



# ALLIANCE TAG & RELEASE TOURNAMENT

MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup> & 12<sup>TH</sup>  
2023



THE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE CAN REFUSE ENTRY TO ANY PARTICIPANT. THE ORGANISING CLUBS, THE BERMAGUI BIG GAME ANGLERS CLUB, VICTORIAN GAME FISHING CLUB, CANBERRA GAME FISHING CLUB AND LATROBE VALLEY GAME FISHING CLUB ACCEPT NO RESPONSIBILITY WHATSOEVER FOR ANY ACTION CAUSED OR ANY DAMAGE ARISING OUT OF THE CONDUCT OF THIS TOURNAMENT

*All competing craft must be comprehensively insured and carry Public Liability Insurance.*

*All competing craft must return to the port by water to submit tag cards.*

PROOF OF INSURANCE POLICY REQUIRED BY EITHER PRODUCTION OF OR SUPPLY OF COMPANY NAME AND POLICY NUMBER. THIS PROVISION WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED AND FALSE INFORMATION WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION

### INVITATION

You are invited to compete in the 34<sup>th</sup> ALLIANCE TAG & RELEASE TOURNAMENT to be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 out of the Port of Bermagui. This prestigious event, sponsored by, BERMAGUI BAIT & TACKLE, ROPAN FINANCIAL SERVICES, SIMRAD AND LOWRANCE is being conducted jointly by the Bermagui Big Game Anglers Club, Latrobe Valley Game Fishing Club, Canberra Game Fishing Club and the Victorian Game Fishing Club.

The Tournament is catering for those responsible anglers who wish future generations to enjoy the sport of Game Fishing. The Alliance Tag & Release Tournament is unique in these waters and we invite you to join us in this exciting sporting event.

### TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

#### CHAIRMAN

Matt Crampton Canberra Game Fishing Club - 0438260812

#### MEMBERS

Rodney Gilham Latrobe Valley Game Fishing Club - 0418140084.

Gerry Rodrigues Victorian Game Fishing Club - 0415938776

Maris Dumburs Bermagui Big Game Anglers Club - 0428376184

Bernie Sillis Canberra Game Fishing Club - 0411266597.

### REGISTRATION

To be held at Bermagui Country Club.

Friday March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 5.30pm

### TOURNAMENT HEADQUARTERS

All formal and informal activities will be held at the Bermagui Country Club, including registration, briefing and BBQ (at rear of Club in BBQ area).

### BRIEFING

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 at Bermagui Country Club

A BALLOT WILL BE HELD AT THE BRIEFING TO SELECT TEAMS OF THREE (3) BOATS.

At the discretion of the Tournament Committee, only persons entered before the briefing and team draw will be permitted to enter the Tournament.

Attendance at the briefing is mandatory by the skipper of each boat or at least one crew member or a nominated representative. An attendance register will be maintained and 1000 Point Penalty will be allocated to all boats not registered (unless notified in advance).

Therefore it is suggested that representatives present themselves well before 7.30 pm.

This Tournament is a Tag & Release only competition. No fish will be weighed for the duration of the Tournament (except for potential World, Australian or N.S.W. records only). Anglers will be competing for Team Points, Boat Points and Individual Points.

Individual Points are the total of the angler's points.

Boat Points are an aggregate of all anglers' points fishing on one boat. Team Points are an aggregate of three boats points fishing as one team. Teams will be selected by ballot at the Tournament Briefing.

The major trophy for this Tournament is the Team Trophy followed by the Boat Trophies and then the Individual Angler and Species Trophies.

All major trophies are high value perpetual trophies with mementos awarded to the members of the winning teams and boats.

### **TOURNAMENT ITINERARY**

#### **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

Registration 5.30pm - 7.30pm  
BBQ 6.30pm  
Briefing ..... 7.30pm  
To be held at Bermagui Country Club.

#### **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

Fishing Times 7.00am – 5.00pm

#### **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

Fishing Times 7.00am - 3.00pm  
Presentation BBQ 7.00pm  
To be held at Bermagui Country Club. Entry by ticket only.

