

# GFAA announced two changes to the Rules and Equipment Regulations

## NOTICE TO ALL CLUBS & ANGLERS AFFILIATED WITH NSWGFA INC.

### REGARDING THE GFAA RULES RELEASE DATED 9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2017.

GFAA announced two changes to the Rules and Equipment Regulations to be effective immediately which follow:

- 1.** P 57 GFAA GAMEFISHING JOURNAL 2017  
**THE FOLLOWING ACTS WILL DISQUALIFY A CATCH:**  
**#2 Add in to follow on from the existing rule.**

*Holding or touching an angler in a manner that assists them in fighting the fish or takes pressure off the angler. **Touching or briefly holding the angler to prevent them from falling does not constitute a disqualification.***

- 2.** P 54 GFAA GAMEFISHING JOURNAL 2017  
**EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS:**

(b) **Line backing** change to **Line & Backing.**

*New 1. The use of backing is permissible.*

*New 2. The catch shall be classified under the breaking strength of the first five meters of the line directly preceding the double, leader & hook. This section must be comprised of a single homogenous piece of line.*

#### **NOTE 1:**

- P 57 GFAA GAMEFISHING JOURNAL 2017  
**THE FOLLOWING ACTS WILL DISQUALIFY A CATCH:**

- 1. NSWGFA fully supports this change as it clarifies the situation regarding holding an angler which has been questioned on many occasions. This change now applies in NSW waters.**

- P 54 GFAA GAMEFISHING JOURNAL 2017  
**EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS:**

- 2. NSWGFA DOES NOT SUPPORT THIS CHANGE AS IT IS IN CONFLICT WITH CURRENT NSWGFA INC. BY-LAWS & REGULATIONS POLICY FOR THE USE OF MULTIFILAMENT LINE BELOW. IT IS ALSO IN CONFLICT WITH THE NSWGFA PROCEDURE FOR RECORD CLAIMS WHEN BACKING IS ATTACHED TO THE TOP SHOT LINE WHICH IS ALSO BELOW.**

#### **POLICY FOR THE USE OF MULTIFILAMENT LINE.**

- This policy statement has no application to record claims.
- Definitions in this policy statement:
  - "Multifilament line" means any line which is not monofilament or Dacron and includes spider wire and gel spun lines.
  - "Competition" includes any open tournament or point score competition.
  - "Committee" means the tournament committee or, if there is no tournament committee, the committee of the club running the tournament or point score competition or any sub-committee having delegated authority.
  - "Prize" includes any trophy, prize (cash or goods) or points in any point score competition.
- Application of policy
  - If an angler submits a capture/tag & release in any competition that has been taken on multifilament line the committee may at its absolute discretion;
    - accept the capture/tag & release; or
    - resolve that the line must be tested
  - If the committee resolves that the line be tested the following provisions shall apply to the competition:
    - if the capture/tag & release qualifies for any prize, that prize shall be provisional only and shall be withheld pending the result of the line test:

- (b) a sample of line shall be taken and prepared in the same manner as a sample required for a record claim and sent to the New South Wales Records Officer within fourteen (14) days. If the sample is not received by the NSW Records Officer within fourteen (14) days the line will not be tested and the capture will be deemed to have been accepted.
- (c) If the line sample is received within fourteen (14) days the New South Wales Records Officer shall with all due dispatch forward the line sample for testing in accordance with the usual procedure laid down for testing record claims;
- (d) If the line sample breaks under the prescribed line class, the committee will affirm the tournament results and award the prize. If the line breakover the prescribed line class the capture /tag & release will be disqualified.
- (e) In the event the capture submitted is also the subject of a New South Wales, Australian or World record claim a separate line sample to that submitted with the claim will be taken and submitted to the New South Wales Records Officer in accordance with the above procedure.
- (f) The cost of the test shall be borne by the angler.

This policy shall remain in force until the New South Wales Game Fishing Association Executive determines that it appears that, generally, multifilament lines are breaking within the prescribed line class.

### **NSW RECORD PROCEDURE WHERE BACKING IS ATTACHED TO LINE.**

All Record claims where a top shot is used and attached to the backing both the top shot and backing will be tested to determine which is the heavier and that will be the line class determined for the record claim.

To this end both the top shot line and the backing will be required to be submitted with the claim.

This will involve the usual 16m of the line attached to the terminal tackle as well as 16m of the backing including 1m of the top shot still attached to the backing.

As two (2) line tests are required there will be the usual fee of \$35.00 (Inc. GST plus an extra claim fee applicable which has been determined at \$25.00.

This means a total of \$60.00 (Inc. GST) for this type of claim. The payment is to be made out to NSWGFA Inc. This is authorized by the NSWGFA Executive and will apply as at 14<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

### **Due to the above the change to 2 by GFAA “the line backing regulation” DOES NOT APPLY in NSW waters or NSW Records.**

The line backing situation will be a discussion topic for the NSWGFA Inc. AGM in July 2017, until that occurs the current Policy FOR THE USE OF MULTIFILAMENT LINE in NSW and the NSW Record procedure still apply.

### **Note2:**

**The 2 changes announced by GFAA were also announced by IGFA, however for IGFA they will not take effect till 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.**