

## 42<sup>nd</sup> MBGLAC Open Tournament 2023 Wrap



Wow, what a successful tournament. Credible Yellowfin captures, a Bluefin, Shark and Mahi Mahi were all on offer. Three days of great fishing, the first two in glass conditions with Monday also presenting great seas for fishing.

Boats went wide to find the elusive Yellowfin Schools and success was found along the 1000 fathom line. Adventurous boats went to the 2000 fathom line where Bluefin and Yellowfin were also found.

17 Teams registered for the tournament with a total of 54 anglers.

A very warm welcome to the new teams that sought us out and participated both on the water and during our social events. Great to see fresh enthusiastic new faces.

Also a very warm welcome to the ex Eden Gamefishing Club members. It's a shame to see a club have to close its doors but a pleasure to welcome you to the MBGLAC.

The first day of the tournament was by far the busiest perspective. Thirteen Yellowfin and one Bluefin were boated or tagged during the day with the weigh station kept very busy after lines up till well past 8pm.

The seas were glass so boats fished right to the end with very long trips back to their trailers or moorings and then the drive back to the scales.

Saturday nights weigh in was an emotional time with the weigh in going well into the night and full of frustrations of fish just missing out on going line class.

Successful boats for the three days included Dog Fossil skippered by Stewart Jeffrey, Sea Hog Skippered by Trevor Chippendale, The Jenks skippered by Nigel Hack, Reel Jem skippered by Polly, Cassie Skippered by Shane Mayberry and Snappy Tom Skippered by Rob Wood.

Commendable fish were landed by Stewart Green, Leaf Miller, Andrew Walker, Trevor Chippendale, Stewart Jeffrey, Ian Gullock and Junior Joel Woolley.



Captured and tag and release fish total numbers were:

- 8 Captured Yellowfin Tuna
- 1 captured Bluefin Tuna
- 5 tag and release Yellowfin Tuna.
- 2 tag and release Shortbill Spearfish
- 4 tag and release Mahi Mahi
- 3 measure and release Striped Tuna
- 1 tag and release Bronze Whaler



Other notable captures include junior York Chippendale with a 23.5kg Yellowfin on 24kg line. The Weighmaster placed the fish on the scales multiple times and along with all bystanders willed the necessary extra 0.5kg to allow the fish to be recognised in the tournament. A capture needing to equal or exceed the line class used is one of the fundamental requirements – even for Juniors.

Sharks for some of our competitors are a targeted species. Snappy Tom did not disappoint capturing the only Tag and Release shark for the tournament keeping her master shark fisherman status intact.

Social functions are an integral part of these tournaments. Our Friday night registrations and briefing, the tournament function held at the clubrooms on Sunday and the Monday presentation were all very well attended.

An event like our Open would not be possible without a huge team of helpers and our loyal sponsors and supporters.



Huge thanks to:

Sandy for running Tournament Base with the professionalism that comes from his years of experience.

Merrily Bell for management all our catering at the Club Rooms and thanks to Marita Brandauer for her help also. Both also helping out with raffle sales. Di Hayton and Keryn Wilkins for their assistance on Friday afternoon for registrations. Darragh Reynolds, there to run the bar every time we need him.

Game Fish Subcommittee, Glenn Poly Pollock and Craig Tassie Woolley , and our sponsors, listed below – please support them and thank them when you get the chance.

Special call out to **McKill's Tree Services**, our major tournament sponsor. Huge thanks Kane, your ongoing support makes this all possible.

Sponsor	Sponsor
Bega Cheese	Hotel Australasia
Bermagui Bait and Tackle	Hotondo
Betta Electrical	Jason Harley
Black Magic	Lakeview Hotel
Boss Outdoors	McKill Tree Services
Club Sapphire	Merimbula Aquarium & Warf Restaurant
Coast Motel	Merimbula Mowers and Marine
Commonwealth Bank	Merimbula RSL
Core Electrical	Nolans
David Griffiths Lawyers	Pickles
Eden Outboards – Mobile Servicing	Reel Affair
Flooring Xtra	Robert Smith Homemakers and Sleep Doctor
Foodworks Liquor Pambula	Sapphire Funerals
Forma Sign	Snowy Mountain Linen & Laundry
Fraser Marine	Squizzy's Tyres
Georgies Fine Jewellers	Streaker Marine
GME	Splash N Dash Car and Boat Wash
Goodyear Autocare Merimbula	Swannies Clothing
Grapevine Pizza	Tackle World Merimbula
Headland Charters	Wheeler's Oysters
Hookem Tackle	Woolworths Merimbula

This year we also had the privilege of Core Electrical coming on board to sponsor our game fishing tournament. Welcome and thanks Dan and Team.



Congratulations to all participants for a great weekend. Already looking forward to 2024.

Corey Walker  
For MBGLAC Open Tournament Subcommittee