

Windybank's Fishing Club

Competition By-Laws - 2010

1. Competitions

- 1.1 The Outdoor Coordinator, or a Representative of the Outdoor Coordinator established for the purpose, shall prepare a calendar of fishing events to comprise the Club Competition Calendar and shall fix competition days (sessions) and weigh-in times.
- 1.2 The competition shall be deemed as being held over a period of time to be decided by the committee/sub-committee.
- 1.3 Competitors may fish for and otherwise collect bait (subject to NSW fisheries regulations) prior to the commencement time of a Competition round.
- 1.4 It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure that they fish:
 - In compliance with NSW Fisheries regulations
 - In compliance with NSW Waterways regulations, including those relating to the possession and use of the appropriate safety equipment.

2. Boundaries

- 2.1 Estuary:
 - 2.1.1 Sydney Harbour: All waters west of an imaginary, direct line from Hornby light (inner south head) to Cannae or Flagstaff Point (Inner North Head).
 - 2.1.2 Broken Bay: All waters west of an imaginary line from the western most point of Barrenjoey to the most easterly point of Lion Island, thence to Box Head, including all tidal waters within and directly connected to Brisbane Waters and Hawkesbury River.
 - 2.1.3 Tuggerah Lakes and Narrabeen Lake: Lake Entrance boundaries shall be the continuation of the line of the beach (tidal area) across the lake entrance.
 - 2.1.4 Any other estuary waterways located in the state of New South Wales.
- 2.2 Rock and Beach:
 - 2.2.1 Any rock and beach location deemed to be outside Estuary classification.
- 2.3 Offshore:
 - 2.3.1 All waters accessible by boat deemed not to be part of the Estuary waters in NSW.
- 2.4 Freshwater:
 - 2.4.1 All non-tidal fresh waters within the state of NSW.
- 2.5 Prohibited waters:
 - 2.5.1 Fishing is not permitted within any waters designated as a closed fishing area by NSW Fisheries.

3. Divisions:

- 3.1 The competition shall be held over the following divisions: Deep Sea, Estuary, Rock and Beach, Freshwater and Catch & Measure (Salt Water & Fresh Water).
- 3.2 Fish caught within the boundaries of any division can only be claimed for and weighed-in for that division.

4. Sections:

- 4.1 The Competition shall comprise 3 sections:
- Open: Men and Women of all ages
 - Ladies: Women of all ages
 - Juniors: Any person aged under 16 years or age at the starting time of the first competition round for that year

5. Conditions of Capture:

- 5.1 Lines: Competitors will fish with no more than four lines with a maximum of two (2) hooks per line, or two (2) flights of hooks per line. A flight of hooks is a number of hooks ganged together for the purpose of securing a single bait. A flight of hooks may have no more than five (5) hooks.
- 5.2 Capture: All fish shall be taken on rod/reel or hand-line using baits or lures and must be hooked, played and landed by the competitor claiming the catch with no other assistance other than netting or gaffing.
- 5.3 Minimum lengths: Any fish presented for weigh-in must attain or exceed the minimum length as adopted current version of the Windybank's Fishing Club minimum length and point regulations.
- 5.4 No competitor shall return to 'ground tackle' (i.e. anchors, buoys) laid prior to the starting time of the competition.
- 5.5 All fish weighed-in for competition or for a record claim must be caught by a method as outlined within this section.

5.6 Catch and Release Conditions of Capture:

5.6.1 Junior Catch and Release Competition

Junior members can catch and release any size fish to submit at the weigh in. Catch and release sheet witnessed by club member or photo of fish on approved 'brag' mat with completed catch and release sheet.
1 point per centimetre will be awarded. Any fish submitted for catch and release can not be weighed-in in any other division. **Fish are to be released in good condition.**

5.6.2 Senior Catch and Release Competition

All fish must comply with Windybank's size requirements for other competitions. Catch and release sheet witnessed by club member or photo of fish on approved 'brag' mat with completed catch and release sheet.
1 point per centimetre will be awarded. Any fish submitted for catch and release can not be weighed-in in any other division. **Fish are to be released in good condition.**

5.6.3 Weigh in rules for Catch and Release

You must be in the weigh in area when time is called. A completed catch and release sheet to be presented to weigh-in master either witnessed or accompanied by photos (photos must be clearly visible)

6. Competition Bag Limits:

6.1 For the purposes of the competition weigh-in, a competitor may only present a single bag limit of any individual species, as adopted in the current version of the Windybank's Fishing Club species list or defined by the NSW Fisheries. Where a bag limit for any species has not been set by NSW Fisheries, a limit of ten (10) fish of that species will apply.

