

# *TALE ROPE*

Newsletter of the  
**CANBERRA GAME FISHING CLUB**  
(Incorporated)



P.O. Box 94  
WODEN ACT 2606



**February 2017**

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## Editors Report

It was great to be back on the water for the Bluewater Classic, we saw a lot of fish and a lot of bait! It was a shame the fish were a little doughy. We did hook one on the Friday, but ended up dropping it after a short burst of excitement. Can't wait to be back on the water, for now I'll have to settle for this work caper.

We are adding a new section to the website for club member boats, if you would like your boat featured on the website, please forward a photo and description to [admin@canberragamefishingclub.com.au](mailto:admin@canberragamefishingclub.com.au)

If you have any stories, photos, jokes, information or anything else you would like included in the Tale Rope, please send an email with all the information to [admin@canberragamefishingclub.com.au](mailto:admin@canberragamefishingclub.com.au) and we will be sure to include it.

Be sure to check out the website: <https://www.canberragamefishing.com.au> it has been updated with all the new committee contacts, photos from the AGM and all of the 2016 – 2017 events have been added. If you want any photos or anything added to the website, please email [admin@canberragamefishing.com.au](mailto:admin@canberragamefishing.com.au)

See you all on the water.  
Cheers,  
Alan

# GOHOSTING



## Presidents Report

Good day to all,

Well the fishing year is underway and, to the best of my knowledge, Matt Harman was the lucky angler to get the first Marlin. Well done Matt and crew.

There was one marlin caught just before Matt's but the angler didn't renew their membership which is unfortunate.

Canberra had a very good turnout at the Blue Water Classic and we walked away winners. New club boat Square Meters took out 2nd place in the big boat category. Hide n Seek took out 1st place in boats under 7.1 meters and they also took out highest point score male angler with Matt Pat winning. Well done guys.

Thanks to all for turning up to the pizza night on Saturday, A big thanks to Scott from Bermi Bait and Tackle and Mark Dunphy from Shimano for coming along and making it a great night.

A few club boats went to the Ulladulla Jess Sands and did well also. Well done to all boats that have been fishing other club tournaments, it is great to get a phone call from other clubs thanking us for entering.

Coming up is the Alliance T&R which is a great fun weekend. After that will be our Bermi Bash in late March - date to come very soon.

There has been a lot of Marlin seen over the last couple of weeks but they haven't been on the chew, hopefully they turn on soon.

On the club front, our tournament is only three months away. It will be here before we know it - May 20th to 22nd - see you there.

Don't forget our next club meeting February 14th at 7.30 Hellenic Club Woden.

Mario Imbriano  
President

Regards  
Mario Imbriano  
President



## Secretary's Report

Hi everyone,,

This report is simply a quick update of the Club's happenings over the Christmas period, which has been quiet from a correspondence stand point. As mentioned at the previous meeting the proposal for the changes to the Bermagui boat ramp went before the Council. I sent the BBGAC a letter of support and have been notified that the plans had been until February following consultation with impacted parties. Will seek to update further on this. The NSW GFAA website has been updated on the use of braided line and it has been decided that Canberra will follow accordingly. As such braided line can be used for Club points only (excludes Tournaments), however it is recommended that you use IGFA rated braid and check any tournament rules before fishing to confirm eligibility. Furthermore, the Club reserves the right to test the line for record claims and at its discretion. Alan proposed moving to online membership forms which hopefully can occur within the near future. Finally, the meeting closed with the annual Christmas celebrations although this year pizzas were substituted for Chinese entrees to no complaint, and as always was the most attended meeting of the year.

Yellowfin Tournament updates include the sanctioning approval from NSW going through. With that out of the way we can now focus on sponsorship and organizational duties associated with the tournament. We are planning to advertise in the next issue of Bluewater magazine to get the word out and get some exposure. I have been in discussion with a new sponsor WRI Weather Routing Inc. regarding the tournament and they have agreed to come on board and will allow competitors to access their sea surface charts and weather data free of charge. I believe this is a great addition to our tournament and should help to set it apart from others on the South Coast by providing a more inclusive experience for all involved.

The Alliance Tag and Release Competition is coming up on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of March in Bermagui, which Canberra Game Fishing has historically been a part of. Currently we are allocated to run the Sunday night BBQ and provide salads for Friday and Sunday night, although likely we will be required to assist further so hopefully we can have some volunteers to cover this. Contact Andy Fennessy on 0413 006 787 or email [afenness@bigpond.net.au](mailto:afenness@bigpond.net.au) for more details.

