

TOWNSVILLE GAMEFISHING CLUB FISHING RULES 2008/2009

1. **Monthly club competitions** - will be generally held over the weekend following the monthly meeting (see fishing calendar), although at times there may be exceptions to this. The monthly competition will now *only* be void due lack of boat numbers and will not be rescheduled to the following weekend. The prizes for monthly competitions will be awarded only when a minimum of five (5) boats take to the water to fish the competition for at least 1 day of the weekend. The weighmaster shall be notified by 8pm Friday if you intend to fish one day that weekend.
There are no wind restriction rules on monthly competitions. It is entirely the skipper's decision whether they go to sea, however safety is utmost at all times and TGFC promote safe boating.
 2. **Non-Comp Fishing Weekends** – Anglers may now fish any weekend of the month and win half club points for tagged fish only.
 3. **Fishing Away** - Anglers may nominate a tournament fished away from home as a substitute for that month's club competition, provided it coincides with the weekend of the monthly comp. Anglers wishing to 'fish away' must notify the Weighmaster prior to that month's monthly comp weekend. In this case the Angler will accumulate full club points for that fishing but will not be eligible for prizes for that monthly competition. The Activity Book must be signed by the host club's weigh master. Substitute tournament days are only valid if the angler does not fish normal monthly competition.
 4. **Tag Points & Boat Activity Books**
All fish tagged for *all* weekends fishing, including non-monthly comp weekends will be awarded points (full for monthly comp and half other weekends). All anglers when fishing must complete Boat Activity Books for all trips. This information is sent to QGFA and statistics are compiled from it so it is important that our club lodge all records of activity.
 5. **Tag & Weighed Fish Numbers**
A maximum of three fish of any species can be weighed for monthly comps and a maximum of five fish of any one species can be tagged (or tagged & captured) per person at monthly comps. A maximum of five fish of any one species can be tagged per person on other weekends.
 6. **Cancelling of Monthly Competitions** - It is the skipper's discretion to decide if they take to sea nor not. The monthly competitions do not carry the 15 knots rule any longer. If the monthly competition is cancelled because there are less than five (5) boats choosing to fish, then club points will be awarded but prizes will not be awarded. If the monthly competition is voided due to lack of boats then it will not be rescheduled.
- NOTE: In this case of high wind warnings, the Skipper should check the weather forecast to ensure the safety of his vessel and passengers.
7. **GFAA Rules** - will apply at all times unless specifically amended.
 8. **Fishing Times** - Start fishing at 6am Saturday and cease fishing in time to attend the weigh in or as otherwise designated.
 9. **Attendance at Weigh-In** - to be eligible for points & prizes in monthly competitions, at least one member from the team must attend the designated weigh-in by the designated time, except in the case of a team assisting another boat in distress. Half points will be awarded if at least one member from a team does not attend the weigh in by the designated time, with a completed activity book.
 10. **Non-TGFC Members** - only financial members of the Townsville Game Fishing Club will be eligible to fish monthly competitions and be eligible for points and prizes. However, a Temporary (one weekend only) Membership of \$30 is available to prospective club members who wish to fish in the monthly competition. Temporary Memberships must be nominated and paid prior to the monthly comp. If the club treasurer is unavailable to accept payment prior to the weekend, then a verbal notification will be accepted via the weigh master and at least one other office bearer. The onus is on the skipper to ensure the temporary membership is accepted prior to the weekend. Where payment was not able to be made prior to the weekend, all funds owing shall be paid preferably at the weigh in or by the end of working hours on the following Monday for points to count. The skipper will be deemed responsible for all outstanding funds. Anglers who have paid a Temporary Membership may join the club as a full member but are required to pay the difference within one month of the Temporary Membership. Any points accumulated while fishing as a Temporary Member only, count towards the boat score but not to their future individual score if the Temporary Member decides to become a full financial member of the club. Monthly Comp prizes can be won while a Temporary Member, however these points do not count to their yearly individual score.
 11. **Non-TGFC Members tagged billfish** – all marlin tagged by non-TGFC members may be counted in club billfish scores only for GFAA & QGFA purposes and in boat scores only for website/newsletter info. The tag must have occurred on a non-commercial charter trip.
 12. **Weigh Ins** – these are held from 5.30pm to 6.45pm Sunday at the designated venue. *Strict Ruling - late arrivals are not considered, except as per rule 9.*
 13. **Weighed fish must be equal to or better than line class - Juniors are an exception** to this and they may weigh fish provided the weight is equal to half line class or higher. In

TOWNSVILLE GAMEFISHING CLUB FISHING RULES 2008/2009

both cases a maximum of three fish of the same species may be weighed by any one angler, *see Note in 16*. Sharks must weigh line class to be eligible for half points.

