

**WA Interclub Boat Angling Championships  
2025  
TOURNAMENT RULES**

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# WA Interclub Boat Angling Championship 2025

## TOURNAMENT RULES

### SUMMARY OF KEY DATES AND TIMES

Competition Day	: Saturday 17 May 2025
Early Nominations	: Up to 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2025)
Late Nominations	: From 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2025) and on the competition day from 0630 to 0800hrs
Sign-on	: From 0500 to 0800 hours
Club Teams Nominated	: Prior to 0630 hours on the competition day
Competition Start	: At 0630 hours
Bags in Truck/Cool room	: From 1200hrs and closed at 1530 hours
Sign Off	: From 1200hrs to 1600hours, at Fish Truck/Cool room
Skipper Safety Discs	: Returned by 1600hours at the boat ramp and prior to 1800hours at Fremantle Sailing Club
Weigh-in	: Commences 1630 hours
Presentations	: At approximately 1830 hours

### FIELD DAY OFFICER

The Field Day Officer has control of the competition and is empowered to report any competitor whom they consider has breached the rules to the Disputes Committee.

### NOMINATIONS

All competitors must be financial members of any club affiliated in WA.

“Where a club has individual rather than family membership, a child of the club member shall be eligible to fish if fishing with the parent or guardian”.

No non-affiliated Club person is permitted to skipper or crew a competition boat other than a trophy donor or sponsor. That trophy donor or sponsor may fish and be eligible for a species prize but not eligible for the individual whole of tournament prizes.

Charter boats are not permitted unless there is a nominated non fishing Auditor on that boat and an application has been presented to the Executive Committee, three months prior to the event.

All competitors must have nominated prior to the start. Nomination fees will be \$30.00 for Veterans, Ladies and Men's and \$20.00 for Juniors. A late nomination fee will apply from April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, inclusive. Late nominations will be accepted on the day from 0630 hours until 0800 hours. The late nomination fee is \$40.00 for all competitors other than juniors where the late fee is waived.

All clubs must hand in their team lists prior to the start at 0630 hours on the day. No separate fee is applicable once individual nominations are paid.

## CLUB TEAMS & TEAM SCORING

Clubs may nominate any number of teams in the following classes, prior to the start of competition:

OPEN TEAM	Maximum of Seven (7) Competitors (Previously MENS, can now be any nomination)
LADIES TEAM	Maximum of four (4) Competitors
VETERANS TEAM	Maximum of four (4) Competitors
JUNIORS TEAM	Maximum of four (4) Competitors

All members of those teams must be members of that club, and the club is affiliated with the Clubs WA

Juniors are to be under SIXTEEN (16) years of age prior to the 1st August 2024. Veterans to be Sixty (60) years and over prior to the 1st August 2024.

### •Team Scoring

For the Open team scoring, the best six (6) results are used to calculate each teams score. The seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) result is not to be included in the score, (Previously MENS, can now be any nomination).

For the ladies, veterans and juniors team scoring, the best three (3) results are used to calculate each team's score to count. The fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) result is not included in the score.

## POSTPONEMENTS

In the event of inclement weather, a decision shall be made by the Field Day Officer and the nominated Safety Officer or interested Skippers from each participating club regarding cancellation of the event. A meeting will be called at 0600hours where a decision will be made by majority vote of those Safety or Disputes person nominated from each club. If a strong wind warning (SWW) is current for the area at 0430 hours on the competition day, the competition for that day shall be automatically postponed (please note weather reports in the Metropolitan area is inshore, all other is offshore).

The competition may be temporarily postponed due to unforeseen circumstances on the day. If this looks likely, a briefing of all nominated Safety or Disputes persons and interested skippers from each club will be called to attend a meeting in the morning at 0600hrs.

If the event is postponed for the day, the competition will be re-run on the following day. If it is cancelled on this following day, the competition will be cancelled for that year, unless a suitable alternative date and venue is available.

