

## Hooked on Shepparton – Fishing Competition

### Rules and Guidelines

**Location:** Victoria Park Lake, Shepparton

**Date:** Friday, 23rd January

**Time:** 4pm – 9pm

**Winners Announced:** 8.30pm

### Registration

- All participants must register to take part in the event. You can do this through TryBooking or on the day at the registration area.
- Please refer to map to locate registration area.
- Entry is free and open to all ages.

### Competition Format

- Fishing begins at 4.30pm and ends at 7.30pm.
- Participants may fish from the shore only. You can fish anywhere around the lake, but please refer to map for recommended fishing area.
- No boats.
- Only rod and reel fishing is permitted. No nets, traps, or hand fishing allowed.
- You can keep any fish you catch, or release if you choose not to keep it. No live carp may be returned to the water.

### Scoring Criteria

- **Biggest fish** (measured tip to tail – any species)
- **Most unusual catch** (At judge's discretion)
- **Young angler**
- **Adult angler**
- **Tagged fish**
- **Lucky Spot**
- **Mystery Weight/Length**

### Age categories

- Junior Angler (Under)
- Adult Angler (18+)

## Prizes

- Prizes awarded for each category (biggest, most fish caught, most unusual catch)
- Special junior and senior angler awards
- All winners announced from **8.30pm** near the registration area

## Additional Info

- Bring your own fishing gear, sunscreen, measuring device and water.
- Limited bait available for purchase on-site.
- First aid and safety officers will be present throughout the event.

## Rules

To ensure a fair, fun, and safe competition for all participants, please adhere to the following rules:

### 1. Registration

- All participants must be officially registered for the competition prior to fishing.
- Only registered participants are eligible for prizes, awards, and official fish measurements.
- Each registration applies to one individual competitor.

### 2. Fishing Location

- All fishing must take place within the designated boundaries of **Victoria Lake, Shepparton, Victoria**.
- Fish caught outside the lake or outside designated times will not be eligible.

### 3. Equipment Rules

- Each registered participant may use **a maximum of two (2) rods or handlines** at any one time.
- Fishing methods must comply with Victorian Fisheries Authority regulations.

### 4. Fish Measurement and Verification

- Fish must be **measured, photographed, and verified by Greater Shepparton City Council staff** to be eligible for prizes.
- Participants must notify staff immediately after landing a fish they believe qualifies for an award.

- Only fish inspected by council staff during competition hours will be considered valid.

## **5. Decisions and Disputes**

- All decisions made by Greater Shepparton City Council staff—including measurement, species identification, and prize eligibility—**are final**.
- Any dispute must be raised respectfully with staff; disruptive behaviour may result in disqualification.

## **6. Conduct and Compliance**

- Participants must comply with all local laws, Victorian fisheries regulations, and council event guidelines.
- Unsafe, aggressive, or unsportsmanlike conduct may result in removal from the event.
- Littering or damage to council property will not be tolerated.

## **7. Eligibility for Prizes**

- Only registered participants who follow all competition rules are eligible for awards.
- Any breach of rules may result in disqualification from prize categories.

## **8. Fishing Methods**

- Both lure fishing and bait fishing are allowed.
- No noxious fish species or endangered fish/animals can be used for bait.

### **Participant Conduct**

11. Participants must follow all safety instructions provided by staff.
12. All anglers must have a current fishing licence and adhere to state regulations. Competitors may be asked to produce proof of the license before prizes are awarded.
13. Children 14 years old and younger must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times. Anyone under the age of 18 must have permission from a parent or guardian to register and attend the event.
14. Be courteous to fellow anglers. No crowding, line cutting, or disruptive behaviour.
15. No littering. Dispose of bait containers, fishing line, and rubbish in provided bins.

16. This is a family-friendly event. Alcohol consumption is not permitted in competition areas.

### **Personal Information & Privacy**

17. Greater Shepparton City Council manages your personal information in accordance with its Privacy Policy and the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 (Vic). Your personal information is collected to communicate with you and provide you with information concerning this fishing competition and future events of a similar nature.

18. Within Council, your information is disclosed to the Events and Community teams. If you do not provide the requested information we may be unable to process your registration. To gain access to or update your personal information please contact the Events Team on [events@shepparton.vic.gov.au](mailto:events@shepparton.vic.gov.au)

### **Judging & Disputes**

19. Judging will be based on:

1. Longest fish (measured tip to tail)
2. Most unusual fish (as judged by staff)

20. Any disputes must be raised with the event coordinator. All decisions made by the judging panel are final.

21. Failure to follow rules may result in disqualification.

### **Notification of Winners & Prizes**

22. Judging will commence at 7.45pm.

23. Prizes are not exchangeable.

24. Any prizes not claimed on the day must be collected from the Greater Shepparton City Council offices at 90 Welsford St within two weeks.

Please refer to our 'Information for Participants' guide for all further information.