

# CANBERRA GAME FISHING CLUB TUNA TOURNAMENT

## 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> MAY 2024

**An invitation is extended to anglers who are financial members of a club that is affiliated with NSWGFA or other State Associations which are affiliated with GFAA, ANSA or a bona fide IGFA International Member.**

**VENUE:** The 2024 Canberra GFC Tuna Tournament will be held out of the port of Bermagui, NSW. The Bermagui Country Club, Tuross Street, Bermagui, is the venue for tournament registration, barbeque, dinner and raffles.

### TOURNAMENT RULES

**1. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE** shall consist of the Executive of the Canberra Game Fishing Club (CGFC) with President Matt Crampton the coordinator.  
**2. ENTRIES:** Boat skippers must read all tournament rules and forward completed entry form with payment to The Secretary, CGFC, PO Box 94, Woden, ACT 2606 or email [sanchia.glaskin@gmail.com](mailto:sanchia.glaskin@gmail.com). Entry Forms can also be completed and submitted online through the CGFC website – [canberragamefishing.com.au](http://canberragamefishing.com.au). The cost of entry is \$100 per senior angler and \$50 for Juniors and Small Fry. Entry includes the barbeque on Saturday night. Entries received with full payment by 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 will receive a reduction of \$15 per senior angler.

**Entries received by 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 will be entered into a draw at the Friday night briefing. If won, entry to the 2025 tournament will be awarded to the maximum value of \$500. Winner MUST be present at the Friday night briefing to win. CGFC reserves the right to refuse entry to the Tournament.**

**Any ANSA member wishing to fish in a NSWGFA Sanctioned Tournament must fish on a NSWGFA registered boat.**

**3. TEAMS:** All boats shall consist of a minimum of two (2) senior anglers (or at the discretion of the Tournament Committee) and a maximum limited to the number of anglers as per NSW Roads and Maritime Services Vessel Capacity. No non-paying participant may go to sea, except at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.

**4. REPLACEMENT OF BOATS AND COMPETITORS:** No replacement of boats or competitors will be allowed after the commencement of the tournament. Anglers may not effect a capture or tag and release on any vessel other than the one on which he/she is registered. Capture certificate, tag and release cards, the angler and all equipment used must be presented to the weigh station on the vessel on which capture or tag and release was effected and may not be transferred to another vessel. However, in the case of an emergency situation, the Tournament Committee may, at their discretion, allow the transfer of an angler/ fish and equipment but only following the successful capture or tag and release.

**5. SEAWORTHINESS OF BOATS:** All boats MUST comply with NSW Roads and Maritime Service regulations for safety standards of the vessel's home club. A "Boat Safety Rescue Form" is included as part of the Entry Form and MUST be completed and signed by the Boat Skipper. All boats MUST carry a 406MHZ EPIRB and preferably have two working marine radios fitted, one of which should be VHF frequency.

**6. INSURANCE:** All competing vessels MUST be comprehensively insured and carry Public Liability insurance. Details of your insurance MUST be included on the entry forms.

**7. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS:** All anglers MUST carry a NSW Fishing Licence. Where Required bag limits and size restrictions MUST be adhered to. All competitors are reminded that it is an offence to tie any vessel to objects such as wave riders, FADs or fish trap buoys.

**8. FISHING TIMES:** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May.....7.00am to 4pm  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May.....7.00am to 4pm  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May .....7.00am to 3.00pm

**NOTE:** Any fish hooked and reported to Tournament Base prior to finish of fishing each day may be played out and if caught will be eligible for the tournament provided the angler, fish and/or tag and full equipment is presented to the weigh station on the day of capture or tag and release and by 4.00pm on Monday for capture and tags on that day.

**9. FISHING AREA:** The fishing area has a northern boundary of 36'0", a southern boundary of 36'48" and an eastern boundary of 150'43" according to the sched map in your tournament bags.

**10. BAD WEATHER:** To avoid taking unnecessary risks in the event of bad weather the Tournament Committee will decide whether the day will be a competition day or not. Boats should establish early morning contact with Tournament Base or a member of the Tournament Committee at the weigh station. In the event of bad weather developing after the start of fishing, the Tournament Committee will confer and decide whether or not the tournament will be called off for the remainder of the day. All fish caught prior to this time will be eligible for the competition.