Regards James Wearn





HELLENIC CLUB  
Where Canberra Meets

## CANBERRA GAME FISHING CLUB POINTSCORE

YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY, 2017

### LOCAL WATERS

### TAG AND RELEASE

DATE	ANGLER	BOAT	TAG CARD NUMBER	FISH SPECIES/LINE CLASS	POINT SCORE
9/07/2016	Finn Bradley	Mr Hooker	A517838	TUNA - ALBACORE/15	575.00
9/07/2016	John Parbery	Mr Hooker	A517840	TUNA - ALBACORE/15	575.00
9/07/2016	Ben Perrett	Mr Hooker	A517839	TUNA - ALBACORE/24	500.00
9/07/2016	Finn Bradley	Mr Hooker	A565941	TUNA - ALBACORE/24	500.00
9/07/2016	Billy Sheffield	Have A Go	A591052	TUNA - BLUEFIN/15	1,150.00
9/07/2016	Billy Sheffield	Have A Go	A590059	TUNA - BLUEFIN/24	1,000.00
9/07/2016	Jason Sheffield	Have A Go	A591055	TUNA - BLUEFIN/8	1,250.00
16/07/2016	Billy Sheffield	Have A Go	S255209	BLUE SHARK/24	2,500.00

LEADING BOAT                      Have A Go                      5,900 points  
LEADING ANGLER                Bills Sheffield                4,650 points

### CAPTURE

DATE	ANGLER	BOAT	FISH SPECIES	WEIGHT OF FISH	LINE CLASS	POINT SCORE
9/07/2016	Lynette Robb	Mr Hooker	TUNA	61.4	24	2,167.73
9/07/2016	Steve Angus	Mr Hooker	TUNA	54.2	24	1,689.14



## DATES TO REMEMBER

14<sup>th</sup> February – Hellenic Club Woden – Club Meeting.

11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of March – Bermagui – Alliance Tag and Release Tournament

## NOTICE: CHANGE OF POINT SCORE FOR SHARKS

SPECIES	6-10 kg	15kg	24kg	37kg	60kg
<b>Sharks</b>	3750	3450	3000	2550	<b>2250</b>
<b>Blue sharks</b>	<b>3125</b>	<b>2875</b>	<b>2500</b>	<b>2125</b>	<b>1875</b>

Please note the changes above to shark points for tag and release. These were changed at the NSWGFA AGM after the motion put up by Broken Bay GFC.



Be sure to support these fellow Southern Zone Clubs by attending their tournaments if at all possible. We cannot expect clubs to support our Yellowfin Tuna Tournament unless we reciprocate.



## SOUTHERN ZONE - EVENTS CALENDAR 2016-2017

Queen's birthday long weekend	June 13
Zone weekend	June 11-12
Merimbula 21 <sup>st</sup> Broadbill & 1 <sup>st</sup> SBT Tournament 1st leg	June 15-17
Zone weekend	June 25-26
Merimbula 21 <sup>st</sup> Broadbill & 1 <sup>st</sup> SBT Tournament 2 <sup>nd</sup> leg	June 22-24
Southern Zone AGM & Trophy Presentation	July 3
Zone weekend.	July 9-10
Zone weekend	July 23-24
Zone weekend	August 13-14
Zone weekend	August 27-28
Zone weekend	September 10-11
Zone weekend	September 24-25
Zone weekend	October 8-9
Zone weekend	October 22-23
Zone weekend	November 12-13
Zone weekend	November 26-27
Jervis Bay White Sands Tournament *	November 25-27
Zone weekend	December 10-11
Zone weekend + Christmas & Boxing Day	December 24-26
New Years Day	January 1
Zone weekend	January 14-15
Batemans Bay Tollgate Island Classic *	January 20-22
Zone weekend	January 28-29
Bermagui Blue Water Classic *	January 28-30
Jess Sams Ulladulla Open *	February 3-5
Zone weekend	February 11-12
Shellharbour Tournament *	February 11-12
Zone weekend	February 25-26
NSWGFA Interclub	February 25-26 +-March 4-5
Alliance T/R Tournament, Bermagui	March 11-12
Southern Zone Interclub *	March 11-12
Zone weekend	March 11-12
Shoalhaven Open Tournament *	March 24-26
Eden Open Tournament *	March 18-20
Zone weekend (Easter)	March 25-26
Kiama Blowhole Big Fish Classic *	April 1-2
Zone weekend	April 8-9
Easter	April 14-17
Zone weekend	April 22-23
Zone weekend	May 13-14
Canberra Yellowfin Tournament *	May 20-22
Zone weekend	May 27-28
Zone weekend	June 10-11
Merimbula Open *	June 10-12
Zone weekend	June 24-25
Southern Zone AGM and presentation lunch	July 2
Merimbula Broadbill & SBT Tournament 1st leg	July 7-9
Merimbula Broadbill & SBT Tournament 2 <sup>nd</sup> leg	July 14-16

NB : Zone weekends are the second and forth full weekend of every month.

