



**Merimbula Big Game  
&  
Lakes Angling Club Inc  
Rules  
&  
By-laws December 2019**

## 1. Fees & Subscriptions

Entrance fee, Annual Subscription, levies, NSWGFA affiliation fee shall be due on 1 June each year.

## 2. Ages limits and terminologies to age limits.

a. Men/Male

b. Women/Ladies

c. **Junior/s** – persons up until their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday. A junior angler may hold juniors, men's or women's records, and all Tackle records, if eligible.

d. **Small Fry** – persons up until their 11<sup>th</sup> birthday.

e. the above is so that we have a standard of terminologies throughout the club.

## 3. Fishing Times

MBGLAC fishing calendar runs for 365 days of the year. That being 1 June to the 31 May annually being in line with NSWGFA

## 4. Club Competitions

a. All club competitions, tournaments and festivals are to run in conjunction with all current NSW Fisheries, NSWGFA and AGFA rules and regulations.

b. Where each competition, tournament or festival has their own rules and regulations they must conform to and with NSW Fisheries, NSWGFA and GFAA rules and regulations.

## 5. Club Fishing Rules

### a. Boundaries

Deep Sea, Land Base, Lake and Beach are from: all areas between Goalen Head to the North ( $36^{\circ} 33''S$ ) and the Southern-most point of Disaster Bay to the South ( $37^{\circ} 19''S$ ) or unless designated by the committee.

b. **Freshwater Fishing** – Eucumbene, Jindabyne, Tantangara, Brogo Dam including all tributaries flowing into or from them and all rivers creeks and billabongs within the Bega Valley Shire. The Snowy River downstream from the Jindabyne dam wall and its tributaries may only be fished within the state of New South Wales.

### c. Measuring

1. All fish measured as per Club Rules and in conjunction NSW fisheries (DPI) Rules and Regulations are to be measured in metric units.

2. Frozen fish are not acceptable for weighing or measuring,

3. It is the member/s responsibility to ensure that their fish, which can be caught at any time, are recorded,

4. Fish caught from a wharf/jetty or from the rocks are not acceptable on lake and beach competition days,

5. When weighing or measuring your own catch it must be verified by a witness on a club catch slip,

6. When measuring your catch, fish must be measured on a DPI Brag mat and photographed. Photos must be clear showing the tip of the nose to the tip of the tail. The measurement can be submitted on a club catch slip. The image must be available to view/certify with the time and date of when the capture took place must match the clubs catch slip or its entry onto the Clubs Website.

7. Catch slips when completed and witnessed must be lodged with the club within fourteen (14) days of the capture or details and photograph entered via the Clubs Website.

8. Failure to lodge the catch slip or enter via the Website within the laid down time frame the catch will not be logged/registered with the club weighmaster,

9. In the event of a dispute, all disputes will be brought to a committee meeting at the next assigned meeting night.

#### **d. Point Scoring**

Points scoring for all sections (Senior / Junior and Small Fry) are:

1. One (1) fish (largest) per species; per section, per angler
2. Fish are awarded points based on the number of catch slips already received or total catch slips at the end of the fishing year.
3. 10 points for the largest fish are awarded through to 1 point for the 10th fish.
4. Where junior and small fry prizes are awarded the points are awarded for each section, ie: 10-1 Senior, 10-1 Junior 10-1 Small Fry
5. Lake and Beach are as per the point system above however these fish are to be captured on the beach proper or in any estuary within our Club boundaries.
6. Total of points for each angler are added to determine Club Champion in Male, Female, Junior or Small Fry.

#### **e. Catch and Release**

MBGLAC supports catch and release fishing offering a prize for photographing and releasing the following species. **Bream, Dusky Flathead, Estuary Perch, Bass, and Jewfish.**

The above species must be photographed and released alive.

The photograph must be on a certified NSW DPI Brag Mat available from NSW fisheries or from the club.

The image must be available to view/certify with the time and date of when the capture took place must match the clubs catch slip.

#### **f. Trophies**

Prizes and trophies for club competitions/tournaments/festivals will be determined by the club committee beforehand. All prizes and trophies are to be inventoried and costed with the purchase price if purchased by the club. Donated prize/trophies are to be inventoried and costed. All prizes if not won by a competitor/entrant are to be held by the club for future competitions, tournaments and festivals.

