



## **58th AUSTRALIAN SPEARFISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS B section Rules 2010**

### **State Representatives**

1. Each State and International group should provide a representative, namely SR and IR respectively. These people should be identified to the Competition Director (CD) no later than 15th February 2010.
2. Each SR and IR is advised to nominate a second person to represent his/her State/International country should they be unavailable.
3. One person will represent their State/International group at any one protest resolution meeting. It is preferred this is one of those previously identified to act in this role.
5. Mobile phone numbers for each SR/IR should be provided to the CD no later than 15th February 2010.
6. Any SR/IR meetings will be posted on the notice board at the weigh in /sign on area.
7. SR/IR meetings will aim to begin on time. If any representative is unable to attend, their co-representative should attend in their absence.

### **Code of Conduct**

8. Inappropriate behaviour towards an official or volunteer or other competitor may incur an *inappropriate conduct* warning which can be issued by any identified official of the competition
  - a. A second warning may lead to a report of *inappropriate conduct* to be resolved by the Competition Director and officials.
  - b. Penalties may incur as a result, and are to be decided upon by the Competition Director.
9. Behaviour of competitors which brings the AUF into disrepute shall initially be reviewed by the Competition Director and Competition Committee. They will have the power to determine an appropriate penalty (including disqualification of the entire competition).
10. PARTICIPANTS WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE DISQUALIFIED IF UNDERSIZE FISH (FISHERIES LEGAL SIZE LIMIT) ARE WEIGHED IN OR IF FISHERIES FINE COMPETITORS ON THE DAY FOR ANY BREACH OF FISHERIES REGULATIONS.

## **Competition Entry & Placings**

- 11.** Competitor's age for entire championship will be considered to be the age they are on the 21st of February 2010.
- 12.** Competitors will be eligible to enter into and compete in all categories appropriate for their age and sex. eg. Junior women are eligible to compete in Junior, Women and Open categories.
- 13.** Where only one competitor turns up to compete in a category, they are to be included in the next most "appropriate category" where there are two (2) or more competitors. Such competitors should not suffer because others did not show and shall receive any trophy for that category. They are also eligible for any placings in the "appropriate category".
- 14.** In the event of a tied final score for any position in any Individual Event, the competitor with the greater number of scoring species will be placed ahead of another competitor. Should this not decide the placings, then the competitor with the heaviest fish or subsequent fish will be declared the winner.
- 15.** A nominated Four Man Teams Event will be held on day 2 of individual competition. Registration of each team must be made in writing by a team representative to the CD on the morning of the competition. Only teams comprised entirely of divers from the same state are eligible to win the State Team trophy.

## **Protests**

- 16.** Protests must be lodged according to A Section Rules.
- 17.** Protest should be lodged to the weigh in master (WM) or the Competition Director (CD). Along with a \$50 protest fee.
- 18.** Protests will be resolved by a resolution committee meeting.
- 19.** Resolution committee meetings will be held prior to the next competition event.
- 20.** Resolutions meetings will be restricted to one SR per state, the IR (if applicable) the CD, AUF National Representative (Adam Smith) and one minute taker.
- 21.** The Competition Director will act as chairperson in these meetings and will have one vote.
- 22.** Each person present, (excluding the minute taker) has one vote.
- 23.** A strict code of conduct will be adhered to at the meetings:
  - a.** Witnesses of the incident may be asked to speak and then will leave the meeting
  - b.** each committee member will be allowed to give their opinion on the incident , with a limit of 5 minutes to each speaker. A request for a 2nd turn at speaking may be made to the chair.
  - c.** Anyone interrupting a speaker will be issued with a warning.
  - d.** A second warning will have the person removed from the meeting and his /her vote is void.
- 24.** A vote will be cast with a majority ruling being valid.
- 25.** Failure to reach a ruling within 2 hours of the commencement of the meeting the chair (CD) may ask the National Chair of AUF, to cast the deciding vote.
- 26.** When possible the verdict will be given to the party/parties directly involved in the protest immediately at the conclusion of the meeting.