There shall be a minimum of 3 Clubs competing with a minimum of 10 boats for this event to be held. A club boat with more than 8 members shall be classed as 2 boats in this event,

## SIGN-ON and BRIEFING

The sign-on area is located at Fremantle Sailing Club and will be attended from 0500 hours until 0800 hours.

There will Breakfast and drinks for sale at this event for the morning, during sign on.

All competitors **must** sign on prior to the start and receive their bag tags. Skippers are required to provide details of their boat and pay a \$10.00 refundable deposit for a skipper's disc. The safety disc is used as a safety alert if boats are overdue. Please bring the correct amount as change is not available. *Generally, one crew member will do the signing on for all competitors of the boat. This person can also pay the deposit and collect the skipper's disc on behalf of the skipper.*

If there are any changes to the rules etc. on the day, a briefing sheet will be handed out for each skippers competitor's bag issued at the sign on area prior to commencement of the competition.

## START PROCEDURE

The competition will start at 0630 hours by notification over the radio on frequency VHF73. All competitors must have SIGNED ON.

## BOUNDARIES

There are no boundary limits. However, all boats must leave and return from the Fremantle Sailing Club Boat Harbour launching areas.

To minimize congestion, boats may wait for the start time in designated area defined by Cardinal Markers at the Boat Harbour entrance prior to 0630hrs. No boats may leave this area prior to the start time.

***Please keep the clearances in channel areas for private and working vessels to enter and exit uninhibited***

## ANGLING LIMITS

A competitor must not use more than two (2) rods or handlines at any one time and each rod or handline must not have more than two (2) hooks (A flight of hooks to be considered as one hook). A competitor may use any gauge line. Trolling is allowed at the skipper's discretion. A competitor must hook and land their own fish, but may receive assistance in gaffing, gilling or landing which does not entail the assistant handling his rod, reel or line.

Demersal fishing rules, a competitor must not use more than two (2) rods or handlines at any one time and each rod or handline must not have more than one hook (A flight of hooks to be considered as one hook).

Power assisted winches and reels are not permitted, unless exemption is sought in this event by an angler applying through their club to use power assisted fishing equipment because of impairment. Consideration will be made by the WAIBAC Executive-Committee to approve such an application. This application should be made at least one month prior to the competition.

Set-lines, drop lines, traps or hooks on marker floats used for finfish fishing is not permitted on any boat.

Breach of these rules will lead to the immediate disqualification of all competitors on that boat.

## POINT SCORES

All class winners will be arrived at by points awarded based on the number of eligible species weighed plus 4 points per kilogram of total bag weight. **Only 1 of each eligible species may be weighed.** Species points are as follows:

<u>No. of Species</u>	<u>Points Value</u>	<u>Total Points</u>
1	7	7
2	8	15
3	9	24
4	10	34
5	11	45
6	12	57
7	13	70
8	14	84
9	15	99
etc	etc	etc

In the event of competitors scoring equal points, the competitor with the greater number of species shall prevail. Should scores still be equal then the heaviest average weight per fish will be the determining factor.

In the event of any fish being hooked in or through the mouth by more than one competitor, the points attained for that fish must be shared.

Club Captains are responsible for checking, signing and receiving their Club's receipts prior to removing their bags from the weigh-in area.

## BAG LIMITS AND ELIGIBLE SPECIES

- A. Each competitor may only weigh ONE fish of the nominated species groups below. Any more than one fish of any listed species or unlisted species will disqualify the bag. Bags must contain only fish caught by the competitor weighing in and must be clean and identified with the competitor's tag. Bags containing undersize or protected fish will be automatically disqualified and will be retained by the Field Day Officer until completion of the weigh in.
- B. Fish that have their necks broken will be pushed back into original shape and must be 1cm longer than the listed minimum size. Note this **does not** apply to gilled and/or gutted fish, or fish with the throat cut for bleeding, as long as the neck has not been broken.

