



AUSTRALIAN ANGLERS ASSOCIATION (WA Division) Inc

ABN: 88 528 806 323

PO Box 2200, Marmion WA 6020

Phone: 08 9403 7383 Email: aaawa@iinet.net.au Web Page: www.aaawa.iinet.net.au

Report on the annual AAA State Boat Championships run on Saturday the 26th March 2011, sponsored by Club Marine, All Boat Business including the Evans and Tate Wines group, hosted by the Marmion Angling and Aquatic Club

The competition was run with light North Easterly Winds at 8 to 15 knots, swinging to a light South Wester in the afternoon, perfect weather conditions for boating.

The Marmion Angling and Aquatic Club (MAAC) Volunteers provided the heart starters for the day, by having tea and coffee with Bacon and Egg burgers and Sausage Sangas at the Hillarys Boat Ramp, and those that had either thick heads from "preparing" for the day and having pre-comp drinks the night before 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 MAAC knowing that the AAAWA allowed host clubs to also benefit from the event financially.

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 are Justine Coleman (QRFC), Henry Boogaard (QRFC), Carmel Langdon (ORSSC), Noeleen Weymouth, Maurie Ramsey (ORSSC), with the multitude of MAAC fishos.

The forecast of light and favourable winds was promising for those that wanted to go deep straight away, then come back in later and try for smaller species did so, those that thought they knew better, took of in close while the weather was smooth and tried their luck at the smaller species, then ventured out, either way it made for a promising competition

Those that stayed relatively close to the Marina (within a 20Nm radius) did better than those that travelled up to 40Nm from the Marina, because it appears as though the fish that were caught were later on in the day, and those that did the big distances did not have the time to stop and have that last drop, still that is fishing for you.

The wind did not really play a big part in the fishing really, because all the boats were complaining about no drift or sitting in the one spot doing donuts?

A few good fish were caught whilst trolling around, this really was due to the fact that there is warmer than usual water temperatures out there, not as many pelagics were caught as had been in recent weeks, although one 11 odd kilo Spanish mackerel was hooked and weighed in, but the bag was unfortunately disqualified due to having a species not nominated in the event being weighed in the bag. Rules are rules and we need to ensure that all members are educated, I do believe the poor gent did ask the question and one of his members said yes, but unfortunately they can weigh that species in their club comp, but not the AAAWA boating event.

Whilst competitors were "out there" in there favourite spots, Carmel Langdon (WSSC) who is also the secretary of the boating sub committee, with her faithful friend, Noeleen (champers) Weymouth, Robert Weir (MAAC) with his band of staff and volunteers and Henry Boogaard (QRFC) who is always there helping in some way or another, set up the presentation and the weigh in area and it looked magnificent, again.

There was a multitude of staff and volunteers from the MAAC that did not fish and prepared the “refreshment” areas, much to the appreciation of all competitors, thank you all.

At closing time for the bags (3.30pm) most boats had either got their boats on their trailers or were waiting to, and the main man who always assists making up the day bags, and helps at the sign on, Maurie Ramsay (ORSSC), ensured that the door was shut at exactly 1530hrs, he gave the key to me to look after (Bad move as I lost the key and we had to cut the lock to get all the fish out, so I have been nominated as the “Knob of the Day”) and the girls i.e. Carmel and Noeleen continued taking in the skippers safety discs, this was to ensure that all were safely back on land, there was 167 competitors and 78 boats that participated.

Due to the lack of parking at the MAAC, the boating sub committee with the MAAC club, organised a shuttle bus from the Sacred Heart College where all boats parked up, went to and from Sacred Heart College, to the MAAC Headquarters every 15 minutes, the Skippers had security looking after their prized possessions.

The weigh in commenced at 4.30pm, in the area overlooking the Ocean, back at the Marmion Angling Club headquarters, all the signage and club and sponsor flags made for a great spectacle.

The MC for the weigh in was Glen and Alan Omond provided a running commentary, with a great deal of good humour and light hearted banter, albeit I was the brunt of a fair bit of it, due to the “lost key”, and my naming of a fish being named politically incorrect, (a Queen Snapper or Blue Morwong, those older members would of known what I meant ☺).

The weigh in went extremely well again we would be lost without those assisting on the day, you juniors for running the score cards and assisting the competition officer Terry Bell (ORSSC) with the collation, thank you.

The speech by the president of the Marmion Club, Lyn Whelan was very welcoming to all and set the evening up for a great time.

The appreciation from all, to the sponsors again was great to see, and the “last hour” sponsor McWilliams Wines Group area manager Paul Clements speech was great, we certainly look forward to them assisting in future events.

The MAAC provided refreshments and an evening meal for all, I’m sure all that had partaken in the meals and refreshments enjoyed the evening.

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.

Congratulations to all winners, your patience and hard work has certainly paid dividends.

To the Overall winner Glenn Hillary, about bloody time!

To the Patron Cup winners Marmion Angling and Aquatic Club, with 90 participants congratulations again, well done.

This report prepared by Pat Shinnick, member of the Boating Sub Committee of the Australian Anglers Association WA.