### **SANCTIONING**

**This Tournament has been sanctioned by NSWGFA**

### **TROPHIES**

#### **Perpetual Trophies**

Champion Team  
Champion Boat 7.1m & under  
Champion Boat over 7.1m  
Champion Male Angler  
Champion Lady Angler  
Champion Junior Angler  
Champion Small Fry

#### **Individual Trophies**

Champion Angler - Billfish  
- Yellowfin Tuna  
- Other Species

Daily Highest Point Score Angler

Daily Highest Point Score Boat

Chairman's Trophy

### **PROTESTS**

Protests must be made in writing signed by team captain/boat skipper and lodged at the Tournament Base no later than 2 hours following cessation of fishing on the day.

#### **Protest Committee**

Bernie Sillis Canberra Game Fishing Club – 0411266597  
Rodney Gilham Latrobe Valley Game Fishing Club - 0418140084.  
Gerry Rodrigues Victorian Game Fishing Club - 0415938776  
Ron De La Mare Bermagui Big Game Anglers Club - 0428244955

### **TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE**

The Tournament Committee will be the sole adjudicator of the Tournament (excluding protests) and all decisions of the committee are final and binding.

### **FISHING RULES**

The Tournament will be fished under "Fishing Rules and Tackle Regulations" of G.F.A.A. NSWGFA rules & bylaws

must also be observed. Only fish species detailed in the SCORING SECTION of the Tournament Rules will be recognised. Points scoring will be as per NSWGFA.

Minimum weights for sharks, excluding Tiger Sharks and Blue Sharks are:

70kg on line classes 6kg – 10kg

90kg on line classes 15kg – 37kg

130kg on line class 60kg

Tiger Sharks. New Min. Weights - Effective 1st September 2022

120kg on line classes 6kg – 10kg

200kg on line classes 15kg – 24kg

250kg on line classes 37kg - 60kg

Blue Sharks. New Min. Weights - Effective 1st September 2022

100kg on line classes 6kg – 10kg

125kg on line classes 15kg – 24kg

250kg on line classes 37kg - 60kg

Minimum weights for marlin are:

70kg on line classes 4kg – 10kg

90kg on line classes 15kg – 60kg

Existing Minimum Weights Apply for Junior and Small Fry Anglers

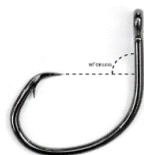
## TOURNAMENT RULES

### LINE CLASS

Must be GFAA approved line class.

### HOOKS

Only non-offset CIRCLE HOOKS are permitted to be used with natural baits (both live baiting and trolling), except in the case of targeting Narrow Barred Mackerel



### Line and Backing

1. The use of backing is permissible. (Note: there is no restriction of the type or size of backing used as long as it is Monofilament, multifilament, lead core multifilament but not wire.)
2. The catch shall be classified under the breaking strength of the first five metres of the line preceding the double, leader and hook.

### TEAMS

Boat crews shall consist of a minimum of 2 anglers per boat. There will be only one team per boat. **Anglers must be financially affiliated members of a club affiliated with GFAA**, Overseas anglers must be affiliated with I.G.F.A.

As a means of fostering camaraderie between the competing anglers, a Champion Team category has been included in the Schedule of Trophies. This will be the major and most prestigious trophy for the Tournament.

A Team will comprise a fleet of 3 boats. The composition of these teams will be determined by way of a ballot of competing boats to be held at the Tournament Briefing.

If the number of boats entered does not allow equal teams of 3, then the last 1 or 2 teams balloted will be comprised of 4 boats.

Each boat in a team of 4 will only be eligible for 75% of the amassed tag points, penalty points and bonus points for team scores. Each boat still accrues full points for individual boat and angler scores.

### PENALTY POINTS

A Penalty Point Score Scheme will apply to each Boat Crew in addition to the Tag and Release Point Scores.

Failure to attend briefing 1000pts  
Failure to sign on any day 1000pts  
Missing a radio sked 1000pts  
Failure to hand in tag card and score sheet to weigh station while boat still in the water 2000pts  
Failure to sign off on any day - disqualification for the day

Failure to fill in tag card completely including GPS coordinates may result in tag points not being awarded  
No points to be scored for any species caught while using baits and/or trolling baits, whether live, dead, mutilated or dissected, using "J" hooks.  
No points if boats do not return to port via the water to submit tag card(s).  
Anglers transferring from one boat to another whilst in the process of fighting a fish will not be eligible for any points

## **SCORING**

Competition Points will only be awarded for Tag & Release. To be eligible for Tag & Release points the angler must attend the Weigh Station by water on the day of the Tag and Release and present all tackle used in the Tag and Release, NSW State Fisheries Tag Cards and completed Certificates as supplied in the Tournament Satchels. Note the G.F.A.A. Fishing Rules and Tackle Regulations now include a section specifically on Tag and Release Rules and Tackle and these must be strictly observed.

