

# **SOUTH AFRICAN SHORE ANGLING ASSOCIATION**

**BYLAW (B) TO THE 2020 CONSTITUTION Version 18**



## **CHAMPIONSHIP RULES**

# GOVERNING ANY CHAMPIONSHIP OR INTER-REGIONAL SHORE ANGLING COMPETITION UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN SHORE ANGLING ASSOCIATION (SASAA).

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### **B.1 INTRODUCTION.**

These are the official Shore Angling arrangements and rules as sanctioned for use during any SASAA Championship event. These Championship rules shall apply unless altered in terms of clause 3.2.1 (f) of the SASAA Constitution by a two third majority at a SASAA AGM.

### **B.2 CHAMPIONSHIP AND GENERAL ORGANIZATIONAL DETAILS.**

- a) The respective dates and venues for all SASAA Championships shall be confirmed at the preceding SASAA AGM.
- b) Each Member Association shall confirm in writing to the SASAA Secretary their intention to participate, within 30 days after receipt of the official Championship invitation.
- c) SASAA must obtain quotations and host Associations will be advised accordingly who to procure the bait requirements from for the various championships.

#### **B.2.2 CHAMPIONSHIP ARRANGEMENTS:**

The host Association shall confirm the following detailed arrangements to all Member Associations at least six (6) months prior to the date of the Championship or within 21 days of the SASAA AGM:

- a) The Championship's fixed details (venue, dates, etc.)
- b) The proposed bait allocations.
- c) SASAA format budget reflecting detailed estimated costs per participating team.
- d) The angling practise area.**
- e) Propose a minimum of three (3) areas as angling venues.  
**(Even if these venues are not selected at first Captains/Managers meeting, they may not be fished by team members as they might be selected at a subsequent Captains/Managers meeting should adverse weather and/or sea conditions prevail in one of the areas).**
- f) Provide a list of guides available to assist participating teams.
- g) Options and costs for accommodation.
- h) Obtain relevant details required for Beach vehicle permit applications.
- i) Team registration and payment:
  - i) Advise registration and non-refundable 50% deposit payment date (90 days prior to commencement of the tournament).
  - ii) Advise balance payment date (30 days prior to commencement of the tournament).

#### **B.2.3. QUALIFICATION.**

Each Member Association will be entitled to enter a team/s consisting of registered individual members of SASAA and their affiliated Associations, duly eligible to represent their association at, and participate in the Championships. (Guides and Captains excluded).

#### **B.2.4. VEHICLES, DISABILITY AND INJURY:**

##### **(a) Vehicles:**

No additional support vehicles will be allowed during championship hours.

##### **(b) Disability:**

An angler suffering a permanent disability may apply to the Executive Committee for permission to use a harness. The application must be accompanied by a letter describing the disability and signed by the Chairperson/President of his Member Association.

###### **i) Class A disability:**

A person which is disabled to the extent that they will not be able to participate without additional human assistance. **“An Assistant”**.

###### **ii) Class B Disability:**

A person which is disabled to the extent that they will not be able to participate without the assistance of manmade/manufactured ancillary equipment.

###### **iii) Exemption Applications:**

In both cases, the Association, deciding to select a disabled person, class A or B, to their representative team has to:

- Apply to the Excom in writing for the appropriate exemption, stating the nature of the disability and providing the required substantiating medical certificates.
- Should the application be approved:

###### **For class A:**

The specific association will be allowed to have one (1) additional team member, **“An Assistant”**, in the designated competition area for the duration of each competition day of the tournament.

###### **For class B:**

The specific individual will be allowed to utilise the approved manmade/manufactured ancillary equipment for the duration of each competition day of the tournament.

Any additional costs that are required to facilitate participation will be borne by either the disabled member and/or his association.

##### **c) Injury:**

Should an angler be injured during competition hours he may be replaced, provided his weigh card has been handed in and signed off by the Tournament Co-ordinator. The replacement angler may commence angling immediately afterwards. A medical certificate will not be required.

