

# **THE RULES of the Team Spearfishing Championships of Poland**

## **SPEARFISHING CUP May 23-26, 2019**

### **§1**

- 1.** The Rules of the Championships have been set up in compliance with the Inland Fisheries Act of April 18, 1985 and the Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of November 12, 2001, Journal of Laws 01. 138, item 1559, as amended.
- 2.** The Championships is provided for competitors, who fulfill provisions of the Act, referred to in the item 1 hereinabove, including, in particular:
  - a)** minimum age of the competitor – not less than 18, as of the day of competition,
  - b)** hold the National Spearfishing License,
  - c)** foreign competitors, not holding the Polish citizenships, are exempt from the requirement of having the National Spearfishing License.
- 3.** In addition, each competitors undertakes to:
  - a)** pay the competition fee by WIRE TRANSFER in the amount and upon the deadlines established by the Organizer, set out in the related website: [www.sspoland.pl](http://www.sspoland.pl),
  - b)** deliver a printed-out and signed statement on participation in the Championships on his/her own responsibility and an apnea-related health quality and safety certificate, to be submitted on the opening briefing. The statement and health certificate templates are available at: [www.sspoland.pl](http://www.sspoland.pl), Section „DO POBRANIA” (“Download”).
- 4.** The Championships are the open competition. They may be attended by individuals holding the National Spearfishing License (excluding §1, item 2.c) as well as members of the Spearfishing Poland Association, regardless of the position they hold both at the time of the competition and out of it.
- 5.** In the case of withdrawing from the Championships, the Organizer shall reimburse the full competition fee, less the customized T-shirt expenses, no later than 2 weeks following the termination of the event.
- 6.** In the case of paying the fee in cash in the course of the registration, the competition charge shall be extended with the extra amount of PLN 50,00 / EUR 13 (to be paid in cash).

### **§2**

- 1.** The spearfishing gear of the competitor:
  - a)** a speargun loaded using competitor’s muscular-power, accompanied by the lined shaft ended with a single tip or the tip having no more than 3 prongs arranged within a circle with a maximum diameter of 30 mm,
  - b)** a floating unit with the buoyancy of at least 10 kg with, with the line of min. 10 meters and the breaking strength of min. 30 kg,
  - c)** a knife or an equivalent tool, allowing for releasing in the event of tangling up in the net,
  - d)** a wetsuit,
  - e)** basic equipment - fins, mask, tube,
  - f)** fish stringers or bags.

### §3

1. Competitors shall strictly observe general rules applied to amateur spearfishing in Poland, encompassing, in particular, minimum size, protective periods and BANS on catching salmonid fish and European eels.
2. For competitive reasons, the quantity limits have been suspended throughout the Championships. If any doubts arise, the Organizer shall provide competitors with detailed information prior to the tournament. Obligations relating to minimum size and protective periods stipulated in the Regulation of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of November 12, 2001, Journal of Laws 01. 138, item 1559 shall be respected, yet the Organizer shall also introduce some additional restrictions, referred to in § 4 hereinbelow.

### §4

1. All fish, both listed and not listed in the size restrictions, set out hereinabove, HAVE to be not less than 25 cm, in order to be counted.
2. Minimum size for the scored pike has been elevated up to 60 cm.
3. Pikes ranged from 45 to 59.9 cm are not considered scored and the competitor is given 0 points. The number of pikes within the latter size range shall not be subject to any limit.
4. The Organizer shall reserve the right to change the size of scored fish, depending on conditions occurring to the fishing ground, the tournament is going to be placed upon. Competitors shall be informed on any changes over the briefing held on the first and second day of the Championships.

