

# Brisbane Waters Combined Fishing Clubs (BWCFC) Competition Rules – 2021

## *Definitions (in alphabetical order):*

**Affiliated Club:** means any Fishing Club affiliated with Brisbane Waters Combined Fishing Clubs.

**Bag Limit:** means the number of eligible fish of any given species permitted to be weighed in as listed on the BWCFC species sheet.

**Brag Mat** means a commercially available mat with markings in 1cm graduations with a 'stopper' at 0cm.

**Broken Bay:** means the geographical area west of a line from the southernmost tip of Box Head to the Northern most tip of Barrenjoey Point.

**Competition:** means any fishing event or contest between the affiliated clubs or individual members of the affiliated clubs.

**Competition Weekend:** means any weekend a competition is held.

**Competition Year:** Means the period between the last Sunday in January to the Last Sunday in November in a calendar year.

**Disqualification:** means the voidance of a member to be eligible for any and all points in a given competition on a competition weekend.

**Eligible Fish Species:** means fish listed on the BWCFC species and points sheet as adopted by BWCFC.

**Fish:** means any species of fishes, crustacean or cephalopods that are included in the eligible fish species list.

**Fishing Boundary:** means the geographic area from the northern breakwater of Swansea Channel New South Wales extending to the South Head of Sydney Harbour New South Wales.

**Fishing Licence:** means a current and valid recreational permit to capture fish in New South Wales as may be issued by the Department of Primary Industries or such other equivalent statutory body.

**Gilled:** means the complete removal of the gills of a fish.

**Gutted:** means the complete removal of the intestines of a fish.

**Inside Fishing:** Means fishing in the geographic area west of a line between the land mass between from the northern breakwater of Swansea Channel New South Wales extending to the South Head of Sydney harbour New South Wales. For the avoidance of doubt, "Inside" includes Lake Macquarie, Tuggerah Lakes, Brisbane Waters, The Hawkesbury River, Pittwater and Broken Bay.

**Juniors:** means children who turn twelve years to sixteen years old during the current competition year.

**Line Fishing:** means the capture of fish by the use of a line or lines. For the avoidance of doubt, it excludes the use of any traps to capture fish.

**Members:** means any person who has complied with his or her financial obligations to their respective affiliated clubs or are otherwise entitled to membership of their affiliated club.

**Outside Fishing:** means fishing in the geographic area east of a line between the land mass between from the northern breakwater of Swansea Channel New South Wales extending to the South Head of Sydney harbour New South Wales. For the avoidance of doubt it includes land base fishing from any rock(s) or beach(es) not falling within the area defined under "Inside Fishing".

**Points:** means competition points awarded in accordance with these rules.

**Roed:** means the complete removal of eggs from a fish.

**State Fishing Rules:** means the legislation and regulations in force under statute or common law that apply to all recreational anglers in the state of New South Wales.

**Size limit:** means the size limit of fish on the eligible species list measured in accordance with any method of measurement allowed in the State Rules at the weigh in.

**Sub-Junior:** means children who turn eleven years old or are of a younger age during the current competition year.

**Weigh In:** means the event whereby fish are presented to be weighed for scoring at a competition at the conclusion of the competition weekend.

## **The Rules**

### ***General***

- 1) The Association will conduct competitions in accordance with these rules.
- 2) All Members are eligible to participate in competitions.
- 3) These Rules may be amended in accordance by way of resolution at the Annual General Meeting or by of an Extra-Ordinary Meeting or as otherwise permitted under any Constitution of BWCFC.

### ***Competition Commencement and Conclusion times.***

- 4) Competitions will commence at 6am Saturdays and conclude at 3pm on Sundays on competition weekends.

### ***Fishing Rules; any breach of the rules under this heading will result in disqualification.***

- 5) All fish weighed in must have been captured within the fishing boundaries.
- 6) All fish weighed in must have been captured by line fishing and otherwise in accordance with the State Fishing Rules.
- 7) All fish weighed in must have been captured during a Competition Weekend and within the competition commencement and conclusion times.

