



MERIMBULA BIG GAME AND LAKES
ANGLING CLUB INC.
PO BOX 76, MERIMBULA NSW 2548

President: Lindon Thompson 0411 873 880
Secretary: Chris Young 0417 114 275
Website: www.mbglac.com.au

39th Merimbula Open & Southern Bluefin and
Broadbill Tournament

7th to 10th June 2019

The President, Committee and members of the MBGLAC extend an invitation to all financial members affiliated to NSWGFA, GFAA and ANSA clubs to compete in the Inaugural Merimbula Billfish Tournament.

TOURNAMENT RULES

1. VENUE

Merimbula Big Game and Lakes Angling Club (MBGLAC) clubhouse situated in Spencer Park Merimbula will be the hub of all fishing activities throughout the Tournament. Boats can launch and return to Merimbula, Eden, Tathra or Bermagui.

2. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

Robert Wood - 0413 333 598, Paul Jones – 0407 548 305, Dylan Smith – 0431 876 896,
Glenn Pollock – 0417 260 490 and Peter Haar – 0417 021 066.

3. ENTRY FEES

All anglers competing in the Tournament must be financial members of a club and affiliated with the Game Fishing Association of Australia (GFAA), NSWGFA, or ANSA. Note any ANSA member wishing to fish in a NSWGFA Sanctioned tournament, must be on a NSWGFA Registered boat.

Adult anglers	- \$120.00
Juniors anglers fishing for Junior trophies	- \$35.00

Juniors wishing to be eligible for senior prizes must pay the full \$120 registration fee and will be deemed to fish as an adult angler for the Tournament.

4. CONDUCT

It is an expectation that all participants will conduct themselves in a responsible and courteous manner to Tournament Officials and other Competitors at all times throughout the Tournament. Penalties for misconduct may include disqualification from the Tournament.

5. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

All anglers must carry Saltwater Fishing Licenses (if Applicable.) Bag limit and size restrictions must also be adhered to. All competitors are reminded that it is offence to tie any vessel to objects, such as wave riders, FADs or fish trap buoys

6. TEAMS

Day time fishing teams shall consist of a minimum of two (2) registered anglers with no maximum. Teams fishing overnight shall have a minimum of three registered anglers. All crewmembers on vessels competing in this tournament must be registered anglers in the tournament. No other person to be allowed on boats during the tournament

7. REPLACEMENT OF BOATS AND COMPETITORS

No replacement of boats or competitors for whatever reason will be allowed after fishing has started. Anglers may not affect a capture or tag & release on any other vessel than the vessel he/she is registered on. Captured fish, tag & release card, angler and all equipment used in the capture or tag must be presented to the weigh station on the vessel on which the capture, tag & 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 used to effect the capture or tag.

8. BOUNDARIES

Competing boats fishing out of Merimbula, Eden, Tathra and Bermagui - the fishing boundaries are due east of Goalen Head to the north and due east of the southern end of Disaster Bay to the South.

9. FISHING TIMES

Day time fishing times are:

Friday	7/6/2019	Start Fishing at 7.00am, Stop Fishing at 5.00pm
Saturday	8/6/2019	Start Fishing at 7.00am, Stop Fishing at 5.00pm
Sunday	9/6/2019	Start Fishing at 7.00am, Stop Fishing at 4.00pm
Monday	10/6/2019	Start Fishing at 7.00am, Stop Fishing at 3.00pm

Fish that are being fought at close of fishing Friday, Saturday or Sunday may continue to be fought. Notice to Tournament Base must be given. On Monday fish hooked up prior to Lines Up can be played out as long as the capture or tag card is at the weigh station prior to the deadline of 4.00pm.

Fishing and burleying cannot commence prior to 7.00am on all days.

Night time fishing:

Teams who wish to fish beyond the day time periods above shall notify Tournament Base prior to 5:00pm of their intention. Boats fishing outside of the Day Time fishing times shall run their own two hourly skeds and keep a record of all captures taking place between 5.00 pm and 7.00 am. At all times between 5.00 pm and 7.00 am one boat shall be assigned the Sked Boat and have on board Sked Sheets and all vessel and occupant details for all boats fishing during this period. All captures records shall then be passed through to Tournament Base as soon as practicable after 7:00am daily.

Teams are reminded that there needs to be a minimum of three registered anglers on board at all times between the hours of 5:00pm and 7:00am.

