National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland

RULE BOOK
Protocol & Policies

The NCFFI is NGB for freshwater angling, coarse and predator and competitive casting sport.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	PRINCIPLES	3
2	FLAGS & ANTHEMS	3
3	ROLE OF THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES	4
4	ROLE OF THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL	5
5	REPRESENTATIVE CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS & GROUPS	6
6	COARSE COMPETITION RULES	7
7	PREDATOR COMPETITION RULES	8
8	PREDATOR MEASURE-PHOTO-RELEASE	9
9	INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION	9
10	ROLE OF THE EXECUTIVE	10
11	REPRESENTATIVE TEAM MANAGERS	11
12	SELECTION CRITEREA/ELIGIBILITY	Error! Bookmark not defined.
13	SELECTION PROCESS – COARSE, FLOAT, FEEDER, U25	15
14	SELECTION PROCESS – COARSE U15 & U20	16
15	SELECTION PROCESS – PREDATOR, BOAT	17
16	SELECTION PROCESS – PREDATOR, SHORE	18
17	ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TEAM IRELAND MEMBER	19
18	TEAM IRELAND – DESELECTION	20
19	COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE	20
20	WORLD CLUB QUALIFIERS - FLOAT	21
21	WORLD CLUB QUALIFIERS - FEEDER	23
22	INTER-PROVINCIAL SENIORS	25

INTRODUCTION

This document deals with issues of protocol relating to the NCFFI, its elected representatives, provincial councils, member clubs, team management, representative teams, team selection, flags, emblems, and anthems.

Nothing in this Protocol Document will impede or interfere with the NCFFI Constitution. Both documents should be read in tandem. As part of an ongoing review, this document will be examined with a view to amendment where necessary.

This content of this document was approved by the Executive of the NCFFI and ratified by Club delegates present at the AGM held on the 27th November 2021, unless otherwise specified.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1 PRINCIPLES

1.1 The National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland is a non-political, non-racial and non-religious organization established to represent coarse fishing within the whole of Ireland (32 Counties) without bias or favor.

1.2 Members and representatives of the Federation are expected to act in a respectable and responsible manner at all times.

1.3 Fair play in fishing and observance of all rules and regulations is a fundamental requirement of our sport.

1.4 Members and representatives of the Federation are bound by this document and its general principles to the true intent and meaning there off whether specifically detailed or not**.**

FLAGS, EMBLEMS AND ANTHEMS

2 FLAGS & ANTHEMS

2.1 The National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland is a 32 County body, representing anglers in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. As such the NCFFI will have as its banner for all events the NCFFI flag.

2.2 All flags and emblems displayed or worn by the Federation members or representatives will be done so as not to cause offence or discomfort to the Federation personnel, other organisations or members of the public. When on international duties, only flags and emblems endorsed by the NCFFI and our sport shall be allowed.

2.3 The National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland is a 32-county body and as such the anthem will be “Ireland’s Call”.

2.4 In all circumstances no dishonor, disrespect or shame shall be brought on the Federation flag or anthem, our National flag and anthems or those of visiting or competing nations or nationals.

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

3 ROLE OF THE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

For the purpose of this document, elected representatives are defined as Executive Committee Members, Provincial Delegates and any other persons nominated or co-opted to the Federation.

Representatives of the Federation, its Officers and officials are bound by the general principles contained in this document and are charged with the following additional responsibilities.

3.1 The purpose of elected representatives is to manage the day to day running of the NCFFI and to advance and promote the best interests of the Federation.

3.2 All elected representatives will act in consort with all other elected members.

3.3 Elected representatives will present a good image of the Federation.

3.4 Elected representatives shall at all times act with tact, dignity and diplomacy.

3.5 All elected representatives will deal freely with their fellow representatives.

3.6 All elected representatives shall act in a voluntary capacity.

4 ROLE OF THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

Council members, their officials and delegates are bound by the general principles contained in this document and are charged with the additional following responsibilities:

4.1 The purpose of the Provincial Council is to manage the day to day running of the regional council and to advance and promote the best interests of the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland.

4.2 Provincial Councils shall in no way commit themselves or the parent body (NCFFI) to any formal undertaking or financial obligation without prior written approval.

4.3 Elected representatives shall at all times act with tact, dignity and diplomacy.

4.4 All elected representatives will deal freely with their fellow representatives.

4.5 All elected representatives shall act in a voluntary capacity.

4.6 Provincial Councils must bring to the attention of all their member clubs the following documents, the NCFFI Constitution (issued 2011), the NCFFI Club Pack and the NCFFI Protocol Document and any pertaining correspondence received from the NCFFI. And to be fully conversant with the NCFFI Safeguarding Statement and related policies.

4.7 Report regularly the activities of the Council and members clubs to the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland.

4.8 The Council elected shall meet at least 3 times during it term of office.

4.9 Copies of minutes for all Council meetings may be requested by the NCFFI and AGM minutes must be forwarded to the NCFFI within one month after the meeting.