Fish tagged or captured at the NSW Interclub will be counted in Southern Zone monthly Cock O'the Walk competition. All gazetted NSW Public Holiday long weekends are also included

\* Denotes nominated tournaments eligible for Zone points and the Columbus and George Bass Trophies.



## Vanuatu Ocean Blue Fishing- By Doug Read

After more than 12 months of deliberation Leanne and I finally made the decision to book a week of game fishing with Ocean Blue Fishing, staying at the Trees and Fishes resort in Vanuatu. Having never been to Vanuatu before, I wasn't sure what to expect but was curious to see how the country had recovered from the massive cyclone that scored a direct hit on the tiny island nation 12 months previously. On the drive from the airport to our resort we had a glimpse of the struggles faced by the local people with the "lucky" ones living in shipping containers and others in rusted out cars covered by sheets of old corrugated iron. One can only imagine what the daily life struggle would be like for these people.



We travelled to the western side of the island to the Trees and Fishes resort and moved into our well-appointed bungalow. After a beer or two we had a briefing with Andrea Traverso who heads up fishing charter operations at the resort. The resort was equipped with 3 Edgewater 32 centre consoles powered by twin 225 Yamaha's and one 17 Edgewater powered by a 115 Yammy. We had booked the couples package and the 17 was to be our platform for the next 6 days.

Fishing options were essentially unlimited with GT's, Doggies, Sailfish, Wahoo, Yellowfin, Mahi Mahi and of course Blue Marlin. Being volcanic the island water depths drop away quick from the shore, in some places 700 metres or more just 2km out. To enhance your chances a series of 6 FAD's have been installed by Ocean Blue at a cost of \$10,000 each. They are the staple location for almost all available species and on most days they are all there in big numbers.

The channel between the front of the resort and the closest westerly island 4km away was home to the US 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet during WW2. A legacy of this is still clearly apparent as the shore is littered with tens of thousands of polished glass fragments from Coke bottles that were dumped during the war and are making their way ashore.

We started our first morning targeting GT's and after a less than enthusiastic response to my cheerful "G'day" to our skipper Stefan, (we later realised that he didn't loosen up until about 12 noon each day after the effects of the previous night's Kava binge wore off!), we headed off in the 17 with the skipper ringing the neck of the Yammy as we skipped across the water at 34kts! It didn't appear to matter too much whether the water was flat or choppy the Yammy only had 2 speeds, stalled of flat out!



After 30min of “hang time” we arrived and commenced a solid 2 hour popper casting session for GT’s and eventually managed a modest 10kg model as reward. Then off to the closest FAD for some more popper action where we managed a 10kg Yellowfin and dropped a decent Wahoo.

We made the call to head for the FAD’s on day 2 and after a quiet start on the first FAD, moved on and found the water being ripped apart by 50kg Yellowfin. Out came the poppers and we had a double hook-up on 2 fish, mine went 38kg and Leanne’s 40kg. We caught another couple to 30kg and several Mahi Mahi to about 10kg before we ran out of room to keep the fish so called it an early day.







Day 3 we went back out to the FAD's and managed a couple of moderate size Mahi Mahi before the wind pick up and the skipper made the call to head in. We were ruing a missed opportunity as one of the larger boats found a patch of Yellowfin and brought in 4 to 60kg and 2 Blue Marlin to 140kg. It should be noted that pretty much all edible fish are brought in and for use at the resort with the vast majority going to feed the local people.



Day 4 we opted to upsize to the 32ft Edgewater as our bones were starting to ache from the smaller boat. We found the Yellowfin pretty much where they were the day before with packs of the smashing up the water around a Blue Whale that we inhaling Anchovies, what a sight it was! On the first troll past 2 reels screamed off and Leanne and I were on a double! While we were on the skipper decided to join the action and scored one 10kg and another 60kg on a popper. Leanne again shaded me by a couple of kilos with another 40kg model. I made for this later with an 20kg PB Mahi Mahi and finished off the day with a hook-up on a Blue Marlin which eventually jumped off, what an awesome day it was!



We again opted for the boat upgrade for our final day and headed down to an extinct Volcano for a crack at the local Doggies. On arrival we trolled up a couple of Stripies and several Flying Fish for the tuna tubes. The downrigger was deployed and it wasn't long before we had our first strike but unfortunately the hooks pulled. After another 30 minutes the deep bait went off again and a Sailfish took to the air behind the boat. Twenty minutes later I had my first ever Sailfish beside the boat but unfortunately it had a damaged eye from the hook and the decision was made to bring it in. For the next 15 minutes we had several strikes ranging from large Wahoo to Sharks but we didn't manage to stay connected. Finally, another Sail powered up to the skip bait and we were in business again. I asked Leanne to take this one but she insisted I take it, I soon realised why. A light rod spooled with 30lb braid on a Shimano Saragosa isn't ideal for fighting a 40kg Sail after 5 solid days of having our arms stretched. The fish went nuts and at one stage I was leaning over the side of the boat, rod and reel underwater with the fish on the opposite side, tail walking 200m away.