#### **g. Fish Sizes**

All species captured or caught and released are to be within the current guidelines of New South Wales Recreational Fishing laws and guidelines for both salt and fresh water, also with the current rules of New South Wales Game Fishing Association laid down within their journal.

#### **h. Fish Species**

The following species as listed on the Club Trophy Fish Chart shall be eligible for all competitions:

Trevally	Bass	Gummy or School Shark	Kingfish
Morwong	Tailor	Salmon	Whiting
Snapper	Bream	Jewfish	Leather Jacket
Dusky Flathead	Flying Gurnard	Estuary Perch	Brown Trout
Rainbow Trout	Sand Flathead	Tiger Flathead	Flounder
Estuary Perch			

#### **i. Fishing Tackle Restrictions**

All fishing tackle must conform to current guidelines of New South Wales fisheries laws and guidelines for both salt and fresh water, also with the current rules of New South Wales Game Fishing Association laid down within their journal.

## **j. Club Competition/Tournaments/Festivals.**

In the event of a Gale warning from the BOM, fishing ceases from the time issued and fishing will recommence when the Gale warning is cancelled. *The Tournament Committee may cancel or post pone the tournament in severe weather conditions.*

1. If the weather is in doubt and may be considered unsuitable for fishing on a club open day or beach day a decision shall be made by a panel of three (3) members namely the weighmaster and committee members or in the absence of enough committee members the decision to abort the fishing day is to be made by the president.

2. If the weather is in doubt and considered unsuitable for fishing in any game fishing competitions, a decision to restrict or abort the day will be made three (3) members of the game committee and the president and consideration taken towards the smallest boat/s in the fleet on that day/s.

## **GAME FISHING SECTION**

### **6. Game Fishing (under N.S.W.G.F.A. Rules)**

- a. After each annual general meeting, the committee shall appoint one (1) of the club vice presidents to be responsible for organising of a sub-committee of five (5) club members not necessarily committee members to attend all matters associated with game fishing conducted under GFAA Rules.
- b. Each sub-section shall meet once per month prior to each monthly meeting of the Club committee. Details of any action or recommendation by the sub-section shall first be submitted in writing to the committee to the Club at its next monthly meeting for approval and prior to its implementation.
- c. Any matter of an urgent nature that requires attention before the next monthly meeting of the committee, may be referred to the president or a vice president in his/her absence and they shall contact three (3) committee members for interim approval. The matter will then be referred to the committee at the next committee meeting for ratification/approval.
- d. Any action taken by the sub-section to implement a decision taken by it before obtaining approval of the Club committee will not be recognised by the committee.
- e. The Sub-section will also be responsible to represent the Club at meeting/s called by either the Southern Zone and/or NSW Game Fishing Association.
- f. The sub-section is also responsible for the appointment of weigh masters for the weighing in of game fish in accordance with NSW GFA rules and regulations and be responsible for the forwarding on of catch slips to the Club recorder to keep the section captures up to date

### **Game Fishing Rules**

Read in conjunction with NSWGFA current rules and regulations , being further definitions of fishing seasons, times and categories as passed at the AGM 2008 and subsequently further amended at the 2009 AGM and subsequent AGMs.

### **7. Capture:**

To be eligible for club trophies, point score and records, all captures must be made in accordance with the angling rules and equipment regulations of GFAA and NSWGFA as published in the GFAA Annual Journal or as amended.

### **8. Weigh Stations**

The following weigh stations are only to be used for the weighing of captures:

1. MBGLAC club,
2. Any affiliated fishing club who have certified weigh scales, i.e. Tathra Amateur fishing Club- Eden Amateur Fishing Club.
3. Only certified weigh scales are to be used when weighing fish species/catchers.

## 9. Tag & Release:

Similarly, all tag & release captures must be made in accordance with NSWGFA By Law 4 paragraph g) as published in the GFAA Annual Journal or as amended.

