



COMPETITION RULES 2027

1. The Flathead and Bream Tournament is strictly a catch-and-release competition
2. Anglers are not permitted to compete in the competition until indemnity forms are completed and returned to tournament officials. These will be available at registration and briefing Friday March 5. All competitors aged under 18 will require a parent or legal guardian to acknowledge and complete an indemnity form on their behalf
3. Lure and fly fishing only – bait, burley or other scented attractants are not permitted. Pre-packaged scented soft plastics sold commercially will be permitted
4. Competition times are 7am to 5pm Saturday and 7am to 3pm Sunday. Submissions will only be accepted during these times
5. The boundaries for this event are the Tuross River and its tributaries. Fishing outside this boundary will result in disqualification
6. All fish must comply with NSW fishing regulations to be eligible for measuring. Bream are measured to the fork and therefore 23cm and above will be accepted as a legal fish. Only Flathead and Bream will be accepted
7. Any flathead over 70cm and/or any bream over 35cm (FORK) or a Tournament-tagged fish caught must be measured, recorded & verified by a Tournament marshal. Once the fish is landed, call the marshals on [the phone number provided at the briefing]. No fish in this category will be measured 15 minutes after close of fishing. Any Tournament-tagged fish or fish over this size, not sighted and measured by officials, will not be considered eligible
8. Fish under these limits should be photographed clearly, showing overall length with Angler Submission Card on an **official NSW DPI brag mat**. Submissions with non-DPI official brag mats will attract a 20% penalty. Brag mats will be available for purchase at registration. Flathead are measured to the tip of the tail; bream are measured to the fork of the tail
9. Tuross River system has various speed regulations. Please be aware of these rules and follow them accordingly. Maritime authorities are aware of the Tournament taking place and may be present over the duration of the competition. It is the responsibility of each competitor to hold a valid NSW Recreational Fishing License, if required. All NSW Maritime boating regulations must be adhered to. ALL ENTRANTS must adhere to life jacket regulations.
10. The Competition Coordinator's decision is final. All protests must be lodged to the committee one hour prior to the competition closing. Protests lodged after this will not be considered.

SUBMISSION OF FISH PHOTOS FOR JUDGING

1. Anglers will receive the following items at registration:
 - a. A personal “angler number” to be used for the duration of the competition
 - b. Two blank competition submission cards
 - c. DPI brag mats will be available for purchase
2. At the start of each competition day a 3-digit code will be sent out to anglers via SMS text message (if a mobile phone number has been provided). The code of the day will also be published to the live leaderboard and Facebook page. The code will be the same for all anglers for the day
3. Anglers are to write their angler number **and** the 3-digit code of the day on a competition submission card
4. Fish are to be photographed clearly on an official DPI brag mat, along with your submission card, clearly showing your angler number and code of the day
5. Photos are to be submitted via SMS text message to the submission number provided before the competition begins. Only the photo is to be sent – please don’t insert any text into the message and please send photos one at a time
6. Entries will appear on the live leaderboard as they are processed. It is each anglers’ responsibility to regularly check the live leaderboard to ensure submissions have been received and processed, and lengths are correct. A link to the leaderboard will be sent out each morning with the 3-digit code of the day. Any missing submissions or disagreements on length must be lodged to the committee at least one hour prior to the competition closing by phoning 0497 077 741

SCORING AND PRIZES

1. There are three main prize categories. Longest Flathead, Longest Bream and Longest Total Bag (4 fish = 2 flathead & 2 bream). In the event of a tie for Longest Fish, the fish recorded at the earliest time will be the winner. This will be the time recorded by an official at the time of measuring. In the event of a tie in the Longest Total Bag category, the person with the highest point scoring single fish will be the winner
2. The point scoring system is as follows. 30 points are awarded for a legal fish of either species. Bream are awarded a further 4 points per/cm over 23cm fork length i.e. a 28 cm bream is worth $30 + (5 \times 4) = 50$ points. Flathead are awarded a further 1.5 points per/cm over 36cm i.e. a 50cm flathead is awarded $30 + (14 \times 1.5) = 51$ points. A competitor can only enter two fish of each species for biggest bag. These fish can be upgraded throughout the competition, but only the biggest two of each species will count. i.e. If a competitor measures in two flathead 40cm and 45cm on Saturday and then catches a 50cm flathead on Sunday, only the 45cm and 50cm will count towards their point score. Competitors can upgrade as many times as they wish during the competition
3. Competition tagged fish have a prize of \$2,000 per fish and must be verified by a marshal prior to release. Tagged fish are only eligible for the prize the first time they are caught. Please be mindful that there are fish in the estuary tagged for other purposes. Not every tag is a winner.
4. A competitor can only win one prize per section of the competition. If a competitor catches the biggest two bream, they will be awarded 1st place in the bream section, not 1st and 2nd. Both fish are eligible for biggest bag
5. The Competition Coordinator's decision is final. All protests must be lodged to the committee one hour prior to the competition closing. Protests lodged after this will not be considered
6. Juniors will compete in their own sub-competition as per the rules above. Entrants in the junior competition are not eligible for prizes in the open competition