

Tuesday 24 September* at 19:00 in the Norðurljós room

Special Evening Session “Stock Assessment Fight Night With a4a”

*Previously announced for Wednesday 25 September at 18:30

The Assessment for All (*a4a*) initiative is a novel stock assessment method that has been recently developed for the rapid assessment of fish stocks. The *a4a* method promotes simplicity and accessibility so that the results of the assessment are transparent and reproducible. *A4a* aims to provide a powerful and versatile assessment tool, which is less dependent on high-level stock assessment and modelling expertise. This opens up stock assessment to a wider community of fisheries scientists, thereby helping to utilise the rapidly accumulating data and information available on fish stocks, such as that collected under the EU Data Collection Framework.

To introduce this new method, we will be running a special evening session. This will feature a short introductory presentation and a hands-on demonstration of *a4a* which will allow attendees to try the method out for themselves. Following this, there will be a bare-knuckle, no-holds-barred, fight-to-the-death* stock assessment competition where you will put into practice your recently learned *a4a* skills. Over a number of gruelling rounds, you will battle your fellow conference attendees by assessing different fish stocks within a strict time limit using *a4a*. Points are scored based on the quality of your assessments. Incredible prizes* await the winner (as well as bragging rights for the bar afterwards). The competition will use the *a4a* on-line portal, so bring your own laptop to participate.

No previous experience of fish stock assessment is necessary and all are welcome.

* Not really