40 minutes later we managed to get the fish to the side of the boat for a couple of happy snaps and a good release.





On summary, the fishing was probably no better than the best of days we would experience in our home waters, it's just that every day was as good as that! Options were unlimited and the hospitality at the Trees and Fishes Resort was first class. We would definitely do it again.

Doug Read

# Southern Zone

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## COCK O' THE WALK RESULTS ..... DECEMBER 2016

### CAPTURES : HEAVIEST

SPECIES	WHT	LINE	S/J	ANGLER	BOAT	CLUB	PTS
<b>MARLIN</b>							
<b>SHARK</b>							
<b>TUNA</b>							
<b>BROADBILL</b>							
<b>OGF</b>							
SBS	32.6	24	S/M	Ben Beck	Reel Devocean	Jervis Bay	5

### MOST MERITORIOUS

<b>MARLIN</b>							
<b>SHARK</b>							
<b>TUNA</b>							
<b>BROADBILL</b>							
<b>OGF</b>							
SBS	32.4	24	S/M	Ben Beck	Reel Devocean	Jervis Bay	5

**CAPTURE POINTS FOR MONTH**

Jervis Bay	10
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**TAG & RELEASE PONTs FOR MONTH**

Fast & Furious	Shellharbour	10000	5
Magic	Shoalhaven	3450	4

**CAPTURE POINTS 2016-17**

Merimbula	36
Jervis Bay	22
Eden	18
Canberra	16
Shoalhaven	10
Kiama	4

**PROGRESSIVE TAG & RELEASE POINTS 2016-17**

Shellharbour	33
Jervis Bay	7.5
	7
Batemans Bay	5
Merimbula	5
Ulladulla	3.5
Canberra	2

I hope you all had a terrific Christmas and survived the overeating and drinking that we all partake in. It is such a hectic time of the year and I was glad when I could just veg out at home after all the parties.

My best wishes to everyone for a happy and healthy year ahead. It has been a slow start but with a bit of luck we will see lots of fish for the Zone and your clubs in 2017. Good luck to everyone!

Batemans Bay's Tollgate Island Classic is next weekend followed by Bermagui's Blue Water Classic. And of course early February brings us Ulladulla's Jess Sams and also the Shellharbour Tournament the next weekend on the 11-12<sup>th</sup>. These are all great events and I urge you to participate in them if you are in the area. Most clubs rely heavily on their tournaments for their financial viability so it is important that we attend as many as we can. I will be doing the radio for both Ulladulla and Shellharbour so I look forward to catching up with some of you at these events.

As mentioned before, the NSWGFA Interclub is being conducted in a shortened format this year as a trial run. This means a considerably shorter time away from home and business. It would be terrific to see a good roll up from Southern Zone so please try and make up some teams.

Stay safe and enjoy your fishing.

Sanchia



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WONTHAGGI, Vic, 3995.

**Captured/Tagged/Measured fish are to be entered on-line directly to the GFAA website data base and must be lodged by the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the next Month following their Capture/Tag/Measure**

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# An Invitation

is extended to you to enter the

## GFAA Junior National Tournament

1<sup>st</sup> July 2016 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017

### Eligible Fishing Days

The tournament will be conducted from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 and ALL days of the year are eligible fishing days.

### Entry Fee

*Entry into this year's tournament is again **FREE**.*

Entry forms are to be submitted on-line at  
[www.gfaa.asn.au](http://www.gfaa.asn.au)

**Note: This must be done before any capture or tag & release can be recognised**

Each entrant will be supplied with welcome letter by their State Coordinator after their entry has been received by the GFAA Coordinator.

### Categories

**Small Fry - Capture/Tag & Release/Measure & Release**  
Anglers under the age of 11 years at the date entry is accepted. If you turn 11 years after entering the tournament you are eligible to fish in the "Small Fry" category until the end of the tournament year i.e. 30<sup>th</sup> June 2014.

**Junior - Capture/Tag & Release/Measure & Release**  
Anglers 11 years at the date entry is accepted and under 16 years are eligible to fish in this tournament. If you are 15 at the beginning of the tournament year you may fish and be eligible for trophies until your 16<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Entry Forms & Details Available at:**  
Website [www.gfaa.asn.au](http://www.gfaa.asn.au)

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Game Fishing Club

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