#### **B.3. CAPTAIN'S/ MANAGER'S MEETING.**

##### **a) Captains /Managers meetings are held on:**

1. The day prior to commencement of the SASAA Championship, at a venue and time stipulated by the host Association.
2. On completion of each competition day at a venue and time, as agreed upon at roll call.
3. The Team Manager of the host association or his nominee shall act as Championship Coordinator and shall chair the Captain / Managers meeting. The SASAA President or his nominee may assist the Chairperson at all Captains / Managers meeting.
4. Select a Tournament Action Committee, consisting of the SASAA representative plus 2 additional members. Two (2) reserve committee members will be selected. Should any of the 1st or 2nd selected members or their associations be involved, implicated in an objection they will be replaced by the reserve members.

**b) Captains/ Managers Meetings may only be attended by:**

1. Member Associations Team Captain and Manager (Only two members per Member Association)
2. Tournament officials, for administrative purposes only, as well as Weigh Officials
3. The SASAA President and related SASAA Executive members.
4. Guides may accompany these officials to assist them with advice but may not address the meeting or participate in any discussions or decision-making.

**B.4 POWERS OF THE CAPTAINS/ MANAGERS MEETING.**

**The first Captains / Managers meeting:**

1. To decide on the angling areas for all competition days, accurately defined by GPS co-ordinates. The Host Association will be responsible for a well-researched and properly motivated proposal. Provision should be made for Reserve Areas that could be utilised in the event of adverse weather and/or sea conditions.
2. To decide on the championship angling hours for all days.
3. To decide on the Roll call venue and time for all days.
4. To decide on the venue and times for weigh in and scales close.
5. To make bait arrangements.
6. To make transport and/or travel arrangements.
7. Reach agreement on the exclusion/ inclusion of fish species.
8. Discuss/ implement any possible Nature/Coastal/Marine Conservation matters.
9. To attain consensus on all decisions.
10. To decide where gaffing of fish will be permitted.

**Subsequent Captains / Managers meetings:**

1. To address any problems that may have arisen during the course of the competition day.
2. To decide on the angling area in the event of drastic weather or sea conditions change.

**B.5 POINTS SCORING SYSTEM.**

1. Each anglers individual catch must be recorded separately on the official score card, reflecting the anglers name, SASAA number and the Association he represents.
2. Each catch must be recorded and certified before an angler may resume angling.
3. All catches must be measured in accordance with the methods as prescribed in the SASAA approved tables. Measurements must be made using sticks or pegs and a tape measure exceeding the length of the fish, as approved by the Senior Official. The length measured will be the shortest straight-line distance between the snout and the pre- caudal notch, fork length or total length for sharks and fish or disk width for skates and rays. Every attempt must be made to minimize the time that the catch is removed from the water and all catches must be returned to the water with the least possible trauma.
4. All measurements to be converted to mass for the purpose of calculating weight-points.
5. All measurements shall be rounded off to the lowest centimetre. Example, 80.6 cm = 80cm.
6. Edible fish imply all fish except Toby's, Sharks, Rays, Skates, Sawfish and Sand sharks.
7. Minimum qualifying weight for edible fish will be five hundred (500) grams. Points shall be awarded on the base of two (2) points per kilogram and shall be calculated to a portion of a point.  
Eg: 750g = 1.5 points or 1,6 kg = 3,2 points
8. Minimum qualifying weight for Non-edible fish will be one (1) kilogram. Points shall be awarded on the base of one (1) point per kilogram and shall be calculated to a portion of a point. Eg: 13.5 kg = 13,5 points
9. In the event of two or more teams or anglers having the same score in any competition, the team or angler with the most number of fish shall be the winner.
10. In the event of more than one team or angler catching the same number of fish in any competition, the one with the highest mass score, shall be the winner.