10. SEAWORTHINESS OF BOATS

The seaworthiness of boats is the responsibility of boat skippers and crews. **SAFETY** is of prime importance and we ask you not to take any risks. Boats putting to sea do so at their own risk. All boats must be equipped to the required NSW Maritime Safety Standards and statutory regulations. The Merimbula Big Game & Lakes Angling Club Inc. will not be responsible for any accident and/or injury incurred during the entire tournament.

11. INSURANCE

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

12. FISHING RULES

a) This Tournament will be fished under the rules and tackle regulations of GFAA & NSWGFA.

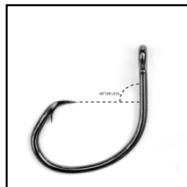
b) **LINE CLASSES** - Eligible line classes are: 4kg, 6kg, 8kg, 10kg, 15kg, 24kg, 37kg, 60kg.

c) **LINE AND BACKING**

The use of monofilament and multifilament backing is permissible. The catch shall be classified under the breaking strain of the first 5 metres of the line preceding the double, leader and hook. This section must comprise of a single homogenous piece of monofilament line. Please note for record claim purposes this length needs to be a single homogenous length of 16 metres. The Tournament Committee recommends anglers use at least 20 metres of top shot monofilament.

d) **CIRCLE HOOKS** – must be used for live baiting and trolling natural baits, (whether live, dead, mutilated or dissected), **except in the case of targeting Narrow Barred Mackerel (*Scomberomorus Commerson*)**. NB. No points to be scored for any species caught while using live baits and/or trolling baits with “J” hooks.

CIRCLE HOOKS



CIRCLE HOOK DEFINITION
A hook with it's point turned 90 degrees or less back towards the shank of the hook.

e) **MULTIPLE HOOK-UPS**. 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 all pointscores or records in NSW waters.

f) The use of identifiable marlin carcass is prohibited for use as tethered burley. Burley secured under floats is prohibited.

13. POINT SCORING

As per NSWGFA point score and minimum weights will apply.

POINT SCORE:- Capture

As per New South Wales Game Fishing Association (NSWGFA) "Factor" System and maximum points apply.
Note: If no time is recorded on the capture return the time will be deemed as end of days fishing.

SENIOR ANGLERS MINIMUM WEIGHTS

Marlin:	70kg for line classes up to 10kg 90kg for line classes 15kg and over
Sharks:	70kg for line classes 6kg to 10kg Note – no sharks on 4 kg line class. 90kg for line classes 15kg to 37kg 130kg for line class 60kg
Yellowfin Tuna & Southern Bluefin Tuna:	15kg on line class up to and including 15kg line, equal to line class for over 15kg line and for
Other Game Fish, including Broadbill:	equal to line class.

JUNIOR/SMALL FRY ANGLERS MINIMUM WEIGHTS –

Marlin:	60kg for line classes 4kg to 10kg 80kg for 15kg line class and over
Sharks:	60kg for line classes 6kg to 10kg 80kg for line classes 15kg to 37kg 120kg for line class 60 kg line
Yellowfin Tuna and Southern Bluefin Tuna:	Equal to the line class in all cases.
Other Game fish, including Broadbill:	minimum weight to be equal to line class
Striped Tuna for Catch and Release Only.	Same Points apply Use Measure and Release Cards.

CAPTURE LIMITS

Southern Blue Fin Tuna 1 per person, irrespective of size.

Yellowfin Tuna – 90cm or above (2 per person). Under 90cm (5 per person).

CAPTURE POINTS shall be awarded using the N.S.W. GFA factor system: Points = Kg weight of fish squared x factor / line class.

Factors are:

Class	4 kg	6kg	8kg	10kg	15kg	24kg	37kg	60kg
Factor	29.5	19.5	14.5	11.5	7.5	4.6	3.0	1.7

Double points are awarded to Marlin and Broadbill.

Triple points are awarded to all other billfish and game fish.

One quarter points awarded to Blue Sharks

One half points awarded to all other Sharks

No points shall be awarded to shark captures on 4 kg line.

Species list for Capture points will be same as Tag & Release.

Captures on line classes up to 10 kg shall score a maximum of 15000 points, plus 1 point per kilo of the weight of the fish. Captures on line classes 15 kg and over shall score a maximum of 20000 points, plus 1 point per kilo of the weight of the fish

No sharks will be weighed with a restrictive device on its jaws or a choker in place. Sewing up of a shark's jaws will disqualify capture

TAG & RELEASE POINTS

As per NSWGFA Tag & Release Point Score. Copy in Tournament bag. Anglers may tag and release a maximum of five (5) Yellowtail Kingfish and five (5) Mahi Mahi per day with a boat limit to ten (10) per day for each species. Eligible Yellowtail Kingfish must be a minimum of 70 cm and all eligible Sharks a minimum of 100cm in length.

Note: If no time is recorded on the T&R return the time will be deemed as end of days fishing and if no line class is recorded by the angler on the tag certificate return the line class will be deemed as 60kg line.

Rules for Tag & Release

1. All angling rules and equipment regulations apply until the fish is tagged and released.
2. The Method of releasing a tagged fish – the hook is to be removed or the leader cut as close as possible to the fish
3. NSWGFA Anglers must use Billfish Tag to tag all Billfish species. This is the only Tag that will be recognized for Billfish in any tournament, competition and point score trophy. This billfish tag is for Billfish only point score (i.e. no other species)
4. Billfish only tags: The tag needle must protrude a min 45mm & no more than 76mm from the end of the tag pole or holding device, nor shall it exceed 6mm in diameter
5. Tag Poles must not exceed 4.47m (15ft) overall length
6. The tag pole or holding device must be in hand when the fish is tagged.

7. One or more Person, in addition to the person holding the leader, may assist in tagging and releasing the fish.
8. A fish is considered tagged and released when the tag is secured to the fish and the fish is released back into the water alive.

16. RADIO

All boats must be equipped with 27.88 MHz and 27.94 MHz, or VHF CH 22. Radio skeds will be conducted on VHF22 and will be every two (2) hours, at five (5) minutes past the hour commencing at 8.00am.

Tournament Base will be manned between the hours of 6:00am and 6:00pm for every day of the Tournament.

All boats MUST sign on with Tournament Base on VHF 22 or 27.94 MHz before commencing fishing. All boats must log off at completion of the days fishing. Boats failing this requirement, or who fail to answer their skeds, may be disqualified, or have deducted all capture and T&R points for the day.

All captures must be reported accurately to Tournament Base at the time of boating fish with anglers name, species of fish, line class and approximate weight.

All Tag and Release must be reported to Tournament Base at the time of release with anglers name, species of fish and line class.

The triple zero system will be used for reporting captures and tag and release during the skeds.

Tournament Radio Base and/or assigned Sked Boats will have on hand the safety information of all entered boats in the tournament.

Radio Skeds will be conducted as per the current NSWGFA Radio Sked Guidelines.

If a vessel has radio failure and cannot contact radio base or relay through another vessel, it must return to port and notify Radio Base of their actions by other means.

If a vessel misses two (2) radio skeds, and its position is unknown, Tournament Base will commence the emergency procedures.

17. CANCELLATION OF TOURNAMENT – GALE WARNINGS

In the event of the Tournament being cancelled in part or whole, only fish captured or tagged prior to cancellation will be eligible for weigh-in. Fish hooked after cancellations are not eligible. In the event of a Gale Warning being declared by the relevant authorities for the Eden Coast after the start of fishing, the tournament will be cancelled. All skippers must return to port. Cancellation will only apply until Gale Warning is lifted.

18. WEIGHSTATION

Weighmaster

The Tournament Committee will assign a Weighmaster for the duration of the Tournament. The Committee may authorise additional persons to perform the duties of the Weighmaster or to assist the Weighmaster.

Weighing Times

All fish are to be weighed at Merimbula Big Game & Lakes Angling Club gantry at Spencer Park by the Weighmaster on the day of capture.

Weighing Times shall be:

Friday	7 th June	4.00 pm – 6.00 pm
Saturday	8 th June	4.00 pm – 6.00 pm
Sunday	9 th June	4.00pm – 6.00pm
Monday	10 th June	2.00pm – 4.00pm

If the Weighstation is unattended, or teams wish to weigh a fish outside of the prescribed times during the Tournament then arrangements should be made with Tournament Base.

All Tag Cards shall be presented on the day of tagging to the Weighmaster. Tag and Release Cards with the permission of Tournament Base may be handed in on the following day, except Monday, when must be handed in strictly before 4.00pm.

Weighstation Etiquette

Once boats enter the vicinity of the Weighstation they shall be under the control of the Weighmaster.

Boats must have completed their Tag and Release Cards and Capture Certificates and make available for presentation the equipment used to effect the capture or tag and release.

On the Monday, Teams need to ensure that their Tag and Release Card and Capture Certificates are completed and with the Weighmaster prior to 4.00pm.

Where boats are unable to berth to unload a fish for weighing prior to 4.00pm due to congestion at jetty, and having presented the Weighmaster applicable certificates prior to 4.00pm, the boat shall follow the instructions of the Weighmaster who will coordinate berthing whilst congestion exists around the Club jetty.

Boats shall be prepared with the species and the rod and reel and other equipment as required by the Weighmaster as soon as possible once boat is berthed.

19. 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, neither in the vicinity of the weighstation, or at any time on or near any beaches or harbour foreshore area. At the discretion of the Weighmaster and with his approval a fish may be cleaned on the Club Jetty. The fish cleaning pontoon shall be used. Fish carcasses and 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 within a Marine Park. Failure to comply with this rule will invoke a deduction of all capture and T&R points for the day for the offenders boat.

20. 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 or bartered their catch will be disqualified from the tournament.

21. PROTESTS

All protests must be in writing, signed by the team captain, and handed to the Tournament Committee during the weighstation open times above, except for the Sunday when it must be lodged prior to 5.00pm.

22. BRIEFING & LATE REGISTRATIONS

The briefing and reading of the tournament rules will be held at the Merimbula Big Game & Lakes Angling Club Clubrooms, Spencer Park on Thursday 6th June 2019 at 8.00 pm.

Late entries will be accepted at the briefing.

All team captains and vessel owners must be present at the Briefing, unless prior arrangements have been made with the Tournament Committee.

23. MOORINGS

Skippers requiring moorings are asked to advise when submitting their entry and everything possible will be done to accommodate although there are no guarantees.

24. FUEL

Travelling boats are asked to advise of their fuel requirements when submitting their entry forms.

25. TROPHY PRESENTATION

The Tournament presentation will be held on Monday 10th June 2019 at 5.00 pm, unless advised otherwise by the Tournament Committee.

26. TROPHIES & PRIZES

Yellowfin Tuna and other Game Fish
Capture
Highest Point Score Yellowfin Tuna
2 nd Highest Point Score Yellowfin Tuna
3 rd Highest Point Score Yellowfin Tuna
Highest Point Score Shark
Highest Point Score other Gamefish
Tag and Release
Highest T&R Point Score for Yellowfin Tuna by a boat
2 nd Highest T&R Point Score for Yellowfin Tuna by a boat
Highest T&R Point Score for Shark by a boat
Highest T&R Point Score for all Game Fish

Southern Bluefin Section
Capture
Heaviest Southern Bluefin Tuna
2 nd Heaviest Southern Bluefin Tuna
Heaviest Southern Bluefin Tuna caught by a Junior Angler
Tag and Release
Most Southern Bluefin Tagged by a Boat

Broadbill Section
Capture
Heaviest Broadbill Swordfish
2 nd Heaviest Broadbill
Heaviest Broadbill Junior
Tag and Release
Highest (T&R Point Score) Number of T&R Broadbill Swordfish by a boat
1 st T&R Broadbill for a Junior

Participation Prize

To be drawn at the Saturday Night Dinner and participant needs to be present

27. Tournament Functions

Thursday 6th June

Welcome and Tournament Briefing
Clubrooms Spencer Park
Late registrations
Refreshments and finger food
Bar opens at 6.30pm

Friday 7th June

Bar opens at Clubrooms at 6.30pm

Saturday 8th June

Bar opens at Clubrooms at 6.30pm

Sunday 9th June

Tournament Dinner
Tura Beach Country Club
Commences at 6.30pm
Participation Prize drawn

Monday 10th June

Trophy and Prize presentations
Clubrooms Spencer Park
Refreshments and finger food
Bar opens at 3.30pm.

Enter Online at www.mbglac.com.au or entry forms are available at the Merimbula Big Game & Lakes Angling Club Clubhouse or from Peter Haar 0417 021 066



NSWGFA Game Fishing Tournament

Merimbula Big Game & Lakes Angling Club Inc

39th Merimbula Open & Southern Bluefin and Broadbill Tournament 7th to 10th June 2019

Boat Name:				
TITLE	FIRST NAME	SURNAME	Female/Male/Junior/SF	CLUB
Captain				
Crew				
Crew				
Crew				
Crew				
Crew				
Captains Home Address:				
				Post Code:.....
Email Address:.....				
Captains Home Phone No:.....During Tournament.....				
Captains Address During Tournament:				
.....				
Emergency Contact.....Phone.....				
Mobile Numbers on board				
(Please ensure your mobile is not on "divert").....				

Please note that Juniors are under 16 years of age and Small Fry under 11 years of age as at the date of the tournament. Anglers must be a financial member of the club they represent at the date of the tournament and must be prepared, if required, to produce evidence of club membership.

TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEES

Details	No. Entrants	@ Each	Total \$
Senior Anglers		\$120.00	
Junior Anglers		\$35.00	
All Competitors must be NSWGFA Registered		\$50.00 Senior \$ NIL Junior	
Additional Dinner Tickets		\$35.00	
MBGLAC Temporary Membership		\$10.00	
TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED			\$

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED CHECKLIST & INSURANCE DETAILS ON REVERSE & SEND TO:

The Secretary
 Merimbula Big Game & Lakes Angling Club Inc
 PO Box 76
 MERIMBULA NSW 2548
Enquiries: - Peter Haar 0417 021 066

BOAT SPECIFICATION SHEET

Boat Name: Registration: Callsign:

Boat Make..... Length:

Car Registration: Trailer Registration:

Type: Full Cabin.....Half Cabin.....Other.....

Colour – Hull: Deck:Superstructure.....

Make of Engine/s HP:

Fuel Type: Capacity.....Range.....

Cruising Speed.....Maximum.....

Other Pertinent Information.....

A serviceable radio with at least frequencies 27.88 and 27.94 must be fitted to all boats

27mhz Yes/No Frequencies.....VHF Yes/No Frequencies.....UHF Yes/No Frequencies.....

SAFETY EQUIPMENT - Do you have on board?

*Items marked **are compulsory in NSW off shore waters*

	First Aid Kit	Yes/No		Flares-Parachute	Yes/No
**	Compass (mounted)	Yes/No	**	2 Orange Smoke (Day)	Yes/No
	Compass (hand held)	Yes/No	**	2 Red Star (Night)	Yes/No
**	Bailing Bucket	Yes/No	**	Fire Extinguisher	Yes/No
	Depth Sounder	Yes/No	**	Life Jackets (One per person)	Yes/No
	Life Raft	Yes/No		Bilge Pump	Yes/No
**	Emergency Rations	Yes/No	**	Anchor (Min line 36.5mts)	Yes/No
**	Marine Radio (2 way)	Yes/No		Sea Anchor	Yes/No
**	Fresh Water (2 Litres per person)		**	Distress "V" Sheet	Yes/No
	Radar/Radar Reflector	Yes/No	**	Reflective Mirror	Yes/No
	GPS	Yes/No		Mobile Phone	Yes/No
**	Paddle (single engine and under 6m)	Yes/No			
**	E.P.I.R.B. EPIRB Registration No: (This number required in the event of a	Yes/No		Marine	Rescue)

INSURANCE DETAILS

Does your Policy include third party property & third party personal Liability Cover? Yes/No

The Insured _____ Policy # _____ Liability Cover \$ _____

The Insurer _____ Policy Type _____ Expiry Date _____

No entry will be accepted without third party property & third party personal liability cover.

DECLARATION

The following is to be signed by each Team Captain on behalf of himself/herself, his/her team members and guests.

I declare that the information provided on this Tournament Entry Form is correct. I understand that participation in this Tournament by myself, my team members and my guests, is entirely at our own risk. I agree that the holding of this Tournament is not to be construed as an invitation to put to, or remain at sea in conditions beyond the capability of our vessel or its crew. I agree that fishing and/or navigation may be hazardous and consent voluntarily to all risks associated therewith, however occasioned and further agree that the Merimbula Big Game & Lakes Angling Club Inc, its members, Office Bearers and Tournament Organisers shall not be responsible or liable for any loss or damage to any person or property, personal injury or death, howsoever occasioned at any time and whether caused by the recklessness or negligence of the Merimbula Big Game and Lakes Angling Club Inc, its members, Office Bearers, or Tournament Organisers or any cause whatsoever.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT):

SIGNATURE:DATE: