

**Australian Anglers Association State Boat Angling Championship
2016-2017
TOURNAMENT RULES**

SUMMARY OF KEY DATES AND TIMES.

Competition Day	: Saturday 18th March 2017
Early Nominations	: Up to 13th March 2017
Late Nominations	: From 0630 to 0800 hours on the competition day
Sign-on	: From 0500 to 0800 hours
Club Teams Nominated	: Prior to 0630 hours
Competition Start	: At 0630 hours
Bags in Truck/Coolroom	: From 1200hrs and closed at 1530 hours
Sign Off	: From 1200hrs to 1600 hours, at Fish Truck/Coolroom
Skipper Safety Discs	: Returned by 1630 hours after 1600 hours at MOFSC Clubrooms
Weigh-in	: Commences 1630 hours
Presentations	: At approximately 1830 hours

1. FIELD DAY OFFICER.

The Field Day Officer (FDO) has complete charge of the Competition and is empowered to report any Competitor, whom he considers has breached the rules, to the Disputes Committee.

2. NOMINATIONS.

All competitors must be financial members of a Club affiliated with the Australian Anglers Association (WA Division) Inc. No non-affiliated Australian Anglers Association (WA Division) Inc. person is allowed to skipper or crew a competition boat other than a trophy donor, sponsor or charter boat skipper and crew, that trophy donor or sponsor, may fish and be eligible for a species prize but not eligible for the individual prizes, however charter boat skipper and crew may not fish.

Charter boats are not permitted unless there is a nominated non fishing AAAWA Auditor on that boat and an application has been presented to the AAAWA Executive committee three months prior to the event, with the NOTE that there will only be 2 Dhufish retained as a boat limit similar to the recreational boats, however if more Dhufish are caught and retained, then those additional Dhufish will be quarantined not to be part of the bags, unless the rules are changed for Recreational Boats (Charter boats may retain 6 Dhufish), this Charter Boat Rule, shall be assessed on merit each year and area.

All competitors must have nominated prior to the start. Nomination fees will be \$25.00 for seniors and \$20.00 for Juniors. A late nomination fee will apply after 13th March 2017. Nominations will be accepted on the day from 0630 hours until 0800 hours. Late nomination fees will be \$40.00 for seniors and \$25.00 for Juniors.

All Club Teams must have nominated prior to the start at 0630 hours. Not submitted prior to the event on the day. No separate fee is applicable, once individual nominations are completed and paid.

3. SIGN-ON AND BRIEFING.

A Briefing Sheet will be handed to each competitor when they report to the sign on area to confirm their nomination prior to the starting time. The sign-on area will be attended from 0500 hours until 0800 hours and will be at the Mandurah Offshore Fishing and Sailing Club, Clubrooms (MOFSC) in 115 Breakwater Parade, Mandurah WA 6210 (Please remember to bring money for the Skippers disc which is \$10 and refundable). A meeting will be called at 0600 hours for all Nominated Safety Officers, and interested Skippers.

4. START PROCEDURE.

The competition will start at 0630 hours by notification over the radio on frequency Mhz 27.91 and VHF82. All competitors must have SIGNED ON. All boats shall leave from the MOFSC Bay, No boat shall proceed beyond the designated area defined by Cardinal Markers outside the Canal entrance prior to 0630hrs., ensure clearances are maintained for working craft.

5. FINISH PROCEDURE.

The fish truck/coolroom (truck) will be positioned at the MOFSC Boat Ramp and marked with the AAA Banner, and will be manned from 1200hrs and will be padlocked at **1530 hours**. All bags must be tagged, zip tied and deposited in the fish truck by this time. Tags and zip ties will be provided. Late bags are automatically disqualified, unless extenuating circumstances are allowed. All competitors aboard a vessel towing a boat in distress will be exempt from this rule, provided they have made radio or mobile phone contact for confirmation. All boats shall return via the MOFSC Marina.

6. SIGN OFF.

The sign off will be near the Fish Truck at the original sign on area from 1200hrs until 1600hrs. All competitors **MUST** sign off and return safety discs by 1630 hours. Remember also to sign off with Mandurah Sea Rescue Group VMR611 on Channel 91 or VHF 16.