11. In the event of a tie in respect of both mass score and number of fish, such teams or anglers shall be the joint winners.
12. Scorecards must be handed to the designated or nominated person as soon as possible but not later than 90 minutes, or later if so decided at the first captain's meeting, after lines-up.
13. Once scorecards are handed to the designated or nominated person it will constitute competition closure for the specific team.
14. Scorecards handed in after scales close without prior notification to the Competition Secretary will not be considered for scoring towards the teams(s) Should a team not be able to submit their cards due to an accident, fighting a fish after lines up B.6.5 (e), or reasons beyond their control, then they must inform the Competition Secretary without delay. Each incident will be dealt with on its own merits by the Tournament Action Committee who must decide whether the scorecards will be considered for scoring, or not, toward the team(s) and or the individual(s) effected by the late handing in of the scorecards.
15. A list of all members allowed to witness will be drawn up and at data capture time the witness must be confirmed to be appear on the list.
16. Two weigh cards per team will be checked on a daily basis by confirming with the witness that he/she actually did witness the catch.
17. Any suspicious looking weigh also to be checked as per point 16 above.

## **B.6 RULES**

### **B.6.1 General Aspects.**

- a. The area to be fished on any angling day shall be:

#### **(1) Senior A and Senior B / Development National Divisions:**

- a) Multiple entry points:
  - Maximum continuous area from East to West of 16 km – min 6 km.
  - Not more than 6 km away from any entry point.
  - Swimming beaches or no fishing areas are included in the total area of 16 km.
- b) Single entry point (access in both directions):
  - Maximum total fishing area of 8 km East to West.
  - Not more than 6km in any one direction away from the entry point.
  - Swimming beaches or no fishing areas are included in the total area of 8 km.
- c) Single entry point (access in one direction only):
  - Maximum fishing area of 6 km.

#### **(2) Ladies, Junior and Masters Divisions:**

- a) Multiple entry points:
  - Maximum continuous area from East to West of 8 km – min 4 km.
  - Not more than 6km away from any entry point.
  - Swimming beaches or no fishing areas are included in the total area of 8 km.
- b) Single entry point (access in both directions):
  - Maximum total fishing area of 8km East to West.
  - Not more than 6km in any one direction away from the entry point.
  - Swimming beaches or no fishing areas are included in the total area of 8km.
- c) Single entry point (access in one direction only):
  - Maximum fishing area of 6km.

**(3) Grand Masters Division:**

- a) Multiple entry points:
  - Maximum continuous area from East to West of 4km – min 2km.
  - Not more than 2km away from any entry point.
  - Swimming beaches or no fishing areas are included in the total area of 4km.
- b) Single entry point (access in both directions):
  - Maximum total fishing area of 4km East to West.
  - Not more than 4km in any one direction away from the entry point.
  - Swimming beaches or no fishing areas are included in the total area of 4km.
- c) Single entry point (access in one direction only):
  - Maximum fishing area of 4km.

Note: In the event of beach permits being obtained for vehicle access in fishing areas, the total maximum fishing area for any of the above divisions will be permitted.

- b. The host Association shall ensure that no local competitions are convened in any of the areas that have been demarcated for the Championship, for a period of 7 days prior to the Championship commencement date. No member of any participating team may fish in any of the areas that have been demarcated for the Championship, for a period of 72 hours prior to the Championship commencement date.
- c. All forms of electronic communication are allowed.
- d. The regulations of the Chief Directorate: Marine and Coastal Management will apply ipso facto Species listed as endangered or, for which a closed season is stipulated in the Regulations (MLRA), shall not count in any Championship. Catches smaller than the stipulated minimum legal size, may be measured and released without harm. Providing these catches comply with the Championship minimum weight requirement, they shall qualify to score.
- e. No catch may be retained, for any purpose during a Championship. Should the release of a catch not be successful, it shall be removed from the area and disposed of.

