

2009 Derby

This year's derby found four less entrants than last year and very nice water levels and again our competitors did not lack in enthusiasm. Held on Lake Sakakawea August 15th we had 35 teams competing for trophies and cash. The winds were down in the morning with rain showers in the horizon but then cleared and the wind decided to pick up in the afternoon. Sun and cool temps helped make the day a huge success and everyone looked forward to the final tally as rumors lingered of some large fish being caught. It was any ones guess who might find the right combination.

The Teen division had five entrants and we were able to award placements in that division for kids 13 to 17 years old.

We had fifteen entrants in the Fish On Kid / Pass it On division for kids 12 and under. This division is in memory of Gaylord Johnson and has been a great success. The Johnson family has provided medals for each entrant and the memorial fund provides a fishing rod and reel for them to enjoy fishing after our event. This year Scheels also provided backpacks to each participant.

There were 28 Salmon caught with an average weight of 5.47 pounds. The largest salmon caught was 10.4 pounds and 26.25 inches. The fishery has survived another drought. The numbers were down but the average size mimicked last year's average.

It was a pleasure to run the derby and the success is all due to great members of our club and our generous sponsors. Please look over the results posted with this year's winners and Derby Sponsors. Due to our sponsors, every participant received a door prize and young or old took something home with them. Take time to acknowledge the sponsors as we go about our day-to-day life as the success of this event is largely due to their acts of kindness.

Thanks to our members and many hours of donated time and prizes we have continued this successful event for the 23rd time. As always the e-board needs your input and your time so give it some thought to help us out.

Monte Babeck
"Mighty Max"