- a. Eligible Species for capture will be as the list of "GFAA recognized game fish species" as published in the GFAA Annual Journal or as amended.
- b. Eligible Species for Tag & Release will be as the list for NSWGFA "Tag & Release Points" By Law number 4a item 3 "Point score and Tournament Regulations" as published in the GFAA Annual Journal or as amended.

## 10. Point Score Capture:

Point score for capture will be as per NSWGFA point score method as in force at the time of capture.

- a. Capture points to be calculated as follows: (Weight of fish - squared) x factor

- b. Line class factor:

4kg = 29.5

6kg = 19.5

8kg = 14.5

10kg = 11.5

15kg = 7.5

24kg = 4.6

37kg = 3.0

60kg = 1.7

- c. Marlin and Broadbill points to be doubled as above factor system. Other game fish points to be trebled as above factor system. Shark points to be halved except for blue sharks which are one quarter of above factor system.
- d. No points will be awarded for sharks on 4kg line class.
- e. Maximum points:  
All captures on line classes up to and including 10kg shall be a maximum of 15,000 plus one point per kilo of fish weight.

## 11. COCK'O THE WALK COMPETITION RULES (Amended June 2007)

- a. The competition shall be conducted within Southern Zone Waters for financial NSWGFA affiliated members of Southern Zone Clubs commencing 1st June and concluding 31 May of each year.
- b. All captures on line classes 15kg and over shall be maximum 20,000 points plus one point per kilo of fish weight.
- c. Points for tag & release will be as per paragraph 4, part 3 Tag & Release Points for NSWGFA as published in the GFAA

## 12. Annual Journal.

- a. Minimum Weights will be as determined by NSWGFA and published in the GFAA Journal.
  1. Yellowfin Tuna - 15kg or line class whichever is the greater and line class only for juniors.
  2. Marlin - Minimum of 60kg on line classes to 10kg and a minimum of 80kg on 15kg line class and over.
  3. Sharks - Minimum weights as for marlin but must be 120kg on 60kg line class.
  4. Other Game Fish and Broadbill - Minimum weight to be equal to line class.
- b. **Measure and Release** is allowed for species that have been determined by GFAA from time to time,
  1. All GFAA angling and equipment regulations shall apply.
  2. All applicable tag & release rules shall apply.
  3. No fish can be released after measurement unless it is in a healthy and vigorous state.
4. A GFAA designed "Measure and Release" card is to be used to record species release information and a GFA capture certificate for all captures.

That Yellowtail Kingfish under the length of 70cm and greater than 65cm be allowed for anglers under the age of 16 years i.e junior and small fry anglers, effective immediately.

These kingfish will be awarded 10 base points as are the other species for junior/small fry personal points. Please retain this information and it will be collated and sent on the GFAA at a specified time. **\*\* Note: All captures must be in accordance with the minimum legal lengths and bag limits as laid down by NSW State Fisheries at the time of capture.\*\***

### **13. Club Fishing Days:**

- a. Fishing days 365 days per fiscal/calendar year unless designated Zone weekends,
- b. All captures and tag & release by members while fishing on a boat registered with the club that is participating and representing the club in a NSWGFA sanctioned tournament at any time will be eligible for club point score, trophies and records.
- c. Public holidays will be point score days if they fall on point score days, or they are days forming a long weekend, or they are part of a sanctioned tournament.
- d. Similarly, all members representing the club and participating in a land based game tournament sanctioned by NSWGFA shall have their captures and tag & release recognized for club point score and trophies.
- e. Points scored by Angler from an affiliated NSWGFA Club, fishing on a Club registered boat, may be counted towards Club Champion Boat trophies.
- f. Club record captures may be caught on all days of the calendar year.
- g. Winter competition. In addition to the fishing days above, the Club will hold a winter competition commencing the day following the last full weekend in May and finishing on the day before first full weekend in September. Point score for this competition will be each inclusive weekend, including public holidays that may form a long weekend and days that are part of a sanctioned tournament.
- h. Night competition. From time to time the Committee may declare and organise a night competition. These competitions will be held during the normal summer competition season. Points earned in the night competition will be included in Club point score trophies. In the interests of safety, the Committee, competition co-ordinator, in conjunction with the Merimbula Marine Rescue or, may make the decision to cancel a night competition at any time.

