

Nebraska Walleye Association Kids Fishing Clinics, Inc.

501 (c) (3) Public Charity



Conservation & Education

The **Nebraska Walleye Association** (NWA) was organized in 1989 as a not for profit corporation, with the goal to promote fishing in Nebraska, primarily walleye fishing. Past NWA activities have included statewide walleye tournaments, kids fishing clinics, University of Walleye, and family fun events.

Over the years, the kids fishing clinics expanded all across Nebraska and included clinics designated for special needs youth. Each year approximately 2000 youth learned the thrills of fishing at these clinics, with an average cost of \$10.00 per youth. The kids fishing clinics program has received much recognition and numerous awards for being such a successful volunteer run effort.

The kids fishing clinics were marketed under the name of **GoFishKids!** and grew into 13-15 NWA sponsored clinics across the State, in addition to many more as a partner with other organizations. This placed a financial burden on a small not for profit organization with the changing economic landscape.

After much discussion and investigation, the NWA Board of Directors voted in 2012 to create a separate non-profit corporation specifically for the promotion of conservation and education through kids fishing clinics, including special needs youth. **The Nebraska Walleye Association Kids Fishing Clinics Charity, Inc.** is a 501(c) (3) public charity; EIN 80-0814917. This new association has a separate board of directors. To further separate the organizations, it was also decided to create a new marketing name for the kids fishing clinics. Several phrases or themes were discussed and one was agreed upon. The only problem was that the Colorado Division of Wildlife also used the wording in their matching grants program to improve angling opportunities in Colorado and held the trademark license. A licensing agreement was signed by both the Colorado Division of Wildlife and the NWA Kids Fishing Clinics Charity, Inc. to permit the exclusive use of the trademark in the State of Nebraska for the promotion of the kids fishing clinics.

The wording: **Fishing is Fun!** and the logo including that phrase will be used in the promotion of those clinics. With the names so similar and with a long established program, we are certain that from time to time there will be an incorrect reference between the two separate organizations. You will still see certified youth fishing instructors from the NWA member's organization and others conducting the fishing clinics in accordance to the established procedures of the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission. However, only the new public charity will be conducting the clinics and any reference should be directed to that organization.

At the clinics directly sponsored by the NWA Kids Charity, each participant is provided with lunch/dinner, instruction, and rod/reel/tackle box-all **FREE**. That is why donations are solicited; both monetary and gifts in kind are needed.

The new: **Fishing is Fun!** looks forward in continuing to enhance the fishing efforts in Nebraska and would hope that you would also.

If you would like to donate to these efforts or would like to request a clinic in your area, please contact one of the below listed current board members.

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