

DISCLOSURE STATEMENTIMPORTANT INFORMATION -RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH FISHING

Fish on Fly Pty. Ltd (FOF) is a business concerned with teaching you, or guiding you, in fishing and the last thing you probably feel like doing is reading about the risks and signing forms.

However, our insurance company now requires us to tell you of the possible risks and dangers involved in the seemingly harmless sport of trout fishing, so please take the time to read, this carefully.

If you still feel you are prepared to take responsibility for yourself and/or those under your care, while undertaking this fishing tour or instructive course, then we can then continue on the tour.

Should you feel unsure or worried about any of the items explained below, then it is best if you consider another activity besides fishing tour you are about to participate in. We endeavour to reduce the risks to you, as much as we humanly can. Fishing should be a comparatively 'low risk' activity. Nevertheless, there are a number of risks of physical injury you will take if you go fishing on the water or in the Australian bush with Fish on Fly.

They include:

1. Fish Hooks/Lures/Flies – All fish hooks are capable of inflicting serious injury, especially when around a thrashing fish, whilst casting or retrieving a stuck hook I recommend eye protection, at least in the form of strong Polaroid sunglasses, which are handy for fishing anyway. If you do not have any we can lend them to you at no extra cost.
2. Treacherous terrain – Most tours will involve wading in rivers or lakes with slippery mud or rock bottoms, and walking through bush or farmland (often full of rabbit and wombat holes hidden in tussock grass), some terrain is steep and slippery. Risk of injury from stumbling or falling will always exist, so watch your footing and always wear strong footwear, like hiking boots or study thigh waders. Gum boots are not recommended.
3. Snakes, spiders etc – Poisonous creatures exist in all fishing locations, remember this is the Australian bush! Waders and full length clothing (including thick socks) help to provide protection against bites, as does careful observation.
4. Sunburn – Any outdoor activity involves the risk of sunburn, especially aquatic activities (including fishing), as water reflects strong light, even on cloudy days. Follow Anti-Cancer guidelines, regardless of the forecast weather.
5. Strains and Sprains – Some people find the constant casting, bending and crouching causes muscular and other discomfort or injury, particularly in the legs and back. You must exercise your judgement to ensure you stop fishing (or never start) as soon as you feel you risk injury. If you do feel it necessary to stop, make sure you have the right clothes to stay warm.
6. Water and Boats – A lot of our fishing is done from a NSW Waterways surveyed vessel. Every effort has been made to make this vessel as safe as it can be. Under NSW Waterways regulations for a 2E and 2D surveyed vessel, it is necessary for you to obey all of the captains commands. The master of the vessel must under law take all reasonable measure to supervise and control all passengers. On occasions, due to sudden unpredictable weather changes on the lake, we may find we are in potentially treacherous water. Often when wading a river with sudden underwater drop-offs, or strong currents extra care must be taken. If you are unsure of yourself in these conditions – don't take risks. Notify the guide of your concern before setting out, and we will opt for the safer fishing locations. Always request a life jacket when on the vessel if you can not swim or you consider the conditions dangerous.
7. Alcohol/Drugs – While its difficult not to celebrate a good fish with a drink, I recommend alcohol consumption to be confined to the end of the day when driving, fishing and walking are completed. Alcohol consumption greatly increases the risk of injury in any fishing related activity. We reserve the right to refuse, to tour with any person that we believe is under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Any payment made already will be forfeited, as it is not our fault that the person should turn up intoxicated.
8. Medical conditions – If you suffer from any medical conditions that you feel could in some way increase your risk of suffering an accident while fishing, please notify the guide prior to making a deposit. FOF has to date never refused to take nay person fishing, including those with disabilities, however the guide will retain the right to not take any person fishing that he may think may be in any danger should they participate in the tour.
9. Dress – Warm, weatherproof clothes should always be taken and worn if necessary. FOF does not undertake to supply clothing, however we can often help with a request should enough prior notice be supplied. We also recommend, especially for full day river fishing trips, that you bring a full change of clothing just in case you should accidentally fall into the water. Your guide has many years experience in fishing and in the Australian bush. Please note that although he is trained in first aid he has not paramedical training.

Finally before signing –

The above list is not exhaustive, and if you do not feel completely comfortable about accepting responsibility for yourself, please do not continue with this fishing tour.

Other Points:

- a. All fishing gear is provided or we can help you fine tune and get the best out of your own gear.
- b. All tours start from the agreed starting time.
- c. You must have an Inland Angling Licence, obtainable from fishing stores, some service stations, and Fisheries Dept Offices. FOF accepts no responsibility for any penalties incurred by clients without such licences.
- d. Cancellations or reductions in price are at the discretion of the guide.
- e. Deposits are not refundable if cancellation is made by the client 30 days or less prior to the trip.
- f. Cost will be determine beforehand on the basis of the schedule or rates issued by FOF, or on the basis of numbers, distance and time frame.
- g. Accommodation and/or transport may be arranged on some tours.
- h. Transport to and from fishing locations is included in calculation of duration of fishing tour charge.
- i. Food and drink not provided unless otherwise stated.