Notes :

1 Note: Samson fish can be caught and recorded via a photo on a brag mat that has the Competitors ID Weigh in tag number identifier and safety disc number, the fish will need to have the time date stamp on photo and sent to the Field Day Officer as soon as completed, for authentication, fish shall be allocated a weight and points allocated up to 10kg in weight, using the PGFC Measure and Release tables

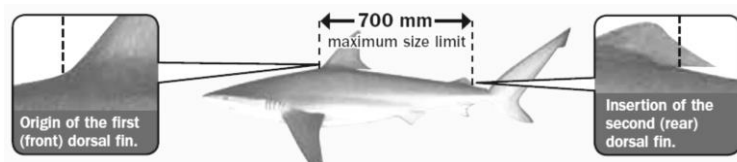
2 Sharks exclude all Wobbegong, Carpet, Port Jackson, Cat, Leopard, White Pointer, Grey Nurse, Sawtooth and Tiger Sharks.

3 West Coast Fishing Rules, as outlined in the Recreational Fishing Guide (West Coast Region) published by the Department of Fisheries, imposes the following mixed daily bag limit restrictions:

- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Large Pelagic Finfish        | – 3 fish per angler (Cat 2)  |
| Nearshore Estuarine Finfish  | – 16 fish per angler Cat (3) |
| All other species of Finfish | – 30 fish per angler Cat (4) |

The category for each species is listed in this magazine. Competitors with more than the mixed daily bag limit will be disqualified.

- Fish with an \* after the size is noted as WAIBAC(WA) imposed size limit
- Whaler shark measurements



Eligible species, with reference to *Sea Fishes of Southern Australia* (Barry Hutchins and Roger Swainston) and *The Marine Fishes of North Western Australia* (Gerald R. Allen and Roger Swainston), are:

<b>Category 1 – Demersal Finfish - 2 per Angler</b>			
<b>Species Name</b>	<b>Minimum Size</b>	<b>Cat.</b>	<b>Plate Reference (Guide Only)</b>
Boarfish	300	1	377-380, <i>Northern book 693</i>
Chinaman Fish	300	1	<i>Northern book 489</i>
Cod, Barramundi	300	1	<i>Northern book 291</i>
Cod, Breaksea	300	1	228
Cod, Estuary ( <i>Max. size 30kg or 1000mm</i> )	400	1	235
Cod, Rankin	300	1	<i>Northern book 313</i>
Dhufish	300	1	247
Dory, John & Mirror	300	1	148, 149
Emperor, Blue-Lined	320	1	<i>Northern book 529</i>
Emperor, Red	410	1	<i>Northern book 502</i>
Emperor, Spangled	410	1	315
Emperor, Sweetlip ( <i>Red Throat</i> )	280	1	<i>Northern book 526</i>
Emperor, Others	280	1	<i>Northern book 525, 527, 530 - 534</i>
Foxfish, Western	300*	1	442
Groper, Baldchin	300	1	491
Groper, Bass	300*	1	238
Groper, Blue	500	1	439
Hapuka	300*	1	237
Harlequin Fish	300*	1	230
Jobfish	300	1	<i>Northern book 481-482, 487-488</i>
Mangrove Jack	300	1	319

<b>Category 1 – Demersal Finfish - 2 per Angler</b>			
<b>Species Name</b>	<b>Minimum Size</b>	<b>Cat.</b>	<b>Plate Reference (Guide Only)</b>
Perch Bigeye Ocean	200*	1	Helicolenus barathri
Pearl Perch	300	1	248
Pigfish	300*	1	440
Robinson's Seabream	300	1	<i>Northern book 524</i>
Rockcod, Grey-banded	300*	1	232
Seaperch, Crimson	300	1	<i>Northern book 493</i>
Seaperch, Saddle-tailed	300	1	<i>Northern book 496</i>
Snapper, Pink	500	1	310
Snapper, Queen ( <i>Southern Blue Morwong</i> )	410	1	425
Snapper, Red	300	1	144, 145
Snapper, Ruby	300*	1	<i>Northern book 483</i>
Swallowtail	300	1	142
Trevella, Deep Sea ( <i>Blue-Eye Trevella</i> )	300*	1	582
Tuskfish	400	1	<i>Northern book 737, 738, 742</i>
Trout, Coral	450	1	<i>Northern book 318-321</i>
Trout, Coronation	300	1	<i>Northern book 322</i>
Wirrah	300	1	212, 213

**END OF CATEGORY ONE**

**Category 2 – Large Pelagic Finfish - 3 per Angler**

Species Name	Minimum Size (mm)	Cat.	Plate Reference (Guide Only)
Barracuda	500*	2	435
Billfish (Marlins, Sailfish, Swordfish)	1000	2	603, 605, 607.
Cobia	750	2	274
Gemfish	300*	2	<i>Rexea solandri Northern Book 577 fisheries Ref 163</i>
Mackerel, Spanish	750	2	<i>Northern book 955</i>
Broad-barred <b>or</b> Narrow-barred	900	2	
Mackerel, Shark	500	2	587
Mackerel, Spotted	500	2	590
Mahi Mahi ( <i>Dolphinfish</i> )	500	2	304
Amberjack	600	2	301
Samson Fish** <i>Note: A maximum of 10kg will be allocated regardless of whether fish weighs more)</i>	600	2	300 **Can be release and Photo ID
Shark <i>Note: A maximum of 10kg will be allocated regardless of whether fish weighs more)</i> <i>Only 1 of any species of SHARK can be weighed in</i>	<b>1000*</b>	2	1-3, 18, 22-33, 35-37 <i>(Note Whalers over 700mm interdorsal fin length protected)</i>
Trevally, Giant	250*	2	280
Trevally, Golden	250*	2	284
Tuna Southern Bluefin	200*	2	600
Tuna, Yellowfin	200*	2	599
Tuna, Others			
Bigeye <b>or</b>	200*	2	601
Dogtooth <b>or</b>	200*	2	<i>Northern book 964</i>
Longtail <b>or</b>	200*	2	
Mackerel <b>or</b>	200*	2	
Tuna, Skipjack	200*	2	
	200*	2	
Wahoo	900	2	591
Yellowtail Kingfish	600	2	298

**END OF CATEGORY TWO**

**Category 3 – Nearshore Estuarine Finfish - 16 per Angler**

Species Name	Minimum Size (mm)	Cat.	Plate Reference (Guide Only)
Albacore	200*	3	598
Bonito	200*	3	592-594
Bream, Black	250	3	309
Bream, Yellowfin	300	3	308
Cobbler ( <i>Catfish</i> )	430	3	89-91
Cod, Chinaman	300*	3	233
Dart	250*	3	287,288
Flathead	300	3	194-200, 202, 204-206
Flounder	250	3	615-619
King George Whiting	280	3	270
Leatherjacket	250	3	627-630, 632-634, 636, 637, 639, 642-645,647-649, 651, 652
Mulloway	500	3	316
Pike, Striped Seapike <u>or</u> Long-finned Pike	300 300	3 3	437 263
Salmon	300	3	305
Snook	300	3	436
Sweep, Sea	300*	3	351
Sweetlips	300	3	322, <i>Northern book 507–513</i>
Tailor	300	3	273 ONLY 2 OVER 500MM
Tarwhine ( <i>Silver Bream</i> )	250	3	311
Trevally, Skipjack or Sand	250	3	292, 293
Trevally, Others			
Gold-spotted <u>or</u>	250*	3	278
Thicklip <u>or</u>	250*	3	279
Bluefin <u>or</u>	250*	3	281
Brassy <u>or</u>	250*	3	282
Bigeye <u>or</u>	250*	3	283
Pennant Fish <u>or</u>	250*	3	285
Diamond <u>or</u>	250*	3	286
Basset-Hulls	250*	3	290

