

R Marine Mandurah Fishing Classic 2016

Competition Rules & Procedures

Competition Saturday 19th November 2016

Starting Procedure

- Competitors must sign-on at the Mandurah Offshore Fishing and Sailing Club Inc. (MOFSC) between 0600 and 0800 hours.
- The competition will start at 0700 hours Saturday 19th November 2016 by the sounding of a siren. and the issuing of safety discs no competitor will fish in the competition before receiving their safety disc or before 0700 hours Saturday 19th November 2016.

Finishing Procedure

- The competition will finish at 1600 hours Saturday 19th November 2016 and competitors **MUST** "sign off" by returning their safety disc to the Weigh Master.
- Any competitor not signing off by 1600 hours will be disqualified from the competition including any draw prizes.
- All bags with fish must be tagged with the supplied tags ready for acceptance at the weigh in area by 1600 hours.
- Only one (1) fish of each species is to be placed in the bag any more than one (1) fish of any species or any unlisted species in the bag will disqualify the bag.
- Each competitor is to present their fish in their own bag, late bags will automatically be disqualified unless extenuating circumstances arise, the only exception to this rule will be for any boat assisting another boat, the accompanying boat competitors shall be entitled to weigh in providing their fish are present before the end of the weigh in and the Disputes Committee decision will be final on this matter.
- The weigh in qualifying fish species will only be accepted in natural fibre bags for example cotton (calico), hessian absolutely no plastic bags.
- Any competitors retiring early from the competition must return their safety disc as not returning the disc at the weigh in may cause a full scale alert thinking they could be in trouble at sea etc.

Venue

- Mandurah Offshore Fishing and Sailing Club Inc.
- Sign on back veranda of the club premises.
- Weigh in at the Hook Café.

Competitors

- Members of the MOFSC & three (3) visitors and other visitors by invitation.
- Junior members 14 years of age or younger.
- No professional fishermen.
- Members of the MOFSC Fishing Committee are entitled to enter the competition.

Nominations & Fees

- Must be lodged at the MOFSC Office during business hours or on the fishing competition day at sign on venue. (Late fee applies on the competition day)
- Adults - Entry fee \$50.00 Early bird discount \$10.00 for first 50 entries payable with nomination form.
- Juniors – Entry fee \$20.00 payable with nomination form.
- Late entry fee \$10.00 per competitor if nominating on the competition day.
- Safety Disc Deposit - \$10.00 payable at logon when receiving the disc & refundable on return of the disc at the weigh in.

Competition Control

- Weigh Master runs the weigh in.
- The Control Committee will control the competition.
- The Disputes Committee decide any disputes and the Judge's decision is final.

Rules

- Competition rules will be interpreted by the Controlling Committee to ensure smooth operations of the event.

Postponement/Cancellation of the event

- The competition may be temporarily postponed due to unforeseen circumstances on the day and if necessary run the competition later that day or alternatively the competition may be changed to the next day (Sunday) all competitors would be made aware if there are any competition changes.
- Should the ocean weather turn for the worse then the competition should revert to the estuary and rivers system only if the weather conditions are deemed to be suitable.

Guidelines/Rules for catch & photograph of sharks

- Sharks to be measured by length (Nose to Tail) not weight and the procedure will utilise the current WA Fisheries rules.
- The capture is by camera, electronic device i.e. iPhone, android or similar device, a printed picture or any method that can identify the shark, length and unique identification (safety disc & number) which should be clearly seen.
- The displayed safety disc has a number linked to the fisher and shall be used in the photo with the shark on a brag mat or similar accurate length measuring tool to show length and then the photo is to be presented at the weigh in for assessment & in the case of boat fishing photographed onboard the vessel.
- In this competition sharks are the only species measured by length.
- The Weigh Master will control the photos and if the picture is unclear in any way not to identify the fish, length or safety disc number then photo would not be eligible in the competition.
- All disputes will go to the Disputes Committee the judge's decision is final.

Competition eligible Fish Species (WA Fisheries rules apply if no size then 200mm minimum size applies)

- Whiting
- Tailor
- Herring
- King George Whiting
- Bream
- Skipjack
- Flounder
- Flathead
- Garfish
- Western Australian Salmon
- Mulloway
- Yellowtail Kingfish
- Mahi Mahi (Dolphin Fish)
- Game Fish The heaviest of the following species (only one of the species can win)
 - Bonito
 - Mackerel Grey, School, Shark, Spanish, Spotted
 - Marlin Blue, Black
 - Sailfish
 - Swordfish
 - Tuna Bigeye, Dogtooth, Longtail, Mackerel, Skipjack, Southern-Bluefin, Yellowfin
- Sharks - WA Fisheries rules apply, also for competition rules all eligible sharks will be measured over their entire length (nose to tail) using the rules for catch & photograph (see below).

