

GAME FISHING CLUB OF NORTHERN TASMANIA



Sat 3rd February 2024 - Strahan **West Coast Classic**

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SHIMANO



TOURNAMENT INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS

COMPETITION INFORMATION

Competition Date: Saturday, 3 February 2024

Location: Strahan, Tasmania

Entry Fee: Adult Members \$70.00 each and Junior/Small Fry Members \$25.00 each

Entries Close: Sunday, 28 January 2024. *Late entries may be considered, if accepted, will attract a late fee of \$100 per boat.*

Boat Ramps: Vessels to launch from Macquarie Heads Boat Ramp

PLEASE NOTE: Before entry to this Fishing Competition can be accepted the Boat Owner must supply a copy of current Insurance, Trailer Registration and the Safety Form to the Secretary.

BRIEFING

Date: Friday, 2 February 2024

Time: Briefing will start at 7:30 pm sharp.

Location: Macquarie Heads camp ground, At our allocated camp area (TBA)

At least one person from each boat entered must attend the briefing to collect a safety pack.

FISHING TIMES

Day 1: 7.00 am to 3.30 pm

No lines or burley shall be placed in the water before starting times. Any angler playing a fish at the designated finishing time may continue to fight the fish, however, the Committee must be notified immediately via radio or phone. The fish will still need to be presented during the designated weigh in time.

WEIGH STATION LOCATION

Location: Macquarie Heads boat ramp Car Park

Times: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

PRESENTATION

Presentation to category winners will follow at the conclusion of the weigh in. BBQ will be available. Strictly no BYO.

When: Saturday 3rd February 2024 shortly after the close of weigh time. Estimated start time of 5.15pm

Location: Macquarie Heads Camp Grounds, At our allocated camp area.

PRIZE CATEGORIES

Overall (ONE FISH ONE PRIZE)

- Heaviest Tuna Overall
- Heaviest Tuna Male 1st place
- Heaviest Tuna Male 2nd Place
- Heaviest Tuna Female 1st Place
- Heaviest Tuna Female 2nd Place
- Heaviest Tuna Junior 1st Place
- Heaviest Tuna Junior 2nd Place
- Heaviest Tuna Small Fry 1st Place
- Heaviest Tuna Small Fry 2nd Place
- Highest Point Score Team – Capture 1st
- Highest Point Score Team – Capture 2nd
- Tag & Release Overall (Boat)
- Tag & Release Boat 2nd Place
- Heaviest Mako
- Lucky Boat Prize
- Unlucky Angler Award

Conditions

1. Tuna excludes Striped Tuna
2. Shark categories excludes Blue Shark
3. Blue Shark only eligible for tag and release categories.
4. One fish, one prize for Overall Categories.
5. Must be present at the presentations to be eligible for the Lucky Boat and Unlucky Angler

RULES OF CONTEST

As a Tasmanian Game Fishing Association (TGFA) sanctioned event, all fishing is to be conducted within the rules of the Game Fishing Association of Australia and the International Game Fishing Association.

ENTRIES

The contest is open for teams of no less than two (2) and not more than six (6) anglers who are at present current financial members of a game fishing club affiliated with the Game Fishing Association of Australia (GFAA).

FISHING AREA

The contest fishing boundaries are the perimeter of the grid map. The grid map is supplied is distributed to teams at the briefing session. Use this grid map in place of any previous grid maps issued. Fishing beyond the area will not be tolerated and will result in disqualification.

The set fishing area may be varied or reduced in size according to weather or other safety needs.

NUMBER OF RODS

Any number of rods may be fished, but in the case of multiple strikes only four fish may be played at any one time. Anglers are reminded that only fish hooked on rods, which are picked up immediately after the strike are eligible for Record Claims.

LINE CLASS

A minimum line class of 2kg and a minimum fish weight of 4kg for will apply.

Multifilament lines (Braid) may only be used in sanctioned contests with a minimum of sixteen (16) meters of homogenous line (monofilament) directly preceding the double, leader & hook.

MINIMUM WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS

The following minimum weights will apply to all TGFA Sanctioned Tournaments and all TGFA affiliated Club events. Minimum Weights:

- All fish weighed must equal or exceed the line class being used.
- Sharks have a minimum weight requirement of 60kgs.

WEATHER

Participation in this event is at own risk. The holding of this tournament is not to be construed as an invitation to go to sea in conditions beyond the capability of craft and crew.

TAG & RELEASE

Only official contest tags are to be used. Please collect these from the Tag Master at the briefing. **Note a \$50 deposit is required.** All tags must be returned at the finish of the contest and deposit will be paid back. **All fish tagged must be photographed with a date/time camera and show correct tag placement or points will not be awarded.**

WEIGHING OF FISH

All fish will be weighed in at the competition weigh station by the weighmaster appointed by the contest committee.

Weights will be rounded down to the nearest increments on the scales. The weighmaster's decision is final and no disputes will be entered into.

- Maximum of two (2) tuna per angler to be weighed, maximum of four (4) per boat

All fish will be weighed gilled and gutted, except Sharks, which will be gutted only. If in the opinion of the angler, the fish is a potential record, the fish can be weighed whole then taken away for cleaning and then re-weighed for the Tournament. At the request of the angler or the weigh master and with both in agreeance, 10% of the whole weight may be deducted off the fish rather than being taken away for cleaning and reweighing.

State bag, possession and boat limits always apply.

DISPOSAL

All offal must be disposed of at sea. Any offal disposed of in an unacceptable manner will result in disqualification of the offending team from the competition.

POINTS SCORE SYSTEM

This tournament includes a point score prize category and uses the following formula:

Fish weight x 100 x fighting factor divided by line class.

