



Dampier Spearfishing Classic Rules – 2016 13 November 2016

The Dampier Spearfishing Classic is a pairs competition designed to test and challenge divers to capture a variety of trophy species in a competitive environment - whilst maintaining diver safety through use of a buddy system. This year, with the blessing of friends and family, we have introduced the Matt Pennington and Lawrence Smith shield, which will be awarded to the first place winners in memory of two great members of our community lost in tragic circumstances.

There are two categories for this year's event, Open and Juniors. Open category is available to all divers; the Junior category is open to pairs where both members are under 18 years old. Junior pairs must be nominated as a Junior pair on the registration form.

Registrations/Sign on and Sign off

- 1) The Dampier Spearfishing Classic is a **pairs spearfishing competition**.
- 2) Free entry for WAUC financial members. Those not financial WAUC members will need to pay membership at registration.
- 3) All competitors must sign the authorised release agreement.
- 4) Entrants under 18 years old must have a guardian sign the release form.
- 5) Pair entrants under 15 years of age must have an adult guardian supervising their diving activities.
- 6) Registration paperwork and WAUC membership fees will be accepted at the diver's brief on Saturday 12 November at 7pm. Pairs must collect a token upon registration.
- 7) A divers safety brief will be conducted a 7:15pm sharp. It is **mandatory** for one diver from each pair to be present at the Safety brief. Sign on / registration paperwork must be presented before the divers brief, with registration from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. Should a pair not be able to attend, they must nominate a proxy who will attend (e.g. Spouse or non-competing skipper). Should a pair not be able to attend or arrange a proxy contact the competition director Graham Carlisle 0414190331. Pairs not attending the registration and briefing will not be allowed to weigh-in any fish.
- 8) The competition will start at 5:45am and finish at 4:30pm, but may be shortened by consensus or due to safety reasons. Start and finish times will be determined by the timekeeper. Competitors can travel by sea or land, but must not commence diving before 5:45am.
- 9) Pairs need to sign on electronically via email OR SMS with the nominated timekeeper/controller (Ryan Arkelidis 0411 042 319 AND rarkelidis@gmail.com) between 05h30 and 06h15. Pairs not signing on with the official timekeeper/controller will not be allowed to weigh in any fish.
- 10) Weigh in will commence from 4:30pm at the Hampton harbour boat and yacht club
- 11) Sign off will commence 30 minutes prior to the announced finish time (4-4:30). To sign off, a diver from each pair must present themselves to the Hampton Harbor Boat and Yacht club and manually sign off

with and hand token to the time keeper/controller (Ryan Arkelidis). Failure to be signed off by the announced finish time will result in disqualification.

General rules

- 12) It is each individual's responsibility to be aware of Marine Sanctuary boundaries. Anyone diving in a Sanctuary will be disqualified.
- 13) Prizes will be awarded to; place getters for each division, most meritorious catch and mystery weights. The number of prizes awarded will be proportional to the pairs entered in each division up to a max of 25 pairs. Prizes may not be awarded to divisions that have less than 3 pairs enter, in which case entrants will take part in the open comp. Spearfishing organisers have final say on prize allocation. With the exception of the meritorious prize, competitors may only receive one prize.
- 14) Should the day be cancelled, the competition will be postponed to a future date.
- 15) Competitors must be participating in freedive spearfishing and immersed in water at time of spearing the fish.
- 16) One fish of each species to be submitted per pair and pairs must adhere to published bags limits.
- 17) Burleying is only permitted using fish speared on the day.
- 18) Any breach of the Western Australian Fisheries or Department of Transport rules is grounds for immediate disqualification.
- 19) All fish are to be submitted gutted and gilled and divers should ensure that fish are thoroughly cleaned. If you believe you may have a record fish, certified club scales will be available at the sign off area prior to gutting and gilling for potential records.
- 20) Non competing boat skippers are permitted.
- 21) Every diver must register with a partner. Each pair must dive from the same boat. Boats are to be supplied by the competitors.
- 22) All boats must display an alpha dive flag at all times when there are divers in the water. Boat flags must be 900mm above the gunwale and be a minimum of 750x600 mm in size.
- 23) A committee decision will be made as to whether the competition is to proceed on the Thursday prior to the competition at 7pm WST. The decision will be posted to all WAUC Facebook pages and groups, club website and via email to club members.

Appeals and Protest

- 24) Any appeal or protest must be made before the awarding of the prizes and completion of the competition. Competitors must present all appeals/protests in writing to the head of the appeals panel. There is a lodgement fee of \$20 for all appeals and protests, should your claim be successful this fee will be refunded. All rulings by the appeals panel are final.
- 25) All appeals or protests will be heard by a panel of 3 competitors chosen by the competition director. Only one diver from a pair can be part of the panel. A diver from a pair involved in the protest must not be part of the panel.

Dampier Spearfishing Classic Release Agreement

Note: One form per pair required

1. I agree that it is my own responsibility that I am physically fit and qualified for engaging in the 2016 Dampier Spearfishing Classic competition.
2. I realise that such diving and spearfishing activities inherently have dangers to my person from or caused by currents, sea conditions, sharks and other marine creatures, the activity of other people in boats and in the water and their equipment.
3. I realise that the activity of breath hold diving (known as freediving) involves dangers that can include "shallow water black out" if not conducted with caution and due care on my part. I have at least a general understanding of the term "shallow water blackout" and understand the other risks associated with breath hold diving.
4. I understand that advice and information provided on the competition area and conditions are given in good faith but this advice and information should be treated with caution with final decisions being the responsibility of the competitor.
5. I understand that it is a best practice to conduct freedive spearfishing whilst towing a float with flag, whistle, and mirror.
6. For the consideration of the facilities, equipment, and services and advice provided by you, I, for myself, my executors, administrators and assigns, and for the child (if applicable) hereby absolutely release and discharge the, it's individual members, their agents, appointees and assigns, from and against all claims whatsoever arising out of the death, personal injury loss of or damage to personal property, that I or the child (if applicable), may suffer or sustain in any way connected with the above mentioned spearfishing competition, and I hereby indemnify and agree to keep indemnified West Australian Undersea Club, it's member clubs, and it's individual members, their agents, all appointees and assigns against all claims whatsoever by me or the child or by any person claiming through me, or through the child on my behalf, in any way arising, and this discharge may be pleaded in bar to any such claim.
7. The fish I spear remain in my possession. I am responsible for adhering to the size limits, bag limits and other restrictions placed on my catch under government legislation.
8. I have read the competition's rules and agree to abide by them.
9. I have read the above and understand its meaning and effect and declare that I am over 18 years of age.

Division: Open Junior

Name _____

Name _____

Contact numbers _____

NOK _____

Signature _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Date _____

Age ____ For Juniors

Age ____ For Juniors

If you are entering Junior section proof of age is required

If under 18 years of age, guardians' names and signatures also

Guardian _____

Guardian _____

Signature _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Date _____

Vessel Details

Craft / Vessel Registration _____ Length _____

Fuel on Board at start of competition _____ Litres

General description of boat: _____