

CRITERIA AND REQUIREMENTS

LFA25

MFU'S SNOW CRAB COMMUNITY FISHERY

2024 SEASON

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE DRAW

1. Only members in regulation, interested and ready to conform to all the following criteria and requirements are eligible for the draw.
2. A core fisherman who already benefits, during the same year, from snow crab fishing revenues (deckhand, substitute operator, grandfathered clause or else) from the mid-shore fleet or through his own allocation is not eligible for the draw.
3. A core fisherman must have paid all his annual dues from 1997 to 2023 inclusively, or from the year he entered the inshore fishery until 2023, inclusively to be eligible for the draw.
4. A licence can only win the draw once until all licences have won. A new entrant qualifies for the snow crab draw if he buys a license that would have been active the season before the transfer, only if that license didn't win the draw in the past.
5. Any active core fisherman who has paid his annual MFU's dues must provide a valid Record of Employment (T4) from the previous year, showing a minimum of \$25,000 of gross revenues from his core fishing licenses to participate in the draw.
6. In order to be eligible for the draw, any core fisherman who has been inactive will be required to pay his dues for his years of inactivity, and payment must be made in full prior to the draw.
7. The eligible names based on Opilio's list are included automatically in the draw. All fishermen are responsible to consult the list of eligible names and advise Opilio before the draw if their name has been omitted by mistake.
8. The non-eligible fishermen who would have nevertheless been included in the draw and got drawn will receive a written notice explaining the reason of their disqualification in a reasonable delay.
9. The winning fishermen, according to the order of the names drawn, will have to decide if they accept the allocation or not, 72 hours after receiving the confirmation of their allocation by the Opilio (U.P.M./M.F.U.) Inc. team. The absence of a confirmation within the prescribed delay will be considered as a refusal and the allocation will be offered to the next fishermen on the list.

10. A fisherman who, during the current year, participates in or institutes legal procedures that may be prejudicial to a member, employee, director or any other individual directly or indirectly related to the Maritime Fishermen's Union or any of its subsidiaries (Opilio (U.P.M./M.F.U.) Inc. , Homarus, etc.) is not eligible for the draw.
11. Starting in 2025, a new entrant who purchases a core licence for a species that falls within one of the Critical or Cautionary Zones, as established by the Department of Fishery and Oceans (DFO) Precautionary Approach, will be required to provide proof that the licence they purchased was active the season prior to the licence transfer and, starting in his second year of fishing, he must provide a valid Record of Employment (T4) from the previous year showing a minimum of gross fishing income of \$25,000 from his core licences to be eligible for the draw.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SELECTED FISHERMAN

1. The snow crab license must be issued in the name of a MFU's member.
2. The snow crab allocation must be fished with an inshore vessel of 44 feet and 11 inches or less in total length.
3. The inshore vessel used for snow crab fishing must meet Transport Canada safety standards. If the boat does not meet the safety standards, a second boat, which must also meet the regulations, must be chosen within seventy-two (72) hours, failing which, the allocation will be given to the next name on the list.
4. The vessel will need to be ready for fishing on the fishery opening date and must conform to all DFO's requirements for the fishery.
5. All selected participants will need to sign a contract with Opilio (U.P.M./M.F.U.) Inc. and those who will charter a boat will be required to provide a copy of a contract signed between the fishermen in order to clarify the distribution of the revenues and expenses.
6. A member who, voluntary and/or for an unjustified reason, chooses to abandon the season before the end date of the fishery announced by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) and without having caught at least his share of the allocation, could have his eligibility for the snow crab draw, withdrawn for up to five (5) years following the season of his abandonment.
7. All members shall respect and comply with all standards, requirements, measures, directives, laws and regulations established by competent authorities, including but not limited to DFO, that will be in effect during the snow crab fishing season, failing which, they may have their eligibility for the snow crab draws withdrawn for up to five (5) years following the violation.



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8. The members understand that starting in 2024, data such as performances (e.g., catch-per-trap rate, etc.), fishing effort, years of experience, as well as compliance with laws and regulations established by Opilio (U.P.M./M.F.U) Inc. and the competent authorities, could be taken into account by the Opilio (U.P.M./M.F.U) Inc. team in decision-making regarding future fishing plans.