



INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATION COMPETITION IN BIG GAME FISHING 2019

OFFSHORE CHALLENGE KOMIŽA 2019

VIS - CROATIA
17 - 21 July 2019

R U L E S

1. ORGANIZER:

Sport Fishing Club "KOMIŽA" with headquarters in Komiža in cooperation with the Tourist Board of Komiža, organizes an international qualification competition in big game fishing in Komiža 2019.

The competition shall be held in accordance with the Ordinance on principles and basic elements of the system of sport competitions at sport fishing at sea (hereinafter referred to as the Ordinance) and the Ordinance on implementation of big game fishing competitions (hereinafter referred to as the Implementing Ordinance) of 20 December 2014.

The competition is combined (by type); Still fishing and Trolling in accordance with Articles 105 and 106 of the Ordinance.

2. DATE OF THE COMPETITION: 17 - 21 JULY 2019 at Komiža, Vis island.

3. PARTICIPATION RIGHTS:

The parties entitled to participation are members of sport fishing associations / clubs that are members of Croatian Association of Sport Fishing at Sea (CASFS) or members of any other international fishing federation.

*Competitors are required to hold the prescribed and valid fishing permits.
If the team has a rented boat with the captain who is not a member of the team, i.e. he controls the boat at the discretion of the team leader, he does not have to be a member of the fishing association.*

Eligible to compete are those competitors who pay the per boat/team entry fee of 5,500.00 HRK to the giro account: **TOURIST BOARD OF KOMIŽA at ERSTE BANK - IBAN HR2124020061100667089**(designated purpose: **Entry fee for international big game fishing qualifications KOMIŽA 2019**) i.e. until available positions are filled (40 vessels)

Entry fee includes: fishing lure - 40 kg per vessel, mooring and dinner for crew members.
By paying the entry fee, competitors accept the Competition Rules.

4. **COMPETITION MANAGEMENT:**

Members of the Management are:

- Goran BARANOVIĆ** - Chief Judge
- Tonči LUKETA** - CASFS proxy, judge, competition secretary
- Organizer's representative (will be appointed at the meeting of captains)

OTHER OFFICIALS:

- Competition Manager: **Tonči BOŽANIĆ**
- Protocol Manager: **Ankica MARINKOVIĆ**
- Official Doctor: dr. **Tomislav CAR**

5. **REGISTRATION:**

Registration for participation is a form which the team leaders are obligated to fill for their members. By verifying the registration, the responsible person guarantees that the entered data corresponds to the truth.

A competitive team shall have no more than 4 (four) active competitors on the boat. The team is represented by the leader and he is the only one who has the right to communicate with the Competition Management from point 4. of these Rules.

The rest of the crew members not entered in the registration for participation are considered guests.

6. **LIABILITY:**

Organizer, host and all participants involved in the competition organization shall be held harmless and indemnified against any liability and damage compensation for consequences that may arise in this competition. The competitors shall participate under full responsibility for themselves, the crew, the boat, the equipment and for all damages that may occur against them and any third parties.

Every competitor accepts the above-mentioned by signing the Statement of Personal Capacity and Liability for Participation as prescribed by the Ordinance on principles and basic elements of the system of sport competitions at sport fishing at sea of the CAFS.

Every competitor shall also sign a Subject's Declaration of Approval prescribed by the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), which regulates providing and processing data and transferring them to third persons. The organizer, competitors and officials of the competition shall be held responsible for concealing illicit catch if they are aware of it. They shall report such knowledge to the Management, who will disqualify the team based on the Ordinance, and report them to the competent authorities of the Republic of Croatia for legal sanctions.

Competitors who do not have adequate annual sport permits will be able to buy daily and multi-day permits for big game fishing tools. Only those team members who have valid permits can pull and/or fight a fish, whereas other crew members may assist (recording, ground baiting, etc.). Competitors with a permit will be marked with tags (bracelet on right hand).

In accordance with the "Ordinance on Sport and Recreational Fishery" one permit allows fishing for a team with max. 3 (three) sets of fishing gear.