### **Sign On – Spearfishing Events**

- 27.** Each competition venue will have a clearly identifiable ring.
- 28.** Competitors must be inside the ring at least 30 minutes prior to role call with ALL gear, including fins, weight belt, speargun and ALL safety requirements
- 29.** A gear check will take place for each competitor in the ring.
- 30.** Competitors are required to stay within the ring, once they are signed on for that event, until commencement of competition.
- 31.** The ring area will be closed off at 15 minutes to role call.
- 32.** Once the ring is closed there will be no admittance until after commencement of competition.

### **Time Keeping / Sign Off**

- 33.** An official time will be given by the dive convenor.
- 34.** A siren or air horn will sound at the start and finish of competition.
- 35.** At the finish siren the ring will be closed OFF.
- 36.** Competitors that remain outside the ring when it is closed must sign off, they will however be recorded as late.
- 37.** Fish must be in the ring before the finish siren.
- 38.** Any fish presented in the ring will be weighed; sorting will not be permitted once fish are in the ring.
- 39.** Time keeping during the event is the responsibility of the competitor.
- 40.** Once a competitor has been signed off with fish, he will leave the ring.
- 41.** The competitor and Officials only will be permitted in the ring during weigh in of a catch.
- 42.** Competitors are permitted to bring in fish early to the official ring however fish may not then leave the ring or be handled again by the competitor.
- 43.** The Weigh Master will ensure all competitors' fish are treated in the same way after being deposited by the competitors. In particular, no competitor's fish shall be allowed to be kept on ice unless all competitor's fish are kept on ice.
- 44.** The Competition Director reserves the right to have a separate sign off area from the official ring eg sign off may be on the beach if there is a safety issue. If this is the case;
  - a.** All competitors will be informed before the start of the event.
  - b.** Competitors must sign-off their name off at the designated location and then transport their catch to the official ring in a timely manner.
  - c.** At the CDs discretion, a short window may be provided to divers to sort fish before they are bagged & tagged and submitted to the weigh-in.

### **Entering & Exiting the water during Competition**

45. During spearfishing events if a competitor needs to exit from the water within the first 3 hours of competition, he/she may do so;
- a. Within the start area identified
  - b. Areas away from the start point ONLY in the event of danger
  - c. Areas away from the start point ONLY in the event of personal need (to use the toilet)

IN ANY OF THE ABOVE SITUATIONS THE COMPETITOR MUST RETURN TO THE WATER IN THE EXACT POSITION OF EXITING.

46. After the first 3 hours of competition a competitor may exit and re-enter the water in any position.
47. In the event of equipment loss or failure within the first 3 hours of competition the competitor is required to exit the water at the start point.

### **Diver Identification Tags**

48. Each competitor will be provided with 3 Diver Number Identification Tags at the initial registration and information session.
49. One tag must be attached to the competitors float and presented at each days sign –on.
50. Fish bags will be provided each day at the sign off.
51. Another tag must be attached to your bag with your catch at the end of each day's competition.
52. Competitors are responsible for collecting their tag after weigh –in to be re-used.
53. The third tag is a spare, or may be used for a second bag of fish
54. In the event that a competitor requires another tag a fee of \$10 per tag will be charged.

### **Score Updates and location of heats**

55. Event maps will be displayed in the window of Rye Hotel. A map will be provided identifying the location of the hotel mentioned to competitors by February 1<sup>st</sup> 2010.
56. Each day's scores will be posted at the above location.
57. Heat location will be provided to competitors at least 12 hours prior to sign-on. The location will also be posted in the shop window of Rye Hotel.

### **Eligible Species & Weights**

58. Eligible Species and weights as per score sheet
59. There is no unlisted category
60. A competitor may weigh only one fish from each eligible specie. Not more than two fish from any eligible specie are to be presented to the weigh in. Should a competitor present more than two fish from any one specie, a 105 penalty will be deducted from the competitors score.
61. Penalties will apply as per A section rules for under weight fish.
62. The maximum score for an eligible species shall be 250 points.

