
5. SECTION FIVE - COMPETITIONS

5.1 Monthly Competitions Prizes

Prizegiving and raffle draws take place on the Sunday morning of a contest weekend following the weigh-in at the clubrooms. The prizes are normally in the form of vouchers, and are awarded for the following catches: -

- Heaviest Snapper
- Heaviest Other Species (excluding Snapper & Kahawai)
- Heaviest Kahawai
- Heaviest fish caught by a lady angler (any species).
- Heaviest fish caught by a junior angler (any species)

Any one fish is eligible for only one of the above prizes.

5.2 Raffles

In addition to the fishing contest, the club runs a raffle event over the weekend. Members select their own numbers from the raffle sheet.

There is also a lucky rod ticket draw - members must be present at the clubrooms at the time of the draw to win this.

5.3 Four or more species

This fun event, run at the discretion of the Club Captain, can run as a form of a sweepstake over the weekend. The decision to run such is up to the Club Captain. It is based upon the number of different species a member catches rather than the size of fish - a minimum of four different species is required to qualify for the prize. The highest number of different species wins. In the case of more than one entry having the same number of different species, the heaviest total weight of those fish wins. Prize(s), additional entry fees or sponsorship of such being the responsibility of the Club Captain.

5.4 Assisted Casting

In club competitions assisted casting is allowed for fishers who because of age, physical handicaps or inexperience are not able to cast a line sufficient distance which would give them fair chance of attracting a catch. This assistance is for the act of casting only and does not apply to baiting of hooks, striking or playing the catch and retrieving of line and catch.

Application for such exemption will be made on the day of the competition to the Club Captain whose decision will be recorded and be binding.

The Club recognises the responsibility of teaching the skills of casting to enable such to proficiently cast their own line.

5.5 Points Ladders

Fish caught during the monthly fishing contests, and also during the away interclub events, are awarded points. The number of points a fish receives differs with each species and is calculated based on a simple formulae of the weight of the fish in kgs (up to three decimal points) multiplied by a species factor.

The species factors are as follows:-

- Snapper25
- Trevally 20
- Kahawai15
- Gurnard 25
- Kingfish 30
- Sharks 10
- John Dory 30
- All other species 10

All Club Members competing at Club Competitions are awarded 10 points on registering regardless of whether or not they weigh in a catch.

Separate points ladders are composed by the Club Captain and displayed at the clubrooms. These are: -

- Smallfry Under 11 years of age
- Junior Under 17 years of age
- Men's 17 years of age up to and including 64 years of age
- Ladies 17 years of age up to and including 59 years of age
- Veteran Men 65 years of age up to and including 69 years of age
- Veteran Ladies 60 years of age up to and including 69 years of age
- Golden Oldie 70 years and over

Points are cumulative over the fishing year with the ladder leaders being shown in the club newsletter each month.

There are trophies and prizes for the winners of each section at the end of the year. The names of all section winners are recorded on the club's honour board. The member with the highest total of points becomes the overall fishing champion for the year.

5.6 The Teams Event

The month is at the discretion of the Club Captain but is usually held during the March monthly contest. Teams are self-chosen and consist of two Club members (any sex or age) - the team that catches the heaviest combined weight of snapper wins. A separate sweepstake is run as a prize for this event and the winning team receives a trophy at the end of the year. The names of the winning team are recorded on the "Team Shield" which is displayed at the clubroom.

5.7 The Family Teams Event

The family teams event consists of adult family members plus children or one adult family member plus children or two or more family adults. All family members must fish to be eligible. Combine heaviest bag of fish (any legal species) caught by a family team. There is a trophy for the winning team.

5.8 The Mixed Pairs

The team must consist of one male and one female. Juniors can participate and visitors who are attending under the club one visit rule. (see section 3 of the handbook). Both team members must fish to be eligible. The highest total weight of fish (any legal species) is the target. There is a trophy for the winning team.

5.9 Wooden Spoon

Most of us from time to time when fishing have done something silly – forgotten the bait - arrived too late for the weigh-in - cast a mighty throw and thrown the rod as well etc. The club has a fun award for this in the form of a wooden spoon which if a member is awarded three times; he/she is expected to add their name to the many already there.

5.10 End of Season Fish-off

The final month for competition points is June and, at the Club Captains discretion, this can be combined with a fishing competition with added prize-money to which members of other fishing clubs and invited guests can take part.

5.11 January Bonanza

The cost of running a club today is high and unfortunately it continues to grow each year. The public Fishing Bonanza that the Club organises annually on the Auckland Anniversary weekend is of major importance for keeping the club subscriptions down and maintaining the clubroom facilities.

It requires the assistance of all our members on this particular weekend to ensure the success of the contest and hence the clubs future. Apart from the financial importance of the event to the club, the weekend is a wonderful time for members and their families to get together. Membership places an obligation on all to play a part in this event.

5.12 Interclub

There are annual fishing contests arranged between R.F.C.C and other local clubs, with trophies being competed for, but not limited to, with Opotiki, Papamoa Beach and Whakatane clubs. These matches are organised on a home and away basis with the team numbers being agreed between the club captains.

Home fixtures are set to coincide with the RFCC monthly contests, while away contests are extra to the club's calendar of events. Members are notified through the club newsletter.

Fish caught at an away contests are eligible for ladder points.

5.13 Club Record Fish

Members please note that to qualify for a club record the fish need not have been caught during an official club competition. It must however be caught within the club boundary as defined. Beginning from the western boundary at Maketu Surf Club to the eastern boundary at the western bank of the Whakatane River. It need not be gutted before being weighed but must be weighed on certified scales. A note verifying the weight should accompany any claim for a new club record. Most storekeepers will oblige by weighing and endorsing a note to this effect. The date and place the fish was caught should also be recorded and if possible a witnesses name and telephone number.

The names of the holders of club records are displayed in the clubhouse.