4.10 Election of the Regional Council will take place at their AGM by their member clubs and shall have by obligation the following positions: CHAIRMAN, SECRETARY, TREASURER, YOUTH/DEVELOPMENT OFFICER. Names and addresses of these elected representatives to be forwarded to the National Coarse Fishing Federation or Ireland within one month of the date of their appointment.

5 REPRESENTATIVE CLUBS, ASSOCIATIONS & GROUPS

Federation Clubs and Associations, their Officers, officials and members are bound by the general principles contained in this document and are charged with the additional responsibilities. Henceforth, Clubs seeking affiliation or renewal of affiliation to the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland must adhere to or fulfill the following minimum criteria.

5.1 To be affiliated to the National Coarse Fishing Federation of Ireland in the first instance.

5.2 To be affiliated to their respected Regional Council in the second instance.

5.3 Names and Addressed of the clubs current elected representatives to be forwarded as: *CHAIRMAN, SECRETARY, TREASURER, YOUTH/DEVELOPMENT OFFICER*

5.4 Attendance at AGM's and Provincial Council Meetings.

5.5 The Club should provide details of match venues and stretches they propose to use.

5.6 Make known previous and present positions held by club members on any angling related organization or bodies.

5.7 The Club shall be obliged to return progress reports to include the details of the club's activities and events held.

5.8 The Club shall be required to show that they actively encourage and promote the development of our sport especially in the area of youth development.

5.9 Clubs should be conscious of environmental issues, legal issues and issues relating to rights of ways, etc. (please see NCFFI Club Pack).

5.10 Clubs will be requested to participate in the effective running of National/International events hosted by the NCFFI and provide personnel if possible.

5.11 Clubs must bring to the attention of all their members the following documents, the NCFFI Constitution (issued 2011), the NCFFI Club Pack and the NCFFI Protocol Document and any pertaining correspondence received from the NCFFI. And are fully conversant with the NCFFI Safeguarding statement and other related policies.

5.12 Ignorance of these documents is not a defense in the event of disciplinary action being brought on that club/individual.

5.13 It will be a requirement of all affiliated clubs to be actively involved in youth development angling and each club shall appoint a Development Officer to this effect. (This is imperative for the continued increase in number of anglers to the ranks of the NCFFI and for the development of our sport).

5.14 Clubs are required to assist and co-operate with neighboring clubs, visiting anglers and events. Reasonable care should be taken to avoid disputes, block booking, pre-baiting and signposting or any other restrictive or unsporting practice.

5.15 Failure of a club to comply with above criteria will render that club subject to review for affiliation when it falls due. That club may have to reapply for membership.

5.16 Note: it is not in the interest of the NCFFI to affiliate clubs purely for the purpose of them obtaining insurance cover.

COMPETITION RULES

6 COARSE COMPETITION RULES

6.1 Competitors shall fish with a single rod (or pole), line and hook only, at any one time. They may however have any number of assembled tackles ready for alternative use.

6.2 Competitors must normally fish from a point not greater than 1 metre from his peg position or with no greater than 50cm water depth at the back legs of the box or platform. The fishing area (swim) shall normally be defined by points mid-way between the competitors peg and those of his left and right hand neighbours. In moving water, the boundaries shall be from the competitor's peg to that of his downstream neighbour. An angler may wade to fish provided he remains within 1 metre of the bank.

6.3 A competitor may break the surface of the water prior to the start of the competition to perform the following tasks,

a. To clear his swim of weed and obstructions
b. To position his keep-net and tackle
c. To wet and mix his ground bait
d. To plumb the depth of his swim. In plumbing the depth before the start the angler must not in any way introduce bait or ground bait to his swim. Any fish accidently hooked while plumbing must be returned to the water and not placed in the keep-net.

6.4 Competitor may normally use hook-baits with the exception of live and dead fish and artificial lures

6.5 Fish caught must be retained in a suitable keep-net. All fish should be carefully unhooked and gently handled. All fish should, after weighing, be gently returned alive to the water. Dead fish should not be weighed in.

6.6 All species of coarse fish except pike and eels may count for the weigh-in unless otherwise specified by the organiser.

6.7 A competitor may not leave his peg save to answer the call of nature of by arrangements with the organisers. Within these provisos the angler shall not disturb other competitors. If an angler is away from his peg he must reel in and remove his hook etc. from the water.

6.8 At the end of the competition an angler shall have 15 minutes to land any fish hooked before the end of the event.

6.9 The angler must be present with the weigh-in team to observe that the digital scale is zeroed correctly with the weigh net in place before the fish are weighed

6.10 It is the anglers responsibility to ensure the weight given is correct. The angler must view the scales reading and sign the sheet as acceptance of the weight.

