

RULES FOR THE EASTER CLUB COMPETITION 2023

1. All boats must be in possession of a 2023 Seaworthy Disc and all Skippers must be [a valid paid up member of the Club](#) and in possession of a valid Skippers Ticket and radio operator's license.
2. **FISHING AREA** Boats are bound by their safety certificate limitations and may not be more than 40 nautical miles from shore at any stage.
3. **FISHING HOURS:** Boats may not leave the Port before 06h00. Fish are to be within the demarcated weigh-in area by 17h00 on both days. No extra time will be allowed with exception of a boat assisting another in distress.
4. **CALL-UPS:** Tuna boats will be called up each day on VHF channel 10 at 11h00 and 13h30. Skippers are required to give their position and units of fish caught.
6. **RADIOS:** No boats without a fully operational radio will be allowed to compete. If problems are experienced with the radio during a day's fishing, it is the Skipper's responsibility before launching the next day to satisfy Radio Control that the boat's radio has been repaired and is working properly, prior to departure. **All skippers must do a radio check with Port Elizabeth/Cape town radio prior to the competition and complete the indemnity form with the date, time and rating of the radio check.**

All radio communications during the competition hours will take place on VHF channel 10.
7. **GPS:** All fishing vessels must have an operational GPS on board.
8. **BLOW OUTS:** Should it be deemed by the weather committee to be a fishing day; it remains at the skipper's discretion to participate or not. In the event of extreme weather conditions, the committee reserves the right to cancel the competition, at any time. In the event of inclement weather or dangerous conditions developing during the course of either fishing day, the appointed weather boats may make the decision to stop all fishing and call all boats back to port. If fishing is called off after 10:30, it will be deemed a fishing day. Only Saturday and Sunday, 8 and 9 April, will be fishing days.
9. **SAFETY / WEATHER COMMITTEE:** The Competition committee will appoint a Safety/Weather committee. The decision of the safety/weather committee will be final.
10. **NUMBER OF RODS:** There are no restrictions on the number of fishing rods carried on the boat or used by any angler at any time.
11. **WEIGH-IN:**
 - ~ No mutilated fish will be weighed.
 - ~ Scales open @ 15H00 – No weighing of fish before this time.
 - ~ Fish not within demarcated area by 17h00 will not be weighed.

- ~ Weigh-in must be attended by the Skipper or his Delegate and will be supervised by the Weigh Master and his Assistants.
- ~ The weigh-sheets must be signed by the Skipper or his delegate.
- ~ All bill fish must be released.

12. **FISHING TACKLE & LINE CLASS:**

- ~ IGFA Rules will apply – open line class

13. **FISH SPECIES ELIGIBLE FOR PRIZES:**

- ~ Yellowfin Tuna ~ Big eye Tuna
- ~ Blue fin Tuna ~ Long fin Tuna
- ~ Cob, Geelbek, Yellowtail, Black Musselcracker (Black Musselcracker must be released)
- ~ All other fish including all billfish species, Eastern Little Tuna (Kawakawa) and Skipjack (Bonita) are excluded from Prize categories.

14. **MINIMUM WEIGHT:**

- ~ Tuna (all species) = 15 kg – Please release all undersize fish.
- ~ All bottom fish species to be within legal size and quotas.

15. **SHARKS:** No Sharks will count in the competition.

16. **BREACH OF RULES OR MISCONDUCT:**

16.1 Allegations of any breach of the competition rules must be referred to the Competition committee in writing within 1 hour of scales closing. The Competition committee's decision shall be final and binding.

16.2 Misconduct, violent, aggressive or unbecoming behavior by participants during the competition or within the premises or proximity of the Port St Francis Ski Boat Club will not be tolerated. Any behavior of this nature should be reported to the Competition committee immediately. The Competition committee shall decide on appropriate sanction which may include disqualification from further participation, their decision shall be final.

16.3 Acceptance of entry into the competition by any individual shall be within the sole discretion of the Competition committee whose decision to allow or disallow entry shall be final.

17. It is compulsory for all Skippers or their delegates to attend the Skippers Briefing.

18. Only anglers validly entered will be permitted on boats and no guests will be allowed.

19. Anglers may not rotate unless each Angler participating in any part of the Competition has entered or paid their entry fee in full and registered for the competition.

The Competition committee must be made aware of any such rotation prior to boat launch on the day.

20. All fish caught belong to the anglers.

21. **BOAT FUEL:** Please adhere to queuing order and do not jump the queue.

22. **BOATS IN DISTRESS:** The assisting boat will be allowed to weigh their fish on arrival at Port but must report their catch to the control boat immediately on having been requested to render assistance.

~ Boat in distress may transfer its catch plus one angler to another boat (not the assisting boat). Normal weigh-in cut off times will apply to both catches on the piggy-back boat.

- 24 **PRIZES:**

The Tuna prizes are:

First prize R10 000.00

The Bottom fish prizes are:

Biggest per specie:

Cob R2 000.00

Geelbek R2 000.00

Yellowtail R2 000.00

Black Musselcracker R2 000.00

25. **DEAD HEAT:** In the event of a “dead heat” the fish weighed first at the scales will win the dead heat.