



OCEANIA INC

**World Sport Fishing Federation Oceania Inc**

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**Boat Fishing Contest Rules**

modified 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008

**Please note while mostly accurate, rules may be varied up to Contestant Briefing on the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2008**

Note: Any participant in The Fishing World Cup 2008 has to take out his/her own safety insurance, and take self-safety seriously. WSFF will not be held liable for any medical expenses during the tournament.

**I. Competition Date:** Saturday August 23rd to Sunday August 24th 2008

**II. Contest Location:** Ocean area east of Gold Coast.

**III. Contestants:** approximately 80 people.

**IV. Competition Schedule**

1. The competition is run through a group elimination process. The winner of each round progresses to the next round. The schedule includes a First-Round competition, Semi-Final and Final. The top three contestants in the final competition will receive cash prize and trophy.
2. In the first-round competition, 80 contestants are divided to 8 groups, each group with 10 contestants on one boat.  
Trip time is 9 hours. One hour practice fishing. Contest time is approximately 5 hours, contestants will shift positions about every 60 minutes. At the end of each round the fish will be weighed to determine who goes to the next round.  
The top three contestants of each group (boat) will progress to the semi-final competition.
3. In the semi-final competition, trip time is 5 hours. 24 contestants are divided to 3 groups, each group with 8 contestants on one boat. Contest time is 180 minutes, shifting positions every 60 minutes. The top three contestants of each group (boat) will progress to the final competition.
4. In the final competition, trip time is 5 hours. There are nine contestants on one boat.

Contest time is 180 minutes, shifting positions every 60 minutes. The top three places will be decided . The places of the other contestants will be announced after the contest is over.

## V. Competition rules

1. The primary target species are:
  - Snapper *Pagrus auratus*,
  - Pearl Perch *Glaucosoma scapulare*,
  - Venus Tuskfish *Choerodon venustus*
  
2. The secondary target fish are:
  - Teraglin *Atractoscion aequidens*
  - Yellowtail Kingfish *Seriola ialandi*
  - Cobia *Rachycentron canadus*
  - Amberjack/Sampson fish *Seriola hippos*
  - Tuna all (except Mackerel Tuna *Euthynnus affinis*)
  
3. All non-target fish are to be released.
  
4. In the first-round competition, the contestants who do not catch a primary target species fish will be eliminated.
  
5.
  - a. The length of the Snapper *Pagrus auratus*, (from the nose to the tip of the tail fin) has to reach thirty-six centimeters (36cm) at time of capture and bag limit per person is 5.
  - b. The length of the Pearl Perch *Glaucosoma scapulare*, (from the nose to the tip of the tail fin) has to reach thirty-six centimeters (36cm) at time of capture and bag limit per person is 5.
  - c. The length of Venus Tuskfish *Choerodon venustus* to be thirty - one centimeters (31cm) at time of capture and bag limit per person is 6.
  - d. All other secondary target fish to be according to Queensland legal lengths.
  
6.
  - a. Target fish are to be measured by the contestant himself with a ruler that the tournament HQ provides, and then contestant decides to keep or release.
  - b. Fish type, length to be checked by judge and recorded.
  - c. Competitor will sign record sheet for each fish kept. (and first target fish caught as for rule 9.)
  - d. Judge will tag the fish with the competitor's number and place in competitor's fish retaining bag. Competitors will not touch fish retaining bag at any time until the bag is sealed closed.
  - e. All fish that do not measure target size for primary target fish and legal length for secondary target fish must be released.
  - f. All fish to be according to legal length at time of weighing. (Take account of shrinkage.)
  - g. Secondary target fish are only eligible for largest fish award. Keep if:
    - i. They are dead or dying.
    - ii. They may qualify for largest fish award.

