



**Huntmaster/AUF Memorial Spearfishing Challenge and Port
Stephens Big Fish Comp. Sat15th & Sun16th Feb 2020.
Backup dates if needed May 16/17 or 23/24, TBA.
“\$13,000.00 in cash prizes are available to winners”**

Event information 1) Event type/cancellation. 2) Location, dates/times & fees, 3) Rules, 4) Prizes & age categories, 5) Safety, 6) Disputes/protests..

1) Event type/cancellation: -

- A Spearfishing competition held mainly from competitors’ boats over one day with the second day allocated for BBQ, Sponsor recognition and presentation of prizes.
- Rockhoppers are welcome but there is no separate category for Rockhoppers.
- The weather/water/safety conditions will be monitored leading up to the event so early notification can be advised in the event of cancellation/rescheduling
- Event comprises two events, the annual big fish comp with a new memorial challenge comp.
- The Challenge section allows 15 selected fish only to be eligible for weigh in. The 15 are comprised of 12 shown as asterisk * on the scoresheet plus any 3 from the others also included on the scoresheet. This section allows all age categories from sub Jnr to grand masters. See section 4) below. No unlisted fish are eligible.
- Minimum weights and lengths are shown on the scoresheet.
- The largest fish you weigh in will go into the big fish section prize pool and also be included in scoring for the 15 fish event which will comprise your total catch in the Open and age categories section which is scored under the 100 points per specie plus 10 points per kg. (Maximum points for any one fish 250.)
- The big fish event is in two prize pools, one is for six largest open only to persons 18 years & over. And the second with 3 largest open only to persons under 18 years.see 4) below.
- Please see the scoresheet.

2) Location, dates, times & fees.

- Event dates are Competition Sat15th Feb, starting registration/briefing 6am, comp start 8am. Sign off 3pm sharp followed by weigh in.
- Be on time please as late registration delays comp start time.
- Presentation Sun 16th Feb for BBQ, acknowledge & thanks for sponsor HUNTMMASTER. (Times TBA but expect between 10am and 2pm. Attendance is important please.)
- Sign on and weigh in will take place at Little Beach/Halifax at a roped area on the grass above the beach to the left of the boat ramp. We expect to have a marquee and some signage installed.

- Fees for the event. Financial AUF members over 18yrs \$30. Under 18yrs \$20.
- Non AUF fee for over 18yrs \$80. Under 18yrs \$40. NOTE Includes membership to 30 June 2020 and access to Bluewater Classic at Coffs Harbour, Southern Zone Champs, Far Southern Zone Champs, Eden challenge and Australian Pacific Coast Spearfishing Champs at Port Stephens, all great events on our calendar. See calendar of events at “Spearfishing NSW AUF” Facebook.

3) Event Rules.

- Females may only enter the Open aged category event, as either Females (regardless of age) or their actual age group and compete against all genders in that group.
- Any gender Juniors and Sub Juniors can only win big fish prizes from their prize pool, as shown under 4) prizes below.
- Your age on day one of the event determines your age group.
- Sub juniors must be accompanied by a person 18 years or over. Under the firearms regulations NSW a person under 13 years can use a hand spear but not a speargun.
- For all age groupings please see the competition entry form and 4) below.
- The score sheet notes describe what species are eligible.
- Boat operators can launch anywhere within the Port Stephens area however one person should remain in the boat when in the Little Bay/Halifax sign on/ weigh in area and keep clear of the beach and bathing areas. Care must be taken to preserve the areas and sea grasses.
- A Boat start will be from assembled competition boats clear of the mooring zone. Exact details will be given at the briefing.
- Please do not bring spearguns into the public area where sign on/weigh in takes place as it is a sanctuary zone. Leave them in the car or boat.
- Competitors may compete from boats or off the rocks but must not dive alone without another person’s company and knowledge of your location. There is no rock hopping section in this event.
- Competitors must not spear any fish within 50klms of the control centre in the 24 hours preceding the competition.
- Marine park rules to be observed at all times, no fishing is permitted in Cabbage Tree Island habitat protection zone, rubbish associated with competitors’ activities must be removed from the environment.
- All fish to be despatched humanely, iced down and remain iced into the weigh in ring.
- Berleying is permitted using any legal finned fish obtained by spear during the hours of the competition. Size and bag limits would apply.
- Current NSW recreational fishing licenses must be available for inspection at sign on for all persons other than pensioners and under 18years.
- Only one of each eligible species to be presented at weigh in.
- Starting and finishing times will be according to network time.
- Competitors should obtain and familiarise themselves with “The Recreational Fishing Guide- Port Stephens/Great Lakes Marine Park”
- Capture of fish should be in accordance with AUF “A Sect” rules Dec 10 2018. as applicable. (Go to AUF Spearfishing Website.)
- Boat owners/operators must ensure their vessel and driver comply with current NSW Maritime requirements in all aspects including Alpha dive flag used whenever divers are in the water.

- Boat/PWC owners must have current “comprehensive” or “3rd party only insurance” for their vessel.

4) Prizes & age categories.

- Prizes are shown below.
- \$ Biggest 6 fish. \$1000, \$400, \$300, \$200, \$100, \$50. (Any gender Junior and Sub Juniors are not eligible to win prizes in this section). See Biggest 3 fish below.
- \$ Biggest 3 fish for (any gender junior, sub jun.) \$500, \$250, \$150.
- \$ Open individual top three point scorers. \$1000, \$200, \$100. Awarded to the three highest scoring competitors regardless of age group.
- \$ Individual age categories and female top three point scorers. \$200, \$100, \$50. See the age categories below.
- \$ Any size cash giveaway includes \$500 each for taking one of 12 pre nominated species, weigh in an eligible one and you’re in the draw. Open to all competitors.
- Sunday lunch and presentation include more cash and other prizes through lucky door and fundraising raffles. Open to all present.
- Age Categories. Sub Junior- under 15; Junior 15-17; Intermediate 18-24; Senior 25-44; Veteran 45-54; Master55-64; Grand Master65+.

5) Safety.

- See AUF Spearfishing website for “ASect” rules 2.1 as appropriate for this event.
- When in the water all competitors must have at least one well secured knife, mask with snorkel attached, quick release weight belt, attached float line and complying float with alpha flag erect and in good condition, other equipment in good condition as necessary.
- Competitors to ensure they have a quick method of getting attention in an emergency.
- Competitors guns must not be in a loaded condition out of the water and should never be pointed at any person.
- Competitors must ensure that spear tips are sheathed or removed when not in use and must also take necessary precautions to protect other persons from harm which could be caused by Spearfishing equipment.
- Competitors and crew are prohibited from being under the influence of illegal or unprescribed drugs and alcohol whilst participating in an event.

6) Disputes/protests.

- Protests must be lodged to the competition Committee as soon as possible after the occurrence of an instance to be protested. Protest evidence must be factually correct and submitted in detail.
- Protests or disputes will be dealt with by a protest committee comprised of a maximum of 5 persons representing a minimum of 3 clubs nominated by the competition Committee.
- The competition Committee for this event is:- Paul Marshall, Jarrad Phelps, Tyler Drake, Oly Wady, Joe Martindale.

End