



Report on the annual AAA State Boat Angling Championships run on Saturday the 25th May 2019

The first attempt to run the titles was postponed from the 23rd March due to Strong Wind Warnings on the Saturday, and there was a strong wind warning forecast for Sunday, however the rules state that if a strong wind warning was forecast at 0400 hrs on the morning of the event, then it would be cancelled, however this had been lifted, but winds were already at 18-20knots, and not a lot of competitors attended in the second day, a meeting was held and it was a unanimous decision to run the event at a date to be confirmed, (25th May).

The competition was run with Southerly Easterly Winds between 10 to 15 knots, it started to calm off as the day went on, however about 2pm the small sea breeze started to come in and boats started to return.

An excellent day for fishing, a little cold to start with, but pleasant.

The MAAC team and kitchen staff driven by the ever resilient Robert Weir, provided the heart starters for the day, by having Bacon and Egg rolls and tea or coffee in front of Hillarys Tackle Store, so it was a great atmosphere and comfortable, all certainly welcomed the food, including those that were all hyped up for the event and had trouble sleeping the night before.

The sign on team once again did a great job, and thanks to all that jumped in and helped (again), some that are always there is Carmel and Alan Langdon (ORSSC), Richard Siudak (Boating Sub Committee), Henry Boogaard, Gamini Jayaweera and John Lipscombe, Peter Coleman (QRFC), Kevin Murphy, Kerry Lukies with Ken Jackson, Bob Craigie (MAAC), and Paul Frzop (HYC) with his good mate, John O'Brien (POBAC) thank you.

Most of the teams tried to get smaller fish earlier on; the word was that the fish were on first thing and then the bites dropped off.

The clubs that worked together did really well, by calling one another over when they were on to the fish, and this is what is great about this competition, it is not an individual based competition it is team based, and is a pleasure to see the results, and camaraderie.

The wind did not play a big part in the fishing, and made it very competitive, there were a couple of break downs, but they still caught fish and weighed in.

Whilst competitors were "out there" in their favourite spots, Carmel and Alan Langdon (ORSSC), with Richard Siudak (AAA), set up the presentation area and the weigh in area was set up by a band of non-fishers on the day, the QRFC, MAAC and HYC boys, with Henry Boogaard driving us, and it looked magnificent, again, especially with the addition of the Isuzu taught-liner truck from Major Motors lent to us at the last minute!

At closing time for the bags (3.30pm) most boats had either got their boats on their trailers or were waiting to, with Henry, John and Gamini from the QRFC offering to check the fish sizes and types before they went into the cool room, then Ken Jackson our Field Day Officer (MAAC), ensured that the door was shut at exactly 1530hrs, whilst Carmel, Alan and Richard continued taking in the skippers safety discs, this was to ensure that all were safely back on land, there was 171 nominated competitors (some were unable to fish on the second event) and 52 boats that participated, 107 actually weighed in, well done.

The weigh in commenced at 4.30pm, in the weigh in area of the MAAC carpark Southern end, all the sponsors signage and flags made for a great spectacle.

The MC for the weigh in was Glenn Omond, who provided a running commentary, with a great deal of good humour and light hearted banter, ensuring that all competitors patronised the many advertisers and sponsors of the event, of course I was the brunt of a lot of the comments, (and seriously I enjoyed it) this all made for a very quick weigh in, and a few laughs!

Unfortunately, there was a couple of bags disqualified, I know we diligently asked every competitor to ensure they knew the list of species, and also asked every competitor before they put the fish in the Fish Coolroom, if they wanted us to view their fish, or bag to confirm if all was good, a lot did and we took great pride in helping in this role.

The weigh in went extremely well again we would be lost without those assisting on the day, and it was great how the Clubs jumped in when they were "dropped in" at the last minute, it goes without saying, we all appreciated your efforts, whilst this was happening our ever efficient competition officer Terry Bell Mitchell Bell and Francis McKeown (ORSSC) completed the collation, thank you.

Whilst all this was happening Paul Frzop was busy selling tickets to the Raffles, and made approx. \$945.00 for the event, with Bob Craigie who won the esky, Custom Rod and gear valued at \$700.00, second prize **name to be supplied** to value at \$300.00, Third Prize, Penny McHugh valued at \$200.00, Early nomination prize went to Richard Forster (MDSSC) Valued at \$400.00, and Junior Nomination prize went to Darcy Castiglioni (MAAC) valued at \$400.00.

The presentation was held in the lower area of the MAAC club as there were renovations being done upstairs, and the area was fabulous, and the MC was our chairman of the boating subcommittee, Kevin Murphy, who then handed over to our ORSSC member and Competition Officer in Terry Bell, and with the banter as always between "rival" clubs, made for an excellent evening, with Carmel Langdon ORSSC & patron of the AAWA, presenting all the Trophies and Prizes, whilst this was happening, numerous meals and refreshments were provided by the MAAC, for this we were all appreciative, thank you.

To the **Overall winner and Men's winner** Glen Carter MAAC 218 points & 9 species, **Ladies winner** Alyce Weir ORSSC 66.8 points, **Veterans** Geoff Kirk MAAC with 100.8 points and **Junior** winner Luca Gugliotta ORSSC with 52.2 points!
Bert Straw from MDSSC won the species being a King George Whiting @ 65.68% closest to the state record, a magnificent prize from **All Boat and Caravans & Tackle HQ** valued at \$1600.
Roy Lukies (MAAC) won the Skippers Participation Prize of a \$500 Voucher from **Club Marine insurance**.

To the **Patron Cup winners** Marmion Angling and Aquatic Club participants, congratulations again, well done.

To all other teams from MDSSC, HYC, QRFC, ORSSC, MOFSC, MAAC, and the CPBA, thank you all for participating (hope more clubs complete next year).

Congratulations to all winners, your patience and hard work has certainly paid dividends and all us losers, thank you for participating, and NEXT year you're all on again as this is being hosted by the Hillarys Yacht Club and run from Hillarys public marina.

This report prepared by Pat Shinnick for the Boating Sub Committee of the Australian Anglers Association WA.