### ***Weigh In Rules; except as otherwise stipulated, any breach of the rules under this heading will result in disqualification.***

- 8) No member shall weigh in unless they pay the applicable weigh in fee.
- 9) Only fish caught by the member weighing in may be weighed in.
- 10) All fish to be presented for weigh in shall be in the weigh in area by 3pm on the Sunday of the weigh in weekend.
- 11) No member shall weigh in unless they hold a fishing licence unless they are exempt under the State Rules from being required to hold a fishing licence. An Executive Committee Member has the unfettered

right to request to see the members fishing licence at any reasonable time during a competition weekend/ weigh in and such request shall be complied with by the relevant member.

- 12) All fish weighed in must comply with size and bag limits.
- 13) Only eligible species of fish may be weighed in.
- 14) All fish weighed in must be gilled, gutted and roed with the exception of any crustacean on the eligible species list.
- 15) All fish weighed in must be dead, with the exception of any crustacean on the eligible species list provided that such crustacean is made safe to handle by tying up or such other method that ensures it is safe to handle.
- 16) No mutilated fish may be weighed in.
- 17) All fish weighed in must be contained in a separate container correlating to each individual member. For the avoidance of doubt, more than one member may place their fish in an esky or such like container, provided that the fish of each individual member is separated by being contained in a plastic bag or the like.
- 18) Each container must contain only eligible fish, ice or such other item necessary to cool the fish. No other foreign objects are to be contained in any container. A breach of this rule (in so far as it relates to foreign objects) shall result in disqualification unless the weigh master determines otherwise (noting the purpose of the foreign object rule is to ensure the safety of the weigh master).
- 19) No member or other person may be in the weigh in area unless their fish are being weighed in, or they are otherwise involved in the weigh in process. A breach of this rule shall result in disqualification if the breach continues to occur following a warning from the weigh master, authorised recorder or an executive committee member.

### ***Scoring of Competition Points***

- 20) Points will be scored in accordance with the weight of the fish as per the point system stated in the eligible species list.
- 21) One point per fish will be awarded in addition to any other applicable points.
- 22) Fish caught outside fishing are to be weighed by the weigh master separately to fish caught inside fishing and recorded accordingly.
- 23) The Association member shall record and maintain a register of "Association Record Fish" and "Board Record" as per the eligible species list.

### ***Competition Weekend Prizes- Juniors and Sub-Juniors***

- 24) The Junior and Sub-Junior member with the most points accrued during the competition weekend shall each receive the sum of \$10.00 or such other amount as may be resolved at any Annual General Meeting. For the avoidance of doubt, no minimum number of members (regardless of gender or age) need weigh in for a prize to be awarded under this heading.

### ***Competition Weekend Prizes- Adult Members***

- 25) No completion weekend prize shall be awarded under this heading unless a minimum of ten members (regardless of gender or age) have weighed in.
- 26) The Male member with the most points accrued during the competition weekend shall receive the sum of \$20.00 or such other amount as may be resolved at any Annual General Meeting, provided that a minimum of five male members have weighed in.
- 27) The Female member with the most points accrued during the competition weekend shall receive the sum of \$20.00 or such other amount as may be resolved at any Annual General Meeting provided that a minimum of three female members have weighed in.
- 28) The "Lucky Angler" shall receive the sum of \$20.00 or such other amount as may be resolved at any Annual General Meeting.

### ***Catch and Release***

It is not intended that catch and release will be used for a member's entire catch. This option primarily offered to allow the release of larger fish to allow them to breed.

Brag Mats issued by NSW Department of Primary Industries show length to whole weight conversion tables for twelve of our target species. The species are Australian Salmon, Yellowfin Bream, Dusky Flathead, Yellowtail Kingfish, Snapper, Mulloway, Tailor, Tarwhine, Teraglin, Silver Trevally, Sand Whiting and Luderick. Until tables are available for other species, catch and release will be limited to the species listed above.

- 29) In order to be eligible for points under this process you must do the following:
  - a. Measure fish fork length from the fish's mouth to the inner fork of the tail (where applicable). For species without a forked tail measure to the central tip of the tail. The fish's tail must be presented open with a natural spread.
  - b. Photograph the fish on the brag mat. The photo must be clear and in focus with the brag mat measurement markings clearly visible and legible. The photo must be taken square on with the whole fish in the frame.

The whole weight of the fish will be estimated based upon tables printed on the back of the DPI Brag Mats. For points scoring and "Board Fish" purposes ten percent will be subtracted from the whole weight of the fish to give an estimated gilled and gutted weight.