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Friday, 18 June 2010

BARRA TROPHY RULES – June 2010

The Barra Trophy Tournaments are ABT affiliated events, co-ordinated by Matt Fraser, all entries, membership and insurance details to ABT. Any specific enquiries to Matt on 3341 1883 during business hours.

Pre Entry Requirements

- The team captain of each team **must** be a current financial member of ABT.
- Contact ABT for Membership requirements (07)3387 0888
- ABT must sight current boat insurance policies from all team captains competing in ABT sanctioned events. This can be faxed to ABT on (07)3387 0889. Or a photocopy sent in with your entry form.
- Printable Entry forms can be found on barra website: www.australianbarra.com.au

- All anglers competing at Monduran Dam must be in possession of a Stocked Impoundment Permit (SIP), these must be presented at the registration. Early entries must be received by ABT, fully filled out and accompanied by payment option, no later than **one week prior** to the event

Early Entry Fees

Pro Team: \$220 (inc GST) **Pro Team with junior:** \$165 (inc GST)

Family Team :\$55 (inc GST)

Late entries add \$10

Late entries will be accepted at the Registration/Briefing with an additional cost of \$15. *Note - late entries may not receive a sponsors goody bag, and will start at the end of the field for session one.

Categories

The Barra Trophy events are teams' competitions, with two categories – **Pro Team Category** and **Family Team Category**. There will be separate cash and product prize pools for each category based on the number of teams entered in each category.

A Pro team must consist of two anglers; either two adults, or one adult and one junior 10 to 16 years.

A Family Team may consist of a minimum of three and maximum of five members that are related to each other. There must be at least one adult who is legal guardian to the juniors onboard (maximum of two adults) and one to three juniors aged between 6 years and 16 years.

Examples of Family Teams

1. Mum, Dad and one or three children 6 yrs to under 16 yrs.
2. Dad and two or three children – one must be 6yrs to under 16yrs.
3. Grandfather, Father and one or two children 6yrs to under 16yrs.
4. Three or Four Siblings as long as one is 21 years or older and one is 8 -16 yrs.

Note. Ages of entrants are based on their age on the first day of the competition. If there are any questions on this please contact Matt (07 3341 1883 BH)

Session Formats and Barra Limits

- Trophy Barra Events will consist of three sessions of five to six hours in duration. There will be a three fish limit for pro teams, and a two fish per session limit for Family Teams.

Cash and Product prizes Awarded

All Trophies, cash and product prizes will be award to teams, not individuals. Therefore, the limits stated above are team's limits. The best **3 barra for pro teams** per session, or best **2 barra for Family Teams**, will contribute to the teams score. If two teams finish with the same length of barra for a tournament, the count back will go to the team with the longest barra, if this is the same it will go to the team who caught the longest barra first.

Each category will have a separate pool of cash and product prizes. The cash pool in each category will be based on the number of teams entered in that category.

Big Barra Prizes

In each event there will be a prize awarded to the Senior and Junior angler that captures the longest barra of the tournament. If there is a tie in length, the count back will go to the first person to catch the longest barra.

Senior – 16 years or older on the first day of the event.

Junior – Under 16 years old on the first day of the event.

Fly Fishing

There is no separate category for Fly Anglers, as it is a challenging task to cast fly tackle all tournament, but anglers that choose to pick up the Fly rod during the tournament will be rewarded if they catch the longest barra on fly.

Boating Requirements

- Boats must be 3.7m in length or greater. Horsepower and beam must be sufficient

to plane the craft with two anglers, 20hp is the minimum accepted.

Boats must be carrying all safety gear in compliance with QLD boating regulations

- All outboards must not exceed the maximum horsepower rating stipulated on the boat's compliance plate.
- Boat drivers must wear their engine's safety lanyard strap that connects to the kill switch at all times while the engine is running. Additionally, all competitors are required to wear personal flotation devices while their boat is planing.
- Anglers 12 years and under must wear a PFD1 at all times whilst on the water.
- In sessions that start before sunrise or finish after sunset, navigation lights and anchor lights are to be functioning correctly. Boats will not be allowed to start the session with faulty navigation lights.

Entries

- Entries to the BARRA Trophy Events will be filed in order of receipt of correctly completed entry forms and payment.

Practice Fishing

- There will be no practice fishing on the day of the event. Practice fishing is allowed until 12 midnight the evening before the event. Unless otherwise stated.

Briefings

See the Trophy Barra Series schedule for briefing timings and locations.

