



MOFSC

2023/2024

Monthly Fishing Competition

Rules and Procedure

1st Full weekend of month Oct–Aug (April 2024 Comp 2nd Weekend)

Monthly Fishing Competitions Rules & Procedure



Competitions are held on the first full weekend (Saturday & Sunday) of the month, unless otherwise advised by the Captain Fishing. A minimum of 11 monthly competitions scheduled in each competition season; October to August. Minimum of (5) competitors to constitute a competition.

1) Control of the competition is with the Fishing Captain

When strong wind warnings, the competition may be restricted to the Mandurah Estuary.

2) Competitors (Individual and Team categories)

Open to all MOFSC members. All competitors must be amateur fishers. No professional fishermen or charter boat operators. Guests are eligible to compete in three competitions. Juniors (2 Oct 2023 aged up to 17 years; not turning 18 by 1 October 2023) must be always accompanied by a parent or guardian and able to land fish unaided as per rules. Annual award eligibility a minimum of 4 competitions. The Captain/Skipper must nominate teams: all MOFSC members, maximum of 3 team members and all members to enter a minimum of 4 competitions.

3) Nomination Forms Individual and Team (ONCE a competition season)

Every competitor must complete an INDIVIDUAL nomination form. In addition, a TEAM form must be completed by the Captain/Skipper before competing. Nomination forms are available on the MOFSC website or from the yellow Fishing box near the stairs/bar entry). Give completed forms to the Fishing Committee.

4) Competition ENTRY ENVELOPES (Place in the Yellow Fishing box EVERY competition to enter)

Entry envelopes must be filled in whether putting to sea or leaving for a land-based location. Team envelopes to include every team member competing and Team name.

4.1) Entry fees

Juniors (and junior visitors) Up to 17 years of age	no charge
Casual (and visitors)	\$10 each competition
Annual (members only)	\$60 the competition season

5) Competition start and finish times

0700 hrs Saturday to 1500 hrs Sunday on competition weekends. No competitor shall commence fishing before the official starting time. The Captain Fishing, in conjunction with Fishing Committee can change dates/times. Alterations to the calendar may be advised by email, social media and/or by the club e-newsletter.

6) Boundaries

There are no boundary limits.

7) Weigh-in

1530 hrs Sunday of the competition. Competitors returning early or not attending the weigh-in, please contact the Captain Fishing or his/her delegate.

8) Angling Limits

- 8.1 Rod and hook limits are as per the West Coast Fishing Rules as outlined in the Recreational Fishing Guide (West Coast Region) rules.
- 8.2 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.
- 8.3 Power assisted winches and reels are not permitted, unless exemption is sought in this event by an angler applying through their club to use power assisted fishing equipment because of impairment. Consideration will be made by the Boating Sub-Committee to approve such an application. This application should be made at least one month prior to the competition.
- 8.4 Set-lines, drop lines, traps or hooks on marker floats used for finfish fishing is not permitted on any boat.

9) Weigh-in (hint: keep your fish in an icy saltwater slurry)

- 9.1 Each competitor brings fish to weigh-in a bag. They must be natural Fibre bags such as cotton (calico), or hessian. Absolutely no plastic bags.
- 9.2 Only ONE (1) fish of each nominated species per competitor is to be placed in the bag.
- 9.3 All weights and lengths must be checked by a member of the Fishing Committee.
- 9.4 Fish must be **whole** (gilling and gutting of sharks is permitted).
- 9.5 Competitors must be present to weigh-in their fish. Exceptions apply.

EXCEPTIONS:

- 9.5.1 Competitors are assisting another boat and their catch is at weigh-in
- 9.5.2 Competitors seeking medical attention and their catch is at weigh-in
- 9.5.3 Competitor has been approved for weigh in by proxy

9.6 PROXIES:

- 9.6.1 Must be pre-approved. Only available to MOFSC members. Maximum of 50% weigh-ins/season by proxy.
- 9.6.2 Contact Captain Fishing or delegate before the competition with request and reason. The captain (or delegate) and one other fishing committee member will review request.
- 9.6.3 If approved; note on entry envelope it is a proxy entry and name (proxy must be a member). It is the responsibility of the fisher to ensure their proxy is aware of all relevant rules.
- 9.6.4 Competitors with approved proxy are eligible for all points and prizes except the Anglers draw. Any prizes won will be presented at weigh-in to the proxy.

