

# NSWGFA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Billfish Challenge



1963 - 2012  
*CELEBRATING 50 YEARS*



29<sup>th</sup> February to 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012  
Port Stephens, NSW



# NSWGFA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Billfish Challenge



Note: Neither the Tournament Committee nor NSWGFA, nor any sponsor will be liable for any loss or damage to any person, property, personal injury or death howsoever occasioned at any time during the 2012 NSWGFA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Billfish Challenge  
All anglers participate entirely at their own risk.

29<sup>th</sup> February to 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012  
Port Stephens, NSW

## 1. THE TOURNAMENT

The competition will be held over two days Wednesday 29th February & Thursday 1st March 2012

## 2. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE: Is the executive of the NSWGFA

NSWGFA PRESIDENT	DAVID LITCHFIELD	0417 770 400
VICE PRESIDENT	ROB TRUSSELL	0414 971 176
TREASURER	CONNIE MCFARLANE	0419 284 882
CZ CHAIRMAN	GARRY CHENOWETH	0415 241 478
SZ CHAIRMAN	SANCHIA GLASKIN	0409 923 858
NZ CHAIRMAN	BRETT WILLIAMS	0411 576 539
NSWGFA SECRETARY	NIGEL RUSHWORTH	0417 770 900

## 3. THE COMPETITION

The competition will be for Tag & Release Only and will be fished as per the GFAA & NSWGFA rules – Point scores – Tackle regulations. Line classes to be fished 4kg, 6kg, 8kg, 10kg, 15kg, 24kg, 37kg and 60kg. Species eligible for Tag and Release are Marlin, Sailfish, Broadbill Swordfish & Short Bill Spearfish  
CIRCLE HOOKS ONLY are permitted to be used for live baiting and trolling natural baits. (Whether live, dead mutilated or dissected). NB: no points to be scored for any species caught while using live baits and/or trolling natural baits with “J” hooks.

## 4. FISHING DAYS & TIMES

8.00am to 4.00pm Wednesday 29th February and Thursday 1st March 2012. Any reported hook ups prior to end of fishing on any day may be fought out, but on each day all captures and tag release cards must be at the weigh station by 7.00pm. Note: weigh station is deemed the break wall of D'alboras Marina Nelson Bay.

## 5. FISHING AREA

The Fishing area for the tournament is South to latitude 33 degrees 15 minutes (Bird Island) and North to latitude 32 degrees and 13 minutes (Latitude Rock)

## 6. LEAVING & ENTERING PORT

Boats must leave Port Stephens on each tournament day and return to Port Stephens on completion of fishing. The safety organization for competing boats is considered paramount to the advantage that could be gained by some boats staying out overnight. Boats that elect to continue fishing after hours are to report this to Game Fish Base. All boats must report to Game Fish Base on return to port. If unable to make contact with Game Fish Base they then must report to a member of the tournament committee at the weigh station. Failure to report will incur a 10,000 point T & R penalty.

## 7. ENTRIES

\$350 (Boat Entry Fee Only) for boats fishing the Nautlius Boat Insurance 50th Anniversary Interclub. For boats not fishing the 2012 Interclub Tournament entry fees are \$150 per angler with a minimum charge of \$600.

NOTE: The Team Captain, skipper & any person involved in effecting a tag & release must be a paid angler. Any vessel found to be using a person not entered in the tournament assisting in a tag and release will be disqualified from the tournament.

A REGISTERED INTERCLUB ANGLER MAY FISH ONBOARD A DIFFERENT INTERCLUB REGISTERED BOAT WITHOUT ADDITIONAL CHARGE.

The entry fee includes briefing, lucky draw entry and a boat team kit

Anglers are to be financial members of a club affiliated with NSWGFA, GFAA or IGFA. Entries close on Tuesday 28th February at 6.00pm.

8. INSURANCE

Each vessel is to have their own Third Party Liability insurance and Boat Owner must provide details of insurance covering third party property liability and third party personal liability insurance (minimum \$5 million) on the 'Boat Safety Rescue Form'.

9. BRIEFING

There will be a tournament Briefing on Tuesday the 28th February 2012 at 6.00pm in the Nautilus Marquee adjacent to weigh station.

10. TAG & RELEASE POINTSCORE

Point score will be as per the NSWGFA Point score System. In the case of a tie the angler or team to reach the tied score first will be deemed the winner.

11. RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

Will be conducted in accordance with the adopted NSWGFA Guidelines for Radio Skeds for Tournaments as are in effect at the time. These shall be conducted by Tournament Base on 2284 SSB, 80 VHF and 27.940 MHz's The scheduled times will on each day at 8.10am, 10.10am, 12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.10pm, All boats must answer each schedule, giving boat number, boat name, accurate fishing report using the 0:0:0 system and fishing position using the supplied grid. 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 (phone etc.). Boats MUST keep the air clear 10 minutes prior to end of fishing for late hook-ups to be recorded to tournament.

ALL VESSELS MUST SIGN OFF WITH TOURNAMENT BASE ON RETURN TO PORT – or penalties will apply.

12. TAG & RELEASE CARDS

Tag & releases are to be reported accurately by radio to Tournament Base when effected , and the time given by Tournament Base recorded on the tag & release card. IN THE EVENT OF NOT BEING ABLE TO CONTACT TOURNAMENT BASE, PLEASE CONTACT YOU'RE NEAREST VESSEL.

FAILURE TO RECORD THE TIME OF AN EFFECTED TAG & RELEASE WILL RESULT IN A TIME RECORDED FOR THE TAG & RELEASE AS BEING THE END OF THE TORUNAMENT OF 7PM THURSDAY 1ST MARCH 2012, Failure to record line class on tag and release cards will automatically revert to 60kg.

Tag & release cards must be lodged at the Weigh Station by 7pm on the day of tag & release. All hand deliveries of equipment and Tag Cards must be at the Weigh station facility by the 7.00pm deadline (Note Weigh station is deemed the break wall of D'alboras Marina Nelson Bay)

Please note that NSW Fisheries tags only will be accepted. Billfish tags must be used to tag all billfish species.

The appropriate flags are to be flown on return to the weigh station.

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.

THE METHOD OF RELEASING TAGGED FISH -The hook is to be removed or the leader cut as close as possible to the fish

13. BOAT / ANGLER REPLACEMENT

No replacement of boats or anglers for whatever reason will be allowed after the conclusion of entries on Tuesday 28th February 2012 at 6.00 pm. Anglers may only effect a tag & release on the vessel on which he or she is a registered angler. Tag & release card, the angler, all equipment used in the tag must be presented to the weigh station on the vessel on which the 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 & equipment used to effect the tag.

14. PROTESTS

Protest must be presented in writing to the Tournament Committee by 7.00pm on the day in question.  
THE DECISIONS OF THE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE WILL BE FINAL.

15. TROPHY PRESENTATION DINNER

The Trophy Presentation Evening will be held in conjunction with the 50th Anniversary Interclub at Nelson Bay Diggers Club, on Sunday 4th March 2012. Presentation tickets are not included in the Tournament Entry Fee. Presentation Tickets can be purchased for \$50.00 for Adult Anglers & \$30.00 for Juniors & Small Fry's

16. BAD WEATHER

To avoid taking unnecessary risk in the event of bad weather, the Tournament Committee will decide whether the day will be a competition day or not. In the event of bad weather developing after the start of fishing, the Tournament Committee will decide whether the competition day will be called off for the remainder of that day. The Tournament Committee accepts no responsibility for decisions made by individuals as whether to put to sea or not, having regard to the Tournament Committee's decision on fishing for the day. The declaration of a gale warning by the Bureau of Meteorology will cancel fishing for that day. In the event of a declaration whilst vessels are at sea fishing will cease immediately and vessels must return to port.

17. INDEMNITY

THE NSWGFA accepts no responsibility for actions by entrants in this tournament & shall not be held liable for any damage or loss to any property or person during this tournament. In that regard all entrants indemnify the tournament committee, NSWGFA & all voluntary workers against any claim for loss or damage to property or person.

18. SEAWORTHINESS OF BOATS

All boats must comply with NSW Waterways regulations for safety equipment and the safety standards of the vessel's home Club. A "Boat Safety Rescue form" is included as part of the entry form and must be completed and signed by the Boat Skipper. All boats must carry a 406Mhz EPIRB and have two working marine radios fitted one of which must be VHF frequency.

19. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

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

20. WEIGHSTATION PROCEDURE

Once boats enter the vicinity of the weigh station, they are under the control of the Tournament Official at the weigh station and **MUST** obey all instructions issued by the Official. Before coming alongside the weigh station, boats must have completed and have ready for presentation all equipment used to effect the tag and release and applicable paperwork.

