

**Contest Rules:**

1. The contest is restricted to human powered kayaks only. Any other form of propulsion or watercraft is prohibited. No ferrying of kayaks by other boats is permitted. All fish submitted for weigh-in are to have been caught on the water from a kayak and transported to shore by kayak.
2. Surfcasting section, snapper only, maximum 2 rods per angler, prizes for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>. kayak anglers may change to surfcasting at Friday night registration, surfcasters are eligible for all major draw and spot prizes.
3. Only rods or hand lines may be used, with only two hooks allowed per rod or hand line per angler. Treble hooks are permitted only on artificial lures.
4. The contest boundaries are from the southern bank of the Marokopa River in the north, to the southern end of Waverley beach in the south. All contest fishing must be carried out within these boundaries only. No fishing is allowed within any Marine Reserve or other officially prohibited areas.
5. The contest registration will commence at 6.00pm followed by the safety briefing Friday 7th of April at the Butlers Reef Bar, Oakura. Attendance at the safety briefing is required of all contestants.
6. Entries are limited to 250. No further entries will be accepted after 8.00pm on Friday 7th of April, or after 250 entries are received, whichever is first.
7. To be eligible for receipt of prizes, anglers must be registered to enter the contest and additionally, be present at the official prize giving to claim any spot-drawn prizes.
8. The official contest fishing period commences at 5.00am Saturday 8th of April and finishes at 3 pm on Sunday 9th of April. Any fish caught outside these times are not eligible for weigh-in.
9. The contest weigh-in station will be at the Butlers Reef Bar, Oakura.
10. Weigh-in times are 4.00pm on Saturday 8th of April and 3.00pm on Sunday 9th of April Anglers who are not present at the weigh-in station by the stated time will not be permitted to weigh their fish. The weigh master will be the sole judge of time.
11. All fish presented for weigh in must be a minimum of 500gm in weight, and additionally for this contest, the minimum length for snapper shall be 30cm. All fish submitted for weighing shall comply with the NZ Amateur Fishing Regulations. No under size fish will be accepted.
12. Any competitor weighing in under size fish will be excluded from that day's competition.
13. Fish deemed not to be in food fresh condition will be rejected from weighing.
14. No contestant may weigh-in more than one fish of the same species per day, all fish submitted are to have been caught and weighed in by the contestant.
15. Contestants must catch and weigh in only the fish they have caught, i.e. you must not weigh in a team mates fish, contestants must at all times wear the contest wrist bands.
16. The main contest spot prize will be won by the contestant whose entry form number is drawn at random from all the eligible anglers' entry form numbers during the official prize giving on Sunday 9th of April 2017
17. The Early Bird Spot Prize will be won by the contestant whose entry form number is drawn at random from all the "Early Bird" entry form numbers during the official prize giving on Sunday 9th of April. (Note: Only contest entries paid for and received no later than 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017 shall qualify for this prize).

18. The Species Grand Slam prize will be awarded to the angler who weighs in the most of the eight individual eligible species. Only the heaviest fish of each species shall qualify, with the total combined weight being the final determining factor. In addition the first angler to catch and weigh in all 8 species will win \$4000.00, if no angler weighs in all 8 species the cash prize will jackpot for the following year's event up to a maximum of \$5000.00.
19. Prizes will be given for the top 5 fish of each species category that are weighed-in during the contest period. Except Tuna, Kingfish, and John Dory, for which prizes are for the top 3 fish.
20. The eligible species are: Tuna, Kingfish, Snapper, Kahawai, Trevally, Gurnard, Blue Cod, and John Dory.
21. Anglers are only eligible to win **one** prize per species, i.e. they cannot win both the heaviest fish prize and runner up prize. For example, if an angler is the only person to weigh in a particular species, they will be awarded the heaviest fish prize, and the runner up prize will be drawn as a spot prize. Similarly, if an angler weighs in the two heaviest fish in a species category they will be awarded the heaviest fish prize, with the runner up prize going to the angler with the next heaviest fish
22. The winner of the Team Trophy prize shall be the team with the highest aggregate of points accrued across all the eligible species weighed-in by the respective team members. A team must be registered in the contest and shall consist of no more than two contestants already individually registered for the main contest.
23. If two fish of the same species are weighed-in at equal weights then the first fish that was submitted for weighing shall be deemed the heaviest. The second fish weighed-in at that weight shall then become the runner-up in that species category.
24. The organisers reserve the right to cancel the fishing, or change the fishing times on one or both days of the competition.
25. In the event of cancellation all prizes will be drawn all prizes must be won.
26. All matters on which these rules are silent shall be determined at the discretion of the organizing committee.
27. Competitors' details may be used for advertising purposes.
- 26 The purchasing of an entry in the Taranaki Kayak Fishing Classic constitutes acceptance of the rules and regulations of the contest and participants agree to abide by the decision of the Organizing Committee. No correspondence will be entered into.
- 27 Corporate tickets, the organisers may from time to time issue corporate entry tickets to invited guests, sponsors, and members of the organising committee .Corporate ticket holders are not eligible to claim any spot prizes or major draw prizes. They are only eligible to claim prizes from fish species they have weighed in.

## **Safety Rules**

1. Solo fishing is discouraged. Contestants are advised to buddy up with another angler or group. The organizers will be pleased to assist in arranging partners if required.
2. At least one form of electronic communication (cell phone or VHF radio) is required for each angler or group. The cell phone number or VHF call sign will be recorded on the registration forms of the respective contestants. The VHF radio channels to be utilized for the contest will be advised at the registration briefing. In addition it is compulsory to submit a trip report to Coastguard, 1 trip report per group of anglers is ok, the trip report can be either by VHF or cell phone.
3. It shall be the responsibility of the contestants to determine that launching and fishing conditions at the locations they choose to fish are safe for their craft and personal abilities.
4. All contestants shall be required to confirm and sign at registration time that they have the following mandatory safety equipment in order to be eligible to fish the contest.

5. The Organizers reserve the right to carry out random inspections of kayaks to ensure they are seaworthy, and have the necessary safety equipment and communication equipment on board, as per the events Health and Safety policy.
6. All entrants must comply with the Taranaki Kayak Fishing Club health and safety policy.

**Mandatory**

- Approved PFD/Life Jacket (to be worn at all times on the water)
- Communication (cell phone and or/VHF radio – one per fishing group)
- Distress whistle (attached to PFD)
- Tow Line/Anchor Rope
- Hand Bailer Pump (not required for sit- on-top kayaks)
- Paddle Rescue Float (not required for sit-on-top kayaks)
- Sit-In Kayaks must have sealed bulkheads or buoyancy bags bow & stern

**Optional**

- White Navigation Light or Torch (mandatory if night fishing)
- Flares & Signalling Mirror
- EPIRB Locator Beacon
- Hi-Viz Kayak Safety Flag
- Spare paddle
- First Aid Kit
- Sun Screen
- Sun Hat & Sun Glasses
- Food & Water

*Note: These rules may be revised as deemed necessary by the Organizing Committee. Contestants will be duly notified of any changes.*