

**Report on the annual AAA State Dry Casting Championships run on Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2009, supported by Ranger Camping and their vendors whilst being hosted by the Surfcasters Angling Club**

The competition was run at the Yokine Reserve Inglewood with a small band of 48 casters; numbers have progressively got better each year with Junior and Ladies making up good numbers.

With strong and gusty Easterly Winds which made for a difficult day for casting with the breeze gusting slightly from the left but made for an event which still seen good casts made, and showed what can be done with good practice, and sound preparation for the teams, and individuals.

The Surfcasters Angling Club Volunteers provided the heart starters for the day, by having tea and coffee with Bacon and Egg burgers at the official presentation area, and those that had either thick heads from "preparing" for the day and having pre-comp drinks the night before certainly welcomed the food, this certainly was appreciative also by the Surfcasters Angling Club knowing that the AAAWA allowed host clubs to also benefit from the event financially.

The event started fairly promptly with Terry Bell the recording officer having all of the casting sheets prepared within minutes of setting up, volunteers who had prepared the courts by marking out on Friday night took no time at all setting up the markers and equipment, and proved to me how team work and like minded people can make difficult tasks happen effortlessly.

Joe Pullella who was one of the drivers of this years event organised, via Ranger Camping prizes which bought a gleam of hope to all the participants knowing that they were all in with a chance of obtaining some of them, including a beautiful reel that was donated as a raffle for the AAA and was eventually won by an elated Michelle Walker.

Some of the results are in this report; however a comprehensive list is available from the AAAWA Secretary or on the AAAWA Website.

**Highest scores in the double-handed accuracy were:**

Mens: Tony D'Alonzo 114; Joe Pullella 110; Peter Pekaar 108.

Ladies: Filomena D'Alonzo 89; Vix Alexander 80; Marcia Pekaar 74.

Veterans: George Holman 142; Allan Jones 122; Gary Gildersleeve 108.

Juniors: Marlin Heaney 59; Dean Dichiera 40; Holly Walker 25.

Mini-Juniors: Ben Pullella 31; Michael Pullella 15; Kaitlin Stoeckel 2.

**The 56g longest casts were:**

Mens: Malcolm Harris 251.54; Joe Pullella 235.10; Andrew Pekaar 217.37.

Ladies: Carolyn Benniman 131.98; Sharon Smith 126.92; Niki Coxe 96.20.

Veterans: Gary Gildersleeve 234.63; Allan Jones 233.78; George Holman 224.19.

Juniors: Marlin Heaney 131.14; Holly Walker 77.95; Justine Davis 74.67.

Mini Juniors: Ben Pullella 100.12; Michael Pullella 61.23; Kaitlin Stoeckel 26.93.

**The 112g longest casts were:**

Mens: Joe Pullella 322.78; Scott Rolls 306.03; Malcolm Harris 297.04.

Ladies: Vix Alexander 208.44; Sharon Smith 195.69; Marcia Pekaar 109.52.

Veterans: George Holman 272.56; Allan Jones 245.68; Mick Burgin 199.55.

Juniors: Dean Dichiera 168.89; Marlin Heaney 164.05; Holly Walker 99.55.

Mini Juniors: Ben Pullella 103.28; Michael Pullella 77.48; Kaitlin Stoeckel 54.72

**Best casts in the Artificial Bait event were:**

Mens: Joe Pullella 258.28; Scott Rolls 246.73; Peter Pekaar 228.39.

Ladies: Vix Alexander 167.85; Marcia Pekaar 163.88; Sharon Smith 155.51.

Veterans: George Holman; Gary Gildersleeve 204.54; Allan Jones 199.11.

Juniors: Dean Dichiera 127.20; Holly Walker 90.27; Marlin Heaney 67.83.

Mini Juniors: Ben Pullella 82.43; Michael Pullella 51.59; Kaitlin Stoeckel 45.39.

**In the Team Events the results were as follows:**

Men: Offshore Angling Club Beach 1; Fremantle Amateur Angling Club 2; Melville Amateur Angling Club 3.

Ladies: Offshore Angling Club Beach 1; Surfcasting & Angling Club 2; Melville Amateur Angling Club 3.

Veterans: Surfcasting & Angling Club 1; Melville Amateur Angling Club 2;

Juniors: Surfcasting & Angling Club 1; Fremantle Amateur Angling Club 2; Melville Amateur Angling Club 3.

Mini\_ Juniors: Fremantle Amateur Angling Club 1; Surfcasting & Angling Club 2.

Congratulations to all the individual and Club Winners on their achievements

The presentation was MC'd by our effervescent ORSSC member and Competition Officer in Terry Bell, and with the banter as always between "rival" clubs, made for an excellent presentation.

There were two particular gentleman that did not cast on the day but were assisting, one with a bung leg all day in the heat and thanks must go to Terry Willison and Terry Bell the Competition Officer, how efficient was Terry with the reports? Very hard to emulate.

Also I wish to thank all those that stood up and took the challenge, head on, to run this event.

Look forward to seeing you all next year.

Pat Shinnick President of the Australian Anglers Association WA