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Palm Beach Pelagic Challenge Rules

1. PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY.

Participation is open to anyone 18 years of age or older. Minors are eligible to participate with a parent or legal guardian signature on the release form.

2. REGISTRATION AND BRIEFING.

Only entrants who have paid their entry fee in full are eligible to fish in the comp.

All entry fees are NON- TRANSFERABLE and NON-REFUNDABLE.

3. SAFETY.

Safety is a key objective, competitors have different levels of skill and experience, please do not feel obliged or pressured to enter the water unless you are absolutely confident and comfortable to do so given the prevailing conditions.

While on the water all contestants are **required to wear a PFD** at all times, failure to do so will result in disqualification. Contestants are also required to either have a Radio or a Mobile phone on them at all times.

We also suggest that entrants carry the following:

- A Whistle
- High visibility clothing
- Paddle leash
- Mirror
- Basic First aid kit
- Drinking water
- Tow rope

Competition session may be shortened or cancelled due to unsafe weather or water conditions. The decision to shorten or to cancel will be left totally to the discretion of the event organizers.

Channel 9 will be used for this event.

4. BRIEFING, FISHING AND CATCH REGISTRATION TIMES.

To ensure that the events are run safely we will have a sign out and sign in register. Each participant must sign out prior to launching and sign in on return.

This means that all participants must launch from the same area.

The Launch spot for the event is at 7th Avenue Palm Beach – In front of the Surf Live Saving Club.

Launch times are:

05:00 Am Launch (Dependent on Light)

10:30 Am Return

You must have signed back in prior to the session being closed for your catch to be eligible. All fish will be measured upon your return and logged.

After the measuring session, there will be a BBQ, beers and cold drinks for contestants.

There will be a Prize giving session once all the contestants have returned.

5. SPORTSMANSHIP.

Competitors in the Palm Beach Blitz Competition are expected to follow high standards of sportsmanship, courtesy, safety and conservation. Any infraction of these fundamental sporting principles may be deemed cause for disqualification.

Maximum courtesy must be practiced at all times, not only to fellow competitors but all other people in the immediate vicinity.

Any act deemed by the event organizers that gives an angler an unfair advantage not specifically covered under this set of rules shall be grounds for disqualification. Any violation by an angler deemed intentional or preconceived by the event organizers to gain an unfair advantage, would be grounds for disqualification.

6. ALCOHOL.

This is a social event, and whilst we do not discriminate against those who engage in the consumption of alcohol, please do so within the confines of the law and please be mindful of your safety.

7. PERMITTED FISHING METHODS.

All fish must be caught alive in a conventional sporting manner. Artificial lures, dead bait as well as live bait tactics may be used during the competition.

All fish must be fairly caught and done so off a kayak. No Sails, No Motors.

During the hours of competition, contestants may not obtain or receive assistance, including but not limited to the following: a non-competitor's boat, the placing of markers by a non-competitor, being towed by or riding on motorized vessels.

8. PERMITTED FISHING LOCATIONS.

We are not restricting where you are eligible to fish – however you must do so within the confines of the law, and it is essential that you return to the launch spot before the cut off time (if you are even 1 minute late your catch will not be eligible).

9. SCORING.

Scoring will work as follows:

- 1 – 49 cm = 0.5 pt. per cm
- 50 – 99 cm = 1 pt. per cm
- 100 – 150 cm = 1.5 pt. per cm
- 150 cm + = 2 pt. per cm.

Please note: While double kayaks are permitted scoring will work as follows. The Total score of the 2-fisherman added together (to get a Kayak Total Score) multiplied by 0.5.

This handicap is loaded against the craft to compensate for the advantage of fishing on a double kayak.

Eg: If between the fishermen a score of 300 points is accumulated the end score for the craft will be 150 Points. If in the prizes, one member of the team will be called up to accept their prize.

Please note the following Benchmarks.

Trophy

Species	Good fish length (1.5 points per cm)	Trophy length (2 points per cm)
Cobia	100cm	135 cm
Dolphinfish (mahi-mahi)	90 cm	120 cm
Grass emperor	55cm	75 cm
Longtail Tuna	105cm	125 cm
Mulloway	90cm	110 cm
Snapper	70cm	85 cm
School Mackerel	85 cm	100 cm
Spanish Mackerel	120cm	145 cm
Spotted Mackerel	95cm	105 cm
Spangled Emperor	70 cm	85 cm
Wahoo	110 cm	140 cm
Yellowfin Tuna	85cm	105cm
Yellowtail Kingfish	90cm	110cm
GT	85 cm	100 cm

Vermin

Vermin species include:

- Mackerel Tuna
- Barracuda
- Grinner

These fish will score 0.3 Points per cm if recorded.

For any bill fish to be scored the fish needs to be under control, i.e., the bill of the fish needs to be in the hand of the fisherman or alternatively the fish should be on the lap of the fisherman or in the hatch. Touching the leader is no longer considered a capture in AKS Comps. 300 Points allocated for a capture.

No Hairtail, Rays, Sharks, Longtoms.

All fish must be legal in size (in accordance with QLD law) and bag limits apply. If no bag limit is imposed by the government, a total of 5 fish (of the same species) can be entered.

Please also be aware that you are **not required** to bring a fish back to the beach to record it. If you wish to record a fish via photo or video this can be done – so long as you can prove the size of the fish in the image. We do encourage this – If you do not plan to eat it or share it with someone who will, rather get a photo of it and release. DPI Officials are often in attendance – and showing them that this event promotes sustainable fishing is important to us as the organisers.

10. PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place. The Prize pool will be scaled based on entries received.

11. PROTEST.

Log all protests with the event organizers.

12. RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE.

A waiver, release of liability, and covenant not to sue are part of the entry form. It is required that all contestants take responsibility for themselves while participating in event activities.

13. PHOTO RELEASE.

All photos taken at the event remain the ownership of Australian Kayak Specialists to be used at their discretion. Contestants grant Australian Kayak Specialists and the sponsors the unconditional right to use their name, voice, photographic likeness and biographical information in connection with Australian Kayak Specialists, production, promotion, and/or articles and press releases, and shall not be entitled to receive any royalties or other compensation in connection with such use.

14. RULE CHANGES.

Rules interpretation is exclusively left to the Event organizer. The decisions of the Organizers are final in all matters and are not subject to appeal.

If you have questions or concerns regarding these rules or regulations, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards,

Dennis Tocknell