

HORSHAM, VICTORIA

SUNDAY MARCH 8, 2026



OVER \$40,000 WORTH OF PRIZES TO BE WON!

The Committee are pleased to confirm that the Annual Horsham Fishing Competition will be taking place in 2026 as a 'Catch, Photograph & Release' (CPR) Event which means no Steward's to collect your fish.

(Only fish to be collected will be Carp as part of the eradication program)

Terms & Conditions

Annual Horsham Fishing Competition Inc. Official Rules 2026

By purchasing a registration, you are agreeing to adhere these rules/bylaws

General Contest Information

All enquiries should be via email or phone.

Email info@horshamfishingcomp.com

Phone 0466 634 445

Please be aware there have been some changes to the fishing area, and these are marked and on the official [online map](#).

- The competitor's entry in the competition is deemed to signify acceptance of all conditions and rules of this contest.
- The Fishing Contest shall be conducted on the Sunday of the Labour Day Weekend.
- All prizes are non-transferable and non-refundable.
- People aged up to 15 on the day of the competition are eligible for the junior section. If they pay for a senior entry, they can fish for the senior section prizes only.
- Prizes not collected within 48 hours of the close of the contest will be deemed to be forfeited.
- It is clearly understood that the entry is accepted on the condition that any person or persons participating in the contest do so at their own sole risk and any such person shall NOT claim against the Horsham Fishing Competition Inc. (the committee) or any official or servant or other persons appointed by or acting on behalf of the said organisers or in connection with the contest for any injuries or loss suffered by himself or herself or any other person to by any act omission or negligence on the part of the committee or any other sponsors or official servants as aforesaid.
- Every entrant taking part in the contest shall indemnify the said Committee or other sponsors and the official servants and the other persons aforesaid against the claim by any other entrant or person whosoever or howsoever arising.
- **Only persons entered or associated with the Horsham Fishing Competition can camp in the designated areas, or consume alcohol after 11pm, and before 6.00am from the 4th to the 10th of March 2026 as per the above stated conditions.**
- Event Organisers, their delegates, and Victoria Police can request proof of registration and Identification. Failure to comply with such a request can result in immediate disqualification.
- The organisers may at any time before the commencement or during the Contest, refuse to accept and/or reject entry without assigning any reason thereof and without being in any way whatsoever liable to any person whatsoever for so doing.
- Participants will be bound by the regulations governing the Contest.
- **ROPING/PEGGING/MARKING/RESERVING OF THE RIVER IS NOT PERMITTED – Horsham Fishing Comp officials will remove any markers, ropes, pegs from the river.**
- Unruly behaviour, including bad language or threatening towards any Horsham Fishing Competition committee member, volunteer **or any contestant or participant** will not be tolerated. This behaviour may incur immediate disqualification from the Horsham Fishing Competition at the discretion of the President.

Measuring and Verification Procedure

Prize Winning Fish will be based on measurement & not weight.

You will need mobile phone with a camera and QR code compatibility.

'Catch, Photograph & Release' of all legal sized eligible fish (Yellowbelly, Silver Perch, Catfish, Redfin, Murray Cod, and Carp). You will be required to photograph your fish, nose to zero end and stomach facing the photographer on a clearly readable measuring device, brag mat, ruler or the like. Photograph must clearly include your Horsham Fishing Competition registration card and competitor ID number and visibly show the fish nose on the zero end and where the fish tail finishes. Once the photo has been taken, all fish must be released alive and in a healthy condition ASAP **other than carp, which should be taken to a collecting point for correct disposal.**

Committee will be posting live updates with confirming current longest fish. Please note these posts are not final results.

SIMPLE 'CPR' PROCEDURE EXPLANATION

- 1) Catch your fish.
- 2) Place fish on Horsham Fishing Competition Bragmat, nose to zero end, stomach facing photographer
- 3) Place Horsham Fishing Comp ID card, in designated space on the mat so it is visible in the photo
- 4) Take clear photograph from above capturing nose, tail, measurement and ID all in one
- 5) Release your Fish
- 6) Turn over your Angler Identification Card and Scan the QR Code
- 7) Fill in the form **(YOU MUST SUBMIT FISH AS YOU CATCH. NO MASS UPLOAD IS ALLOWED)**
- 8) You only need to fill in an email address if you want verification of form submission, can take 15 minutes.
- 9) Add photo to the form
- 10) Submit form

On receiving the form, officials will verify the data, if there are any discrepancies you will be contacted on the mobile number on the form.