6.11 Objections must be lodged in writing with the organisers within 2 hours of the end of the competition.

6.12 Competitors found in contravention of these rules, may on written objection be disqualified or penalized by the organisers

6.13 The decision of the organisers of official referee shall be binding in all disputes.

6.14 The organisers shall not be responsible for any loss or damage to or by any of the competitors.

6.15 LITTERED PEGS SHALL NOT BE WEIGHED IN, WHETHER OR NOT THE LITTER BELONGS TO THE ANGLER FISHING THE PEG.

6.16 Digital scales are recommended for use in all competition, mandatory for all NCFFI events.

7 PREDATOR COMPETITION RULES

7.1 Anglers fish in pairs on a boat

7.2 Boats must be in suitable condition and checked for any pollution discharge

7.3 All fish are measured, recorded and returned to the water immediately

7.4 Hooks on lures must not be baited in any way

7.5 (nymphs, buzzers etc.) imitations are not allowed. Any type of natural bait such as fur, feather (dressed hooks on spinners) and natural skin will not be allowed.

7.6 Ground baiting is prohibited

7.7 Fish finders may be used

7.8 Foul hooked fish may not be measured

7.9 Boats shall remain a minimum of 50 metres apart while fishing unless otherwise specified.

7.10 Only pike, trout and perch will count unless otherwise specified

7.11 Trolling is not permitted.

7.12 Each competitor must have a landing net and unhooking pliers/forceps.

7.13 Competitors may carry and assemble multiple rods but are allowed to use only one at a time.

7.14 The length of the rods is limited to 2.75 metres/9 feet

7.15 All fishing starting/finishing times must be strictly followed

7.16 Anglers are not allowed to enter the water

7.17 Fish played after the ending signal sounds don't count – even if its hooked before signal

7.18 In the event of adverse weather conditions the competition must be cancelled or moved to a safer location. If deemed suitable then the anglers are responsible for their own personal safety.

7.19 Lifejackets must be worn by all onboard

7.20 All vessels should include a minimum of one experienced boatsman

7.21 All competitors must be made aware of the '14 steps to safe boating' www.iws.ie

7.22 To protect our waterways and ensure the prevention of the spread of invasive species boats trailers and equipment should be inspected and cleaned.

Any breach of the rules 2, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 18 will result with a warning and 1-point reduction.

Two warnings will result in immediate disqualification. Any breach of the rules 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,8, 11, 12, 16, 19 will results in immediate disqualification

8 PREDATOR MEASURE-PHOTO-RELEASE

8.1 Each boat team must provide their own digital camera with an empty removeable memory card. We recommend you also have a back-up

8.2 The organiser will allocate each team with a measure board, board number and team marker to be returned at the close of the competition

8.3 The organiser will take the first photograph of the team allocated measure board and markers with the team's camera.

8.4 You may decide when and how many fish to photograph throughout the day but those to be considered in competition must also be recorded on the score sheet with length in cm.

8.5 Your camera must be set to record the time and date the photo is taken

8.6 The fish should be photographed on the measuring board laid flat on the boat.

8.7 the fish should only be held on the measure board by hand

8.8 The fish should be photographed from the left side, showing its full length from the top of the lip to the end of the tail with its lip resting against the top of the measure board.

8.9 The allocated board number and team marker must be clearly shown in the photograph

8.10 The measure boards, numbers and markers should be returned promptly at the end of the competition, to the organisers along with your camera and corresponding score sheet before the designated time or they will not be counted.

8.11 The memory card in the camera should contain only those images you wish to record for the competition and a cable should be provided for the downloading of photographs.

8.12 Video footage is not accepted for measurement

8.13 Photos of dead or blood-stained fish will not be accepted.

9 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Refer to www.fips-ed.com for the latest rules referring concerning all international competition and those fished at home to FIPSed rule.

TEAM IRELAND

It is the aim of the NCFFI to provide equal opportunity for its members as we select sporting teams chosen for the best of their ability to achieve medal winning status for Ireland. The NCFFI will present Team Ireland as ambassadors to Irish angling sport worldwide.

In the interests of clarity surrounding the selection process and safety this section of the document has been updated and approved by the Executive in January 2022.

10 ROLE OF THE EXECUTIVE

The Executive of the NCFFI delegates the responsibility for Team Ireland selection to the International Team Managers to include, but not limited to the responsibilities listed.

10.1 The Committee will seek applications for Manager(s) and decide on the candidate(s) who will then go before the next AGM or EGM for adoption.

10.2 Managers will be appointed for three championships seasons which may be extended at the behest of the NCFFI Executive.

10.3 The decision to present Team Ireland at any overseas event remains with the Executive.

10.4 The NCFFI will at the request of the Team Manager will invite all clubs to nominate members for selection.

10.5 The Committee will ensure teams as identified by the Team Manager are selected within the guidelines and will adopt accordingly.

10.6 The NCFFI Executive reserves the right to withdraw Team Ireland from a championship due to changing circumstances.

10.7 The NCFFI reserves the right de-select any angler who does not mee the standards of the behaviour expected as an ambassador of our sport and the federation.

