

World Underwater Federation



UNDERWATER FISHING (Spear fishing)

INTERNATIONAL RULES

English version
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1 DEFINITION

- 1.1 Competitive underwater fishing is defined as the search for and the catching of fish under water while holding one's breath, using means that depend entirely on the physical capabilities of the competitor.

2 ADMINISTRATIVE GENERAL INFORMATION

2.1 Administration

2.1.1 Only the CMAS has the right to organise official competitions for World and Continental Championships for Underwater Fishing.

a) The words "World, Continental" and "CMAS" cannot be associated to any Competition of Underwater Fishing, without the agreement of the CMAS.

2.1.2 The Competitions under the Responsibility of the CMAS are:

a) The World, Continental and Zone Championships.

b) A championship by teams (Clubs).

c) International competitions.

2.1.3 The CMAS Championships will be registered in an agreed calendar.

2.1.4 The CMAS Championships for teams (Clubs), are continental, but can be declared open to World participation.

2.1.5 International competitions are organized under the exclusive control of the CMAS and all the rights resulting from them are and remain the property of the CMAS.

2.1.6 The right to organize a CMAS Championship will be granted to the Federations or candidate Organizations, only after receiving by the CMAS, all the documents necessary, as stipulated in the procedures for the organization of a CMAS Championship, in particular and moreover the following documents must be received.

a) The Official CMAS Form of Request duly completed including its appendices and signed.

b) This Form and dossier of candidature must be sent to the secretariat of the CMAS, at the latest one (1) month before deadline of April 30th two (2) years before the championships

c) by the 30 April of the second year preceding the competition.

d) Methods of transport of the competitors, during the competition:

1-Either by boat

2-Or by fin swimming

e) A chart showing the boundaries of the zones in which the competition Will take place (Scale 1\50.000 and 1\150.000)

f)The definition of the "non valid" fish with their scientific name.

g) The organisers will have to justify their decision with regard to the requirement of the maximum and minimum weight of fish including for the "non valid" catches, also a well defined system and method of calculation for the different points awarded.

h) Penalties for certain catches can be specified in the Rules.

i)Copy of the licences of the local Maritime Authorities, and/or, necessary documents for the competition, in agreement with the law of the host country for the Championships, also the guaranty that the area of the competition will be protected during the competitions of any other activity that can obstruct the course of the competition.

j) Copies of the agreements for the use of the boats in service for each country

k) Copies of the agreements for the use of the boats in service for all the competitors, if the movement of competitors is to be made by boat.

l)Budget Proposal:

1-The cost of Registration Fees requested per Team with more or less persons, for the period of the competition, including lodging at full board including any extras (with / without boat) and with / without lodging in official hotel). This price will not rise more than 10% maximum.

2-The cost of the total administrative & logistic expenses per person if a participating Federation prefers to choose a hotel other than the one proposed by the N.F..

3-The contract duly completed and signed by the President of the candidate Federation. By this signature the candidate Federation will accept and honour the charges and proposed conditions.

If any of the above items are missing in the application, the CMAS Commission of Underwater Fishing cannot recommend the candidacy for the organisation of the Championship to be accepted by the CMAS BoD. Among two or more complete candidacies to organise a CMAS Championship, the lower budget figures will be a key factor for the Commission's recommendation to the CMAS BoD for approval. To assess the lower budget figures the CMAS Spearfishing Commission will also take into account the transportation cost from the international airport to the competition site, unless this is covered from the organising federation.

The CMAS Commission of Underwater Fishing has the "Power of Jurisdiction" on all the questions that are not covered by the rules, according to the Rules of the Judges. It has the capacity to defer the competition and to give instructions for the good running of the championship.

2.2 Particular Rules

2.2.1 The Federation or the organizing Club of any competition must send the particular Rules approved by the Commission, to all the National Federations involved with the competition and affiliated to the CMAS Sports Committee, at the latest 7 months before the beginning of the competition.

2.2.2 The Particular Rules will have to specify:

a) The date, the place and the type of the competition

b) The program in chronological order of the events included the Protocol of Ceremonies.

- c) All information relating to:
 - 1-Date of arrival and departure
 - 2-The places for accommodation and meals
 - 3-Expenses of participation