7. Competition Minimum Legal Lengths:

7.1 Saltwater - Species / Minimum Length / Points / Bag Limit: - As Per Current WBFC Species list.

7.2 Freshwater - Species / Minimum Length / Points / Bag Limit: - As Per Current WBFC Species list.

7.3 Other:

7.3.1 All other eligible fish (that are not listed above) are acceptable if they exceed 30cm in length.

7.3.2 Ineligible species include sharks, rays, eels, estuarine catfish, rock cale, kelp fish, frog fish, toad fish, sun fish, box fish, black spinefoot, wirrah cod, estuarine cod, and black rod cod. Also ineligible are any fish protected by NSW Fisheries regulations.

7.3.3 Measuring of fish: Fish to be measured should be straightened if necessary so that it will lie flat and straight on the measuring stick and the mouth of the fish should be closed. The fish is placed on the stick in such positions that it is just touching the butt of the stick and is held in position by the index fingers of one hand. The fingers of the other hand are then rubbed lightly along the body of the fish to extend the fish to its maximum length. If the fish does not reach the required length, the index fingers of the hand not securing the position of the fish on the stick may be used to move the top of the caudal fin downwards in an arc towards the centre of the measuring board. If the fish still doesn't reach the desired length, it must be regarded as undersize.

8.0 Weigh-in:

a) Weigh-in Times and Dates shall be as set out by the Outdoor Coordinators yearly competition calendar.

b) It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure that they and the fish they are presenting conform to the weigh-in requirements.

c) Only financial members may weigh fish at any Club competition or submit a record claim. A financial member shall be deemed to be one who does not owe the club any money for any reason.

d) The competition weigh-in shall be conducted by the Weighmaster, or a person appointed by the Outdoor Coordinator for this purpose.

e) The weigh-in area shall be deemed to be within a 20 meter radius of the scales at the time of weigh-in.

f) Competitor's fish must be within the above stated area prior to the calling of "time".

- g) No fish may be brought into or removed from the weigh-in area after the calling of “time”.
- h) All fish in the weigh-in area at the time of calling “time” must be presented for weigh-in.
- i) If a member weighs in an ineligible fish, that species will be disqualified. The member will receive a warning on the first occasion. If the member presents any ineligible fish at further comps, in the competition year, the member will be disqualified from that round. Fish may be measured prior to weigh in, and be checked by the Weighmaster, but if the fish is put on the scales, once time has been called, it is deemed to be in the weigh in area.
- j) Each competitor is limited to 1 bag limit of each species of fish as set out previously.
- k) All fish to be weighed-in are to be gilled and gutted prior to being weighed-in unless being presented for a club record.
- l) It is the competitor’s responsibility to nominate a fish for a club record.
- m) The committee may decline to weigh or accept the weigh-in result of any competitor’s catch without providing a reason.
- n) Any member of the club who fishes in other clubs during Competition can weigh their fish in for both clubs.
- o) Fish that are being presented by the Weighmaster for the weigh-in can be measured and weighed by another club member acting on his behalf.
- p) The weigh-in is deemed to be over once all fish in the weigh-in area are weighed at the calling of “time”.
- q) Members of the club unable to attend the weigh-in may use another club member to represent them at the weigh-in.

