



# Hook, Line, and Sinker

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*The Official Publication of The New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen*

*New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen • P.O. Box 294 • New Ulm, MN 56073 Web Site: [newulmsportfish.org](http://newulmsportfish.org)*

## Perch Ice Fishing Tips and Techniques



The real secret to catching more fish is knowledge! The more you know, the more fish you'll catch. These Perch ice fishing tips and techniques are proven winners.

Perch are one of the most sought after ice fishing species. They're found in many lakes and are definitely one of the best tasting fish around.

If you want to catch more Perch the two most important keys are location and presentation. You could have the most appealing bait in the world but if there aren't any fish around it's going to be a long day. And, not catching a thing while everyone else around you is catching fish can be really frustrating. What you present to the fish is just as important as finding them.

The information found here is best used along with some investigative work done by you. Finding out what the Department of Natural Resources says about a lake and talking to local anglers, especially at the bait shop, can save you a ton of time finding the fish and knowing what they're biting on.

Perch can be ice fished at any hour of

the day but changing light conditions in the morning and evening usually triggers more activity and feeding.

### **Perch Ice Fishing Location**

Winter gives ice fisherman an advantage for catching Perch over summer fishing since in the summer they're more spread out and more difficult to find. In the winter they tend to school up more often and suspend over deep water. Perch can be found suspended like Sunfish and Crappie or close to the bottom like their cousin the Walleye. When they're hungry they'll usually be close to the bottom though.

In early winter Perch can be found in the same places they were just prior to ice up. Look for them in shallow weeds and just off the weed line. Especially when the weeds are combined with shoreline breaks and points.

By mid winter the Perch will have moved off the structure, usually to the nearest deep basin. Start by looking for them suspended in the basin near the structure and at the same depth of the structure. Perch follow food so as the zooplankton and minnows move, so do the Perch.

Late winter they'll begin to move in closer to the bays and weed lines. Perch spawn in shallow, dark bottom bays after the ice is out. You'll find them moving closer to these spawning areas as spring approaches.

Before we switch gears and talk about presentation, remember locating Perch is only half the battle. Don't just drill one hole. Instead drill several holes and find the fish.

Using modern electronics can also help you find fish faster. Depth, fish and structure can all be seen using a flasher (Vexilar or MarCum).

### **Perch Ice Fishing Presentation**

OK, you've found the Perch, now let's look at some effective techniques to get them on the ice!

The most effective ice fishing presentation is jigging. Jigging is basically raising your rod tip about a foot, then dropping it back down to its starting position. A very effective method is to raise and drop the tip, wait 5-10 seconds and repeat the raise/drop.

Another jigging technique made popular by the pro ice fisherman Dave Genz is pounding the jig. Pounding a jig is basically jigging your rod tip up and down just an inch or two very quickly.

If you're not using a flasher and have no idea what depth the fish are at, start by jigging near the bottom. If you don't find fish, come up a foot or two. Continue the process until you either find fish or reach the ice with your lure.

Now that you've got the hang of jigging, let's look at the lure/bait you're using. There are several jigs that have proved effective over time. Be willing to experiment with any of the jigs pictured below.

## Club Calendar

**January 31st NUASF Club Meeting/Eric Olson Steak Night**

**February 7th Social Night/Prize Night for Fishing Contest**

**February 10th NUASF Ice Fishing Contest**

**February 14th NUASF Dixon Lake Ice Fishing Trip**

**February 28th NUASF Club Meeting/Fish Dish Night**

**March 2nd Studtmann Pond Fishing Contest**

**March 14th NUASF Social Night at Club House**

**March 28th NUASF Club Meeting**

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## From the President .....

By Jason Kuester

As most of you all know Eric Olson will be visiting us at our next meeting. Eric is a wonderful asset to our club and we would like to THANK him for his support. Eric donates trips for our Fishing Contest, membership drive, and also provides us with a great STEAK meal at our January meeting. To help with this great meal we are asking everyone to please bring a dish to pass. Eric will also be bringing extra hamburger along to the next meeting if you are interested in purchasing some from him.

**P.S. Eric will be serving the meal before the meeting!**

**Gate will be open at 5:30 PM**

As everyone knows our Club's Ice Fishing Contest is February 10th. We should have the prizes collected, and posters in place within the next couple weeks. Ticket sales can continue up to the day of the contest. Once again this is our clubs biggest moneymaker, and we will need many volunteers for this event. Tickets and posters are available at the next meeting or by contacting Ross Nelson 507-766-0765 or myself at 507-381-2041 or e-mail at jr@newulmtel.net and we will get you as many as you would like.

All prizes must be turned into the club on or before Thursday February 7th. We will be having a special meeting on the 7th at 6:00 pm to organize all of the prizes for the contest.

There are 35 people signed up for the Dixon Lake resort trip! I need to have everyone's down payment by the next meeting. Due to the great turnout there will be a signup sheet for meals, and spear houses at the next meeting. If you are unable to attend the next meeting contact me at 507-381-2041 or e-mail at jr@newulmtel.net.