3 RULES FOR COMPETITORS

3.1 Participation

- 3.1.1 All Federations affiliated to the CMAS Sports Committee and with voting rights to the discipline concerned are allowed to take part. The Zone Championships, because of the worldwide involvement of the sport of underwater fishing. Zones will be in 3 groups, as follows:
 - a) Group I: Europe - Africa
 - b) Groups I: Americas
 - c) Groups III: Rest of the world
- 3.1.2 All members of a team must have the Nationality of the country which they represent.
- 3.1.3 The minimum age required at the date of the opening of the championship cannot be lower than 18 years.
- 3.1.4 Three (3) athletes per Country are allowed. The athletes may be of either gender, so long as the event is not categorised as a "women's" championship, where only women are allowed to compete. For a CMAS women's competition to be validly organised, the participation of at least 4 women athletes from 2 different countries is necessary. For a women's CMAS World Championship to be validly organised, the minimum criteria are: 10 countries at least subdivided into 3 continents at least. For the organization of women's Continental Championships, the minimum criteria are: 5 nations at least; The CMAS adopts sine varietur the continental subdivision of countries as established up today and as it may be changed in the future by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).
- 3.1.5 Each athlete will have to be in possession of a CMAS "Sports Licence", valid for the current year. As well the Individual Membership Inscription sent by the Federation and signed by the Federation President. This will be the guarantee that all the members of the team have the same qualification in free diving (apnoea).
- 3.1.6 The CMAS Technical Delegate will verify all the documents the day preceding the competition.
- 3.1.7 Athletes who do not have the correct documentation will not be allowed to participate in the competition.
- 3.1.8 The competitors will be expected.
 - a) To know the General Rules for Underwater Fishing, as well as the Particular Rules of the competition in which they take part.
 - b) Scrupulously to comply with the safety requirements during the training and the competition.
 - c) To follow all the recommendations made by the organizer and the college of the judges.
 - d) Personally take care that, their equipment is in conformity with the Rules;
 - e) To address the persons in charge of the organisation or the judges, only via their team captain.
- 3.1.9 Each team taking part in the competition must have a Team Captain.
- 3.1.10 The captain of team is:
 - a) The person in charge for the discipline of the members of his team,
 - b) The intermediary between the organizer, the college of the judges and the participants.
 - c) He will be able to act as Substitute or Competitor.

3.2 Applications to Participate in CMAS Championships

- 3.2.1 Applications to participate in CMAS competitions must be completed using the special forms according to the Rules
 - a) Each Federation must confirm its participation with the CMAS (appendix A) at least 4 months before the beginning of the championship, accompanied by its CMAS certification together with the required championship fees, with copies to the organizing federation.
 - b) The form (appendix B), stating the team and officials names, must arrive at the CMAS (with a copy to the organising Federation), 30 days (closing date) before the beginning of the competition.
 - c) Each National Representation can consist of:
 - Competitors: three (3) maximum
 - 1 (one) Substitute
 - 1 (one) Team Captain
 - 1 (one) Doctor
 - Other Component officially indicated

3.3 Participations in the World Championships

- 3.3.1 The only countries allowed to participate in the World Championship are the countries that have participated in the Championship of their Group that has taken place in the previous year. The countries can choose the group where they want to take part.
- 3.3.2 Countries authorized by Group to take part in the World Championships (Formula)
 - a) If A = Number of countries which the organizing federation is able to accommodate (minimum 20)
 - b) If B = Number of countries having participated in the championship of each group in the previous year
 - c) If C = Total number of the countries having participated in the championships of the previous year.
- 3.3.3 The number of countries of each group authorized to take part in the World Championship is given by the formula, but at least the best two (2) African Nations of the classification of the Group Championship will be classified to participate in the World Championship, whichever their position in the Euro African Group Classification, thereby excluding the last two European countries that would have the right to participate according to the classification:

A*B/C

Example:

If A = 20 (a maximum number)

If the number of countries having participate in their group championship =

Group I = 25

Group II = 10

Group III = 15

C = 50

The total number of countries of each group authorized to take part in the World Championship per group will be:

Group I = $20 \times 25 / 50 = 500 / 50 = 10$ Countries

Group II = $20 \times 10 / 50 = 200 / 50 = 4$ countries

Group III = $20 \times 15 / 50 = 300 / 50 = 6$ countries

The result by decimal will be rounded with the lower or higher unit (up to 0,5 with the lower unit).

3.4 Selection of the countries authorized to participate in the World Championship

3.4.1 The selection will be done according to the classification of each country at the time of the Championship of their group: According to example above would be:

- a) The 10 first of group I, but at least the best two (2) first African Nations of the classification of the Group Championship will be classified to participate in the World Championship, whichever their position in the Euro African Group Classification.
- b) The 04 first of group II
- c) The 06 first of group III

3.4.2 The organizing countries will be the first of its group (even if it did not take part in the championship of its group) and will be reducing the number of countries of the group qualified to take part.

3.4.3 Procedure should a qualified country not wish to take part in a championship.

- a) Should a country not wish to take part in a championship it will be replaced by the first country classified in the qualified order and so on until the last until complete.
- b) If the procedure above is exhausted and the number of qualified countries are not of sufficient number it will be the Fishing Commission and not the organising country, to choose, if necessary, the countries from the same group to take part, preference being given to the countries which would have qualified from Group I, if it were not for the rule to always include the two (2) best African countries, then the countries which show enthusiasm for the discipline of Underwater Fishing, also the countries which organise national championships regularly and which send their official results to the CMAS.

3.5 Disqualifications

3.5.1 When a competitor, who took part in a competition, is disqualified, (for example following a positive test, (anti doping) after the test is confirmed, his name will be withdrawn from the results list and all the competitors below the disqualified will advance a position in the results list.