### **14 . Club Boundaries:**

All captures and tag & release must be made within the club boundaries.

### **15. Club Fishing Times:**

- a. Fishing times on club point score days will be 5am to 5pm, or 5am to 7pm during the period of daylight saving. If the weekend is also a Zone point score weekend, then fishing times will be as per the Zone fishing rules current at the time, or Club fishing times, whichever is the later.
- b. Fishing times whilst representing the club in a sanctioned tournament will be published tournament times.
- c. When a fish is hooked before finish of fishing it may be played out and boated after finish time, the hook up should be confirmed with the radio sched boat or another club boat before finish of fishing if possible.

### **16. Weighing of Fish:**

- a. All fish are to be weighed on the certified scales provided by the Club and recorded by the Club Recorder or his agent.
- b. Where it is impractical to have a fish weighed on the Club scales, it may be weighed on the certified scales and by the official Weighmaster and/or Recorder of an affiliated Club, and where possible, our Club weighmaster advised that this is occurring. Written confirmation of the weight must be obtained and provided to the Clubs Recorder within 24 hours of the capture.
- c. Fish caught in a sanctioned tournament as rule 6 b) & d) may be weighed at the tournament and written confirmation of the weight must be supplied to the club recorder from the tournament weighmaster.
- d. Properly filled out NSWGFA capture certificates must be provided to the club secretary for all captures and tag & release within 28 days of the capture to be eligible for club records, trophies and point score.

## **17. Trophies:**

- a. Club Trophies will be awarded to the capture or tag & release deemed by the committee to be the most eligible for that trophy.
- b. Only anglers that are financial members of the club at the time of capture or tag & release will be eligible for trophies or club records.
- c. Trophies will be awarded annually for the heaviest and most meritorious:
  1. Marlin;
  2. Shark;
  3. Tuna;
  4. Kingfish
  5. Other Game fish.
- d. Trophies will be awarded annually for the following:
  1. Champion Male Angler;
  2. Champion Lady Angler;
  3. Champion Junior Angler;
  4. Champion Boat;
  5. Champion Tag & Release Angler;
  6. Champion Tag & Release Boat.

## **18. Radio and Safety Procedures:**

- a. All boats fishing offshore on any day are encouraged to log on with Marine Rescue NSW by radio, phone or phone app when leaving port and log off on return except when fishing in GFA Sanctioned Tournaments, or other events that have a specific requirement in regard to registration or logging on/off.
- b. All club boats, whilst fishing should try to establish radio contact on VHF channel 22, or 27 MHz channel 94, with any club boats and maintain regular contact throughout the day in the interests of safety and club Camaraderie.
- c. It is the Skippers sole responsibility to decide whether to put to sea with regard to weather conditions and the capabilities of his craft. Merimbula Big Game & Lakes Angling Club accepts no responsibility for the safety of its members should they proceed to sea in conditions unsuitable for the capabilities of their craft or crew.
- d. It is the Skippers responsibility to ensure his vessel carries the minimum safety equipment and complies with all regulations required by the NSW Waterways Authority.

## **CLUB HIRE**

- a. MBGLAC Inc Club facility, located at Spencer Park Merimbula is available for hire to members and the public. The hiring levee is to be determined by the committee as the need arises.
- b. a financial member of the club shall be the point of contact for matters arising to booking and hire of the club.
- c. all club events, competitions, tournaments, festivals and activities have priority over the hiring of the club for social functions/meetings etc
- d. the following applies to the hiring of the club:
- e. the committee has the right to cancel any reservation/booking for the club and is to notify the hirer within 28 days of the date required,
- f. application for the hiring of the club has to be in writing and submitted to the committee for approval 30 days prior to event for which the club is reserved, and
- g. a deposit of 10% is to be paid at the time of approval by the committee, where the hirer cancels the booking prior to 28 days then the deposit becomes non-refundable.
- h. a member/s of the club who holds a RSA certificate is to operate the bar for the function and is to be compensated monetarily by the hirer,
- i. if a bar attendant is not required then a member of the club shall be available to allow access and to remain at the Club during and after the function and is to be compensated monetarily by the hirer,

