



33RD NATIONAL ANGLING CHAMPIONSHIPS AND CONVENTION

NEWSLETTER No. 3 - SEPTEMBER, 2012

Hi All,

In Newsletter No. 3, we have some information for you from a couple of fronts - the midterm AAA meeting (changes to the initial program) and how we fared in the weeklong State Titles held on the Sunshine Coast in August.

MID TERM MEETING RESULTS

Delegates from all states were represented at the midterm meeting and we had a positive and fruitful meeting. It was especially pleasing to see Bob and Rosemary Hawes attending from South Australia, as Rosemary has been unwell for quite some time.

The following changes to the Competition Rules, in the AAA Constitution, were passed at the meeting -

1. Fish caught by any legal means (except netting, deliberate jugging *or with the use of power assisted reels/winches* shall be eligible for all competitions. Jigging is permitted.
2. The target for the Accuracy Events shall consist of a cone with a base of 500mm in diameter with a height of 300 mm. The cone shall be made of tinplate and be *fluorescent pink in colour*.
3. Certificate of Appreciation – the wording and colour of this award was discussed and it was adopted as previously submitted by the Constitution Committee.
4. Casting Records – The committee shall receive and process any applications for dry casting records cast at National Championships, State Championships, Divisional Championships and Interclub events. To achieve a National Casting Record, the casting competition must be notified to the state body at least one (1) month prior to the event. To formalise the event, a minimum of eight (8) casters must compete. All measurements of casts made at the event must be made with an electronic measuring device for accuracy.

CONVENTION PROGRAM

The Carnival Coordinator submitted the program to the meeting for discussion. There were very few changes from the original program suggested. Here, I hope to answer some questions that did arise at the meeting, that you also may be thinking about.

All competitions will be in daylight hours! We have done this, so that everybody is able to find their way around and won't get lost. I do admit that night fishing will get a better result, but the drawbacks such as traffic congestion and access to headquarters far outweigh the value of those couple of extra fish. We will still get a winner!

We will start registrations early in the morning so as to beat any traffic congestion, and you will be heading back to headquarters for weigh-in around lunch, when most people are still at work, so we should be able to move around freely.

All registrations will start at 4.00 a.m. except for the Rock and Beach which will start at 3.30 a.m. (the delegates requested extra time to travel to the longest boundary) and you will have plenty of time to get to your fishing venue. We have been requested to be at the registration point until lines down time for each event.

All registrations will be taken at Caloundra Power Boat Club. For the Offshore, we will take registrations at the boat ramp at the Mooloolaba Boat Harbour, Kawana Waters side as well, but we will only remain in this area for 30 minutes.

We were asked why we had three estuaries for this event and it was stated that it is too big an area to research. Well, I am not sure where the fish will turn up, but they will be there somewhere. The overall surface area we have chosen is not all that big, so it is just a matter of looking. A week after we held the State Titles, there were bag limits of whiting being caught in several places because the weather had warmed up.

The casting ground is at the Glass House Mountains Sports Club, where we can fit in three distance casting fields. It is situated approximately 25 min drive south west along Steve Irwin Way. The fully amended program is attached for your perusal.

2012 STATE TITLES

We had 105 individual registrations for our weeklong titles in Rock & Beach, Offshore, Estuary and Casting, and I will be the first to admit that catches were not up to expectations. For a start, the moon was not in the right quarter and we experienced some windy and rough weather.

The beach was fairly knocked around from the big sea and strong wind that came in overnight, and the dart, that had been there for days prior to the event, did not show, but this will happen from time to time, so catches were lighter than what they should have been.

My bet was the top catch in the estuary would come from the Pumicestone Passage and there were some really class whiting weighed-in from there, but I think the top three catches came from the Mooloolah River. It's a matter of keeping your eyes open.

The offshore seemed to be a rewrite of an event we held there a couple of years ago - one large tuna (16.5 kg) took out the individual event again. Some of the lesser placings were taken by bags of small mack tuna although the teams' event was won on reef fish from the Barwon Banks. So that's a bit of a smorgasbord! I'll let you work it out for yourself.

No excuses for the fish! The champions were the best fishers on the day and they have my heartiest congratulations, both teams and individuals. You will find these same people up there when it comes to the National Championships next year. Watch them - they will be the ones to beat!

We used this event as a forerunner to the Nationals to ensure we had it all right. We did find a few minor hiccups and they are now in the memory banks, so will not happen again (I hope). Basically, all went well, and I was really pleased with our headquarters, the Power Boat Club,

(what a wonderful venue), and all the people who jumped in to give a hand. It will make for a great carnival, if we get this much help again next year.

EARLY REGISTRATION FORMS – At last count, it was 28; now it's 45 (thank goodness)! I have received all of West Australia's registrations at the AAA meeting. Remember I am not looking for money yet. All I want to know is that you are thinking of attending the 33rd National Championships, so we can keep you informed of what is happening. It will also allow me to prepare name and bag tags prior to the event.

I am still disappointed that New South Wales has no one coming to Queensland, although their State Captain tells me they have two teams picked in all sections. How about it Grant - where are those Early Rego Forms?

State Secretaries, would you be so kind as to distribute this to your members, please.