7. FISHING AREA:

Approved by the competent ministry Fishing zones on nautical charts with drawn coordinates will be delivered to the managers together with the competition documentation.

8. SMALL BOATS:

Competition is held with proprietary small boats, and the provisions of Article 19 of the Ordinance and all other provisions of the Ordinance on implementation of competitions with proprietary vessels shall apply.

9. LIST OF SPECIES:

The following fish are targeted and scored:

TYPES	MINIMAL LENGHT / WEIGHT
Atlantic bluefin tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>)	Minimal lenght - 115 cm (catch/release) Minimal weight 40 kg (for weighing)
Swordfish (<i>Xiphias gladius</i>)	Minimal lenght - 100 cm (catch/release)
Mediterranean spearfish (<i>Tetrapturus belone</i>)	Minimal lenght – 100 cm (catch/release) Minimal weight 10 kg (for weighing)
Longfin tuna (<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>)	Minimal weight 5 kg
Mahi-mahi (<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>)	Minimal weight 5 kg
Little tunny (<i>Euthynnus alletteratus</i>)	Minimal weight 5 kg

Competitors shall release (while carefully removing the hook or cutting the fishing line) rare, accidentally-caught specimens of other fish species (sunfish, manta ray, sea turtle, blue shark, common thresher, etc.)

They shall respect the prescribed lengths and weights for pulling in fish, as well as the daily quotas for southern bluefin tuna. In case of doubt about the type of fish in question, the team leader shall contact the Judge's boat.

For fish that are being scored (Mediterranean spearfish, longfin tuna, mahi-mahi and little tunny), the quota is not determined, and the rule of minimum measurements of length and weight prescribed by these Rules are applied.

The caught fish is disposed of by the Competition Organizer.

10. SCORING:

Scoring is carried out by points per species (PpS) in case of releasing the catch or weight points (WP) for fish pulled in on the boat.

TUNA -CATCH / RELEASE minimal length of **115 cm** (length is measured from the upper jaw to the outstretched tail fin), it is awarded with **240** points per released fish. A released fish smaller than a minimal length does not win points to the team.

WEIGHING - minimal weight of 40 kg

from 40 kg – 99,99 kg	= 7 points per kg of weight
from 100 kg – 149,99 kg	= 8 points per kg of weight
from 150 kg – 199,99 kg	= 9 points per kg of weight
from 200 kg – 249,99 kg	= 10 points per kg of weight
from 250 kg –	= 11 points per kg of weight

SWORDFISH - CATCH / RELEASE minimal length of **100 cm** (length is measured from the **upper jaw** to the outstretched tail fin), it is awarded with **319** points per released fish. A released specimen smaller than minimal length does not win points for the team.

MEDITERRANEAN SPEARFISH - CATCH / RELEASE minimal length of **100 cm** (length is measured from the **upper jaw** to the outstretched tail fin), it is awarded with **279** points per released fish. A released fish smaller than a minimal length does not win points for the team.

WEIGHING - minimal weight of 10 kg is scored with 32 points per kilogram of weight

LONGFIN TUNA - WEIGHING - minimal weight of **5 kg** is scored with **11** points per kilogram of weight.

MAHI-MAHI - minimal weight of **5 kg** is scored with **9** points per kg of weight.

LITTLE TUNNY - WEIGHING - minimal weight of **5 kg** is scored with **5** points per kilogram of weight. In case of pulling in a fish lighter than prescribed weight, the team does not win weight points - negative points are not provided.

11. EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES:

Fishing is done with no more than 4 pieces of equipment on the boat, with a maximum class of up to 130 lbs. Equipment shall be verified and marked with tags by the Competition Management. The team leader shall bring the equipment for verification at a time prescribed by the Rules. The marking (tag) on the rod shall be seen on a video recording, otherwise the catch shall not be accepted.

12. VIDEO RECORDING OF THE CATCH:

The final part of the fight with a catch shall be recorded without interruption until release, i.e. pulling in a fish. Video recording duration: 2-3 minutes. A video recording shall be accepted and bring points to the team if it meets the provisions of Articles 89, 90 and 91 of the Implementing Ordinance.

