



## Angling Rules 2023-2024 APYAC

### Introduction

The primary purpose of the club is to encourage fishing within the Victorian Fisheries Rules ([www.vfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.vfa.vic.gov.au)) in a sustainable and environmentally friendly way and to provide a platform for like-minded people to exchange ideas and information and participate together in their passion for fishing. The club promotes a competitive spirit within a framework of friendship and cooperation amongst members where older more experienced members can have the opportunity to impart their knowledge to younger/newer less experienced members. As an equal opportunity club, new potential members, children and women are encouraged to participate by way of specific competitions such as the ladies and mixed fishing charters as well as the newly introduced Albert Park family and friends fishing day which was a great success in its inaugural season.

### General information

Boat hire is available through the club from the boat house after members complete the boat handling course. Please contact boat house subcommittee for further details.

A real-time leader board is available to members for viewing online via the APYAC website or at the club [www.apyac.org.au/Scoreboard](http://www.apyac.org.au/Scoreboard).

Bait is available at the club where a member pays for via an honesty box situated above the chest freezer in the boat house. Various baits are available such as WA pilchards, squid, mussels and other seasonal baits when available.

Weather and webcam is also available to members via the APYAC website. [www.apyac.org.au/weather-web-cam/](http://www.apyac.org.au/weather-web-cam/).

**Username:** apyacwebsite

**Password:** D5%Q8^9yX##6

Boat licence testing is available on at Albert Park Lake and online [www.victorianboattraining.com.au](http://www.victorianboattraining.com.au)



## Angling Rules

1. Competitions are restricted to Port Phillip Bay unless otherwise stated such as certain specific competitions.
2. A vessel is defined as anything that floats on water and is deemed to be legal for its intended use. This can include boats, kayaks, paddle boards, Jet skis and charter boats. Charter boats do not need to be registered but must be entered on photo sheet details.
3. There are 2 categories to the seasonal competition which include the **In-House** which caters for anglers who launch a vessel from the boat house, launch a kayak or paddleboard (man-powered watercraft) anywhere in Port Phillip Bay; or land-based anglers anywhere in Port Phillip Bay. The other category is **Open** where members launch vessels away from the club but within Port Phillip Bay to go fishing.
4. Members who want to participate in the seasonal competition are required at the start of each season to nominate which category they want to compete in. This is done once they decide to submit a snapper catch or other fish category. If the catch is from example the In-House as defined above then they are bound to that category for the rest of that season. Same applies if catch is from the open as defined above.
5. For specific competition categories, members who launch away from the club to go fishing (e.g. at St Kilda Marina for a private boat or charter), or who crew for and fish with, another person who launches away from the club, will not lose eligibility to continue to compete for the **In House** Club Championship Trophy and visa-versa. Fish caught in these categories will also earn points for Club Championship categories provide they align with your nominated category if already established. Otherwise the fish can only be entered for the specific competition and not the seasonal competition.
6. All fishing must comply with the provisions of Fisheries Law and Regulations and all other relevant Laws and Regulations.
7. It is hoped to ensure sustainability of species, all fish not required for your table will be returned to the Bay as soon as measured.
8. All scale fish will be measured for length on a measuring mat (brag mat) photos taken clearly showing length, date and time and forwarded to the nominated email address [apyacanglers@gmail.com](mailto:apyacanglers@gmail.com) for competitions, along with the members full name and category (In-House / Open / Junior). Fish to be entered on the same day as caught/trip conclusion.
9. Only one photo per fish to be submitted. Maximum of 3 fish per trip to be submitted.
10. To be eligible for the competition all fish must be measured with the nose to the zero on the measuring mat, and dorsal fin to the top of the mat. Flat-bodied fish must be measured belly down and nose to the zero. Per Vic Fisheries Law and Regulations measure fish from tip of snout with mouth closed, to the end of the tail.





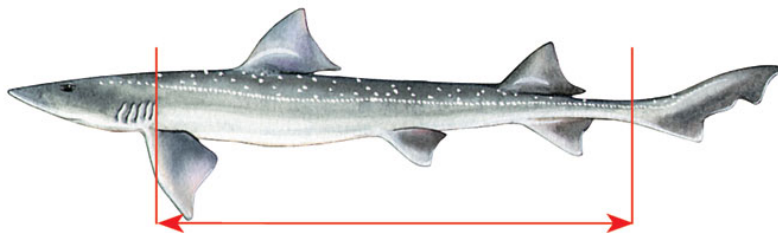
11. A code number may also be required in the picture when fish are entered in specific competitions.
12. The minimum length for Snapper will be 43 cm tip of nose to tip of tail (total length).
13. The points system is 1 point per Snapper of 43cm, and 0.1 point per 1cm thereafter. For example, a snapper length of 43 cm will accrue 1 point. 44cm will accrue 1.1 points, 52cm 1.9 points, 55cm will accrue 2.2 points, etc.
14. Only Snapper will be eligible to be measured for the seasonal Club Championship in both **Open** and **In House** categories. These include:
  - 1st **snapper** caught (in house OR open)
  - Last **snapper** caught (in house OR open)
  - 1st snapper caught by a new member
  - Monthly mystery length **snapper**
  - Monthly longest **snapper**
  - Monthly junior angler
  - Seasonal longest **snapper** (Tom Kells Memorial Trophy)
  - Seasonal most points scored for number of catches of **snapper** (Jack Pompei Award)