**END OF CATEGORY THREE**

**Category 4 – All Other Finfish - 30 per Angler**

Garfish	200*	4	119-124
Herring Australian ( <i>Tommy Ruff</i> )	200*	4	307 DAILY BAG OF 20 ONLY
Mackerel, Blue	200*	4	588
Mackerel, Frigate	200*	2	595
Sand Bass	250*	4	210
Sweep, Others Banded <u>or</u> Moonlighter	300*	4	352, 354
Whiting, Yellowfin	200*	4	269
Whiting, Others	200*	4	264, 266-267

**END OF CATEGORY FOUR**



## FINISH PROCEDURE

All boats shall return via the Fremantle Sailing Club Marina.

The fish cool room will be positioned at the Fremantle Sailing Club Boat Ramp and marked with the event Banner. The cool room will be manned from 1200hrs until 1530 hours.

All fish must be presented in a wet hessian or cloth bag, (Suggest smaller bag inside larger bag to keep smaller fish from being lost or damaged by the larger fish during transport). The use of plastic, woven plastic or woven fibreglass bags is prohibited. Fish presented in buckets or eskies will not be accepted. All bags must be tagged, and zip-tied (tags and zip ties are provided at the sign on).

The cool room will be locked at 1530 hours and no further bags will be accepted unless extenuating circumstances are allowed. Competitors aboard a vessel towing a boat in distress, or a distressed vessel will be exempt from this rule, provided they have made radio or mobile phone contact for confirmation to the nominated FDO or executives on the day, within the correct timeframe.

## SIGN OFF

- The sign off will be near the cool room from 1200hrs until 1600hrs.
- All competitors MUST sign off and return safety discs by 1800 hours. From 1600hrs to 1800hrs discs can be returned at the Fremantle Sailing Club. Refunds will cease after 1800 hours.
- Remember also to sign off with Marine radio VHF Channel 73 is the operating frequency throughout the day. All boats should log on with the Marine Rescue Fremantle on Channel VHF 73. **Frequency VHF 68 strictly for boat to boat communication**

## WEIGH-IN

### CONDITION OF FISH

Any fish presented in a rotten, badly deteriorated, or generally unfit for consumption state shall not be eligible for weigh-in. Fish must be whole and clean.

Fish that have their necks broken will be pushed back into original shape and must be 1cm longer than the listed minimum size. Note this **does not** apply to gilled and/or gutted fish, and fish with the throat cut for bleeding, as long as the neck has not been broken.

The weigh-in will be conducted at the Weigh in area nominated at the Fremantle Sailing Club commencing at 1630 hours. After each bag has been weighed, bags shall be removed immediately by the competitor who is then responsible for presenting their fish with tags for weighing at the separate scales for the heaviest of species prizes.

Note: Each club is to ensure weighed bags are removed from the weigh in area as soon as practicable (no later than 30 minutes after that bag has been weighed) and appropriately looked after/

***Fish left in bags, at the weigh in area for longer than 30 minutes after being weighed will be subject to disqualification. Each club nominates team members to remove all bags and fish from this area once the bags have been weighed. Fish entered in the heaviest of species section also should be removed at the completion of the weigh-in.***

## SPECIES PRIZES

The Field Day Officer or nominated specialist may request an examination of any or all fish that have won Heaviest of Species prizes. Fish that were part of a disqualified bag cannot enter or be weighed for Heaviest of Species prizes.

## **DISCARDING FISH**

All participants are required to observe the responsible fishing practices set out in the Groups Recreational Fishing Code of Conduct.

Any Competitor found to have knowingly discarded whole fish caught prior, during or after any event shall be disqualified from competing in any future events for a minimum of 12 months and shall include the following year's State Boats Championship. Subject to the severity of the incident, further action may be required, by the offending Club's Executive Committee.

Disqualification from the event concerned may be retrospective, and all winners, results and awards affected by that disqualification will also be amended retrospectively if and as required, this includes if they are in a team then that teams scores will be removed from the teams event, but the other individuals shall retain those points towards other prizes on the day.

