



COMPETITION PROGRAM AND RULES

Competition Day: Saturday 4th July 2009

Disclaimer:

The competition program, registration conditions and any general conditions will be governed by the organisers whose decisions are final. The organisers will report any issues to the Forum Administrator 'Skip' who will take a final decision on all non fishing related matters.

A **COMPULSORY** meeting for all skippers will be held on the **24th June 20.00 at Punch and Judy Bar - Rabat**. During this meeting skippers must as a minimum register themselves and their vessels. In addition we will give a basic safety briefing, and discuss the rules in more detail. All skippers **must** attend this meeting; crew are welcome to come along.

Result announcement: On MFF forum that same evening

Distribution of prizes: 18th July at the MFF BBQ Presentation Event.

Registration Conditions:

- The Competition is open to all, including members of other clubs and the general public
- All participating vessels are to take note of the Malta Maritime Authority (MMA) Act (CAP.352) Small Ship Regulations 2008, or the regulations of another authority recognised by the MMA.
- We recommend you also refer to the MMA Safety at Sea Guide.
- All vessels should carry a working VHF or at least one mobile phone, whose number must be reported to the organizers in advance.
- In addition to the above, all vessels must carry basic safety equipment – Life Jackets for all crew members, basic First Aid Kit and fire extinguisher as per MMA regulations.
- The Organiser does not bear any responsibility for damage or incidents that may occur. The Skipper is personally responsible his vessel, crew, and safety equipment including all damage toward third parties.
- This competition will be filmed by 'Mister Fisherman', and by signing the application form you agree to participate in the filming of this program and waive any claim to the content produced.

PARTICIPATION FEE PER PERSON:

Online and Non Members:	€10 per person
Forum Premium Members:	€8.50 per person
Forum VIP Members:	€6.50 per person

REGISTRATION PROCESS and DEADLINE:

Early registration is advised. All skippers can register up till and including 24/06/2009 (safety briefing), after that no new boats can be registered.

Late entries will ONLY be accepted for CREW members who can register the on the competition date from B'Bugia or Marfa jetties only.

- Boat skippers should contact the organisers with their intention to participate in competition, either on the MFF forum or by Private Message to an MFF moderator or judge.
- The Organisers will give or send them a "Registration Form" if requested; otherwise it can be completed in person at the safety briefing.
- The Registration Form, properly filled in, must be signed and the registration fee paid.
- Any changes to the crew have to be reported latest by the beginning of the competition.
- No refunds will be given except due to exceptional circumstances.

CANCELLATION / POSTPONEMENT OF THE COMPETITION

The competition will only be postponed if the weather forecast shows an established Force 3 gusting to a Force 4 on the West Coast. It will NOT be cancelled/postponed if the Forecast is showing Force 2/3 - becoming Force 3 and blowing up to a Force 4 by the evening as the competition will finish by 13:00 pm.

All participants are advised to check the Malta Fishing Forum for the latest news or ensure that their mobile number is entered in the registration form so that they can be advised by SMS.

The backup day is Saturday 4th July, same timings as primary. In the event that this day cannot be utilised due to the weather conditions, a majority decision will be taken by participating skippers as to whether the competition will be cancelled or postponed to another date.

PRIZE FUND

1st Prize: Raymarine 101E VHF, €75 Fuel + 20% Kill Bag Discount Vouchers,
2 LifeJackets, 2x10L Jerry Cans, Okuma Caps for the team

2nd Prize: President Handheld VHF, €50 Fuel + 20% Kill Bag Discount Vouchers,
2 Lifejackets, 2x 10L Jerry Cans, Okuma Caps for the team

3rd Prize: Mitchell 30/50 Rod, €25 Fuel + 20% Kill Bag Discount Vouchers,
2 Lifejackets, 2x 10L Jerry Cans, Okuma Caps for the team

Biggest Fish: Mitchel 20/40 Rod, 2x 10L Jerry Cans

TROPHIES PROVIDED BY MISTERFISH

Trophies awarded to the teams finishing in 1st, 2nd and 3rd place with three trophies per team

A Trophy for the biggest fish.

A hall of fame will be created online documenting the winners each year.

FISHING RULES

This is an Albacore (ALONGI) competition for recreational fishermen. Only Albacore caught using the following methods with a rod and reel or hand line will be considered as valid fish for this competition:

- Trolling Artificial Lures
- Trolling Live Bait, with or without downriggers / planers.
- Jigging
- Popping (Spinning lures or similar)
- Chumming and Chunking

The use of long lines is NOT permitted and will result in instant disqualification.

Only Albacore (Alongi) will be eligible to be weighed in.

All undersized fish should be released; please ensure you are familiar with the latest local regulations concerning minimum fish sizes. All Swordfish and Bluefin Tuna **MUST** be released, and try to release smaller spearfish unharmed at all costs.

The winner is the team with the **MOST AMOUNT** of Alongi caught. The order of merit for teams with the **SAME** amount of albacore caught will be judged based on the total overall weight.

Boat Checkpoints:

Boats will be inspected before the competition start between at the following locations (If you are not checked you cannot compete)

03:00 – 03:45

Sliema - Jetty Area just underneath Burger King

03:15 – 04:00

B'Bugia – Main Jetty

03:45 – 04:15

Marfa – Jetty area near Riviera Hotel

All vessels are requested to hold just off the key to ensure sufficient space for each vessel to come alongside, and proceed when directed.

Competition Start Time:

Sliema and B'Bugia **04.30** from the cardinal mark outside the Freeport.
Marfa **04.30** leaving from the jetty

Competition Finish Time:

11.00am - 13:00 B'Bugia Jetty

All vessels within 50 meters of the B'Bugia jetty who have not yet been weighed in will be considered to have finished on time.

11.00am - 13:00 noon Beachaven Jetty, Xemija

Weigh-in Stations:

Note boats can leave from the north and finish in the south, and vice versa. If you intend on doing so please advise the relevant judge by SMS where you intend to come in.

Birzebbugia Jetty from 11.00am – 13.00

Beahaven Jetty from 11.00am – 13.00

Other Rules:

No Boats (except those used for supervising/filming) are permitted to come within 3 meters of each other, or to go ashore during the competition except in an emergency, in which case they must contact the fishing commission either by VHF or mobile phone and report their problem.

The fishing commission *may* consider allowing the vessel to re-participate after coming ashore due to exceptional circumstances.

If either the skipper or any crew member breaks these rules, the whole team will be disqualified from the competition by the fishing commission, whose decision will be final.

The fish caught will be kept by the skipper and the allocation of fish amongst his crew will be left at his/her discretion.

The fishing rules will be governed by the fishing commission listed below who will also be responsible for overseeing the weighing and recording of valid catches.

FISHING COMMISSION:

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|-------------------|---|
| - Mandy De Marco | Competition Director |
| - Silvio Grixti | Judge B'Bugia. Contact Number: 79703248 |
| - Reuben Piscopo | Judge Beachaven. Contact Number: 79604407 |
| - Edward Micallef | Judge B'Bugia |
| - Mike Duffield | Judge Beachaven |

CONTACT DETAILS:

Skip – MFF Administrator. (Marfa Checkpoint)
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Vessel Call Sign: Eagle One

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Shanook – MFF Senior Moderator. (B'Bugia Checkpoint)
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Vessel Call Sign: Shanook

The Gaffer – MFF Senior Moderator. (Sliema Checkpoint)
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Vessel Call Sign: The Gaffer

Jonathan – MFF Competition Assistant (Sliema Checkpoint)
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