7. After bag limit of each target fish is met all additional fish of that species will be released. Reaching the bag limit first does not mean the contestant wins, places are decided as listed in VI. Scoring below.
8. No upsizing will be allowed, ie a smaller dead fish may not be replaced in bag by larger fish.
9. The length of the first-caught target fish for each contestant, even if less than target length, is to be measured by the contestant, and handed to the judge for another measurement, which is recorded on the record card with time caught. The judge and contestant have to sign the record card. The fish shall be released. The score will be invalid without going through this process.
10. Contestants may supply their own fishing equipment. All rigging to be done by the competitor without help from others.
  - a. Only one fishing rod is allowed to be used at the same time, and a maximum of two hooks.
  - b. Artificial lures are forbidden.
  - c. The hooks should be on the top of the sinker, in a paternoster rig, dropper loops to be no more than 30cm long.
  - d. Hooks and swivels to be provided and rigged by competitors.
  - e. No metal or rigid plastic spreaders will be allowed
11. Fishing rods and reels supplied by charter boat may be used but must be rigged by the competitor.
12. Line is to be nylon monofilament **no braid or PE line**, recommended breaking strength 10-15kg.
  - a. Fishing rods recommended to be no greater than 2000 cm long.
  - b. Electrical fishing reels and rod stands are not allowed.
13. The organizing country will provide fishing bait. Blue pilchards and squid
  - a. Contestants are not allowed to use bait other than supplied by the charter boat, or crank baits or soft plastic lures when fishing.
  - b. No additional fish oil or fish attractant will be allowed to be added to the bait.
14. The sinkers required on the day of the tournament will be provided by the Chartered boat. (8oz - 16oz, 225 - 450gm)
15. In all rounds, the contestants draw lots to decide which boat they will fish on and their fishing positions on the boat. The competitor who draws number one will take number one position on boat all other competitors will take positions in numerical order to the right of

that competitor. The fishermen will be rotated according to the direction of the skipper and boat judge according to the fishing style of each boat.

16. The boat skipper will ensure according to boat layout and fishing style that no fisherman is disadvantaged by their fishing position.
17. Way of position shifting: facing the head of the boat, move right according to following principle.  
E.g. :1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 moves as follows  
1-3, 2-4, 3-5, 4-6, 5-7, ...10-2 , and so on.
18. The overall contest time will not pause while the boat is moving and the shifting of contestants' positions or when lunch is served.
- 19 The time of each heat has to end according to the rule set by the organizers.
20. Before the contest, the organizer/congress or the judge has to announce the time according to the schedule. (e.g. if contest is shortened due to weather conditions.)
  01. Time on
  02. Time of starting contest
  03. Position-shifting every XX minutes (or when moving the boat to a new fishing point.)
  04. Time overNotice will be given 10 and 5 minutes before shifting positions and when time is up. Also, a final count down 5.4.3.2.1 will be given prior to the end of the competition. It is obligatory to inform the contestants in this manner.
21. The beginning and end of the contest is determined by the signal/sound of a whistle.
22. The anchor may or may not be dropped. The captain alone will decide whether to drop anchor or if there is a need to change the location of the boat. All the contestants must agree without exception. When hearing the time-stop whistle, contestants should stop fishing by pulling up the fishing line, and put the sinker into the boat. If any fish hooked at this same time, it will be valid if it is pulled into the boat within 3 minutes.
23. During the contest, other people cannot assist contestants with their fishing.
24. In case of large fish hook up, boat crew may if necessary direct all competitors to pull up lines. No fish hooked after wind up direction given will be counted. Fishing will recommence according to the whistle.

25. When contestants' fishing lines tangle together and fish is on the line, contestant raises hand and ask referee for assistance. The referee decides whose fish it is.
26. In the final contest, at least the Chief boat judge or vice boat judge has to stay on the scene to monitor the fishing.
27. If any contestant breaks a competition rule, they should be reported to the congress immediately. The congress will not accept any complaints after the competition.
28. If there is any dispute, the Chief boat judges will make a decision. If the contestant is not satisfied with the outcome, he should report to the congress with documents at least five hours before the closing ceremony. The congress will convene a meeting of the judges to adjudicate on the matter and the Chief Tournament Judge will make final decision.
29. The Chief Tournament Judge shall be appointed by the International Headquarters, all other judges shall be appointed by the host country.
30. If there are any matters that the congress has overlooked, through its leadership meetings, the congress will address them and make a subsequent announcement.

## **VI. Scoring:**

1. The primary target species are:
  - Snapper *Pagrus auratus*, (Target length 36 cm)
  - Pearl Perch *Glaucosoma scapulare* (Target length 36 cm)
  - Venus Tuskfish *Choerodon venustus* (Target length 31cm)

Score according to the total weight of all kept fish.

When scores are the same, the congress will decide the winner by the following method.