- 63.** Competitors are responsible to know and adhere to Victorian fisheries size and bag limits. Minimum legal sizes are listed beside each species (if applicable).
- 64.** Competitors who present fish under the legal size or above the daily bag limit to the WM will be disqualified.
- 65.** The Competition Director reserves the right to remove any specie from the score sheet for the remainder of the competition heats if:
- a.** more than 40% of that specie presented to the WM are less than the minimum weight stated on the score sheet.
  - b.** for unforeseen conservation reasons.
- 66.** If a specie is removed from the score sheet, competitors will be informed at least 12 hours before the next event.
- 67.** Competitors are responsible to see that their fish are properly weighed and recorded by taking the spare score sheet. They will also be required to sign the original score sheet to verify their catch.
- 68.** Competitors may retain the fish they captured during spearfishing heats for personal consumption. Fish retained by a competitor must be tailed by slicing off all or part of the tail fin after weighing.
- 69.** 'Banded Drummer' will be weighed in under the Black Drummer specie.

### **Berley**

- 70.** Berleying is only permitted using eligible, (on the score sheet) species. Victorian Fisheries daily bag limits apply to fish used for burley.
- 71.** The berleying of Abalone, Southern Rock Lobster and Sea Urchins is strictly forbidden. Any competitor found to be berleying these species, will be disqualified from the days heat with no exception.
- 72.** The taking of Cephalopods (Southern Calamari, Octopus and Cuttle Fish), Crustaceans and Molluscs during competition hours is not permitted. Any person found with these species in their possession will be disqualified.

### **Selection for Interpacfic Pairs Event**

- 73.** An open pairs event will be held separately after day 3 of the spearfishing events, weather permitting.
- 74.** A fee of \$100 per pair will apply to divers NOT eligible for Interpacific Pairs selection.
- 75.** Competitors may select a partner and compete in line with the diving rules for Interpacific Pairs Selection, however only those eligible prior to the pairs competition (see A section Rules Section 4:1) will be eligible for Interpacfic Pairs selection.

### **Risk Management**

- 76.** Safety boat crews have the authority to pull competitors from the water in the event of a major safety concern. If this happens the event will be cancelled for that day. Failure to comply with the instruction of boat safety crew may lead to disqualification.

- 77.** To alert safety boats use your whistle, reflector OR raise your gun in the air to draw attention to yourself.
- 78.** When not in use, spearheads and knives must at all times be sheathed in an adequate manner.
- 79.** Competitors are responsible for their own hydration during the competition, however safety boats will have emergency water on board.
- 80.** Competitors must not use the safety/pick-up boats for food or drink consumption in any way during the competition.
- 81.** Competitors accompanied by a parent (or safety buddy), will strictly compete on their own merit. If the safety buddy is not an entrant in the competition they will not be permitted to carry a speargun. 'Spotting' of fish is also forbidden.
- 82.** Sub juniors may compete on a separate, single day at the discretion of the CD and competitors in that category.
- 83.** Should the CD deem a specified heat location unsafe that heat shall be moved to the next closest, safe competition venue.

### **Miscellaneous**

- 84.** Use of handheld GPS or GPS watch is not permitted by competitors during an event.
- 85.** The use of torches during competition heats is permitted.
- 86.** Flashers are permitted.
- 87.** There will be no boundaries placed on competition locations, however divers closer to entry and exit point will be attended to more frequently by the safety boats.
- 88.** Competitors shall not load their guns out of the water.
- 89.** Competitors must not tow loaded guns on floats.
- 90.** Competitors may swim in pairs, however the use of caddies during the course of the competition is illegal.
- 91.** Selection of the venue site for an underwater fishing heat shall be by ballot of all available nominated diving sites that can be fished under the expected conditions. The ballot may be waived at the event organiser's discretion.
- 92.** The depositing of equipment at various sites in the Competition Venues prior to the start of competition for use during the competition will not be allowed, and will be penalised by disqualification. eg: Backpacks, shoes, spare clothing, dive gear, water bottles etc.