NOTE: in the interest of responsible fishing the “Seasonal most **snapper** caught” award has been removed. The Jack Pompei award will now be given to the most points scored in the season.

15. **Whiting seasonal competition** is for the longest fish and most fish over 30 cm for in-house and open categories. There will be one prize for each awarded at the end of the season only.

16. **Other seasonal competition species:**

- **Flathead** is for the longest fish and prizes will be awarded for in-house and open categories at end of season only and must be caught in Port Phillip Bay and measure 30cm and over.
- Same applies for **Salmon, Pike, Bream, Mulloway and squid** etc except there is no category; just overall winner – Vic Fisheries minimum size limits apply – prizes awarded at the discretion of the Angling Committee
- **Gummy Shark** length of at least 45cm must be measured per Fisheries Rules and Laws For sharks, measure from the rear most gill slit to the base of the tail fin on any side of the body.



- Other sharks will be measured as per Fisheries Law and Regulations for the species.
- Squid will be measured by length of the mantle excluding head and legs.
- No Stingrays/Eagle Rays/Banjo Sharks may be entered for any competition.



### Summary of above competitions:

| Competition                           | In-House | Open | Monthly | 1st | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 3rd |
|---------------------------------------|----------|------|---------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| Seasonal Snapper points (Jack Pompei) | Y        | Y    | Y       | Y   | Y               | Y   |
| Tom Kells                             | Y        | Y    | Y       | Y   | N               | N   |
| Ladies Snapper points (Jack Pompei)   | N        | N    | Y       | Y   | Y               | Y   |
| Ladies Tom Kells                      | N        | N    | Y       | Y   | N               | N   |
| Junior Jack Pompei                    | N        | N    | Y       | Y   | N               | N   |
| Flathead longest fish                 | Y        | Y    | N       | Y   | N               | N   |
| Whiting longest bag                   | Y        | Y    | N       | Y   | N               | N   |
| Whiting longest fish                  | Y        | Y    | N       | Y   | N               | N   |
| Salmon longest fish                   | Y        | Y    | N       | Y   | N               | N   |
| Pike longest fish                     | Y        | Y    | N       | Y   | N               | N   |
| Gummy shark longest                   | Y        | Y    | N       | Y   | N               | N   |
| Secret length                         | Y        | Y    | Y       | Y   | N               | N   |
| 1st Snapper caught                    | Y        | Y    | N       | Y   | N               | N   |
| Last Snapper caught                   | Y        | Y    | N       | Y   | N               | N   |
| Most Snapper new member               | N        | N    | N       | Y   | N               | N   |

17. Adult female anglers and juniors cannot win both respective categories ie Overall and Ladies/Juniors categories.
18. Any incorrect entry, or photograph which has undergone digital manipulation, for example, photoshop, will be disqualified, which will mean a loss of points for that angler and a second offence will eliminate him/her from further competition participation; at the discretion of the Angling Committee.
19. If your photograph is damaged, blurry or the overall measurement of your fish is not clearly visible, the photograph will be disqualified. If you are not happy with the photograph, simply take another one
20. In the spirit of good club sportsmanship, The Angling Committee encourages anglers to record the closest mark to the point where fish are caught.
21. Any breach of the angling laws could cost the Member all accrued points, at the discretion of the Angling Committee.
22. Competitors can only measure and enter in fish for the Club Championship 2 days per week, Monday to Sunday inclusive. Any 2 days within a week may be chosen. Any fish measured and sent outside the 2 days will not be counted towards your competition points tally.
23. If you have already sent in fish for two trips during a week; and then go on to catch an "exceptional" length fish outside of your two days you may send it in for the "Longest Snapper" monthly award or seasonal (Tom Kells) award entry; however points will not be accrued for your seasonal competition