7. WEIGH-IN.

The weigh-in will be conducted at the Weigh in area nominated at the Mandurah Offshore Fishing and Sailing Club commencing at 1630 hours. After each bag has been weighed, bags shall be removed immediately by the competitor, who is then responsible for presenting their fish with tags for weighing at the separate scales for the largest of species prizes.

Fish left in bags, at the weigh in area for longer than 30mins after being weighed will be subject to disqualification, each club to nominate a team to remove all bags and fish from this area. Nominated species fish, exempt till weigh in completed.

8. POSTPONEMENTS.

In the event of inclement weather, a decision shall be made by the Field Day Officer and the nominated Safety Officer or interested Skippers from each participating Club regarding a delay, postponement or cancellation of the event. A meeting will be called at 0600hours where a decision will be made by majority vote of those Safety or Disputes person nominated from each club. If a strong wind warning is current for the area at 0430 hours on the competition day, the competition for that day shall be automatically postponed.

The competition may be temporarily postponed due to unforeseen circumstances on the day. If this looks likely, a briefing of all those nominated Safety or Disputes person from each club. will be advised on the morning again at 0600hrs. If the event is cancelled for the day, the competition will be re-run on the following day. If it is cancelled on this following day, the competition will be cancelled, till the following year.

9. POINT SCORES.

All class winners will be arrived at by points awarded based on the number of eligible species weighed plus 4 points per kilogram of total bag weight. **Only 1 of each eligible species may be weighed.** Species points are as follows:

<u>No. of Species</u>	<u>Points Value</u>	<u>Total Points</u>
1	7	7
2	8	15
3	9	24
4	10	34
5	11	45
6	12	57
7	13	70
8	14	84
9	15	99
etc	etc	etc

In the event of competitors scoring equal points, the competitor with the greater number of species shall prevail. Should they still be equal then the heaviest average weight per fish will be the determining factor.

In the event of any fish being hooked in or through the mouth by more than one competitor, the points attained for that fish must be shared.

Club Captains are responsible for checking, signing and receiving their Club's receipts prior to removing their bags from the weigh-in area.

10. BAG LIMITS AND ELIGIBLE SPECIES.

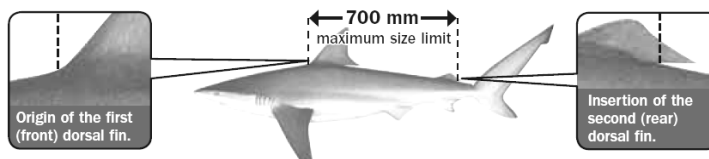
Each competitor may only **weigh ONE fish** of the nominated species groups below. Any more than one fish of any listed species or unlisted species will disqualify the bag. Bags must contain only fish caught by the competitor weighing in, and must be washed and identified with the competitor's tag. Bags containing undersize or protected fish will be automatically disqualified, and will be retained by the FDO till completion of the weigh in.

Fish that have their necks broken will be pushed back into original shape and must be 1cm longer than the listed minimum size. Note this **does not** apply to gilled and/or gutted fish, and fish with the throat cut for bleeding, as long as the neck has not been broken.

- Notes :
1. Sharks exclude all Wobbegong, Carpet, Port Jackson, Cat, Leopard, White Pointer, Grey Nurse, Sawtooth and Tiger Sharks.
 2. West Coast Fishing Rules, as outlined in the Recreational Fishing Guide (West Coast Region) published by the Department of Fisheries, imposes the following mixed daily bag limit restrictions:
 - Demersal Finfish – 2 fish per angler (Cat 1)
 - Large Pelagic Finfish – 3 fish per angler (Cat 2)
 - Nearshore Estuarine Finfish – 16 fish per angler Cat (3)
 - All other species of Finfish – 30 fish per angler Cat (4)

The category for each species is listed in this magazine. Competitors with more than the mixed daily bag limit will be disqualified.