**B.6.2 Terminal Fishing Tackle.**

- a. An angler may not use more than one rod, reel and line at any given time.
- b. There shall be no restrictions on the diameter of monofilament line, the breaking strain of braided line, or the diameter, breaking strain **or** length of any shock leader, **except for the restriction in B.6.6.e below. (Note Sec B.6.6 GAFFING ASPECTS in respect of 9 meter leader where an angler requires assistance to land fish).**
- c. No more than two single or one treble hook may be used for bait casting.
- d. The use of boats, paddle-ski's, kites, wave propelling or other devices, balloons or bungs and/or corks exceeding 64 cubic centimetres is prohibited. eg: 40 x 40 x 40 mm

**B.6.3 BAIT ASPECTS.**

- a. No ground baiting shall be allowed before commencement of the Championship.
- b. Only bait issued to the angler may be used. The use of live/ fresh bait shall not be permitted.
- c. No dispersible additives may be used.
- d. Bait may only be cast by means of a Rod and Reel. The use of sliders is excluded in SASAA National tournaments.
- e. **Bait issued to an angler must remain in its original state until roll call on the following angling day. Bait issued may not be prepared prior to roll call.**

#### **B.6.4 CLOTHING, SUPPORT ITEMS AND PHYSICAL ASSISTANCE.**

- a. During competition hours, every team member, of each participating Member Association, shall wear clothes that consist of a main colour, at least 80%, and a minor colour, not more than 20%.
- b. During Competition hours, every team member of each participating Member Association shall at all times, display their SASAA I.D. number on the back of their angling apparel. (Minimum Size 7 cm x 20 cm).
- c. No artificial support other than a rod bucket shall be used while playing a fish, with the exception of certified disabled members. Refer clause B.2.4
- d.
  - (i) During competition hours, no angler shall have any physical assistance with tying knots, making traces, baiting of hooks, casting, hooking or fighting a catch. Once a catch has been hooked, no person other than the angler may handle or touch the rod or main line of such angler whilst fighting the catch, and before the catch has been landed to such a degree that the catch is unable to return to the water on its own accord. Only the leader as mentioned in B.6.6 (e) below, may be handled or touched by any other person who is part of, or engaged in the tournament, whilst the angler is fighting such catch. The main line may only be touched to untangle it from another angler`s line as mentioned in B.6.6 (e) below. When a catch has been landed, to minimize the time the fish is out of the water a team member may assist in the unhooking and releasing.
  - (ii) In the event where an angler, whilst fighting a fish, ends up in a situation where he/she may be in danger of drowning and where such an angler is assisted by any other person(s) in an attempt to prevent him/her from drowning or return safely to shore, then such assistance shall be deemed to be physical assistance, and the fish which was landed after such assistance was given, shall be disqualified.
- e. An angler shall be allowed to wear:
  - (i) A Personal Flotation Device (PFD), which device shall be deemed to be a life jacket or life belt which can only be manually inflated by an angler/team member, when such angler/team member finds him/herself in a life threatening situation, and may only be used/or inflated to save the angler from drowning or to assist another angler from drowning.
  - (ii) Manual Inflation shall mean the intentional or accidental triggering and the release of carbon dioxide gas from a canister, or by orally inflating the PFD by blowing into a flexible tube.
  - (iii) Any Angler/team member while in the process of fighting a catch, who inflates his/her PFD for whatever reason, shall be allowed to land his/her catch, but such catch will not qualify for any points on the angler`s scorecard.
  - (iv) Any angler/team member who inflated his PFD for whatever reason, shall only be allowed to continue angling after he/she has removed his/her PFD or has deflated such PFD to its original state. An angler/team member may place his /her rod in a rod stand while removing and/or deflating his/her PFD as described above.
  - (v) Any fish hooked by an angler / team member while wearing an inflated PFD, shall be disqualified and shall not count for any points on the angler`s scorecard.
  - (vi) No angler/team member may use his/her PFD to assist him/her to gain an unfair advantage over other anglers/team members in the same competition.
  - (vii) A PFD shall not be sewn into, or form part of an angler`s/member`s clothing and shall at all times be a separate device which will only be attached to the angler by means of a belt or harness.