## **TAG & RELEASE POINTS**

Points will be as per the NSWGFA point scoring system with points per line class.  
It is essential to include the Line Class on the Tag card and the Certificate as supplied in the tournament kit.  
For points allocation see attached sheet.

All anglers may tag a maximum of (5) Yellowtail Kingfish, and (5) Mahi Mahi per day with a BOAT LIMIT of ten per day for each species.

The onus will be on boat skippers to ensure that all details filled in on all Certificates are correct and match the information on the Tag Cards.

In order to maximise scientific value, Tag & Release points will ONLY be awarded if Tag Cards are filled out legibly and completely including Latitude & Longitude (WGS84 Datum) GPS coordinates in the format "d m.mmm" (EG - 36°16.385' S).

All species tagged must be a minimum of 60cm in length except sharks which must be a minimum of 100cm in length and kingfish which must be a minimum of 70cm.

Any fish brought to the boat that have been previously tagged, efforts should be made to remove the initial tag and a new tag inserted.

Multiple Tagging of the same fish is not permitted under NSWGFA rules.

When releasing fish the hook is to be removed or the leader cut as close as possible to the fish.

In case of an individual, boat or team tie a count back will apply. The winner on count back will be the first angler/boat/team to reach that particular score.

The only fish to be weighed will be potential World, Australian or NSW Records. These fish will score NIL Points. If the captured fish does not weigh within 20% of the Record Claim the Tag and Release points for that species will be DEDUCTED as a

## **WEIGH STATION PROCEDURES**

Once boats enter the vicinity of the weigh station, they are under the control of the Tournament Official at the weigh station, boats must have completed and have ready for presentation all equipment used to effect the tag & release and applicable paperwork.

## **REPLACEMENT OF BOATS AND COMPETITORS**

No replacement of boats or competitors for whatever reason will be allowed after fishing has started. Anglers may not affect a tag & release on any other vessel than the vessel he/she is registered on. Tag & release card, 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 and equipment used to effect the tag.

## **STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

All anglers must carry a saltwater fishing licence (if applicable). Bag limit and size restrictions must be adhered to. All competitors are reminded that it is an offence to tie any vessel to an object such as wave riders, FAD's or fish trap buoys.

## **RADIO**

All boats are to be in possession of a copy of "Guidelines for Radio Skeds for Tournaments" issued in tournament bags.

Radio Skeds will be run in accordance with "Guidelines for Radio Skeds for Tournaments" as laid out in the 2002 Australian Fishing Journal with the exception that Penalty Points will be

applied for missing one radio sked.

All boats must be equipped with a serviceable 27 MHz two-way radio operating on frequencies 27.880, 27.910, 27.940, 27.960 MHz

Tournament Base will announce "Start Fishing" each morning and will relay test weather information. Skippers are

requested to advise Base of the number of persons on board when they sign on.

Radio Skeds will be conducted simultaneously on 27.940 MHz and Channel 22 VHF every two hours with the first sked at 9.05 am. Boats are to reply to each sked as follows - Boat number, Boat name, Position, Fish total and the species break up. Do not give the same report on the next sked. In the event no fish being tagged give a zero call. Base will acknowledge each reply by repeating the report.

All boats must sign on and off each day. There will be 1000-point penalty for not signing on and disqualification for that day for boats failing to sign off for the day.

The Tournament Base will continue to operate until every boat is accounted for each day.

If any boat has radio problems it is the responsibility of that boat to contact another boat and have their report relayed to Tournament Base. Boats having radio problems must clear their radio with Tournament Base prior to leaving harbour the next day.

In the event of Tournament Base radio being jammed through interference, boats are to immediately turn to frequency 27.960 MHz unless notified otherwise.

