

## **Stillwater Open Fishing Competition 2026**

### **RULES**

**Start Time** – 5AM Saturday 18 April 2026

(Postponement date 24-27 April)

**Photo Entries** – Must be in line by 4.30pm on day of prize giving

### **Prize Categories**

Based on photographed length;

1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Snapper

Longest Kahawai, Kingfish, Gurnard, Trevally and John Dory

Average Length Snapper

Early bird Prize – must be entered by midnight 12 April.

Hard Luck Story

Spot prizes galore!

Other categories may be added.

### **Competition Rules**

- If postponement is called, the competition will run as a weekend competition.
  - New start time, 5 PM Friday 24 April. Finish time, must be in line by 2.00PM Monday 27 April (Anzac Day)
- Anglers must obey all NZ fishing regulations. Entered fish must be of legal length (SNA 1).
- Take note of new HPA reserves.
- Rod and reel only.
- Fishing to commence no earlier than 5am on competition start day.
- Must be in line for photo presentation by 4.30 pm to be eligible.
- Angler must be in attendance to receive prize.
- 2 fish per species, per angler to be presented. The longest will go toward individual prizes, the second will build and be eligible for average totals.
- This is a measure competition, see notes below about entering fish. If in doubt get in touch with a committee member or email [fishing@swbc.co.nz](mailto:fishing@swbc.co.nz)
- Providing a clear and valid image of the fish is the anglers responsibility and failure to enter a valid photo may be grounds for the committee to invalidate or deduct length from the entry.

Photos must be taken on a valid measure mat showing 5mm increments and a 90-degree plastic stopper. Tape measures and stickers are not valid. A list of valid measure mats and examples of photos can be viewed [here https://www.fishingcomp.co.nz/approved-measures/](https://www.fishingcomp.co.nz/approved-measures/) Providing the measure mat has an L shaped end and has been provided by a reputable supplier then other measures may be acceptable. If in doubt contact a committee member.

The fish must be placed so that the upper or lower jaw are against the stopper in their natural position (i.e., not elongated) and the tail is spread to prove length. Depending on the species and type of tail the measure will be taken to the shortest point of the V or longest point of the flat or inverted tail. Gutted, gilled or butchered fish will not be accepted. Measures will be rounded down to the nearest 5mm marking.

At the commencement of the competition the committee will announce via email and social media a number or object that must be in the photo. This object or number must be clearly visible in the photo and if incorrect or not clearly visible may be grounds for invalidating the entry. The number must be on an object in the image as the photo is taken, it cannot be edited into the photo afterwards.

The committee recommends geo tagging is active on the camera as the photo may be asked to be presented to confirm location and time of photographing.

- Judges have discretion on whether to accept an entry and their decision is final, in the event of a tie photos may be asked to be re presented to scrutinise. If a tie is called then the fish caught earliest may be deemed the winner. This will be at the discretion of the committee.
- Stillwater Boating Club and its representatives are not liable for any loss, damage, injury, negligence or harm to any entrant or their property during this competition.
- SWBC is a licensed premises and no BYO is allowed at the club.

**STILLWATER BOATING CLUB INC.**

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**[WWW.SWBC.CO.NZ](http://WWW.SWBC.CO.NZ)**