordan Chapter thanks all those that contribute to the success of the events of the weekend.