Winter is here and what a great time to bring our friends and family to the New Ulm Area Sport Fisherman Club. We are always looking for new members to join. If you know of someone bring them along and show them how much fun we have at our club. As always, bring a friend and each of you will receive a free refreshment of your choice!

**Hope to see you at the next meeting!**

**Continued from page 1**

Perch like a lot of the same jigs you'd use for Walleye. The only difference is you'd use a smaller version.

Flash spoons, or vertical spoons, like the Swedish Pimple and Acme Kastmaster, are a couple of my favorite Perch spoons. They are easily identified by their vertical fishing position and a treble hook on the bottom. Spoons are great for moderately active fish. Put a minnow head on one of the hooks and you've got a dangerous combination.

For more information on ice fishing Perch go to the Ice fishing Source website at:  
<http://www.ice-fishing-source.com/perch-tips-techniques.asp>

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## Hook, Line, and Sinker

The **Hook Line and Sinker** is published monthly by Joyce Reese graphic design for the New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of respective writers and not to be construed as the opinion of the NUASF or its members. Send all correspondence and submissions to **New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen, P.O. Box 294, New Ulm, MN 56073.**

### The NUASF Board

President - Jason Kuester (381-2041); Vice-President - Gary Sprenger (359-9358); Secretary - Ross Nelson (507-766-0765) Treasurer - Tony Miller (354-2457); Board Members: Ron Ludewig (507-276-6093), Mike Buechner (354-2739 s), Ken Sutherland (507-276-1534).

## Monthly Meeting Dec. 20th, 2012 Members present 40+

### I. Secretary Report

- A) Motion made by Kim Olson and seconded Jim Liebl to accept report as read. Passed unanimously.

### II. Treasury Report

- A) Balance  
B) Motion made by Jim Liebl and seconded by Jim Hulke to accept report as read. Passed unanimously.

### III. Old Business

- A) Membership update.  
1) Membership stands at 189 with 39 due - Jim Hulke wins membership drive 3 new members  
B) Area Lakes and Rivers Report.  
1) Leech - 12" of ice on North end, 9# northern  
2) Dave Mecklenburg - Pacific Ocean not froze over yet.  
3) Clear Lake - 4-5" ice, catching 9-11" crappies  
4) Lake of the Woods - Nailing them  
5) Birch Lake - Bass  
C) Club House and Grounds Update.  
1) Wes Ludwig will be doing our snow removal.  
2) L.P. tank at 50%  
3) Furnace checked by Barry Zimmerman in good shape  
4) Tony Miller took out the old TV; Tony donated the \$20 charge to dispose of the TV to the club  
Ken Kohn also donates a new/used TV to the club.  
5) Members should not park in front of the back parking lot entrance. Tony will make a sign.

### IV) Other Old Business

- A) None

### V) New Business

- A) Scott Sparlin Year end report  
1) Scott would like 5 members to help at the New Auburn contest. See Scott if you'd like to help  
2) 7 Mile Creek was awarded a Grant from the State of MN of \$680,000  
3) National Blue Way Restoration is doing a 5 year focus on the MN River. Club will support.  
B) Tony Miller - News Letter Ad Report  
1) 3M River Rats are out  
2) Businesses that still owe for our newsletter ad - Auto Value, B&L, Fishing Rod & Reel, High Banks, Hunters Den, Mankato Tent, Neal Haaland, Pullman Lumber, Rod Miller, Schell's  
3) Four spots in the newsletter are open.  
C) Fishing Contest Update  
1) Posters available, hang them everywhere  
2) Prize Collection signup sheet. Help if you can.  
3) 19 fishing contest ticket books have been handed in, 35 ice house books.  
4) Food License is done.  
5) Food committee signup sheet at the front desk  
6) We will get Trophies for largest pan fish and biggest fish to hand out at the contest.  
7) We will have a meeting the Thursday before the contest to wrap everything up.  
D) Winter Club Fishing Trip - Feb 14-17, \$170 all food included. Openings available.  
E) Food next meeting will be provided by Eric Olson. Elk and venison steaks. Please bring an Additional dish to pass.

### VI) Other New Business

- A) Ron Bolduan said that he'd like to do an article in the River Valley Extra News on our club.  
B) We will try to contact Joe Felleggy to come to our Feb meeting.  
C) Will have year club report by next meeting.  
D) Southern MN Asian Carp Coalition - New organization just started to help control the problem  
E) Club fishing contest at Studtmann Pond set for March 2nd starting at Noon.  
F) Last night for club jacket sign up.

### VII) Adjourn 8:45 PM




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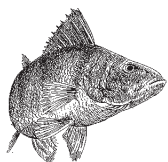
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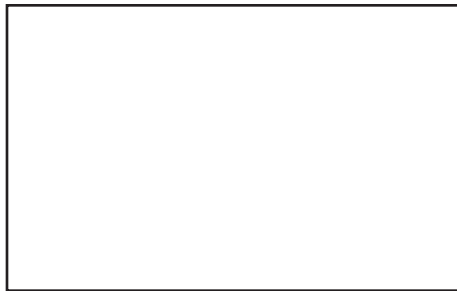
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