

# 9th Annual Moosehead Lake Togue Ice Fishing Derby

## Annual Moosehead Lake Togue Derby adds second weekend: February 19-21

by Mike Lange

GREENVILLE – Due to less-than-ideal ice conditions, a second weekend has been added to the 9th Annual Moosehead Lake Togue Derby.

As of last week, there were still areas of open water on the lake. It is uncertain what the ice conditions will be for the derby which was originally scheduled for the weekend of January 29-31. Therefore, the Natural Resources Education Center at Moosehead will be modifying this year's events.

"We will add three days to the derby: February 19-21," according to a press release from NREC. "The banquet, silent auction, and door prize drawings will take place on Saturday, February 20 at the Masonic Hall in Greenville at the same times advertised. The weigh-in stations will be open for the 3-day period for the same time periods."

However, since many people book their camp and lodging reservations a year in advance, NREC will also operate the weigh-in stations January 29-31. "But we caution anglers that many areas may not be safe and we urge you to be cautious and check ice conditions before venturing out on the lake," Obrey said. "If

the ice is not safe, please stay off and come back in February. Your ticket is still good."

New rules went into effect last year that helped boost average ticket sales from an average of 300-400 to more than 700 last year, according to Obrey.

Starting in 2015, everyone who bought an individual or family ticket was eligible to win door prizes, whether they actually fished or not.

Once again, the top prize this year is a choice of a vacation trip for two to Universal Studios in Orlando, a Carnival cruise to the Bahamas, five days in Las Vegas or \$1,500 cash.

Second prize is a Savage Axis stainless steel .308 with scope; third prize is a Stoeger Uplander double-barrel 20-gauge shotgun; fourth prize is an ice fish-

ing package consisting of an auger, jet sled and more; and fifth prize is \$250 in "cold, hard cash."

The derby's gold sponsor this year is Indian Hill Trading Post in Greenville and silver sponsors are Bangor Savings Bank, Varney Agency and Maine Highlands Federal Credit Union.

Derby tickets are on sale at Indian Hill Trading Post, Lucky Bait and the Stress Free Moose in Greenville; Moosehead Bait and Tackle in Rockwood, Mountain's Market in Dover-Foxcroft, Van Raymond Outfitters in Brewer or online at [www.nrecmoosehead.org](http://www.nrecmoosehead.org).

For lodging information, contact the Moosehead Lake Region Chamber of Commerce at 695-2702. They are maintaining a list of openings.

Enjoy the Moosehead Lake Ice Fishing Togue Derby

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- UNIVERSAL STUDIOS IN ORLANDO** (Fly round-trip to Orlando on American Airlines and stay 5 nights at Universal's Colonial Beach Resort. The package will also include round-trip airport to hotel transfers and the Universal 4 day park to park tickets. Maximum payout is \$13,800.00)
- CARNIVAL CRUISE TO THE BAHAMAS** (Call from Boston on Norwegian Cruise Lines ship the Dawn. Sailing on 3/16/16 from New Orleans. This seven day cruise includes airfare and return to the following Friday. Special ocean cruises on the ship with that of the cruise ship in Bermuda, the ship is a great time and a chance to see the island nation of Bermuda. Maximum payout is \$6,000.00)
- IT'S VEGAS, BABY!** (Fly from Bangor to Las Vegas round-trip on Delta Airlines and stay 3 nights at the MGM Grand Hotel and Casino in a deluxe king suite for two adults. The package will also include round-trip airport to hotel transfers. Maximum payout is \$5,000.00)
- \$1,500 CASH**

**2<sup>ND</sup> DOOR PRIZE: SAVAGE AXIS STAINLESS STEEL .308 WITH SCOPE**

**3<sup>RD</sup> DOOR PRIZE: STOEGER 20 GAUGE- UPLANDER DOUBLE BARREL**

**4<sup>TH</sup> DOOR PRIZE: ICE FISHING PACKAGE- ALGIE, JET SLED, AND MORE**

**5<sup>TH</sup> DOOR PRIZE: \$200 COLD HARD CASH**

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Or online at [www.NovusMoosehead.org](http://www.NovusMoosehead.org)

**BIGGEST TOGUE CASH PRIZES:**  
1<sup>st</sup> - \$1,500  
2<sup>nd</sup> - \$500  
3<sup>rd</sup> - \$250

Join us for a wild and tame dinner from 4-7pm on Sat., Feb. 20 at the Moosehead Hall. All door prizes will be drawn after the dinner. Dinner by donation - at the door. You do not have to be present to win. See official rules handout for more details. There will be an auction all day Sat., Feb. 20 at the Moosehead Hall to benefit NBC's Youth program. Stop by and bid on some great prizes!

Enjoy Greenville's Togue Ice Fishing Derby.

**Good Luck Fishermen!**

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2015 THIRD PLACE - Last year's third-place fisher was Mark St. Armand of Windsor, who pulled in a togue weighing 5.86 pounds and 20.75 inches long.

## '16 Maine Ice Fishing Rules and Regulations

### Ice Fishing:

Taking freshwater fish during the ice fishing season through man-made openings in the ice by the use of ice fishing implements. It is unlawful to open water fish in inland waters while positioned on ice. (12601)

### Ice Fishing Implement:

Any lawful fishing implement used to take fish through the ice including a trap (tip-up), jig stick, rod in hand or handline, except that a person engaged in taking smelts and baitfish may do so in accordance with the laws and rules governing these activities.

### Ice Fishing Shack:

A person who owns any shack or temporary structure used for ice fishing:

- Must remove, or cause to be removed, the shack or structure on the ice of any inland waters prior to ice out, or 3 days after the close of the ice fishing season.

- Shall have painted on the outside of the shack or structure in 2-inch letters, the owner's name and address when the shack or structure is on the ice of any inland waters. (12661)

- A person may not leave a structure on another person's land without permission of the landowner. (Title 17, §2263-A)

### Ice Fishing Trap (Tip-Up):

Any ice fishing implement for storing line, designed to be set through the ice and to indicate when something has disturbed the attached bait.

<http://www.regulations.com/maine/fishing/>