3.5.2 The rewards and medals will be reclaimed and returned to the CMAS and granted to the next successful competitor, following the procedure as in article 3.5.1

3.6 Technical Meeting before the beginning of Championship.

3.6.1 This meeting will be organized at the latest 15 hours before the beginning of competition, with presence of:

- All responsible persons for the Organisation,
- The CMAS Technical Delegate
- The Team Captains
- The Official Doctor of the Organization
- The CMAS Employee if present

3.6.2 The purpose of this meeting is:

- a) To communicate all information concerning:
 - technical questions
 - the schedules and the means of transport
 - the official times fixed by the CMAS Technical Delegate
 - the directives for the protocol ceremonies
 - the safety measures
 - the anti doping Control
- b) The assignment of the boats and the boat Judges will be made by the drawing of lots. The assignment of the boats and the judges will be made by nations and not by athlete.
 - For all the boats, the Judges will be appointed by the CMAS Technical Delegate and they will always be from another nationality to the country appointed.
 - This drawing of lots will be carried out under the control of the CMAS Technical Delegate and CMAS Employee if present.
 - A number will be allotted to each competitor also to each substitute. This number will identify them for the duration of the competition. The number will consist of 3 letters for the indication of the country (symbols CMA) and the number 1 or 2 or 3 and 4 (for the substitute). The number must have a minimal height of 15 centimetres and will be placed in a visible position on the support boat, the buoy or the fishing board as well as the bag or any other means used to carry the catches to the weighing place.

- The Captain's boat will carry a number composed of 3 letters of the Country plus the letter C (as Captain).

3.6.3 The International Jury will decide the zone for the competition for each day.

3.7 International jury

3.7.1 It's a body, composed by the CMAS Technical Delegate, nominated by the CMAS under proposal from the Spearfishing Commission.

3.7.2 The mission of the jury is to examine all received complaints and to rule on those within the hour that follows the complaint procedure.

3.7.3 The decisions of the International Jury are without appeal, except if the jury is informed of a new element.

3.7.4 If a member of the Competition Committee (see 3.7.7) have the same nationality as one of the points in question, the member will be replaced by one of the substitute members.

3.7.5 The decisions must be communicated in writing to the person concerned immediately after the closure of the meeting.

3.7.6 A CMAS employee, if present, will act as secretary of the meeting without voting rights.

3.7.7 The CMAS Technical Delegate will be assisted by Competition Committee composed by the Director of Competition and three (3) team captains non competitors drawn among those participating in Technical Meeting. Decisions will be the only responsibility of the CMAS Technical Delegate.

3.7.8 The functions and the responsibility of the four (4) members of Competition Committee is exclusively to provide experienced advise to the CMAS Technical Delegate, without voting rights, with the only exception of disability of CMAS Delegate, in which circumstance the Competition Committee will ensure the taking of the minimum number of decisions to guarantee completion of the competition or, if required for any circumstance as adverse weather conditions, the suspension of a competition day/competition.

3.8 Complaints

3.8.1 Each participating team has the right to place any complaint to the International Jury.

3.8.2 Only the captain of the team will sign and present a complaint.

3.8.3 Any complaint will have to be accompanied by a guarantee; the amount is fixed by the CMAS.

3.8.4 A complaint must be presented in writing, in French, English or Spanish to the CMAS Technical Delegate:

- Before the weighing for those regarding the competition.

- During the weighing for those regarding the weighing and concerning the weighing itself

- With regard to an error in the classification, the presentation for a complaint must be made with the CMAS Technical Delegate within 15 minutes following the publication of the classification and accompanied by the payment of the necessary financial guarantee (this procedure will cause immediate delay in the protocol ceremony for the presentation of the medals).

3.8.5 The time to prepare and present a complaint. The plaintiff will have a 30 minutes deadline to write and present his report to the CMAS Technical Delegate. Failure to meet the deadline the complaint will be regarded as not valid with the loss of the guarantee.

3.8.6 The complaint will be declared inadmissible if these conditions are not met

3.8.7 If the complaint is successful the guarantee in cash will be returned. If unsuccessful the guarantee in cash remains with the CMAS. If, however, during the hearing of the complaint, the Technical Delegate establishes that the complaint was wilfully fraudulent in order for an innocent athlete to be punished or disqualified with the purpose of the country the captain of which made the complaint to gain fraudulent advantage, the Technical Delegate may at his discretion impose a penalty of 20 percentage points to the athlete and/ or 60 percentage points to the team from their end result depending on if the fraud lay with the athlete or with the captain of the country that filed the complaint. If the country is penalised, the 60 percentage points will only be subtracted from the nations' classification of art. 6.3.6.

3.9 Protocol

3.9.1 For each competition, the CMAS Technical Delegate must draw up a Protocol.

3.9.2 The organizer must give, after the competition, two copies of the protocol to each participating team and two copies must be sent to CMAS and two copies to the CMAS Commission of Underwater Fishing.

3.9.3 The protocol must contain:

a) The heading of the competition, the place, the date, the name of the organizer, the description of the place of the competition

b) The composition of the International Jury and the competition Committee.

c) The list of the participating teams (for the world and continental championships should show: the name, first name, and year of birth for each athlete).

d) The type of the competitions and the results

e) Disqualifications.

f) Particular incidents.

g) Signatures of the CMAS Technical Delegate and the head of the office of the performances or the principal secretary.

3.9.4 The place and the date of the competition as well the CMAS logo that must appear at the top or bottom of each page of the protocol.

