

January 2023 Catch Newsletter



Hi Members,

Hopefully you managed to spend some time with friends and family over the Christmas period and managed to get in some fishing in that time. This is an update since our last newsletter in October 2022.

Annual General Meeting

Your Committee comprises of:

Shane Mayberry - President
Dale Hayton – Vice President
Corey Walker – Vice President Game Fishing
Chris Young – Secretary
Di Hayton – Treasurer
Stuart Green
Peter Lawler
Phil Jacobs
Merrily Bell
Heather Sutterby
Harley Jenkins
Blain Sharman

Annual Grudge Match

The annual Merimbula, Pambula and Eden Interclub Competition locally termed the “Grudge Match” was run on 22nd October 2022 with Merimbula the winner on 60 points from Eden at 30 points and with Pambula close on 25 points. Heather Sutterby of Merimbula took out the prize for the most successful angler. This competition, inaugurated in 1975, sees anglers from each club fishing the estuaries and the ocean from Disaster Bay up to Goalen Head for 24 different species. Congratulations to the Eden Amateur Fishing Club hosting the magnificent presentation lunch.

Lakeview Annual Trophy Board

The trophy board summary looks great at the Club. Our adults and small fry are very active in lodging their captures.

We try and provide a monthly update on the longest of each species on the board, and also the shortest and where it sits in the 10 largest lodged for each species. This gives you a chance to determine whether the fish on your Brag Mat warrants entry or not. Particularly useful for the more popular target species such as snapper, bream, salmon and dusky.

Link to Small Fry Summary here: <https://www.mbgglac.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Lakeview-Trophy-Board-WEB-Small-Fry-22-23-WEB-5.pdf>

Link to Junior Summary here: <https://www.mbgglac.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Lakeview-Trophy-Board-JUNIOR-22-23-WEB-3.pdf>

Link to Adult Summary here: <https://www.mbglac.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Lakeview-Trophy-Board-ADULT-22-23-WEB-4.pdf>

Mex Williams Memorial Trip

The Club's annual trip away was held at Wallaga Lake and the Bermagui River on the last weekend of October 2022 in surprisingly sunny weather and a top weekend was had by all. In memory of Mex Williams who penned the Merimbula Fishing Report some years ago, each year's winner of this fun event is added to the beautiful perpetual trophy that was handcrafted by Jeff Knox. This year Stephanie Shaw won with a lovely 555mm dusky taken from Merrily Bell's boat on the Bermagui River. Merrily won the largest other fish category with a 410mm trevally and 7yr old Lachlan Wilkins won the junior prize with a 365mm trevally.

Sea Urchin Cull

The Sea Urchin cull at the Merimbula Wharf was commenced Saturday 12 November, by local abalone divers and about 50% of the total area scheduled was completed. The cull is a community program aimed to improve the marine habitat around the Fishing Platform by reducing the number of spiny sea urchins. This project is funded for a three year period by a grant from the Recreational Fishing Trust (DPI). Here at the wharf and up and down the coast, sea urchins (*C.rodgersii*) are wiping out the seaweed (kelp) habitat and leaving a barren rock in their wake. It is believed that a reduction of urchin numbers would alleviate grazing pressure resulting in the recolonisation of barrens habitat by kelp and over time, enhance the quality of the local fish habitat. Participants are the Merimbula Big Game and Lakes Angling Club Inc, the Abalone Association of NSW, the Atlas of Life community, the Merimbula Aquarium and Wharf Restaurant and Local volunteers.

Annual Tri-Estuary Challenge

The Annual Tri-Estuary Challenge, underpinned by a grant from Resilience NSW aimed to promote individual and collective wellbeing for communities affected by COVID, was held mid November. Good weather conditions, an entry list of 72 anglers including 17 ladies and 10 juniors, lots of fish caught (and released) and plentiful prizes from the prize pool of more than \$5,500 made it an outstanding success. This event with 6 fish species on the list and 42 prizes to be won plus lots of junior lucky draw participation prizes catered for all comers from individual to family angling groups. The list of all the winners are attached at the end of this newsletter.

Club Christmas Party

The Club's Christmas Party was held on Friday 16 December from 6.30pm. It was well attended with club stalwart Merrily Bell co-ordinating a great meal. A good time was had by all. Poor old Rob "Snappy" Wood was on the receiving end of quite a few funny fishing stories that resulted in a prize for the teller.

Monthly Species Event

The monthly species event continued and Phil Jacobs won the biggest bream for November at 434mm. Chris Young followed in December with the biggest Luderick and January was won by Corey Walker for the largest ocean flathead.

This event will continue into the new year, but will take a slightly different format with different prizes. Keep an eye out on the club website for details. Those who wish to enter for February will be chasing dusky flathead.

Monster Raffle

Our annual monster raffle was a huge success of 6000 tickets being purchased and all but 125 tickets being sold. Thanks go to all the volunteers who gave their time to sell raffle tickets. A special mention must be given to Stuart Green, who, along with a few helpers, sold 67% of the tickets in the local caravan parks.

Prize Winners are as follows:

1st Prize Weber Genesis BBQ
Kathleen Browne Rye, VIC

2nd Prize Engel 3-way fridge/freezer
Treena Knight Canberra, ACT

3rd Prize Stand-up Paddleboard
Dennis Brownis Genoa, VIC

4th Prize Weber Q BBQ
Sam Duthie Ballarat, VIC

5th Prize GoPro Hero 11
Aaron Bayley Tura Beach, NSW



Aaron Bayley from Tura Beach receives his GoPro Hero 11 from President Shane Mayberry.

Bass Weekend

A social bass weekend was held at Brogo Dam on the weekend of 20-22nd January, starting at 3pm on 20th with a lunchtime BBQ to wind things up on the Sunday. Thank you to our sponsor the weekend, Beast Homecare, for the donation of cash for the largest bass for a senior and junior angler. There were approximately a dozen people who participated. The biggest bass was caught by Dave Stewart at 425mm. There was no bass caught by a junior. Best of luck next time.

Dusky Challenge

The annual Dusky Challenge for 2023 has just wound up at the time of writing. A friendly competitive atmosphere began the weekend at the club on Friday night, February 3rd, with 98 entries to the competition. Of that, there were 7 juniors registered and some juniors registered in the senior section for a chance at the bigger prizes. A dozen ladies also registered to fish. Although, the major prize winners were mostly men, the blokes were largely out fished by the women over the weekend. See the end of the newsletter for all the prizewinners.

Calendar of Events

Attached you will find a calendar of upcoming events.

Eden Sport & Game Fishing Club

Please support the Eden Sport and Game Fishing Club in their upcoming event. Members who are game fisho's, please support this event. See the flyer following.



Shane Mayberry
President

EDEN SPORT & GAME FISHING CLUB INC

2023 TOURNAMENT
FRIDAY 17TH
SATURDAY 18TH
SUNDAY 19TH
FEBRUARY

TEAM EVENT
TAG & RELEASE
OR CAPTURE
MARLIN
SHARK
TUNA AND
OTHER GAME
FISH

PRIZES TO BE WON!

Information & Registration

Geoff - Club President

Phone : 0408 766 076

www.edengamefishingclub.com

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