



Reflections Sustainable Fishing Series – RULES

Welcome to the Reflections Sustainable Fishing Series, please read and note these rules carefully and enjoy your sustainable fishing experience with us!



Competition Schedule - Copeton Waters

Friday - Sign on from 2pm - 5pm

Collect your unique competition ID, brag-rag and your comp cap from the OzFish team at the main building at the Reflections Copeton Waters.

All competitors must attend in person to collect their designated ID and brag-rag unless other arrangements have been pre-organised.

Get settled into camp, pre-fish if you wish.

Official Welcome to Country ceremony - 4pm

Saturday –

Fishing commences from 12:01am. (that's 1 minute past midnight)

Registration & sign on - 7am - 9am

Entrant & Safety Induction briefing - 7:45am

Kids Fishing Workshop with Harry Davey – 4pm – 5pm (kids byo fishing rod!)

Entertainment (with Josh Moylan) – 4-5pm, 5:30-6:30pm

Prize Presentation: Daily Winners for Saturday – 5:00-5:30pm

Sunday –

Fishing entries close 11:30am

Prizes

****LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED****

OzFish Unlimited

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Presentations and Prize Draws – 12:30pm to 1:00pm

Reflections Sustainable Fishing Series is all about 'life being better outdoors', enjoying being in nature and with family and friends. Our prize categories give you a wide range of ways to be rewarded for your fishing adventures, without always chasing the most or the biggest fish.

So enjoy the scenery, take time to celebrate your little-one's first ever catch, try for a new PB and enjoy each other's company, let luck be on your side!

Native Fish Category

Adult (15+) - Mystery length native of the day – Saturday (Entries in before 4pm)
Junior (10 – 14) - Mystery length native of the day – Saturday (Entries in before 4pm)
Sub-Junior (<10) - Mystery length native of the day – Saturday (Entries in before 4pm)
Adult (15+) - Mystery length native of the day – Sunday (Entries in before 11:30am)
Junior (10 – 14) - Mystery length native of the day – Sunday (Entries in before 11:30am)
Sub-Junior (<10) - Mystery length native of the day – Sunday (Entries in before 11:30am)

Native & Pest Fish Category

2 x random length native or pest – Saturday (all competitors) (Entries in before 4pm)
2 x random length native or pest – Sunday (all competitors) (Entries in before 11:30am)

Pest Fish Category

Adult (15+) - Pest species – Longest fish (across both days, drawn on Sunday)
Junior (10 – 14) - Pest species – Longest fish (drawn on Sunday)
Sub-Junior (<10) - Pest species – Longest fish (drawn on Sunday)
Adult (15+) – Pest fish bag – most pest fish collected (over the whole event)
Junior (10 – 14) – Pest fish bag – most pest fish collected (over the whole event)
Sub-Junior (<10) - Pest fish bag – most pest fish collected (over the whole event)

Sustainable Practices Category

Show us the sustainable fishing tool you can't live without! – Photo/video entry (all competitors)
Show us your fish release! – Video entry only (Sub-Junior, Junior + Adult)
Tackling Litter Recycle – recycle the most fishing gear (all competitors)
Tackling Litter Bag – pick up most litter items while you fish (all competitors)

Lucky Prize Draw – 5 x major prizes

Notable Catches – send us your PBs, interesting or funny catches for a special mention at each presentation!

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Entries

All Native Fish

The Reflections Sustainable Fishing Series are all catch-photo-release competitions. Prizes are awarded based on the length of the fish, which is to be submitted via a photograph taken on the provided brag-mat with your competition ID. The competition is designed as catch and release to protect and preserve our native fish. Correctly photographing your fish is critical to ensure your catch is eligible for entry into the competition (see guidelines below). Entries can only be made through the provided photo entry portal (you will require your mobile phone).

All Pest Fish

The Reflections Sustainable Fishing Series encourages the catch of pest species, these species are not to be returned to the water. A photo on the brag-rag with competition ID is still required to submit your pest fish entry. All pest fish should be disposed of [quickly and humanely](#). Entries can only be made through the provided photo entry portal (you will require your mobile phone).

Other Photo entries

Other photo entries can be provided without the brag-rag, however the competition ID will still be required when submitting these entries.

