

South Gippsland Game Fishing Club

Fishing Rules (revised February 2015)

1: Fishing Season

The fishing season shall be from 1st July to 30th June the following year.

- 2:** All statutory weights, lengths and state embargoes apply and take precedence over any of the following.
- (i) All species eligible for point score, capture and tag and release are those listed in the SGGFC Annual Report. For Victorian records check GFAV species list. For Australian records check the GFAA handbook.
 - (ii) The rules laid down at GFAA will apply at all times. Any amendments or change will apply as and when they are notified.
 - (iii) Land based captures in accordance with GFAA rules are eligible for point score.

3: Point Score.

- (i) (a) Points may be gained by an angler towards his or her point score total on any day, from any location between the start and end of the fishing season.
(b) Boat Championship points for capture are allocated as the total points gained from all fish captured on any SGGFC registered boat by SGGFC members only.
- (ii) (a) Boat Championship points for tag and release are allocated as the total points gained from all fish tagged and released on any SGGFC registered boat by SGGFC members only.
(b) Tag and release points are gained by an angler for fish tagged and released on any day, from any location between the start and end of the fishing season.
(c) There is a weight limit to tag and released fish, which will be given equivalent points for all line classes. The minimum tag weight for game fish is 3kg and all sharks 5kg.
- (iii) The committee may designate certain days on which bonus points will apply. Members will be notified of these days in advance via Southern Blues News.
- (iv) All designated competition days listed on the fishing calendar will be eligible for a bonus score of 10%.
- (v) Land based captures and tagging is eligible for a 10% bonus score.
- (vi) Victorian captures and tagging are eligible for a 10% bonus score.
- (vii) Club bonus and Victorian bonus points total 20%.
- (viii) Captures presented for SGGFC records that do not meet the requirements of rule **7a** will not be recognised for club or boat capture points.

4: Point Score Method.

- (i) Individual points and boat championship points are calculated from the following formula;

Points Score - Capture

Formula:

Weight of Fish X 100

_____ X Species Multiplier

Line Class

Species Multipliers:

- Billfish 1
- Gamefish 1.5
- Sharks 0.5 (Half points)
- Blue Sharks 0.25 (Quarter points)

SGGFC CAPTURES LIST

BILLFISH

Broadbill	Marlin, Blue	Sailfish
Marlin, Black	Marlin, Striped	Spearfish

SHARKS

Blue	Porbeagle	Whaler
Hammerhead	Thresher	
Mako	Tiger	

Gummy Sharks (For Record purposes only)
Tope / School Sharks (For Record purposes only)

TUNA

Albacore	Dog Tooth	Southern Bluefin
Big Eye	Kawa Kawa	Yellowfin
Bonito	Longtail	
Bluefin, Giant	Skipjack	

OTHER GAMEFISH SPECIES

Amberjack	Rainbow Runner	Trevally, Giant
Barracuda	Samson fish	Wahoo
Cobia	Tanguigue	Yellowtail Kingfish
Dolphin Fish	Trevally, Big Eye	

Eagle Rays (For Record purposes only)
Golden Trevally (For Record purposes only)
Mulloway (For Record purposes only)
Queenfish (For Record purposes only)
Snapper (For Record purposes only)
Threadfin Salmon (For Record purposes only)

FRESHWATER GAMEFISH SPECIES

Barramundi

Minimum weight of captures for Sharks is 20kg. Exceptions are Gummy Sharks & Tope which are **DOUBLE line class and are recorded for Records Only.**

Minimum line class for Gamefish is 2kg, and Sharks is 4kg.

CAPTURES:

**Maximum points applicable to any 1 fish –
Up to and including 10kg = 15,000 + 1 point per kg of fish weighed
15kg and over = 20,000 + 1 point per kg of fish weighed.**

All capture species are subject to current Government Legislation.

SGGFC TAG AND RELEASE POINTS

BILLFISH

Broadbill	10,000 pts
Marlin, Black	10,000 pts
Marlin, Blue	10,000 pts
Marlin, Striped	10,000 pts
Sailfish	10,000 pts
Spearfish	10,000 pts

SHARKS

Blue Shark	2,000 pts	* Gummy Shark	25 pts
Hammerhead Shark	3,000 pts		
Mako Shark	3,000 pts		
Porbeagle	3,000 pts		
School Shark / Tope	1,500 pts		
Thresher Shark	4,000 pts		
Tiger Shark	3,000 pts		
Whaler Shark	3,000 pts		

TUNA

Albacore	1,000 pts	* Bonito	25 pts
Big Eye Tuna	2,000 pts	* Kawa Kawa	25 pts
Bluefin Tuna, Giant	2,000 pts	* Skipjack Tuna	25 pts
Dog Tooth Tuna	2,000 pts		
Longtail Tuna	1,000 pts		
Southern Bluefin Tuna	2,000 pts		
Yellowfin Tuna	2,000 pts		