Special remarks:

- on the video there has to be a recording time (wristwatch, chartplotter, etc.); time of the catch is reported via VHF or a phone call at the moment of pulling the fish in;

- on the video the released fish must be recognized by species; - the release and free departure of the fish has to be seen in the video;
- in case of trolling with fishing tackles, uninterrupted video has to show tackle removal, departure of fish from the boat and recording of the tackle (on a bright background) with clear emphasis on the tackle-based fishing hook.
- there is no excuse for a bad, interrupted or unclear video recording
- camera has to be affixed to the boat or one of the crew members has to be a cameraman

Every team shall own a camera for recording the catch with the following technical characteristics:

- allows recording in the format compatible for viewing with the VLC media player
- records a file on an SD memory card (for easier transfer to a computer)
- has the appropriate connectors and cables (backup possibility for transferring data)

13. CATCH VERIFICATION:

A catch is verified by Management in the following way:

- checking and comparing the official competition documentation; List of caught fish (entered by team leaders) and Lists of registered catches (entered by the Chief Judge),
- inspecting the video recording of the catch, recorded material proves the catch and respecting the fishing rules in accordance with Articles 88 and 89 of the Ordinance

The team leader or an authorized member shall bring a video recording and attend the viewing of the recording, if they are not present, it shall be considered that they have given up on the catch and shall not be awarded points. Points are awarded to the accepted catch in accordance with point 10 of these Rules. Catch verification shall be held at the end of every fishing day at a time prescribed by the schedule.

14. MINIMAL DISTANCE:

The competition is combined and, in accordance with the provision of Article 50 of the Implementing Ordinance, the following minimal distances of competitive small boats are prescribed:

- minimal lateral small boat distance - 2 cables vertical to the direction of floating of the "berley trail",
- minimal distance in a trail -0.5 NM m in the direction where a "berley trail" spreads,
- a boat in motion shall respect the minimal distance of a floating boat, laterally and in "berley trail" distance
- small boats in motion can come closer to each other, 1 cable minimum laterally, 2 cables from behind,

Team behavior (proper or not) during fishing from a floating boat is regulated by Articles 119-126, and if they are trolling, Articles 127-134 of the Implementing Ordinance apply. Trolling shall be announced to the Chief Judge of the competition. In case of possible misunderstandings only the Chief Judge of the competition shall have a competent opinion and make a final decision.

15. FISHING LURE AND BAIT:

Amounts for this competition are not limited. Teams are provided with 40 kg of groundbait fishing lure (sardines) of equal quality before daily competition starts (included in the entry fee).

Buying extra amounts shall be allowed before daily competition starts. Hosts/organizers shall provide purchase of groundbait fishing lure (sardines or other oily fish) of equal quality before daily competition starts.

Teams acquire baits of their own choosing, in accordance with Article 42 of the Ordinance.

Using artificial baits is allowed in accordance with the provisions of Article 58 of the Ordinance.

During the competition it is allowed to catch other species of fish and use them as a whole or for their parts for baiting or ground baiting, but using LIVE BAITS is forbidden.

16. RANKING:

Winners shall be determined according to the biggest point count achieved over three fishing days. In case of adverse weather conditions and inability to hold the competition for three fishing days, the results realized in the days on which the competition was held shall be declared as the final results of the competition.

Ranking teams with an equal number of points in a daily ranking shall be made according to the time of a valid catch (earlier time of hooking - i.e. reporting is used).

Ranking teams with an equal number of points after a second and third fishing day shall be made according to the time of a valid catch per each day (teams that have a catch during a first day, then second, and eventually third have an advantage) If even then we have teams with an equal number of points, the team that has achieved a better placement in that fishing day shall have the advantage.

17. SPECIAL PROVISIONS:

prescribed by these Rules:

For every fish-hooking, the team leader shall report "a fish on the rod" to the Judge's boat with the boat's identification number and boat's position. He shall enter this into the List of caught fish. A team leader shall write it down and inform about the release or pulling in a fish on a boat (for tuna he also has to report the approximate weight).

