

**FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE  
DE LA PECHE SPORTIVE EN MER**

**F.I.P.S -M**

**A.s.b.l – Association sans but lucratif**

Registre de Commerce et des Sociétés Luxembourg F7236



**INTERNATIONAL RULES  
GENERAL PART  
ENGLISH**

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# **FIPS-M INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION RULES**

## **FOR SEA ANGLING**

The Rules are based on the principles of 1982. Additions and modifications of the rules have been made at various congresses.

LUXEMBOURG	1982	(Big Game Fishing + modif. Spain)
AMERSFOORT	1982	(Correction of the text)
LUXEMBOURG	1983	(Complement of the chapters B - C - D)
LUXEMBOURG	1983	(Correction of the translation)
HAMBOURG	1984	(Modification of Madrid 85)
MADRID	1985	(Acceptance of the modifications)
LUXEMBOURG	1989	(Modifications San Marin 89)
SAN MARINO	1989	(Acceptance of the modifications)
BORDEAUX	1991	(Acceptance of the modifications)
DUBLIN	1993	(Acceptance of the EEC guidelines)
ANGLET	1993	(Proposals FIPS-M Techn. Comm.)
DRESDEN	1995	(Acceptance of the modifications 94/95)
LUXEMBOURG	1997	(Addition, Long Casting of Sea Weights)
POREC	1999	(Acceptance of the modifications)
VALLADOLID	2001	(Acceptance of the modifications)
LOCARNO	2003	(Acceptance of the modifications)
PALERMO	2005	(Acceptance of the modifications)
PRAGUE	2007	(Acceptance of the modifications)
CAIRO	2008	(Acceptance of the modifications)
DRESDEN	2009	(Acceptance of the modifications)
DAKAR	2010	(Acceptance of the modifications)
ROME	2011	(Acceptance of the modifications)
MELILLA	2012	(Acceptance of the modifications)
LISBON	2013	(Acceptance of the modifications)
SAN MARINO	2014	(Acceptance of the modifications)
CANCUN	2015	(Acceptance of the modifications)
SETUBAL	2016	(Acceptance of the modifications)
PRAGUE	2017	(Acceptance of the modifications)
NIAGARA FALLS	2018	(Acceptance of the modifications)
ALMATY	2019	(Acceptance of the modifications)
LUXEMBOURG	2020	(Acceptance of the modifications) (Online General Assembly)
COMANO TERME	2021	(Acceptance of the modifications)
ACAPULCO	2022	(Acceptance of the clarifications)

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# I. PREAMBLE

The International Federation of Sea Angling (FIPS-M) was founded within the International Confederation of Sporting Angling (C I P S), which includes four International Federations:

- Freshwater (Coarse) Angling (F.I.P.S. - ED)
- Casting (F.I.S.L.)
- Sea Angling (F.I.P.S. - M)
- Fly-Fishing (F.I.P.S. - Mouche)

FIPS-M is an International Sport Organization with universal character, without any political, religious, racial or philosophical considerations.

The principal aims are:

- Organize and promote the Sport of Sea-Angling worldwide in cooperation with all affiliated International Federations
- Encourage friendship and understanding between all nations which conforms to the Olympic idea and to preserve peace and harmony throughout the Sport of Sea-Angling worldwide
- Act as a link between the National Federations as recognized by their countries
- Promote and protect marine environment including supporting scientific studies
- Work in close cooperation with other world organizations who have similar objectives

## **II. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS OF C.I.P.S – F.I.P.S./M**

1. All the articles of the current rules are in accordance to the statutes of the Confederation.
2. One Vice-President of the International Federation FIPS-M is responsible for establishing the competition rules and the international sport calendar of FIPS-M– statutes article 9, sub. 2.
3. The responsible Vice-President is the chairman of the Technical Commission composed of five members. According to the workload of the commission, a secretary may be nominated. There is one elected member responsible for each discipline of FIPS-M. The members of the commission should be available to help the Vice-President with their knowledge and experience.
4. If required, the responsible Vice-President can co-opt additional specialists for helping in various circumstances (statutes article 9, sub. 5).
5. The commission works in accordance of the statutes of the Confederation. Meetings can be called by the responsible Vice-President after the President of FIPS-M has been informed.
6. The FIPS-M Board has the right to modify the rules after studying the proposals formulated by the Technical Commission.

These modifications will be applied during the current year, and they will be presented at the next General Assembly for ratification.

7. A FIPS-M member federation may organize a FIPS-M contest in a third country which is not a member of the FIPS-M. This federation must produce to the FIPS-M Board, with its application to organize a FIPS-M contest, a document, which certifies that the risk of civic liability of the organizer with reference to the contest is completely covered, before the event can be registered in the FIPS-M calendar. If before the receipt of this certificate and the start of the event takes place, adverse incidents in this country happened, in such circumstances this certificate can be revoked or if the FIPS-M delegate(s) deem it to be too dangerous, or in the case of a Foreign Office of a FIPS-M member nation advises nationals not to visit this country, the FIPS-M Board reserves the right to cancel this event. The organizing federation cannot ask for any financial compensation.
8. The organisation of events under the auspices of FIPS-M falls under the full responsibility of the member federation accepted by the FIPS-M General Assembly. This federation can give the Organisation to a local club, but they must still supervise the whole event and remain responsible to all participants and to FIPS/M.

## **FIPS-M Delegates**

For each championship, under the auspice of FIPS-M, the board will select one or two delegates as required, they will supervise the competition. The statement of specifications, signed by the organiser will be handed over to them.

- The accommodation and travel costs of these delegates will be paid by the organiser.
- The names of the delegates will be sent to the organizer.
- These delegates will be present 24 or 48 hours in advance depending on the importance and timing of the event.