- Fish with an * after the size is noted as a AAA imposed size limit
- Whaler shark measurements



<u>Species Name</u>	<u>Minimum Size (mm)</u>	<u>Cat.</u>	<u>Plate Reference (Guide Only)</u>
Category 1 – Demersal Finfish - 2 per Angler			
Cod, Breaksea	300	1	228
Cod, Estuary (Max. size 30kg or 1000mm)	400	1	235
Cod, Wirrah	300*	1	212, 213
Coral Trout	450	1	Northern book 318-321
Dhufish	500	1	247
Emperor, Blue-Lined	320	1	Northern book 529
Emperor, Red	410	1	Northern book 502
Emperor, Spangled	410	1	315
Emperor, Sweetlip (Red Throat)	280	1	Northern book 526
Emperor, Others	280	1	Northern book 525, 527, 530 - 534
Foxfish, Western	300*	1	442
Groper, Baldchin	400	1	491
Groper, Bass	300*	1	238
Hapuka	300*	1	237
Harlequin Fish	300*	1	230
Pigfish	300*	1	440
Rockcod, Grey-banded	300*	1	232
Snapper, Pink	500	1	310

<u>Species Name</u>	<u>Minimum Size (mm)</u>	<u>Cat.</u>	<u>Plate Reference (Guide Only)</u>
Snapper, Queen (<i>Southern Blue Morwong</i>)	410	1	425
Snapper, Red	300	1	144, 145
Snapper, Ruby	300*	1	<i>Northern book 483</i>
Swallowtail	300	1	142
Trevella, Deep Sea (<i>Blue-Eye Trevella</i>)	300*	1	582
Category 2 – Large Pelagic Finfish - 3 per Angler			
Barracuda	500*	2	435
Cobia	750	2	274
Mackerel, Spanish Broad-barred or Narrow-barred	750 900	2 2	<i>Northern book 955</i> 589
Mackerel, Shark	500	2	587
Mackerel, Spotted	500	2	590
Mahi Mahi (<i>Dolphinfish</i>)	500	2	304
Samson Fish or Amberjack <i>Note: A maximum of 13kg will be allocated regardless of whether fish weighs more)</i>	600	2	300, 301
Shark <i>Note: A maximum of 13kg will be allocated regardless of whether fish weighs more)</i>	1000*	2	1-3, 18, 22-33, 35-37 (<i>Note Whalers over 700mm interdorsal fin length protected</i>)
Trevally, Giant	250*	2	280
Trevally, Golden	250*	2	284
Tuna, Yellowfin	200*	2	599
Tuna, Others Bigeye or Dogtooth or Frigate Mackerel or Longtail or Mackerel or Skipjack or Southern Bluefin	200* 200* 200* 200* 200* 200* 200*	2 2 2 2 2 2 2	601 <i>Northern book 964</i> 595 602 597 596 600
Wahoo	900	2	591
Yellowtail Kingfish <i>Note: A maximum of 13kg will be allocated regardless of whether fish weighs more)</i>	600	2	298
Category 3 – Nearshore Estuarine Finfish - 16 per Angler			
Albacore	200*	3	598
Bonito	200*	3	592-594
Bream, Black	250	3	309
Bream, Yellowfin	300	3	308
Cobbler (<i>Catfish</i>)	430	3	89-91
Cod, Chinaman	300*	3	233
Dart	250*	3	287,288
Flathead	300	3	194-200, 202, 204-206
Flounder	250	3	615-619
King George Whiting	280	3	270

<u>Species Name</u>	<u>Minimum Size (mm)</u>	<u>Cat.</u>	<u>Plate Reference (Guide Only)</u>
Leatherjacket	250	3	627-630, 632-634, 636, 637, 639, 642-645, 647-649, 651, 652
Mulloway	500	3	316
Pike, Striped Seapike or Long-finned Pike	300 300	3 3	437 263
Salmon	300	3	305
Snook	300	3	436
Sweep, Sea	300*	3	351
Sweetlips	300	3	322, <i>Northern book 507-513</i>
Tailor	300	3	273
Tarwhine (<i>Silver Bream</i>)	250	3	311
Trevally, Skipjack or Sand	250	3	292, 293
Trevally, Others Gold-spotted or Thicklip or Bluefin or Brassy or Bigeye or Pennant Fish or Diamond or Basset-Hulls	250* 250* 250* 250* 250* 250* 250* 250*	3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	278 279 281 282 283 285 286 290
Category 4 – All Other Finfish - 30 per Angler			
Garfish	200*	4	119-124
Goatfish	250*	4	323-327
Herring (<i>Tommy Rough</i>)	200*	4	307
Mackerel, Blue	200*	4	588
Sand Bass	250*	4	210
Sweep, Others Banded or Moonlighter	300*	4	352, 354
Whiting, Yellowfin	200*	4	269
Whiting, Others	200*	4	264, 266-267

