

# National Catfish Open in Chiprana. Saturday, June 6, 2026

## - OFFICIAL RULES -

The contest organizers will have sole control over the competition, its rules, and its terms and conditions.

All the anomalies dThey must be brought to the attention of supervisors and organizers and treated according to their seriousness and may lead to disqualification.

All team members must provide the organizers with all required documents and insurance as a condition of their participation in the event. They must also sign a registration form to confirm their acceptance of the event rules and conditions.

The organizers reserve the right to use the image of team participants at their discretion, as well as any supporting materials they deem appropriate at the time of the event and in the future.

The registration fee will be **75 Euros** and will be paid in full by bank transfer **before May 4, 2026**.

### MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PEOPLE PER GROUP:

The team may consist of a maximum of three people, any of whom may fish or row to enter and bait. Only four rods will be allowed for fishing from the shore, and two rods may be kept in reserve.

### MAXIMUM NUMBER OF COMPETING TEAMS: 14 teams

### PRICES:

Competing team fee (maximum 3 people) 75 EUROS.

Processing of the annual (€50), weekly (€20) or daily (€4) fishing reserve (if you do not have one)

Processing of the federation license (if you do not have one) + membership fee = €57

Processing of the temporary federation license (€12) + membership fee = €32

### 1. -RECORD

Equipment check-in and inspection will take place on Saturday, June 6, between 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. in the Boat Zone.

Participants must present themselves together with his team in the Barca area inside of the stipulated schedule, giving the organizers their registration confirmation sheet.

All fishing materials brought into these waters (ducks or tube-floats, buckets, wetsuits, landing nets, fishing nets, boots, etc.) must be disinfected following the indicated protocols.

Any team that does not show up in said area within the established schedule could be excluded from the competition and its registration fee would be lost, unless it notifies the organization in advance by email. [sdp@chiprana.es](mailto:sdp@chiprana.es) oh [turismo@chiprana.es](mailto:turismo@chiprana.es) to explain the valid reason for being late.



## **2. – DRAWING OF POSITIONS AND BREAKFAST**

After the teams have been accredited, a draw will be held to determine their position, and they will be given a map showing their location.

If a team is not present at the draw and has been allowed to participate by the organizers due to extenuating circumstances, their place will be assigned by lottery, just like the other teams. (Boat and equipment are pending approval.) All participants will then be offered breakfast.

## **3.- OCCUPATION OF POSITIONS AND START OF THE COMPETITION**

The transfer to the corresponding stations will take place between 8:00 and 9:00 in the morning.

The official start of the competition will be signaled by the firing of a rocket at 9:00 a.m. Before that time, the boat may not be put into the water, nor may baiting be used, nor may any other nautical activity be undertaken.

## **4.- END OF THE COMPETITION AND AWARD CEREMONY**

The launch of a rocket at 8:30 p.m. will mark the end of the competition.

Any fish hooked when the rocket fires signaling the end of the competition must be caught within 20 minutes of the signal or be excluded from the final results.

The awards ceremony will take place at around 9:00 PM. Next, a Spanish wine will be offered to all participants.

## **5. - GENERAL FISHING RULES**

A maximum of 1000 may be used.50 Kg. of bait and this can be pellets or boilies.

The following natural baits may also be used: Plants and food products from the source, whether mixed or processed; native insects and worms, whether live or dead; animal parts (except fish); eggs and embryos of native species, without prejudice to the provisions of Article 3.2.d) of this Order, relating to the prohibition of using exotic animal species as bait.

**The use of any type of fish or any of its parts, whether alive or dead, as bait is not permitted.**

**The use of buoys to mark baiting points is not permitted.**



Each team is allowed to use four rods with baited hooks in the water. They may keep two more rods in reserve, always out of the water, ready for use. Any team with more than four rods in the water will be immediately disqualified from the competition.

All team members can fish or bait with the boat, but only one can land a fish without help from the other members of their team.

Participants must not cast outside the boundaries of their area, which is marked by an imaginary line marking the average distance between them and their neighboring teams. Any disagreements regarding participants' fishing outside this area must be immediately reported to the supervisors. They have the authority to request that participants reposition their rods as and when instructed.

Each line may only have one hook attached. For conservation purposes, only barbless or micro-barb hooks should be used at all times; a sinker must be used.

Participants must pull their own rods to shore and unhook their own fish without assistance from another person. Assistance may result in immediate disqualification. Once the fish is on shore, the team may assist in the effort to avoid damaging the catfish during the drag.

Hooked catfish must be brought to shore without interfering with other teams' lines, otherwise they may be omitted from the final result. Any team that is harmed by catfish hooked by another team becoming entangled in their lines, they must file a formal complaint immediately. The judges will make a decision on whether to allow the catfish to be counted in the final score.

The fish may not be taken outside the designated area of the team. Any fish not hooked by the mouth will be disqualified.

Participants are required to bring their own bags. If they have several catches at once and don't have enough bags, the fish may be kept in the water until weighed. The weighing bags will be provided by supervisors.