10.8 The Executive will submit the official entry, and payment (where funds allow) to FIPS-ed on receipt of all required documentation from the Team Manager.

10.9 Letters will be provided on request to those Team Members who can avail of grant funding.

10.10 Official team wear will be approved by the Executive.

10.11 The Executive, based on information provided by the Team Managers will arrange suitable insurance cover.

10.12 The media coverage will be managed by the NCFFI Public Relations team who will administrate NCFFI social media in accordance with any sponsorship requirements.

11 REPRESENTATIVE TEAM MANAGERS

The National Team Manager(s) will be bound by the general principles contained in this document and is charged with the following additional responsibilities:

11.1 The Manager will conform to the selection criteria/eligibility and be resident on the island of Ireland.

11.2 The Manager may request Expressions of Interest in advance of registration to assess which championships to attend.

11.3 The Manager will present to the Executive his intentions for representation and the NCFFI share the invitation to apply with all clubs and in the public domain.

11.4 The Manager will report his/her activities to AGM for review annually.

11.5 The Manager will ensure all applicants considered meet the eligibility under this policy.

11.6 The Manager is responsible for selection of the team implementing a clear and fair selection process without bias. Any declaration of interest, including the nominated on the Manager themselves, will be shared with the Selection Committee for a decision.

11.7 The Manager will apply the selection criteria fairly and consistently and will keep factual records.

11.8 The Manager may seek guidance from the co. manager and/or other experts as required. Any person involved in providing advice or guidance during the selection process must declare any conflict of interest.

11.9 The Manager has full autonomy on his decision based on the selection criteria.

11.10 The Manager will present the team to the NCFFI Executive for adoption before informing the successful applicants.

11.11 The Manager will communicate with every applicant to inform them of his/her decision before a team is publicly announced. He shall be prepared to discuss his decision.

11.12 The Manager will always communicate his decisions respectfully.

11.13 All fixtures and match reports including photography and results must be provided to the Public Relations Officer, pre, during and post the championships for publishing.

11.14 The Manager has a duty of care to the anglers and may, in his/her best interests, withdraw them from a competition during the event.

11.15 Anglers may be substituted in prior to or during competition if the Manager deems this to be appropriate.

11.16 The Manager will give notice of team practice, training, or meetings no less than 14 days in advance.

11.17 The Manager is responsible for team funds and expenditure keeping Team Members informed of costs.

11.18 Team Managers will submit reports on all activities pertaining to the team, management, and finance to the Executive Committee after each event or as requested.

11.19 The Manager is responsible for the coordination of travel and accommodation arrangements and must carry out a risk assessment prior to all training and competition at home or overseas**.**

11.20 The Team Manager may appoint an Assistant Manager(s) per championship approved by the Selection Committee and adopted by the Executive. Such person will be bound by Team Agreements and adhere to NCFFI policy. On the occasion the Team Manager is unable to attend a championships they may be represented by the Assistant Manager.

11.21 In the event of an emergency the Team Manager should designate himself to fish.

11.22 When dealing with youths under the age of 18 the Team Manager and all his assistants/those travelling must have vetting in date with the NCFFI via the National Vetting Bureau or ACCESS NI.

11.23 The Youth Team Manager must have Safeguarding 1, Basic Awareness (ROI) or Safeguarding Children in Sport NI as a minimum**.**

11.24 A risk assessment must be carried out for each overseas championships for approval of the executive. Where necessary this should be shared with the travelling team members**.**

11.25 The Team Manager will provide the secretary with copies of signed agreements/Code of Conduct and next of kin details for all those travelling prior to the entry fees being paid to FIPS-ed.

11.26 The Team Manager will keep all information in accordance with GPDR.

11.27 Where a championship takes place less than 12 months from the previous championship the Manager with the approval of the Executive may choose to present the same team for two championship seasons.

11.28 The Travelling team(s) will seek getting their own sponsorship and grants, all funds raised will go towards funding the team. Any funds under Team Ireland including sponsorship by individual team members must go toward the team committee.

12 NATIONAL TEAM PARTICIPATION AND ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility for Selection

Anglers wishing to be considered for selection must:

12.1 Be a member of the NCFFI **and**

12.2 Be born on the island of Ireland and hold a valid Ireland or United Kingdom passport **or**

12.3 Be born outside the island of Ireland to parents(s) born on the island of Ireland. If either parent was an island of Ireland citizen/national born on the island of Ireland, the angler shall qualify automatically, regardless of their place of birth. Grandparents shall not be considered for eligibility under this rule. Eligibility must be supported by the relevant birth certificates of the parents or other official documentation; **or**

12.4 Be born outside the island of Ireland but have resided on the island of Ireland continuously for a minimum of five years. Eligibility must be supported by official documentation or affidavit.

12.5 An angler must not have previously represented another country at national team level.

12.6 Where team selection is for a competition conducted under the auspices of FIPSed, the eligibility criteria and regulations issued by FIPS-ed from time to time shall take precedence over all provisions of this Article, including those related to non-Irish nationals.

