

"Big Game" Rules

A. General Guidelines for fishing by trolling, from anchored boat and from drifting boat

1. Generalities

- 1.1. Big Game competitions are fished to a catch & release guidelines. No fish will be taken on board or killed.
- 1.2. Big Game Boat Angling to FIPS-M rules fishing with rod and reel for species present in local waters on both the surface and midwater.
- 1.3. Some bottom feeding species will not be considered in FIPS-M Big Game Competitions. There are separate competitions for these species which would include Conger and Rays.
- 1.4. Specifications will be prepared by the organizing nation taking into account the specific local conditions of the place where the event will take place.
It will define the organization and running of the competition.
The specifications must be submitted for approval to the board of FIPS-M at least 90 days before the competition. In case of dispute between FIPS-M rules and the specifications of the organizing nation, FIPS-M rules prevail.

2. Guidelines for Big Game Competitions

- Fishing by trolling (Offshore trolling and Coastal trolling)
 - Fishing from anchored boat
 - Fishing from drifting boat
- 2.1. Only national teams entered by the Member Federations of the FIPS-M have the right to participate in the World or Continental Championships.
 - 2.2. To perform a catch release angling with artificial lures or natural baits, the use of stainless steel is forbidden.
 - 2.3. The organizer of an international competition can not impose the exclusive use of a specific brand of wire, rod, reel or lures to be used in the competition. The competitors are free to choose their material according to the rules and directives.
 - 2.4. The permitted breaking strain of wire will be fixed by the host nation considering the species of fish caught in the area where the competition takes place. The breaking strain of the wire must be mentioned in the specifications and the program of the competition. However, it may not exceed 37 kg (80Lb).
 - 2.5. Only one rod per angler can be taken on board. No other rod, wire, or reserve reel will be accepted on board. The skippers must remove all their own rods

from the boat before departure.

- 2.6. The use of individual electronic instruments is not allowed (Mobile, GPS, echosounder, ...). Fishing must be based on the know-how of the fisherman (skill) and not on the electronic instruments. For the Big Game, the instruments are an integral part of the boat. The lack of instruments must be considered as a failure and must result in the substitution of the boat.
- 2.7. The lures can be artificial or natural.
- 2.8. Fishing areas
 1. The organizer determines the fishing areas.
 2. The zone may not be bigger than 120 square miles and should be prohibited for sport fishing three days before the start of the competition.
 3. The fishing area may change every day, and will be selected according to the conditions of the sea.
 4. Throughout the duration of the competition a control boat must be in the fishing area to guaranty the Vhf communication with the international jury.

3. Teams-Participation conditions

- 3.1. For technical reasons, the participation is limited to 2 teams per nation composed of 2 to 5 competitors (maximum of anglers/team given by the organizer) are allowed. (Fishing from drifting boat: maximum 4 anglers)
- 3.2. The captain may be a member, reserve or companion of the team. He is the official representative of the team. If he is not registered as a team member, he cannot participate in the competition.
The captain has the right to be on the boat with his teams.
- 3.3. If two teams participate in the contest, they will both be classified.
- 3.4. Only a classification by team will be made.
- 3.5. Registered team members can not be changed during the competition. However, if for major reasons, (accident, illness, ...) one of the members has to cut short his participation, a substitute team member may be admitted. The substitute must provide an application to the International Jury. All medical certificates and other documents regarding this change should be provided to the jury. The jury's decision to accept or refuse the new member team will be definitive.
- 3.6. All participants must be a member of their own national federation, they must be inscribed according