OTHER GAMEFISH SPECIES

Amberjack	500 pts	* Barracuda	25 pts
Cobia	500 pts	* Eagle Ray	25 pts
Dolphin Fish, Mahi Mahi	500 pts	* Mackerel, Broad Barred	25 pts
Kingfish, Yellowtail	1,000 pts	* Mackerel, Shark	25 pts
Mackerel, Narrow Barred	500 pts	* Mackerel, Spotted	25 pts
^ Mulloway / Jewfish	1,000 pts	* Queenfish	25 pts
Samson Fish	500 pts	* Rainbow Runner	25 pts
Tanguigue	500 pts	*^ Salmon, Australian	25 pts
Wahoo	500 pts	*^ Snapper	25 pts
		* Trevally, Big Eye	25 pts
		* Trevally, Giant	25 pts
		* Trevally, Gold Spot	25 pts
		* Trevally, Golden	25 pts
		*^ Trevally, Silver	25 pts

- * Species marked with an asterisk (*) are only eligible to be tagged by Small Fry's and Juniors.
- * Species marked with a caret (^) are only eligible to be tagged in Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia (south of the Tropic of Capricorn).

Refer to Tag and Release Species, Tag Types and Points for further information.

Minimum weight of any Gamefish species to be tagged is 3kg and Sharks is 5kg.

TAG AND RELEASE POINTS ARE:

- * Independent of the Line Class used, and
- * are NOT based on an estimated weight of the fish.

All tag and release species are subject to Government Legislation.

5: GFAA and GFAV Special Trophies.

- (i) Tag and release patches will be awarded to anglers who qualify as follows;
Bronze Patch – Tag and release of five fish of three separate species, including sharks.
Silver Patch – Tag and release of ten fish of five separate species, including sharks.
Gold Patch – Tag and release of fifteen fish of five separate species, including sharks. This award must include the tag and release of one billfish.
To qualify for the award, the angler must submit the following:
 - 1 – Species of fish
 - 2 – Date of tag and release
 - 3 – Serial number of tag cards submitted to N.S.W State Fisheries
 - 4 – Cheque for the amount as designated by GFAA for issue of patchAll applications for tag and release patches must be submitted through the SGGFC and GFAV so that records of fish tagged may be monitored.
- (ii) GFAA 20:1 Capture Patch.
- (iii) Ian Cutler tag and release annual trophy. Awarded for most points in Australian waters from 1st July to 30th June using GFAA species for point scoring system.
- (iv) Kel Taylor Trophy. Awarded for heaviest shark in Victorian waters.
- (v) Neville Dance Junior. Awarded for tag and release in open waters.
- (vi) John Bryant Trophy. Awarded for heaviest gamefish in Victorian Waters.
- (vii) GFAV Tag and Release. Awarded for Victorian waters.
- (viii) Other trophies as listed in the GFAA handbook.

5a: SGGFC Trophies.

- (i) Club trophies will be decided upon for the coming year at a General Meeting held prior to the commencement of the start of the fishing year.
- (ii) Club waters are defined as South of the N.S.W Northern border and to the Eastern W.A border.
- (iii) Victorian waters – anywhere in Victoria.
- (iv) All waters are defined as anywhere.
- (v) Boats must enter and leave at a port in the relevant “waters”.

6: Rules for SGGFC Weigh Person.

- (i) All captures weighed for SGGFC points or records must be on scale with current certificate of accuracy. If the scales do not have a current certificate the scales must be checked within 45 days of the capture and then sent to the club recorder. The capture will not be recognised until the recorder receives the certificate of accuracy.
- (i) SGGFC scales are to be controlled and used by club appointed weigh persons and/or weigh recorders only. Note: All committee members of SGGFC may act as honorary weigh persons in lieu of appointed weigh persons if necessary. (Rule 36 SGGFC Constitution).
- (ii) SGGFC scales must be currently certified and copies of certification shall be held together with the scales and with the current GFAA and GFAV Australian and Victorian Gamefish Records and Rules and current SGGFC Records and Rules.
- (iii) Weigh persons and/or recorders must observe strictly the rules for weighing of fish as listed in the current GFAA Australian Gamefish Records and Rules and must verify the angler has complied with the Angling Rules and Equipment Regulations laid down in current GFAA Records and Rules.
- (iv) Any person requiring that fish be weighed must provide proof of financial affiliation with GFAV or GFAA, or that the fish is required to be weighed for an IGFA record.

- (v) Fish that are required to be weighed must be classified as gamefish as laid down in the current GFAA Australian Gamefish Records and Rules, or the current IGFA records.
- (vi) SGGFC members shall NOT act as weigh persons or weigh recorders unless duly appointed at a general meeting held in the current fishing season, or unless appointed by committee for a specific SGGFC tournament or event.
- (vii) Refer to GFAA rules for weighing of fish in remote areas.
- (viii) All SGGFC members must be aware that weigh persons personal business shall take precedence over the weighing of fish.
- (ix) SGGFC shall accept fish that have been sectioned because the fish outweighs the maximum capacity of the scales. Provided that the fish is presented whole to the weigh master.