Non National Participation

12.7 Notwithstanding the above eligibility criteria, a national team may include a maximum of one angler who is a non-national, provided they have not previously represented another country in any discipline at national team level.

12.8 A club team may include up to two (2) anglers who are non-nationals but must be members of the NCFFI. Such anglers shall not be required to be resident in Ireland, provided that they have not represented any other national or club team in any discipline within the two (2) years preceding the championship concerned.

Verification of Eligibility

12.9 The NCFFI Executive Committee shall have the authority to determine and verify eligibility under these rules and shall request documentation necessary to confirm an angler's eligibility.

Participation Requirements

12.10 The NCFFI Executive Committee shall have the authority to determine and verify eligibility under these rules and shall request documentation necessary to confirm an angler's eligibility.

12.11 The NCFFI Executive Committee shall have the authority to determine and verify eligibility under these rules and shall request documentation necessary to confirm an angler's eligibility.

12.12 Anglers must be available to attend championships overseas. Participation, including travel and official practice, may require an absence of up to ten days.

12.13 Anglers must confirm that they have read and agree to abide by the NCFFI Code of Conduct.

12.14 Anglers must meet the age requirements applicable to the relevant championship category and provide proof of date of birth when requested.

12.15 Anglers under the age of 18 years must have written consent from a parent or guardian, and a parent or guardian must be available to accompany them where required.

12.16 Anglers must comply with anti-doping regulations as published by Sport Ireland and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

13 SELECTION PROCESS – COARSE, FLOAT, FEEDER, U25

13.1 Anglers will be invited to register their application for a place on Team Ireland.

13.2 The most up to date information related to the location and date of the championships will be provided at the time of registration but is subject to change later. Anglers may be asked to specify a specific event or register for all. There will be no fees to register or qualify.

13.3 Registration will only be accepted on-line within the timescales published.

13.4 Qualifiers will be held if more than the following numbers register for a place on the team, 30 Float, 15 Feeder, 10 U25.

13.5 Where necessary two qualifying matches will be held over one weekend in accordance with the current FIPS-ed rules and advertised in a timely manner.

13.6 Teams usually consist of five anglers and one reserve.

13.7 At the end of the qualifiers the top 16 Float, 8 Feeder, 6 U25 (or 50% of those taking part) will form a panel from which the Manager will select his team.

13.8 The Manager will base his selection fairly and without bias, on the discretionary factors to include, but not limited to the following,

- Technical skills and knowledge
- Inclusion and diversity
- Performance at National, league and open competition
- Experience at world championship events
- Talent spotting; the potential for development
- Team dynamics, the ability to fit in and work as a team and not an individual
- Attendance and cooperation at training events
- The ability to uphold NCFFI values and uphold the Code of Conduct

13.9 Providing the selection criteria is met the Team Manager may, with the permission of the Selection Committee, award themselves a position on the team.

13.10 Anglers may be selected for teams at more than one championship but no more than three persons may be present on two or more championship teams.

13.11 Any changes to this selection process will be published in advance of registration.

13.12 Selection will be discretionary and based on the judgement of the Team Ireland Manager who has full autonomy on his decision.

13.13 A Selection Committee will comprise a minimum of 2 other International Managers plus 1 member of the Executive to endorse the team selection based on all criteria.

13.14 Any appeal must be made within 48 hours of public notification of the team and will be heard by the Selection Committee. Sole grounds for appeal are that this policy is not followed correctly or implemented.

13.15 Anglers may request further feedback for non-selection to support future development.

13.16 Complaints can be sent to secretary@ncffi.ie and will be handled according to the Complaints & Disciplinary Policy.

14 SELECTION PROCESS – COARSE U15 & U20

14.1 Anglers will be invited to register their application for a place on Team Ireland.

14.2 When under 18 at the time of registration applications must be made by the parent/guardian.

14.3 The most up to date information related to the location and date of the championships will be provided at the time of registration but is subject to change later.

14.4 Registration will only be accepted on-line within the timescales published.

14.5 There is no fee to register or take part in the qualifiers.

14.6 Four qualifying matches will be held over one weekend in accordance with the current FIPSed rules and advertised in a timely manner. In extraordinary circumstances the number can be reduced two with the approval of the Executive.

14.7 Qualifying matches will be divided into sections U15 & U20. Each angler will draw for his/her relevant age group. Position points will be awarded for each section.

14.8 Agreed penalty points will be issued for non-attendance.

14.9 A substitute, reserve angler will be included with each team.

14.10 The Manager will base his selection fairly and without bias, on the discretionary factors to include, but not limited to the following,

- Technical skills and knowledge
- Inclusion and diversity
- Performance at National, league and open competition
- Experience at world championship events
- Talent spotting; the potential for development
- Team dynamics, the ability to fit in and work as a team and not an individual
- Attendance and cooperation at training events
- The ability to uphold NCFFI values and uphold the Code of Conduct

14.11 Any variation or event specific criteria will be identified at registration.

14.12 Any changes to this selection process will be published in advance of registration.

14.13 Selection will be discretionary and based on the judgement of the Team Ireland Manager who has full autonomy on his decision.

