



## **BROOME FISHING CLUBS' 2025 BILLFISH CLASSIC incorporating, FATTY's DAY**

### **Briefing Night – Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July – 1730pm sharp**

The Broome Billfish Classic briefing night is compulsory for all anglers, including Fatty's Day anglers. An evening meal will be provided for all anglers and registered participants (extra tickets can be purchased for partners/family/friends but must be done prior to the briefing night).

Teams competing in the Broome Billfish Classic will receive a Billfish Classic boat pack, including: one shirt per angler, score sheets, NSW DPI Billfish Tags (for marlin only), an evening meal ticket for the briefing night, fishing days and presentation night and loads of goodies from our fabulous sponsors.

Teams competing in the Fatty's Day competition will receive a Fatty's Day boat pack, including score sheets, NSW DPI Billfish Tags (for marlin only), and an evening meal ticket for the briefing night, fishing day and presentation night.

\*Additional meal tickets must be purchased in advance for partners/family/friends who attend the briefing night, presentation night and evening meals at the Broome Fishing Club (cost \$20 per night adult; \$15pp per night child)

### **Fishing days & times**

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup> day of fishing and Fatty's Day Lines in 0730hrs and lines out 1600hrs

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – fishing continues Lines in 0700hrs and lines out 1600hrs

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Fishing continues – Lines in 0700hrs and Lines out 1400hrs

### **These rules will apply to both the Billfish Classic and Fatty's Day**

Only 10kg tournament line class and 10kg tippet for fly is allowed.

The Broome Billfish Classic incorporating Fatty's Day will be fished within the current angling rules and equipment regulations of the Game Fishing Association of Australia (GFAA). A copy of these rules will be included in the boat pack.

### ***In addition to GFAA rules the following rules will apply:***

Only monofilament nylon is to be used for leader and trace. Dacron wind on leaders will be acceptable.

Lures may only contain up to 2 hooks and can be either circle or J

Only ONE in line circle hook can be used for any bait

All anglers and nominated crew must be affiliated with WAGFA

Only one rod per angler may be in use at any given time

No live baits allowed

20m of 10kg line class is allowed over the top of braid

Sailfish are to be free released, and Marlin can either be free released or tagged using NSW DPI Billfish Tags as per the tagging section of these rules.

Tag poles must conform to GFAA regulations. Please refer to GFAA guidelines for tag needle specifications.

Tag poles must not exceed 10ft overall length. The tag pole or holding device must be in the hand when the fish is tagged. One or more persons, in addition to the person holding the leader, may tag or assist in tagging the fish. A fish is considered tagged when the tag is secured to the fish, and it is released alive.

***In addition to GFAA rules the following rules will apply:***

Shorter tag poles are recommended, as a shorter pole can achieve a more accurate tag placement. Please take your time when tagging fish. Good tag placement will not hurt a fish, but a poor tag placement may. If a billfish is hooked prior to lines out (1600hrs), the associated tagging/free release time for that billfish may extend past 1600hrs, however radio base must be notified before 1600hrs for the points to be awarded. The same rules apply for the last day; however, this must be done before 1400hrs.

**Compulsory scrutineering**

Checking of leaders will be conducted prior to the briefing night between 1630hrs and 1730hrs on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July. All teams must present one of their rods equipped with 10kg line, double, leader and hook rig. Fishing tackle and equipment must be made available for inspection if requested at the discretion of the Broome Billfish Committee at any time throughout the event.

**Fatty Albert Memorial Day Sail Past – COMPULSORY FOR ALL BOATS**

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July, all boats must gather in front of Cable Beach for the start of the sail past by 0615hrs. The flare will be fired at 0630hrs.

**Teams**

Only registered anglers and/or nominated skippers and deckhands may participate in any act which directly contributes to the free release or tag of a fish during the tournament. Acts include driving the boat, bait preparation, tagging fish, running out lines, retrieving lines, clearing teasers or taking the leader.

Teams may consist of no less than two anglers and have no more than four anglers.

Each team has the option to nominate an additional skipper and/or deckhand to assist the registered anglers.

Skippers and deckhands will pay a nominal fee to cover costs of included meals and a Billfish Classic shirt.

**Anglers**

Junior anglers must be under 16 on the first day of the competition, Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

Adult anglers are anyone who is 16 or over on the first day of the competition, Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

Senior anglers are anyone who is 55 or over on the first day of the competition, Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2025.

