

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE LA PÊCHE SPORTIVE EN EAU DOUCE

OFFICIAL F.I.P.S.e.d. RULES **OF INTERNATIONAL "FOR NATIONS" COMPETITIONS** **"TROUT AREA"**

ORGANIZATION

- 1- Official international competitions shall only be organised by national Federations that are members of C.I.P.S. The organising Federation shall be officially responsible for the competition under consideration.
- 2- Only the members of a national Federation affiliated with C.I.P.S. and F.I.P.S.e.d. who have fully paid their annual membership fees shall be allowed to participate; their Federations shall designate them.

The anglers who belong to the teams must hold the same nationality as the Country that they represent. There shall be only one (1) foreign competitor in each national Federation team, only on condition that the following requirements are met:

- The competitor shall have resided in said Country for at least 5 years and he/she shall hold an official document confirming that;
- The application shall be forwarded by the Nation the angler wishes to represent.

Any angler, who has already participated in a World Championship or in any international competition representing a Nation, shall not be allowed to compete for any other Nation.

Competitors shall always be able to prove their nationality by means of national IDs or passports.

All supporting documents shall be presented at the 1st team captains' meeting.

Only teams that are members of national Federations shall be allowed to take part in World and Zone (Europe, etc.) Championships.

In order to apply to organize a championship, the Nation under consideration must have participated at least once, over the previous three years, in the championship that they wish to organize.

A preliminary programme shall imperatively be sent to F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Secretariat before the 31st October of the preceding year.

With the exception of the World Fishing Games, F.I.P.S.e.d. is officially tasked with providing the printed material, certificates and rankings for the awarding of prizes for all championships; therefore, the organizing Nation shall pay for all board and lodging expenses (room, meals and closing gala dinner) of the person performing such tasks.

Said person's stay may begin on the eve of the first day of practice and end on the day after the closing dinner; F.I.P.S.e.d. shall pay for the relevant travelling expenses.

For all F.I.P.S.e.d. championships, the organizing Nation shall cover all board and lodging expenses (room, meals and closing gala dinner) for two members of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee, and for the person in charge of the rankings; their stay may begin on the eve of the first day of practice and end on the day after the closing dinner.

No championship organization shall be entrusted to a Nation if that Nation does not undertake to put live fish back into the water after they have been counted or weighed (it is forbidden to kill fish).

The Nation organizing a World or Zone Championship shall be responsible for procuring the trophies, which will be paid for by F.I.P.S.e.d.; the organizing Nation shall envisage 3 trophies for the team competitions and 3 trophies for the individual competitions. F.I.P.S.e.d. shall refund a maximum amount of € 300 for 6 trophies. Such trophies shall feature a plate, carrying a "F.I.P.S.e.d." engraving or F.I.P.S.e.d.'s logo as well as the place and date of the championship. An invoice will be required in order to prove trophy-related expenses. If the aforesaid provisions (concerning the plate/logo) are not complied with, F.I.P.S.e.d. shall not reimburse any money. F.I.P.S.e.d. shall provide the medals.

Programmes and invitations for all championships shall only be sent to Nations that are members of F.I.P.S.e.d. (no invitations shall be sent to clubs or individuals).

- 3-** Each C.I.P.S. member Nation shall be allowed to present one team only composed of 4 anglers and 1 reserve, who shall be nominated before the first draw.

No competitor shall be allowed to participate as an individual.

In the event of any injury during a competition, the regular participant may be replaced by the reserve member designated in official documents. Such substitutions - with the possibility to replace the fishing tackle – shall be authorised by a Jury member.

- 4-** Competitions shall be organized in suitable water basins, such as little lakes, etc.; it must be possible to fish along the entire width of the venue. The fishing area that will be used for the competition must be indicated in the program and must remain the same for the entire duration of the competition. The competition venue must have a minimum width of 40 meters (if there are other competitors from another sector in front of the competitors) or at least 20 meters (if there are no other competitors in front of the competitors).
- 5-** As far as possible, the selected venue shall be characterized by analogous fishing conditions for all competitors. Furthermore, the interruptions caused by power lines, bridges, etc. must also be avoided. The venue shall not expose the competitors or the spectators to any kind of danger. The venue shall also be such as to allow all participants to fish from dry land.

One or more members of the Technical Commission shall inspect the venue that may be selected for a championship, and said inspection shall take place at the same time of the year as to that proposed for the organization of the competition under consideration. F.I.P.S.e.d. shall pay for the travelling expenses (including flight and train tickets or car) of the Technical Commission's member(s), while the organizers shall cover all transfer costs from the airport or train station, and will pay for accommodation and meals. A report of the inspection shall be submitted to the Executive Committee of F.I.P.S.e.d. for evaluation and approval. The final decision on the approval or rejection of a venue by F.I.P.S.e.d. shall be communicated to the candidate Nation.

With regard to accommodation, participating Nations shall have two options:

- 1- Opting for the official accommodation proposed by the organizing Nation (optional). In that event, the organizing Nation shall clearly indicate the terms and conditions for the stay, including:
 - The half-board price per night per person for, depending on the number of persons sharing each room, regardless of the duration of the stay (for this championship full board may be decided upon). The participating Nation shall specify the dates of their anglers' stays (the term "official stay" used by many Nations, starting on Thursday, has never appeared in any regulations, and therefore should not be used);
 - The price of the closing gala dinner.

The accommodation terms proposed to the Nations shall first be approved by the Technical Commission.

- 2- Selecting their hotels by themselves.

If this is the case, participating Nations shall be required to communicate their accommodation-related choices to the organizing Nation upon registration (in the official registration form).

In both cases (participation through or without the help of the organizers), the registration fee shall amount to € 1,200, which shall include 8 closing gala dinners and 5 fishing permits for the whole duration of the championship (for both training and competition days), insurance and sundry expenses such as gifts, cups, trophies, etc.