#### **B.6.5 HOOKED FISH ASPECTS.**

- a. Should two anglers hook and land the same catch, the catch shall be allocated to the angler whose hook is embedded in the mouth of the catch.
- b. Should both anglers` hooks be embedded in the mouth, the catch shall count for neither angler.
- c. Any tagged catch landed again, on the same day shall only be eligible for points if hooked in the mouth.
- d. Any mutilated catch, unable to be measured accurately, shall be weighed on an approved scale by an accredited weigh official.
- e. Any catch hooked prior to the official expiry time of a competition day, and landed within the maximum extension period of four (4) hours, shall be eligible to score providing an accredited weigh official has been notified.
- f. Par B.6.4(e) (v) shall apply in this instance.

#### **B.6.6 GAFFING ASPECTS.**

- a. Captains will decide at the captains meeting whether, and if, where gaffing will be permitted.
- b. No harpoon or spear shall be used for gaffing purposes.
- c. Catches, when gaffed or grabbed by another angler, must still be hooked.
- d. Should a catch unhook or an angler`s line part whilst fighting a catch, then any other person(s) participating in the tournament, may grab the catch and assist in the landing of such catch, provided that no gaffing of such catch is allowed.
- e. When gaffing or grabbing a catch for another angler, the assisting angler may only handle the shock leader, which shall not exceed nine (9) meters in length when extended. The length of the shock leader shall be the overall length from where the leader is attached to the main line by means of a knot, to the point where the bottom hook is attached to the hook trace. The main line, however, may not be touched, except when untangling the line from another angler`s line.
- f. A catch that dislodges during or after landing, and has not been measured, will be declared lost when the angler resumes angling.

#### **B.7 MEASURING OF CATCHES.**

1. All measuring tapes must be of good quality and must exceed the length of the catch being measured and be approved by the Senior Official.
2. The team management and anglers, excluding guides, of each participating Member Association will be entitled to measure and witness catches of opposing teams only. It is all participants (team management, anglers, weigh officials and guides) collective duty and responsibility to ensure that all catches are measured, recorded, (possibly) tagged and returned to sea with the minimum delay, trauma or injury.
3. Incidents of poor handling or gaffing techniques shall be reported at the following Captain's/Managers meeting.

#### **B.8 OBJECTIONS AND COMPLAINTS.**

1. The tournament Action Committee must see to it that all the above rules are adhered to.
2. If any angler (and/or team) is found transgressing any of the above rules, by the Championship Coordinator, a member of the Action Committee (ex officio), or officially reported by a participating angler, the transgression shall be reported prior to closure of scales for the particular day. The Championship Coordinator and the Action Committee shall refer the issue for discussion during the same evening. The decision of this Committee regarding penalties will be final and binding. The maximum penalty shall be that the team`s entire catch for the day is disqualified.
3. All objections and complaints, excluding the Championship Coordinator and the Action Committee must be in writing, detailing the nature of the objection or complaint, and countersigned by the Captain and Manager of the team lodging the objection or complaint. The objection or complaint must be submitted to the Championship Coordinator, together with a deposit of R 500.00. If the objection or complaint is overruled, the deposit will be forfeited to SASAA. If the objection is upheld, the deposit will be refunded to the complainant.

#### **B.9 TROPHIES.**

1. All Trophies, present and future, shall remain the sole property of SASAA, and shall be competed for in accordance with conditions as stipulated by SASAA.
2. All Trophies are available for competition between Member Associations.
3. The Member Association representing the winning individual or team shall be held accountable for floating trophies awarded to its teams/ individuals. Trophies shall be engraved and returned to the Championship Coordinator at the Captains/managers meeting, prior to commencement of the next Championship.