10) Registration on Competition Day (and eligibility for Anglers Draw prize)

- 10.1 All fishers competing on the day must register prior to close of fishing (3:00pm Sunday).
- 10.2 Registration is by filling out an envelope and lodging in the Fishing box located near the weather station or by registering with the skipper of the Club Fishing boat.

10.3 All competitors Must have paid their dues prior to weigh in.

10.4 The Fishing secretary will transcribe the names in any order to the fishing register and each name will be allocated a number by the Fishing Secretary.

10.5 The Anglers draw will be determined using numbered tokens or a random number generator based on the number allocated by the secretary.

11) Scoring system

11.1 5 points for entering the competition and attending weigh-in

11.2 10 points to be allocated for each eligible fish species a competitor weighs in.

11.3 10 additional points for the heaviest of each nominated fish species

11.4 Team points are the sum of points for all members in the competition.

12) Dealing with a Tie

12.1 If two or more fish of the same species are weighed in by competitors at a monthly competition, then both/all fish of the same weight will be measured by the weighmaster. The winning fish will be the longest fish. If there are two or more fish that are the same weight and length, then the points shall be shared. To determine the prize winner, a corresponding number of numbered tokens will be placed in a bag and a random draw will take place between the tied competitors. The competitor that draws the highest numbered token will take the prize for that competition.

12.2 If two or more fish of the same species have the same weight at the end of the year, then the competitors will share the annual prize for that species.

12.3 If two or more teams tie on the day, the team with the most champion fish on the day will be team champion for that month.

13) Monthly Prizes

These are open to all registered competitors who have entered and are present at weigh-in. Each month a total of 5 species prizes will be given. These will be chosen randomly by the Fishing Captain or their delegate and will be posted at the weigh in. All Species as per species list can be weighed in for annual points but monthly prizes will only be given for the 5 nominated species.

13.1 Champion of the day

13.2 The Anglers Draw

13.3 Winning Team Flag passed on each month to the winning team of each competition.

13.4 Prizes given on the day are final.

14) Annual Awards: for individuals and teams (all must have completed nomination forms)

14.1 4 competitions entered to be eligible (must submit Entry envelope every competition)

14.2 6 competitions entered to be eligible for special prize draw for individuals on awards night.

14.3 All monthly points aggregate for annual award and trophy winner.

15) Penalties

15.1 Fishers caught discarding fish at any competition are penalized 50 points.

15.2 Undersize fish— If first time offense the fish will not be weighed in and the fisher will receive a penalty of 10 points.

15.2.1 If the Fisher reoffends the total bag of that competition will be disqualified, and the

fisher will be penalized 50 points

15.3 Any fish presented, in the opinion of the weighmaster or Captain, is in a rotten, frozen, poor or deteriorated state or unsuitable for consumption will be disqualified.

15.4 Any Fisher weighing in a fish that was not landed by them — If first time offense the fish will not be weighed in and the fisher will receive a penalty of 10 points.

15.5 If the Fisher reoffends the total bag of that competition will be disqualified, and the fisher will be penalized 50 points.

16) Demersal Ban Periods

As of 1st February 2023, the following new Demersal Ban periods will be in effect:

16.1 Demersal Fishing Ban – 1st February – 31st March inclusive

16.2 Demersal Fishing Ban – 1st August - Beginning of September/October school holidays.

16.3 Demersal Fishing Ban – End of September/October school holidays - 15th December inclusive

Supporting rule changes applicable to Demersal fishing:

16.4 Boat limit of 4 demersal scale fish per vessel (Dhufish boat limit of 2 removed)

16.5 Mixed species daily bag limit of 2 demersal

16.6 Removal of size limits for - Dhufish, Baldchin Groper and Breaksea Cod (Black ass)

16.7 Maximum of one bait or lure when fishing from a boat for demersal scale fish

Regarding the above size limit removal for demersal scale fish, all demersal scale fish weighed in at MOFSC competitions shall retain the normal minimum size as previously prior to the changes and all Dhufish must be a minimum of 400mm.