The Federations, in addition to the medals devoted to the official members of the Delegation, will be allowed to ask on place for extra medals (up to a maximum of 3 per team), upon payment of a contribution of € 25 per extra medal, which will also include the diploma. The fees for extra medals shall be paid to the organisers, who will then transfer the sum to F.I.P.S.e.d. In no case and for no reason extra medals in a number higher than that provided by these Rules may be requested from F.I.P.S.e.d.

For the closing gala dinner, be it a dinner with table service or a buffet dinner, participating Nations shall be assigned a number of seats corresponding to the number of gala dinner seats they reserved.

If no details about the accommodation are provided by the deadline set by the organizers, the participating Nations shall imperatively have to book their accommodations themselves, and shall still pay the € 1,200 registration fee to the organizers.

Any Nation that undertakes to take part in a championship by filling in the relevant registration form but does not show up, shall, in any case, pay € 1,200 to the organizing Nation. Nations failing to comply with this provision shall be forbidden from taking part in and organizing future championships.

All Nations shall communicate their arrival dates to the organizing Nation at least one week before the training day. Any absent Nation (yet to arrive) at the first team captains' meeting shall be considered as a WITHDRAWING Nation, and shall not be allowed to participate in the championship (see penalties under article 28 § c).

Together with the event programme, the organizing Nations shall provide a list of hotels, lodgings, rooms, and campsites located within a 20-km range from the venue.

The organizers shall see to it that all registration forms are duly filled in and carry the mobile phone numbers of one delegate and one team captain. Addresses and emergency telephone numbers (police, fire-fighters, hospitals, etc.) shall be provided in the program leaflets.

The “TROUT AREA” World Championship will **usually** take place in October or November. **This indication may undergo changes, even substantial ones, based on the climatic conditions of the host country and on the characteristics of the competition venue.**

- 6- The venue will be divided into 4 zones, each made up of a single sector. A different zone will be allocated to the four members of each team by drawing lots.

The venue will be composed of several rings numbered progressively from 1 to n (with n equal to the number of teams participating in the championship). The width of each ring must be minimum of 3 meters and maximum of 5 meters.

The width of the pegs shall be defined together with the Technical Commission.

Competitors must perform the fishing action inside their own ring without exceeding the space reserved for adjacent rings.

The competition will develop in as many rounds of fishing as necessary to ensure that each competitor has a direct confrontation with each of the other competitors assigned to the same sector. In all sectors, mini boxes of two anglers each will be set up; in each mini box and each period, the angler who is in the ring on the left will compete with the angler who is in the ring close to his right. In the event that sectors are composed of an odd number of competitors (due to the fact that the number of Nations participating in the Championship is odd), the angler who during the different periods will be located in the last ring (last mini box made up of a single ring) will observe a period of rest, according to the example presented in the diagram below (sector with seven rings numbered from 1 to 7, with the anglers identified by the letters A, B, C, D, E, F, G and a direct match between all the competitors which takes place in six fishing periods and one rest period):

Period	Competitor (Number of ring)							Direct matches			
1	A (1)	B (2)	C (3)	D (4)	E (5)	F (6)	G (7)	AB	CD	EF	G
2	C (8)	A (9)	E (10)	B (11)	G (12)	D (13)	F (14)	CA	EB	GD	F
3	E (15)	C (16)	G (17)	A (18)	F (19)	B (20)	D (21)	EC	GA	FB	D
4	G (22)	E (23)	F (24)	C (25)	D (26)	A (27)	B (28)	GE	FC	DA	B
5	F (1)	G (2)	D (3)	E (4)	B (5)	C (6)	A (7)	FG	DE	BC	A
6	D (8)	F (9)	B (10)	G (11)	A (12)	E (13)	C (14)	DF	BG	AE	C
7	B (15)	D (16)	A (17)	F (18)	C (19)	G (20)	E (21)	BD	AF	CG	E

Each of the 4 sectors of the competition venue is made up of 7 competitors, one of whom, in turn, does not compete so that in the 7 scheduled periods each competitor makes 6 direct matches.

The competition venue will consist of several rings numbered progressively from 1 to 28.

The grid for movements in the rings of competitor A is: 1-9-18-27-7-12-17.

or according to this other scheme (which shows the example of a sector with six rings numbered from 1 to 6, with the competitors identified by the letters A, B, C, D, E, F and a direct match between all the competitors occurring in five fishing periods):

Period	Competitor (Number of ring)						Direct matches		
1	A (1)	B (2)	C (3)	D (4)	E (5)	F (6)	AB	CD	EF
2	E (7)	D (8)	F (9)	A (10)	C (11)	B (12)	ED	FA	CB
3	F (13)	C (14)	A (15)	E (16)	B (17)	D (18)	FC	AE	BD
4	C (19)	E (20)	B (21)	F (22)	D (23)	A (24)	CE	BF	DA
5	D (1)	F (2)	E (3)	B (4)	A (5)	C (6)	DF	EB	AC

Each of the 4 sectors of the competition venue is made up of 6 competitors.

The competition venue will consist of several rings numbered progressively from 1 to 24.

The grid for movements in the rings of competitor A is: 1-10-15-24-5.

In the two cases mentioned above, during the event each competitor will rotate the positions within his sector. Moreover, at the end of each fishing period, competitors will move on to the next sector of the competition venue (the rotation will be counterclockwise), thus performing more than one full rotation of the entire competition venue.

In each direct match, in the middle of the time scheduled for this fishing period, the rings will be reversed between the two opponents.

Each sector shall be suitably marked off with signs to be put up at the start and the end of the zone. No natural or artificial interruptions are allowed in a sector.

