

PORT HEDLAND GAME FISHING CLUB
2023 BLUE WATER CLASSIC
Angling Rules and Regulations

Teams

Boats competing in the Blue Water & Inshore sections shall consist of a minimum of 2 anglers for safety reasons. Juniors may join a team only as part of an adult team. JUNIOR "TEAMS" ARE NOT PERMITTED IN ANY SECTION unless accompanied by adults. All members from the same team must fish from the nominated boat (in the event of a breakdown or bad weather no craft swapping will be accepted unless verified by the competition committee). All members from the same team can only nominate to be in one of the 4 divisions, i.e. – Blue Water, Inshore, Dinghy or Land Based. **MAXIMUM NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN ANY TEAM IN ANY SECTION, SHALL BE LIMITED TO 4 EXCEPT WHERE THE 5TH MEMBER IS A JUNIOR, AND THAT JUNIOR'S POINTS WILL NOT CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE POINTS TOTAL FOR CHAMPION BOAT IN ANY SECTION.**

Nominations:

All nominations must be made on an official entry form dated 2023. The nomination fee must be paid to a committee member at the briefing night prior to lines in on the first day of competition. (Members receive a \$10 Discount)

Section 1– Blue Water Open Class

Seniors	\$130.00
Juniors	\$70.00

Section 2 – Inshore Open Class

Seniors	\$100.00
Juniors	\$60.00

Section 3- Dinghy Open Class

Seniors	\$80.00
Juniors	\$50.00

Section 4 – Land Based Open Class

Seniors	\$70.00
Juniors	\$40.00

All nomination fees include entry to the presentation dinner which will be held on 17 June 2023 at the Walkabout Hotel from 7.00pm. A junior must be under the age of 16 prior to the start of the first day of fishing. Tournament shirts are available to all competitors at an additional cost.

ANGLING RULES

"CURRENT WESTERN AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES DEPARTMENT DAILY BAG LIMITS SHALL APPLY"

SECTION 1– Blue Water Open Class 2 Day Tournament

For vessels over 5.8m in length. Limited to a distance of 55 nautical miles from the weigh gantry at the club rooms, Sutherland Street, Port Hedland. A minimum of 2 anglers, one of whom must be an adult. Each angler competing is only allowed to present one fish of each species per day (For example – 2 Spanish Mackerel is UNACCEPTABLE, one Spanish Mackerel (Narrow Bar) and one Broad Bar Mackerel is OK. Champion angler is determined by an accumulation of weight of fish presented for the duration of the tournament.

Champion Angler Catch and Release will be determined by the total length in "CM" presented on capture cards to the weighmaster on the day of capture. Each angler will be restricted to 3 of a species per angler per day. Photos must be taken of every fish recorded on submitted sheets, every photo must have a time and date stamp and the fish must be on a brag mat or similar measuring device showing the length (in increments of a minimum of 1cm) of the fish clearly. Each angler's photographs are to be submitted to the weighmaster by 5pm on Monday 12 June 2023 either on a portable USB drive or via email to phgfc.weighmaster@aapt.net.au. If submitting photos via email, please ensure that each anglers photos

are submitted in separate emails. If submitting on a USB drive, all photos can be submitted on 1 drive provided the anglers photos are in separate folders named using the anglers name.

Champion Boat will be determined by the total weight of fish presented for the duration of the tournament divided by the number of anglers on board. Anglers are not required to comply with line class rules, i.e. – any type of line can be used (For example an 8kg mackerel can be caught on 30kg braid). All species will be eligible except for Sharks, Trevally, Barracuda and Cod, with the exception of Rankin Cod (note these species are eligible in the Catch & Release Section).

Champion Boat Catch and Release – same rules as Champion Angler Catch & Release with the exception of: the winning boat will be determined by the total length in “CM” presented on capture cards to the weighmaster, divided by the number of anglers on board.

SECTION 2 – Inshore Open Class 2 Day Tournament

Same rules as Section 1 with 3 exceptions: 1. all vessels must be over 4.2m and no longer than 5.8m in length. 2. Limited to a distance of 30 nautical miles from the weigh gantry at the club rooms, Sutherland Street, Port Hedland. 3. Minimum anglers per team is 2 anglers, one of whom must be an adult.

SECTION 3 – Dinghy Open Class 2 Day Tournament

Same rules as Section 1 with 4 exceptions: 1. all vessels must not exceed 4.2m in length. 2. Limited to a distance of 5 nautical miles from the weigh gantry at the club rooms, Sutherland Street, Port Hedland (approx. 24 pin). 3. All Species will be eligible except sharks 4. Minimum anglers per team, can be 1 adult.

SECTION 4 – Land Based Open 2 Day Tournament

Same rules as Section 2 with the exception that all fish must be hook played and landed whilst the angler is on dry land. This is an open line class section. The champion angler will be determined from the total weight of fish weighed during the tournament. All species will be eligible except for sharks.

WEIGH-IN

The weigh-in will be conducted on both Saturday and Sunday at the Port Hedland Game Fishing Club on Sutherland Street, Port Hedland next door to the Yacht Club between 4pm and 7pm. All fish must be presented for weighing on the day of capture in tubs which will be supplied by the club. Fish will no longer be accepted by being handed directly from the boat. No frozen fish will be accepted for weigh-in. Anglers are to take all their catches with them following the weigh-in.

