



WEIPA FISHING CLASSIC 2018

2018 Fishing Classic – Fishing Rules

- **Fishing times** commence Friday the 8th June at Midnight (2400 hours).
- **State or Federal Legislation** on fish size and catch numbers must be adhered to by all competitors.
- Only fish in the nominated categories that conform to the competitions specific sizes will be allowed to be weighed in or registered.
- **Prizes** will be awarded for 1st in each category on Saturday and 1st, 2nd & 3rd for each category on Sunday. The exception to this will be for Billfish which will have a 1st and 2nd on Sunday only.
- If a **Junior** with an Open ticket weighs a fish in on the Saturday, **they can only weigh in a fish in that same category (Junior or Open) the next day.**
- In the event of a **tie the first fish weighed, sighted** (photo for Queenfish, Trevally and Barramundi) by the Weigh Master will be deemed the winner.
- The Weipa Fishing Classic Scales will be the official scales for the event. **The Weigh Masters decision will be final.**

Catch and Weigh – Nine eligible species for the Open Competition: King Salmon, Fingermark, Tusker, Grunter, Mackerel, Red Emperor, Nannygai, Coral Trout and Cobia only. Heaviest fish in all categories.

NEW RULES: Catch and Release of Barramundi, Trevally and Queenfish (separate categories for each)– Open Competition – length of fish. Only photos of live fish will be accepted. Must have a photo of the fish with the capture card and measurement visible in the photo. Measuring device has to be a recognised Brag Mat or a Tackleworld measurement sticker. Barramundi, Queenfish or Trevally will not be accepted in the competition if they are presented to the weigh station. Brag Mats and Tackleworld measurement stickers are available at the merchandise tent. Capture cards will be available at the Merchandise Stall after the reading of the rules (at the event on Friday 8th June). **JEW FISH HAS BEEN REMOVED AS AN ELIGIBLE SPECIES AND WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED TO WEIGH IN OR REGISTER.**

Catch and Release Billfish – Sailfish & Marlin – Open Competition: Must have a digital camera with the time and date and be able to produce photos with the fish at the side of the boat with the capture card visible in the photo. Sailfish and Marlin are counted as one point per fish. This is a two day event and highest total score for the two days will be the winner. In the event of a tie, the angler that reached the highest score first wins. All fish must be released in the best possible condition. **Under no circumstances will any billfish be weighed. You will be automatically disqualified.** Photos must be presented by the finish of weigh-in on Sunday. Capture cards will be available at the Merchandise Stall after the reading of the rules (at the event on Friday the 8th June.)

Catch and Weigh - Four eligible species for Junior Competition (12 years and under): King Salmon, Blue Salmon, Bream and Grunter. Heaviest fish in all categories.

NEW RULES: Catch and Release of Barramundi and Queenfish (separate categories for each)– Junior Competition (12 years and under)– length of fish. Only photos of live fish will be accepted. Must have a photo of the fish with the capture card and measurement visible in the photo. Measuring device has to be a recognised Brag Mat or a Tackleworld measurement sticker. Barramundi and Queenfish will not be accepted in the competition if they are presented to the weigh station. Brag Mats and Tackleworld measurement stickers are available at the merchandise tent. Capture cards will be available at the Merchandise Stall after the reading of the rules (at the event on Friday 8th June).

Weigh-in commences on Saturday the 9th and Sunday the 10th of June at 4.30pm and finishes at 5.30pm.

- No entrant will be able to claim more than one prize for a category as an overall winner. Saturday winners will still be able to win a prize in the same category as an overall winner on Sunday.
- You must present your competition number (**Keyring for Open, Ticket for Junior**) when weighing in your fish.
- Competitors must be in the **queue for weigh-in no later than 5.30pm** on either day to be eligible for individual species prizes, and overall species prizes.
- In the event of a **tie the first fish weighed or sighted by the Weigh Master** will be deemed the winner.
- **Fishing Grounds** include all the waters within and offshore waters adjacent to Albatross Bay and Port Musgrave.
- **Fish presented to the scales must :**
 - **Be gutted and gilled (see updated notes below on Mackerel)**
 - **Be in good condition**
 - **Be taken on a rod and reel or handline**
 - **Conform to the competitions specified sizes and categories to be eligible for weigh-in or registration of catch.**
 - **Fish may be iced down, but not frozen**
- Prizes will be presented to the category winners for **First only** in both the Open and Junior Competitors on Saturday night. Prizes for the weekends overall Open and Junior Competitors, **First, Second** and **Third** place will be presented on Sunday Night, and an **Overall Champion Angler**.

Boating Safety

- Vessels must be registered, licensed and have appropriate safety equipment on board.
- .05 limit for drink driving and remember use nav lights if reduced visibility/fading light.
- Flares must be in date and are needed .5 nautical miles from the coast between Duyfken Point and Thud Point, and you need an EPIRB past this line.
- Owners/masters responsibility to operate ship in safe manner.
- Don't overload boat and ensure vessel is in a seaworthy condition.
- Children under 12 must wear a lifejacket whilst underway and in vessel under 4.8m.
- No tying up to channel markers.
- Tell someone where you are going and ETA. Check Weather.
- Fisheries Officers and Police will be on duty throughout the weekend.

Fish

- No longer a requirement to remove pectoral fin off coral reef fin fish. Filleting prohibitions still apply.
- Measure fish with mouth shut and fishes belly closest to person on flat surface.
- Do not interfere with someone else's fishing apparatus.
- Observe all size and in possession limits.
- Don't keep everything you catch, take only what you need.
- Do not injure any unwanted or undersize fish – release with minimal harm
- **Be honest** – Only weigh in fish that you have caught

General Rules of the Fishing Classic

- Patrons are advised that if alcohol is consumed at the venue, it must be done so responsibly. Event Management have the right to refuse service of alcohol and remove people from the event. It is illegal to bring alcohol onto the grounds, and patrons should be advised that police and security will be present throughout the weekend.
- The venue is **SMOKE FREE**. No Smoking is permitted in any areas of the venue
- There will be mandatory BAG SEARCHES upon entry to the grounds. **18+ ID** required at entry to the event. Wristbands will be fitted to 18+ patrons on entry to the grounds. All patrons **MUST** have wristbands to purchase, hold or consume alcohol.
- The seating area outside the tuckshop is an Alcohol free area.
- **No eskies** are permitted on the grounds (with the exception of being used to weigh in fish during the weigh in times).
- **Venue opening and closing times.** The venue will be open at the following times: Friday 8th June 5.30pm to midnight, Saturday 9th June 4.00pm to midnight, Sunday 10th June 4.00pm to midnight.
- **Major Prize Draws.** **Ten (10)** competitor's numbers will be drawn on Friday night between 7.30pm-9.30pm, a further **Fifteen (15)** competitors will be drawn between 7.30pm-9.30pm on Saturday night. The final **Five (5)** competitor's numbers will be drawn between 6.30pm-7.00pm Sunday. At the competitor draws, the competitor or a proxy, holding the competitor's ticket, must be present at each draw. The competitor or proxy must be present for the final major prize draw. Competitors or a proxy will be given two minutes for major prize draw to present to the stage with their ticket. If not in attendance further number/s will be drawn prior to the major draw to complete the 30 places.
- **Random draws** for daily prizes will take place throughout each days/night's activities. The competitor and their ticket must be in attendance to claim the prize. Competitors will be given one minute for random prize draws to present to the stage with their ticket. **No proxies for daily random prizes will be accepted.**