The Tournament Committee accepts no responsibility for decisions made by individuals whether to put to sea or not, having regard to the Committee's decision on the Tournament for the day. The ultimate decision to return to harbour remains with the competitors.

**Note:** Declaration of a Gale Warning by the appropriate government weather authority requires the cancellation of the tournament. In the event of a declaration whilst vessels are at sea, such vessels are required to cease fishing immediately and return to port. Cancellation will only apply until the Gale Warning is lifted.

**11. LEAVING AND RETURNING TO PORT:** All boats, except those travelling to and from tournament by sea, must leave from and return to Bermagui Harbour each day of the tournament. Boats travelling to and from the tournament by sea CANNOT commence burleying, trolling or fishing before Tournament Base announces START FISHING at 7.00am. If a boat at that time is not within the prescribed fishing boundaries it cannot commence fishing until it is within the boundaries. Boats travelling to and from the tournament by sea MUST spend Saturday and Sunday night in Bermagui Harbour unless alternative arrangements have been made with the Tournament Committee.

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May boats may elect to return directly to their home port after fishing but must effect a sign-off with Tournament Base. Boats returning to their home port on the final day of the tournament may convey their capture/tag cards to Tournament Base by road, provided that the angler, fish and/or tag card and full equipment is presented to the weigh station by 4.00pm on Monday.

**12. WEIGHSTATION PROCEDURES:** Once boats enter the vicinity of the weigh station, they are under the control of the Tournament Official at the weigh station and MUST obey all instructions issued. Before coming alongside the weigh station, boats must have completed and have ready for presentation all equipment used to effect capture and/or tag and release and applicable paperwork. All forms must be lodged on the day of capture or tag and release and on Monday boats must be in the inner harbour no later than 4.00pm.

**13. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS:** Radio scheds will be conducted in accordance with the NSWGFA "Guidelines for Radio Scheds for Tournaments" as are in effect at the time of the tournament.

\* The radio schedule times will be two hourly intervals commencing at 8.10am each day.

\* Tournament Base will call each boat in numerical order on 27.94Mhz and VHF 22.

\* Boats are to report on each sched as follows:

1. Boat number

2. Boat name

3. Position using the CGFC sched map references and whether the boat is drifting, trolling etc.

4. ACCURATE fishing report using 000 system ie strikes, hook-ups, capture/tag and release giving species, line class, angler and time. In case of capture a short length is also required. **Note:** Any measurement to be found to be more than 10% different from that reported will be disqualified.

The Tournament Committee reserve the right to impose penalties for deliberate failure to correctly relay accurate position.

**Please note:**

- If any vessel is unable to fish on any competition day, it is a requirement that Tournament Base be notified, either by radio or phone before the second sched as a priority.
- Should any vessel suffer radio failure, the Boat Skipper **MUST** attempt to notify another vessel of the problem and have them notify Tournament Base and **MUST** then immediately return to port. Once in port it is the responsibility of the skipper to sign off with a Tournament Official.
- If a vessel misses two (2) consecutive scheds Tournament Base may commence emergency procedures.
- All boats fishing are to report on EVERY sched.
- All boats **MUST** sign off with Tournament Base when returning to port.
- Radio silence **MUST** be observed for ten (10) minutes prior to conclusion of the days fishing to allow reports of late hook-ups.
- At the final sched each day boats are required to give their estimated time of arrival back in port with their grid reference.
- Radio Operator.....Sanchia Glaskin 0409 923 585.

**14. FISH HANDLING:** All fish should be removed from the weigh station after weighing. Competitors and boat crew **MUST NOT** clean or fillet fish or remove shark jaws in the vicinity of the weigh station, nor at any time near any beach or harbour foreshore area. In the event that Shark or Marlin is given away for eating, only the fillets may be given and the correct disposal of any remaining carcass is the responsibility of the skipper and crew. Unwanted fish **MUST** be taken at least 2nm outside the port and disposed of in an appropriate manner.