Horsham Fishing Competition registration card and competitor ID number

As part of your registration process you will be required to collect in person your Horsham Fishing Competition Registration Card which includes your Competitor ID Number.

This will be available to collect on Friday 6th March between 4pm & 8pm and Saturday 7th March between 10am & 7pm at the Soundshell / Angling Clubrooms in Dixon Drive

If you have any questions or queries, please contact the Horsham Fishing Competition hotline on 0466 634 445

Fishing Regulations

- The event will target Golden Perch / Yellowbelly, Silver Perch, Catfish, Redfin and European Carp. Murray Cod will NOT be eligible for a 'longest species fish' prize but are eligible for all other "Catch a fish" prizes including longest fish.
- The event will be Catch & Release, other than for European Carp which will be collected and disposed of.
- Size limits of eligible fish shall be as per the current Victorian Fisheries Regulations, excepting European Carp which has no bag or size limit. Redfin, Golden Perch, Silver Perch, Catfish and Tench have a minimum size of 30cm, Murray Cod must be 55 – 75cm
- The organiser, or any person acting as an official at any time during the competition may:
 - Inspect registered competitors rods, reels, bait and fishing lines
 - Instruct any competitor to conform to any or all the rules described herein
 - Direct that competitors surrender their identification card.
- All Angling will be in the Wimmera River at Horsham as defined by the organisers.
- All Angling shall be from the riverbank.
- The times of angling shall be **between 6.30am and 3.00pm** local Horsham time. Competitors must not fish prior to the start time on the day of the competition; failure to adhere to this will result in disqualification.
- Fishing from bridges, boats or craft is strictly prohibited. Fishing is prohibited on all islands except for Adventure Island.
- An effort must be made to cast lines towards the middle of the river so as not to cross lines with other contestants.
- Each competitor is allowed to use TWO (2) rods, with a maximum of TWO (2) hooks per rod. Spinners count as TWO (2) hooks.
- **Each competitor will be given an Angler Identification Card (AIC) with a unique code on it. This can be picked up from the soundshell from Friday 6th March @ 4.00pm till 8:00pm, Saturday 7th March from 10:00am to 7:00pm, and Sunday 9th March from 6:00am till 12:00pm (Noon)**

- Fish eligible for a prize **MUST BE LANDED** by the registered angler, on their own fishing rod.
- The chief steward may disqualify any fish for reasons such as: fish not legal as per Victorian fishing regulations; was not landed by the angler who holds the rod tag; was tethered or imported from another waterway.
- If an angler is disqualified for breaching of the rules, the entrance fee will not be refunded.
- Protests must be lodged personally to the referee table no later than 3.30pm, local Horsham time, on the day of the competition.
- ***The Presentation will be held at the soundshell from 4pm on Sunday 8th of March 2026***
- A Victorian Recreational Fishing Licence is required, by law, for all Anglers aged 18 or over, except where specific exemptions apply.
- If two (or more) eligible fish are of the same weight, the fish entered earliest, as per time photo uploaded to system, will be eligible for the prize, or higher ranked prize.
- Competitors with a disability that makes landing a fish on their own difficult, may have help landing the fish, but need to be present, at the time of catching the fish, and as involved as they are capable
- **Any competitor found fishing between 6.00am and 6.30am local Horsham time on the day of the competition shall be disqualified.**

Fishing Section and Lucky Door Prizes

Senior Section – 20 Prizes in Total

Each Fish is only eligible to win one prize & cannot win a prize in more than one category.