### **The responsibility of delegates is:**

- To organize a meeting with the organizing committee and the head-stewards to discuss all aspects of the competition prior to the beginning of the championship.
- To check the hotel facilities.
- To check if communication will be done in English and French.
- To check the competition venues and boats and making sure that adequate containers (bucket) are provided to keep the catch alive. In competitions where fish are kept, appropriated fish bags or nets must be provided by the organization.
- Re boat angling and big game fishing check the boats have all the necessary safety equipment and meet the technical requirements.
- To check that every boat has a correct identification marker.
- The organiser is responsible for all safety measures throughout the duration of the competition. A copy of the insurance policy must be given to the FIPS-M delegate. This must be mentioned in his report.
- To check that there is a notice board available for publishing the results and general information.
- Check the predicted weather forecast 24 hours in advance.
- Weather conditions may dictate that a venue or fishing area has to be changed at short notice. This information must be passed to the captains as soon as possible.
- To control the opening and closing ceremonies.
- To participate and supervise the captains meeting(s).
- To supervise the selection of the International Jury and to be a Jury member.
- To supervise the draw.
- To be present during the weighing and to check the classification.
- For Long Casting of sea weights, check the size of the zone, the casting area, the device for measurement, the leads, the shelters with chairs and tables for the competitors.
- To ensure the respect of the FIPS-M rules in its entirety.
- To be present during the competition, in order to intervene in case of problems.
- After the competition is completed, to make a written report and to send it to the FIPS-Secretary with a complete set of the results, and this at least 15 days later.

The FIPS-M delegates must receive from the organizer before the end of the competition a copy of the payment concerning the starting fees to FIPS-M, which will be added to the delegate's report. If the bank transfer is not possible the cash should be collected by the delegate who should transfer the money to the FIPS-M treasure.

### Travelling costs of the FIPS-M delegates

The FIPS-M delegate travelling costs must be refunded by the organisation on presentation of the delegates travel receipts. This can be done by bank transfer or cash. (in EUROS (€)). If the delegate travels by his private car, he can charge 0,33 € per kilometre and also the highway and parking fees.

## **III. KIND OF COMPETITIONS AND ORGANISATIONS**

1. The current rules for International Competitions of Sea-Angling include:
  - a. The General Competition Rules
  - b. The Rules for Shore - Angling.
  - c. The Rules for Boat - Angling.
  - d. The Rules for Big Game Fishing.
  - e. The Rules for Long Casting of Sea Weights.
  - f. The rules for Light Tackle Boat Fishing
2. These rules may be modified by decision of the F.I.P.S - M.
3. The rules for the international competitions of sea angling and Long casting of sea weights can be divided into the following categories:

Individual and team competitions, organized separately or combined, as:

- a. World Championships
- b. Intercontinental Championships
- c. Competitions between Nations
- d. International Championships

A world championship of F.I.P.S.-M should follow the criteria and the rules of one of the above disciplines. A combination is not allowed.

# IV. GENERAL RULES FOR COMPETITIONS

## GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING COMPETITIONS

### 1 General Guidelines for Competitions

- 1.01 Applications for the organization of a FIPS-M Competition by a member-nation must be presented to the FIPS-M General Secretary at the latest 3 years before the planned date of the competition.
- 1.02 Before an event can be organised, the member federation must have participated in 3 competitions of the same discipline (FIPS-M statutes, art. 7).
- 1.03 Propositions to host a championship should be sent to the General Secretary of FIPS-M who will put it on the agenda for the next General Assembly to vote on the issue. Championships will only be allocated for the next three years. All other applications will be put on a candidature list.
- 1.04 After each FIPS-M General Assembly, the calendar will be updated and published.
- 1.05 Official FIPS-M forms must be used for all applications.
- 1.06 After agreement by the FIPS-M general assembly of an application to organize a FIPS-M competition, and after presenting a statement of specifications 12 months before the designated date to the general secretary, FIPS-M gives a final agreement at least 2 to 3 months prior to the event, FIPS-M may send a delegate to inspect the facilities.

Using the official FIPS-M checklist, this technical adviser inspects the reception area, the boats or shore sections, the angling possibilities (favourable angling period, the local legal size of fishes), the species of fish present in angling area, the project for the organization like the hotel infrastructure. Concerning the Long casting of sea weights, the field used for competition should be inspected for both size, suitability and security.

This inspector can supply all the necessary information for a successful championship if required.

His travelling expenses and hotel accommodations throughout his stay must be paid in full by the organisation. Within 15 days of his return, he must submit to the general secretary a full report including the completed checklist. Once the venue/facilities have



been checked by a FIPS-M delegate, changes are not allowed unless authorized by FIPS-M.

1.07 The dates of world championships, intercontinental championships and FIPS-M international organizations should be fixed but within the same discipline they should be spaced three (3) weeks apart.

National organizations should avoid date overlapping with the events of the international FIPS-M sport calendar.

1.08 All the requests to organize FIPS-M competitions must contain a complete description with the following information (statement of specifications):

- Description of the event to be organized.
- Address and name of the organizer of the event.
- Place and time-table of the event.
- Kind of competitions.
- Exact description of the competition area.
- Information concerning the conditions of the shoreline and the boats, also of the field concerning the Long casting of sea weights.
- Information concerning the species of sea fishes to be found in the angling area.
- Information and recommendations concerning fishing tackle.
- Information about the quantity and kind of baits.
- Information concerning the protection close season for the different species of sea fish and their minimum sizes.
- Information concerning the possibilities of training
- Information concerning addresses of fishing tackle shops.
- Information concerning the possibilities and ways of travelling and accommodation.
- Information concerning the costs of participation, including awards, respectively the costs of boat charter, costs of baits and insurance
- Information concerning cost of boat charter and baits for training
- Information concerning the cost the accommodation and food prices for the duration of the event.
- Information concerning the dates for the receipt of application and the methods of payment.
- Information concerning the authorized number of anglers and officials
- Information concerning the awards
- Information of the total cost of the organizing without costs of board and lodging and travelling.
- The participating fees per competitor of a FIPS-M competition for the different disciplines cannot exceed the fixed limit prices. An adjustment is possible in relationship with the yearly changes of the living cost index.

