



Report on the annual AAA State Boat Angling Championships run on Saturday the 24th March 2018

On the Friday night at the Cockburn Power Boats Association (CPBA), 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, there was live entertainment, and great meals.

The competition was run with Southerly Easterly Winds between 15 to 20 knots, with the risk of showers, those showers were already there at 0500hrs, the winds for later in the day were meant to get to 25knots, however it started to calm off as the day went on, the cyclone Marcus made for a guessing game, as to what was going to happen.

A bit wet & windy but, fishable, however the boys and girls who went out, indicated it was pretty hard work, but were able to hold bottom!

The CPBA team provided the heart starters for the day, by having Bacon and Egg wraps at the undercroft area, with a coffee truck near the sign on area, so it was a great atmosphere and comfortable, all certainly welcomed the food, including those that were all hyped up for the event and had trouble sleeping the night before.

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 (Boating Sub Committee Chairman), Henry Boogaard (QRFC) with Ken Jackson from the MAAC stayed all day assisting, thank you.

The guys and Gals from the CPBA clubs volunteer team did a very good job in traffic management, and everything flowed extremely well.

Most of the teams tried to get smaller fish earlier on whilst most had a hard time even getting whiting, they headed out to try their luck on the larger fish, there were a few that travelled extreme distances on the day, to get to spots they thought were going to produce.

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 and Alan 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 CPBA and 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 Ray Porter Field Day Officer (CPBA), ensured that the door was shut at exactly 1530hrs, whilst Carmel, Alan and Richard continued taking in the skippers safety discs, this was to ensure that all were safely back on land, there was 148 competitors and 53 boats that participated, 103 actually weighed in, so it goes to show how hard they fished being a difficult day, whilst most made the comment that it was good to be back on land!

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

The MC for the weigh in was Glenn Omond and John Curtis, they provided a running commentary, with a great deal of good humour and light hearted banter, ensuring that all competitors patronised the many advertisers and sponsors of the event, of course I was the brunt of a lot of the comments, (and seriously I enjoyed it) this all made for a very quick weigh in, and a few laughs!

Unfortunately, there was a couple of bags disqualified, I know we diligently asked every competitor to ensure they knew the list of species, and also asked every competitor before they put the fish in the Fish Coolroom, if they wanted us to view their fish, or bag to confirm if all was good, a lot did and we took great pride in helping in this role.

There was a sombre moment when we all remembered the man who used to do all the tags and bags and run the event "Maurie Ramsay".

The weigh in went extremely well again we would be lost without those assisting on the day, and it was great how the CPBA team jumped in and did well considering they were "dropped in" at the last minute, they did the MAAC club but with Shaun Murphy (MAAC Captain) as the adjudicator did a fantastic job, a special thanks to Shaun for his obvious professionalism, in helping there, other boys and girls from the MAAC and ORSSC, it goes without saying, we all appreciated your efforts, whilst this was happening our ever efficient competition officer Terry Bell (ORSSC) and Mitchell Bell (ORSSC) completed the collation, thank you.

Whilst this was happening Paul Frzop was busy selling tickets to the Raffles, and made approx. \$700.00 for the event, with Sky Little from QRFC who won the esky, Custom Rod and gear valued at \$700.00, and second prize to Chris Johnston MDSSC valued at \$250.00, Third Prize again with much hurraing from Sky Little from QRFC valued at \$200.00, these were presented to them by the Commodore of the CPBA, Des Kelly, who also gave away 2 x \$50.00 prizes, Early nomination prize went to Ian Wilkes (MAAC) Valued at \$700.00, and Junior Nomination prize went to Alexandria Kaz (MOFSC) valued at \$230.00.

The presentation was MC'd by our chairman of the boating sub committee, Richard Siudak, and then handed over to our 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 ORSSC & patron of the AAAWA John Curtis, presenting all the Trophies and Prizes, whilst this was happening, numerous meals and refreshments were provided by the CPBA, for this we were all appreciative, thank you.

To the **Overall winner and Men's winner** Glenn Hillary MAAC 110.2 points & 5 species, **Ladies winner** Darlene Shepherd MAAC 27.8 points, **Veterans** Kevin Murphy MAAC with 67.3 points and **Junior** winner Scarlett Hackett MAAC!

Darlene Shepherd won the species being a Whiting @ 53.51% closest to the state record, a magnificent prize from All Boat and Caravans valued at \$1600.

Jim Booker from MOFSC won the Skippers Participation Prize of a \$500 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 MDSSC, HYC, QRFC, ORSSC, MOFSC, MAAC, FAAC including the CPBA, thank you all for participating.

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.