

# Technical description

## VIII International Hethland Balaton Feeder Cup technical specifications

**3-7 May 2023**

Dear Friends, Fellow Competitors!

The season has just started again, and already we have our long-awaited fishing tournament, for which we are preparing just as enthusiastically as you are. This year we are looking forward to a successful and just as fun competition as the previous ones, but of course we need you, with your usual enthusiasm and cooperation.

To ensure that everything runs smoothly and efficiently, we would like to draw your attention to a few technical points, so that the 5 days in question are really just a matter of relaxation. Everyone is required to attend the technical meeting on the opening day and the registration on Thursday. But what is new for 2023 is that we have added a training day on 5 May (Friday), when we also expect all participants to attend.

When registering, please do not forget to include important information such as your telephone number, e-mail address, fishing card number and whether you have a Balaton area ticket.

All this is necessary to ensure that we can provide you with the appropriate permits and that we can inform everyone in time about all the details, be it a reminder to register or the start of the tournament.

If you have the opportunity, please register on Thursday afternoon.

**Once again, special attention will be paid to the protection of fish in the VIII International Hethland Balaton Feeder Cup! Therefore, in cooperation with the Balaton Fish Farming Nonprofit Ltd., please observe the following technical rules!**

**During the competition it is strictly forbidden to keep the following fish, to place them in bags:**

**ZANDER** (*Sander lucioperca*)

**VOLGA PERCH** (*Sander volgensis*)

**KNIFE** (*Pelecus cultratus*)

**These fish must be returned to the water immediately after being caught with a dip net.**

**It is strictly forbidden to place or store these fish in the fish bowl!**

**Breaking these rules will result in sanctions! In case of detection of a protected fish in a bag, the competitor will be warned the first time and disqualified the second time - he can fish the whole day, but will end the day with 23 points.**

### **Good to know:**

In 2023 the tournament rules will include a "mandatory" practice day, this will be held on Friday, May 5 from 8:00am-3:00pm. Places will be filled by online draw and will be available from 7:00-7:15. You may fish for a minimum of 3 hours with the entry permit you received at registration on Thursday, subject to the rules. If you are unable to attend, please arrange with a friend or sporting buddy to fish the site. **Please note, the use of fish-holding pots is prohibited on the training day! Any fish caught must be returned immediately and gently.**

Reason: Lake Balaton is the largest standing water in Europe. In the spring, it is difficult to concentrate fish in the warming water, so for better catching results, we will continue the mandatory training day at your request, so that you can feed.

- Zander, volga perch, knife excluded!
- For larger carp (from 2 kg), it is compulsory to release the fish back into the water immediately after weighing!
- Gentle treatment of the fish is obligatory!
- The use of a minimum of 3.5 m thickly woven tournament bag is obligatory.

As you may have noticed, the Balaton course is a "bagging course", so to protect the fish, it is strictly forbidden to collect fish in bags of at least 3.5 metres. The bag must be secured in any case, and we suggest 2 solutions: with an external weight attached to the outer tabs on the bottom of the bag or by attaching it to a stake 2.5-3 metres into the water before the start of the race. As you know, even the slightest ripple can push the fish holder onto the rocks, which can lead to injury to the fish. It is strictly forbidden to place any kind of weights or weights in the bag!

The fish caught must be kept in the bag until the weighers arrive. The bag may only be lifted out of the water after the weighers have been instructed to do so.

**Any infringement of these rules will be penalised!**

- Feeding material: 12 litres per round, of which a maximum of 5 kg of dry feeding material
- Use of live bait: 2,5 l/round
- No mosquitoes!
- Feeding strictly with a fishing rod, feeding basket and no hooks!
- Bait and hook size optional
- Method permitted
- 1 feeder rod
- 1 hook
- Minimum casting distance 15 m (for bream spawning)

Feeding is allowed 10 minutes before the start of the race, i.e. from 8.50 to 9.00 a.m. This must be done strictly with a feeding basket only, no other aids such as slingshots, rockets, spombs are allowed!

During the preparation period, the amount of feeding material and live material will be controlled by the sector judges. All competitors are requested to land the fish within their own sector in order not to disturb the competitor fishing next to them. Otherwise, fish brought ashore will not be scored. **We ask all competitors to handle this in a friendly and sportsmanlike manner!**

In addition to protecting the fish, we also want to set an example by keeping the tournament area clean and tidy, including the use of drive-in permits, littering (littering will result in a warning). Restrooms are available on the beach areas, please use them.