



Advanced Ice Fishing Tactics

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Rod Selection

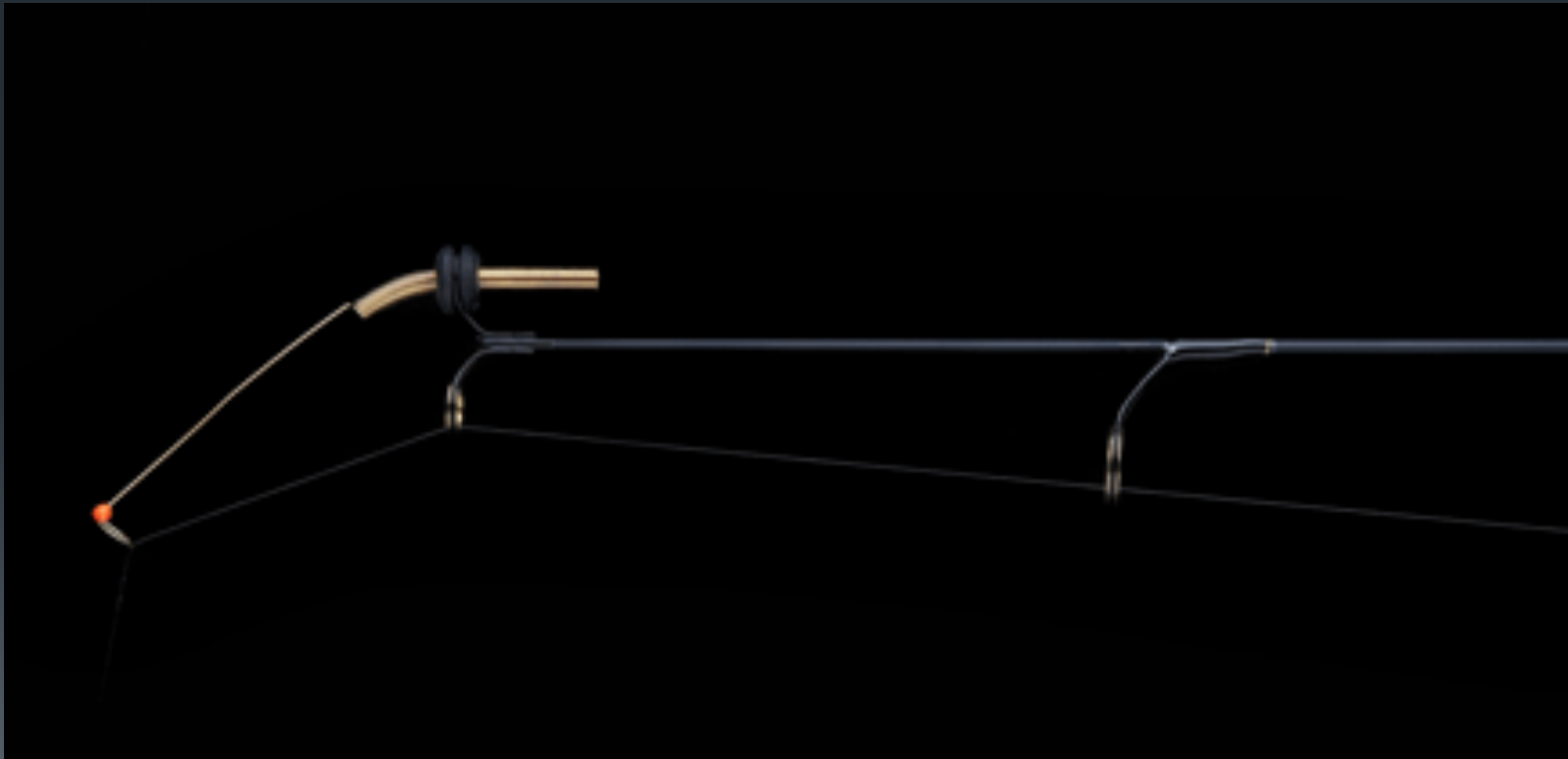
- Average Rod between 24" and 32"
- Fast action tip vs noodle rod
- Rod eyes should be larger to prevent ice build up
- Holding rods pistol grip style so rod starts out at 0 degrees
- Expensive rods are not necessary in ice fishing
- Different Rod applications
- Prefer to purchase rods separately than combo's



Bobbers and Indicators

- Titanium retractable Spring Bobbers
- Smaller Spring Bobbers are better
- Spring Bobbers should hang at 45 degrees below 0 to detect uplift
- Water bobbers fish detect pressure
- Any ice in hole reduces water bobbers efficiency
- Sensitive rod tips as indicators
- Glow paint or bead end of spring bobber for low light

