



## **BIENNIAL NATIONAL ANGLING CHAMPIONSHIPS AND CONVENTIONS**

### **HISTORY**

In 1948, a group of amateur anglers from New South Wales and Victoria met in Newcastle and discussed the benefits of an Australia wide association of anglers. As a result of those discussions, a formal meeting was held in November 1949 by representatives from New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland, at which time it was decided to establish the Australian Anglers Association.

On the same weekend, the attending State representatives managed to hold a fishing competition of a few hours duration. Since that time, South Australia, Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory have joined the Association.

From those few hours of friendly competition in 1949 has grown the present format of the National Championships for both State Teams and Individuals.

Previous Queensland Carnivals in Queensland -

1953 Coolangatta

1959 Coolangatta

1967 Noosa Heads - Tewantin

1977 Caloundra

1987 Gold Coast

1997 Rainbow Beach

2005 Yeppoon

2013 Sunshine coast

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### **A LITTLE ABOUT THE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Duration** - At present, the Carnival is spread over a 16 to 19 day period which includes 11 days of competition plus numerous social events.

**Who will Attend** - The Championships are open to all financial members of angling clubs affiliated with their respective State Associations. A contingent of New Zealand anglers is also invited to attend.

**Attendance** - At the 1987 Gold Coast Carnival, there were 550 participants. In 1997, we had 350, and in 2005 there were 250 competitors and social participants. The numbers have remained fairly stable since 2005, with similar numbers participating in 2013.

**Championship Events** - Team and Individual Championships are conducted in three different fishing categories - Offshore, Estuary and Rock and Beach. There are two rounds of competition in each of the fishing categories. Weigh-ins are held immediately after each round. Team and

Individual Championships are also conducted in Dry Casting. There are two days of dry casting competition.

Official Functions - A Civic Reception is held before the start of the carnival. Invited guests include the Shire Mayor and Councilors, the Local MLA, the State Presidents and Captains from each Member and representatives of the Championship's major sponsors. Later that day, the Official Opening and Flag Raising are held.

Meetings - The Australian Anglers Association conducts two important Meetings during the carnival, the AGM and Federal Executive Meeting for State Delegates, and the Convention Meeting, open to all members. The last official function, held on the last night of the carnival, is the Presentation Dinner at which all the major trophies are presented to the respective Champion State Teams and Individuals.

Social Functions - During the carnival, numerous social functions are held. These include a Welcome Night and various other functions such as a State night, a dance or a trivia night. Normally, several Lay Days are scheduled during the carnival and most competitors use these to go sight-seeing and visit the local tourist attractions. Bus trips to local places of interest are organized for those visitors who are not that heavily involved in the fishing.