### §5

1. SPEARFISHING CUP 2019 is a 2-day tournament, to be held on Friday and Saturday, within the timeframes set out in the Championships agenda, released by the Organizer at: [www.sspoland.pl](http://www.sspoland.pl). The competitor is allowed to participate in competition on the either two days, or on a selected day.
2. The Championships shall be organized at the lakes of: Lipie and Osiek near the town of Dobiegniew. The names of the lake or lakes, the tournament is going to be placed upon, shall be disclosed by the Organizer on the opening briefing.
3. Depending on the number of participants, it is assumed that there are going to be one or several starting areas, located quite far away from each other. The Organizer shall notify on procedures relating to assignment of starting areas on the first day of Championships, in the course of the morning briefing.
4. The competitor, who does not show up at the morning briefing, shall be disqualified on that very day of the tournament.
5. It is allowed to terminate the competition and reach the other starting/ finish area, however, it needs to be notified immediately to the Referee right after getting to the terminal spot.

### §6

1. It shall be mandatory to follow time limits defined in the agenda of the tournament. Competitors, who appear late at the finish area, shall be punished with penalty points of -100 points per each commenced minute of delay.
2. Competitors, who are late of more than 30 minutes, shall be disqualified on that very day of the tournament.
3. The tournament starts on the Referee's command: "**Attention, competitors! Ready, GO!**" Setting off before the said order involves a disqualification on the very day of the Championships.
4. In the case of earlier withdrawal from the tournament, the competitor shall notify it to the Referee at any starting area.

**5.** The ranking of Super Spearo covers total points acquired during both rounds (spring and fall) of the Spearfishing CUP as well as International Polish National Spearfishing Championships and Barakuda Club Competition.

**6.** The ranking of Super Spearo shall cover spearfishing tournaments with the minimum number of participants not less than 15 persons.

## **7. TEAMS**

**a)** teams shall be submitted not later than the registration deadline for competitors, a day before the Championships,

**b)** a team, within the meaning of this Rule, shall consist of two, yet not more than three competitors,

**c)** it is possible to add one backup competitor to participate in the fall round, unless the team is able to provide same members as those, who have taken part in the spring round.

**d)** the backup competitor must not be the person, who was a member of another team in the spring round,

**e)** the general ranking is total points a given team have collected over both rounds of the Spearfishing CUP (spring and fall).

## **§7**

**1.** Competitors shall be given points in compliance with the following principles:

**a)** each scored fish, except for a pike – 300 points;

**b)** pike - 150 points;

**c)** each additional species, except for the first one, shall be granted with the bonus of 1000 points (only the fish, that are above the minimum scored size shall be taken into account)

**d)** each gram of the fish stands for 1 point, however, up to 5 kg. Fish exceeding 5 kg shall be granted 5000 points only.

**e)** each fish below the size limit, with the length smaller as set out in the aforesaid Act, shall lead to a disqualification for the competitor on a particular day of the tournament;

**2.** The disqualification shall apply to the very date, on which the discrepancies have occurred. If the competitor has been disqualified on a given date, his/her results from that day shall not be counted in the general ranking.

**3.** The competitor, who has been disqualified two years in roll, on at least one day of the tournament, in two consecutive sessions of Spearfishing CUP, shall be subject to a one-off exclusion for the next tournament of the Spearfishing CUP.

**4.** The Organizer shall reserve the right to verify whether competitors comply with the provisions of this RULES at any moment throughout the tournament.

**5.** The competitor, who fails to hand over undersized fish to the Referee, shall be disqualified and shall not be allowed for taking part in any Spearfishing CUP tournaments for 3 years, counted as of the date of termination of the competition, such a disqualification has been applied.

**6.** Evaluation and weighing of fish shall be carried out by a two-man Assessment Committee appointed the Organizer (Head Referee and the person appointed the Organizer).