If all competitors on a team need to leave their positions for any reason, their rods must be laid down and their hooks removed from the water. Under no circumstances may they remain in the water without supervision.

Any team competing and deliberately invading another team's water could be disqualified; boundary differences must be resolved before the start of the competition. The decision of the Supervisor will be final in all border disputes.

## **6. - LOCAL RULES**

The organizers have made every effort to ensure parking is as close as possible to the piers. Competitors must adhere to official competition parking signs and their assigned parking spot.

It is strictly prohibited to dump or leave trash or fishing gear along the entire riverbank. Failure to comply with this rule will result in a fine.

Due to the depth of the water in some spots, only thigh-deep water entry is permitted. Any participant who enters the water deeper than this depth will be disqualified from the competition.

The use of felt-soled boots is prohibited to prevent the spread of exotic species such as the zebra mussel and the slime algae, or Didymo, among others.



## 7. - BOAT RULES

All boats used during the competition must meet all the requirements, which are as follows:

Vessels must be pre-registered and submit the responsible declaration **before April 22**. They may be with electric motors.

After this date, only boats without motors with oars or pedals will be admitted and they will not exceed the maximum required measurements (2.5 meters in length).

Single-chamber inflatables are not permitted.

### Security measures

Each vessel must be provided with:

1. 2 oars (in case the engine fails)
2. A CE-certified lifejacket, conforming to European standard EN395, must be equipped with a whistle properly secured to the lifejacket. The person must wear it correctly while sailing. Wearing it incorrectly or not wearing it at all will result in disqualification.
3. A rope or string properly secured to the boat.
4. An anchor of adequate weight, secured to the vessel with a minimum of 24 m of rope.
5. A bailer.
6. A horn

### Verification security:

If the boat, life jackets, or equipment do not meet the above requirements, teams may participate in the competition, but they will not be able to use their boat until it meets all necessary safety measures.

Additionally, you must sign a liability waiver, as well as an understanding of the rules and an agreement to abide by them. Failure to comply will result in refusal to use the boat in the competition.

If a team fails to comply with the safety measures on their boat, they may face a fine and immediate disqualification by the organizers.

The use of watercraft under all circumstances throughout the competition is entirely at the competitors' risk and responsibility. The organization is not responsible for accidents or damage resulting from the use of watercraft by participants.



## **8. - USE OF BOATS DURING THE COMPETITION**

### **General rules**

No person under the age of 18 is permitted to use the boats.

Only one fisherman may use the boat at a time.

The fisherman cannot go out without checking that his fishing partner is awake and present in the area, ready to raise the alarm if necessary.

When not in use, all boats must be removed from the water or moored. Any boat found drifting unoccupied could result in team disqualification.

## **9. - USE OF ECHO SOUNDING DECOYS ON BOATS**

Echosounders may be used on a vessel. If a disagreement arises among fishermen regarding the use of echosounders, a decision will be made at the beginning of the day by supervisors; the final decision will not be open to debate.

## **10. - PROCEDURE FOR REGISTERING A CATCH**

The fish will be weighed in the presence of a supervisor using the equipment they will carry at all times. Any other result will not be accepted in the competition.

In the unlikely event that a supervisor is unable to attend immediately, the caught fish must be placed in a sack until a supervisor is available to verify its weight.

**The supervisor will fill in the following information in his minutes:**

- 1- The number and name if they had the team.
- 2- The name of the participant who captured it.
- 3- The area and number of the capture.
- 4- The date and time of the capture.
- 5- The weight of the catch in kg.
- 6- The length in centimeters.



## 11. – PRIZES

Trophy, fishing gear and cash.

The ranking is determined by the total weight of all fish caught by each team; the overall champion will be the team with the highest weight. In the event of a tie, the team with the highest number of fish caught will be declared the winner. If the result is still a tie, the tiebreaker will be the team with the largest catch.

- **1st Prize, for the team that catches the most kg.**
- **2nd Prize, for the 2nd team that catches the most kg.**
- **3rd Prize, for the 3rd team that catches the most kg.**
- **Prize for the biggest piece (team that catches the catfish weighing the most kg)**

There will also be gifts for other participants.

Prizes will only be awarded to teams present at the awards ceremony.

## 12. - PROCEDURE IN CASE OF A PROBLEM

All pegs identifying the fishing spot will have the phone number of a person in charge printed on them, who can be contacted in case of any problems.

They will also have a printed emergency telephone number for any serious issues.

If the person on board the boat has any problems, they should sound the horn or whistle.

Participants on the ground must notify the supervisor if he or she has not heard the horn.

Any questions regarding the rules must be submitted before the start of the event to the email [turismo@chiprana.es](mailto:turismo@chiprana.es). Before the "CHIPRANA CATFISH COMPETITION" begins, the organization will respond to the interested party by email as soon as possible.

We look forward to your participation!  
All the best

Signed: Jose Miguel Albiac  
President of the Chiprana Sports Fishing Society