Rules

1. Fishing is restricted to inside the Reflections Holidays site boundary and/or within the dam.
2. Once caught, take a photo of the fish on your supplied measuring mat, clearly including your ID tag.
3. Once you have taken a photo with your phone, release the fish where it was caught. Try and complete this process as quickly and gently as possible and keep the fish, brag-rag and your hands/gloves wet at all times.
4. Photos will need to be uploaded through the designated portal for entry. Please photograph & release your natives, or despatch your pest fish, BEFORE uploading onto the app.
5. The Series is strictly catch-photo-release. Entrants found keeping entered native fish will not be considered as entries.
6. All pest fish entries can be any size, they should not be returned to the water, but disposed of quickly and humanely. Pest fish disposal location will be advised at sign-on.
7. In the case of a tie the following will ensue: A count-back will determine the winner, this will be based on first entries received. The adjudicators decision is final.

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Fish Handling Guidelines

Please take some time to review this [fish handling advice video](#).

- Ensure that all objects and surfaces the fish touches are wet and cool.
- Support the weight of the fish at ALL times. Never hang a fish by its jaws, gills or tail. Place a hand under its belly or rest it on a wet towel, damp boat carpet or a wet measuring mat.
- Strictly limit the fish's time out of the water. Try holding your breath while the fish is exposed to the air, if you need another breath, so does the fish!
- Be organised. Have your camera or phone, measuring mat and long-nosed pliers (for careful hook removal) laid out and ready to go before you lift the fish out of the water.
- Remove the hook or hooks as quickly as possible using long-nosed pliers. Remember, de-barbed hooks come out of fish and people much more easily, so consider flattening your barbs.
- If the fish is hooked too deeply for easy hook extraction using long-nosed pliers, cut the line or leader as close as possible to the hook.
- Return the fish to the water promptly and support it in an upright position facing into any current or flow while it recovers strength. Do not swish it back and forth.
- When the fish seems recovered and ready, simply allow it to swim free of your grip, but watch to ensure it doesn't float back to the surface.

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Photo Entry Guidelines

- OzFish will brief entrants at sign-on.
- Photo must be taken square on to the fish and mat. The nose of the fish must be level with the zero mark on the brag-rag.
- The dorsal fin must point to the top of the mat. The brag mat must be on a flat surface with no creases.

The entire fish and the measuring edge of the mat must be visible in the photo with the length of the

- fish being clearly identified and legible.

Entries are judged on length in millimetres.

To take the lead the fish must be 1mm longer than the current leader. In the event of a tie the entry received first will be deemed the winner so if you catch a fish get that photo in

- ASAP.

Any digital manipulation of the photo will be deemed as cheating and will result in the angler being disqualified.



Examples of incorrect photos:



Not eligible - Scrunched or bunched or folded brag-rag.



Not eligible – Fish or brag-rag upside-down.



Not eligible – incorrect picture angle, take directly above.



Not eligible – too far away, fish and measure length only.

Notes

- Photo entries will only be accepted by registered participants with their ID tag visible.
- Photo must be of a live fish. Photos showing signs of mutilation, damage, excessive blood or improper handling will be deemed unfit for entry.
- It is the contestant's responsibility to ensure they hold a NSW Fishing License and follow all legal fishing compliance and boating compliance requirements.
- The following is prohibited to use: set lines, float lines, all forms of nets except landing nets and scoop or dip nets, fish traps, drum nets, cross-lines, spears and spear gun.
- Soft plastic lures are strongly discouraged.
- Barbless hooks are strongly encouraged.
- Please note that regular patrols of the dam will be performed over the competition commencing the Friday morning to ensure no unwanted activity is occurring.
- Junior & Sub-Junior competitors (14 years of age and under) must be accompanied by an adult.
- Behaviour such as bad language or threatening remarks to any contestants or officials will not be tolerated. This will result in immediate disqualification with no refund of entry fee.
- Officials can, at any time, reject entry or any photos submitted throughout the event.
- In some instances, participants may be required to validate their entry by providing additional information. Failure to provide further information will result in
- No refunds will be granted if the contestant cancels at any time during the competition.
- You must be present at the final presentation on Sunday at 12.30pm to remain eligible for any prizes.

Liability

- OzFish does not accept any liability for any injury, loss or damage of any kind.
- By signing on to the competition you are agreeing to abide by OzFish Work Health and Safety policies and accept the safety induction briefing.

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- It is the responsibility of each entrant whether or not to start or continue to fish the competition depending on environmental factors.
- All competitors must comply with the boating legislation with particular reference to safety equipment, registration and licensing, safe operation and speed limits.

First Aid

- Minor First Aid issues can be assessed with the designated First Aider.
- Major or life threatening injury please call 000 immediately, or present to the nearest hospital.

Publicity and Privacy

All participants agree to being broadcast, filmed, photographed, interviewed or otherwise recorded without compensation while participating in this competition, or in taking or using any prize.

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