1.09 Participation fee (Maximum):

- Shore Angling:.....800 €

- Shore Angling for Clubs .....800 €
- Shore Angling for Pairs ..... / Pair 1600 €
- Shore Float Angling.....575 €
- Boat Angling:.....1000 €
- Boat Angling for Clubs .....1000 €
- Boat Angling with Artificial Lures.....800 €
- Boat Hand Angling: .....575 €
- Light Tackle Boat Angling.....1200 €
- Big Game Fishing: .....1500 €
- Big Game Fishing Clubs.....1500 €
- Long Casting of Sea Weights:.....650 €

1.10 The FIPS-M participation fee per team (150 €), per individual angler (30 €) or per individual pair (60 €) must be included in the registration fees and paid in total by the organizer to the FIPS-M.

1.11 The above prices include the total of all costs defined by the statement of specifications including the costs for the official training. The costs of repairing any damages caused by participants must be paid by the participants themselves or their national federation on the presentation of an illustrated bill.

1.12 For the organisation of Youth Championships, the participation fee must be reduced by 100 € per team member.

1.13 For the partners of the FIPS-M delegates the price as companion must be 400 € maximum.

1.14 The FIPS-M Board after consulting with the technical commission, has the right to cancel a championship if the statement of specifications does not meet the criteria of FIPS-M guidelines even with prior acceptance by the general assembly.

In such case the concerned federation cannot put in a claim of a financial compensation.

1.15 If a federation cancels a championship, the cost of any medals purchased by FIPS-M must be refunded.

When a contest has an insufficient number of teams, we have the following possibilities:

- if the organizer has acted according to the FIPS-M rules, he will not be penalized.
- if the organizer has not acted according to the FIPS-M rules, he has to pay for the costs of FIPS-M.

(Note: If the FIPS-M board agrees on the statement of specifications in November, the invitation brochures should be sent to member federations by the end of January in the following year.

- 1.16 The organizer of a Championship offers a "package" to the participating nations, including all fees described in the statement of specifications.
- If a Senior Championship and a Youth Championship in the same discipline are organized simultaneously at the same place and on the same dates, the senior teams and the junior teams having booked the "package" should be accommodated, if possible, in the same hotel.
- If that is not possible, all the senior teams must be regrouped in one hotel and the junior teams in another hotel.
- 1.17 Nations not wishing to take the hotel package and catering separately, must notify the organizers of their decision at least four months before the beginning championship and do all booking procedures themselves.
- 1.18 For teams not taking the official package, a charge will still be made for the general organisation as secretary costs, bait, stewards, FIPS-M fees, fixed costs etc..
- 1.19 The organizer and FIPS-M may refuse this possibility of booking in certain circumstances for some events in a country where there are security worries which could endanger the physical integrity of the competitors and the coaches. The organizer must inform FIPS-M about these problems. In such circumstances FIPS-M will inform all its member federations about that specific situation.
- 1.20 Invitations and brochures accepted by FIPS-M must be obligatory published (FIPS-M website: International calendar) and sent by electronic mail (optionally by postal mail) by the General Secretary to all member federations at least 6 months prior to the event.
- 1.21 The organizer has to provide throughout the duration of the competition and official training, a sufficient number of assistants to make sure that the security guidelines and competition rules are observed.
- 1.22 The organizer has to provide meeting rooms for the jury, the team captains or the officials.
- 1.23 A meeting of the team captains should be held prior to the competition for the official draw, the election of the International Jury and information on the whole championship. Time must be allowed for relevant questions.
- The discussion must be held in the CIPS-languages; French and English.
  - Both, the organizer and the officials should take care of the necessary translations.
  - For special situations, majority decisions, which cannot be contrary to the CIPS statutes and the rules of FIPS-M, can be taken.
- 1.24 The organizer will have to prepare a document for the team captains containing:

- Information about opening and closing ceremonies.
- Information concerning the timetable of the official training and competition days, of the transport of the competitors and the proceeding of the handing over of the lunch packets.
- Information concerning the quality and quantity of baits and their handing over.
- Information concerning the procedure for the signal of the start and the end of the competition.
- Information of the procedure of collecting of the catch by the stewards.
- Information on the registration cards and the obligatory signature of both the competitor and the steward on every fish caught.

This information must be sent one month prior to the competition to the FIPS-M official delegates.

The names of the official FIPS-M delegates with their addresses will be sent to the organizers by the FIPS-M board.

- 1.25 During the captains meeting, each one of those present from participating nations and the organizing committee have one vote for the resolutions.  
An extraordinary meeting can be requested by the jury, the organizer or by the team captains with a majority of 50% plus 1.

The members of CIPS Presidium, the members of the FIPS-M board and also the members of the international jury can take part in the meeting as advisors.

Other delegates and participants in the competition are not allowed to attend this meeting, except only where their attendance is necessary for translation or clarification of the problem being discussed.

Of all the decisions, minutes must be taken and announced by the organizing country to all the participants before the beginning of the competition.

At the end of the championship a copy of the minutes should be sent to the FIPS-M general secretary.

- 1.26 At the captains meeting a modification of the rules is not permitted.

- 1.27 For FIPS-M competitions between nations as well as international championships and cup competitions, any prizes, other than the FIPS-M medals, will be financed by the organisation or by sponsorship.