The angling positions shall be well defined so to be far from the spectators; to this end, it is possible to erect a fence or set up ropes at an appropriate distance from the shore (we recommend a distance of at least 10 metres). Furthermore, a corridor for authorised people (organizers, reserves, team captains, delegates, press, and Jury) shall be created between the anglers and the spectators.

The official corridor (mandatory) must absolutely not be occupied by any of the competitors' materials. One infraction = oral warning; second infraction = yellow card.

Team captains, 2 per Nation, the reserve and the delegate may enter their teams' competitor pegs; team captains shall wear green back-numbers or armbands marked with a C, clearly indicating their status. Only one team captain shall be authorised inside a peg. Reserve competitors and delegates shall wear a red back-number or an armband marked with an R letter for reserve competitors and with a D letter for delegates. The back-number shall under no circumstances be applied with pins.

TEAM CAPTAIN'S MEETINGS

-7- It would be advisable that general stewards to attend the captains' meetings.

In the event that a team captain or a Nation's delegate is absent, the President of F.I.P.S.e.d. or a delegated representative shall draw lots.

1st meeting – On Friday at 3:00 p.m., or on the eve of the first leg

During this first meeting, an international Jury shall be appointed, pursuant to article 25 of the present Official Rules. Then, the following operations shall be carried out:

- Roll call of Nations.
- Nations shall draw lots in alphabetical order to define the call-up order of the draw for the first leg.

- Various information about the progress of the championship and on the duration (in minutes) of each fishing period and the time allocated for displacements (the above minutes must be fixed, from time to time, by the Technical Commission based on the number of Nations registered in the Championship).
- Setting up of four (4) GROUPS composed of one angler from each participating national team, and numbered from 1 to 4. To this end, each team captain shall write the name of the components of his/her team on four counterfoils provided by the organisers, and shall subsequently deposit one in each of the four (4) dedicated containers. The four (4) groups may also be composed by drawing lots, using ping-pong balls numbered from 1 to 4.
- Drawing for the starting order of the competitors in GROUP 1. Once the drawing has been completed, the starting order for all other GROUPS shall be determined automatically, for both days of the contest, based on a table drawn up according to the number of participating Nations.
- **Matching – by drawing – with sectors A, B, C and D of the four (4) groups previously established.**

2nd meeting - Saturday morning or morning of the first leg

- **Gathering of competitors for the competition's start.**

3rd meeting - Saturday afternoon or afternoon after the first leg

- Notification of the results to the participating Nations.
- Remarks on the performance of the leg.
- Setting up of four (4) GROUPS composed of one angler from each participating national team, and numbered from 1 to 4. To this end, each team captain shall write the name of the components of his/her team on four counterfoils provided by the organisers, and shall subsequently deposit one in each of the four (4) dedicated containers. The four (4) groups may also be composed by drawing lots, using ping-pong balls numbered from 1 to 4.
- **Matching – by drawing – with sectors A, B, C and D of the four (4) groups previously established.**

4th meeting - Sunday morning or morning of the second leg

- **Gathering of competitors for the competition's start.**

NB: Captains' Meetings are informative meetings, where guidelines are provided for the competitions. Under no circumstance shall changes to the Rules be made during the captains' meetings. The Rules shall only be changed at F.I.P.S.e.d. Steering Committee's annual meetings, based on the remarks that shall be sent in writing by National Federations to F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Secretary General.

DRAWING OF LOTS

- 8- The angling positions for the two legs shall be attributed by means of a lot-drawing table, drawn up beforehand by F.I.P.S.e.d. as established in article 6 of these rules.

- 9- The position number 1 shall always be located to the left looking at the water body, and marking will run from the left to the right.
- 10- Team captains shall be given a back number or an armband for each one of their competitors provided by the organizers.

Back numbers or armbands for the different sectors shall have different colours (except green or red); alternatively, they may be of a neutral colour with different coloured lettering for each sector.

Wearing the back numbers or the armbands is mandatory.

GENERAL RULES

- 11- Competitors may reach the venue by their personal means of transportation.

Smoking is forbidden in sectors during competitions.

- 12- There shall be one steward assigned to each competitor and a general steward for each sector. Such individual stewards and general stewards shall have thorough knowledge of the rules of the competition. The individual steward will follow the competitor to whom he is assigned throughout the duration of the event (including displacements). The individual stewards of the competitors of the organizing nation must be of a different nationality than the organizers, so that at the captains' meeting they will be drawn from among the delegations of the other nations participating in the championship.

The individual stewards shall:

- a) Control the angling behaviour of the competitor he/she is responsible for. When an individual or sector steward ascertains an irregularity, he must immediately warn the competitor assigned to him (and the international jury in case the seriousness of the infringement requires it) without any interference by third parties (Athletes, Captains, Delegates, spectators, etc.).
- b) Check that the species of fish caught is one of those authorized (only salmonids are authorized).
- c) Check that the catch was made by mouth, as it is better specified later and that it was released correctly.
- d) **Hand over to** each angler a ticket for each valid catch and declare, aloud, the capture made.
- e) Mark each catch on the competitor's form in the space reserved for the period in question (form available for consultation by team captains).
- f) At the end of each fishing period, the competitor, before leaving the sector, must sign for acceptance his own form and the file indicating the result of the direct match performed (the control will be carried out using the ticket issued for each catch). The result, as well as the points awarded, will be reported on the summary table of the sector of belonging. No complaints regarding the catch shall be accepted after the signing of said document.
- g) Communicate to Captains, Delegates and Reserves, upon their request, the number of catches of the competitor assigned to him.

- 13- Angling shall be performed from dry land.
- 14- After training and at the end of all legs, the fishing lines and artificial lures shall not be thrown into the water or in the fishing zone.
- 15- The competition shall take place by sectors, in two legs held on two different days, each comprising as many fishing periods as they will be necessary to carry out all the planned direct matches (for example 10 teams 9 fishing periods). The duration of the fishing time for each period will be communicated during the captains' meeting and it will vary according to the number of periods to be carried out and the fish population present in the lake. In any case, the total duration of the competition cannot exceed 210 minutes. The time required to move between one period and another will not be counted in the 210 minutes.