It is important to note that the **pink Snapper** size limit remains in effect at **500mm**.

The new Government demersal ban period and additional rules do not apply to Land based fishing, which is allowed year-round, however, to maintain the integrity of the competition, no demersal fish will be accepted at weigh in during the period bans, whether caught land based or not.

List of eligible species. Check the types of fish NOT accepted as point scoring fish, p6.

2023/2024 competition Species list		FROM AUG 1 ST to start of SEPT/OCT School Holidays – End of SEPT/OCT school holidays to DEC 15 th , then 1 st FEB – 31 ST March Demersal Ban Applies	
FISH SPECIES		FISH SPECIES	
Baldchin Groper		Bream (Silver (Tarwhine), Black)	
Breaksea Cod		Flathead	
Bream (Silver (Tarwhine) , Black)		Flounder	
Dhufish		Game Fish- <i>See below</i>	
Foxfish		Herring	
Flathead		King George Whiting	
Flounder		Leather jacket	
Game Fish- <i>See below</i>		Mulloway	
Herring		Pike	
Harlequin Fish		Salmon (West Australian)	
King George Whiting		Samson fish or Amberjack	
Pike		Sand whiting	
Salmon (West Australian)		Shark	
Samson Fish or Amberjack		Skippy – Skipjack	
Snapper (only Pink OR Queen)		Squid	
Sand whiting		Sweep	
Shark		Tailor	
Skippy – Skipjack			
Tailor			

WA Department of Fisheries sizes and rules apply.(if no size is applicable refer to MOFSC Fishing Competition **minimum size 200mm**).

Game Fish Species	Sub-species
<i>Bonito</i>	
<i>Mackerel</i>	<i>Grey, School, Shark, Spanish, Spotted</i>
<i>Mahi Mahi (Dolphin Fish)</i>	
<i>Tuna</i>	<i>Bigeye, Dogtooth, Longtail, Mackerel, Skipjack, Southern-Bluefin, Yellowfin</i>
<i>Yellowtail Kingfish</i>	

Types of fish NOT accepted as point scoring fish:

Blue Groper
Wobbegong Shark Port Jackson Shark
Dusky Morwong
Buffalo Bream
Sea Carp
Any member of the Eel family
Gurnard or Scorpion fish
Marlin Sailfish Swordfish
All Rays: including Shovel Nose and Eagle Rays
Any fish under the minimum lengths set by MOFSC.

Minimum Sizes Accepted at Weigh-in for all MOFSC Competitions

Fish sizes will be governed by the legal sizes referred to in the current Western Australian Department of Fisheries Recreational Fishing Guide – West Coast region.

The competition may be checked by Fisheries WA & Water Police at random.

Where no eligible fish sizes are applicable the MOFSC Fishing Section will adopt a minimum size of **200mm for Non-Demersal fish and 400mm for Demersal fish (500mm- Pink Snapper)**

Presenting undersize fish to weigh-in is unacceptable (see Penalties, page 3).

17) Fishing Regulations and Ethics

- All competitors will comply with the WA Fisheries Department Rules and Regulations. If no minimum size of fish is required, the Mandurah Offshore Fishing and Sailing Club Fishing Competitions have adopted 200mm as a minimum standard for weigh-in (see species list).
- All fish must be caught by a hand line, rod or manual winch with competitors using not more than two (2) rods or hand lines or manual winches each with not more than two (2) hooks attached (a set of ganged hooks will be determined as one set of hooks).
- Fish caught by other means, e.g. speared, netted or set line will NOT be accepted.
- Drop lines or hooks attached to a marker buoy are NOT allowed, also power winches are not allowed.
- No angler will alter the structure of a fish in any way nor implant any object within a fish to gain an advantage.
- Discarding fish at any competition is unacceptable (see Penalties, page 3).

18) Protests

Any protest relating to the weight or measurement of a fish must be made to the Weigh Master and Captain of Fishing BEFORE the fish is removed from the Weigh Station. All other protests should be made in writing within twenty-four (24) hours of when the dispute has occurred.

The Fishing Committee will decide all protests. Their decision shall be final and binding on all concerned.