## §8

- 1.** Competitors may move across the fishing area using their muscular-power only. It is forbidden to apply any additional propelled equipment, except for the floating device. It is allowed to use the floating units to support the competitor's body whilst moving on the water surface.
- 2.** Throughout the Championships it shall be strictly forbidden to leave water without permission, under penalty of an automatic disqualification.
- 3.** If leaving water is necessary due to physiological or gear-related reasons, the competitor shall be obliged to:
  - a)** leave within any of the starting areas - hand fish over to the Referee and get back to water within an unlimited time period,
  - b)** leave off the starting areas - call the lifeboat and, once handing fish over to the Referee, leave water for no longer than 20 minutes. In the case of exceeding of the aforesaid time limit, the competitor shall be disqualified on that particular day of the tournament.
- 4.** It is prohibited to apply any electronic devices used for fish location and sonic dept finders over the course of Team Spearfishing Championships of Poland Spearfishing CUP.
- 5.** A 21-day NON-SCOUTING BAN has been introduced to the areas planned for the Team Spearfishing Championships of Poland Spearfishing CUP, to be applied prior to the tournament. The competitor, who violates this prohibition, valid for full 21 days before the Championships, shall be automatically and fully disqualified, without any reimbursements of the competition-related fees.
- 6.** It is absolutely forbidden to spear in the neighborhood of diving spots and diving installations. The organizer shall mark the places, that have been excluded from the competition, with the signaling buoy. The non-competition area shall be specified at the opening briefing on a certain day of the tournament.

## §9

- 1.** In the case the competitor catches a large number of fish, they could be handed over by installments. Then, it is advisable to call the rescue boat.
- 2.** After reaching the finish area and before leaving water, competitors shall hand over all the fish to the Referee, appointed by the Organizer.
- 3.** During the handover procedure, the Referee packs up the competitor's fish to the plastic bag with the entry number attached.

## §10

- 1.** Safety measures:
  - while loading and releasing the speargun, it has to be entirely submerged in water,
  - the speargun may be loaded solely WHEN CROSSING/OUTSIDE the yellow buoy, located at a given starting area,
  - the competitor **MUST NOT** unhook the floating device, he/she is attached to, throughout the tournament. Unhooking the floating device involves competitor's disqualification on both days of the

Championships,

- the following signs shall apply when communicating with the rescue boat, providing support to competitors over the tournament:



RIGHT OR LEFT HAND  
PLACED ON YOUR HEAD

In the event you see the boat,  
or the Referee turns to you,  
the competitor demonstrates that  
everything is under control.



WAVING WITH THE RIGHT  
OR LEFT HAND

Once making eye contact,  
the competitor ask the boat  
to approach him/her



HITTING THE SURFACE EITHER  
WITH ONE OR TWO HANDS

A serious emergency situation  
or an accident. The boat will  
approach you instantly after  
receiving a signal, moving at a  
maximum, yet safe speed

**2.** Failure to observe safety rules shall result in prompt disqualification on both days of the Championships and the ban for participation in Spearfishing CUP for 3 years, counted as of the date of termination of the competition, such a disqualification has been applied.

### **§11**

- 1.** Appeals shall be accepted solely, if made in writing.
- 2.** The appeal shall be lodged along with the deposit of PLN 300,00 / EUR 75 . The deposit shall be returned only in the event the appeal has appeared to be reasonable.
- 3.** The appeal shall be submitted not later than within 30 minutes following an announcement of non-official results of the tournament and the Championships. Non-official results shall be released in paper in the spot, set out at the opening briefing. The release shall be made within max. 30 minutes after termination of the weighing procedure. Following 30 minutes from publishing non-official results and in the case of no appeals lodged, the results shall automatically become OFFICIAL.

### **§12**

Final provisions

- 1.** Each competitor shall obey regulations and orders of the Head Referee and Auxiliary Referees, appointed by the Organizer.
- 2.** The Organizer shall reserve the right to disqualify the competitor, who fails to abide by the Rules of Championships, upon the request of the Head Referee, without any reimbursements of competition-related fees.
- 3.** Competitors shall participate in the Championships at their own risk and responsibility.
- 4.** Organizers shall bear neither financial, nor legal liability for accidents and damages caused by the competitor.

- 5.** The Organizer shall not provide any accident insurance.
- 6.** An insurance coverage relating to participation in the Championship shall be secured at one's own authority.