In any case, in the middle of each leg an interruption shall be previewed to allow competitors to rest and to stock up on lures, rods or various materials (i.e. it is possible to get them, to have them brought by others or to buy them). During the fishing periods or the short intervals between periods, it is absolutely forbidden to get, to buy or to receive any type of material brought by anyone (including captains, reserves, etc.).

In the event of a forced interruption (example: thunderstorm, demonstration, natural disaster, etc.), the fishing periods still to be disputed will be completed at the end of the interruption.

The event can only be considered valid if all scheduled direct matches have been played.

The Jury can decide to reduce the duration of all or part of the fishing periods of each leg if the time schedule does not allow to go to the end of the planned fishing hours.

- 16- Each competitor is expected to fully abide by the competition rules.
- 17- Only rigid artificial lures (rotary, undulating and wobblers) equipped with a maximum of two single hooks conceived without barb will be allowed. No hook with filed barb is allowed. The individual steward will have the right to check the regularity of the hooks of the artificial baits after each change of lure. The use of the double hook is only authorized on the original artificial lure. The hook must be bare. The use of dressed hooks (including to prepare a spoon or any other lure) and streamers is prohibited. The use of the frontal hook on lures is prohibited (see examples below).





On wobblers, it is permitted to hang the hook with a maximum of two connecting rings. The maximum length of the connection should not exceed 8 mm (one ring with a maximum diameter of 8 mm; two rings with a maximum diameter of 4 mm each).

It is forbidden to use undulating baits or wobblers (of all types) of a length less than 18 mm.

Imitations of "flies" are prohibited. The use of flies, lures with natural and artificial hairs, furs or feathers is prohibited.

The change of weight/balance of JERK - POPPER - CRANK - MINNOW baits is allowed provided that the original shape is retained. **The use of weights stuck on outside part of the lure is not allowed.**

Painting of lures is allowed.

The use of any type of metal or resin stick is prohibited.

The use of aromatic and/or scented substances is prohibited.

Any type of rubber or silicone lure is prohibited.

It is forbidden to use any type of lead on the line and swivel or carabiners to join two parts of the line. The only carabiner authorized (simple in shape and without a swivel) is the one that connects the line to the artificial lure.

After launching the lure in the water, the free hand of the angler must be positioned on the handle of the reel. It is only authorized to handle the line with the rod and the reel; it is strictly forbidden to handle the line by pulling on the line with the fingers.

Only salmonids, such as for example trout (rainbow, brown, marbled, sea, etc.), char, salmon etc. will be counted. This list may be completed by F.I.P.S.e.d.'s jury, if necessary.

Deliberate foul hooking of fish is prohibited.

Using echo sounders is prohibited during training and competition.

During the competition, anglers shall not be allowed to use any auricular, telephone or walkie-talkie.

- 18- Competitors may keep and assemble as many rods as they wish, but they are only allowed to fish with one rod at any time. Competitors shall be allowed to take their spare fishing rod(s) with them without number limitations.
- 19- It is compulsory to use the net for personal use and only to land the fish. The landing net, equipped with a rubber net, can have a maximum total length of 2.00 meters; the outside diameter of the head of the landing net must not exceed 60 centimeters.

-20- Competitors are not allowed to receive any external help; only the two captains, the reserve and the delegate are authorized to access the angling peg of the competitors of his/her team and this only to give verbal advice. It is reiterated that during the various periods or the short intervals between one period and another, no material help can be supplied to the competitor, under penalty of immediate disqualification. Any aid, supplies or other can be provided exclusively during the long interval in the middle of each competition day.

They shall not be allowed into the peg of an angler who is not part of his/her team.

-21- 1- CATCHING FISH

In order to validate the catch, fish must have entered the landing net, have completely gone beyond the rim of the landing net itself and touched the net. Fish that only touch the edge of the net will not be counted.

It is allowed to land the trout both in the water and in flight with the typical Trout Area technique called "butterfly".

The landing net must be as large as able to accommodate the fish inside. Flat racket landing nets are prohibited (see example below).

The catching of a fish is only valid if the fish is hooked in its mouth, or between its mouth and the pectoral fins, or between its mouth and its gills. An exception is made for trout hooked with Jerk and/or Crank equipped with 2 barbless hooks: in this case, trout which in addition to having a hook in the mouth, both internal and external, also have one in another part of the body will be considered valid. An invalid fish must be quickly unhooked and returned to the water.

Fish caught while hooking or retrieving parts of stray lines, whether theirs or of other competitors, cannot be considered valid.



The fish hanging on the hook must be picked up by the rod. The rod should be kept in a horizontal position or with the tip down (even in the water) to avoid as much as possible the fish hanging on the hook from coming out of the water. It is forbidden to drag the fish during the recovery action.

At the end of the fish recovery, the hand can release the crank to take the landing net and proceed to the landing. **During this last phase** the rod can be used in a vertical position.

In the event of a breakage of the rod, the fish can only be considered valid if the catch takes place using what remains of the damaged rod or line, both out of the water and in the water, provided that the damaged rod or line must not, in turn, be recovered by another tool.

A fish can only be caught within the fishing area assigned to the competitor. A fish caught outside will not be considered valid.

If a fish caught by an angler hangs the neighbouring angler's line, outside his fishing zone, the fish shall be deemed valid on condition that the two lines during the fishing action get free before that the fish is caught.

If two anglers catch each one a fish (2 fishes) and the two anglers' lines hang on each other, the two fishes shall be deemed valid on condition that the two lines during the fishing action get free before that the fishes are caught.