- a. the total weight of three fish chosen by the contestant
  - b. the heaviest fish,
  - c. the second heaviest fish,
  - d. the third heaviest fish
  - e. If can't be separated then draw lots to decide winner
2. If not enough target fish of target length are caught to determine all places, places will be determined by the following:
    - a. Length of first caught target fish under target length will determine the winning places. The longest will win.
    - b. If the lengths are the same, score according to the time caught. Earliest caught wins.
    - c. If length and time caught the same, score according to fish type snapper, pearl perch,

tusk fish.

d. If same length, same time, same type, then a lottery will decide winner and places

3. The equipment for measuring fish should be approved by the Federation.
4. Before weighing fish, the judges should shake the fish three times so as to eliminate water and record the weights on the record card, with judge, recorder, and contestant's signatures.
5. If there are any objects or small fish in the mouth of the fish, measure after removing.
6. In the first-round competition, contestants who do not catch a fish are eliminated. Only contestants in the final who did not catch a fish can use the total weights of the previous heat as a qualification standard to determine final placing against other competitors who did not catch a fish.
7. In the final, if no contestant catches an assigned fish, the first contestant who catches one of the target species in the 30 minute extra-time is the champion. If the fish are caught at the same time, the winner is decided according to the weight. Otherwise anyone catches a primary target fish is the champion. If no fish is caught, contestants score according to the total weights of preliminary and semi-final contests and other criteria of point 2.

#### **VII. The order to determine places.**

1. Target species over target length by greatest weight.
2. Target species less than target length by largest length.

#### **VIII. Those things supplied:**

In the boat-fishing contest, the Federation will provide the following items.

- A. One ruler for measuring fish.
- B. One Bait container per person.
- C. One fish holding bag.

#### **IX. Regulations leading to disqualification.**

Disqualification from the Tournament will occur if the rules in Parts I – VIII are broken by the following:

1. If fish are caught by any other method other than stipulated by regulation
2. If any method was used to artificially increase the weight of fish or length of fish.
3. If obstruct other competitors fishing or act to chase away fish.

4. Moving fishing position without instruction from referee.
5. Disregarding referees' instructions
6. Handing over fish to another competitor, both giver and receiver will be disqualified
7. Dropping lines before tournament start time. If such a situation is proven to have been unintentional, then retrieve the line by winding up line and restart fishing. Any fish caught during this time will be invalid
8. Competitor uniform to be worn during competition time.
9. If competitor number is not displayed on the back visible at all times during competition times and competitor ID card is not with competitor at all times during the tournament time.
10. Being drunk or using illegal drugs at any time during the tournament time. Tallebudgera Recreation Centre has a no smoking /no alcohol policy. Any alcohol drinking or smoking only allowed outside the Tallebudgera Sport Centre boundary.
11. If there is unsportsmanlike or, bad behavior, including sexist, religious, or racial vilification, violence or actions to bring the Tournament into disrepute.
12. Actions to disrupt the concentration of competitor by loud singing or other method.
13. Any criminal action.
14. Any other things not mentioned above, will be determined by the Tournament Headquarters

**X. Responsibility of charter boat operator:**

1. Public liability Insurance to \$10,000,000 current.
2. Maintain all legal requirements relating to safety and good seamanship.
3. Leave and return according to schedule.
4. Ensure that the crew know the rules and assist judge.
5. Manage boat to give no unfair advantage or disadvantage to any competitor.
6. Give instruction and demonstrate fishing procedures according to the particular requirements of the boat.
7. Crew shall not fish themselves including live baiting.
8. Once competition has started, crew shall not assist in any fishing operation including putting on bait, retying hooks etc, other than untangling lines or assisting in breaking off snagged lines.

9. Provide bait cut and distribute to competitors and no other bait may be used.
10. Provide lunch and drinks during times of resetting drift.
11. Shall not troll on the way to/from the bottom fishing grounds.
12. Target the primary species above.
13. Return all non target species to the water unless a chance for the largest fish award or if high likelihood of dying. These shall be kept separate from the target species and remain the responsibility of the boat operator. All fish returned to port shall be donated to a worthy charity.
14. Fish shall be kept on ice but not in water slurry to ensure no extra water is taken into the fish but no weight is lost through dehydration. All target fish to be left fully intact.

#### **XI. Team Prize:**

The team prize will be a trophy. The team prize will be determined strictly by the International Committee, recognizing achievement, effort, and team attributes in the spirit of international good will and harmony, which enhance the quality of the Tournament.



## BOAT FISHING RIG

Rods up to 2 metres long are recommended. Reels to hold at least 200 metres of line and have to ability to lift heavy sinkers.