11. ANGLING LIMITS.

A competitor must not use more than two (2) rods or handlines at any one time and each rod or handline must not have more than two (2) hooks (A flight of hooks to be considered as one hook). A competitor may use any gauge line. Trolling is allowed at the skipper's discretion. A competitor must hook and land their own fish, but may receive assistance in gaffing, gilling or landing which does not entail the assistant handling his rod, reel or line. No power assisted winches or rods and reels, no set-lines, drop lines, traps or hooks on marker floats used for finfish fishing is permitted on any boat, this will lead to immediate disqualification of all competitors on that boat.

In the event that an angler through their club makes application to use power assisted fishing equipment because of impairment, due consideration will be made by the AAA WA Boating Subcommittee before being taken to the Delegates Council to approve such application, this application should be made at least one month prior to the competition.

12. SAFETY.

SIGNING ON AND OFF.

All competitors must sign on immediately prior to Start and receive the Bag Tags and skippers their Safety Disc. Sign on will commence at 0500 hours. A refundable \$10 deposit will be required for the safety discs. **To assist refunds, please bring a \$10.00 note.**

All skippers to return discs and sign off by 1630 hours. The sign off will be near the Fish Truck at MOFSC Boat Ramp till 1600hrs then the MOFSC rooms till 1800hrs, **Refunds will cease after this time.**

SAFETY EQUIPMENT.

Safety equipment (as per Navigable Waters Regulations) must be carried by all boats and may be subject to inspection by the Department of Transport.

Each Club, having members participating in the event, shall appoint a person to act as their Safety Officer. This person shall be responsible for their Club members only. The appointment of the Safety Officer shall be made prior to the event and be notified on the Team Nomination Form.

Marine radio Mhz 27.91 is the operating frequency throughout the day. All boats should log on with the Mandurah Sea Rescue Group VMR611 on Channel 91 or VHF 16. **Frequency MHz 27.96 or VHF72 strictly for boat to boat communication.**

SKIPPERS RESPONSIBILITY.

It is the responsibility of the skipper of each participating vessel to make themselves aware of the current weather forecast and sea conditions before putting to sea. It is also the responsibility of each skipper to be confident with their own ability to safely handle their vessel in the conditions forecast. It is highly recommended that the skipper regularly recheck the forecast throughout the day.

Recreational Fishing Licences are required by all competitors
PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE COMPLIED WITH THIS RULING

13. BOATS

All Boats must be registered and comply with the Department of Transport Marine vessel specifications

Release Weights are compulsory on any fishing vessel, when fishing for demersal fish
PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE COMPLIED WITH THIS RULING

14. DISPUTES AND DISQUALIFICATIONS.

ANY dispute must be reported to the Field Day Officer no later than ten (10) minutes after the completion of the weigh-in. The Disputes Committee shall adjudicate on all disputes within these rules and their decision shall be final. Any competitor found to breach the rules shall be liable to disqualification.

The Disputes Committee will be chaired by the Field Day Officer and shall comprise one (1) member from each participating Club, nominated prior to the event on the Team Nomination form. If the dispute directly involves that person, a substitute for that Club may be elected. The verdict shall be decided by majority vote.

15. ALTERATION TO RULES.

The organising committee shall have the power to vary the rules or arrangements to contribute to the smooth running of the competition.

16. LIABILITY.

All competitors and persons taking part in the competition do so entirely at their own risk and the Australian Anglers Association (WA Division) Inc. and/or the Organising Committee will not be held responsible for any loss or damage sustained by any competitor or any other persons to their persons or effects.

