

# THAMES VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE FAMILY FUNDRAISER FISHING COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

- The committee reserves the right to cancel the Registration of any contestant whose conduct in their opinion is contrary to the spirit in which the Fishing Competition is run.
- The decision of the Committee in this matter is final and no refunds will be given.
- The committee reserves the right to cancel the competition if, in their opinion; adverse/rough weather conditions could endanger lives. In this event, all prizes will be drawn at 5pm on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March.
- Registration constitutes acceptance of the Rules and Regulations covering the Fishing Competition, and all contestants agree to abide by the Committee and Weigh Master's decisions.
- The Fishing Competition is open to any person, provided the Rules and Regulations of this event are followed.
- Boat/kayak/surf casting methods of fishing are all acceptable.
- Briefing at Thames Fire Station on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019, at 7pm. **Spot Prizes will be drawn at the briefing. Refreshments and food will be available.**
- Each boat requires at least one representative at the briefing – preferably the Skipper.
- Fishing will commence at 5am on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019.
- All fish weighed must be caught on rod and reel only.
- Kontikis, kites, nets, spear-guns and long-lines are **not** permitted.
- Fishing on Charter boats is acceptable, but not on Commercial Fishing Boats.
- All participants enter this event at their own risk.

## SKIPPERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

- To ensure they only take their vessel out in conditions that are appropriate to both the type of vessel and their own skill level.
- Ensure all persons on the vessel have approved buoyancy devices. Vessels under 6m require the wearing of approved buoyancy devices by all persons aboard.
- Skippers are responsible for the safety of all persons on their vessel.
- To ensure that all persons on their boat are registered in the competition.
- To ensure navigation lights are operational during the hours of darkness.
- Each boat must have at least one form of communication: VHF radio or cell phone – preferably both.
- Must comply with Maritime New Zealand (MNZ) requirements and all Government & Regional legislation.

## WEIGH IN

- 1) Weigh in will be from 2pm until 4pm on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2019.
- 2) Contestants must be in the weigh-in queue at closing time to qualify their fish for weighing.
- 3) All fish must be presented to the Weigh-master by the angler in person.
- 4) All fish must be presented to the Weigh-master complete.
  - a. Fish that are rotten, gutted or in any way mutilated will be disqualified.
  - b. The Weigh-master at his/her sole discretion may gut or cut open any fish for inspection or identification purposes.
- 5) All Fish must be weighed in at the Thames Fire Station.
- 6) All contestants must wear their Competition Wrist Band at the Weigh-in and Prizegiving.
- 7) All non-contestants must sign the TVFB Visitor Book and be issued with a Wrist Band prior to entry to Thames Fire Station.
- 8) Prize giving will be at the Thames Fire Station at 5.00pm.

# FISH SPECIES, CATCH LIMITS AND SIZE

- All fish must be of legal size and each angler is restricted to the M.A.F. Fishing regulations applying on that day.
- Only the following are eligible as Fishing Competition entries.
- We will accept only 1 fish per species from each angler.

SPECIES	DAILY WEIGH-IN LIMIT	MINIMUM SIZE
Snapper	1 per person	30 cm
Kingfish	1 per person	75 cm
Kahawai	1 per person	
Trevally	1 per person	

## PRIZES

### SENIOR SECTION

- All fishing Prize winners are determined by weigh-in.
- The Fishing Competition Committee Decision is final.
- If 2 or more fish of equal weight become eligible for a prize, they will be entered in a draw to select the winner.
- When contest prizes are unclaimed through lack of eligible fish, they will then be drawn amongst participating anglers at Prize Giving. The angler must be present to claim drawn prize.
- Prizes will be given out for the **3 Heaviest Fish** in each species
- There will be a prize given for the **Average Weight Snapper** caught in the Fishing Competition.
- **Spot prizes** will be drawn at the Thames Fire Station. You must be there and wearing your Competition Wrist Band to collect your spot prize, otherwise it will be redrawn.

### JUNIOR SECTION

- This section is open to all persons 14 years and under as of the 29<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Date of birth must be on the entry form.
- The same **rules and regulations** are applicable to both the junior section and the senior section of the competition.
- Junior entrants are not eligible for prizes in the senior section but can qualify for spot prizes.
- Juniors may enter either the senior or junior section of the competition, NOT both.
- Prize giving for juniors will take place immediately before the main prize giving.
- Junior Prizes will be given out for the **3 Heaviest Fish** in the following species: Snapper, Kahawai, and Trevally.

**The Committee wishes to thank our Sponsors. Please refer to the list of our sponsors as advertised during this event. We ask all Fishing Competition entrants to consider supporting our sponsors whenever possible.**