The top three individuals and the top three teams will receive FIPS-M medals. Other prizes are permitted.

In the disciplines in which it is possible to register 2 national teams (A and B), it is necessary to make a difference in the team classification and the classification by

nations. The FIPS-M medals will be given to the best teams following the official protocol. Cups might be given to the 3 best nations by the organiser.

Cups or trophies, financed by the organiser, may be presented to the competitors in categories as defined by the organizer.

Under no circumstances can the organizer award cash prizes or other values.

1.28 The logo of FIPS-M can only be changed by the General Assembly.

1.29 The opening ceremony and the closing ceremony of a FIPS-M events must be in accordance to FIPS-M official guidelines.

### **Opening Ceremony:**

- Usually, the opening ceremony will be held in the afternoon.
- A parade of the participating nation teams and officials will be organized. It should be led by a band, if possible, with the FIPS-M flag being held directly behind the band.
- A reception by the national authorities, in the town hall or city hall should be organized.
- The colours of the participating nations will be hoisted, and their national anthems played in an appropriate place.
- The FIPS-M President or his delegate make a final opening speech after which the FIPS-M flag should be raised.
- Each team has to bring a disk/memory stick with the national anthem and two national flags with the following dimensions: length: 2 meters and height: 1.65 meters (maximum).

### **Closing Ceremony:**

- The organizer will arrange an appropriated place in accordance with the FIPS-M delegates.
- The platform (podium) should be of sufficient size for the top three the teams including the team captains. All other persons such as sponsors, are excluded from the podium. A system for the hoisting the colours must be provided.
- Speech of the president from the organizing nation
- Speeches of the Authorities.
- Proclamation of the individual classification:
  - Proclamation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> classified and presentation of the Bronze Medal.
  - Proclamation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> classified and presentation of the Silver Medal
  - Proclamation of the 1<sup>st</sup> classified and presentation of the Gold Medal and also trophies if offered by the organizer.
  - After the medals and trophies have been presented, the national anthem of the winner should be played and the flags of the top three competitors raised.
  - The medals must be presented by the FIPS-M President or his representative.

- Proclamation of the classification by Nations or Teams:
  - Proclamation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> classified Nation and presentation of the Bronze Medals.
  - Proclamation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> classified Nation and presentation of the Silver Medals
  - Proclamation of the 1<sup>st</sup> classified Nation and presentation of the Gold Medals and also trophies if offered by the organizer.
  - After the medals and trophies have been presented, the national anthem of the winning nation should be played and the flags of the top three nations raised.
  - The medals must be presented by the FIPS-M President or his representative.
- Finally, the special prizes are distributed for the biggest fish, the rarest fish, greatest number of fish, etc.
- The president of FIPS-M or his delegate closes the event. The FIPS-M flag is given to the next organizer of this event.

1.30 The complete results of the competition must be published at least 1 hour prior to the closing ceremony. The final classification must be signed by the international jury.

1.31 Catch or score cards should be sent to the general secretary of FIPS-M.

1.32 All the FIPS-M events will be supervised by the FIPS-M president or his delegate.

1.33 All officially invited persons are guests of the organizing nation.

1.34 If a FIPS-M event has to be cancelled due to a natural disaster, such as an earthquake, hurricane, fire, adverse sea conditions, or the lack of participation numbers or in the case of other reasons, the following procedure should be followed:

In case of cancellation for reasons above, the responsibility of the organiser is partly involved. He must refund to each registered nation a part of the registration fee.

The amount of money to refund depends of the incurred costs by the organiser which might be organisation, accommodation, catering costs, or others.

In these circumstances the organiser must present to FIPS-M a detailed breakdown of all costs incurred including receipts.

He should also provide to FIPS-M information regarding the amount of money to be refunded to each participating federation.

1.35 If an event is cancelled within three months of the championship it will not be rescheduled.

If an event is cancelled prior to three months of the start date, it can be rescheduled and given to another nation.

If an event is cancelled without valid reasons, the organizer will not be allowed to host another FIPS-M championship for 5 years.

## **2 Participating conditions and homologation**

- 2.01 Championships of FIPS-M are in principle open to all qualified sea anglers or casters of the member federations.
- 2.02 Only the National Federation can register teams, clubs or individual anglers at the FIPS-M Championships.
- 2.03 When registering a team, a national federation ensures that the team members are medically fit to participate at a FIPS-M championship. (FIPS-M Board decision 15.8.2018)
- 2.04 Member nations can be represented at FIPS-M international competitions by competitors having the nationality of that nation and who are members of their national federation.

- Only one participant, having foreign nationality but residing more than five years in this country and participating in the national selections of this nation, is admitted to a national team. This foreign competitor must not be federated in his country of origin and participate in these national teams.

In the case multiple nationalities a competitor can only compete for 1 nation.

- For Club Championships, the participation of only one foreign angler per team is allowed under the condition that he has a license in this club, and that he is not subject to disciplinary action.

A request for derogation from this rule can be granted by FIPS-M on condition that the nation concerned presents the request 6 months before the beginning of the championship.

- 2.05 The disciplines in which it is possible to register 2 or more national teams per federation are:
- For Boat Angling U21, 2 national teams (A and B) comprised of 5 anglers and 1 reserve
  - For Long Casting of Sea Weights, 2 national teams (A and B) comprised of 4 casters and 1 reserve / team, plus 2 individual casters
  - For Big Game Fishing, 2 national teams (A and B)

- For Shore Angling for Masters, 2 national teams (A and B) comprised of 5 anglers and 1 reserve
- For Float Angling 3 national teams (A, B and C) comprised of 5 anglers and 1 reserve

2.06 Nations that do not have enough competitors to form a national team can register individual participants. These individual competitors will only count for the individual ranking but not for the ranking by nation or team.

