



Report on the annual AAA State Boat Angling Championships run on Saturday the 19th March 2016

On the Friday night at the Lancelin Angling and Aquatic Club, the meals and refreshments were provided, for all members of the AAAWA teams, and this was appreciated, I am sure it was beneficial to everyone, although there were a few with sore heads the next morning.

The competition was run with Easterly Winds at 10 to 15 knots, with Southerly by noon, with the risk of thunderstorms.

A bit wet but, fishable, however the boys and girls who went out, indicated it was pretty hard work!

The Lancelin P&C team provided the heart starters for the day, by having coffee with Bacon and Egg burgers at the Lancelin Angling Club weigh in area, all certainly welcomed the food, including those that were all hyped up for the event and had trouble sleeping the night before, this certainly was appreciative also by the AAAWA in knowing how difficult this event has been to coordinate and ensuring that all the community benefit from everyone's hard work.

The sign on team once again did a great job, and thanks to all that jumped in and helped (again), some that are always there is Justine Coleman (QRFC), Carmel Langdon (ORSSC), Richard Siudak (AAA National Records Chairman and AAAWA Treasurer, AAAWA Secretary), Henry Boogaard Chairman of the boating Subcommittee, who did the late nominations, with Paul Frzop (HYC) who also sold raffle tickets and lots of general duties needed on the day, the boys who stayed on Land from the MAAC, Robert Weir, Ken Jackson and Bob Craigie, could not do enough to help on the day, 2 of them you could not get out of my 6X6 Landrover down at the beach, I think they thought they were back in the services!

The guys and Gals from Lancelin Sea Rescue were all ready for the briefing at 0445hrs to man the beach and help put in boats using the volunteers tractors, I believe this was beneficial for all those in the event to feel confident that we were there to help them both putting in and out, great teamwork guys!

Most of the teams tried to get smaller fish earlier on and most had a hard time even getting whiting, so most spent a fair bit of time trying to get a lot of smaller species, then they headed out to try their luck on the larger fish.

The clubs that worked together did really well, by calling one another over when they were on to the fish, and this is what is great about this competition, it is not an individual based competition it is team based, and is a pleasure to see the results, and camaraderie.

The wind did play a big part in the fishing, because it was a difficult day, knowing some could not get to their favourite grounds, but all that does is make the competition fairer by making everyone work harder at working in areas and go back to basics

Whilst competitors were "out there" in their favourite spots, Carmel Langdon (ORSSC), with, Richard Siudak (AAA), set up the presentation area and the weigh in area was set up by a band of non-fishers on the day, the MAAC boys, with Henry Boogaard, and the AAAWA executives, and it looked magnificent, again!

At closing time for the bags (3.30pm) most boats had either got their boats on their trailers or were waiting to, and then Henry, ensured that the door was shut at exactly 1530hrs, whilst Carmel and Richard continued taking in the skippers safety discs, this was to ensure that all were safely back on land, there was 196 competitors and 77 boats that participated, 176 of those actually weighed in!



The weigh in commenced at 4.30pm, in the weigh in area area of the LAAC headquarters, all the sponsors signage and flags made for a great spectacle.

The MC for the weigh in was Glen Omond from MAAC who provided a running commentary, with a great deal of good humour and light hearted banter!

Whilst this was happening Paul Frzop was busy selling tickets to the Raffles, and made approx. \$1100.00 for the event, with Kelly Westlund who won the esky and gear, and second price to Timon Dik, these were presented to them by Gary (Gardy) Sloan the commodore of the LAAC, Early nomination prize went to Kylie Wills of LAAC, and Junior Nomination prize went to Sarah Chessles of MAAC.

The weigh in went extremely well again we would be lost without those assisting on the day, including our ever efficient competition officer Terry Bell (ORSSC) and Mitchell Bell (ORSSC) with the collation, thank you.

The presentation was MC'd by Henry Boogaard from QRFC, and then handed over to our effervescent ORSSC member and Competition Officer in Terry Bell, and with the banter as always between "rival" clubs, made for an excellent evening, with Carmel Langdon & John Curtis AAAWA President presenting all the Trophies and Prizes, whilst this was happening, numerous meals and refreshments were provided by the LAAC, for this we were all appreciative, thank you.

Congratulations to all winners, your patience and hard work has certainly paid dividends and all us losers, thank you for participating, and NEXT year you're all on again.

To the **Overall winner** Mitch Hillary MAAC (Junior winner as well) 142 points & 7 species
Congratulations, with Terry Simpson from LAAC (Men's Winner) as the overall Runner up with 126.8 points.

Ladies winner Nadine Freeman MAAC 87.1 points, & Veterans, Wayne Honore from LAAC with 96.9 points

Susie Unkovich LAAC won the species being a Fox Fish @ 79% closest to the state record, a great prize from All Boat

Paul Saunders from QRFC won the Skippers Participation Price of a Voucher from Club Marine insurance.

To the Patron Cup winners Marmion Angling and Aquatic Club participants congratulations again, well done.

To all other teams from LAAC, MDSSC, HYC, QRFC, ORSSC, POBAC including the MAAC, thank you all for participating.

This report prepared by Pat Shinnick for the Boating Sub Committee of the Australian Anglers Association WA.