Note: Fish **MUST NOT** be disposed of in a Marine Park. Failure to comply with this rule will invoke a penalty against the offending boat.

**15. FISHING RULES:** The Tournament will be fished under the "Fishing Rules and Tackle Regulations" of GFAA and NSWGFA as are in effect at the time. The NSWGFA Tag and Release and Measure and Release rules shall apply.

**(1) LINE CLASS:** Those recognised are 4kg (no sharks), 6kg, 8kg, 10kg, 24kg, 37kg and 60kg.

**(2) ELIGIBLE SPECIES:** As per NSWGFA eligible species list.

**(3) CIRCLE HOOKS ONLY** are permitted to be used for live baiting and trolling natural baits (whether live, dead, mutilated or dissected). Except in the case of targeting Narrow Barred Mackerel (Scomberomus Commerson).

**(4) No points** to be scored for any species caught while using live baits and/or trolling natural baits with "J" hooks.

**(5) IDENTIFIABLE MARLIN** carcasses as tethered burley is prohibited. Burley secured under floats is prohibited.

**(6) MULTIPLE STRIKES:** In the event of a multiple strike on separate lines being fished by a single angler, only the first fish fought will be eligible for point score.

**(7) BRAID LINE:** Use of braid line is permitted as per motion passed through NSWGFA.

**(8) CAPTURE:**

**Minimum Weight to Qualify**

**(a) MARLIN** must weigh a minimum of 70kg on line class 10kg and a minimum of 90kg on 15kg line class and over.

**(b) YELLOWFIN & SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA:** 15kg on line classes up to and including 15kg. Equal to line class for over 15kg line.

**(c) SHARKS** must weigh a minimum of 70kg on line class to 10kg and a minimum of 90kg on 15kg to 37kg line class and 130kg on 60kg line class. No points shall be awarded for shark capture on 4kg line class.

**(d) OTHER GAME FISH** must weigh at least equal to the breaking strain of line class used.

**Junior and Small Fry Minimum Weight to Qualify**

**(a) MARLIN** must weigh a minimum of 60kg on line class to 10kg and 80kg on 15kg line class and over.

**(b) YELLOWFIN & SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA:** Equal to line class in all classes.

**(c) SHARKS** must weigh a minimum of 70kg on line class to 10kg and a minimum of 90kg on 15kg to 37kg line class and 130kg on 60kg line class. No points shall be awarded for shark capture on 4kg line class.

**(d) OTHER GAME FISH** must weigh at least equal to the breaking strain of line class used.

**Small Fry angler personal points only** - Striped Tuna and Kawa Kawa calculated as per NSWGFA point score system.

**NOTE:** In the event of a tie on any prize category, the count back system will be used to determine the winner. That is the angler or boat to reach the winning score first will be deemed the winner.

**(1) SHARKS:** No points shall be awarded for shark captured on 4kg line class. No sharks will be weighed with a restrictive device on jaws. Sewing up of shark jaws will automatically disqualify a capture. No sharks will be weighed with a choker in place.

**(2) Maximum points:** All captures on line classes up to and including 10kg shall be a maximum of 15,000 plus 1 point per kilo of fish weight. All captures on line classes 15kg and over shall be maximum of 20,000 plus 1 point per kilo of fish weight.

**(3) Striped Tuna and Kawa Kawa** are eligible species for small fry personal point score and applicable trophies only. They are capture and tag and release only, same points apply as per NSWGFA point score .... Use Measure and Release cards available.

**(9) TAG AND RELEASE:**

**(a) BILLFISH TAG:** All Billfish must be tagged with the Billfish Tag as this is the only tag that will be recognised for Billfish.

**(b) SHARKS:** **MUST** be a minimum length of 1 metre.

**(c) NSW DPI TAGS:** Only NSW DPI tags can be used and eligible for points or trophies.

**(d) LINE CLASS:** Must be provided on tag cards. If no line class is provided it will be deemed to be 60kg tackle.

**(e) TIME:** Failure to record time of release on tag cards will result in the time being recorded as at the end of the days fishing or after the last fish for the day has been tagged, whichever is the latter.