The disciplines where individual competitors can be entered are:

- SHORE ANGLING: Men, Ladies, Masters, Pairs, U16 and U21
- FLOAT FISHING
- BOAT FISHING: Seniors, U21 and Light tackle (Pair)
- LONG CASTING OF SEA WEIGHTS

2.07 For all club competitions the World Champion Club from the previous year will be invited to participate as an additional club.

- For Shore Angling Club Championships, 2 different clubs with 5 competitors and 1 reserve per nation can participate.
- For Boat Angling Clubs Championships, 5 different clubs with 4 competitors and 1 reserve per nation can participate.
- For the Big Game Club Championship 5 different clubs per nation can participate.

2.08 Registration forms are valid only with the signature of the President and the stamp of the National Federation

2.09 In order to award the title of World Champion or Intercontinental champion, FIPS-M has prescribed the following minimum number of nations, national teams or clubs that must participate:

#### **World Championships**

- |                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| ▪ Shore Angling               | 6 nations        |
| ▪ Shore Angling Clubs         | 7 clubs          |
| ▪ Boat Angling                | 6 nations        |
| ▪ Light tackle Boat Angling   | 6 nations        |
| ▪ Boat Angling Clubs          | 7 clubs          |
| ▪ Big Game Fishing            | 7 national teams |
| ▪ Big Game Fishing Clubs      | 7 clubs          |
| ▪ Long Casting of Sea Weights | 7 national teams |

#### **Continental Championships**

- |                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| ▪ Shore Angling       | 5 nations |
| ▪ Shore Float Angling | 5 nations |
| ▪ Shore Angling Clubs | 5 clubs   |
| ▪ Boat Angling        | 5 nations |



- Light tackle Boat Angling 5 nations
- Hand Boat Angling 5 clubs
- Big Game Fishing 5 national teams
- Long Casting of Sea Weights 5 national teams

If the required number is not met, the official title is not awarded, and the organizer cannot demand any financial compensation from the FIPS-M.

The organizer has to inform the FIPS-M general secretary after the closing date about the number of participating teams/clubs/nations.

2.10 It is possible to replace a team member by the registered reserve before the start of each competition day. The replacement must be communicated to the International Jury.

A possible change of the registration list must be communicated to the organizer and to the FIPS-M delegate on the arrival of the delegation, at the latest in the evening before the captains meeting.

The national federation must indicate the name of the reserve when registering a team. It is possible for the team captain to be registered as a reserve. The team captain may use the registered reserve as and when required.

The reserve angler or caster who participates each day of the competition in replacement of different team members is not accepted in the final individual classification.

### 3 Duration of the competition

3.01 For all FIPS-M championships, one official training day under the same conditions as during the competition, must be included in the program.

3.02 The organizer should make sure that all the angling positions on the shore or on the boats are as equal as possible.  
If possible, the area and the fishing positions should be changed daily.

3.03 There must be at least a period of 10 hours between two angling sessions.

3.04 The duration of a world championship or continental championship is:

- Shore angling 4 days (without reserve day) 4 hours minimum
- Boat angling 3 days + 1 reserve day 5 hours minimum
- Light tackle Boat angling 3 days + 1 reserve day 4 hours minimum
- Big Game Fishing 3 days + 1 reserve day 6 hours minimum
- Long Casting of Sea Weights 4 days + 1 reserve day

- European Championship Boat Hand Angling  
2 days + 1 reserve day      5 hours min.
- European Championship Shore Angling with floats  
2 days (without reserve day)      4 hours min.
- European Championship Rock Angling  
2 days (without reserve day)      4 hours min.

A competition is only valid, if 50% of the scheduled time is completed. For Long Casting each competitor must have realised at least 50% of the foreseen casts in all weight categories.

A competition can only be stopped or the time changed with the agreement of the competition management and international jury. In the event of a storm and lightning, the rods must be placed immediately on the ground in a horizontal position.

For all competitions where a reserve day is included, it should be allocated at the end of the competition.

The draw will continue in the foreseen sequence. The program is simply offset (example: If the second day is cancelled, the third day will be used the draw of the 2nd day ...).

If a reserve day is used, the competition time can be reduced by 1 or 2 hours (number of casts) but at least 50 % of the duration/casts must be undertaken.

The organizer must confirm in writing any problems and give this to the international jury.

## **4 International Jury, Management of the Competition, Assistants (stewards), Team captains, Weighing and Measuring.**

4.01 For each international FIPS-M competition an international jury consisting of three members and two substitutes will be selected by the participating nations.

- This jury must include at least 2 representatives of the participating nations.
- In case of conflict of interest of a jury member, this member must be replaced by one of the elected substitutes.
- The participants are not allowed to be a member of the jury.
- The management of the competition must include at least one FIPS-M delegate in the international jury.
- The jury must contain 3 or 5 persons. Decisions will be on a simple majority.
- In case of a shortage of candidates for the International Jury then the nationality of the FIPS-Mer delegate is not considered.

4.02 Role of the International Jury

- The international jury, elected at the captains meeting, must apply FIPS-M rules and make sure that they are respected by all the participants.
- The organiser makes up the individual and team classifications in presence of the international jury who controls the results.
- In case of problems, the international jury investigates and takes decisions even if a replacement of a steward is necessary to guarantee the ethic integrity of the competition.
- The decisions of the international jury are binding and can only be changed by the FIPS-M board.

4.03 The international jury will only take into consideration protests that are written in one of the CIPS languages, properly dated, showing the address and the signature of the protesting participant. The protest must be given to one of the jury members, along with 100 € as per FIPS-M regulations at the latest one hour after the proclamation of the daily or final results.