- All Tuna 1.5
- Shark Blue - 0.5
- Shark Mako - 1.0

SAFETY REGULATIONS

All vessels are required to comply with safety and equipment regulations as prescribed by Marine and Safety Tasmania (MAST).

It is mandatory for all competing boats to submit a Vessel Detail Form with the Entry Form. Tasmania Police may be in attendance checking safety equipment and adherence to regulations.

The safety check list on the entry form must be filled out and signed by the skipper or team captain for the team to be entered into the contest.

MARINE RADIO CONTROL AND SKEDS

All vessels are to be equipped with VHF Marine radio.

Vessels are to log on by calling the comp radio boat (**Seismic**) on **channel 72** and advise:

- Vessel Name and Persons on Board (POB)
- If **Seismic** is unreachable via Radio the Comp back up boat will be (**Stillnodaproblem**)

The radio boat (**Seismic**) will conduct the skeds and the skipper of the boat must answer all skeds and file a position according to the grid map provided in the briefing kit. If two skeds are missed, the competition will be called off and a search for your boat will commence. **Skeds will be conducted at 20 past the hour commencing at 8.20 am. Skeds will be conducted on Channel 72.**

REPORTING PROCEDURE FOR RADIO SKEDS

On the FIRST and each subsequent HOURLY sked vessels will report the following:

- Vessel name or boat number
- Position as a grid reference, using the phonetic alphabet
- Number and type of fish captured and tagged and released

On the FINAL sked vessels will report the following:

- Vessel name or boat number with grid reference
- Number and type of fish captured and tagged and released
- Estimated time of arrival at Port

Upon returning to the boat ramp, vessels will report the following:

- Vessel name or Boat number
- Officially sign off by calling radio vessel. The Skipper MUST receive acknowledgement that they have made contact with the Radio Operator. If radio contact is not made, the Skipper is to report in person to sign off.

EMERGENCY PLAN

In the event that a vessel fails to report for two consecutive radio skeds:

The contest committee through the radio base or relay vessel will instigate the following procedure:

1. Request all vessels especially those near the last known grid position to commence a search of the area. In the event of inclement weather, only vessels capable of handling the conditions safely would be expected to undertake a search. This decision must be at the discretion of the skipper as the person with the sole responsibility for the safety of his vessel and crew.
2. Instruct all other competitors not involved in the search and not within reasonable range through the base station or relay vessel to cease competition fishing until the situation is resolved.
3. After 1 hour of searching without locating the vessel the contest committee, relay boat or base station operator will notify the Marine Police and the St. Helens Coast Guard of the situation and all action from that point on will be at the direction of the Marine Police or Coast Guard or in their absence the contest committee.
4. All boats engaged in the search for the missing vessel will be asked to continue looking until the situation is resolved.
5. Competition fishing will not recommence until the situation is resolved and the contest committee, through the radio base or relay boat, announce the restarting of fishing in the Tournament.

If during any Club organised fishing tournament or other competition day an emergency call is initiated such as a "May Day" direct call or flare, all fishing will cease immediately at the direction of the committee and not recommence until announced by the committee.

All available vessels should assist where possible in the event of any emergency.

TAG AND RELEASE GUIDELINES

The GFAA guidelines for tag and release and the GFAA angling rules and equipment regulations apply and these guidelines are additional.

The current Tag and Release Point Score values as agreed by the TGFA Executive will be the only Tag and Release Point Score system used. Tag and Release point values will be allocated as follows irrespective of line class used:

- Bluefin Tuna 5,000 greater than 1.5m 10,000
- Shark - Blue 500
- Shark – Others 1,000

Tag and release of Shark: In line with the NSW DPI policy the TGFA does not support the practice of multiple capture and multiple tagging of a shark where the multiple capture and multiple tagging occurs on any one day.

During a sanctioned competition tag and release points will only be awarded to an angler or a team for the initial tag and release of any one particular shark on any one day of a competition. No additional points will be awarded for any subsequent recapture of a shark on that day by the same angler or the same team.

Tag and release of Tuna: In line with NSW DPI policy the TGFA does not support the tagging and release of any Tuna species where the overall length of the Tuna is less than 60cm.

During a sanctioned competition tag and release points will only be awarded to an angler or a team for tuna species tagged and released which are 60cm or greater.

Tag Issue and Return: Sanctioned competition tags will only be issued on monetary deposit basis which is forfeited if tags are not returned. Any vessel not returning Tags (used or unused) at the end of a Tournament will forfeit the deposit. The TGFA will each year set an amount appropriate for the deposit.

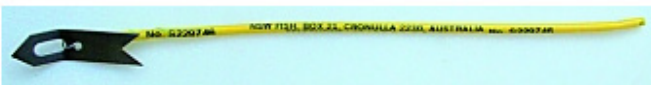
Correct Tags and Tag Applicators: Only NSW DPI Pelagic, Shark and Billfish tags are approved by the TGFA (see figure 1). During sanctioned competition points will not be awarded for the deployment of any other tags. Where anglers are also involved in the deployment of satellite tags, the placement of an approved tag in addition to the satellite tag is advised. Appropriate tag applicators should be used. (see figure 2)

Figure 1: Approved Tags

Pelagic tag (A series) - Over 60cm for Tuna, Mackerel, Dolphinfish and Wahoo, and over 70cm for Kingfish



Steel Head Shark tag (S series) - Sharks only.



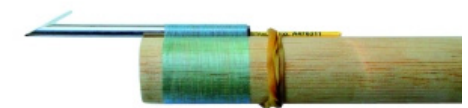
Billfish tag (B series) - Marlin, Sailfish, Swordfish and Spearfish only.



Figure 2: Approved Tag Applicators



Billfish tag



Pelagic tag

