



INFORMATION PACK

2017 QUEENSLAND SPEARFISHING TITLES

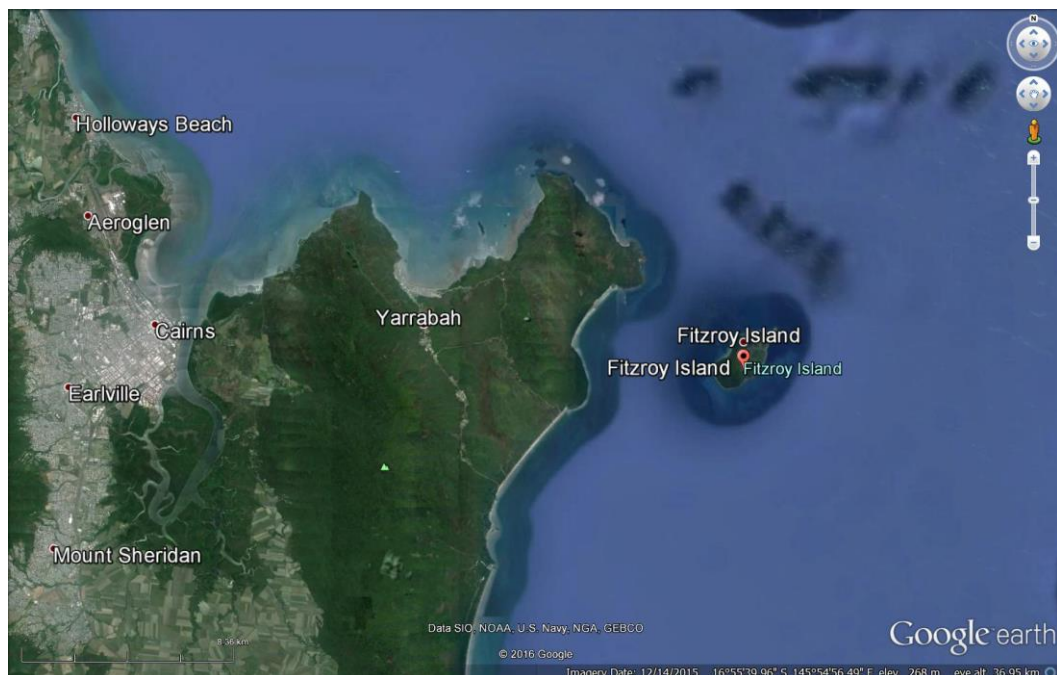
Cairns/Fitzroy Island, Queensland, 4-5 November 2017

Proudly Hosted by the Cairns Underwater Association

The AUFQ and the CUA would like to invite all divers to compete in the Queensland Spearfishing Titles to be held on **4-5 November 2017**. The competition will be held on the beautiful Fitzroy Island, in Far North Queensland. Please join us for a fantastic weekend of safe, sustainable and selective spearfishing.