4.04 Accurate measuring sticks with an end butt for the fish's head to touch must be used.

All scales and spring-balances must incorporate a tare facility.

In case of doubt the measuring equipment of the responsible steward is valid

4.05 During weight or point competitions where the fish are retained, the competitor must sign the official score card at the end of the match. In the case of catch and release competitions every fish must be countersigned by the competitor before it is released.

4.06 The organizer should publish the results at least 3 hours after they have been completed.

4.07 The organizing nation selects its own the stewards.  
The names of the stewards and their qualifications within their federation should be communicated to the jury before the start of the competition.

4.08 Functions of the Stewards

- To insure, that FIPS-M rules and special guidelines are applied
- To control the minimum size of all fish before weighing. Undersize fish must be immediately returned to the sea
- To supervise the transport of the catch to weighing area
- To keep separate any disputed fish
- To inform in writing the organiser of any problems

4.09 The organizer must give the important FIPS-M rules to the stewards in their own language.

- 4.10 The measuring of the fish must be done in the presence of the competitor so he has adequate time to verify the catch.
- 4.11 Each result will be countersigned on two cards, one will give to the competitor, the other, signed by the competitor will be kept for the organizer.
- 4.12 In case of protest, only the card of the organizer will be taken into consideration.
- 4.13 If the competitor is not present at the weighing and his card is signed correctly, he loses his privilege of protest.
- 4.14 The captain of the concerned team can also check the weighing and the signature.
- 4.15 The team captain and vice-captain are named and registered by their national federation.

Team captains can also be competitors.

- 4.16 Role of the Team captain
- He represents his team at the captains meeting.
  - During a manual draw, he draws the angling positions of his team members.
  - He must inform the members of his team about the decisions taken at the captains meeting.
  - He is responsible for the good behaviour of his team.
  - Only the team captain is authorized to enter a protest to the international jury and also to the competition management.
  - At the training (boat angling) or (shore angling), the team captain may interact directly with the team members. Also, he may participate at the fishing action.
  - During the competition, each team captain is authorized to visit the angling area on an official jury boat.
  - For Shore Angling two captains' vests will be awarded per team (1 for the captain, 1 for the assistant captain, the reserve angler should wear his competitor vest). The names of these persons must be registered before the captains' meeting.
  - Under the supervision of the respective steward, a team captain, assistant-captain or the reserve angler may take contact with the angler during shore angling. Only one captain or reserve angler can enter the angling area at any given time.
  - The team captain, the assistant-captain and the reserve angler are only permitted to enter the angling area of their competitors. However, stewards, members of the organisation board, the main three international jury members and FIPS-M delegates may enter the area of any competitor. They must wear an appropriate official vest.
  - Its forbidden to change the vest of the captain, the assistant-captain or the reserve with other members of the team. The competitor who has been replaced by the reserve angler is allowed to wear the reserve vest.

- In the case of a dispute, the competitor has the right to request, that the caught fish will be kept in a container with sea water till a member of the jury is present for a control.
- The team captain and the vice-captain have the right to ask the steward regarding information of fish caught by other anglers in the sector.
- During the weighing and measuring the organisation must provide sufficient space for the captains to watch the proceeding.
- Competitors may not enter this area.

## **5 The Draw of Angling Positions and the Embarking**

- 5.01 During the captains meeting an open and clear draw for the angling positions/boats of the competition shall take place.
- 5.02 Before the draw, the organizer must present a clear plan of the angling positions on the shores or on the boats.
- 5.03 The sectors for Shore Angling will be indicated by numbers or by letters from the left to the right side (looking at the sea) with the lowest number always to the left.
- 5.04 The boats must have clear identifications.
- 5.05 The results of the draw will be recorded electronically or in writing by the competition management and published. On request a copy can be given to the team captains.
- 5.06 The drawing system should be such that the competitors of the different nations are assigned to boats resp. shore sectors as equitably as possible.
- 5.07 When a championship is held over several days, if possible that the draw should be made in such a way that the competitors/teams will be assigned to different boats or shore sectors during the planned competition days (teams in Big Game Fishing, are together on the same boat).
- 5.08 When embarking on their allocated boat, each competitor must countersign the embarking card, which is kept by the boat commissary.
- 5.09 For all boats, an exact scheme of the angling positions is required. The minimum distance between each competitor is 1,5 m.
- 5.10 The organizer must send 30 days before the competition, the list of the participating nations and the boats with their number of angling positions to the FIPS-M general secretary.
- 5.11 On the receipt of the registration, the competitors are listed in order from 1 to 5 for the first nation (possibly 1 – 6 with the reserve angler), from 6 to 10 for the second nation

and so on as the registration is made. The peg number and the order number identify the participants during the whole competition. The organizer draws up that list.

- 5.12 For Boat Angling by drift, once all the competitors are on board, the steward will make the draw for angling positions.
- 5.13 For Anchored Boat Angling, the draw of the angling positions on the boat is made after the boat has anchored at his first angling place
- 5.14 Allocation plans of the fishing positions and changes are defined in the Boat Angling Rules.  
Any other scheme/system of arrangement must be approved by the FIPS-M technical commission and sent at least 3 months to the technical commission before the start of the competition.
- 5.15 For the practice day each team will draw for a boat (depending on the number of anglers and the size of the boats).  
There is no draw for places on the boats.  
The team members will be on the same boat with their team captains.
- 5.16 The draw must be done using the FIPS-M online program.  
In case of non-availability of the FIPS-M program (or of another electronic program), computer failure or in the absence of the Internet, the directives in the appendix (Appendix 1) are applicable.

## **6 Boats equipment**

- 6.01 All boats used must have adequate safety equipment defined by the law of the organizing country and must be equipped with transceivers, radar and echo sounder.
- 6.02 The boats must be of dimension to allow to receive on board a minimum of 5 participants (distance between competitor 1,5 meters).

