



Report on the annual AAA State Boat Championships run on Saturday the 28th March 2015

The competition was run with South Easterly Winds at 5 to 10 knots, with increasing winds in by noon from 15 to 20 Knots, Reasonable weather conditions for power boating and fishing, although difficult after noon.

The Ocean Reef Club junior team provided the heart starters for the day, by having coffee with Bacon and Egg burgers at the Ocean Reef Boat Ramp at \$7 for a coffee and a burger the start of a great day and a bargain, 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 clubs 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) a special mention to Richard Siudak (AAA National Records Chairman and AAAWA Treasurer, Wilf Core (Melville) and John Crompton (AAAWA Secretary) with Paul Frzop (HYC) who also sold raffle tickets and lots of general duties needed on the day, Kiwi Chris and Joe from the ORSSC could not do enough to help on the day.

The forecast of light winds early for those that wanted to go deep straight away, was all ok till they got to approx. 12nm out then the Southerly was in, so made for hard work, those that thought that they knew better and knew time was of the premium, took off in close while the weather was light and tried their luck at the smaller species, then ventured out, either way you could see from the "secretive" discussions held early, there were teams working together to ensure it would be a good competitive day.

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) who is also the secretary of the boating sub committee, 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 Kiwi Chris (who kept flashing the silver fern all day), Joe again with the AAAWA executives, and it looked magnificent, again!

Whilst we were doing this Paul Frzop (HYC) stayed at the Marina keeping an eye on the trailers for everyone and looked after the safety discs, he was always surrounded by The Field Day Officer Adrian Broadbent (ORSSC) with Wilf Core (AAA Delegate).

At closing time for the bags (3.30pm) most boats had either got their boats on their trailers or were waiting to, and then Adrian the FDO, ensured that the door was shut at exactly 1530hrs, whilst Paul with Wilf continued taking in the skippers safety discs, this was to ensure that all were safely back on land, there was 148 competitors and 65 boats that participated, 124 of those actually weighed in!

The weigh in commenced at 4.30pm, in the weigh in area area of the ORSSC headquarters overlooking the Marina and the club rooms, all the sponsors signage and flags made for a great spectacle.

The MC for the weigh in was Andy Cass from ORSSC provided a running commentary, with a great deal of good humour and light hearted banter, and become a quiz master, but we all think he should stay with fishing!

Whilst this was happening Paul Frzop was busy selling tickets to the MYSTERY prize, and made approx. \$1200.00 for the event, with Kiwi Chris (who lost the cricket) selling tickets in a Waeco fridge from Getaway.

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 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 Adrian Broadbent ORSSC FDO, and John Curtis AAAWA President presenting all the Trophies and Prizes.

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 habitual winner Glen Carter MAAC 166.8 points and 9 species Congratulations (second year running) with Mitch Hillary MAAC Junior winner but second overall well done with 153.4 points and 8 species!

To the Patron Cup winners Marmion Angling and Aquatic Club, with 55 participants congratulations again, well done.

To all other teams from Melville AC, HYC, QRFC, ORSSC 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.