24. Awards for the following specific competitions will be presented on the day of the competition end, rather than at the Annual Presentation Night, being: Max Coningsby; Captain and Crew; Ron Amy Pot of Gold; Ladies Fishing Day/s; Adults Mixed Charter Day; Albert Park Family & Friends Fishing Day and Tiger Lyons Whiting competitions. Winners must be present to receive awards or forfeit their prizes unless for extenuating circumstances at the discretion of the Angling Committee.
25. Vessels housed outside the club may be entered in the competition, provided they are registered with the Boathouse Captain or Scorer prior to the competition or commencement of member angling. All members are encouraged to fish
26. Maimed fish, such as being mutilated by a Shark or Seal will not be eligible.
27. A fish that has been landed on another person's rod will be credited to the person who lands the fish.
28. If any angler has knowledge of another angler breaking the rules, they are obliged to report the offence to the Angling Committee in writing within seven days of the offence occurring.
29. Special awards will be given for any "spectacular" or notable catches outside our jurisdiction (e.g., Marlin, Sailfish, Tuna and Barramundi as some Members venture into Country/Interstate/International locations), at the discretion of the Angling Committee.
30. More than six Members fishing outside the Club on a Club organised trip will constitute a competition with appropriate awards, at the discretion of the Angling Committee.
31. Members may fish more than once on a given day, but fish may only in measured once on any day including most fish/longest bag. Members should be aware that multi-tripping can be illegal in certain circumstances and daily bag limits and fish entered must not be exceeded.
32. If two or more boats participate in any competition, this means that a scheduled competition will proceed, unless called off by 20:00 on the evening prior to the competition.
33. Only members can submit fish in competitions caught by themselves; not by guests or visitors, ie non-members; with the exception of inter-club competitions whereby club members from invited clubs participate
34. All **In House** and **Open** Competition fish must be measured, photo taken with length, date and time clearly visible and forwarded along with member full name and category (In-House, Open, or Junior) as soon as possible after the fish landed by the member angler that caught the fish.
35. Mixed bag prize which is given at specific seasonal competitions is defined as at least one species other than what is targeted depending on specific seasonal competition.
  - For **Snapper specific competitions**: snapper at or above 28cm (or minimum legal-size limit) can be included.
  - For the **Whiting specific competition**: whiting are excluded from the mix bag.

Order of priority is variety followed by number and finally length and if all criteria are equal the prize is shared or 2 prizes awarded which is up to the discretion of the Angling Committee.

36. To encourage **junior anglers**, <18-year old's can enter snapper from the legal limit of 28cm and flathead from 28cm. Prizes may be awarded at the discretion of the Angling Committee. Once fish in these sizes have been entered the junior angler can only be awarded prizes in the junior category. Otherwise, the same rules apply for Junior Championship and points scored by Juniors are eligible for Club Championship (therefore a Junior Member can become Club Champion provided no fish are entered in the respective categories below the adult angler's limits).



37. There will also be an overall club champion for the Tom Kells and Jack Pompei points accumulated as an acknowledgement but with no extra prizes.
38. The rules concerning ***In House*** and ***Open*** categories for the 2023/2024 Angling Competition include specific club competition categories, as follows:
- Max Coningsby Trophy
  - Pot of Gold competition
  - Ladies Fishing charter Day
  - Mixed Fishing Charter Day
  - Tiger Lyons Whiting competition

Please note that fish caught in specific competitions can potentially win prizes in both specific and seasonal competitions. E.g.: Longest **snapper/Whiting** including longest number of fish **bag/Flathead/Gummy shark/Salmon/Pike/Mulloway/Bream** and any **notable catches**.

39. Snapper caught in the above competitions will be worth double points for the 2023/24 season. (This rule is being trialled as an incentive for anglers to participate in the season competitions).
40. The Max Coningsby, Pot of Gold and Tiger Lyons Whiting Competitions will be opened to any 2 days for the week of the competition (Monday to Sunday). Competitors must nominate the days they will be fishing by emailing [apyacanglers@gmail.com](mailto:apyacanglers@gmail.com) prior to the competition start/first fishing. All fish must be measured in on the same day as the trip. Anglers must attend the end of competition lunch on the Sunday at the club to claim prizes. The Angling Committee may consider nominated fishing date changes due to extenuating circumstances at their discretion
41. Anglers are limited for three prizes in total on Presentation Night.
42. Nine Monthly (Sept. to May) prizes will be for the Longest Snapper (1 X In house and 1 X Open); 1 X Mystery Length and 1 X Junior Angler. Prizes will be \$100 house credit for adult members (maximum one prize per angler per month), Junior Anglers will receive a \$50 movie pass or equivalent prize at the discretion of the Angling Committee. It will not be possible to receive an award for both the longest Snapper and the secret length category, which means that members can only receive one award in the monthly category.
43. Any issues that arise, that are not adequately covered by APYAC Angling Rules will be resolved by the Angling Committee.