All competitors are required to pre-register at the briefing location (with SIP if req) ***BEFORE the stated Briefing time.*** Failure to do so will result in a starting position penalty regardless of reason for absence. If you are unable to attend the briefing please contact Matt Fraser on 0407 132 153.

Boat Checkout

Prior to each session, competitors must go to the checkout location (stated at the briefing) to have their boats checked by a Barra Trophy Official. The official will check safety gear/lanyard, lifejackets, and lights (if required) all meet the tournament safety requirements. Once the boat is approved, the team is given their key-tag with their start position number. Barra Trophy Officials reserve the right to disallow unsafe boats to compete.

Start Order for Session 1

This will be based on the order that paid entries are received.

Session 1

The first session will start with Pro Team 1 approaching the start area, where it will be held until the designated start time. When released, Pro Team 2 can approach the start area, be identified and released, and so on until all Pro Teams are released. If you are not ready when your number is called, you will have to wait till the end of the pro teams to start.

The Family teams will then be released in order.

Ensure when preparing for the start, find out what team you are following, and get into line.

- Once released to fish, teams may proceed to their chosen fishing spots with due care and attention to the safety of themselves, other competing boats and the general public.
- Any speed restrictions, non-boating or non-fishing areas must be adhered to; failure to do this will result in either disqualification from the session, and or the tournament

Session 2 and 3

The second and third sessions will be run as a chase start. That is, the team placed in first position after Session 1 and then Session 2 will be released first, then the second placed team and so on until all boats are released.

End of Session Requirements

- Teams finish each session by placing the key tag in the appropriate position on the tag mat **before** the session finishes. Teams placing their key tag on the tag mat after the finish time will incur penalties. Each team will be penalised 10cm per minute, up to 15 minutes after the allocated finish time. At that point, the teams' catches will be disqualified for that session.
- Teams are to return their Team Folder containing **catch sheets** and **digital camera media card** to the Barra Trophy staff at the Key tag location at the end of each session. Once processed, these will be collected from Barra Trophy staff, prior to checkout for the next session.
- Barra Trophy staff will not be manning the start/finish station until 30 minutes prior to the end of the session. So if teams wish to finish a session early than that, please hand your key tag and team folder to another team, so officials will know of your situation. For safety and insurance reasons, staff need to be able to account for all teams at the end of each session.

Fishing Rules

- All anglers must fish within the current QLD Freshwater Fisheries guidelines and must be in possession of Stocked Impoundment Permit (SIPS) if required.
- Anglers may fish any line class.
- Lure and fly casting only is permitted in the Pro Team Division
- Trolling is not permitted in the Pro Team Division. Trolling is using the momentum of the boat to give the lure action. Casting along a stretch of bank under electric power is fine, as is using your electric motor to keep position; don't, however, leave your lines in the water when changing positions. Tournament staff reserve the right to disqualify anglers deemed to be purposely trolling in defiance of the spirit of Barra Trophy events.
- Lure Casting, Flyfishing and Trolling are permitted in the Family Teams Division.
- Only one rod per angler is allowed to be used at any one time. This includes instances where one rod is snagged and the angler picks up another rod to fish with. The angler is considered to be using two rods and will be disqualified for that session.
- Fishing is NOT permitted within any defined non-boating or non-fishing areas.
- Each team of anglers are to fish together during session times from the same boat. Anglers may leave their boats during a session to fish off the bank, or as required. However no angler can be further than 30m from their boat at anytime during a session.

- Family teams may rest members for a session or part of a session, but there must be at minimum of two anglers, including one adult in a boat at any time during a session.

Landing Nets

- It is mandatory that anglers use mesh nets with **no knots** when landing their fish, as these have been scientifically proven to have minimal impact on released barramundi. Rubber-meshed, or Environet Style nets are mandatory.
- In the case of physical or medical emergencies, tournament staff will judge the acceptability of catches.

- Any complaints regarding a breach of the rules must be addressed to the on-site

Tournament Director, **within 30 minutes of the end of the session**, in which the incident occurred.

- All results will be made available to competitors prior to the presentation, via printouts or on swing tags. If you believe there is an error, or that there may be a problem, address it to an official immediately. There is no point making a complaint after the presentation!

- Tournament staff will encourage Fisheries and Boating Officers to attend all Trophy Barra Events to police safety regulations, registration, relevant boating legislation as well as alcohol and drug laws.

