



# Competition General Rules

(To be read with specific competition/tournament rules)

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## **NSAA Competition General Rules:**

**(These rules apply to Interclub events held in Namibia and should be read as supplementary to national/international events hosted in Namibia)**

### **1) Compliance.**

- a) During all organized competitions the participating Anglers/clubs must comply with all the rules, including all current national fisheries regulations as promulgated by the authorities from time to time.
- b) All anglers will hold a current and up to date fishing permit for the recreational harvesting of marine resources.
- c) The control during the competitions will be handled through the Weigh Master/Tournament Director for the day according to the policies and rules of the NSAA.
- d) All participants must comply with the NSAA Code of Ethics at all times when and where they may be identified with the Association.
- e) The NSAA may perform drug testing of participant/s as and when deemed necessary.

#### **1.1) DISCLAIMER**

The NSAA accepts no responsibility whatsoever for any injury or damage caused to, or by, members or visitors whilst attending any Association event. The Safety of Anglers and Members is the responsibility of the individuals concerned and no liability is accepted by the NSAA or any individuals who form part of the NSAA.

#### **1.2) Changing of rules**

These rules will be applicable until changed by the EXCO of the day in conjunction with terms as recorded in 7.1.1 of the NSAA Constitution or on an AGM, Special General Meeting or any meeting specially conveyed to address any relevant issue contained in this document. as convened in terms of the Constitution of the Namibia Shore Angling Association ("NSAA").

All proposed amendments requested to be made to these Competition rules must be forwarded to (in writing) the Secretary and circulated to all Clubs as laid out in the NSAA Constitution.

### **2) Officials**

- a) The officials will be under the control of the NSAA and must comply with all the procedures and requirements of the NSAA Constitution and applicable rules.



- b) Officials can and may inspect/measure line/hooks/tackle/bait/bait boxes and also inspect **Measuring tapes** at any time during any related event.
- c) Any angler found guilty of breaking any said rule will be dealt with as described in competition/tournament rules.
- d) The Weigh Master will determine whether sea conditions/angling areas are deemed safe and alter/advise/restrict proceedings accordingly.
- e) Officials reserve the right to pursue any irregularities within and up to 7 (seven) days after any event providing indication to do so is indicated to the Weigh Master on the current day of occurrence before competition ends.( closing of scales)
- f) Any other person/official who is part of a said team breaking any of the rules will be dealt with as described in competition/tournament rules.
- g) The Weigh Master/tournament director will be the official with highest authority during these events.
- h) A dispute committee will be appointed consisting of the highest authority of the day (or person appointed by him) and two (2) additional members chosen by the anglers or club/team representatives.

### 3) Definition:

#### **Any Person:**

A person who is legally part of the event excluding participating anglers.

(Manager, runner, reserve, weigh master, official, driver, guide, etc.)

#### **Angler:**

Affiliated individual physically participating by fishing with rod and reel.

#### **Leader Knot:**

Where 2 lines of different dia. or breaking strain are knotted together. (Braid or mono)

#### **Leader Line:**

Line with greater breaking strain used other than mainline.(Braid or mono)

#### **Official**

Such an individual appointed by the NSAA who does not form part of a specific team.

#### **Live Rod**

Meaning the one rod currently being fished with, having been baited up and casted into the water.

#### **MFMR**

#### 4) Equipment/Tackle.

##### 4.1) General:

- a) No artificial harness equipment except a rod bucket may be used while fishing.
- b) A harness or other equipment can only be used by a disabled person. Applications for this right must be forwarded in writing to the committee of NSAA at least fourteen days (14) prior to the said event. A certificate providing details of the disablement must accompany such an application. Every application will be handled on merit.
- c) The use of boats, track skis, kites, wave drivers/riders, air cannons or any other artificial methods like balloons "floats or corks above the size of 64 cm<sup>3</sup> (40 x 40 x 40 mm) for the placing of bait will not be permitted.
- d) Only bait casting allowed, no spoons, poppers, artificial lures etc. to be used
- e) All flotation devices used in bait presentation have to be covered by the bait presented and not be visible from the outside upon presentation.(size as in (c)
- f) No angling is permitted from canoes, small boats or any other type of floating equipment.
- g) Rod stands/ rests may be used while fishing but under no circumstances may a fish be fought/ played while the rod is in the stand.(see exemption 4.9)
- h) A fixed trigger finger (bionic finger) is allowed. (Fixed spool reel casting)

##### 4.2) Monofilament Lines

- a) No breaking strain or thickness limit is placed on this line – open to any dia. line.
- b) Mainline can be attached directly to the Swivel/coupling/knot of the trace. (No brake leader required).