7: Information Required for Club points and Record Claims.

All claims capture forms for Club Point Score must be lodged within 21 days of capture. All details must be completed and witnessed.

- (i) For club recording purposes as per club capture form.
- (ii) GFAV and GFAA record claims as per GFAA Australian record claim form.
- (iii) IGFA record claims as per IGFA record claim forms. Note: It is the responsibility of the angler to ensure that all details on capture forms for record purposes are complete. These forms are available in your GFAA Records and Rules book.
- (iv) It is the anglers responsibility to ensure that all capture forms are in the hands of the club recorder or club secretary (PO Box 288, Leongatha 3953) or suitably postmarked within a period of 21 days complete in all details.
- (v) Late entries may be considered at the discretion of the committee after all extenuating circumstances have been investigated.
- (vi) Club capture certificates as used at tournaments or official capture lists will be accepted for club points. It is the anglers' responsibility to state on capture form if it is any type of record claim. For club record captures the GFAA record claim forms must be used.
- (vii) Sharks or Rays to be eligible for a vacant GFAA or GFAV record must be at least double the line class or tippet class in which the record is claimed. For SGGFC club purposes, Sharks weighing double of the line class will be recorded but must be a minimum of 20kg (For the law regarding the taking of Shark – Refer to Shark Identification Booklet).
- (vii) Fish weighing less that line class may be used for tag and release point score. For an IGFA world record capture, fish may weigh less than line class.
- (ix) The GFAA will record all Australian records and individual States will record State records independently. The IGFA will record and publish lists showing all world record records.
- (x) All record claim applications with line sample, photo and tackle samples as per GFAA book MUST be submitted to the club Secretary for processing, prior to submitting to the appropriate bodies. GFAA allow only fish weighing equal to, or in excess of, line class to be recorded for their record purposes. IGFA allow fish weighing less than the line class to be recorded.

7A CLUB RECORDS

- (i) SGGFC record claims will be assessed independently of any other or outside record claim on the same capture but will be required to meet all the requirements of the by-laws set out in rule 7A.
- (ii) It is the angler's responsibility to ensure all capture form are in hands of the club recorder or club secretary or suitability post marked within a period of not more than 21 days from the capture. Faxed copies will be accepted with original form to follow.
- (iii) Late entries may be considered at the discretion of the committee after all extenuating circumstances have been investigated.
- (iv) All SGGFC record claims must be submitted on the GFAA record claim form.

- (v) With the exception of the Statuary declaration the form must be complete including at least one photo of the fish and one photo of the weight reading on the scales.
- (vi) SGGFC record claims will not require line testing unless requested by the committee. If testing is requested it will be done at the expense of the angler.
- (vii) When claiming a SGGFC record 5 meters of the main line must be submitted with the appropriate paperwork and where the fish is also being claimed for a state or national record the next 5 meters of line after the GFAV/GFAA requirements must be used. The line sample will be kept by the club recorder and filed with the claim paperwork and will only be required to be tested if a protest is lodged against the capture.
- (viii) Traces, leaders or lures will not be required to be submitted with the claim form but must be checked by the weigh master.
- (xi) If the committee requires the line to be tested it will be done on a machine approved by the committee at the cost to the angler and must break under the line class claimed failure to do so will see the claim rejected.

8: Fishing Times.

On days specified by the committee as competition or bonus point score days, anglers may fish the location designated but fishing times will apply and fish caught only during the nominated times or hooked prior to the close of fishing will be eligible. Any fish hooked prior to the close of fishing must be notified to the radio boat and then may be fought and recorded. Fishing times and weighing closure times will be nominated by the committee prior to each outing. If no times are nominated by the committee then non-competitive fishing times will apply. NOTE: Non competition days fishing times are midnight to midnight.

9: Bad Weather.

In the event of bad weather the committee may decide to call off the competition in the interest of safety, anglers may however, fish at their own discretion and captures would be recorded towards his or her individual club point score, but would not include club outing bonus points.

10: Radio Procedures.

All registered club boats must be fitted with a marine radio comprising of at least 3 channels which must be 27.860, 27.880 and 27.940 Mhz. The following procedures shall be strictly followed;

- (i) A listening watch on 27.940 shall be maintained at all times during club competition. At other times a listening watch should be maintained on 27.880 as per Telecommunications Department procedures.
- (ii) All schedules shall be given at half past the hour on 27.940 on club outings or as indicated by tournament procedures for other days.
- (iii) Replies to schedule calls are to be brief; give boat name, location, strikes, hook-ups and captures.
- (iv) All competing boats shall sign off at the end of each day.
- (v) A radio boat will be appointed for competition days when the base station is not operating.
- (vi) All members are requested to listen to 27.880 during the official silence period from the hour to 5 minutes past. Other channels must not be used during this silence period. Return to 27.940 on completion of the silence period on competition days only.