17. BOUNDARIES.

No limit, but all boats must leave and return from the MOFSC launching areas, although to minimise congestion, boats may wait for the start time within the confines of the area nominated in rule number 4. No boat shall leave this area prior to the start time (*Please keep the clearances in channel areas for working vessels to enter and exit uninhibited*)

18. CLUB TEAMS.

Clubs may nominate any number of teams in the following classes, prior to the start of Competition.

MENS TEAM	Maximum of seven (7) Competitors.
LADIES TEAM	Maximum of four (4) Competitors.
VETERANS TEAM	Maximum of four (4) Competitors.
JUNIORS TEAM	Maximum of four (4) Competitors.

All members of those teams must be members of that club, and the club is affiliated with the AAAWA INC.

For Men's Team Scoring, the best six (6) results to count, 7th result is not to be included in the score.

For Ladies, Veterans and Juniors Team Scoring, the best three (3) results to count, 4th result is not to be included in the score.

Juniors to be over TEN (10) years and under SIXTEEN (16) years of age on 1st August 2016. Veterans to be Sixty (60) years or over on 1st August 2016.

19. TROPHIES PRESENTATION.

Trophies will be presented at the MOFSC Clubrooms at approximately 1830 hours (6:30pm).

Club Captains are to report to the Competitions Officer 30 minutes prior to the presentations to confirm their Club's results.

20. BAGS.

All fish to be weighed must be presented in a hessian or cloth based bag, (Suggest smaller bag inside larger bag to keep smaller fish from being damaged by the larger fish during transport) The use of plastic, woven plastic or woven fibreglass bags is prohibited. Fish presented in buckets or eskies will not be weighed.

21. CONDITION OF FISH.

Any fish presented in a rotten, badly deteriorated or generally unfit for consumption state shall not be eligible for weigh-in. Fish must be whole and in a clean state.

Fish that have their necks broken will be pushed back into original shape and must be 1cm longer than the listed minimum size. Note this **does not** apply to gilled and/or gutted fish, and fish with the throat cut for bleeding, as long as the neck has not been broken.

Note: Each club to ensure weighed bags are removed from the weigh in area as soon as practicable (no later than 30 minutes after that bag has been weighed and appropriately looked after, see note 23).

22. SPECIES PRIZES.

The Field Day Officer may request an examination of any or all fish that have won Heaviest of Species prizes. Fish that were part of a disqualified bag cannot win Heaviest of Species prizes.

23. DISCARDING FISH.

All participants are required to observe the responsible fishing practices set out in the Association's Recreational Fishing Code of Conduct.

Any Competitor found to have knowingly discarded whole fish caught during any Australian Anglers Association (WA Division) event shall be disqualified from competing in any future Australian Anglers Association (WA Division) events for a period determined by the Disputes Committee.

Disqualification from the event concerned may be retrospective, and all winners, results and awards affected by that disqualification will also be amended retrospectively if and as required.

24. PROTESTS.

Protests regarding the final points or allocation of prizes and trophies must be reported to the Field Day Officer within thirty (30) minutes of the conclusion of the presentations. After 30 minutes has elapsed, no claim will be allowed nor will the Australian Anglers Association (WA Division) Inc. alter any results.

25. FACILITIES.

Egg and Bacon Burgers with Tea/Coffee will be available from 0500hrs at the sign on area, at the MOFSC, provided by the MOFSC Team. Hot snack food will be available with refreshments from the MOFSC clubrooms prior to and during the weigh in and presentations.

There will be Minimal fish cleaning facilities provided, no offal to be left at the club or surrounding area.

Security for Boats at Weigh In.

Parking is permitted at the MOFSC, if you are able to have your boat picked up or organize parking at a friend's house for the weigh in and presentation, please do so.

Please be aware that the boat parking area and rear car park is acceptable however, it is the skipper's responsibility to secure your boat and valuables.

We also ask you to respect the grounds and patrons of the venues and refrain from any unruly behaviour, which can put the organising committee into disrepute. Although the AAA Boating Sub Committee has endeavoured to make all aware, it will not be held responsible, for any loss or damage, if occurred.