4 TECHNICAL GENERAL INFORMATION

4.1 Material used by Competitor

- 4.1.1** One or more spear guns, working with elastic bands or compressed-air, loading only by the muscular force of the competitor, no other means of unspecified methods are acceptable.
- 4.1.2** Fins, face masks, gloves, under water glasses, snorkel, weight belt, spear guns, hooks, knives, protective clothing, watches, depths gauge, buoys, fishing board equipped with a compass, under water lamps, recoverable variable weights, freediver recovery vest, deep sounder and GPS, etc.
- 4.1.3** The use of an official buoy of 10 litres minimum volume is compulsory.
- 4.2 Logistic support**
- 4.2.1** All the competitions must be provided with the support of:
- A boat for the Director of the Competition
 - A boat for the CMAS Technical Delegate
 - Boats for the official doctors nominated for the competition
 - Boats placed for the Press disposal
- 4.3 Zone of competition**
- 4.3.1** For any CMAS Championship, 2 zones for the competition and 1 zone as a reserve.
- 4.3.2** The zones must be selected by taking account of the geographical configuration, the basic type and the number of competitors with a maximum length of 15 (fifteen) kilometres for the World Championship and 10 (ten) kilometres for all the other competitions.
- 4.3.3** Each one of these zones will have to be designated with precision and their limits will have to be determined by a precise alignment between two clearly marked points in order to be able to determine an alignment
- 4.3.4** Decisive geographical markers or easily locatable constructions, able to be defined by all will designate the zone limits.
- 4.3.5** In the event of difficulty, it will be acceptable that this alignment is defined by using one or two buoys.
- 4.3.6** Once defined, no change will be made to the limits of the zones.
- 5 OFFICIALS AND JUDGES**
- 5.1 Decisions**
- 5.1.1** The Officials must make their decisions about their functions in an autonomous way and unless otherwise specified in the Rules, independently from and to each other.
- 5.2 Composition of the Officials and the Judges**
- 5.2.1** The Organizer sets up the Officials and the Judges. It is entirely responsible for the preparation and the course of the Competitions.
- 5.2.2** The Officials and the Judges are composed of:
- a) The CMAS Technical Delegate
 - b) A Technical and Safety Official
 - c) The Director of the Competition
 - d) The General Secretary
 - e) Medical assistance
 - f) The Official for the Protocol Ceremonies (opening-enclosure-presenting of the medals)
 - g) The Boat Commissioners (Judges).
- 5.3 The CMAS Technical Delegate**
- 5.3.1** For the CMAS Championships the CMAS Technical Delegate is nominated by the Commission of Underwater Fishing and approved by the CMAS BoD. He has full control and authority over all the Officials and Judges. He must approve their assignments and give them instructions with regard to the Particular Rules relating to the competitions.
- 5.3.2** His mission is:
- a) The inspection of the installations being used for the competition
 - b) The examination of the individual files of the participants and their registrations.
 - c) The assignment, by drawing of lots, for the boats.
 - d) To sign the final classifications before the publication of the results.
- 5.3.3** He must apply the Rules and the decisions of the CMAS and solve all the questions concerning the effective organization that are not referred to in the Particular and the General Rules.
- 5.3.4** He must make sure that all the Officials and Judges necessary for the good operation of the competition are at their respective positions. He can nominate substitutes to replace the absent ones including those who are not in a fit state to fulfil their tasks or those who are inefficient. He can also nominate additional Officials and Judges if he considers it necessary.
- 5.3.5** He authorises the responsibility to give the starting signal after having been ensured that all the Officials and Judges are in place and ready.
- 5.3.6** The CMAS Technical Delegate, has the right to cancel or suspend the competition, even without the opinion of the other members of the International Jury, in the event of unfavourable weather conditions or if the place of competition or the installations do not fulfil the requirements of the Rules.
- 5.4 The Technical and Safety Official**
- 5.4.1** He is responsible for the observation of the safety regulations in use.
- 5.4.2** He is placed, at the beginning of the competition, under the authority of the CMAS Technical Delegate.
- 5.4.3** He is the coordinator of all Medical Assistance. The use of the medical boats, the positioning of the safety diver/s and the means of radio communication of the medical assistance, are also part of his responsibilities.
- 5.4.4** The Organising Committee must place at his disposal a sufficient number of assistants so that he can fulfil his mission without difficulty.
- 5.5 The Director of the Competition**

- 5.5.1 He deals with the technical problems of the competition, the provisions, at the appropriate time, of the material and the apparatuses necessary for the course of the competition.
- 5.5.2 He is responsible for the boats and the installations according to the Particular Rules.
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- 5.5.3 The use of the boats and the means of radio communication are also part of his responsibilities.

5.6 The Judge of the weighing team and of the classification

- 5.6.1 He/she is the responsible of the results control and the printing of the Classification for each day of competition to be certified by the CMAS Technical Delegate.
- 5.6.2 He checks that the decisions of the CMAS Technical Delegate are included in Protocol.
- 5.6.3 He controls the reliability of the protocol content, signs up and presents to the CMAS Technical Delegate for signature.
- 5.6.4 He communicates to the Speaker the results for the closing ceremony at the podium.
- 5.6.5 After approval of the CMAS Technical Delegate, he communicates the results and protocol to the CMAS Secretary.