If two anglers lines remain hung on each other after the catch, the fishes (1 or 2) shall not be deemed valid and shall immediately be put back into the water.

CATCHES MADE IN THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS SHALL NOT COUNT:

- a) The fish is thrown on the ground when it is brought out of the water.
- b) The fish is unhooked and falls onto the ground.
- c) The fish is laid on the ground.
- d) The fish touches the ground before being put into the water.

2- CHECKING THE CATCH

A- The fish caught is not a trout:

- a) The individual steward orders to return it in water. That catch shall not count.

B- The fish is not hooked at its mouth, or between its mouth and the pectoral fins, or between its mouth and its gills:

- a) The individual steward orders to return it in water. That catch shall not count.

C- The fish is hooked at its mouth, or between its mouth and the pectoral fins, or between its mouth and its gills (at least one of the hooks if there are two hooks on the lure):

- a) The hook is visible and the mouth of the fish is closed. The individual steward says "OK" and the competitor unhooks the fish and puts it back into the water by means of the landing net. This catch will count.
- b) The hook is not visible and the mouth of the fish is closed. The individual steward indicates to the fisherman with a scissors' movement using the index and middle fingers that he must cut the line; the angler puts the catch back into the water by means of the landing net. This catch will count.

Fish must be unhooked and released in one of the following ways:

- **after a fish has been rescued with the "butterfly" technique or has been landed and put back into the water with the aid of the landing net itself, it is subsequently unhooked using the Releaser. The unhooking operation with**

the Releaser must be done in water and not in the air. Once the release operation is complete, the caught is validated by the individual steward;

- after a fish has been placed in the net, it can be unhooked by hand or with tongs/**pliers/forceps**, but only by touching the hook to remove it from the fish's mouth. The fish should never be grabbed with the hands. Once the unhooking operation has been carried out, the fish must be released using the landing net after which the catch will be validated;
- **any catches self-released after the action conducted with the "butterfly" technique, although falling free into the water, are to be considered valid;**
- **any catches self-released before the landing/"butterfly" action ends, and which, maintaining their own trajectory, still end up inside the landing net are to be considered valid;**
- **any catches self-released near the landing net without ending up inside it, cannot be considered valid since the fishing action must be considered concluded; subsequent catching of that fish using the landing net is not allowed;**
- **in any case, anglers shall put the fish back into water with the utmost care and discretion.**

ANY ATTEMPT TO UNHOOK THE FISH WITHOUT THE AUTHORISATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL STEWARD SHALL SYSTEMATICALLY CAUSE THE FISH TO BE RETURNED TO THE WATER AND NOT BE COUNTED, UNLESS THE INDIVIDUAL STEWARD HAS ASCERTAINED THAT THE FISH HAS UNHOOKED ITSELF.

-22- Inside the peg allotted to them, the anglers shall move discretely and noiselessly.

Competitors are forbidden to cast their line and angle in a neighbouring sector or peg. The control of this rule compliance is of exclusive responsibility of the members of the Jury, of the general steward of sector or of the steward assigned to the competitor. In no case will interference from third parties (Captains, Delegates, Athletes, spectators, etc.) be allowed.

Photographers and cameramen shall be entitled to access the sectors, provided that they do not disturb the anglers and their entry is authorized by the individual stewards.

Using drones is prohibited, both during competition and trainings, excepting the special cases authorized by the International Jury, on advice of the Technical Committee.

Only the holders of a press licence or the holders of any other accreditation document will be entitled to have a badge for having access into the corridors reserved to captains, reserves and delegates.

-23- Competitors shall reach the ring which was allocated to them by drawing lots at least 15 minutes before the first signal. The roll call shall be effected by the individual steward of each sector.

For each fishing period and for the end of the leg, the following informations are provided:

- a sound signal and a voice alert will mark that there is one minute left before the start of the fishing period;
- a sound signal and a voice alert will mark the start of the fishing period;

- a sound signal and a voice alert will mark that there is one minute left before inverting the ring;
- a sound signal and a voice alert will mark to proceed inverting the ring with the direct opponent;
- a sound signal and a voice alert will mark that there is one minute left before the end of the fishing period;
- a double sound signal and a voice alert will mark the end of the fishing period;
- a triple sound signal and a voice alert will mark the end of the leg.

At each fishing interruption, only catches correctly hooked and placed in the landing net will be considered valid. Release operations must take place immediately, without wasting time.

If a competitor has a fish hang in his rod at the time of the peg inversion signal, his fishing action can be completed until the fish is caught. The fish will be considered valid. Only after the fish has been put back into the water, the peg inversion can be carried out.

The acoustic signals for the different phases of the championships shall be short; in all cases, the beginning of the signal is taken into consideration.

Competitors are not allowed to leave their rings or approach other competitors until the end of the fishing period, when they can leave their rings to perform the displacement assigned to them by the "displacement grid".

-24- During the competition, each steward will be assigned to a specific position the competition venue is divided in, where he will stand for the entire competition.

Individual stewards shall stand behind the anglers, on their right or left side, in such a way that they have the possibility to control the fish caught by their competitors and not bothering their competitors and the anglers close to them.

If the organizers do not have an adequate number of stewards available, the jury may decide to turn to accompanying persons who are not members of the organization.

THE JURY

-25- An international Jury shall be appointed to examine any complaints lodged and to apply penalties, as per the rules; the Jury shall be established at the first team captains' meeting.

The Jury shall consist of the following members:

- F.I.P.S.e.d.'s President, or a substitute delegated by the President;
- F.I.P.S.e.d.'s General Secretary;
- The present members of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee;
- A delegate representing the organizing Nation, unless he/she holds the same nationality as the above-mentioned members, except for the F.I.P.S.e.d.'s President (or his substitute) who shall be the President of the Jury ex officio.

