

## **Press Release**

# **February 2020 Boondooma Dam Fishing Competition Results and Wrap Up**

Boondooma Dam Stocking & Management Association celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Boondooma Dam Yellowbelly Fishing Competition on the 8/9th February with a \$15,000 Custom made 395 Bluefin Drifter Deluxe Boat/Motor/Trailer & Safety Package up for grabs. The weather was challenging but all in all a fantastic weekend was had by all who attended.

Being our 30<sup>th</sup> year life member Alan (Joey) Keates and original members Peter MacDonald, Noel Liesegang and Ken Jorgensen attended and gave an oversight of how the Boondooma Dam Yellowbelly Fishing Competition began in 1990. Mayor Keith Campbell also presenting the club with a 30 Year Certificate.

With the combination of drought, fires and floods the committee was overwhelmed with the amount of people that attended this year's comp. The atmosphere was second to none with MC Matthew Mott and Committee Members keeping the ball rolling throughout the weekend.

The releasing of fingerlings into the Dam bought the community together. Entrants came from all over south- east Queensland and Northern NSW to attend this competition. This year saw an attendance of almost 700 entrants including 170 Juniors. Cash and other prizes were presented over the three sessions as well as overall competition winners at the conclusion of the event on the Sunday.

The dedication of the love of this comp showed with entrants Rodney Pearce, Robert Hadwen and Richard Brown rolling their vehicle on the way to the Comp from Bundaberg with "boat attached" may I add. Their vehicle being a total write-off. They were taken to hospital with cuts and bruises and Robert having to wear a neck brace on the Saturday for precaution. Rodney was presented with a bottle of vegemite along with other prizes for their commitment to the comp.

With the recent rainfall the dam was a picture, even though the water level was down to 27.7% The Dam fished extremely well for the 2020 event with 407 fish going through the catch and release section and another 245 in the gilled and gutted section. The biggest Yellowbelly of the event was weighed in at 1.615kg both Senior & Junior

The Catch and Release section consisted of Yellowbelly, Bass, Jew, Silver Perch and Spangled Perch with anglers utilising the Track My Fish app to photograph and release the fish which proved to be success with Troy Harch winning the Yellowbelly with a fish of 510mm. Rob Thomas Won the longest Bass with a 530mm fish.

The Heaviest Yellowbelly title was claimed by Ashley Chandler & Bill Smith with a Yellowbelly of 1.615kg they both took home \$300 worth of Cash, Prizes and Trophy Sponsored by Smithfield Cattle Co.

The winner of the heaviest Bass section sponsored by Barambah Business Services was Steve Sloman with a Bass of 1.320kg to secure \$200 Cash, Prizes and Trophy.

Hanwood Fish Hatchery champion Junior Anglers for Yellowbelly was Daniel Humphrey with a Yellowbelly of 1.615kg. The Bass was claimed by Reuben Russell with a Bass weighing in at 1.255kg.

Once again, we promoted the catch and destroy of this pest fish Tilapia in our dam with the Heaviest amount of Tilapi caught at each session. Receiving Cash Prizes. Sponsored by Blinks Baits.

The 395 Bluefin Drifter Deluxe Boat/Trailer & Safety Package was won by Melody White from Nanango who will keep the Custom-made Wrap. Proudly sponsored by Boondooma Dam Fish Stocking Ass, Cunningham Marine & Smak Lures.

Congratulations to all the winners and thankyou to everyone who attended to make it "the best comp yet" as said by competitors. All profit made from the weekend goes back into purchasing more fingerlings, the future for Lake Boondooma.

Food and drinks stalls were provided by local community groups over the weekend and the great camping facilities provided by the South Burnett Regional Council was put to great use for campers staying at the dam.

The annual competition for 2021 is already in full swing, this being our 31st year and will be one you don't want to miss.

Stay up to date with the latest info by following us on our Facebook and Instagram pages and checkout the list of our generous sponsors that each year support this comp to ensure that a wide range of prizes and lucky draws are available for all competitors giving away up to \$50,000 worth of cash and prizes.

Additional information on the local area and past fishing competitions can be found on the Proston Online website, [www.prostononline.info](http://www.prostononline.info)

#### 2020 Results -Catch & Release Overall Winners

- Longest Yellowbelly-Troy Harch (510mm)
- Longest Bass – Rob Thomas ( 530mm)
- Longest Jew – Jodie Carsberg (520mm)
- Most Fish – Chris Gagel (46)

#### 2020 Results- Gilled & Gutted Overall Winners

- Senior Heaviest Yellowbelly – Ashley Chandler & Bill Smith (1.615 kg)
- Senior Heaviest Bass – Steve Sloman (1.320kg)
- Senior Heaviest Jew – Jodie Carsberg (1.515kg)
- Jnr Heaviest Yellowbelly – Daniel Humphrey (1.615kg)
- Jnr Heaviest Bass – Reuben Russell (1.255 kg)
- Jnr Heaviest Jew – Tyler Apps (1.305kg)