##### 4.3) Braided main lines

- a) No breaking strain or thickness limit is placed on this line – open to any dia.
- b) The braid can be attached directly to the Swivel/coupling/knot of the trace. (No brake leader required).

##### 4.4) Backing line.

- a) The use of any backing material is allowed, and it may enter the water while the cast is made.
- b) Any form of backing may be used. (Mono/braid). (Seen 4.2 & 4.3)



#### **4.5) Leader line.**

- a) Leader line (Shock leader) not to exceed 9m (nine) in length. (No limitations on thickness or breaking strain). Measurement is made from (and includes) mainline knot, up to (and including) total terminal trace. (From the knot on the Main line to the furthest point on the terminal tackle. (End of weight or hook point – whichever is longest)).

#### **4.6) Hooks**

- a) No more than 2 (two) single hooks or 1 (one) treble hook allowed to be used at any time for bait casting.

#### **4.7) Slides**

- a) No form of sliding of any bait permitted. (Sliding – making use of any means/gadgets to transport/slide bait down the mainline).

#### **4.8) Rods**

- a) Only (1) one live rod per angler allowed to be fished with at any given time. (Line in water)
- b) At no time may an angler's rod be handled or held by any person while the line is in the water, or while being in the process of landing/playing/fighting a fish.
- c) Each angler to cast for himself – no assistance allowed
- d) Alternative rods/traces may be baited up and readied but not casted before the fished rod's (Live rod) line has not been retrieved and is out of the water.
- e) Fished/Alternative rods and traces may only be baited after the start of competition/event has occurred. (After captains meeting)

#### **4.9) Equipment failure**

- a) Should an angler experience equipment failure (e.g. reel seize, broken rod) while fighting/landing a fish he/she may:
  - Place the rod in the stand, or on the beach.
  - Retrieve/land/fight the fish by handling his mainline.
  - He/she may not receive any assistance while performing this/these tasks. (see 4.8 b)

### **5) Classification/min weight of fish**

**ONLY measurement/weight conversion chart allowed. (Edibles or sharks)**

#### **5.1) Classification.**

##### **5.1.1) Edibles:**

- a) Cob, Steenbras, Galjoen or Blacktail) as described under 'size and bag limits' of the MFMR.
- b) All fish conforming to the regulations of the Marine Resources Act will be weighed. (If it measures, it weighs.)
- c) Weights as indicated on the measurement/weight conversion chart will be recorded.

### **5.1.2) Sharks. (In edibles)**

**Strictly catch and release** to be practiced here

- a) Classified as: Rays, Sand sharks, Sharks, Toby's, Swordfish, Billfish, Barbel, Elephant fish (St Joseph) and Eels.
- b) Minimum weight 1 kg (One kilogram) will apply.(as per measurement/weight conversion chart)

**No deviation from the classification of the rules (5.1.1 & 5.1.2) regarding min sizes and species (both sharks and edibles) will be taken into consideration. (See 1.2)**

Also subject to abide by rules and regulations during events from **hosting nations**, where criteria might differ.

### **5.1.3) Foreign species (No minimum size as / MFMR specified)**

- a) E.g. Shad, Garrick, any (not mentioned in 5.1.1a & 5.1.2a), etc,
  - \* Should the foreign specie have no prescribed size all edibles will be calculated from a minimum mass of 700g (0.7kg). All in edibles min mass 1kg.
- b) Weights and size as in (5.1.1 & 5.1.2) will apply.
- c) Weight calculation see 15.2 & 15.3
- d) All billfish/swordfish apply 5.1.2

## **6) Measuring/recording of fish**

### **6.1) General Rules of Measuring/recording.**

- a) The measuring of all fish (edible and sharks) during an interclub competition is allowed to be done by NSAA appointed officials only. (Or as decided by the Chief Weigh Master and communicated at the captains meeting)

