

VENUE

Participants will be able to fish out of their own ports and report each evening back to Tournament Base

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

Shall be comprised of the Southern Zone Chairman and a representative from each Southern Zone club in attendance. The Committee are the sole adjudicators on all aspects of the Tournament and their decisions will be final.

ENTRIES

Entries are to be sent to the Secretary, Batemans Bay GFC, PO Box 322 Batemans Bay, NSW 2536. Entries must be in hand by the 19th of March to be eligible. Please note that the tournament dinner is NOT included in the entry fee. For catering purposes we must have numbers attending with payment.

INSURANCE

All competing vessels must be comprehensively insured and carry Public Liability insurance. Details must be completed on Entry Form. Failure to provide this information will result in exclusion from the Tournament.

TEAMS

Teams shall comprise a minimum of two registered anglers. Boats may have multiple teams fishing. Each club must submit a minimum of three teams to avoid penalty. Team members must be financial members of clubs affiliated with NSWGFA.

The transfer of persons or fish at sea will not be allowed except in the case where human life is in danger. No replacement of boat and/or competitors for the duration of the tournament unless due to unforeseen circumstances and then only with the express permission of the Tournament Committee.

SAFETY

Boats should be seaworthy and comply with NSW Maritime Services Board regulations for safety equipment. Skippers should be aware of the capabilities of their boats and should not put to sea or continue fishing in conditions beyond their capabilities.

BAD WEATHER

Fishing may be cancelled in the event of unfavourable or dangerous weather conditions. All fish captured or tagged and released prior to the cancellation or restriction of fishing will be eligible for the Tournament.

The Tournament Committee will not accept any responsibility for decisions made by individuals.

GALE WARNING

In the event of a "Gale Warning" being declared by the relevant authority, the Tournament will be cancelled and all vessels are required to cease fishing and return to port.

PROTESTS

Any protests must be made in writing, signed by the team captain and lodged with the Tournament Committee no later than 10pm on the day of the incident. No protest will be considered after 10pm.

FISHING RULES

All GFAA and NSWGFA Rules for capture and tag and release apply to this tournament. NSWGFA minimum weights apply.

NB : Yellowtail Kingfish must be a minimum of 70cm and all sharks a minimum of 1m to be eligible for points.

LINE CLASS

Eligible line classes for this tournament include : 4,6,8,10,15,24,37 and 60 kg.

POINT SCORING

The NSWGFA point score system and minimum weights will apply.

ELIGIBLE SPECIES

As approved by NSWGFA at the time.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Anglers MUST USE the "Billfish Only" tag for all Billfish and no other species..

CIRCLE HOOKS ONLY are permitted to be used for live baiting with the exception of Narrow Barred Mackerel (*Scomberomorus Commerson*).

LINE CLASS must be on tag cards. If this is not evident then the fish will be deemed to be on 60kg and therefore receive the lowest points.

FISHING TIMES

Saturday 20 March.....6.30am to 5.00pm

Sunday 21 March.....6.30am to 4.00pm

Fish that are being fought at close of fishing may continue to be fought but notice must be given to the Tournament Base and acknowledged in order to be eligible for the tournament. All captured fish and tag cards must be at the respective weigh station no later than 6pm on the Sunday.

WEIGHSTATION PROCEDURE

With the agreement of all participating clubs, fish and tag cards may be presented to the angler/boat home port together with all tackle used on the day of capture or tagging. All must be presented to agreed club personnel no later than 5pm on Sunday 21 March 2010.

All capture certificates and tag cards MUST be faxed to Gail McMahon on 0.44726929 or emailed to bloom11@bigpond.com on the day of capture. Prizes and trophies will be awarded at the Southern Zone Presentation lunch in June 2010.

CAPTURE/TAG & RELEASE RETURNS

Capture and tag & Release certificates must be completed and correct in all detail prior to arriving at weigh stations. This includes the time of capture or tag and release. Trophies will be awarded on the basis of the information given. Incomplete or incorrect certificates may result in disqualification of the fish concerned.