The Jury members shall be at least 3. If this number is not reached, some delegates from different Nations shall be chosen by drawing lot. These delegates cannot have the same nationality as the F.I.P.S.e.d.'s representatives and the organizing Nation.

These delegates shall be enrolled on the team registration form; captains cannot be appointed as delegates.

In the event of any infringement by a competitor or by a team holding the same nationality as a member of the Jury, such Jury member shall not vote (except if he/she is the President of the Jury).

The members of the Jury shall wear a "Jury" badge, and shall be at the competition venue to receive any complaint. **Jury members can be reached by mobile phone so team captains will receive their mobile numbers.**

- 26-** Any complaints, except for those concerning the rankings, shall be submitted to the Jury within 1 hour after the end of the leg. Complaints shall be lodged verbally, but they shall immediately be confirmed in writing. Should they deem it necessary, the Jury may watch any video or look at any picture produced by the delegate of the team filling the complaint.

Complaints concerning the ranking shall be lodged within 30 minutes after publishing of the official results. The publishing time shall be recorded in the official result list.

A € 100 deposit - for which the F.I.P.S.e.d.'s general Secretary or his delegate shall issue a receipt - shall complement any written complaint submitted to the Jury. Should the complaint not be judged grounded by the Jury, the deposit shall be transferred to F.I.P.S.e.d.'s bank account.

All infringements and warnings shall be reported to the Jury, with the Jury being the only authority enabled to disqualify anglers. Any competitor who is imposed a penalty shall be informed immediately.

The Jury members and all general stewards shall make sure the Rules are abided by. Hence, they shall have thorough knowledge of such Rules.

- 27-** The Rules, which are drawn up in the two official languages, shall be made available to the Jury and the team captains by the organizers of the championship.

The international Jury will make its decisions on a simple majority basis; in the event of a tie vote, the President of F.I.P.S.e.d. or his/her delegate shall have a casting vote.

All members of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee shall wear a personal badge; they shall be entitled to circulate in the officials' corridor. Said badges shall only be valid for the Executive Committee's term of office (4 years).

LIST OF PENALTIES

- 28-** The penalties shall be as follows:

- a) Warning (yellow card) for the infringement of articles 11 (second §), 14, 16, 19, 20 and 22.

- b) Disqualification (red card) for the infringement of articles 17, 18, 32, 35, 36.2 and 37 and after a second warning for the infringement of articles 11 (second §), 14, 16, 19, 20 and 22.
- c) Disqualification of the Nation for the infringement of articles 5, 34a and 34b-1.
- d) In case of disqualification for an infringement committed by an angler during one of the periods of a leg, the angler will be disqualified in the sector ranking of the relevant leg.
- e) In this case, the angler will receive a number of points equal to the number of participating **teams** + 1. If an angler is disqualified, the anglers below him/her in the ranking shall keep their original ranking (for example: if angler X who ranked 8th is disqualified, the following anglers shall keep their rankings and shall mark 9 points, 10 points, and so on).
- f) Any warning given to a Nation shall be recorded in that Nation's file and shall remain in the files for a period of 3 years **starting from the date of the sanction**. Any new infringement **committed in the following 3 editions of the same championship** shall be considered as a "relapse" and the Jury shall make its decision considering such relapse and the list of penalties.
- g) Any warning given to a competitor shall be recorded in the competitor's file for a period of 3 years **starting from the date of the sanction**. Any new infringement **committed in the following 3 editions of the same championship** shall be considered as a "relapse", and the Jury shall make its decision considering such new infringement and the list of penalties.
- h) F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee shall be entitled, both during a competition and subsequently, to impose penalties on fishermen, captains or reserves if they infringe any rule or misbehave, even if said infringements are not provided for in the official Rules.

-29- The members of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s Executive Committee may access the competition venue and take note of any infringement of the Rules.

RANKINGS

-30- 1- RANKING BY PERIOD (DIRECT MATCHES) IN THE SECTORS

In each sector, a ranking shall be drawn up for each angling session (period) by awarding the following points:

- a) the competitor who loses the direct match by making a smaller number of catches than his opponent will receive **0** (zero) points;
- b) competitors who are tied in the direct match by making no catch (zero trout) will receive **1** (one) point each;
- c) competitors who are tied in the direct match by making the same number of catches (one or more trout) will receive **2** (two) points each;
- d) the competitor who wins the direct match by making a higher number of catches than his opponent will receive **3** (three) points.

The direct match made with reverse ring will be assessed based on the total catches made by the competitors in both positions.

2- RANKING BY SECTOR IN THE LEGS

- a) The total number of points obtained for each one of the direct matches (periods) performed within his own sector. The angler totalling the highest amount of points shall rank 1st of sector, and the others will follow.
- b) In the event of a tied score on points, competitors shall be ranked based on the greatest number of victories of direct matches (periods).
- c) In the event of a tied score on victories of direct matches (periods), competitors shall be ranked based on the highest number of fishes caught in all direct matches, then on the highest catch score in a single direct match.
- d) In the event of a tie, competitors shall be placed equal and shall obtain a number of penalties equalling the average placing they should have had.

3- INDIVIDUAL RANKING IN EACH LEG

- a) Addition of the points obtained by competitors of various sectors in all direct matches of the leg; the competitor with the highest number of points will be ranked 1st of the leg and so on.
- b) In the event of a tie on points, competitors shall be ranked based on the highest number of direct matches (periods) won by each competitor in his sector (sum of victories of all direct matches).
- c) In the event of another tied score, they shall be ranked based on the highest number of fishes caught in all direct matches (periods) of the leg.
- d) If the tied score persists, the anglers shall be ranked based on the highest number of fishes caught in one of the angling periods of the leg.