Conditionally prolonging the fishing time, as prescribed by Article 79 of the Implementing Ordinance in case of a so-called "late fish-hooking", shall prolong it by 1 hour for the team.

The amount of ALLOWED Southern bluefin tuna catches shall be distributed across the three fishing days. In case of an unfulfilled quota predicted for a certain fishing day, it shall be transferred to the next day, and in case of exceeding the quota, it shall be deducted from the next fishing day.

Teams shall learn about daily quotas during the meeting of team leaders, and about any changes in the daily quotas during list verification.

Until the predicted quota is met, it is allowed to keep one tuna on a boat per day. Chief Judge of the competition follows the progress of quotas and makes a decision of the "Catch and release" rule to be put into effect. Every subsequent caught tuna will result in disqualification and legal sanctions.

IMPORTANT COMPETITION DETAILS

-verification of daily participation (of the fishing day) - verification done by Chief Judge before sailing out,

-distributing control flags for every daily participation - during verification of daily participation,

-communication - with VHF radio connection on channel 72

-phone numbers of the Management, as a backup connection, shall be published in the documentation of the competition

18. SPECIAL REMARK:

Using harpoons and battle stations on a ship during the competition is strictly forbidden.

After fish-hooking, only one contestant may, while using a fighting chair or a stand-up technique, tire out a fish without anyone's help. Assistance of other team members is regulated by the Implementing Ordinance.

"Late fish-hooking" - in case the team does not manage to pull in a catch in the extra time, he continues pulling in until the end and releases the catch by cutting the line (as close to the hook as possible), but the catch is not accepted. If he does not do so or refuses to do so, the team shall be disqualified from the competition.

In accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance, for perceived or reported irregularities the Chief Judge of the competition warns, imposes corrections, disqualifies teams for one participation (fishing day) or for the entire competition.

19. COMPLAINTS, APPEALS:

For the duration of the competition, team leaders orally, via radio connection, publicly communicate any complaints for actions of certain teams to the Chief Judge.

All complaints shall be resolved at sea or no later than the beginning of the official weighing. Team leaders deliver appeals after the weighing and catch verifications in written form to the Management of the competition in accordance with the provisions of Articles 109 and 110 of the Implementing Ordinance.

The appeal fee costs 300.00 HRK.

20. PROGRAM AND SCHEDULE:

WEDNESDAY 17 July 2019

- Arrival at Komiža before 15:00 h (because of the limited number of positions)*
- Team and fishing gear verification before 17:00 h (at club's tent)*
- Meeting of team leaders at 19:00 h (at Boris Mardešić Gallery)*
- Opening the competition, presenting the teams, entertainment program, dinner from 20:00 h*

ALL FISHING DAYS

- Ship inspection and list verification at 07:00 h*
- Mutual line start marked with a sound signal at 08:00 h*
- Hooks in the sea no earlier than 09:00 h*
- Hooks out of the sea at 17:00 h*
- Return to the port by 18:30 h*
- Catch weighing from 18:45 h*
- Catch verification (review of video recordings) from 19:15 h*
- Joint dinner (except on Thursday), entertainment program at 20:30 h*

EXCEPTIONALLY SATURDAY 20 July 2019 (LAST DAY OF THE COMPETITION)

- Hooks out of the sea at 16:00 h*
- Return to the port by 17:30 h*
- Catch weighing from 17:45 h*
- Catch verification (review of video recordings) from 18:15 h*
- Winner announcement ceremony, joint dinner, entertainment program at 20:30 h*

21. PRIZE FUND:

In addition to the medals, winners shall also receive valuable sponsorship awards. The winning team wins the right to participate in the invitational tournament OWC, Costa Rica 2020.

REMARK: There is a possibility of smaller amendments or modifications of rules (approved quotas, schedules, etc.). Leaders will be notified of the modifications before the beginning of the competition at a joint meeting.

*For the Sport Fishing Club
„KOMIŽA ”*

President

Tonči BOŽANIĆ