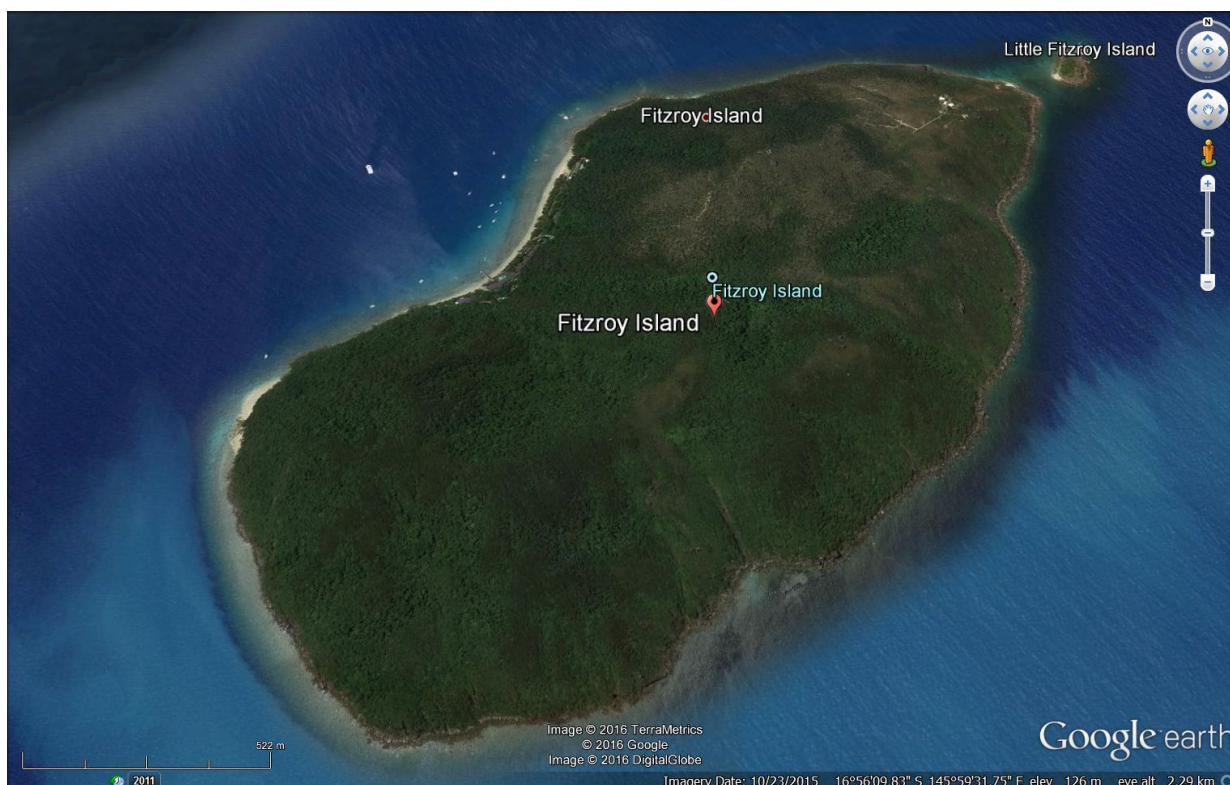
The competition will begin with a registration afternoon on 3 November 2017 and conclude with a presentation night on 5 November 2017. There is no backup weekend scheduled.

We will be running this event from medium sized boats. We currently have two cats owned by CUA club members allowing us to take around 15 divers to the reef. Spots on these vessels will be allocated to the earliest entrants. Additional smaller boats can be made available. We invite any boat owners willing to supply a boat to get in touch with the event organisers.



FITZROY ISLAND

Competitors can get to Fitzroy Island by launching their boat at either the Sugar Terminal, Water Police or Yorkeys boat ramps if they have their own vessel. If not, there is a ferry service that runs daily.



ACCOMMODATION

For information and bookings at the Fitzroy Island resort and camp grounds visit www.fitzroyisland.com.au.

QLD CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES AND PRIZES

As of 2017 the Queensland Spearfishing Titles shall be contested in the true pair format with the following competition categories:

SPEARFISHING CHAMPIONSHIP	Open category Any age, sex, club combination
VETERAN SPEARFISHING CHAMPIONSHIP	45 years or older pair Any sex, club combination
LADIES SPEARFISHING CHAMPIONSHIP	All female pair Any age, club combination
JUNIOR SPEARFISHING CHAMPIONSHIP	15-17 years of age pair Any sex, club combination
SUB-JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP (adult/child)	<15 paired with an adult (>17) The adult is permitted to load guns and spear fish, with the resultant score still being called sub-junior
CLUB PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP	Same club pairs <u>Nomination required</u> Any age, sex combination
CLUB TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIP	2 x same club pairs <u>Nomination required</u> Any age, sex combination
NEMROD CUP	Top 2 same club pairs <u>Nomination not required</u> Any age, sex combination

NOMINATION

Attached is the registration form, release agreement, B-section rules and proposed scoresheet. To ensure a position in the competition, follow the payment and return instructions by the closing date of Friday 27/10/17. Late nominations will only be accepted at the discretion of the competition director and subject to boat availability.

All competitors must be financial members of the AUF. Members of USFA, CMAS and other known organisations are very welcome provided their organisation sanctions the event in writing and also provides evidence of adequate liability insurance cover for their members to compete.

AUF online registration is available at www.AUF.org.au

COMPETITION DAY/S

Competitors are advised to load gear from 5.30am at Fitzroy Island. Sign on and daily briefing will be at 5.45am each competition day. **Departure will be at 6.00am or earlier if we are able to get everyone loaded quickly.**

The duration for the competition will be 2 days with 5 hours each day (may be cut to 4 dependent on weather) and we expect to return back to Fitzroy Island by approximately 2.00pm on the days of competition.

YOUR CATCH

It is the responsibility of each competitor to make themselves aware of the scoresheet and Qld Govt regulations regarding minimum legal sizes, protected species and catch limits for all coral reef finfish. To be eligible for the weigh-in all fish speared must have a minimum weight of 1kg.

