



7 Species Tournament 2026 Rules

Rules

1. DATE – Saturday 10th October 2026

2 Tide – High Tide 10.42am Low Tide – 17:08pm

3. START TIME:

All Boats entered in this tournament cannot depart until 06:00am on Saturday 10th October 2026, and all boats entered **must** depart and return over the Whakatane Bar. The tournament will end at 17:00 Saturday 10th October 2026 which is the final weigh in time.

4. REGISTRATION:

A minimum of 2 anglers per team. All competitors must be members or (have paid the appropriate social/non-member membership fee) of the Whakatane Sportfishing Club. Registration can be paid online and emailed to tournaments@wsfc.co.nz registration may be paid at the club until 19:00 Friday 9th October 2026 or at the discretion of the Tournament Convenor or Tournament Committee. For anglers to be added to already registered teams, there is a box at the weigh station where angler's details and the correct fees can be deposited "**PRIOR TO DEPARTING**". This box will be cleared prior to the weigh in time. The Whakatane Sport Fishing Club reserves the right to refuse entry.

YOUR CLUB MEMBERSHIP NUMBER MUST ACCOMPANY REGISTRATION.

5. BRIEFING:

There will be a briefing in the clubrooms at 19:00 on Friday 9th October 2026.

The Skipper or a nominated "fishing" team member must attend the briefing and at the completion of the briefing sign the briefing attendance sheet.

6. ENTRY FEES:

Entry fee for full senior members is \$40.00 per angler. Full junior members fee is \$20.00. Social & non-members must pay the additional social/non-member day fee of \$20.00.

7. SPECIES:

Snapper, Mau Mau, Trevally, Tarakihi, Kahawai, Red Gurnard, John Dory.

8. MINIMUM FISH WEIGHT / LENGTH:

Snapper	must exceed 35cm
Kahawai	must exceed 25cm
Trevally	must exceed 25cm
Tarakihi	must exceed 25cm
Red Gurnard	must exceed 25cm
John Dory	
MaoMao	
(Blue or Pink)	

9. TACKLE

Fish may only be caught on rod & reel. Electric reels cannot be used in any club tournaments.

10. WEIGHING OF FISH

Weighing of fish commences at **14:00 Saturday 10th October 2026**, all fish weighed must be freshly caught, brought across the Whakatane Bar, and weighed from the vessel (unless stated otherwise) at the weigh station. Final weigh in time is **17:00 Saturday 10th October 2026**.

11. PRIZES

Team prizes will be a maximum of 4 per team and will be awarded in the following categories:

Prizes – 1st through to 3rd

To qualify for the team prize you must have 5, 6 or 7 of the seven species. Prizes will be awarded in the first instance to the team catching the most species, and then in order of the heaviest combined weight. E.g.

1st – 7 species @ 15kg

2nd – 7 species @ 12kg

3rd – 6 species @ 20kg

Team to only weigh their heaviest of each of the listed species.

12. PRIZE GIVING

Prize giving will be held in the clubrooms, from 19:00 on Saturday 10th October 2026. **The winner of a prize OR a fishing member from the same team must be present** to collect the prize, unless the Tournament Committee has been advised of any problem by 18:30 Saturday 10th October 2026 and dispensation has been granted. Anglers must be present at Prize Giving to claim spot prizes.

13. SAFETY

The Tournament Safety Rules/protocols annexed to these rules form part of these rules and must be complied with.

14. Club awards

While all fish caught during the tournament will automatically count towards tournament results, only fish properly recorded on official WSFC catch cards will be eligible for end-of-year club awards (members only)."

15 COMPLAINTS

Any complaints regarding this tournament will be in the first instance directed to the Tournament Convenor, the Tournament Committee will then consider the dispute. Any complaint **must** be submitted in writing. **The decision of the Tournament Committee is final and binding.** Angler entry constitutes agreement to this process.

Any concern relating to the weighing of fish must be brought to the attention of the Weigh Master **before** the angler leaves the weigh station.

16 CANCELLATION OR POSTPONEMENT

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to abandon or postpone the tournament for any reason. This information will be broadcast on Radios IXX and on Facebook social media prior to start time or as soon as possible after a decision has been made.

17. DISCLAIMER

All participants involved in this tournament do so at their own risk. The team skipper shall be responsible for the safety and other considerations of self, crew & boat. The Whakatane Sportfishing Club(Inc) accepts no responsibility.

18 ANY PERSON OR TEAM NOT ABIDING WITH THE ABOVE RULES MAY BE DISQUALIFIED.



IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL TEAMS

SAFETY RULES FOR THE WHAKATANE SPORTSFISHING CLUB.

- (1) All skippers or a nominated "fishing" team member must attend the briefing. The briefing will be held at 19:00 Friday 9th October 2026.
Attendance to this briefing is compulsory and no team can compete in this tournament until the skipper **or** nominated "fishing" team member has attended the briefing and once the briefing is completed, sign the briefing attendance sheet.
- (2) A team must comprise not less than two (2). There must not be less than two members of the same team on the boat at any one time and in the interests of safety at least one person on the boat should be over the age of 18 years.
- (3) In the case of Kayak and Watercraft anglers, at any one time, all members of the team who are fishing must be in sight of one another, and without the use of aids, be close enough together to be able to call to one another. They must have all prescribed safety equipment deemed appropriate for Kayak and Watercraft users. As per team numbers rule, minimum of two (2) anglers
- (4) It shall be the responsibility of the skipper or the nominated "fishing" team member to advise his/her other team members of the information given at the briefing.
- (5) In the interest of safety, the Tournament Committee reserves the right to alter all times for the duration of the Tournament depending on the weather or sea conditions.
- (6) In the event of an emergency on the water, participants are to notify the Whakatane Coastguard on Emergency VHF channel 16
- (6) All boats must carry correct size Life Jackets for all passengers. It is compulsory for all crew members on recreational vessels to wear Life jackets while crossing the Whakatane River Bar.
- (7) All participants agree and accept -
 - (a) To enter this Tournament at their own risk,
 - (b) That boating and fishing involves a risk
 - (c) Not to hold Tournament organizers, Officials, Sponsors, or any other person involved with the Tournament liable for any loss or injury to person or equipment incurred during the Tournament,
 - (d) Notwithstanding any representations made, it shall be the responsibility of all participants to ensure that the provisions of all statutes, ordinances, regulations, and by-laws related to (but not limited to) boating and fishing are complied with.
 - (e) All participants agree to have read and understood the Tournament Rules.

SKIPPERS RESPONSIBILITY

- I have the necessary skills, knowledge, and qualifications to safeguard all on board. My vessel and all equipment are properly maintained.
- My vessel carries all the necessary safety equipment.
- We have a minimum of two means of communication, i.e. VHF marine radio, cell phone, flares. My passengers are briefed on the location and use of all safety equipment.
- My vessel is loaded within its limit, and all equipment is securely stowed