15kg	20
24kg or higher	10

14. **Circle hooks must be used** - when live bait fishing for Billfish in TGFC competitions, monthly comps or on any other weekend. Only traditional circle hooks are permitted to be used. Any billfish captured while live baiting using J-hooks or offset circle hooks are to be disqualified for competition and point purposes.

<i>Extra Point Species</i>	<i>Points</i>
<i>Cobia</i>	<i>These two species are double the points from the above table during monthly comp weekend only.</i>
<i>Yellowfin Tuna</i>	

15. **Fish must be gilled & gutted** - all fish presented to the Weighmaster for weighing should be gilled & gutted (excluding sharks). If presenting a fish for record purposes the fish may be presented whole, then gilled and gutted if appropriate. No mutilated fish will be weighed for points. NOTE : A maximum of three fish of any one species may be weighed per angler.

Note: 5 fish of any one Species include the total of weighed and tagged fish. Applies to rule 11, 13 & 16.

16. **Scoring** - Points for all other gamefish species (except sharks) have an equal multiplication factor of 100 divided by line class (see example below).

Formula for calculating points

$$\frac{(\text{Fish Weight (kg)} + 10\%) \times 100}{\text{Line Class (kg)}} = \text{Points}$$

17. **Tag Points for Billfish** - 1,000 points will be awarded to all Billfish tagged during monthly competitions regardless of line class. 500 points will be awarded on any other weekend. There is no limit on number of tag poles that can be used.

18. **Tag Points for Other Gamefish** - the following points will be allocated for the tagging of 'Other Gamefish' during a monthly comp weekend. Note: A maximum of five (5) fish of any one species may be tagged per angler, *see note*. Half points will be awarded for all other weekends. While all game fish are able to be tagged, the 'preferred' species list is based on the NSW fisheries tagging program and tagging of unlisted species is to be kept to a minimum where practical.

Please note : The additional Extra Points Table below for Cobia & Yellowfin Tuna.

19.

Points for Other Gamefish Tagged	
<i>Minimum Length 40cm</i>	
<i>Angler/Skipper discretion prevails</i>	
<i>Survival of fish of most importance</i>	
4kg	80
6kg	60
8kg	50
10kg	40

Townsville Gamefishing Club Preferred Species List For Tagging in Townsville Area	
Bill Fish	Other Gamefish Cont.
Marlin, all	Tuna, all Inc of 1. Scaly/Shark Mackerel 2. Bonito
Sail fish	Queen Fish
Other Gamefish	Rainbow Runner
Barracuda	Salmon, Threadfin
Cobia	Dolphin Fish (Mahi Mahi)
Trevally	Barramundi
Mackerel 1. Spanish (Broadbarred/Grey) 2. Spotted (all) 3. Tanguijue (Narrowbarred) 4. Wahoo	Shark 1. Blue 2. Hammerhead 3. Tiger 4. Whaler 5. Mako
<i>This list has been prepared taking New South Wales Fisheries Tagging Program guidelines into account. This list may change from time to time at the direction of NSW Fisheries. In the case of change notification will be given</i>	

Please ensure tag cards are handed in with scoresheet and filled in completely, legibly and accurately.

TOWNSVILLE GAMEFISHING CLUB FISHING RULES 2008/2009

20. **Final decision** – the Weighmasters and Judges decision will be final.
21. **Metal tags are no longer applicable** - for tagging billfish and points will not be counted. These tags may be used for tagging sharks only.
22. **Teams size for Monthly Competitions to accumulate boat score in other gamefish category** - the team size for scheduled monthly competitions is limited to 2 to 4 Anglers. 4 Angler's Scores in any one month will count toward the boat score for both that competition and yearly total. Where more than 4 people fish in a weekend team the scores excluded from the Boat Score will count towards the Angler's Individual scores. This does not apply to Bill Fish captured. All Bill Fish Captured will count towards boat score.
23. **Club Records** - the WeighMasters will maintain club records and these records will be categorised according to species and line class. The rules stated in the Australian Gamefishing Journal will apply to capture.
24. **Shark Records** – sharks & all other gamefish are now counted in TGFC Records.
25. In competitions where second prizes are to be awarded, anglers will be advised prior to start fishing.

