



Competition & Events Policy (approved on May 16, 2023)

1. Introduction

Competitive fishing is an important part of angling for many affiliated associations and individual anglers. Organized competitive fishing is a significant activity within the area of Sportvisserij Zuidwest Nederland (Southwest Netherlands Angling Association). Therefore, it is essential for our organization to have a policy in place for organizing these competitions on our waters. While a fishing permit is not required for saltwater fishing, we want to prevent multiple competitions from being scheduled on the same course simultaneously. To assist and provide a service to the associations, Sportvisserij Zuidwest Nederland also coordinates competition applications for saltwater fishing.

2. How it Works

For applications for competitions and events on federative waters, we distinguish between the following categories:

- Competitions organized by Sportvisserij Nederland (Netherlands Angling Association)
- Competitions organized by Sportvisserij Zuidwest Nederland
- Applications from affiliated angling clubs
- Applications from external non-affiliated parties
 - Shore-based competitions
 - Boat-based competitions

Competitions organized by Sportvisserij Nederland

This category refers to national competitions such as national championships (NK) or other final competitions. These competitions have priority when reserving a competition water.

Competitions organized by Sportvisserij Zuidwest Nederland

This category refers to competitions organized by the federation, including selection competitions or regional championships. These competitions have priority after the competitions organized by Sportvisserij Nederland.

Applications from affiliated angling clubs

Requests for competitions on federative and saltwater must be submitted through the competition module on our website. Only requests submitted through the competition module will be processed. This module can be found on our website www.sportvisserijzwn.nl under the "competitions" section. Competition applications received by December 15 for the following year will be granted based on availability. In case of duplicate requests, the angling clubs should communicate with each other to resolve the conflict. If no resolution is reached, Sportvisserij Zuidwest Nederland will make the final decision. We are happy to explain how the application through the competition module works:

1. You need to register once.
2. Click on "Organization" and select "Add New" and enter the name of your association/organization in the "name" field (not Sportvisserij Zuidwest Nederland).
3. Fill in the required fields. a. Enter the location of your association after the name, e.g., "Sportvisserij Zuidwest Nederland, Drimmelen." b. If you are applying on behalf of a sub-association of an affiliated association, please include the name of the affiliated association in parentheses, e.g., "Office (Sportvisserij Zuidwest Nederland)."
4. After registration, you will receive an email with a link to activate your account.
5. You can now submit competition requests.
6. After submitting the competition(s), you will receive a confirmation email. Please note that this is not the permission itself. After approval, you will receive the permission by email as well. Print it out and take it with you to the water or show it digitally during checks. This written permission must be presented in case of inspection.
7. If you are missing certain competition waters or if you are aware of changes in existing competition waters, please contact the office via sjoerdbroekhuijsen@sportvisserijzwn.nl, and we will make the necessary adjustments. Applications received after December 15 will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please note: For fishing in federative waters, you need to have a VISpas or a day permit.

Applications from external non-affiliated parties

These applications are divided into competitions organized from the shore and competitions organized from boats. Applications for shore-based competitions are processed through our competition module and are treated simultaneously with applications from affiliated associations. Competitions organized from boats can be requested in consultation before September 1st for the following year. This can be done by sending an email to steintimmers@sportvisserijzwn.nl. Please mention the type of competition, the number of participants, and the location where you want to organize the competition. We will discuss the possibilities together.

3. Payment arrangement and allocation

Starting from January 2024, Sportvisserij Zuidwest Nederland applies the following fee arrangement for different types of competition applications:

Application		Cost
Competition requested by an affiliated angling association		€ 0,-
Competitions requested by external non-affiliated parties	Shore-based competition	€20 administrative fee per day and €10 per participant per day. Participants with a VISpas are exempt from the €10 fee.
	Boat-based competition (including bellyboat and kayak)	€50 administrative fee per day and €10 per participant per day.*

**If external parties have entry fees below €100 per boat entry, the €10 fee per day for participants with a VISpas is waived. In this case, the same principle as shore-based competitions is applied.*

The payment for shore-based competitions is processed through the competition module. For boat-based competitions, the external organization must provide a list of results within one week after the event, including all participants. Based on this, the total costs will be determined. The total amount must be paid to Sportvisserij Zuidwest Nederland within one month from the event date.

