



2022 Fishing for a Cure Fact Sheet

- The 2022 tournament will be held April 30, 2022 and represents our 21st year hosting our annual “Fishing for a Cure” fundraiser. This year’s event will benefit Advocate Children’s Hospital. The charity team bass tournament takes place on Braidwood Generating Station’s cooling lake.
- In 2002, Braidwood Generating Station (a nuclear generating plant in rural Braceville, Ill., sought to initiate positive publicity through a philanthropic activity that combined strong local impact, use of existing resources and employee engagement. At the same time, the station was looking for a way to welcome back anglers after the station’s cooling lake was closed for security reasons following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The station launched a professional/amateur charity bass fishing tournament on the lake.
- The annual tournament raises money for a local charity selected each year by employees. The charity must have a connection to a Braidwood employee and the local community. Constellation pays the cost of staging the event, allowing 100 percent of the \$150-per-boat entry fee, prize drawings and silent auctions to go directly to the charity. Proceeds from this year’s tournament will benefit Advocate Children’s Hospital. A child’s stay at the hospital can be scary, unpredictable, and stressful. With the proceeds from this year’s event, Advocate Children’s will be launching a virtual reality program using KindVR. Kind VR creates customized virtual reality support and distraction for various procedures, coping with hospitalization, and pain management.
- In its first 20 years, “Fishing for a Cure” has raised more than \$700,000 for charity. Past benefitting charities were the Beth Ann Miller Foundation in its fight against Bacterial Meningitis (2002), Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (2003,) Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Center (2004), Multiple Sclerosis Society (2005), Citizens United in Research of Epilepsy (2006), Make-a-Wish Foundation of Illinois (2007), Food Allergy & Anaphylaxis Network (2008), Autism Speaks (2009), Operation MOMS Cookies, Inc. (2010) Wounded Heroes Foundation (2011), four local food pantries (2012), Alzheimer’s Association of Greater Illinois (2013), Coal City/Diamond Disaster Relief Fund (2014), three not-for-profit area hospices in Grundy, Kankakee and Will counties (2015), Easter Seals Joliet Region (2016), the Braidwood Area Healthy Community Coalition (2017), Ronald McDonald House of Chicago (2018), Lurie Children’s Hospital (2019), Special Connections of Grundy County (2020) and Northern Illinois Food Bank/Braidwood Community Care Center (2021).
- Competing fishermen have a chance to have some fun and win some impressive cash prizes totaling \$10,000. The first-place team will reel in \$4,000, with second and third place netting \$2,500 and \$1,000 respectively. In addition, 4th-, 5th- and 6th-place finishers will win \$500 and teams finishing 7th through 10th each will win \$250.
- Interesting statistics:
 - 2002 – 2006 (5-fish maximum) = 16.03 (2006)
 - 2007 – 2012 (3-fish maximum) = 11.10 (2012) – John Novak of Shorewood and Jim Rura of Morris
 - Biggest Bass – 2012 – John Novak of Shorewood (5.64 lbs.)
 - Biggest Catfish – 2014 – Steve Smith and Ed Withaeger (7.84 lbs.)