- i) All anglers are to ensure that during the competition the measurement is recorded and entered onto his/her weigh card (supplied by the NSAA or club score card – Approved by NSAA) and signed by the recording official. **(Interclub).**
- ii) The club Captain/representative has to verify these recording on the same card after the competition by countersigning it. (See (i))
- iii) Blank cards (no scores recorded) also have to be signed and handed in after the (all) event.
- iv) All non-signed/altered/without details/pictures drawn on, etc. will be discarded and the angler will forfeit the points gained here. (attendance and all other)
- b) Only NSAA score cards are to be used for recording of catches **during national/international** events.
- c) Only weigh masters appointed by the NSAA are allowed to record any catches during any event.
- d) Should any other form of recording catches or persons to record be decided on the captains meeting (with proposal from weigh master only) for the current competition – anglers and officials to abide by this. (See 6(a) & 6(a)(i)). (E.g. decided that opposition club members may record catches)

#### 6.2) Process/ in-Process of Measuring/recording.

- a) All fish must be **clean** when brought for measuring
- b) All fish to conform to MFMR rules and regulations (size, etc.)
- c) Individual angler's fish to be kept separate for/during recording/measuring
- d) All fish must be measured separately (one angler only), and a separate count of his/her quantity has to be done and recorded.
- e) Bag limits/quota (not in possession) may be exceeded provided that all excess fish caught is measured, recorded on score card and returned to the sea unharmed under supervision of the person responsible for measuring.
- f) Fish not being released is to be measured and recorded and tail marked by the recording official only. (Edibles only)
- g) Any queries of dispute fish (measured/size/unknown etc.) fish to be referred to the head of the Dispute Committee.

#### 6.3) Specie Rules:

##### 6.3.1) Sharks.

- a) **Nationals, International, competitions or any venue so classified**
  - A fish is deemed to be in the process of measuring/ recording once it has been removed from the said anglers hook and physically handed over to any person partaking in the event, **who will either measure or transport said fish to recording/measuring facility.**
  - Sharks are to be handled with utmost care and be measured and released back into the water with in shortest possible time. **(It is the**

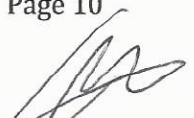
**responsibility of the person/angler who brought the fish for measuring/recording to ensure this)**

- b) **Inter club competitions or any venue so specified**
  - A fish is deemed to be in the process of measuring/ recording once it has been removed from the said anglers hook and physically handed over to any official partaking in the event, **who will measure/record said fish. The responsibility falls upon the angler to return said fish to the water after measure/recording.**
- c) A fish may be handed over to any person/angler/official while in the water (at any depth) but the angler must accompany any of these to dry land. (Current water level mark) Only then is the fish deemed to be in process of recording. (see 8.1 (e))
- d) After complying with the above (a & b) only then may the angler cast his line into the water.
- e) Any of these persons named in (a & b) **may not** be in possession of more than 1 (one) fish of any 1 (one) individual angler at any given time.
- f) Any of the persons named in (a & b) may however be in possession of more than 1 (one) fish (one fish ea. of different anglers) as long as rule (e) is adhered to. These fish will be deemed as in process of measuring/recording. (Permission for this person/s has been obtained from the Ministry of Fisheries – competitions only)
- g) Any person or angler found guilty of contravening any of said rules will be disciplined by the dispute committee or weigh master and depending on severity of offence be referred to his/her club/country angling body or the association for further disciplinary action.

### 6.3.2) Edibles.

- a) Any Angler may accumulate edible fish to the amount specified by Ministry of Fisheries quota or species specifications, but at no time may have more than the prescribed quota in his possession. (All NSAA events) (Refer 6.1.i)
- b) Any angler may however exceed the amount of fish as specified by quota or species specification by practicing catch and release. (All NSAA events)
- c) Any person may accumulate the fish of 1 (one) or more individual angler/s at any time, but not exceed quota or species specifications of any 1 (one) individual angler. ( All NSAA events)
- d) Any person or angler found guilty of contravening any of said rules will be disciplined by the dispute committee or weigh master and depending on severity of offence be referred to his/her club/country angling body or the association for further disciplinary action.
- e) All fish to conform to Legal Authority regulations