Sharks not eligible for the competition

- Wobbegong Shark
- Port Jackson Shark
- Shovel Nose Shark

- In the unlikely event the competition is cancelled and there is no chance of holding the event at another time there will be a 75% refund of the competition entry fee for each competitor the remaining 25% would assist covering incurred costs of the competition.

Prize Winners

- The competition is based on the heaviest of the nominated fish species list except for sharks which will be judged on overall length with the winning competitor producing the heaviest fish in that category except for sharks being judged on length and should there be a tie for the heaviest fish or in the case of sharks the same length then the first entered fish at the weigh in is the winner.
- The MOFSC Fishing Section reserves the right to hold any winning fish for examination until after the weigh in presentation.
- No awards or prizes are confirmed until announced at the presentation and the decision of appointed judges shall be final for all awards and prizes.

Draw Prizes

- Competitors must have “signed off” and must be present at the time of the draw to be eligible for prizes and trophies unless there are unforeseen circumstances, the only exception to this rule will be for any boat assisting another boat and the accompanying boat competitors shall be entitled to weigh in providing their fish are present before the end of the weigh in, the Disputes Committee decision will be final on this matter.

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 gang of hooks are considered to be one (1) hook).
- No other fishing devices for catching fish can be used.
- A competitor must hook their own fish with no assistance with rods and reels although assistance with gaffing, gilling and the use of landing nets are permitted.
- No power winches or power reels are permitted no bait marker buoys or droplines are allowed.
- Fisheries WA rules apply and where there is no fish species length shown a minimum length of 200MM will apply.

Geographical Limits of the fishing area

- Fishing is permitted between lat 32deg 02min south (south of Rottneest) and lat 33deg 05min south (Southern End of Lake Preston) this defines an area for boating and land based fishers.



Weigh In

- Weigh in will commence at 1630 hours at the MOFSC.
- Any fish presented in a rotten or badly deteriorated state for consumption shall not be eligible for weigh in.
- Fish must be whole and no frozen fish will be accepted.

Fishing

- You can fish from your own vessel, your mate's boat from the beach, shore, Jetties, rocks, river banks, estuary you name it just take care to fish within the geographical limits and be safe the key is to ensure you can return to the weigh in by 1600 hours.
- Hint: Keep your fish bag in a Cooler (Esky) in a slurry 50/50 ice and salt water this should keep your fish fresh for about 3 days.
- Bring your family and or friends it is about having fun with people you enjoy to be with.
- The competition may be checked by Fisheries WA & Water Police at random.

Boating

- Remember it is the skipper's responsibility for the safety of the crew.
- All boats are to conform to the Department of Transport regulations and may be checked by the department and if not conforming may be disqualified.
- All boats should log on & log off with Mandurah Water Rescue
- Choose carefully where & when fishing from a boat depending on the vessel size the smaller the boat the closer the shore or estuary you should fish use common sense and weather conditions and if in doubt don't go out, choose safety first and fish responsibly.

Breakfast

- Breakfast starting at 0600 Venue the Hook Café.
- Bacon & egg roll, tea & Coffee (Urn style serve yourself) cost \$5.00 on the day.

Disputes

- Any dispute must be reported to the Disputes Committee in writing no later than 10 minutes after the completion of the weigh in, the Disputes Committee shall adjudicate on all disputes within these rules and its decision will be final. Any competitor found to have breached the rules shall be liable to disqualifications.

Liabilities

- All competitors and persons taking part in the competition shall do so at their own risk and the MOFSC will not be responsible to any person or effects personal or real.
- All competitors to complete the registration form as part of the nomination process.
- All boat owners to have boat insurance including third party liability to \$10,000,000 this is the responsibility of the boat owner and skipper to ensure this is the case.
- All Skippers are responsible for their crew and their actions and to ensure they have a Recreation Skippers Tickets or higher qualifications, safety is paramount.
- It is the responsibility of boat owners and skippers to ensure they have a current Department of Transport boat registration sticker adhered to their vessel appropriately and comply with the departments boating rules.
- All competitors to have a fishing licence if required in accordance with the WA Department of Fisheries rules.