

4 January 2008

Secretary
Australian Anglers Association (W A Division) Inc.
Post Office Box 2200
MARMION WA 6020

SUBJECT: 2007 / 2008 State Dry Casting Championship Results

Dear Diane,

Attached are eight copies of the results from the State Dry Casting Championships. I apologise for the delay in presenting an accurate set of results. For a variety of reasons this was not possible on the day. These results have now been checked and cross checked several times by different individuals and they are, I believe, correct in all respects.

Since the conclusion of the Championships I have had several major concerns within my private life and I did not have an opportunity to make the required corrections until now. I have given a Master copy of the results to George Holman as well as the actual scoring sheets from the day. I will forward a 'soft' copy of the results for inclusion in AAA Records and allow them to be placed on the website.

As you are aware I was well prepared prior to the competition to ensure that it ran smoothly. On the Thursday night prior to the event I set up the database and loaded all information available. This proved to be a complete waste of time as almost every team made radical changes to their team lists. This shows poor planning and effort on behalf of the team coordinators and makes administration of events such as this a nightmare.

I would like to offer some recommendations for consideration by the Dry Casting Sub-Committee to be incorporated into future Dry Casting events.

Late Nomination Fee.

As a result of nominations being received after casting orders had been prepared and issued, and team members being switched between divisions, I am recommending that a late nomination fee of 50% of the nomination fee be charged to the late nominee. This occurred during this competition and created errors in recording as one change was not picked up until after the event whilst checking on another recording error.

Withdrawal Administration Fee

During this event there were many withdrawals as team members did not arrive after they had been nominated and entered into the data base. I would therefore recommend that the Clubs (not the individuals) be charged 50% of the nomination fee to alleviate this practice. Good team administration and preparation would also go some way to preventing withdrawals on the day.

Team Nomination Forms

I would recommend that all team nominations are to be handed in to the Field Day Officer prior to the Team Captains Meeting **on the correct nomination form**. This will alleviate transpositions of divisions and allow for changes and corrections to be made prior to the preparation and issuing casting lists. Persons who are not listed on the Team and

Individual entry forms should not be allowed to participate. This will place the onus on the Clubs and the Team Captain to ensure that only correct details are provided.

To assist in the planning and preparation prior to the event it would also assist if, on the Thursday night before the competition, tentative team lists of participants are telephoned in to a central point to allow for data to be entered in preparation for the event.

Competition Entry Cut Off

I recommend that as at the commencement of the Captains' Meeting no more late nominations shall be received or accepted. This will allow the Recorder to make any late changes, prepare Team Check and prepare casting orders. This will allow the first event to commence at the conclusion of the Captains' Meeting.

During this competition, one caster arrived after the event had commenced, and replaced a team member in the Men's Division. This person then moved on to cast in the Veterans Division. Nobody bothered to tell the Recorder and this affected the results recording. This error was not picked up until after the event whilst correcting another error. It had an effect on the overall team results.

Another team nominated six men's team members and kept a position open for a caster who did not front. This left a blank in the team list and also caused confusion in the casting order.

In addition to the above recommendations, I would like to make some personal observations about the conduct of the championships on the day. Having been an Independent Delegate to the association for over twenty years and held many Committee positions, I was appalled at the attitude and approach of some of the participants.

Delegates wonder why the Association is finding it hard to progress in difficult times. My recommendation is that they all consider that the sport is bigger than the individual and that they get over their egos and support the organisation as a whole. As a volunteer on the day I will be considering my options if asked to assist with scoring in future association competitions should these attitudes persist.

On the day I found it incredible that many people participating in the events refused to assist in the setting up, scoring and recovery and packing up of the courts and equipment. I would allege that several persons also actively promoted the non-participation with the intent of hindering the smooth running of the event. I believe that this event would have been concluded a lot earlier if egos and attitudes had not got in the way of the event. I would suggest that several individuals get over their ego problems and start to participate and 'play' a team game. Once again I apologise for the delay in finalising these results.

I wish the Association well in its future endeavours.

Kind Regards

John Curtis