9.0 Disqualification:

The Weigh master may initiate disqualification of a competitor’s catch, or part thereof, for any of the following reasons:

- a) If the method of fishing or the capture of any fish being presented for weighing-in contravenes the conditions of capture in Section 5.
- b) The competitor presents fish that were caught outside the boundaries mentioned previously.
- c) Fish presented for weigh-in were not caught by the competitor claiming the catch.
- d) Fish are presented that are or have been frozen or are not in good condition.
- e) Any fish is presented that does not attain or exceed the minimum length for that species.
- f) The number of fish of any individual species exceeds the bag limits as set out in these by-laws.
- g) The fish being presented were not in the prescribed weigh-in area at the calling of “time”.
- h) Any fish that is presented that has not been gilled or gutted – unless being weighed in for a club record.
- i) Where the above criteria have been broken, the Weighmaster and Recorder must agree that the competitor’s catch, or part thereof, is to be proposed for disqualification.

j) Any competitor, who has been disqualified and intends to lodge a protest, must inform the Weigh master immediately of their intention to do so.

10.0 Protests

Any competitor, who is financial with the Club, may lodge a protest to dispute a ruling under these by-laws. Protests shall be lodged in writing, signed by the person lodging the protest and must be received by the club Secretary within 7 days of the event.

11.0 Record Claims

a) The Club shall maintain a record of the largest fish of a certain species caught by members in New South Wales waters. The fish do not have to be caught within club competitions. Fish caught on fishing charter or paid fishing tours are ineligible for club record claims.

b) Claims for Club records must be submitted to the Secretary of the club within twenty-eight (28) days of capture. The claim must include the weight and length of the fish. The fish must be weighed on certified scales along with date, time and place of capture.

12.0 Competition Point Scores

a) The Windybank's Fishing Club Inc. point scoring system will be used. The scoring system limits the species points for any particular species to the best ten (10) fish of each species unless a bag limit of that species is less than ten (10), in which case the maximum number of fish is the bag limit for that species. All other fish will attract points at the general rate.

b) Points per Kg for each species are as per the Windybanks Species List as detailed before.

c) Bonus points

Number of Species	Points
1	0
2	5
3	15
4	30
5	50
6	75
7	105
8	140
9	180
10	225
11	275
12	330
13	390
14	455
15	525

Designated Species – any species with points per kg other than general rates as listed above.

d) Competition points scores

Each individual division will have points allocated to that position that will total up towards a champion of champions division.

13.0 Trophies:

a) Trophies will be awarded at the discretion of the Committee to the highest competition point scorers in each division.

b) The Perpetual Trophies will be awarded at the discretion of the committee:

- Overall Estuary Champion and Runner-up
- Overall Rock & Beach Champion and Runner-up
- Overall Offshore Champion and Runner-up
- Overall Freshwater Champion and Runner-up
- Overall Saltwater Catch and Measure Champion and Runner-up
- Overall Freshwater Catch and Measure Champion and Runner-up
- Overall Junior Catch and Measure Champion and Runner-up
- Overall Saltwater Ladies Champion and Runner-up
- Overall Saltwater Junior Champion and Runner-up
- Overall Ladies Champion and Runner-up
- Overall Junior Boys Champion and Runner-up
- Overall Junior Girls Champion and Runner-up
- Overall Champion of Champions and Runner-up
- Clubmen Award

The Clubman Award is an award to be voted on by the members after nominations from members of the club have been made. The award is for the person who has excelled beyond the call of duty with their involvement in the club. A person who has shown exceptional initiative in promoting and moving the club forward.

14.0 General:

a) Any proposed amendment to these By-Laws shall be submitted, in writing to the Secretary to be discussed at the first available Committee meeting. The committee shall then put a recommendation to a General Meeting for consideration of the proposed amendment.

b) Financial members shall be given at least two (2) weeks notice, in writing, sms or email of any General Meeting at which an amendment to these By-laws is to be discussed, or at which a subject, which in the opinion of the committee may be controversial, is to be discussed.

c) Only financial members of the club are entitled to vote, nominate or stand for a committee position at any time. A financial member shall be deemed one who does not owe the club any money for any reason. Junior members are ineligible to vote.

d) The Windybanks family has the right to with-draw its name from the club if they feel fit, through the club not representing the family name in a proper manner.

e) Any monies of the club, if in the event of the folding of the club, shall be donated to the Cancer Council of Australia.