4. Rules regarding applications for boat-based competitions by external parties

For boat-based competitions organized by external parties (including bellyboat and kayak), available dates will be determined in consultation between them and Sportvisserij Zuidwest Nederland. To ensure enough space for regular anglers and regulate it effectively, we use an "alternate week" planning. Competitions and events can be organized in the weeks marked in green below.

Week 1	Week 11	Week 21	Week 31	Week 41
Week 2	Week 12	Week 22	Week 32	Week 42
Week 3	Week 13 (GT)	Week 23	Week 33	Week 43
Week 4	Week 14 (GT)	Week 24	Week 34	Week 44
Week 5	Week 15 (GT)	Week 25	Week 35	Week 45
Week 6	Week 16 (GT)	Week 26	Week 36	Week 46
Week 7	Week 17 (GT)	Week 27	Week 37	Week 47
Week 8	Week 18 (GT)	Week 28	Week 38	Week 48
Week 9	Week 19 (GT)	Week 29	Week 39	Week 49
Week 10	Week 20 (GT)	Week 30	Week 40	Week 50
				Week 51
				Week 52

GT = Closed season for predatory fish

This means that there are 22 available weekends for external organizations to organize their boat-based competitions. Reserved dates are always for the next immediate week. On any weekend day in an "even week," there is space for organizing a competition on the same water. The maximum duration of competitions is three days, with the organization having the right to a rest day in between. Available days always fall between Wednesday at the earliest and Sunday at the latest.

5. Competition Permission

The competition permission is sent via email. On the day of the competition, the organizer must be able to present it physically or digitally during inspections. This written permission has a formal status (in inland waters). Page 3 of the Joint List of Dutch Fishing Waters contains the following provision:

It is prohibited: Point 10: to participate in fishing competitions and/or to organize fishing competitions, unless written permission has been granted by the fishing rights-holding federation or angling association. If a competition course is or will be set up along a water based on granted permission, the course must be kept clear or made clear. This written permission from the fishing rights holder indicates that you are allowed to organize a competition and, if you have marked the course as such in a timely manner, individual anglers must vacate the course. However, it is not an "event permit." For an event permit, please consult the local municipality.

The written permission also serves as an exemption for participants to possess multiple fishing rods during the competition. If the requested competition is organized at night (between two hours after sunset and one hour before sunrise), this written permission also serves as a temporary Night Fishing Permission for participants during the competition.

6. Handling of Fish, Environment, and Use of Lead

It is crucial to handle the caught fish with care. As (competition) anglers, we are guests at the water. Make sure that residents or passers-by have no reason to complain. The Joint List of Dutch Fishing Waters includes several codes of conduct. Adhere to them. You can find them on the website of Sportvisserij Nederland. The following points are particularly emphasized.

Lead Code

Competition anglers are at the forefront of new developments and can be trendsetters in this regard. As a competition angler, set a good example and contribute to lead-free sport fishing. Lead should not be in the environment as it is dangerous to humans and animals. Therefore, use lead as sparingly as possible and prevent loss. Try to fish with lead alternatives. Important recommendations include:

Coarse Fishing:

- Only purchase dispenser boxes of split shot that release one shot at a time.
- Use soft split shot, which can be easily removed from the line and reused.
- Dispose of unused lead in chemical waste.

Other forms of fishing:

- It is mandatory to fish lead-free where possible. Especially in carp fishing and predator fishing, there are now good alternatives available. This means that carp competitions must be fished completely lead-free. For predator fishing competitions, the use of lead-free jigheads, dropshot weights, or crankbaits up to 18 grams is compulsory. For more information, visit www.sportvisserij nederland.nl or inquire at your local store.

Keepnet Code

Here, we adhere to the national regulations as stipulated in the VISpas and the Inland Fisheries Act. More information can be found at <https://www.sportvisserijnederland.nl/vispas/visserijwet-en-regels/binnenwater/>.

Sport Fishing Welfare Code

Here we follow the national code of conduct as included in the Joint List of Dutch Fishing Waters. For more information, please visit <https://www.sportvisserijnederland.nl/vis-water/vissenwelzijn/gedragscode/>.