19) Boating

All Skippers are to have a Recreational Skippers Ticket or higher qualifications.

All competitors must have a Recreational Fishing License if required, in accordance with the WA Department of Fisheries rules.

All boats are to conform to the Department of Transport (DoT) regulations and may be checked by the Department. If not conforming a boat may be disqualified. All boats must be fitted with the safety equipment required by DoT for the distance at which the craft is operating offshore.

It is strongly recommended that boats pair up when overnight fishing.

Please be mindful of the size of your vessel and choose carefully where you fish. Generally, the smaller the boat the closer the shore. Use common sense when assessing weather conditions, if in doubt don't venture out. Safety should always be your first priority and please fish responsibly. Remember: Life jackets only save you if they're being worn.



20) Communications

All boats to LOG ON and LOG OFF with "Mandurah Volunteer Marine Rescue VMR 611" on:

VHF - Channel 77 or 82

27Mhz Radios are No Longer monitored by Marine Rescue and are not to be used to Log On. If you do not have a VHF set on board your boat, please Log ON/OFF via Phone: 9535 4789

Times Of Radio Operation

October to May

Seven days a week
only 0600 hours to 1800 hours

June to September

Weekends & Public Holidays
0700 hours to 1700 hours

In the event that you may still be on the water after our hours of operation you may still be able to Log on and Off through a Mandurah Volunteer Marine Rescue Home Base:

PH: 0409 081 801 or PH: 0429 081 801

21) CODE OF PRACTICE

Take no more fish than you need or can use.

Understand and observe all fishing regulations.

Support and encourage any activities that restore and enhance our fisheries and fish habitats. Remove rubbish to prevent pollution and to protect wildlife. Use established roads and tracks wherever possible.

Take care when boating and anchoring to avoid damaging sensitive areas. Report environmental damage and pollution to the relevant authorities. Quickly and correctly return unwanted or illegal catch to the water.

Use only legal tackle, attend to your gear and value your catch.

Obtain permission to enter land and respect the rights of all who use the waterways. All competitors will participate in a sportsperson like manner.

Disclaimer

All those taking part in competitions conducted by Mandurah Offshore Fishing and Sailing Club do so entirely at their own risk and responsibility.

The Mandurah Offshore Fishing and Sailing Club, any sponsor or any other party involved in the organization of any event disclaims any and every responsibility for any loss, damage, injury, to persons and things, both ashore and at sea, as a consequence of participation in any way in the competitions governed by these competition rules.

22) General

Competitors may fish from their own vessel, another vessel, or from the beach, shore, jetties, rocks, river banks, estuary, or other waterways. Please remember to stay safe. The key is to ensure prize eligibility and return bags in time for weigh-in.

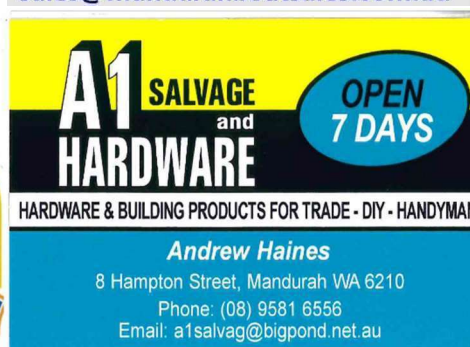
Club records may only be broken on competition days.

The Fishing Committee reserves the right to penalize any boat/angler by a deduction of points or disqualification from the competition for conduct considered detrimental to the competition or the Mandurah Offshore Fishing and Sailing Club.

NO FISH CLEANING OR DISPOSAL OF OFFAL SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN THE CLUB GROUNDS OR IN THE WATER ADJACENT TO THE CLUB. A fish cleaning station is located in the council car park, next to the Fisheries building, east of MOFSC grounds.

WEAR A LIFEJACKET! DON'T TRUST YOUR LUCK

Bring your family and your friends. The competition is about having fun.



**MAINTAIN AND WEAR
YOUR LIFEJACKET**

Remember to
**LOG ON
LOG OFF!**

**SUPPORT ALL OUR SPONSORS, SHOP WITH
THEM AND TELL YOUR FRIENDS**