21. MISCONDUCT

The Tournament Committee may on its own initiative investigate and act upon any incident of misconduct by an angler on a boat, be he/she registered for the tournament or not occurring during the tournament. The Committee may impose penalties of loss of points, disqualification of fish, angler, boat or team and refusal of entry to any future Interclub Tournaments. All competitors are reminded that as members of a Club they are regarded as representatives of that Club, as such, any unbecoming behaviour reflects adversely on the Club and indeed on all Game Fishers, hence, the Tournament Committee reserves the right to take any action it deems necessary in these circumstances.

TROPHY LIST – 2012 NSWGFA 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
BILLFISH CHALLENGE

CHAMPION BOAT – (BOATS 8 METRES & ABOVE)  
Minimum \$5,000 CASH

CHAMPION BOAT – (BOATS UNDER 8 METRES)  
Minimum \$5,000 CASH

Champion Junior – Junior Pack

Champion Small Fry – Junior Pack



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# BOAT ENTRY FORM

NSWGFA 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY BILLFISH CHALLENGE  
 29<sup>th</sup> February to 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012  
 Port Stephens, NSW

NSWGFA USE ONLY

Entries close with your Club Secretary – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2012 at 7.30pm

Club.....G.F.C. Boat Name.....

Mobile Phone Number on Board.....

(Please indicate whether angler is Senior Male (M), Senior Lady (L), Junior Male (JM), Junior Lady (JL), Small Fry Male (SFM), and Small Fry Lady (SFL))

In the case of Junior & Small Fry Anglers please list Date of Birth

- 1. Boat Captain.....Club.....Category.....DOB.....
- 2. Angler.....Club.....Category.....DOB.....
- 3. Angler.....Club.....Category.....DOB.....
- 4. Angler.....Club.....Category.....DOB.....
- 5. Angler.....Club.....Category.....DOB.....
- 6. Angler.....Club.....Category.....DOB.....
- 7. Angler.....Club.....Category.....DOB.....
- 8. Angler.....Club.....Category.....DOB.....

## ENTRY FEES

Note: Entry Fee DOES NOT include  
 Presentation Dinner Ticket

Boat Entry Fee – Boats registered to fish the Interclub \$ 350.00 PB. \$.....

Angler Entry Fee – Angler not registered to fish the interclub \$ 150.00 pp. \$.....

PRESENTATION DINNER      Number of Adults..... @    \$50.00    \$.....  
    Juniors (under 16yrs)..... @    \$30.00    \$.....

**GRAND TOTAL – All prices include GST – Tournament Entry + Dinner Tickets**    \$.....

# SAFETY RESCUE INFORMATION FORM

Boat Name.....Registration Number.....

Boat on the Club Register of.....G.F.C. Length.....

Make.....Colour-Hull.....Deck.....

Colour – Flybridge.....Distinctive Features or Markings.....

Engine(s) Type.....Number.....H.P.....Fuel Type.....

Capacity.....Range.....Speed-Cruising.....Max. Speed.....

Name of Boat Insurer.....Policy No.....Renewal Date.....

Vessel moored/garaged at in Port Stephens.....

In the case of Trailer Boats – Trailer Registration Number.....

Emergency Contact Name (not to be onboard vessel).....Tel.....

Boat Captains Address in Port Stephens.....

Boat Captains Mobile Number.....Email.....

Boat Captains Home Address.....

Boat Owners Name (if not the Boat Captain).....Tel.....

Boat Owners Home Address.....

Note: Contact email address that you provide on this form may be used by NSWGFA and Major Sponsors of this tournament for the purpose of informing you of future NSWGFA tournaments and product information. If you do not wish to receive this information please tick the box.

RADIO(S) ON BOARD– please tick  SSB HF  27 MHz  VHF  UHF

ALL MOBILE(S) ON BOARD – List Number(s).....

SATELLITE PHONE ON BOARD (if available) Number.....

E.P.I.R.B. – Expire Date.....

## BOAT CAPTAIN'S DECLARATION

I agree to abide by EVERY Tournament Rule and all Tournament Committee decisions and have completed the Safety Rescue form including details of insurance covering third party property liability and third party personal liability insurance.

Signed..... Date.....

Boat Captain