14.14 A Selection Committee will comprise a minimum of 2 other International Managers plus 1 member of the Executive to endorse the team selection based on all criteria.

14.15 Any appeal must be made within 48 hours of public notification of the team and will be heard by the Selection Committee.

14.16 Sole grounds for appeal are that this policy is not followed correctly or implemented.

14.17 Anglers may request further feedback for non-selection to support future development.

14.18 Complaints can be sent to secretary@ncffi.ie and will be handled according to the Complaints & Disciplinary Policy

15 SELECTION PROCESS – PREDATOR, BOAT

15.1 Anglers will be invited to register their application to attend the qualifiers to seek selection for Team Ireland.

15.2 Match dates and venues for the qualifying matches will be communicated to all clubs with a minimum three months' notice.

15.3 When under 18 at the time of registration applications must be made by the parent/guardian.

15.4 Registration will only be accepted on-line within the timescales published along with payment and receipt will immediately be confirmed.

15.5 The team will be selected by a series of six qualifying matches, held over three weekends with results to count including the All-Ireland Predator Boat Championships. Only in extraordinary circumstances may the Team Manager with the approval of the Executive reduce the number of qualifying matches to four.

15.6 Anglers may only enter in pairs and for eligibility purposes at least one person in each boat must meet the criteria as identified in article 1.

15.7 An entry fee will be charged for each of the qualifying matches. This will be €25 (or sterling equivalent), with the funds raised going towards the travelling team costs.

15.8 The qualification process will select 4 anglers and 1 reserve.

15.9 All matches will be held on venues suitable for FIPS-ed events.

15.10 Points will be awarded in centimetres squared in accordance with FIPS-ed rules, but the length of the species considered may vary by venue i.e., perch.

15.11 All predator species will count but only if they are in season and as identified by the Team Manager. pike and perch are the main species, trout, shad, zander are not.

15.12 All fish will be measured on supplied boards along with markers provided and recorded immediately on the score sheet. Verification will be by steward or photo process at the discretion of the Team Manager.

15.13 All fish must be returned to the water immediately alive and unharmed. Only fish that swim away can count for scoring purposes.

15.14 On every qualifier a pair of anglers will be awarded points according to their position, 1st = 1pt, 2nd = 2pts, 3rd= 3pts and so on.

15.15 Anglers will be disqualified if they are not holding the necessary licenses (boat and rod) or not wearing a life jacket.

16 SELECTION PROCESS – PREDATOR, SHORE

16.1 Anglers will be invited to register their application to attend the qualifiers to seek selection for Team Ireland.

16.2 Match dates and venues for the qualifying matches will be communicated to all clubs with a minimum three months' notice.

16.3 When under 18 at the time of registration applications must be made by the parent/guardian.

16.4 Registration will only be accepted on-line within the timescales published along with payment and receipt will immediately be confirmed.

16.5 The team will be selected by a series of four qualifying matches, held over two weekends with results to count. Only in extraordinary circumstances may the Team Manager with the approval of the Executive reduce the number of qualifying matches to two.

16.6 An entry fee will be charged for each of the qualifying matches. This will be €25 (or sterling equivalent), with the funds raised going towards the travelling team costs.

16.7 The qualification process will select 4 anglers and 1 reserve.

16.8 All matches will be held on venues suitable for FIPS-ed events.

16.9 Points will be awarded in centimetres squared in accordance with FIPS-ed rules, but the length of the species considered may vary by venue i.e., perch.

16.10 One point is awarded for all fish caught and returned to the water alive and unharmed. Only fish that swim away count for scoring purposes.

16.11 Anglers will be awarded points according to their position, 1st = 1pt, 2nd = 2pts, 3rd = 3pts and so on.

16.12 The main predator species is Trout, with the option to record Pike or Perch; all must be in season and agreed by the Team Manager

16.13 All anglers are obliged to provide one non-fishing steward to be allocated to the other competitors, unless otherwise specified.

16.14 Anglers will be disqualified if they are not holding the necessary rod license and permit.

17 ROLE & RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TEAM IRELAND MEMBER

Selected team members are bound by the general principles contained in this document and charged with the following responsibilities,

17.1 In accepting selection, the Team Member will have read and agrees to abide by all NCFFI policies and sign the NCFFI Code of Conduct.

17.2 Team members are required to will enter into a contractual agreement per championship season whereby they agree to abide by management and executive decisions.

17.3 Team Members will strive to serve the team to the best of their ability, unselfishly and with pride.

17.4 Team Members will make themselves available for training in accordance with the Manager. Failure to attend less than 50% of those requested may result in deselection.

