



NEW BRITAIN GAME FISHING CLUB

48th GFA PNG National Game Fishing Titles 2025



48th GFA PNG Dunlop Billfish Shootout Rules

There will be only one prize, the HEAVIEST BILLFISH.

That Billfish must weigh minimum 96kg, or heavier to be eligible to win & collect the cash pool prize monies.

In the event there is no winning weighed marlin, then the winner will be declared on the highest accumulated billfish tag points; a) in accordance with the GFA PNG tag & release rules and 2) as per 24kg line class points of 700pts per fish.

If no winning marlin weighed, and in the event of a tie for tag points, the winner will be declared on "a count- back on the time, the first boat reached the winning points." Note, this time will be taken as the time recorded by the official Kokopo Base, and not the Skipper's time. The official time will be when the "fish has successfully been released, after the tag has been implanted", and not the time when the fish was tagged.

All Billfish species are eligible. Fish must be caught within the official NB GFC waters to qualify for the Dunlop Billfish Shootout prize money.

The Dunlop Billfish Shootout is a 24kg line class competition. Lighter line classes can be used; however, that line will be judged as 24kg. No heavier line class than 24kg will be permitted.

Each team will consist of a minimum of 2 anglers, and there will be no maximum, so long as the safety of the boat is not jeopardized. Team members must be affiliated with a GFA PNG Fishing Club or registered to fish in the 48th GFA PNG Kokopo National Game Fishing Titles.

There will be a shotgun start at 6.30am, for boats participating in the Dunlop Billfish Shootout. All boats must depart from the designated line up area off the Tropicana wharf. Boats can commence fishing once they have reached their destination, after the shotgun start. Details of the shotgun start will be provided at the briefing.

Stop fishing / lines out is at 16:30hrs and last weigh in will be at 18:30hrs.

Skipper's & Team Captains are reminded that boats must be within achievable reach of the Tropicana wharf by 18:30hrs, if they wish to fish till 16:30hr lines out call.

A late hook up and weigh in or tag & release will be permitted, providing.

- ✓ The fish was hooked up prior to lines out call.
- ✓ That boat hooked up in a grid location, in which the boat would have been back at Tropicana wharf (500mtrs) before 18:30hrs, at its recorded cruising speed and calculated traveling distance, at the time of the hook up call.
- ✓ There will be no weigh in deadline, for any Billfish hooked up prior to and fought after the lines out call.

All boats will be monitored by Kokopo Base radio on VHF channel 83, following the 2 hourly sked times.

Missing consecutive radio skeds may disqualify a boat and all fish. This will be at the discretion of the Shootout Committee.

Boats must ONLY report Billfish strikes, hook up and or capture or tagged





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For tagged fish, teams must provide a video of their Billfish when tagged and when released. The Shootout Committee will check all footage before declaring the winning team. The Shootout Committee's decision on the tag & release footage, will be final.

If a Billfish is boated, the complete fishing tackle (rod, lure, leader, wind-on + double line) must be retired, for inspection upon returning to the gantry. Failure to produce this, will result in disqualification of that fish.

Once a Billfish is boated, the Skipper and or Team Capt. must confirm the short length of the fish via Channel 83 and the Skipper's WhatsApp Group (official tape measures will be provided). This is to prevent other Teams from boating smaller fish thereafter. Failure to advise and show the accurate short length without an acceptable reason, will result in disqualification of that fish.

The Dunlop Billfish Shootout boat or teams cannot claim any Billfish captures or points, as part of their National Titles scores or prize categories.

There will be two (2) cash prize pools on offer for the Dunlop Billfish Shootout

- Entry fee pool money – awarded to the registered / actual boat owner
- Calcutta pool money – awarded to the highest bidder of the winning boat
- If it is the same person, then he/she collects both cash pool prizes

Entry Fee is K1,000 per boat. Entry fee is not permitted to be transferred to another boat after the Calcutta is held. Only boats that have paid in full and been auctioned off in the Calcutta can compete in the Dunlop Billfish Shootout.

If a registered boat fails to fish in the Dunlop Billfish Shootout Day, for any reason, their registration fee plus monies paid for during the Calcutta, will not be reimbursed.

The Calcutta pool money will be the accumulated cash, of all the winning bids of each boat.

For both the entry fee plus Calcutta bidding cash pool monies, the NBGFC will retain 10% of both funds collected.

Protests – Any protest must be lodged in writing prior to 19:00hrs. In the event of a fish still being fought after last weigh in, then the protest lodgment must be prior to final inspection of all footage and the terminal tackle.

The Dunlop Billfish Shootout Committee will be made up of the following.

- NB GFC Tournament Director
- 2x NB GFC Executive Committee Members
- GFA PNG Representative (if required)

NB GFC Tournament Director