## **7 Angling Zone and Angling Sector**

- 7.01 For Shore angling competitions the number of sectors is defined by the maximum number of a team (1 competitor per nation in 1 sector).  
The 5 (3 for pair competitions) sectors have to follow one after another.  
Each sector has to be separated by a neutral area, which should be the minimum distance of one peg.
- 7.02 The angling zones and angling sectors have to be defined before the start of the competition and have to be communicated to the FIPS-M member nations in the registration file of the event.

- The sectors and the areas have to be shown on a sea map.
- The access to the angling places must be indicated. The zones and sectors cannot be changed.
- The Angling Zones for Boat Angling cannot exceed a length of 3 miles x 3 miles
- For Light Tackle Boat Angling the approved national areas will be used at the different venues with a restriction of 1NM from shore.
- During the fishing, the boats must keep a minimum distance of 120 meters to each other and to the coast

7.03 An organizer of a competition for shore or boat angling must foresee at least one alternative area or sector in case of adverse weather conditions.

7.04 During the captains meeting and before the draw, the angling places in the sectors must be displayed, they cannot be changed after the draw.

7.05 In addition to the statement of specifications, the angling areas and sectors must be listed. The FIPS-M board can cancel an event or require a control visit of the angling venues by an inspector chosen by the FIPS-M board.

- If possible, this visit should take place at the same period and date one year before the beginning of the competition, in order to have the same angling condition as the planned event.
- If an angling venue planned by the organizer is considered by the inspector to be dangerous or to have just few undersized fish, the FIPS-M board might request that the venue is changed.

7.06 The organizer of a competition of FIPS-M for shore angling and boat angling must plan, if possible, one steward for every 5 participants.

7.07 The organizer of a competition must provide first aid arrangements at each venue in case of illness or injury to a competitor or steward.

## **8 Baits and Tackle**

8.01 The organizer FIPS-M competition must ensure that natural baits of equal quality and quantity are available to each competitor for the official training and for the competition.

8.02 Baits will be given from the organizer to the stewards who will distribute it on the boats. For shore angling bait is distributed to the captains at one central point.

8.03 The use of any bait not provided by the organizer will result in disqualification. That is not applied to artificial bait/lures.

8.04 If verification of tackle is required the organizer must supply accurate measuring equipment.

For competitions defined by lines classes or where a certain line strength/diameter is required, the lines should be verified before the start of the competition.

The inspected tackle must be marked appropriately.

In case of a doubt, samples must be kept.

8.05 The minimum size of hooks allowed in FIPS-M competitions is limited.

The organizers must put at the disposal of each Commissioner a measuring tool with an inside diameter of 5 mm for the Mediterranean and 7 mm for the Atlantic, English Channel, North Sea and others, to verify the minimum size of hooks used by competitors. (Float Angling: 5 mm for all seas)

Hooks that slide through the cylinder are too small and will therefore not be allowed; hooks that do not pass through the cylinder are permitted. In case of doubt only the official FIPS-M calibres are valid.

8.06 For all the kind of fishing method the use of stainless-steel hooks and other non-corrodible hooks are forbidden.

8.07 Fishing must be based on the know-how of the fisherman (skill) and not on the electronic instruments. The use of mobiles, GPS, Echosounders, ... is forbidden. For the Big Game, the instruments are an integral part of the boat. The lack of instruments must be considered as a failure and must result in the substitution of the boat.

## 9 Fish and Protection Measure

9.01 The main species of fish that may caught, the minimum sizes, the closed season for different species during the time of the competition, shall be posted on a signboard in the meeting room. If an organizing nation do not have any special legal minimum requirements or protection period, then the international guidelines covering that continent/zone are valid.

The organization and the stewards are obliged to help competitors with identification if required.

9.02 The FIPS-M board can authorize a list of non-protected but not-accepted fish for the classification. Such a request of exceptions must be added to the statement of specifications with valid reasons.

9.03 For Shore and Boat Angling in the Mediterranean Sea, the minimum size of the catch is 12 cm.

9.04 For Shore Angling in all the other seas, the minimum size of the catch is 15 cm.  
For Boat Angling in all the other seas, the minimum size of the catch is 18 cm.

9.05 Undersized fish must be returned into the sea.



- 9.06 Deliberate mutilation or improper handling of all fish will result in disqualification.
- 9.07 Fish caught under the legal minimum size but over the FIPS-M legal size may be recorded and then returned to the sea.
- 9.08 Special protection measures for bass (*Moronidae dicentrarchus labrax*) have to be respected.
- 9.09 After agreement with the FIPS-M delegate, the jury can authorise, in case of bad weather conditions, to fish in the harbour without limit for the fishes without legal size.

Remark:

All species of the mackerel family (common, Spanish, Indian) are not accepted for classification in boat angling competitions. They may be accepted for the classification in shore angling competitions in some countries.

## 10 Classification

(see specific rules)

## 11 Trophies and Results

- 11.01 The results of the competition must be published daily.
- Individual daily classification
  - Cumulated Individual daily classification (not club championships).
  - Team daily classification
  - Cumulated Team classifications
- 11.02 At least one hour before the proclamation of the results, the final classification of results should be published. These results must be signed by the FIPS-M delegates. A copy of these should be sent to the FIPS-M secretary general.
- 11.03 For World Championships or a Continental Championships, the medals for the 3 best individual Anglers and all the members of the 3 best teams including the reserve angler and the team captains, are given by FIPS/M.  
During U16 events medals will be presented to the five anglers, to the reserve and the 2 captains.
- 11.04 The costs of the medals are on charge of FIPS-M.
- 11.05 In addition to the medals, other awards for the longest fish, biggest fish ... may be given by the organisation.  
Competitors can receive a souvenir or a small award from the organisation.