5.7 The Boat Commissioners (Judges)

- 5.7.1 The Commissioner has the role of controlling the application of the General and the Particular Rules of the Competition, as well as the provisions possibly adopted by the CMAS Technical Delegate. He will inform the Director of the Competition and the CMAS Technical Delegate of any act that he believes has infringed the Rules.

5.8 The General Secretary

- 5.8.1 He prepares all the material of secretariat as well as all documentation necessary for the competition.
- 5.8.2 He appoints the assistant secretaries and directs their work.
- 5.8.3 He supervises the meeting of the CMAS Technical Delegate.
- 5.8.4 He prepares the final report of the Competition. He is responsible for the control of the results to be recorded in the computer, as well as the classification. The results and the protocol should be passed to the secretariat, for distribution, only after the agreement of the CMAS Technical Delegate.
- 5.8.5 When there is not a particular Press Office and under the authorization of the CMAS Technical Delegate, he transmits all information concerning the Competition.

5.9 The Medical Assistance

- 5.9.1 The medical assistance will have to guarantee the agency of help to any accident, giving the necessary assistance, from the very beginning of the accident, until the re-establishment of the conditions of health in local medical structures.
- 5.9.2 A Doctor specialist in reanimation, reporting to the Technical and Safety Official, must always be in the zone of the competition. An individual boat will be provided to him and his staff.
- 5.9.3 An ambulance reserved for the zone of competition, with a doctor, to be located, on the shore, close to the nearest Health Centre.
- 5.9.4 An official hospital must be easily accessible by ambulance.
- 5.9.5 A Hyperbaric Centre, previously alerted for the competition, will be in stand by for any help.
- 5.9.6 The availability of assistance by a helicopter is recommended.
- 5.9.7 All the doctors registered with the participant teams will automatically make part of the Medical Assistance group. All the doctors will have to be easily recognizable.
- 5.9.8 All the boats of assistance must:
 - a) To be easily recognizable.
 - b) Provided with means of communication (VHF – Mobil Phones etc.)
 - c) To have the list of the channels and the Mobil Phone Nrs. of all the boats.
 - d) To have the list of the procedures in the case of requests for help.
 - e) The boat of a competitor in difficulty must hoist a red flag and emit an agreed sounding signal.

5.10 Official for the Protocol Ceremonies

- 5.10.1 Must take care of the good course of the ceremonies – opening and closure, presentation of the medals (see Procedures and Obligations).
- 5.10.2 To keep those not involved, out of the space reserved for ceremonies
- 5.10.3 To carry out a rehearsal of the official presentation of medals ceremony, from the beginning to the end, under the control of the CMAS Official, the day before of the competition and at the place of the event. All things being obligatorily and in the right places (podium, carrying the medals, flags, official speaker, music, international hymns of CMAS, etc.)

6 COMPETITIONS

6.1 Development

- 6.1.1 The Competition Zones and the Reserve Zone will be officially revealed, 7 months before the competition, to all the interested parties.
- 6.1.2 The members of the teams can visit the zones two weeks before the championship, but it is forbidden the use of spear guns, scuba diving equipment and underwater scooters, within the zones.