Boats must keep the airway clear 10 minutes prior to the end of fishing, so late hook-ups may be recorded by the base on each fishing day

**FISHING BOUNDARIES.** The fishing area for the tournament is 36°00.0' North; 36°47.6'South Latitude; 150°40.4' East Longitude Note – You must stay on the grid map

#### **WEATHER**

If a Gale Warning is declared by the appropriate government weather authority the tournament will be cancelled for that day. In the event of a Gale Warning being declared whilst vessels are at sea, such vessels are required to cease fishing immediately and return to port. Cancellation will only apply until the Gale warning is lifted.

#### **NOTIFICATION OF T. & R. FISH**

When a fish is tagged anglers are to radio in immediately indicating fish species and angler details. This information must be repeated during the following Sked.

The time of tagging must be recorded on the Certificate sheet. Unreported tags will be allocated the time of the current Sked.

Any fish hooked prior to the close of a day's fishing is eligible for competition points provided that Tournament Base was notified of the hook up prior to the close of that day's fishing. On the last day of fishing however boats must be in the harbour by 4.00 pm to present Tag Cards, Certificates and equipment at the Weigh Station by water.

#### **SEAWORTHINESS OF BOATS**

It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that their boat is completely seaworthy and meets NSW Maritime Authority safety standards and the safety standards of that owners Club. A "Boat Safety rescue Information Form" is included as part of the entry form and must be completed and signed. All boats must carry 406Mhz EPIRB and have two working marine radios fitted on of which must be on VHF frequency.

#### **MISCONDUCT**

The Tournament Committee may on its own initiative, investigate and act upon any incident of the misconduct by an angler on a boat, be he/she registered for the tournament, or not occurring during the tournament. The Tournament Committee may impose penalties of loss of points, disqualification of fish, angler, boat or team and refusal of entry to any future tournaments. All competitors are reminded that as members of a club they are regarded as representatives of that club, as such, 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.

#### **CONDUCT**

It is an expectation that all participants will conduct themselves in a responsible and courteous manner to Tournament Officials and other Competitors at all times throughout the Tournament. Penalties for misconduct may include disqualification from the Tournament.

#### **Insurance**

It is mandatory for all boats to carry Third Party Property Damage and Third Party Personal Injury Insurance to be a minimum of (\$5,000,000) and a copy of policy details MUST be supplied with boat entry form before entry can be accepted.

**TAG & RELEASE POINT SCORE**

Line Class	4 –				
	10kg	15kg	24kg	37kg	60kg
<b>MARLIN</b>					
Marlin – Black	12,500	11,500	10,000	8,500	7,500
Marlin – Blue	12,500	11,500	10,000	8,500	7,500
Marlin - Striped	12,500	11,500	10,000	8,500	7,500
<b>BILLFISH - OGF</b>					
Broadbill Swordfish	12,500	11,500	10,000	8,500	7,500
Sailfish	6,250	5,750	5,000	4,250	3,750
Shortbill Spearfish	6,250	5,750	5,000	4,250	3,750
<b>SHARKS (min length of 100cm)</b>					
Shark – Blue	3,125	2,875	2,500	2,125	1,875
Shark – Hammerhead (Smooth Hammerheads only)	3,750	3,400	3,000	2,550	2,250
Shark – Mako (all)	3,750	3,400	3000	2,550	2,250
Shark – Porbeagle	3,750	3,400	3000	2,550	2,250
Shark – Thresher (all)	3,750	3,400	3000	2,550	2,250
Shark – Tiger	3,750	3,400	3000	2,550	2,250
Shark – Whaler (all)	3,750	3,400	3000	2,550	2,250
<b>TUNAS - OGF</b>					
Tuna – Albacore	625	575	500	425	375
Tuna – Longtail	625	575	500	425	375
Tuna – Bigeye	1,250	1,150	1,000	850	750
Tuna – Dogtooth	1,250	1,150	1,000	850	750
Tuna – Bluefin & Southern Bluefin	1,250	1,150	1,000	850	750
Tuna – Yellowfin	1,250	1,150	1,000	850	750
<b>OGF - Miscellaneous</b>					
Narrow Barred (Spanish) Mackerel	625	575	500	425	375
Wahoo	625	575	500	425	375
Yellowtail Kingfish – min length 70cm	310	290	250	210	190
Barracuda	31	29	25	21	19
Cobia	31	29	25	21	19
Mahi Mahi (Dolphin Fish)	31	29	25	21	19
<b>Junior Personal Points ONLY</b>					
Kawa Kawa	13	12	10	9	8
Striped Tuna	13	12	10	9	8