Senior section prizes will be awarded to the longest 20 fish (excluding Carp and Tench), in the following order

1 st	Longest Fish overall
2 nd	2 nd longest fish overall
3 rd	3 rd Longest fish overall
4 th Catfish	Longest Catfish that has not won a prize above
5 th YBelly	Longest Yellowbelly that has not won a prize above
6 th SP/RF	Longest Silver Perch or Redfin that has not won a prize above
7 th Cat	Second longest Catfish that has not won a prize above
8 th YB	Second longest Yellowbelly that has not won a prize above
9 th SP/RF	Second longest Silver Perch or Redfin that has not won a prize above
10 th Cat	Third longest Catfish that has not won a prize above
11 th YB	Third longest Yellowbelly that has not won a prize above
12 th SP/RF	Third longest Silver Perch or Redfin that has not won a prize above
13 th	Next longest fish (regardless of species)(not already awarded prize)
14 th	Next longest fish (regardless of species)(not already awarded prize)
15 th	Next longest fish (regardless of species)(not already awarded prize)
16 th	Next longest fish (regardless of species)(not already awarded prize)
17 th	Next longest fish (regardless of species)(not already awarded prize)
18 th	Next longest fish (regardless of species)(not already awarded prize)
19 th	Next longest fish (regardless of species)(not already awarded prize)
20 th	Next longest fish (regardless of species)(not already awarded prize)

Junior Section

Prizes will be also awarded to the longest 10 fish (excluding Carp and Tench), in the descending order of length.

**** There will be no species-based prizes in the Junior section ****

Carp Section (Over 30cm)

Cash prizes will be given for:

- 5 longest carp caught by a competitor in the senior section
- 3 longest carp caught by a competitor in the junior section
- 3 longest "bags" of carp caught by a competitor in the senior section, bags are based on the 5 longest fish each competitor catches.

Spot Prizes

During the competition spot prizes will be handed out.

Camping Regulations

- All Signs must be observed.
- Failure to comply with signs, and/or co-operate with fishing competition officials, police and or local laws officers may render contestants liable to disqualification, without refund of entry fee.
- No camping is permitted within 20 metres of river's edge, or between fenced revegetation areas and the river.
- **Camping is only between 12:00pm (midday) Wednesday 4 March 2026 to 6:00pm Tuesday 10 March 2026**
- An up-to-date plan of camping areas will be available from the Soundshell. Please note, there may be changes from last year.
- All noise, including music, is to be kept at a minimum between 10:00pm and 6:00am.
- Event organisers, police and local laws officers reserve the right to ask campers to leave the river if noise rules are not adhered to.
- ***Anyone removed from the riverbank will also be disqualified from the competition.***
- Only Camping equipment can be used on camp sites, any 'household furniture' on camp sites is not allowed. This includes but is not limited to couches, large tables, mattresses and anything else deemed 'household furniture' by the event organisers, police and local laws officers.
- Some areas have restrictions on camping. Please observe signs on the riverbank.
- Swimming is NOT permitted within the defined fishing competition area between midnight on the Saturday prior the competition, until 4pm on the day of the competition.
- NOTE the fishing competition is conducted on farming land, private land and public parks. Please respect these areas - our use of these areas is a PRIVILEGE, not a right.
- Garbage containers are supplied. All rubbish is to be placed in them.
- All campfires must adhere to Country Fire Authority regulations. If you are requested to extinguish your fire by CFA, local laws officer, police and or event organisers, you must do so.

Consumption of Alcohol at the Horsham Fishing Competition is permitted, whilst fishing and camping.

Only those who have;

- A) Entered in the competition, or an accompanying person.
- B) Are over 18 years,
- C) Are licensed anglers

may bring and consume alcohol.

Any person breaching this rule will be removed from the area and may be fined by Horsham Rural City Council Officers and/or Victoria Police and disqualified and moved on from the Horsham Fishing Comp.

Advertising Errors and Omissions

In the event of any advertisement or publication printed by the Horsham Fishing Competition committee. We assume no liability for any errors published.

CONTRAVENTION OF ANY RULE OR REGULATION SHALL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION.

Privacy Disclaimer

Personal Information collected by the Horsham Fishing Competition is used for the purpose of the Horsham Fishing Competition. Including but not necessarily limited to fish tracking, publication of prize winners, competition mailouts, marketing & promotional purposes. Your personal information will not be given to any other organisations except where required by law.