- 6.1.3** The Competition Zones will be closed for the competitors, the captains and any member of the delegation, the day before the championship.
- 6.1.4** Championships will have the duration of two (2) days.
- 6.1.5** The Championships will have duration of 4, 5 or 6 hours consecutive per day. The duration will be specified in the Particular Rules for each competition.
- 6.1.6** The beginning and the end of the competition will be marked by sounding signals of great intensity also by visual means as stated in the Particular Rules (flag or rocket for example).
- 6.1.7** One hour before the commencement of the competition the Technical and Safety Official, the Director of the Competition and the CMAS Technical Delegate, must make the roll-call of the captains, who will present a document with the signature of the competitors. At the end of the competition the competitors on their return must sign on the same paper. This operation must be carried out for each day of competition.
- 6.1.8** Only the CMAS Technical Delegate and the Director of the Competition can decide by mutual agreement, the Change of the Competition Zone, due to bad weather or for any other case of absolute necessity. In the event of disagreement, the CMAS Technical Delegate imposes his decision.
- 6.1.9** The Competition Zones and the Reserve Zone can be used only one time.
- 6.1.10** In the case of one-day cancellation the Championship will be validated.
- 6.1.11** If the competition has to be stopped due to bad weather or for any other situation of absolute necessity, could be considered valid, if the time passed since the beginning, is at least two thirds (2/3) of the duration planned for that day of competition.
- 6.1.12** Only the CMAS Technical Delegate and the Director of the Competition can decide by mutual agreement, on the interruption or the cancellation of the Competition. In the event of disagreement, the CMAS Technical Delegate imposes his decision.
- 6.1.13** If the visibility of water is lower than 4 meters, it is insistent with the competitors to dive to less than 10 meters of distance between one and the other.
- 6.1.14** During the course of the Competition, only the official boats and those duly authorized by the CMAS Technical Delegate, on proposal of the Organization, can be present in the Competition Zone.
- 6.1.15** The photographic and cinematographic operators will not be authorized to take under water pictures of a competitor unless they receive authorization by the Competition Management, the written authorization of the captain of the interested team and the written authorization of the competitor in action.
- 6.2 Weighing of the Fish**
- 6.2.1** The order of weighing of the fish of the competitors of each nation will be determined, for the first day by drawing of nations during the technical meeting.
- 6.2.2** For the second day the weighing will be in reverse order from last athlete of the classification to the first.
- 6.2.3** The boat Commissioners must be present during the weighing.
- 6.2.4** The organizers must state in the Particular Rules the precise methods of keeping the catches in proper and good condition until the weighing.
- 6.3 Classification**
- 6.3.1** The points will be allocated in the following way:
- a)** A point per gram for each valid catch. The maximum weight taken into account will be defined by the Particular Rules without being able to exceed the maximum weight of 12,5 kilos.
Particular Rules must always identify in two different lists:
 - Forbidden species: those not allowed catching by local law.
 - Non Valid species: those not providing any point to competitor, as low sportif value is considered. Fish species that are dangerous to cause threat to the athletes' health (such as all kinds of weevers) or of no sportif value and can be damaging to the competitions' image (such as sharks and batoids) shall always be excluded by the organizing Federation's Particular Rules as approved by the Commission of Underwater Fishing.
 - b)** Also, for each valid catch, an allowance equal to the minimum weight of validity of the catch as described within the Particular Rules, in CMAS Championships this weight will not be lower than 500 grams, except for women's Championship, where it is allowed to be 300.
 - c)** Only in waters without any CMAS Championships experience (or where the CMAS has approved already in the past), an alternative minimum weight not to be lower than 300 grams may be suggested by Particular Rules and considered for potential approval by CMAS Commission of Underwater Fishing. This may be the case (i.e.) in the Baltic Sea, the North Sea or in mixed Sea and Lake Waters.
 - d)** Maximum number of catches by species is only voluntary for every organizer, but recommended by the CMAS Commission of Underwater Fishing. To be adapted to every event zone and Sea characteristics but, as guidance, a limit of 10-15 catches by species is suggested.
 - e)** A Bonus - allowance for every different type of species cached is established for al Championships and Competitions, as a number of points equal to the standard minimum weight of validity (the required for most of the species) in the particular event.
 - f)** In all events in which a limited number of catches is established per species, a Bonus - allowance for completion of every quota for the specie is established, as a number of points equal to 2 x the minimum standard weight as detailed in precedent point.
 - g)** National Federations organizing World / Continental Zones Championships will avoid in Particular Rules discretionary declaration as "non valid species" of common species in international

championships. This declaration will be only accepted when existing clear National or Local Government prescribe forbidden species or formal sportive argumentation.

- h) For the Conger and Moray, if these fish are included, a specified minimum weight must be determined; this weight will not be lower than 2 kilos. Punctuation and penalties for these species is recommended to be a fixed number of points whatever the weight above the minimum of the championship in relation to their actual weight.
 - i) Penalties will be applied to the catch for a weight lower than two thirds (2/3) of the minimum weight of the valid catch, fixed by the Particular Rules. This penalty is equal to the number of the points allotted to a catch with the minimum weight.
- 6.3.2** The classification of each day of competition will be made. The score of each competitor will be then transformed into a percentage, by calculating in percent, the score of each competitor, compared to the score obtained by the winner.
- 6.3.3** The competitor, who will have obtained the best score of each day, will be allocated 100 points. The following competitors' scores will be calculated to a percentage of the winner up to the third decimal point
- 6.3.4** Formula: **Score of the day X 100 / Score of first (competitor).**
- 6.3.5** The individual final classification will be given by adding the scores, expressed as a percentage, for the two days.
- 6.3.6** The nation final classification will be given by adding the scores, expressed as a percentage, for the two days of all the Athlete participants of each country.
- 6.4 Competition Discipline.**
- 6.4.1** All members of the registered teams are obliged to know and respect the rules of the competition.
- 6.4.2** At all times the judges have the authority to intervene should the rules not be respected.
- 6.4.3** The CMAS Technical Delegate can implement the sanctions of:
- a) Warning
 - b) Exclusion for the day.
 - c) Exclusion from the Competition / Championship
- 6.4.4** All those who committed offences before the beginning of the competition will not be allowed to take part in the competition.
- 6.4.5** The Judge must inform the competitor of the infringement once it is official.
- 6.4.6** Once the competitor is informed, the Judge must inform the CMAS Technical Delegate to decide about the sanction.
- 6.4.7** If the competitor who receives the warning has already received another warning the CMAS Technical Delegate will order his immediate disqualification for the day.
- 6.4.8** The competitor who is totally disqualified from the competition loses all rights to the classification in the Competition.
- 6.5 Infringements punishable with warning**
- 6.5.1** To arrive late at the control points planned by the Organization, except for security reasons.
- 6.5.2** For incorrect behaviour towards other competitors or the Judges.
- 6.5.3** To move away more than 25 meters from the official buoy.
- 6.5.4** To load or to maintain the spear gun in a loaded state on shore, on the buoy, the fishing board or on the support boat.
- 6.5.5** To have a buoy not in conformity with the Rules.
- 6.5.6** To not declare to have caught the total number allowed for a certain species of fish, as stated in the Particular Rules.
- 6.5.7** During the time of competition, to be/dive out of the limits of the competition zone up to a distance where this could be considered as accidental and not intentional.
- 6.5.8** To have obtained help to recover the official buoy from anyone on board of own boat, during the time the competitor is diving or in surface (no warning for any help when competitor is on board of own boat).
- 6.5.9** To present for weighing a fish speared by another competitor and left at the surface or at the bottom with evident signalization or a fish that was brought to the surface after the lapse of the competition time. The fish will not count and will be invalid.
- 6.5.10** To present the catch in a bag with or without water, different than the one provided by the organization. Apart from the warning, the catch will be weighed at the end of the weighing after removal of the bag and the water.
- 6.5.11** To violate any other provision in the rules not specifically provided for in this article 6.
- 6.6 Punishable Infringement with disqualification for the day**
- 6.6.1** Two warnings, in the same competition, will be immediate disqualification for the day.
- 6.6.2** Carrying fish at the belt or keeping catches at any place out of boat or official buoy.
- 6.6.3** During the time of competition, go out of the limits of the competition zone beyond a distance where this is considered as intentional.
- 6.6.4** To be in the Competition Zone before the Official start signal, leave the competition zone before the end of the day of competition or without passing check control of arrival, without getting permission of CMAS Technical Delegate or Director of Championship, through Boat Commissioner request.
- 6.6.5** To stay in the sea after the official time of the **end** of the competition, ignoring the prompts about end of time from Boat Commissioner.
- 6.6.6** To be dragged by boat in the water under any circumstance except emergency or safety reasons.