**(f) POINTS:** Will be calculated as per NSWGFA tag and release line class point score. In the event of a tie in any prize category, the count back system will be used to determine the winner ie The angler or boat to reach the winning score first will be deemed the winner.

Note: A GFAA Measure and Release card is to be used to record Yellowtail Kingfish (under 70cm) release information. The time of release and line class is to be recorded on the card. If no time is listed the fish will be deemed to be released at end of days fishing and line class will be deemed to be 60kg.

**16. PROTESTS:** Any protests must be submitted in writing by the Boat Skipper to the Protest Committee. The Protest Committee shall consist of three (3) Executive Members of the Canberra Game Fishing Club. Protests must be submitted no later than two hours after the last recorded capture/tag on the fishing day concerned. The decision of the Protest Committee will be final.

**17. MISCONDUCT:** The Tournament Committee may on its own initiative investigate and act upon any incident of misconduct by an angler on a boat fishing the tournament, be he/she registered for the tournament or not, occurring during the tournament. The Committee may impose penalties of loss of points, disqualification of fish, angler, boat or team and refusal of entry to any future CGFC tournament.

All competitors are reminded that as a member of a Club they are regarded as representatives of that Club, and as such, any unbecoming behaviour reflects adversely on the Club and indeed all Game Fishers, hence, the Tournament Committee reserves the right to take any action it deems necessary in the circumstances.

**18. MEDIA POLICY:** Only the Canberra GFC President, Matt Crampton, can comment to the media. Competitors are NOT to post any inaccurate or inappropriate information/photographs on social media. Competitors MUST NOT approach media or answer any questions from the media. If a competitor is approached by the media they are to contact Canberra GFC President with the details who then will follow the requirements of the NSWGFA Media Policy. No competitor can publish a photograph(s) of any captured fish in any newspaper publication.

**19. SALE OF FISH:** Any fish weighed shall not be sold or bartered. Such fish shall be ineligible for any trophies or awards. Anyone found to have sold their catch will be disqualified from the tournament.

#### **20. PENALTIES:**

**Radio Communication:** Failure to sign off, inappropriate language, failure to answer two (2) consecutive radio scheds will result in penalties at the discretion of the Committee.

**Excessive boat wash:** Penalties at the discretion of the Committee.

**Misconduct:** Penalties at the discretion of the Committee – see rule 17.

**Sale of Fish:** Disqualification from Tournament – see rule 19.

**Breach of Media Rule:** Penalties at the discretion of Committee.

#### **21. TOURNAMENT FUNCTIONS:**

1. **REGISTRATION** at the Bermagui Country Club Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024 from 4.00pm. Teams may also register at Tournament Base after 7.00am on the following days and MUST register before leaving Bermagui Harbour.

2. **BRIEFING** at Bermagui Country Club at 8.00pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2024. Drinks and hot food will be available for purchase before and after the Briefing.

3. **TOURNAMENT BBQ:** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.00pm. Free for competitors. Drinks will be available for purchase as well as additional BBQ tickets.

4. **LUCKY ANGLER DRAW:** Each angler will be entered in the lucky angler draw and the winner will be drawn at the BBQ on Saturday night. You MUST be present to win.

5. **TOURNAMENT DINNER:** Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2024. Please note that the dinner IS NOT included in the entry fee. Numbers are strictly limited so please order your dinner tickets when making your entries. Dinner tickets must be produced for the meal.

6. **TROPHY PRESENTATION:** Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at Bermagui Country Club at 6.30pm.

**22. INDEMNITY:** The Canberra Game Fishing Club accepts no responsibility for the actions by entrants in this Tournament and shall not be held liable for any damage or loss of property or persons during the Tournament. In consideration of accepting this application to participate in the event, all competitors agree to release or indemnify the Canberra Game Fishing Club, the Tournament Committee and any or all of their employees, servants, agents and voluntary workers against all claims, proceedings or actions for loss or damage of property or person.

#### **SANCTIONING :**

**This Tournament is sanctioned by New South Game Fishing Association 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024.**

18TH TO 20TH MAY 2024