## **DISPUTES AND DISQUALIFICATIONS (Weigh-In)**

ANY dispute must be reported to the Field Day Officer no later than ten (10) minutes after the completion of the weigh-in. The Disputes Committee shall adjudicate all disputes within these rules and their decision shall be final. Any competitor found to breach the rules shall be liable to disqualification.

The Disputes Committee will be chaired by the Field Day Officer and shall comprise one (1) member from each participating Club nominated prior to the event on the Team Nomination form. If the dispute directly involves that person, a substitute for that Club may be elected. The verdict shall be decided by majority vote.

## **ALTERATION TO RULES**

The organizing committee shall have the power to vary the rules or arrangements to contribute to the smooth running of the competition.

## **TROPHIES PRESENTATION**

Trophies will be presented at the Fremantle Sailing Clubrooms at approximately 1830 hours (6:30pm).

Club Captains with additional scrutineer per club are to report to the Competitions Officer 30 minutes prior to the presentations to confirm their Club's results. The Competitions Officer will advise us when results are available for club representatives to verify.

## **PROTESTS (Final Results)**

Protests regarding the final points or allocation of prizes and trophies must be reported to the Field Day Officer within thirty (30) minutes of the conclusion of the presentations. After 30 minutes has elapsed, no claim will be allowed nor will the WAIBAC alter any results.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### SAFETY

- **Safety Equipment**

- a) Safety equipment (as per Navigable Waters Regulations) must be carried by all boats and may be subject to inspection by the Department of Transport.
- b) Each Club, having members participating in the event, shall appoint a person to act as their Safety Officer. This person shall be responsible for their Club members only. The appointment of the Safety Officer shall be made prior to the event and be notified on the Team Nomination Form.

- Marine radio VHF Channel 73 is the operating frequency throughout the day. All boats should log on and off with the Marine Rescue Fremantle on Channel VHF 73. **Frequency VHF 68 strictly for boat to boat communication**

- **Skippers Responsibility**

It is the responsibility of the skipper of each participating vessel to make themselves aware of the current weather forecast and sea conditions before putting to sea. It is also the responsibility of each skipper to be confident with their own ability to safely handle their vessel in the conditions forecast. It is highly recommended that the skipper regularly rechecks the forecast throughout the day.

Recreational Fishing Licenses are required by all competitors.

PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE COMPLIED WITH THIS RULING!

### BOAT COMPLIANCY

- All Boats must be registered and comply with the Department of Transport Marine vessel specifications.
- Release Weights are compulsory on any fishing vessel, when fishing for demersal fish.

PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE COMPLIED WITH THIS RULING!

### LIABILITY

All competitors and persons taking part in the competition do so entirely at their own risk and the Organizing Committee will not be held responsible for any loss or damage sustained by any competitor or any other persons to their persons or effects.

### FACILITIES and PARKING at FREMANTLE SAILING CLUB

**Refreshments** Hot snack food and refreshments will be available from the Fremantle Sailing Club prior to competition (breakfast) then prior and during the weigh in and presentations.

**Fish Cleaning** There will be no fish cleaning facilities provided, offal bins will not be provided, no whole fish to be disposed of, or rubbish to be left at the club or surrounding area.

#### **Security for Boats at Weigh In**

Parking for vehicles with boat trailers is at the clubs nominated parking area for the public boat ramps **please note NIL fee for parking at Fremantle.**

Limited vehicle parking will be at the Fremantle Sailing Club Clubrooms car park. Please contact the event organizers to book your vehicle and vessels in, please note all vehicles and vessels require insurance to be parked overnight.

If you are able to have your boat picked up or organize parking at a friend's house for the weigh in and presentation, please do so

The Boating Sub-Committee will not be held responsible for any theft or damage done to your personal equipment, by others. We also ask you to respect the grounds and patrons of the venues and refrain from any unruly behavior, which can compromise the organizing Boating Sub-Committee.