- j. where the hirer requests that the Club refurbishment and cleaning be carried over to the following day then a further charge will be invoked,
- k. the hirer **WILL NOT** be issued Club keys under any circumstances/conditions, and
- l. at times there may be a requirement to pay a bond of \$500.00 when required and decided upon by the committee or approving authority. The bond shall be fully refundable where no damage/s to the club proper.
- m. **all visitors/non-members entering the club are to sign the visitors book by law of the Liquor Act.**

#### **19. Hirers Responsibilities**

- a. **Refurbishment** of the club room proper,
- b. Floors vacuumed and non carpeted areas cleaned and mopped,
- c. All crockery, cutlery and glassware used for the function is to be cleaned and placed back into their respective cupboards/draws,
- d. Supply their own condiments, serviettes, tea/coffee, ice etc,
- e. Clean and refurbish the toilets,
- f. All waste/refuse/rubbish to placed in the bins located outside of the club,
- g. Smokers area/balcony is to be left with ash trays emptied and all rubbish removed and placed in the bins located outside of the club.



## Application For Club Hire

Applicants Name (in full):.....

Address:..... Suburb:..... Post Code:.....

Contact Phone Number:..... Mobile:.....

Email Address:.....

Date/s Requested:..... Purpose for Hire:.....

Time Required: From:..... To:..... (Including setting up  
and cleaning time)

Member: Yes  No  Hiring Charge: \$.....

**I have read and understand the terms and conditions of Merimbula Big Game & Lakes Angling Club hire policies.**

Name (in full):..... Signature :.....

Date :.....

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**Committee Approval: Yes**

Presidents/Secretary Name (in full):.....

Signature:..... Date:.....

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Deposit: \$..... Date:.....

Member/s Attending Bar:.....

**This application Form is to be submitted to the Secretary of MBG&LAC Inc via email, by post or safe hand**

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**  
**Merimbula Big Game and Lakes Angling Club**  
**Hire Policies**

**Club Hire**

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- 3) all club events, competitions, tournaments, festivals and activities have priority over the hiring of the club for social functions/meetings etc
- 4) the following applies to the hiring of the club:
- 5) the committee has the right to cancel any reservation/booking for the club and is to notify the hirer within 28 days of the date required,
- 6) application for the hiring of the club has to be in writing and submitted to the committee for approval 30 days prior to event for which the club is reserved, and
- 7) a deposit of 10% is to be paid at the time of approval by the committee, where the hirer cancels the booking prior to 28 days then the deposit becomes non-refundable.
- 8) a member/s of the club who holds a RSA certificate is to operate the bar for the function and is to be compensated monetarily by the hirer,
- 9) if a bar attendant is not required then a member of the club shall be available to allow access and to remain at the Club during and after the function and is to be compensated monetarily by the hirer,
- 10) where the hirer requests that the Club refurbishment and cleaning be carried over to the following day then a further charge will be invoked,
- 11) the hirer **WILL NOT** be issued Club keys under any circumstances/conditions,
- 12) all visitors/non-members entering the club are to sign the visitors book by law of the Liquor Act.**

**Hirers Responsibilities**

- 13) Refurbishment of the club room proper,
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- 15) All crockery, cutlery and glassware used for the function is to be cleaned and placed back into their respective cupboards/draws,
- 16) Supply their own condiments, serviettes, tea/coffee, ice etc,
- 17) Clean and refurbish the toilets,
- 18) All waste/refuse/rubbish to placed in the bins located outside of the club,
- 19) Smokers area/balcony is to be left with ash trays emptied and all rubbish removed and placed in the bins located outside of the club



## Capture Slip

Please Note: All boxes must be completed clearly  
Illegible, Incomplete, Late (**more than 7 days after  
capture date**) and un-financial members slips **will not**  
be accepted.

<b>Angler Name :</b>	
Membership Type :	Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Senior <input type="checkbox"/> Junior <input type="checkbox"/> Small Fry <input type="checkbox"/>
Species :	
Capture Date :	Location :
<b>Length mm :</b> (Photo on DPI Brag Mat Required)	Catch & Release <input type="checkbox"/>
Witness Name:	Signature :
<b>Photo Verified Name :</b> (Please Print Clearly)	Signature :

***Photographs must be available to verify***