Spring Bobber at 45 Degrees & In Perfect Position





Reels

- Micro spin reels
- Having great drag on micro spins is a must!
- Ice fly reels are the “New” thing to prevent line spin
- The cheaper fly reels are better due to their simplicity and lighter weight
- Reel should balance with the rod
- Hand should encompass the whole reel for pistol grip style of fishing
- Old school “Schooly” reels are a simple alternative





Fishing Line

- 2 lb test for Bluegill and mid size Perch
 - 3 lb test for Larger Perch and Crappie
 - 6-8 lb test for 15"-19" for eater Walleye
 - 10-12 lb test for Great Lakes Walleye
 - 20 lb test for Northern Pike
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- Colored line is great for small diameter pan fish lines for user visibility tipped with fluorocarbon

My favorite ice line for pan fish





Reg. Mono vs Ice Mono vs Braid vs Fluorocarbon line

- Regular mono is absent of ice properties. H₂O freezes quicker on mono.
- Regular mono has stretch, some forgiveness for a drag that maybe too tight.
- Ice Mono has a property that reduces ice build up on the line. And comes in visible colors.
- Reg. & Ice Mono has medium memory and can coil causing loss of sensitivity. Smaller lb test less noticable of memory.
- Mono has an average shelf life of 5-7 years before becoming brittle.



Lines continued:

- Braid is extremely strong for its diameter and stays fairly tangle free. Longevity approx 7-8 years.
- Braid is the most sensitive line of all the lines. No coils or memory
- Braid is made of fibers and freezes up the worst of any lines. Therefore should only be used in warmer temps or shack.
- Braid is best utilized as a main line and then with a 3 foot Fluorocarbon leader.
- Braid applies better to Walleye, Whitebass, Whitefish, etc (due to its strength) and its partnership with Fluro.



Lines and Leaders

- 100% Fluorocarbon is nearly invisible to the fish
- Fluorocarbon has almost no stretch
- Fluorocarbon has a lot of memory, coils and tangles easily. Is also quite expensive.
- Fluorocarbon is best used as a leader with Braid or an Ice line
- If used as a leader, attach as a blood knot or ball bearing swivel.
- Swivel prevents lure spin. Lure spin causes fish to be cautious as it is not natural.
- Fluorocarbon is not as necessary when fishing stained water

Electronics





The Vexilar

- Can see body composition such as weeds
- Can see fish instantly and their reaction to your lure
- Can see the smallest jig (about the size of a small BB)
- Non Vexilar's need the transducer to be in movement to pick up fish. The reason the vexilar is more popular for ice fishing.
- Rechargeable battery.





Fish Camera

- Utilized more to find weed edges, structure and bottom composites
- Can help to catch panfish in clear water
- NOT A SUBSITUTE for a Vexilar
- Very Dark water camera is basically nil.
- Color Cameras see more
- Scares away gamefish like Walleye, Trout and sometimes Crappie

Navionics

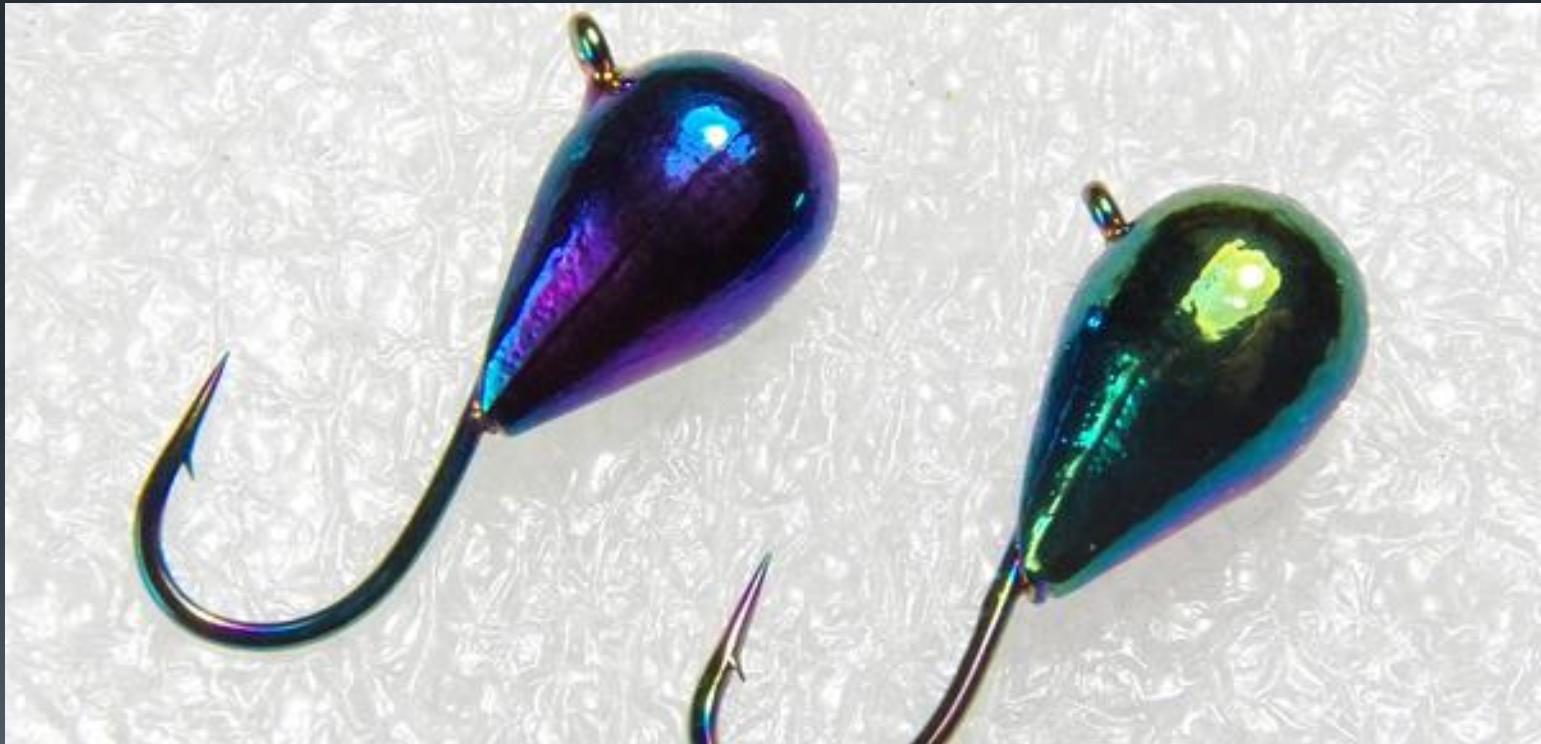




Navionics Features

- \$10 and have the App for lifetime
- Compatible with Android and Iphones
- Mark 1000's of waypoints
- Realtime GPS and shows you where you are on the lake
- Can keep notes of lures, tactics or weather on the marked spots
- Covers most bodies of water including Manitowoc County lakes

Lures and Baits





Jigs & Bait for Bluegills

- Rainbow colored jigs seem to be preferred
- Tungsten jigs are heavier than lead jigs and safer for the environment
- Waxworms and Mousies are preferred by Bluegills
- Fish weed edges or even weed humps for Bluegills
- Increase jig size to reduce the small Bluegills from biting
- All Black jig if bite is tuff



Jigs and Baits for Perch

- Chartreuse and Gold jigs seem to work best
- Very small Gold Spoons and Hali Jigs are dynamite on good sized Perch
- Wigglers (Brown Drake Mayfly Nymphs) are one of, if not the Best bait for Perch
- Perch are found close to the bottom usually along deeper mud flats
- Tiny Minnow head or full tiny minnow on a gold hook with just 1 split shot can also be great under a tip down



Jigs and Bait for Crappie

- Gold Spoons tipped with minnow head or tail in 1/32 ounce size is optimal
- Can also be caught on jigs, and jigging raps
- Red is also a good color for Crappies as it resembles the blood worm
- Red Spikes can be awesome if Crappie are chasing Blood worms
- Usually found suspended off the bottom in waters that are 20' to 40' deep

Ice Augers





Propane Augers

- Can drill approx. 100 holes on 1 propane bottle
- Cleaner than gas and oil
- Easier to fix
- Heaviest of all augers
- Does not leak gas or oil which was notorious on older gasoline augers



Electric Augers

- Lithium batteries last a long time and are not affected by the cold
- Lightweight
- Quiet
- Less power than Propane or Gas
- Cheaper over the long run as the batteries are rechargeable and no need to purchase fuel or oil
- Average life the auger is 5 -8 years

Manitowoc County Lakes





Top Panfish Lakes

- Carstens Lake for Bluegills
- Weyer's Lake for Bluegills
- West Lake off of Horse shoe Lake for Bluegills
- Long Lake for Crappie
- Bullhead lake for Hybrid Bluegills
- Shoe Lake for Crappie
- English Lake for Crappie and Perch



Top Northern Pike Lakes

- Wilke Lake
- Hartlaub Lake
- Schiesels Lake
- Cedar Lake



Lakes with Walleye Present

- Cedar Lake
- Silver Lake
- English Lake
- Pigeon Lake



Thank You For Coming!

- Questions and Answers