Anglers will only be eligible for prizes awarded in their entered category.

**Tagging & Score Sheets**

For research purposes we would like for all Marlin to be tagged, Marlin 5 kg and under should be hand tagged only. If the Marlin is deemed too small by the Skippers' discretion, it is preferable for the fish to be leadered and the hook removed. **Please avoid lifting any fish out of the water. This year we will be awarding points for both tagged and free release Marlin as per the scoring section.** Score sheets and any tag cards must be presented to the club before 1900hrs at the end of each day for points to be awarded. Should circumstances prevent this, base must be notified prior to 1800hrs. Please return all completed and unused tag cards to the radio room prior to the Presentation Night. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of July score sheets and tag cards must be in no later than 1700hrs. **Please have score sheets and tag cards to the club at your earliest convenience to help organisers prepare for presentation night.**

**Eligible Species & Points**

Free Released Sailfish – 500pts

Tagged Marlin – 1000pts

All size fish count

Free Released Marlin – 500pts

Tagged Spearfish – 1000pts

## Communication

All competing vessels must carry VHF radio in good working order. All competing vessels must always remain contactable via radio, with either radio base or another vessel. Failure to maintain radio contact may result in team disqualification. Radio base will monitor VHF Ch 22 from 0600hr until 1930hr or until all boats have signed off each day. All boats must notify radio base of departure and return each day. Radio base must be notified as soon as practical upon tagging/free releasing a billfish with time, boat name, angler name and species.

## Skeds

Radio skeds will be conducted each fishing day at 1000hr, 1300hr and 1600hr. Skeds on the last day the 23rd of July will be at 1000hr and 1400hr. Radio base will contact each boat for the following information: number of fish; raised, hooked up, and tagged/free released. Sked information is to be kept separate for each time period. That is, the number of fish reported during the skeds throughout the day is NOT cumulative.

## Judges

The Broome Billfish Classic Committee will appoint Judges. The judge's decision in relation to all disputes, protests and claims will be final and no correspondence will be entered into. Protests should be lodged in writing before 1900hrs on the day of the alleged incident and before 1700hrs on the last day. Officials will be present throughout the Broome Billfish Classic to scrutinise for breaches of rules.

## Safety & Regulations

All boats must carry all safety gear to the standard required by the Western Australian Department of Transport. [www.transport.wa.gov.au](http://www.transport.wa.gov.au). Furthermore, all boats must have at least one person with a valid Western Australian Department of Fisheries issued Recreational Fishing from Boat License.

*Disclaimer: All competitors taking part in the Broome Billfish Classic and Fatty's Day do so entirely at their own risk as the Broome Fishing Club will not be held responsible for any loss or damage sustained by any competitors or any other person to his or their own person and/or effects.*

## Presentation Night – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

An evening meal will be provided for all anglers and nominated skippers and deckhands (extra tickets must be purchased for partners/family/friends). Live entertainment will be provided.

### Billfish Classic Prizes

Champion Boat Overall – Perpetual Trophy  
Champion Boat 7.5mt and over  
R/Up Boat 7.5mt and over  
Champion Boat 6mt to 7.49mt  
R/Up Boat 6mt to 7.49mt  
Champion Boat under 6mt  
R/Up Boat under 6mt  
Champion Senior Angler  
R/Up Senior Angler  
Champion Male Angler  
R/Up Male Angler  
Champion Female Angler  
R/Up Female Angler  
Champion Junior Angler  
R/Up Junior Angler  
1<sup>st</sup> Billfish – Trophy Only

### Fatty's Day Prizes

Champion Boat Overall – Perpetual Trophy  
Champion Senior Angler  
R/Up Senior Angler  
Champion Male Angler  
R/Up Male Angler  
Champion Female Angler  
R/Up Female Angler  
Champion Junior Angler  
R/Up Junior Angler

**Any anglers who have travelled to Broome specifically to fish the Billfish Classic or Fatty's Day will go into a draw to share in \$1500 cash prizes.**



For further information please email [billfish@broomefishingclub.com.au](mailto:billfish@broomefishingclub.com.au) or visit the Broome Fishing Club website [www.broomefishingclub.com.au](http://www.broomefishingclub.com.au) or phone Tacka on 0439928361 or Tracey on 0438930319