### 7) Bait



- a) All baits to conform/comply to the National Fisheries Regulations regarding type/size/quantity.
- b) **Interclub Competitions**
  - Anglers must supply their own bait.
  - Only bait specified in house rules allowed to be used
- c) No sections/cutlets/portions or whole specimen of sharks, rays, St Joseph or any edible, local or foreign may be used as bait.
- d) **National/International** events/competitions organized/planned by the NSAA
  - Only bait supplied/quantified/issued by the NSAA will be used.
- e) No dispersible additives may be used at any time.
- f) All excess /unused/surplus bait to be discarded daily and may not be carried over to the next day.
- g) No skirts, artificial lures etc. is allowed to be added at any NSAA event.
- h) No other fish (any species) caught is allowed to be used as bait.
- i) Issued bait may be exchanged between anglers during competitions, providing lawfully prescribed quantities are not exceeded. (e.g. 25 mussels/person)

#### 7.1) Live baits

- a) Live baits may **NOT** be used. – (no exceptions)

#### 8) Landing/assisting landing of fish.

A fish is considered landed when it is under such a control that it cannot return to the water without assistance from an angler or any other person.

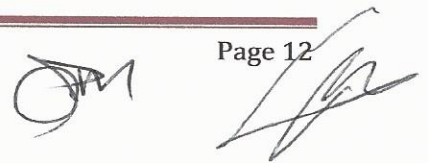
##### 8.1) Sharks

- a) No gaffing of any species of shark allowed. (See classification of sharks).
- b) Any person/angler (except officials) partaking in the comp may assist in landing of a fish, providing permission is obtained from either the angler/ guide/manager.
- c) Only the leader may be handled during landing of a fish.(see 8.1(b))
- d) No restriction on depth or distance entered into the water for landing/assisting landing is placed.
  - e) Should a fish be landed at any distance from the beach the angler must accompany the person assisting him onto the beach before he can bait up and cast again. (See 6.3 (1 c))
  - f) Should a fish be detached from the angler's line/hook or part from the line, any person (excluding officials) or angler may catch that fish by hand. (Dive for it)

- g) During the event of the line parting while having a fish on and the line gets wrapped (tangled) on another anglers line, any person (body part) or manmade device (sand spike etc.), which then prevents the fish from swimming away freely;
  - The angler whose line parted may then retrieve the fish BUT NOT claim the points
  - The angler into whose line the parted line got wrapped may land the fish BUT NOT claim the points.
  - Should the line get wrapped around a non-man made obstacle e.g. mussel, rock, kelp etc. only the angler (whose line parted) may retrieve and land the fish AND CLAIM the points.
- h) Should an angler not be using a leader at no time may his/her MAINLINE be handled.
- i) When no leader is used only the terminal tackle may be handled.
- j) At no time may the rod be handled by anyone else than the angler during the catch/fight/landing.(live rod)
- k) If a fish is landed and a “bunch” of tangled line is retrieved with the fish it must be made sure that the Anglers hook is in the fish and NOT the hook of the old tangled line.

## 8.2) Edibles

- a) No edible fish are allowed to be gaffed; however a lip grip may be used. (See classification of edibles)
- b) Any person/angler (excluding officials) partaking in the comp may assist in landing of a fish, providing permission is obtained from either the angler/guide/manager.
- c) Only the leader may be handled at any time during the landing of a fish.
- d) No restriction on depth or distance entered into the water for assisting/landing is placed.
- e) Should a fish be detached from the angler's line/hook or part from the line, *any* person (excluding officials) or angler may catch that fish by hand. (Dive for it)
- f) During the event of the line parting while having a fish on and gets wrapped (tangled) on another anglers line, any person (body part) or manmade device (sand spike etc.), which then prevents the fish from swimming away freely:
  - The angler whose line parted may not then retrieve the fish and claim the points
  - The angler into whose line the parted line got wrapped may land the fish but not claim the points.
  - Should the line get wrapped around a non-man made obstacle e.g. mussel, rock, kelp etc. only the angler (who's line parted) may retrieve and land the fish and claim the points
- g) Should an angler not be using a leader at no time may his/her MAINLINE be handled.