- Anglers are not to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while competing. ABT reserves the right to request a blood alcohol test prior to the start, or at the completion of a fishing session.

- It is expected that Anglers shall, at all times, conduct themselves in a manner becoming a professional sportsperson. Behaviour that will reflect unfavourably on Barra Trophy Tournaments, ABT, its members, representatives and sponsors will subject the angler's catch to penalty or disqualification.

- Barra Trophy sportsmanship would dictate that care of fellow competitors is of utmost importance. If an angler or boat is in distress it is expected that other competitors will assist. Remember that safety is more important than your day's catch.

Penalties for rule and conduct violations may include the following:

- i. 50cm penalty from your session's catch
 - ii. Disqualification of entire catch for the session
 - iii. Disqualification from the tournament
 - iv. Disqualification from future Barra Trophy events
- Any concerns regarding clarification of rules can be discussed with officials

BEFORE the start of the tournament.

- Any BARRA rule enquiries can be directed to ABT on (07) 3387 0888 during business hours.

Advantage Rules

In the friendly nature of the Barra Trophy Tournaments, no angler or team is to deliberately create an advantage or disadvantage to another team or angler.

- Mobile phones or radios are not to be used to communicate with other teams during session times, unless there is an emergency.

• **Stealth Advantage** – Many anglers rely on employing stealth tactics to catch barra. This includes cutting the main motor well short of the intended fishing location, using electric motors for positioning, quietly deploying anchors, using wind drift, and minimal electric motor power, moving quietly around on the boat, and closing hatches quietly.

If another team moves noisily in to, or out from a position in close proximity to another team whilst they are fishing, they are effectively taking away their stealth advantage. This is considered to be deliberately disadvantaging another team.

Distance between boats when fishing - Boats must remain a cast apart (Approx 30m) apart whilst fishing, unless there is an agreement between teams.

Distance Between Boats when operating main motor - If one team is fishing, another boat is not to operate their main motor within **100m**, regardless of speed. If you wish to move to or from a spot within **100m** of another team that is fishing, you must do so using electric power. A general guide is - if you can read their registration numbers clearly, you need to turn off your main motor.

Operating the main motor within 100m of another team fishing is considered to be creating a disadvantage to another team. This includes if you are leaving a location close to another team. Make sure you are 100m clear before starting your main motor.

If one team is fishing a narrow arm or section of a lake that is less than 100m wide, other boats should reduce speed to 4 knots to pass for 100m either side of the boat fishing.

For teams without electric motors, a 4knot speed limit is required within 100m of other teams that are fishing.

Location Advantage

The Location Advantage rule is employed, to stop anglers from 'dropping in' on other teams' spots.

At the start of session one, no team can lay claim to any location. The location advantage will only apply to the start of the second and third session.

If one team fishes a particular location (either anchored in a specific position, or tied off to a particular tree) for an entire session or the last part of a session. That team has first option to fish that location from the start of the next session, regardless of whether they reach that location first or not.

If that team doesn't take up that position from the start of the next session, that position is considered available.

If a team has secured a location early in the session, but leaves at any time during the session, that location is considered available for the remainder of that session and for the start of the next session.

If one team inadvertently reaches another team's claimed location prior to their arrival. They are to vacate the location once advised by the second team.

Teams fishing an area under electric power, cannot make claims to a location, they need to be anchored or tied off in a specific location.

- Trolling – If a family team is trolling utilising their petrol motor, they must try to remain 100m from teams fishing at anchor or under electric power.

Under the Stealth or Location Advantage Rules, If you cause a disadvantage to another team, the penalty is 50cm for that session. If it is deemed that it is a deliberate disadvantage the penalty will be 100cm for that session.

BARRA Points Scoring

Teams are to take two photographs of the landed barra - one with the angler and the fish (that may be used by organisers for promotional purposes) and another



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of the barramundi on the Measuring Mat (for catch verification), showing the entire fish, event identification icon, and measurement. Barra are to be measured with their bottom jaw resting against the upright end of the brag mat. Measurements are rounded up to the nearest centimetre. Details to be recorded in folders provided.

- Each team's best three (Pro) or two (Family) barra per session count towards the team's point score - one point per centimetre.
- Measurement photographs need to be taken carefully. The Organisers reserve the right to disqualify fish from the competition, if they are unable to reasonable verify the length of the fish.

Tournament Director for Barra Trophy Events is Matt Fraser, contact 07 3341 1883 (BH) Prior to events or 0407 132 153 whilst at events.