TIES

In the case of a tied result the trophy will be awarded to the "FIRST PAST THE POST". Count backs will be based on the time of capture or tag and release as stated on the certificate. If there is no time entered on the certificate, the time will be set as at close of fishing on that day.

CAPTURE CATEGORIES

- Champion Club
- Heaviest Billfish
- Heaviest Shark
- Heaviest Tuna
- Heaviest Other Game Fish
- Most Meritorious capture by a Junior

TAG & RELEASE CATEGORIES

- Champion Club
- Team Tagging most Billfish
- Team tagging most shark
- Team tagging most Tuna
- Highest point score small fry
- Highest point score junior
- Highest point score adult lady
- Highest point score adult male

CARCASSES

Anglers are responsible for the disposal of their captures with any unwanted fish taken at least 2nm to sea and cut open prior to disposal.

Competitors are reminded that it is an offence in NSW for recreational anglers to sell fish or give them to professional fishermen.

MARINE PARKS

No fish to be disposed of within NSW Marine Parks. Please be aware of any restrictions within Marine Parks.

BAG LIMITS

Please note that bag limits apply in NSW waters. Points will only be awarded to fish captured in accordance with these bag limits.

RADIO

There will be three radio bases for this tournament and they will be Tournament Base Pt Kembla, Tournament Base Batemans Bay and Tournament Base Merimbula.

Pt Kembla ph42744455

Batemans Bay ph 44726595

Merimbula ph. 64953331

Radio skeds will be conducted under NSWGFA Guidelines for Radio Skeds as are in effect at the time. All boats must be equipped with either a 27Mhz or VHF marine radio.

Skeds will be conducted by Tournament Base at two hourly intervals commencing at 8.10am Port Kembla and Merimbula and 7.10am Batemans Bay. These will be transmitted on 27.94Mhz and VHF73. Tournament Base will remain on air each day until all boats are accounted for. ALL TEAMS MUST SIGN ON AND OFF EACH DAY WITH RELEVANT AUTHORITY. Failure to do so or to answer two consecutive skeds will result in disqualification from all or part of the Tournament. Fish are not eligible until the vessel has signed on and it is the responsibility of the skippers to ensure that they are signed on before commencing fishing. Do not assume that you have been heard, please make sure that your call has been acknowledged.

When responding to Tournament Base, teams are to give their team number, vessel name and position from the local tournament sked map provided and status. Accurate reporting is done using the 3 zero system (strikes, hookups, capture/tag and release), species, weight, line class and angler.

In the event of communication difficulties, skippers are to use all available means to maintain contact with Tournament Base. The skipper of any boat suffering radio failure must make contact with another boat and have them advise Tournament Base of the problem. THEY MUST THEN RETURN TO PORT IMMEDIATELY. Boats having radio problems must check their radios with Tournament Base prior to leaving port again.

SATURDAY NIGHT

There will be a tournament dinner commencing at 7.30 at Batemans Bay on Saturday 20th March. The location is adjacent to the Batemans Bay Gantry. Cost per person is \$20.00

TROPHY PRESENTATION

This will take place at the Southern Zone AGM and Presentation Luncheon to be held at Batemans Bay in June 2009. Prizes from this event comprise entry for four anglers to various Southern Zone Tournaments.

PENALTIES

- Failure to sign on and off with Tournament Base will result in partial or total disqualification at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.
- Clubs failing to enter three teams overall will be levied \$25 per delegate entitlement.
- Disposal of fish within a Marine Park will result in loss of points or disqualification.

CONTACT

Sanchia Glaskin 0409 923 585

SANCTIONING

This Tournament is sanctioned by New South Wales Game Fishing Association.

Why not join in
and have a great
time catching up
with friends and
competing to find

the champion club
in your Zone!