17.5 Team Members must be compliant with the NCFFI Anti-Doping Policy. Failure to comply will result in non-selection or de-selection.

17.6 Entry to the championships is governed by the conditions of the NCFFI, CIPS and FIPS-ed (and other relevant bodies). Team Members must meet any such criteria to be considered for selection.

17.7 Team Members are responsible for any medication they may take and must comply with the CIPS Therapeutic Use Exemption, TUE procedure.

17.8 Travelling team Members must be aware that a positive test (Covid or other) during competition may deem the entire team unable to compete.

17.9 Team Members must agree and comply with any destination entry regulations, which for all selected anglers, plus others travelling, may include the requirement to undergo a Covid (or other) test.

17.10 Any Team Ireland angler who refuses to participate in a team match, negatively impacting on the result of the team or the opportunity for the team members to compete and gain experience; may forfeit their right to compete on Team Ireland for a period as agreed by the NCFFI Executive.

17.11 Youth Team Members and parents should be conversant with the NCFFI Safeguarding Policy

17.12 Team Members must observe bio-security processes, and check, clean, dry equipment, always including boats.

17.13 Team members are on duty at international events as representatives of their country. In this respect, dress code and appearance should be of a high standard on and off the bank. Team Management will advise on the suitable attire to be worn at official functions.

17.14 In selection Team Members authorise the use of images and video for the promotion of the NCFFI and sport fishing in accordance with the NCFFI Filming & Photography policy.

18 TEAM IRELAND – DESELECTION

The Manager has the right to deselect any member of the team in accordance with the following.

18.1 Nonattendance at 50% of training sessions and/or meetings as requested within the normal timescales.

18.2 Nonpayment of travelling costs six weeks prior to the championships

19 COMPLAINTS & DISCIPLINE

Breaches of the Constitution and Protocol rules will incur disciplinary action, please refer to the NCFFI Complaints & Discipline Procedure Document as amended by the AGM of the NCFFI from time to time.

20 WORLD CLUB QUALIFIERS - FLOAT

20.1 There will be two Qualifying Matches over one weekend.

20.2 The event is to be held within the months of May to September in accordance with NCFFI and FIPSed calendar.

20.3 Team, 5 anglers and 1 substitute.

20.4 FIPSed/CIPS competition rules and angler eligibility/criteria rules will apply in full for the qualifiers. The only deviation from the rules will be the use of bloodworm and joker and wading rules which will be by consent of the majority of participating clubs.

20.5 Hosting of matches will be on rotation of participating clubs.

20.6 Any club, not accepting the hosting role on rotation will go to the end of the rotation list. The next club on the list will then be offered the role.

20.7 Only Clubs within the Province that participate will be included in the rotation.

20.8 Venue selection and the running of the event will be at the sole discretion of the host club.

20.9 Entry fee is €100 for the qualifiers and all funds raised through the qualifier will go to the winning team. If the winning team don't travel this fund will go towards the travelling team who finish in second place.

20.10 Daily pools of €10 euro or £10 stg, the winner of each section will win the prize money.

20.11 The Travelling Team will look after all Cost associated travelling to the World Club Freshwater Fishing Championships.

20.12 The Travelling Team will seek getting their own, sponsorship and grants.

20.13 The travelling team will ensure ALL members have got NCFFI provided Travel & Medical Insurance

20.14 The Travelling Team will remember while at an event like this they are Ambassadors of Ireland and the NCFFI and shall act accordingly.

20.15 On Qualifying the NCFFI Committee will sanction the Travelling Teams and Members participation when paperwork is received from the organising Country for the event.

20.16 The host club will notify the NCFFI with all results from the event as well as notifying details of the winning club.

20.17 If the winning Club of the Qualifier decide not to go to World Clubs the next team next in line according to finishing position of the Qualifiers will be offered the trip.

20.18 The host club should be notified by the club in October if they do not intend to travel to the World Clubs the following year, who will in turn notify the NCFFI.

20.19 The next Team in line from the Qualifiers will then have four weeks to decide if they are going or not so it can be passed to the next Team so that a decision will be made before the 1st of January.

20.20 The NCFFI will Notify all affiliated Clubs and advertise on website details of the Qualifier event.

20.21 No unaffiliated Clubs or anglers can participate in this event.

20.22 No Anglers from unaffiliated Clubs can represent Ireland.

20.23 Host club to get 2 weeks' notice of intention to compete from all competing clubs.

20.24 The NCFFI Committee will confirm on an annual basis the funding of the entry fee to the World Club Championship for the winning team and if they don't travel the team that finished second will then have the entry fee paid, only when funds allow.

20.25 An angler may not participate in the World Club Qualifiers if also participating in qualifiers outside the island of Ireland in the same calendar year.

21 WORLD CLUB QUALIFIERS - FEEDER

21.1 A qualifying match will be held over one weekend to be held within the months of May to September in accordance with NCFFI and FIPSed calendar.