Competitors will report to the weighmaster, who will weigh all fish over 1kg or, if greater, the minimum legal size. The catch will be recorded on a score sheet.

Divers are responsible for their own catch and must ensure they have the capacity and facilities to keep and transport their catch after both days of competition.

Note: Under Qld Government regulations all fish must be left whole unless a fillet of 40cm can be taken. Also, a total possession limit of 20 coral reef finfish now applies. Note that bag limits apply for individual species groups and new size limits apply (see below). Competitors breaking the regulations will be disqualified. All competitors must make themselves aware of the rules before the competition. For a guide see http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/28_3042.htm for all applicable bag and size limits. For a complete list of coral reef species, download the Fisheries Regulation 2008 at www.fisheries.qld.gov.au.

WEATHER CONTINGENCY

There will need to be some flexibility due to weather forecasts. At this time of year the weather in Far North Queensland is variable and boats often have to travel large distances. If the weather is over 20 knots events may need to be cancelled, relocated, shortened or rescheduled (if possible). A safety committee comprised of competition director, club representatives and boat owners will make the decision on whether to dive or not.

NUMBER OF COMPETITORS

Boat spaces on the day of spearfishing heats may be limited due to survey limits of available boats. Private boats (6-10 metres) owned by CUA members and other competitor boats will be available. Each vessel will transport between 4-8 competitors to the reef.

Fuel costs are allocated to boat owners at the rate of \$50.00 per diver aboard, per day.

COST

ADULTS (per diver):	\$130.00
JUNIORS / SUB-JUNIORS (per diver):	\$120.00
OBSERVERS	Free

Entry fee includes:

- Boat fuel & ice (2 days);
- Safety boats;
- Prizes;
- Registration fees.

NOMINATION FORMS

Attached is the nomination form and release agreement. To ensure a position in the competition, follow the payment and return instructions by the **closing date** of 27 October 2017.

DIVE SITES

Competition reefs for spearfishing will be selected by the organising committee after consultation with the boat skippers in light of expected conditions. Preferred sites are those listed below.

1. Sudbury reef.



2. Maori reef.



COMPETITION RULES AND SAFETY

The rules shall be based on AUF regulations, by-laws and 'A' section rules. The competition 'B' section rules are attached. In general terms please note:-

- Scoring is based on 100 points per species, 10 points per kg, with a 1kg minimum weight and 15kg maximum.
- All pairs must start from the same position, vis touching the vessel, and return to the starting point and advise the timekeeper of their return before the appointed finish time.
- All pairs must carry a personal float with positive buoyancy of not less than 7 kilograms with an international code flag A (blue/white) dive flag.
- All pairs must have safety gear including a dive flag, knife, mirror and whistle or other signalling device.
- Safety boats will be provided to patrol the designated reef for the duration of the competition. Any pair using the safety boats for any purpose such as transporting diver or fish will be disqualified.
- Pairs are reminded that it is their responsibility to know and abide by State and Federal fisheries regulations.

LASTEST INFORMATION

Check out www.AUFQ.org.au for updates.

Also head to our Facebook page "**AUF QLD spearfishing titles 4th 5th November**" for updates or if you need a partner etc. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/461062937582697/>

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

There are of course sponsorship opportunities for this event. All sponsors are invited to consider financial or in-kind support. If any competitor knows a person or business we should contact please advise.

CONTACT US

Name	Phone	Email
Jesse Eggins (CUA contact)	0421 889 503	jweggins@hotmail.com
Michael Pannach (AUFQ contact)	0438 254 564	michaelpannach@hotmail.com



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REGISTRATION FORM

Name: Dive partner/observer (if known).....

Address:

AUF or USFA Membership Number: Date of Birth:

Mobile: Club: Email:

- CATEGORY** Open pair (all competitors)
Tick all that apply Veteran (45 years or older)
 Junior (15-17 years)
 Sub-Junior (<15 years)
 Ladies
 Club team (if applicable): other pair:*

** If known (nominations are required prior to commencement of event).*

Please <u>tick</u> as applicable:	Fee
<input type="radio"/> Mens & Ladies	\$130.00
<input type="radio"/> Juniors <17 years	\$120.00
<input type="radio"/> Yes I can supply a boat	Boat name: Capacity:.....

PAYMENT FOR \$..... ENCLOSED OR TRANSFERRED ON ___/___/2017 (RECIPT NO.).....