PRIZE CATEGORIES FOR MONTHLY COMPS

- 1st Billfish Tagged on Saturday.....\$150 Cash/Cheque
- 1st Billfish Tagged on Sunday\$150 Cash/Cheque
- Highest Point Scoring Mackerel\$150 Cash/Cheque
- Highest Point Scoring Tuna\$150 Cash/Cheque
- Highest Point Scoring Other Gamefish...\$150 Cash/Cheque
- Highest Point Scoring Team \$150 Cash/Fuel Voucher
- Junior Encouragement Award.....Weighmaster to decide where applicable
- Small Fry AwardTBA

TROPHY LIST - PERPETUAL TROPHIES

1. **CLUB CHAMPION OVERALL** - Awarded to the angler (either male, female, junior or small fry) who has accumulated the most points as per TGFC annual club point scoring system.
2. **CLUB CHAMPION MALE** - Awarded to the male angler who has accumulated the most points as per TGFC annual club point scoring system.
3. **CLUB CHAMPION FEMALE** - Awarded to the female angler who has accumulated the most points as per TGFC annual club point scoring system.
4. **JUNIOR CHAMPION** - Awarded to the Junior angler (either male or female) who has accumulated the most points as per TGFC annual club point scoring system.
5. **SMALL FRY CHAMPION** - Awarded to the Small Fry angler (either male or female) who has accumulated the most points as per TGFC annual club point scoring system.
6. **CHAMPION BOAT** - Awarded to the boat that tallies the most points as per TGFC annual club point scoring system.
7. **CHAMPION SKIPPER** - Awarded to the skipper that tallies the most points as per TGFC annual club point scoring system.
8. **CHAMPION ANGLER (Bill Fish Only)** - Awarded to the angler who captures or tags and releases the most Bill Fish through our Financial Club Year.
9. **CHAMPION OF OTHER GAME FISH** - Awarded to the angler who accumulates the most points from tagging other GameFish as per TGFC annual club point scoring system.
10. **CLUBPERSON OF THE YEAR** - Awarded to the member who has made the most effort for the club throughout the fishing year and as voted by club members.

11. MOST MERITORIOUS CAPTURE

12. BALLS UP AWARD

OTHER TROPHIES

1. **RUNNER UP CLUB CHAMPION MALE**
Awarded to the male angler who has accumulated the second highest points as per TGFC annual club point scoring system.
2. **RUNNER UP CLUB CHAMPION FEMALE**
Awarded to the female angler who has accumulated the second highest points as per TGFC annual club point scoring system.

TOWNSVILLE GAMEFISHING CLUB FISHING RULES 2008/2009

scoring system.

3. **RUNNER UP JUNIOR CHAMPION**
Awarded to the Junior angler (either male or female) who has accumulated the second highest points as per TGFC annual club point scoring system.
4. **RUNNER UP SMALL FRY CHAMPION**
Awarded to the Small Fry angler (either male or female) who has accumulated the second highest points as per TGFC annual club point scoring system.
5. **RUNNER UP CHAMPION SKIPPER**
Awarded to the boat that tallies the second highest points as per TGFC annual club point scoring system.
6. **HEAVIEST MACKEREL**
Awarded to the angler who weighs the heaviest mackerel captured during designated monthly competitions. The fish must be line class to be eligible to weigh.
7. **HEAVIEST TUNA**
Awarded to the angler who weighs the heaviest Tuna captured during designated monthly competitions. The fish must be line class to be eligible to weigh.
8. **HEAVIEST OTHER GAME FISH**
Awarded to the angler who weighs the heaviest OTHER GAME FISH captured during designated monthly competitions. The fish must be line class to be eligible to weigh.
9. **FIRST BILL FISH TAGGED FOR THE YEAR**
Awarded to the angler who tagged the first Bill Fish for the Calendar year. The fish must have been tagged during designated monthly competitions and have been caught in waters local to Townsville.
10. **LAST BILL FISH TAGGED FOR THE YEAR -**
Awarded to the angler who tagged the last Bill Fish for the Calendar year. The fish must have been tagged during designated monthly competitions and have been caught in waters local to Townsville.