

RANKING OF MEMBERS OF FFA TO BE USED IN THE SELECTION OF INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Definitions:

Competitor - a person that has properly registered to fish in a competition during the competition entry period and paid the appropriate competition entry fee to fish in a competition. This includes members of FFA and non-members. Competition organisers can introduce additional *Competitors* into a competition if required to create an effective competition despite these additional *Competitors* not having registered nor having paid their fees. Competition organisers will use actual names of *Competitors* in the draw program. Each *Competitor* will be scored for the purpose of determining rankings. Whilst all *Competitors* are eligible to be allocated ranking points for the competition only financial FFA Members at the time of competing in a competition are eligible to be credited with any ranking points they earn for the purpose of qualifying for the Nationals and for selection in representative teams. Ranking points deemed not to be awarded are lost to the competition.

Compliance Angler - a person who is not a *Competitor* as defined above but has been invited to fish in the competition, by competition organisers, to ensure that the competition complies with the FIPS Mouche requirement that all beats (and boat positions) should be fished in each session so as to ensure that no benefit or loss would be incurred from prior or subsequent anglers fishing the same river or bank beat (or in the case of boat anglers the adjacent 'quarter beat') in a competition. *Compliance Anglers* have NO impact on session points or ranking points and do not add to the total competition numbers in a competition. The draw program recognises a *Compliance Angler* by the designated “Compliance Zzz” usage.

Substitute Angler - a person that substitutes for a properly registered *Competitor* after a draw has occurred, as the *Competitor* for one reason or another cannot fish one or more sessions. Placing points are awarded to the *Substitute Angler* in the sessions they fish and are used in the determination of both team and individual results. *Substitute Angler* will receive the points associated with a blank for the sessions that they do not fish.

(Updated as of Board Meeting 25 April 2021)

Rationale:

In recent times it has been suggested by both FFA selection committee members and regular FFA members that the current method of ranking individuals for National selection is flawed and not conducive to advancing Australia's ranking in International events, which is one of FFA's key objectives.

The major concern expressed is the use of the National Championships as the sole selection event. Our sport by its nature is easily compromised by the 'lucky angler' who is able to qualify for the National Championships with an average or even below average result in a State-qualifying event, only to do well in the National Championship and end up being eligible for selection to an International team. In the past an attempt to address this suggested 'lack of rigour' has included, looking back at angler results from as many as the previous two or three national Championships. The amount of weighting

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that is put into these past performances being left to the discretion of the selection committee members.

The following proposal is an attempt to introduce more rigour into the ranking of anglers for selection to International teams. It will be proposed that an angler receive a ranking points total based on their two best results from the competition season (see below), together with their National Championships result, and use these to gain ranking points to be used to determine a ranked list of anglers who would be available for selection to National teams to compete at International competition. This system will remove the National Championships from being the sole competition from which anglers are ranked prior to selection.

The Proposal:

In order to avoid extra work for state chapters all State competitions will continue to be run as usual, and will continue to act as qualifiers to the National Championships under the current guidelines. The National Championships will also continue to run as is and produce a National Champion. However, in order to enable FFA members to fish in more competitions each state will be encouraged to run more than one competition. This is something most states are beginning to do and many members already travel interstate to fish in other State competitions. This will give each FFA member at least two home State competitions for them to fish, members would still be able to compete in and score points in as many other State competitions as they desire. From each competition anglers will be eligible to gain ranking points, based on a system described below (see 'Ranking Points scoring in competitions'). At the end of the 'competition season', this being defined as the period in which an angler may qualify for an upcoming National Championship, an anglers best two ranking points from any State competitions along with their ranking points from the current National Championships will be combined to give a ranking points total.

This is much like the points systems used by many National and International sporting series, e.g. V8 Supercars or Formula One. These point totals will then be used to rank anglers for International competition selection.

Ranking Point scoring in competitions.

Ranking is based on all the competitors in a competition, not just a ranking of FFA members. As some competitions draw larger numbers of anglers than others it is important to provide some equity in points awarded at the various competitions. For this reason competitions which draw larger numbers of anglers will be worth more points. In order to achieve this the winning angler in a competition will receive the same number of ranking points as there were anglers in that competition. The second place getter then receives three points less, and so on until all points are awarded. This gives points to a third of all anglers.

For example in a competition with;

20 anglers, the winner would receive 20 points, 2nd- 17, 3rd- 14, 4th- 11, 5th- 8, 6th- 5, 7th- 2.

30 anglers, the winner receives 30 points, 2nd - 27, 3rd - 24, and so on.

The maximum number of points allowed for a State competition is restricted to 30 points. (A quick calculation from results available on the FFA web site shows an average angler number for state competitions of around 20 anglers, with a range of 12 –

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33). So for competitions with over 30 anglers, the winner would receive 30 points, 2nd – 27, 3rd - 24, and so on. This would allow an individual angler to receive a maximum of 60 points from State competitions, i.e. if they were to win two competitions with 30 or over anglers.

The maximum number of points allocated to the National Championships is restricted to 60 points. So for National Championships with over 60 anglers, the winner would receive 60 points, 2nd – 57, 3rd - 54, and so on. This system allocates ranking points to the top 20 anglers at the National Championships. This puts a greater point scoring emphasis on larger competitions and the National Championships. With the maximum possible ranking points available split evenly between two State competitions and the National championships, i.e. 60 points each, 2 x 30 (state) and 60 (national).

Ranking of anglers and selection of teams.

An angler must fish in the current National Championships to be eligible to receive a ranking points total for that year. Anglers can only count ranking points from competitions if they were financial FFA members at the start of that competition. At the end of the competition season, an anglers two best State competition scores and their National Championships score are added up, and a ranking of anglers is established. In the case of a total ranking points tie, the tie breaker will be the anglers finishing position at the National Championships. From this angler ranking the top anglers will be invited, in order of rank, to nominate for a position in a National team at an International competition (see below, 'First Past the Post').

Collation of Results.

Prior to the National Championships a provisional ranking of all anglers attending will be collated by the FFA board member who holds the position of Liaison with World, Commonwealth and Oceania Teams. It would be incumbent on State chapters to ensure that the results of their competitions are forwarded to the Liaison with World, Commonwealth and Oceanic Teams and placed on the FFA web site, upon the completion of that competition. All care should be taken to ensure the correct distribution of points to appropriate anglers. Failure of State chapters to supply competition results by this time will result in the ranking points scored in these competitions being excluded from the ranking point total for the anglers involved in that competition. Upon completion of the National Championships the final ranking total for all anglers present will be presented to the open meeting of members prior to the AGM, (see below, point 8 'First Past the Post').

It is envisaged that this system will provide more stability and competition seasoning between the top anglers of FFA, as well as continuing to provide the opportunity for many anglers to experience the National competition and gain valuable competition experience. Two situations desired by many within FFA.

This system will be implemented for the 2009 competition season, including the 2009 National Championships, and will be used to select National teams for International competitions occurring in 2011 and beyond.

Policy history:

First Adopted: 16 November 2008 – AGM

Amended: 1 December 2013 – AGM

Amended: 29 November 2014 – AGM

Amended: 19 August 2015 – FFA Board

Amended: 25 April 2021 – FFA Board