CLOSING DATE IS 27 OCTOBER 2017

Bank deposits preferred: Cairns Underwater Association **BSB 654 019 A/C 100 052 235** Ref: **your name.**

Please return this form by email to cairnsunderwater@gmail.com



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RELEASE AGREEMENT

Name:.....

Address:.....

Name of Parent/Guardian if above person is a junior.....

I agree that it is my own responsibility that I am physically fit and qualified for engaging in any of the diving and spearfishing activities involved with the 2017 Queensland Spearfishing Titles, Fitzroy Island.

I realise that such diving and spearfishing activities inherently have dangers to my person from or caused by currents, sea conditions, sharks and other marine creatures, the activity of other people in boats and in the water and their equipment.

I realise that the activity of breath hold diving involves the danger of "shallow water black out" if not conducted with caution and due care on my part. I have at least a general understanding of the term "**shallow water black out**".

I understand that advice and information provided on the competition area and conditions are given in good faith but this advice and information should be treated with caution with final decisions being the responsibility of the competitor.

For the consideration of the facilities, equipment, and services and advice provided by you, I, for myself, my executors, administrators and assigns, and for the child (if applicable) herby absolutely release and discharge the Australian Underwater Federation, it's club members, including the host club, and it's individual members, their agents, appointees and assigns, from and against all claims whatsoever arising out of the death, personal injury loss of or damage to personal property, that I or the child (if applicable), may suffer or sustain in any way connected with the above mentioned spearfishing competition, and I hereby indemnify and agree to keep indemnified The Australian Underwater Federation, it's member clubs, and it's individual members, their agents, all appointees and assigns against all claims whatsoever by me or the child or by any person claiming through me, or through the child on my behalf, in any way arising, and this discharge may be pleaded in bar to any such claim.

The fish I spear remain in my possession. I am responsible for adhering to the size limits, bag limits and other restrictions placed on my catch under government legislation.

I have read the above and understand its meaning and effect and declare that I am over 18 years of age.

Signed.....Date.....

If the applicant is under the age of 18 years, a parent/guardian is to co-sign the application form. Parent/Guardian to indemnify and hold harmless the persons and groups/organisations as noted above from any and all damages received in the event if the entrant is a minor.

Parent/Guardian- Name.....

Signed.....Date.....



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B-SECTION RULES

COMPETITION OFFICIALS

1. Subject to change, competition officials are identified as:-
 - Competition director ('CD'): TBA
 - Safety co-ordinator (sign-on/off, timekeeping) ('SC'): TBA
 - Weigh-master: TBA
2. All competitors must abide by any direction of a competition official. Failure to comply, without reasonable cause, may lead to disqualification.

DIVE SITES

3. The preferred locations for Spearfishing Championships are:-
 - Sudbury reef
 - Maori reef
 - Elford reef (reserve).
4. Selection of the venue sites shall be at the CD's discretion.

RESTRICTIONS & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

5. While there is NO spearing in the competition zones 14 days prior to the competition, the taking of crayfish is allowed during that time.
6. Handheld GPS and similar devices are prohibited.
7. Fish must not be tethered to the body.
8. All mandatory safety gear will be checked daily at the commencement of the competition by safety officials. Any divers not possessing necessary safety gear will not be permitted to compete on that day.

SCORESHEET / ELIGIBLE SPECIES

9. The scoresheet will be circulated shortly and it shall be used in assessing points.
10. Any competitor who returns with a protected species will be disqualified.
11. To be eligible for the weigh-in **ALL** fish must have a minimum weight of **1kg**.
12. All fish must be gutted in the water and presented to the weighmaster in this condition. The **1kg** minimum weight will still apply.
13. All fish taken during the competition are for human consumption and competitors found treating fish inappropriately (e.g. dumping fish) will be disqualified.
14. Competitors must keep the entirety of their catch for personal consumption or make alternative arrangements for the gifting or donation of same (there will be communal eskies available for the short-term storage of your catch).

DIVE TAGS

15. Each pair will be provided with numbered identification tags at the initial registration.
16. One tag must be attached to the pair's float.
17. It is the responsibility of each pair to secure their fish with their identification tag/s at fish drop-off points and/or upon returning to the start/finish vessel/s, and to ensure their fish remain secure up to the weigh-in location. Any loose or untagged fish may be ineligible for weigh-in.

REFUND POLICY

18. Registration cancellations will be dealt with as follows:-
 - Any cancellations received prior to the closing date will be refunded in full.
 - Any cancellations (for any reason) received after the closing date will be made less a \$50.00pp fee to cover anticipated expenses.