- 6.6.7 To use the Freediver Recovery Vest without **previous** notification of the CMAS Technical Delegate and initialing of its gas capsule..
- 6.6.8 To inflate the Freediver Recovery Vest (even if by accident) or not to present its gas capsule for inspection after the end of each competition day..
- 6.6.9 To use use electric winch or other electric device to lift the weight from the bottom.
- 6.6.10 To use gps/motor (Minn Kota) machine that keeps boat at the same spot (electric anchor).

6.7 Punishable Infringement with total disqualification (Deleted from official classification):

- 6.7.1 Aggression towards other Competitors, the Judges or the Members of the Organization before or during the competition.
- 6.7.2 To fish species prohibited by the National Legislation, specified by the Organizing Country or to infringe any fishing local law.
- 6.7.3 To replace the catches of the regulated species or exchange them between athletes..
- 6.7.4 To use any type of scuba diving or breathing apparatus.
- 6.7.5 To be (diving or cruising) in the Competition Zone, with or without speargun, before the Official start time in the days of competition.
- 6.7.6 To return or leave in water catches of any kind / category: not valid, forbidden or valid species of any weight.
- 6.7.7 Weighing fraud.
- 6.7.8 Use of exploding tips, luparas, and / or any gadget with explosive power or any system which is not charged by human physical effort.
- 6.7.9 During official time of competition as well as along the official period of zone visit before use any diving breathing system, use of submarine propeller gadgets as "torpedo".

7 COMPETITION

7.1 General Information

- 7.1.1 Once the competition starts, the replacement of the athletes is forbidden.
- 7.1.2 If an athlete withdraws himself, before the end of the competition the boat commissary will have to inform, as soon as possible, the Head of the Judges.
- 7.1.3 The Captain of the team, before the 1st or the 2nd day of the Competition can replace any of its 3 Athletes by the Reserve in the event of injury or illness.
In this situation, the Captain will have to inform, in writing and under his signature, the Official Doctor and the CMAS Technical Delegate, at the latest, one hour before the start of the 1st or the 2nd day of Competition. The Captain of the team, before the 2nd day of the Competition can also replace any of its 3 Athletes by the Reserve in the event of disqualification of an athlete from the Championship during the first day, if the disqualification has been imposed due to one of the following reasons: a) Having fished species prohibited by the national legislation or having infringed any fishing local law, b) Having returned or heaving left in the water catches of any kind and weight and c) Having been in the Competition Zone, with or without speargun before the official start time in the days of competition or the day before the start of the competition.
- 7.1.4 The athletes cannot move away more than 25 meters from their official buoy.
- 7.1.5 In the event of a breaking swell area of shallow waters, the athlete can leave his buoy anchored before the line of the breaking waves to fish behind this line. In this event, the athlete only can operate in the immediate area into or after the breaking line of waves.
- 7.1.6 After the signal for the end of the competition, the competitors will be allowed to recover the material which would have possibly remained on the seabed
- 7.1.7 Fish brought to the surface after the end of the competition will not be considered valid for the weighing.
- 7.1.8 It is not allowed to use electric winch or other electric device to lift the weight from the bottom. Weight can be lifted only by muscular power of competitor or helper/ boat driver.
- 7.1.9 It is not allowed to use gps/motor (Minn Kota) machine that keeps boat at the same spot (electric anchor).