4 TEAM RANKING IN EACH LEG

- a) Sum of the penalties obtained in each sector (ranking by sector) by the 4 anglers of each team. The team scoring the lowest number of penalties shall rank 1st, and so on.
- b) In the event of a tie on penalties obtained by the anglers of two or more teams, they shall be ranked based on the highest number of total points obtained by the anglers of the same team (sum of points of all direct matches).
- c) In the event of a tie on points, teams shall be ranked based on the highest number of the direct matches (periods) won by the anglers of the same team (sum of victories of all direct matches).
- d) In the event of another tied score, teams shall be ranked based on the highest number of fishes caught by the anglers of the same team in all the angling periods of the leg.
- e) If the tied score persists, teams shall be ranked based on the highest number of fishes caught by a single member of the team in all the fishing periods.

5- INDIVIDUAL GENERAL RANKING

- a) Sum of the points obtained by each competitor in all direct matches performed in the two legs; competitor scoring the highest number of points will be ranked 1st and so on.
- b) In the event of a tie on points, competitors shall be ranked based on the highest number of direct matches (periods) won by each competitor in the two legs (sum of victories of all direct matches).
- c) In the event of another tied score, the anglers shall be ranked based on the highest number of fishes caught in the two legs, then, by the highest number of fishes caught in one of the two legs.
- d) The anglers participating in only one leg shall rank last in the individual ranking and following an order based on the number of penalties obtained (first those who have participated in both legs, then those who have only played one leg).

6 TEAM GENERAL RANKING

- a) Total of penalties obtained in each sector by the anglers of each team in the two legs; the team totalling the least number of penalties shall rank 1st, and so on.
- b) In the event of a tie on penalties obtained by the anglers of the same team in the 8 sectors of the two legs, the teams concerned shall be ranked based on the highest number of total points obtained by the anglers of the same team in all direct matches performed in the two legs.
- c) In the event of another tied score, teams shall be ranked based on the highest number of the total direct matches (periods) won by the competitors of the same team in the two legs (sum of victories of all direct matches).
- d) If the tied score persists, teams shall be ranked based on the highest number of fishes caught by the anglers of the same team in the two legs, then, by the highest number of fishes caught by the anglers of the same team in one of the two legs.

7- NATION RANKING

A world or zone ranking per Nations shall be drawn up for all championships, taking into account the best 5 results over the 6 past years; such ranking list shall be updated every year and published on the F.I.P.S.e.d.'s website.

The Nations included in such ranking that, for any reason, do not participate in a championship, shall be given a number of penalties equal to the number of participating Countries for that specific year + 1.

- 31-** The ranking will be established by a person mandated by F.I.P.S.e.d. or, lacking this person, by the organizers in the presence of F.I.P.S.e.d.'s President or in the presence of his representative and, possibly, also in the presence of the members of the Jury.

ROD LENGTH/REELS

- 32-** The length of the rods is limited to 2.75 metres (9 feet). Rods must be monobloc or pluggable. Using telescopic rods is prohibited.

Only fixed spool reels can be used. Using of spinning reels (casting) is prohibited.

“CIVIL LIABILITY” INSURANCE

- 33-** The organizers SHALL take out a “CIVIL LIABILITY” insurance to cover the whole event (from the beginning of the training to the end of the final dinner); a certificate issued by the insurance company, certifying that the whole event is covered by a “CIVIL LIABILITY” policy shall be handed over to the President of F.I.P.S.e.d. two months prior to the competition.

TRAINING

- 34- a)** Official training shall mandatorily take place in the official venue.

Training shall be organized to offer the same fishing conditions to all competitors.

- b)** The official competition venue shall be organised as follows:

- 1) Total closing for all attending official delegations' members from the Sunday evening prior to the championship;
- 2) One day of official training (on the eve of the first leg). Restocking shall mandatorily be envisaged with at least 20 trouts for each ring of the venue. The timetable and the duration of the training session shall be the same as those of the legs of the competition.
- 3) Two competition days (Friday and Saturday or Saturday and Sunday). Restocking shall take place late afternoon, after the end of the training session for the first leg; and late afternoon of the first leg for the second leg. Such restocking shall envisage at least 30 trouts for each ring of the venue.

All restocking shall be performed by using fish species belonging to one of the species listed in art. 17, and shall be evenly distributed throughout all the sectors in the presence of a Jury member. In the championship program the organizers must indicate the species and average size of the fish that will be used for restocking.

On the training day, the organisers shall emit the relevant sound signals indicating the authorised angling period. The teams shall abide by such signals.

Only the 5 team's members (4 effective members plus 1 reserve) are allowed to fish in the competition venue during trainings.

All participating Nations shall be provided with a document carrying the technical specifications and information concerning the venue.

ELECTRIC POWER LINES AND PLANTS

- 35-** It is strictly forbidden to place competitors at a distance of less than 25 metres, on both sides, from any electrical plant (electrical lines, transformers, trellises, etc.).

RULES IN THE EVENT OF BAD WEATHER OR WATER-RELATED CONDITIONS

-36- 1- WHEN BAD CONDITIONS BREAKS OUT (floods, large waves, etc.) co BEFORE OR DURING PREPARATION

No angler shall be allowed to access his/her peg or prepare his/her material; a signal shall indicate the postponement of the access into the angling peg or the end of the preparation phase. If the weather or water-related conditions and the competition schedule allow, the leg may be regularly performed.

If the weather or water-related conditions do not improve or the competition schedule does not allow, the leg shall simply be cancelled. The cancelled leg shall not be considered when making the rankings, which shall be established based on the results of the held leg. The cancelled leg shall not be held at a later stage.

2- IF BAD CONDITIONS BREAKS OUT DURING THE LEG

The leg shall immediately be stopped (a 1st signal will be emitted by the organizers); rods shall be placed on the ground horizontally and all competitors and stewards shall look for protection outside the ring.

