

Record Catch Leads To A 2024 City Auto Glass Walleye Classic Championship!!

May 19th, 2024.....Brian and Jeff Fitzpatrick became repeat champions with a record-setting catch at the 19th annual City Auto Glass Walleye Classic, presented by First National Bank of Gilbert & Hoyt Lakes and built by Radko Iron & Supply, on Saturday, May 18th, 2024, out of Fortune Bay Resort Casino on Lake Vermilion.

Brian Fitzpatrick, of Inver Grove Heights, and his son Jeff, of Eagan, caught a 6-fish limit weighing 23.10 pounds, which included the tournament's biggest walleye of 7.26 pounds. The Fitzpatrick's broke their own tournament weight record of 21.13 pounds, set during their first City Auto Glass Walleye Classic win in 2018. The now two-time champs won the first-place purse of \$17,000, plus big fish money.

2nd place honors went to tournament-newcomers John Haus of Sauk Rapids and Dale DeVriendt of Sebeka. The team brought in 20.24 pounds of walleye, including a 6.24 pounder. Finishing 3rd were Eric Pavelich of Eveleth and Dean Salminen from Cook with 16.29 pounds. Rounding out the top 5 teams were Dan and Eric Davis of Hugo with 14.72 pounds...and AJ Wiesner from Duluth and Dave Selle out of Lino Lakes with 12.59 pounds.

A max-field of 125 boats entered this year's tourney, held since 2006 on Lake Vermilion. A total of 390 walleyes were weighed and released this year, as early-morning threatening weather gave way to warm but very windy conditions. More than \$50,000 in cash and prizes were once again awarded this year, with cash pay-outs to the top 22 teams.

Proceeds from this non-profit event produced by The CAG Foundation are donated to organizations that uplift, educate, and improve the lives of area kids. Many area businesses support the event, and, along with the anglers, are crucial to fundraising success.

Volunteers included members of the Hibbing Kiwanis Club, City Auto Glass employees, members of the Rock Ridge baseball program, and friends and family.

City Auto Glass is a Minnesota-based, employee-owned auto glass company, with shops located throughout Minnesota and parts of Florida, featuring mobile service and complete windshield calibration services.

Next year's tournament will be held on Saturday, May 17th, the second Saturday of the Minnesota fishing opener for walleye.

Complete results are available on Facebook and at www.cityautoglasswalleyeclassic.com

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For more information, contact tournament chair Red Lowen @ 218-966-3866, or at redlowen@cityautoglass.com