NO MUTILATED FISH WILL BE ACCEPTED BY THE WEIGHMASTER UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL UNDER SIZED FISH BE ACCEPTED FOR WEIGH-IN. IF ANY ANGLER PRESENTS AN UNDER SIZED FISH TO THE WEIGHMASTER, THEY WILL LOSE THEIR TOTAL DAY'S POINTS. IF THE ANGLER IS PART OF A TEAM IT WILL INCLUDE TEAM POINTS FOR THAT DAY.

FISHING AREAS

Blue Water Open Class – limited to a distance of 55 nautical miles from the weigh gantry at the PHGFC Club Rooms, Sutherland Street, Port Hedland.

Inshore Open Class - limited to a distance of 30 nautical miles from the weigh gantry at the PHGFC Club Rooms, Sutherland Street, Port Hedland.

Dinghy Open Class - limited to a distance of 5 nautical miles from the weigh gantry at the PHGFC Club Rooms, Sutherland Street, Port Hedland.

FISHING TIMES

DAY 1 – Saturday 10 June 2023

Lines in from 6:00am

Lines out at 4:00pm

DAY 2 – Sunday 11 June 2023

Lines in at 6:00am

Lines out at 4:00pm

SAFETY / RADIOS

All Boats competing in the tournament must meet all safety requirements of the Western Australian Department of Transport. It is compulsory for boats competing in this tournament to have an operational Marine Radio and all appropriate safety equipment for vessels travelling beyond 5 nautical miles.

PROTESTS AND ADJUDICATIONS

Any protest relating to any aspect of the tournament must be submitted in writing to the tournament committee by 7.00pm on the day the alleged incident took place accompanied by a non-refundable fee of \$100.00. The tournament committee's decision in relation to all disputes, protests and claims will be final and no correspondence will be entered into. The tournament committee reserves the right to alter, amend, delete and add any rule it believes will improve the tournament.

TIE

In the event of a tie between two anglers or teams the angler or team that presents their fish to the weighmaster first will be deemed the winner.

INDEMNITY

Every entrant taking part in this tournament shall indemnify the said organisers and / or other sponsors and official servants and other person's aforesaid, against any claims by any other entrant or other person whomsoever, for injuries, damage loss or other claim whatsoever or however arising.

WEATHER AND BREAKDOWNS

No allowance will be made for fishing time lost as a result of bad weather or breakdowns. The tournament committee reserves the right to cancel any day due to bad weather.

BRIEFING, REGISTRATIONS & PRESENTATION

A pre-tournament briefing & registration night will be held at the Club Rooms, Sutherland Street, Port Hedland on Friday 09 June 2023. Registrations will commence at 5pm with the briefing to follow at 6pm. This meeting is to allow anglers to complete their nomination forms, pay fees and to inform all entrants of the rules, local water conditions and to answer any questions competitors may have regarding the rules of the tournament. It is mandatory for at least one angler from each team to attend, as some rule changes may require explanation. Food and refreshments will be available on the night.

A trophy presentation evening will be held on Saturday 17 June 2023 at the Walkabout Hotel from 7.00pm. If additional tickets are required, they can be purchased at \$30.00 per adult and \$15.00 per junior.

PRIZE DIVISIONS

Section 1 – Blue Water Open class (scores based on highest aggregate of weight)

Champion Angler (Male)

Champion Angler (Female)

Champion Angler Catch and Release (scores based on total CM released)

Champion Angler (Junior) / Champion Angler Runner up (Junior)

Champion Boat

Champion Boat Catch and Release

Section 2- Inshore Open Class (scores based on highest aggregate of weight)

Champion Angler (Male)

Champion Angler (Female)

Champion Angler Catch & Release

Champion Angler (Junior) / Champion Angler Runner Up (Junior)

Champion Boat

Champion Boat Catch & Release

Section 3- Dinghy Open Class (scores based on highest aggregate of weight)

Champion Angler (Male)

Champion Angler (Female)

Champion Angler Catch & Release

Champion Angler (Junior) / Champion Angler Runner Up (Junior)

Champion Boat

Champion Boat Catch & Release

Section 4 – Land Based Open class (scores based on highest aggregate of weight)

Champion Angler (Male)

Champion Angler (Female)

Champion Angler catch & Release

Champion Angler (Junior) / Champion Angler Runner up (Junior)

THE FOLLOWING PRIZE CATEGORIES ARE ELIGIBLE WITHIN ALL DIVISIONS:

Heaviest Tuna

Heaviest Cobia

Heaviest Mackerel (All species)

Heaviest Red Emperor

Heaviest Coral Trout

Heaviest Whiting

Heaviest Salmon (Threadfin or Blue Nose)

Heaviest Mangrove Jack

Heaviest Bream

Largest Mud Crab (size determined from measuring width of crab body)

Most Species Captured and Released

Roy Fenton Prize – Most Caught & Released Sharks

The Weighmasters Prize for Most Meritorious Catch

YOURS IN FISHING - PHGFC TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE