

CATCH



January 2020 Newsletter

The Catch - January 2020

Presidents Note

Wow, what a crazy 4 weeks since this current committee's first newsletter came out.

We were all upbeat about Xmas, New Years Eve and our upcoming Gala Weekend and of course immersed in raffle ticket sales, and then the fire storms hit and we all ducked for cover and focused on our families and property safety.

And now, as we come out of this we are met with a January that may as well be the middle of winter for our precious businesses in our region.

The highway into Victoria is still closed and school commences next week!

By necessity we cancelled the NYE function and the Gala Weekend. We also cut short the sale of raffle tickets.

We drew the raffle on Monday 6th January and delivered the Kayaks to very excited winners during the week.

Two were won by locals from Tura Beach and the third to an Eden family member who resides in Sydney.



A very excited David Oliver receives his Kayak

Your Committee has decided that we will cancel the Gala Weekend for 2020. This was a difficult decision, but I am advised that its not the first time this has occurred in the Clubs history. It will be back bigger and better than ever in 2021. In regards to the very generous sponsorships received we will be contacting each Sponsor with a view to holding all sponsorship in trust for the 2021 Gala Weekend.

As we were supporting Merimbula Marine Rescue from the proceeds of the Fish Auction we are now committed to bridging some of that financial gap through raffles and donations from our generous club members.

In regard to the broader recovery effort, we are encouraging all members to spend as much as practical amongst our immediate business community. Whilst we will never replace the lost business over January, every little bit helps pay a rent or a staff wage. Lets get out there, please.

This also applies to your Club, come and support us as we bridge the reduced incomes from the cancelled January functions.

Whilst Gala and the raffle are now a distant memory, I need to thank on your behalf every one that gave their time in raffle ticket sales. It was a tight bunch who worked with enthusiasm day after day.

Two individuals in particular deserve to be signaled out:

Chris Young managed the Raffle Sales, set up the Kayaks on most days, ensured the roster was full of volunteers, whilst also managing all the planning for the Gala Weekend as well. Thanks Chris.

Stuart Green ran the BBQ during raffle ticket sales, was undertaking all the ground work for the Gala Weekend and still found time to go around local caravan parks and sell more tickets in a day than us at the fixed selling points at Woolies. Stuart, you are true dedicated club member, thanks from all of us.

Club News

Our Friday Nights were a little quiet during the threats of fire but bounced back last week with great support from our treasured "Bombala" visitors, who have adopted us for a Friday night drink whilst watching the sun set over Merimbula.

The happy holiday bar prices have not gone unnoticed and no doubt helps members and visitors enjoy their experience whilst supporting our Club.

Hopefully all financial members have now received their membership cards in the mail. If you haven't, let Peter Haar know.

Communications to members is multi pronged with us using Facebook, the Web site and emails to members. Hopefully this reaches all members and keeps you informed. Any suggestions to improvements in communication is always welcomed.

Stay tuned for dates for Gamefish workshops that will be held during February.

Up Coming Events

Dusky Dash for Cash 1 and 2 February

This year Eve O'Brien Real Estate is sponsoring this annual event for members and friends.

Check our Web Site for details. It's on this weekend.

Briefing at Clubrooms this Friday 31 January, with doors open from 6:30pm.



Eden Open Tournament

The Eden Open is scheduled for the weekend of Friday 14 to Sunday 16 February 2020 with the briefing on Thursday night.

A number of our members will fish this event. Our support of our sister Clubs is more important than ever. Have a think about pulling a team together and fish this tournament.

March Marlin Fun

Members and their guests are invited to participate in our intra club marlin fishing event for the month of March.

We want to promote marlin fishing, encourage camaraderie and assist members in being successful. There are no prizes, just hopefully a heap of fun and prestige for all boats fishing during the month.

Conditions of participation are simple:

Open to MBGLAC members and their guests.

Fishing within our waters (south of Goalen Heads to Southern end of Disaster Bay), and in a NSWGFA sanctioned tournament in Southern Zone

Being a member of the NSWGFA is NOT a requirement (want to encourage wide participation within Club).

\$0 entry

Boat only registration required.

Daily report - Skippers to advise who their daily participants where and the results to be recorded after the day to the coordinator (this is for recording the daily catch effort during the month)

Fishing commences 00:00am 1 March 2020 and concludes 24:00 31 March 2020

Fishing Wrap

2020 Game Fishing Season

A slow start over Xmas with the fires.

We now have confirmed reports of Marlin on our part of the coast and of course congratulations are due to Heather Sutterby for her first catch and release striped Marlin from Lucky 1 captained by Martin Bartlett off Merimbula.

Similarly congratulations to Craig Woolley "Tassie" for the first tag and release marlin from his boat. Last Saturday a few Mahi Mahi were taken at the FAD but did not stay around.

There are confirmed reports of striped marlin out of Bermagui, Bait Hole north to Tuross. The report also indicates they are very picky with it being difficult to

secure a hook up even on live bait. This is not uncommon early season and can change overnight!

Fishing Reports



Beautiful Dusky Flathead caught and released in the Bega River by Amelie O'Brien from Wellington N.S.W.

It's on again the Dusky Dash For Cash! The Eve O'Brien Properties \$2,000 sponsored Dusky Fishing Competition is scheduled for this coming weekend 1 and 2 February. Dusky's are on the chew in all our estuaries; Mogareeka, Merimbula and Pambula. Soft plastics, bait and poddy mullet are all working. Entries at the Club on Friday evening from 6.30pm. A representative of all anglers must be present to collect photo tokens.

Outside bottom droppers have had a mixed time with fish very finicky and patchy to say the least. Lots of morwong and a few snapper and even fewer gummys.

There is plenty of baitfish off our reefs; slimey mackerel, small couta and large shoals of whitebait. Ocean flathead are very finicky possibly because they are gorged with the whitebait. Some good catches are reported from off Tura Headland and out from Quondola Point, try 17 fathoms. Anglers report some good tiger flathead at the 40 fathom reef but catches are limited because of competition from swarms of chinamen leatherjackets.

Be especially careful crossing the Merimbula Bar at low tides as it is presently very shallow due to a second "false" channel from near Mitchies Jetty allowing the tidal flow to dissipate without scouring its normal channel.

Trevally and bream remain on the chew all along the Merimbula channel down from the bridge and in the Pambula channel near the Shark Hole. Best time is low tide with both soft plastics or pilchard baits. There has been a good prawn run from Merimbula Lake during the new moon with lake waters now warmed up above 20 degrees. There are also lots of blue swimmer crabs available in Merimbula Lake so it's time to set your crab traps.

Just a reminder that we get a prime spot in the local papers sports page, which is also published electronically, providing a great opportunity to market our club and region.

Chris Young compiles this report weekly and members are encouraged to share with Chris their fishing experiences. But more importantly their photographs. Email your reports to admin@mbglac.com.au. Your emails will also make Chris's job easier.

Club Merchandise

Available every Friday night or give Heather Sutterby a call.

Current items include:

Sun Smart Club Shirts

Long Sleeve \$65 each
Short Sleeve \$65 each

DPI Brag Mats \$10 each

Boat and Car Stickers

100mm diameter \$5 each
200mm diameter \$10 each
300mm diameter \$15 each

Caps \$10 each We are considering an order for floppy hats! Your feedback is welcomed.

Stubby Holders \$5 each