



New Plymouth Bluewater Spearfishing Competition (teams event)

Venue: New Plymouth Sportfishing and Underwater Club

Competition Director: David Gibson

Date: Monday 24th to Sunday 2nd March

Entry Fee: \$80 per pair.

Briefing: Sunday evening 23rd February 7.30pm. If divers are not at this briefing they must attend supplementary briefing prior to leaving the harbour. Meals are available to be purchased at the clubrooms Thursday to Sunday evening during the competition.

Fishing Time: 8.00am 24th February through to 3.00pm 2nd March- Weigh station open from 3.00pm. All competitors to be at weigh station no later than 4.00pm last day of the competition.

Fishing area: Cape Egmont to Albatross Point and 100 nautical miles out to sea.

Prizegiving: Sunday evening 2nd March 7.00pm Club rooms

New Plymouth Sportfishing & Underwater Club Bluewater (NPSUC) Spearfishing Competition 2025

The NPSUC Bluewater spearfishing competition is to be run over the week of 24th to 2nd March. It is proposed to make this an annual event, however this may depend on the support we get for this 1st competition. Divers will inherently be tested on their patience, preservation and fortitude when out in the deep blue. We intend for the format of the competition to keep things interesting and fun for everyone, with some awesome prizes at the end to top it off.

The last day of the competition is the Sunday 2nd March, with prize giving to held that night. Should you feature as a competition winner you do not have to be at prizegiving to receive your prize. You have to be at the prize giving to receive a 'lucky spearo' draw.

Rules

1. A team of up to 4 divers may be entered. There is a minimum amount of two divers required to go out on a day.
2. The competition will be fished out of Port Taranaki and will cover an area from Cape Egmont to Albatross Point and 100 nautical miles out to sea.
3. The entry fee is \$80 per pair. Although the competition officially starts on the 24th February we will allow late entries per the discretion of the organisers.
4. Teams get to choose any or all of the 7 days across the duration of the competition.
5. Where possible we strongly encourage people to attend the prizegiving to help make the competition bigger and better each year. Spot prizes will only be given out to people present at prizegiving.
6. There will be a briefing on Sunday night 23rd February 7.30pm and each morning of the competition. Competitors will have to sign a 'briefing attendance' form prior to entering the competition.
7. Multiple boats from the same team can go out on the same day. However, each boat counts as 1 day. For example, if a team of 4 divers took 2 separate boats out, that would count as 2 of the team's 7 days.
8. Fish can only be weighed at the NPSUC, with the weigh station open from 4 to 5.30pm each day. Once fish has been weighed in it cannot be upsized. Please note we may use photos to help promote the progress of the competition. **Fish must be weighed in green (ie not gilled or gutted) for this competition.**
9. It is the responsibility of the team to get their fish weighed. Teams can choose to do multiple days in a row if staying out of reception, however all days to be used must be notified in advance, on the first day. Once notified, you cannot undo the number of days originally posted- but all fish can be weighed in on the final day once back on land.
10. All fish must be speared in the competition area. Each Spearfishing entrant must sign a diver disclaimer form, and if the boat skipper complete our boating disclaimer form as part of their entry into the competition. No disclaimer means no entry. Diving disclaimer form attached and boating form available at club.
11. All competitors are individually and solely responsible to ensure they are medically fit and capable of participating in the competitions.
12. Each member of a team may carry one spear gun (only).

13. Guns must be loaded by muscular force. Cartridge type, compressed gas guns and power heads are not permitted.
14. Mask, Snorkel, Fins, Knife, Weight belt, Torch, and protective clothing may be used.
15. Flashers, Flasher rigs, Fish attraction devices may be used.
16. Each team must tow one Red, Yellow or Orange coloured float or float boat. This Float or float boat must be a minimum size of 10 litres. This equipment must be fitted with a divers flag of at least 15 x 20cm and be self-righting.
17. Attached to the float or float boat will be two lines. One being no more than 4 meters. The other being a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 40 metres. Either line may be bungee or part bungee. Each diver must be attached to a float at all times.
18. When in the water, divers must always be in a pair.
19. Spare gear may be carried (caution: No guns or shafts may be carried hanging vertically in the water from floats).
20. No loaded spearguns are permitted on boats
21. Competitors must not point a loaded speargun towards another competitor
22. Competitors must handle spearguns with extreme care on boats to avoid injury or damage from spear tips. Tip protectors are recommended when spearguns are not in use.
23. Each diver must carry a knife.
24. Divers under 18 years must be accompanied by an adult
25. The use of scuba breathing apparatus is not permitted in the competition. Assisted ascents and descents are not permitted.
26. No diving in any Marine reserve.
27. All boats/teams must register with the Competition Director (this will be delegated to a radio operator) as they leave/return to shore harbour.

Registration

Registration is preferred before the start of the competition. If you are unable to do this, please ring the Competition Director on 0274712012. Registrations will be accepted once the contest has commenced at the discretion of the competition director. Registration forms will be available at the NPSFUC rooms. Address at the beginning of the form. Incomplete forms will be disregarded. All forms must accompany a registration fee of \$80 per pair.

The competition director would expect teams to indicate they are participating before the beginning of the competition.

Species and points

Fish list and scoring for has been calculated by difficulty of each species going off history of catches in New Zealand waters. Each fish weighed in earns 100 points, plus points per kilo as per the below table:

		Points per Kilo 1st Fish	Max per Team
Billfish	Broadbill Swordfish	30	1
	Black Marlin	15	2
	Blue Marlin	15	2
	Striped marlin	15	2
	Shortbill Spearfish	60	1

Tuna	Albacore Tuna	50	6
	Bigeye Tuna	50	2
	Bluefin Tuna	50	2
	Skipjack Tuna	50	6
	Yellowfin Tuna	50	2
Other	Flying fish	50	No limit
	Mahimahi	80	4
	Wahoo	200	No limit
	Trevally	50	No limit
	Yellowtail Kingfish	10	2
	Snapper	10	4

Note there are daily limits on the following species for the Bluewater Comp:

- Skipjack Tuna (4)
- Albacore Tuna (4)
- Yellowtail Kingfish (2)

Prize categories

- 1st, 2nd and 3rd placed team (based on points)
- Most meritorious fish
- Cash prizes will depend on the amount of sponsorship and entry fees. We will update the competitors on this during the comp

Judgement exercised

Where situations or scenarios arise that require judgement to be exercised, the decision falls back on the event's Committee- and their decision is final. Note not all situations of this nature can be reasonably foreseen by organisers, so please respect the organisers when these decisions are made.

Weigh In and Scoring

1. MPI Fishing Rules and regulations apply including minimum legal sizes.
2. Each team shall 'Present' only eligible fish (size, weight, species and number).
Competitors will be disqualified for any of the following breaches:
 - Undersize fish
 - fish that are less than 80% of the minimum weight
 - an ineligible specie
 - fish that do not meet the MPI regulations, or
3. Competitors may not enter any fish which:
 - a. were already dead at time of capture
 - b. have already been trapped or caught by any method other than spearfishing
 - c. have been interfered with in a manner that is not permitted as a spearfishing technique.

NEW PLYMOUTH SPORTFISHING & UNDERWATER CLUB (INC.)

New Plymouth Bluewater Spearfishing Comp

Entry Form

Competitor # 1:	Competitor # 2:
Contact Phone:	Contact Phone:
Email:	Email:
Emergency Person:	Emergency Person:
Emergency Phone:	Emergency Phone:

*Has either diver a medical condition that we should be aware of?

*Name of boat

*Make

*Call sign

*Entry Fee Paid \$80 pair

Total \$

*Disclaimer: (please print name)

I _____/_____ declare that I am totally aware of the risks involved in spearfishing. I will abide by all competition rules and directions from event organisers and will accept the decision of event managers in all matters. I will provide details of any medical conditions that affect me specifically to the event manager or safety officer, and I will provide further details if requested.

I accept that Spearfishing New Zealand Incorporated (SNZ) and the New Plymouth Sportfishing and Underwater Club Incorporated are volunteer organisations and are not financially or legally responsible for accidents, losses, or injuries arising during the event. All competitors participate at their own risk. I hereby indemnify the organizers of this event from any liability that may arise during or as a result of myself or my partner or anyone in my care taking part in this competition.

I also accept and am fully aware that this competition is being run as a pairs event (ie: one up one down and both divers tethered to the same float) as per Spearfishing NZ rules. A boatman is also required onboard.

Parent or guardian to sign this form if participant is under 18 years of age.

Signed:	Signed:
Date:	Date:

Good Luck and safe diving!!

Important!!! You must sign in upon return each day - via radio or in person-no exceptions

Competitor # 1:	Competitor # 2:
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