21.2 The Feeder Team Manager will organise and run the event with the help of the committee and local hosting club where required.

21.3 The event will be run according to FIPS-ed rules.

21.4 The selection of the Club to represent Ireland will be based on the points system.

21.5 Fipsed/CIPS competition rules and angler eligibility/criteria rules will apply in full for the qualifiers. The only deviations from the rules will be the use of bloodworm and joker and wading rule which will be by consent of the majority of participating clubs.

21.6 Entry fee is €100 Euro for the qualifiers and all funds raised through the qualifier will go to the winning team. If the winning team don't travel this fund will go towards the travelling team who finish in second place

21.7 Team Pools of €100 will apply with a full payout of daily section money plus any additional sponsorship.

21.8 The winning team will be awarded a Trophy (not perpetual) and named NCFFI Feeder Club Champions.

21.9 It is preferred but not essential that competing teams would like to represent Ireland at the Championships.

21.10 The Winning Team must confirm their wish to travel to represent Ireland no later than four weeks after the Qualifiers.

21.11 Where the winning team does not travel to the Championship the second placed team will be selected. If the second placed team don't travel no further offers will be made to teams after second place.

21.12 The Travelling Team will be responsible for all costs related to the championships.

21.13 The NCFFI National Executive will confirm on an annual basis the funding of the entry fee.

21.14 The Travelling Team will seek getting their own, sponsorship and grants.

21.15 The Travelling Team must avail of Travel & Medical Insurance from the NCFFI for a small fee.

21.16 The Travelling Team will remember they are Ambassadors of Ireland and the NCFFI and shall act accordingly.

21.17 On Qualifying the NCFFI Committee will adopt the Travelling Team and its Members

21.18 The Travelling Team will provide the NCFFI PRO with images and a report during and post championships to include an official team photograph.

21.19 The NCFFI will notify all affiliated Clubs and advertise the qualifiers on the website and social media channels.

21.20 The Feeder Team Manager will provide assistance where necessary but is not obliged to travel with the team to the Championships.

21.21 No unaffiliated Clubs or anglers can participate in this event and/or represent Ireland at the Championships.

21.22 Any member of the Club may join the team providing they meet the eligibility criteria as stated in Appendix 3 of the Constitution. Revision to FIPS rules will be considered and the criteria adjusted accordingly with approval from the committee as and when required.

21.23 Two weeks' notice of intention to compete in the qualifier is required by the Feeder Team Manager from the participating Clubs.

21.24 The Travelling Team must be familiar with the NCFFI Constitution & Protocol in particular Flags & Emblems.

21.25 An angler may not participate in World Clubs Qualifiers if also participating in qualifiers outside the island of Ireland in the same calendar year.

22 INTER-PROVINCIAL SENIORS

22.1 Inter Provincial Teams will consist of Anglers from NCFFI affiliated Clubs from, Connacht, Leinster, Munster, Ulster.

22.2 It is up to the Provincial Councils to select anglers for the Inter Provincial Championships each year.

22.3 Provincial Councils may select or qualify anglers from all Provincial affiliated Clubs within the Province for Inter Provincial Team.

22.4 The selection or qualifying Process should be fair to all, published and give all affiliated club and anglers and equal opportunity to Qualify. (Some Provinces run a League to select their anglers).

22.5 Provincial Teams will comprise of 10 Anglers and 2 Reserves, but the reserves are an option.

22.6 The Inter Provincial Championships will be held over two days at the end of September, (must avoid clashing with World Championships etc).

22.7 Provincials Councils will host the NCFFI Inter Provincial Championships in a rotation system.

22.8 To Host the event the province must fish the event.

22.9 If a Province has not been fishing the IP when it does fish it will go to the back of the Rotation System.

22.10 Provincial Councils must announce a host city, town, village before the 1st May to allow teams book their accommodation in advance.

22.11 HQ must be in the host town, village etc.

22.12 The venue for the Inter Provincials will be kept within 10km of the host town, village.

22.13 The Venue for the event must be announced before the 1st of July which allows team to go practise on.

22.14 The same venue should be used over both days unless previously agreed with all Provincial Councils.

22.15 Each Section should be as equal for fishing as possible.

22.16 Once a Venue have been announced it can only be changed a day or two prior the event on a Risk Assessment and Health and Safety grounds due to the venue been deemed unfishable due to Flooding, this will need to be agreed with all Reps from the Provincial Councils.

22.17 Entry is €30 per Angler.

22.18 From the Entry €15 per angler a day will go to Section Winners. 4 in Section €60, 3 in Section €45, 2 in Section €30.

22.19 No Bloodworm and Joker unless previously agreed with all Provincials Councils.

22.20 All Bait limits will be agreed with the Provincial Councils.

22.21 The nominated Provincial Council will host the championship on behalf of the Federation observing the competition rules for an NCFFI event.

22.22 The Team Captains from each province will form a jury to review results before publishing and to act on any dispute raised during or post competition.

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