- h) When no leader is used only the terminal tackle may be handled.
- i) At no time may the rod be handled by anyone else than the angler during the catch/fight/landing.
- j) If a fish is landed and a “bunch” of tangled line is retrieved with the fish it must be made sure that the Anglers hook is in the fish and NOT the hook of the old tangled line

## 9) Area

- a) The area that will be fished in during a competition will be determined at the Captains’ meeting or pre-decided by the Tournament Officials.
  - The area between boundaries will not be less than five (5) kilometers and not more than (Ten) 10 kilometers.
  - Ladies area (when fishing separate will be determined prior to the event)
  - One fixed boundary will be agreed on and from there the 10km or agreed lesser distance will be measured.
  - This area will be clearly marked by means pointed out by the Weigh Master or official at the captains meeting. (E.g. Flags, road cones, etc.)
- b) The responsibility lies with the angler/manager/guide/representative to know/understand/point out the stipulated boundaries (as voted in at Captains meeting) to participating persons/anglers. (also see 11 c)
- c) Any person found fishing out of the stipulated area/s will be disqualified (immediately) from the event and forfeit all points accumulated.
- d) If areas decided on by Captains are non-productive, this area may be changed if majority Captains agree. A stopping and re-starting time must be agreed on, allowing enough time for moving of competitors and competition area.
- e) During internationals/National Competitions Ladies teams will fish
  - Separate area adjacent to one boundary of the agreed area
  - Other area as agreed to by the Weigh Master.
  - Area to be determined at Captains meeting or pre decided by tournament officials.
  - Ladies area will be sized according to amount of anglers participating.
  - (Rules 9 (b to d apply))

## 10) Clothing

- a) During competitions anglers **must** wear clothing that identifies and associates an angler with a specific team or club.
- b) No National Team Colours are to be worn during Interclub and Nationals Competitions.
- c) During and for the duration of international events only the latest (current) issue of clothing must be worn to ensure uniformity.

## 11) Other

- a) Electronic communication equipment may be used during competitions.
- b) If a fish is hooked before the competition ends it may be fought until it is landed but the Weigh Master must be notified as soon as possible.
- c) All fish must be caught/hooked within the designated/stipulated area but may be followed out of the area once hooked. The Weigh Master must be notified as soon as possible.
- d) Any fish tagged and re - caught on the same day will count if hooked in the mouth.
- e) Any deformed or section of catch which is legally landed will be recorded.
  - Providing the specie can be recognized
  - The section of specie left will comply with the min prescribed length.
  - Points will be allocated to this section of fish as per measurement chart.

**12) CONSERVATION AND MARKING OF FISH**  
**Emphasis is laid on CATCH and RELEASE**

- a) All Edible fish must be kept in the shade as far as possible.
- b) Non-edible fish must be measured/recorded and returned to the water as soon as possible.
- c) A Shark must be measured/recorded or be in the process of recording first before an Angler may cast his next bait.
- d) No marking of fish (e.g. cutting off of fins or tails of fish or Rays) will be permitted. Only officials may mark fish (Edibles) after it is measured/ recorded.
- e) Fish that are returned to the water (released) will not be marked.

**13) COMPLAINTS**

- a) Competition officials and the Action Committee (ex-officio) must make sure that all rules are adhered to.

\* Should a partaking angler or person be part of this committee and is involved in a dispute directly concerning him, he will stand down and another official will be appointed in his place regarding this specific dispute.

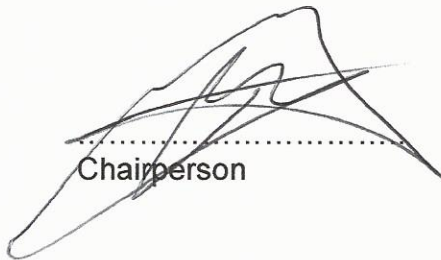
- b) **International Competitions.**

Refer to International competition rules

- c) **Interclub competitions.**

Refer to interclub rules

- d) **National Trials/Club Championship**  
Refer to National Trials/Club Championship rules



.....  
Chairperson



.....  
Secretary

2018-09-11  
Date