## 12 Protests

An amount of 100.-€ or an equivalent amount in another currency in the money of the country is due for every protest presented to the international jury.

The jury meets at the latest one hour after the announcement of the results and takes a decision after one hour of deliberations. The decision is binding for each one.

The decision must be recorded in writing, and shall be sent to the general secretary of FIPS/M.

The jury must pay listen to the person and his reasons why he presented the protest, also to others concerned and the competition manager if possible.

The decision of the jury shall be in accordance to the statutes of FIPS/M, to the FIPS-M competition rules, and with the agreements made for the event, and in this indicated order.

If the jury gives its agreement to the protest, a member of the jury returns immediately the protest fee to the plaintiff.

The management of the competition takes the necessary measures to correct the situation, or eventually makes the necessary corrections.

If the protest is judged negatively the jury shall transfer the amount of the protest fee to the account of FIPS/M.

The decision of the jury has to be announced.

In exceptional circumstances when a dispute cannot be resolved by the jury, it will be up to the FIPS-M Board to make a final decision, which may go as far as disqualifying a team or even a nation. The pecuniary consequences of such a decision may not be at the charge of FIPS-M.

It is the same when a team leaves the competition without having issued a protest in good and due form to the Jury, the pecuniary consequences will be charged to the team or the nation it represents.

In that case the concerned federation cannot enter a team the following year in the concerned discipline.

## 13 Insurance

The organizer must provide an insurance policy to cover public liability / civil responsibility for participants (see statement of specifications) and also for the

championship which requires the use of a boat (see statement of specifications) or long casting of sea weights.

If an insurance policy is not added to the statement of specifications, the organiser must provide a letter, attached to the specification, that promises to present the insurance policy 4 months before the start of the competition. Otherwise, there is a risk that the championship will be cancelled.

# V. GUIDELINES FOR INTERNATIONAL YOUTH COMPETITIONS

1. Youth competitions are normally organized separately from those of senior championships and are open to both male and female competitors and are fished during daytime.  
Note: Youth U21 and seniors can fish at the same time during boat championships.

2. Different age categories:

- Shore Angling
  - In the class U16 (under16) the Youths from 12 to 16 years
  - In the class U21 (under21) the Youths from 17 to 21 years
- Boat Angling
  - In the class U21 (under21) the Youths from 16 to 21 years.

The competitors for Shore Angling having from 12 to 16 years between the 1st of January and the 31 of December of the year of the championship can participate as U16.

The competitors for Shore Angling having from 17 to 21 years between the 1st of January and the 31 of December of the year of the championship can participate as U21.

The competitors for Boat Angling having from 16 to 21 years between the 1st January and the 31 December of the year of the championships can participate as U21.

3. The national federation must indicate on the registration form for international competitions the birth date of each team member.
4. A young angler who participates in one year in a FIPS-M organization for seniors, cannot participate in the same year in a FIPS-M competition for juniors, and vice - versa.  
A U16 who participates in a U21 Championship loses the right to participate in all U16 championships during that year.
5. The Youth U16 and U21 can participate in the same year to international competitions in various categories and in various angling disciplines. (Example a Youth U21 can participate the same year either at the championship U 21 boat angling, or at the senior championship shore angling)
6. In exceptional circumstances the FIPS-M Board may allow derogations for the activity of Shore Angling to permit nations to participate with competitors in one or the other of the categories U16 or U21 even when the age of the competitor normally don't permit it by justification of nations requesting this possibility.

These requests must reach the FIPS-M secretary general three month before the start of the competition.

7. The team captain presents a written document of the age of the youth competitors and it will be countersigned by the responsible national federation as supporting document. This document counts as written proof. The jury has the right to control in case of doubt the identity card or the passport of the concerning youth competitors.

Luxembourg, May 2022

## VI. ANNEXES

In case of non-availability of an electronic draw program, computer failure or in the absence of the Internet the following directives are applicable.

*(will be added)*

### **Cases of disqualification** (non-exhaustive list)

- Any competitor who uses or possesses hooks outside of FIPS-M rules during competition.
- The use of additives for baits (such as dyes or odorants).
- The use of bait other than that provided by the organization
- Use of unauthorized equipment
- The action of trying to hook the fish with jerky movements or line jumps
- Place more than 3 floats per leader
- Place floats larger than 15 mm (1.5 cm)
- Keeping or trying to present for measure a fish not caught by himself to the commissioner
- Dispute and violent fight between 2 anglers lead to the disqualification of both

### **Warning of the angler in evidence** (non-exhaustive list)

(The angler's second warning in evidence results in disqualification even if the offense is repeated on another day of the competition)

- Resuming fishing before putting the captured fish in a container with fresh water. The fish will not count for the ranking and the angler will be warned. He will be disqualified imperatively in case of repetition.
- Casts must be made straight ahead of the angler's position. In certain circumstances (very strong winds or currents) casting can be done upstream, but always in a way that other anglers are not disturbed.

- The choice of weights is free; however, the weight cannot be less than the authorized weight. In extreme weather conditions, heavier weights or even grapple weights must be used so as not to disturb neighbouring competitors.
- Permission to leave the competition area for a short time may be given by the steward. In this case the line must be taken out of the water.
- Incorrect behaviour towards the steward or jury by the competitor or the captain
- At the end of the event, the competitor must retrieve his line quickly unless he is retrieving a fish hooked just before the end of the event.
- The visible placement of the bib is mandatory.
- The use of a cell phone or other transmitter, fish detector, GPS, etc. by the competitor is prohibited.
- Fishing outside the position assigned to him by the draw (fish caught do not count and time lost will not be recovered)