If the weather or water-related conditions allow, the leg shall then continue and a 2nd signal shall inform the anglers that they may return to their pegs; a 3rd signal, 5 minutes later, shall authorize the competitors to resume angling.

Maximum 2 breaks shall be authorised in one leg, and their overall duration shall not exceed one (1) hour; otherwise, the leg shall be stopped for good.

The break(s) time shall not be considered when calculating the duration of a leg.

The Jury may shorten the duration of a leg and of the fishing periods if the competition schedule or the weather or water-related conditions do not allow to go ahead to the end of the fishing hours (decision of the jury)

Should the weather or water-related conditions not allow duly carrying out a competition, the Jury may decide to cancel one leg. Said leg shall not be postponed and the ranking shall be drawn up based on the leg that was actually carried out. The cancelled leg shall not be held again.

ANTI-DOPING CONTROLS

-37- F.I.P.S.e.d. adopts the World Anti-doping Code applied by C.I.P.S.

During a championship, the anglers selected to undergo to anti-doping controls shall imperatively go to the designated place at the indicated time, following F.I.P.S.e.d.'s or the Jury's guidelines. Any angler selected to undergo anti-doping checks who does not report for the controls shall be disqualified from the competition and shall be given a penalty corresponding to the bottom rank in the ranking + 1, for all the competition days he participated in.

Organizing Nations shall cover all anti-doping controls costs. All contacts with the NADO (National Anti-Doping Organization) of each Nation shall be exclusively kept by the organizers of the championship under consideration.

The organizers shall be responsible of the fishing material and equipment of the angler drawn to be tested, while he is undergoing the anti-doping control.

C.I.P.S., in quality of Testing Authority, will issue the relevant mission order on the ADAMS System, with the concerned instruction for the doping control tests.

A copy of the Doping Control Form (DCF), signed by the Doctor who has provided the tests, must be sent to the C.I.P.S. Secretariat cipssecretariat@cips-fips.com or delivered immediately after the competition to the F.I.P.S.e.d. official delegate present on place, who will forward it to C.I.P.S.

The athletes participating in the Championships, by registering, implicitly accept all WADA anti-doping rules.

Athlete whose illness or condition requires treatment with a prohibited substance or method must apply to C.I.P.S. for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) following the C.I.P.S. strict TUE application process.

He/she shall then use the application form, which can be downloaded from the ITA website: https://ita.sport/uploads/2021/02/ITA_TUE_Form.pdf. The TUE request has to be sent to the following address: tue@ita.sport.

Athletes must therefore consult the Prohibited List <https://www.wada-ama.org/en/resources/world-anti-doping-program/2023-prohibited-list>.

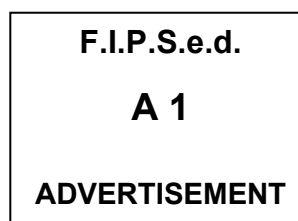
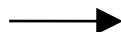
ADVERTISING ON BACK-NUMBERS OR ARMBANDS

-38- Advertising shall not be obligatory.

The size of the advertisement characters on the back numbers shall not exceed a height of 6 cm; this form of advertising shall only be authorized on the lower part of the back number, both on the front and on the backsides.

The size of the advertisement characters on the armbands shall not exceed a height of 3 cm; this form of advertising shall only be authorized on the lower part of the armbands.

BACK-NUMBER OR ARMBAND SAMPLE



F.I.P.S.e.d. AND C.I.P.S. FEES

-39- A € 150 fee shall be paid by each participating Nation; said fee shall remain available to F.I.P.S.e.d.

A € 500 fee shall be paid by the organizing Nation to C.I.P.S.'s disposal (to be paid to C.I.P.S.'s bank account).

OPENING CEREMONY AND PRIZE AWARDING CEREMONY

-40- The opening ceremony and the presentation of the teams shall take place 2 days before the first leg, at 06:00 p.m. Said ceremony shall not last longer than 2 hours, and shall not end later than 08:00 p.m.

The top three **Nations** and the top three individual competitors shall officially receive a GOLD, a SILVER and a BRONZE medal respectively. In conformity with international standards, during the prize awarding procedures, the national anthem of the winner (team or competitor) shall be played, and the national flags of the top three athletes/teams shall be raised. The medals shall be paid for by F.I.P.S.e.d. and shall be handed over by F.I.P.S.e.d.'s designated representative.

During the individual prize-giving ceremony, the fourth and fifth classified must also be called to the podium, but no medals will be awarded.

A certificate stating the results obtained shall be delivered to all the three first ranked Nations official members, who shall be present at the prize giving ceremony, as well as to the five first ranked individual anglers.

Any other reward shall be equally awarded to all participating Nations. All participating Nations shall provide their flags and the recordings of their national anthems.

For the announcement of the official results, up to 8 persons maximum, representing a Nation, may gain the podium for handling out the medals, while playing the national anthem of the winning nation.

RULES VERSIONS

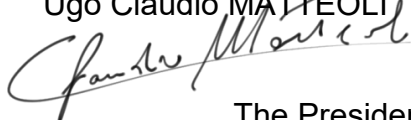
-41- In the event of any dispute arising from or in connection with the interpretation of these Rules, only the French version shall be considered as the original and reference text.

OBLIGATIONS OF THE ORGANIZING NATIONS

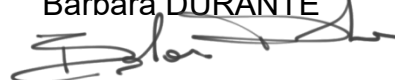
-42- The organizing Nation of a World or Zone (Europe, etc.) Championship shall:

- a) Have the F.I.P.S.e.d. trophies engraved (plate or logo);
- b) Send out official programs and information about the Championship in the two official languages (English and French).

The President of F.I.P.S.e.d.
Ugo Claudio MATTEOLI



The General Secretary of F.I.P.S.e.d.
Barbara DURANTE



The President of the F.I.P.S.e.d. Technical Commission
Roland MARCQ