7.2 Competition with the use of boats

- 7.2.1 A support boat will be given to each competitor and to each captain. Four (4) boats for Country will be attributed, but if the organizer Country found difficulties in the attribution of this quantity of boats, it will be able to reduce the number to 3, eliminating the one attributed to the Captains, the latter being able to embark during the Competition, in the boat of any of his athletes. Instead of 4 (or 3) boats, the Particular Rules may state that each country will be given only one big boat.
- 7.2.2 The boats will be as similar as possible in type and in motor power. The boat commissar or other allowed team member on board will be allowed to raise the variable ballast from the sea bottom of any athlete that requests it.
- 7.2.3 The boats will have to circulate at a low speed during the competitions and to approach the competitors with the engine idling, at a maximum range of thirty meters (except in the case of absolute necessity).
- 7.2.4 On each support boat, only the competitor, the captain, the boat commissioner, the pilot and if possible, a passenger having his national licence, will be allowed at the request of the competitor or the captain. For safety reasons it is allowed the use of radio and mobile phones on the boats. If only one boat is given to each country, the competitors, the captain, the boat commissioner and the pilot will be

allowed in the boat. The captains of each team have the duty to ensure the monitoring of their athletes for which they have the responsibility to control.

7.2.5 On the captain's boat the team's registered doctor will be allowed.

7.2.6 If a competitor calls for a boat, whatever it is, it will have to answer in priority with this call.

7.3 Competition without the use of the boats - with swimming fins

7.3.1 Each competitor will have to be provided with a fishing board of distinctive colour (yellow, orange or red), provided by the organization.

7.3.2 The competitor can use his personal fishing board if it meets the official standards, described below.

Length: 70 to 120 cm overall

Width: 40 to 60 cm

Thickness: 7 to 30 cm

Propulsion: swimming fins only.

7.3.3 The fishing board must be provided with a suitable rope line for anchoring. One mast in front with 40 centimetres in height and 12 to 18 millimetres in diameter, being used to receive the flag provided by the organization.

a) The flag carrying the number of the competitor will have to be placed on the mast in order to be readable.

b) The fish holder will have to be fixed to the buoy or the official fishing board. They will be provided by the competitors. It is strictly forbidden to have a fish holder fixed to the belt, not even the point to kill or to thread a fish to the holder.

c) The official fishing board is used as support for the fish holder and the spare equipment. No fish holder or spare equipment should be placed on board the support boat except for the masks, fins and snorkels.

d) All the spears/shafts fixed on the official fishing board will have to be provided with protections for the tips.

e) The fishing boards will not have to be provided with fabric covers or bags.

f) No loaded spear guns will be fixed to the fishing board.

7.3.4 Each competitor will have to carry on him, during the competition, a knife or a scraping-knife of diving.

7.3.5 The Organization must guarantee the provision of the boats for assistance, in a ratio of 1 per 5 athletes.

7.3.6 Each nation will be provided with a boat. In this boat, only those authorised will be allowed the athletes, the captain, the commissioner and the registered team doctor. The athletes can change their spot in the zone a maximum of 3 times with their Nation boat, after the first hour of Competition.

7.3.7 The athletes must comply with all the safety requirements.

7.3.8 The captains of each team have the duty to ensure the monitoring of their athletes for which they have the responsibility to control.

7.3.9 The athletes are allowed to start the competition, only after the teams have gathered, close to the primary starting base.

7.3.10 The initial entering in the water will be done from a precise point.

7.3.11 The initial entering in the water will take place in the middle of the zone, either starting from a point on the coast or starting from the flagship. GPS points in the Particular Rules will specify this starting point.

7.3.12 The Director of the Competition will give the start in 2 stages

a) To enter in the water, the competitors will be within 10 meters of the starting point.

b) At the precise time, the Director of the competition will give the start signal with a suitable agreed means.

7.3.13 The athletes will leave after the signal to start the competition to a point chosen by them inside the Official Zone.

7.3.14 Once in the water the athletes will not be able to carry out any relocation with a boat during the first hour.

7.3.15 During the competition the athlete will use his fishing board with a rope connected to him for this purpose with the maximum length that enables him to reach the seabed. He can also swim lain on his fishing board.

7.3.16 Relocation by walking on the shore is not allowed during the competition.

7.3.17 If an athlete calls upon a support boat or their nation boat, he must anchor his fishing board and his return to the water will be carried at the place where he anchored his fishing board.

7.3.18 At the end of the Competition each athlete must stay in place with his fishing board, discharged spear gun removed mask, while he is waiting to be recovered from the sea, by an official boat.

7.3.19 At the end of the competition, the boats provided to the captains of team will have to be on the meeting point as decided by the Head of the Judges. The primary starting base.

7.3.20 Any boats arriving later than the fixed deadline will be disqualified.

7.3.21 The athletes will have to trust their own timing methods.

7.3.22 However, the support boats can inform the competitors during the competition the official time to finish provided by the Director of the Competition.

8 RESPONSIBILITY

8.1 The World Confederation of Underwater Activities (CMAS), and the Organizers, as well their Representatives and Collaborators, the Director of the Competition and the Judges, cannot be held responsible for the damage which could be caused to the materials and goods from the participants, nor for the accidents which could occur with the competitors and other participants, as result of their inscription in the Sports Competition and particularly in the Underwater Competitions.

