



Whitsunday Game Fish Club

(reviewed 25/6/2025)

Whitsunday Game Fish Club Inc.
P.O. Box 120 Cannonvale 4802
QLD

President:	Ashley Matthews	0427 524975
Vice President:	Justin Butler	0418 622224
Secretary:	Steve Obst	0408 006774
Treasurer:	Stacey Gerhart	0427 467377
Weighmaster	Gavin Smith	0438 631105
Club Captain	Matt Bird	0414 516958

Fishing Boundaries

Area bounded between:-

Latitudes 21°00'000s – 19°00'000s

East of Long 148°00'000.



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ELIGIBLE PRIZE WINNING CATEGORIES

A fishing year for Whitsunday GFC aligns with that of the QGFA, and runs from 1st July to the 30th June the following year, the categories that run for each fishing year are:-

----- GAME FISHING SECTION -----

1. Champion Male Angler (open to all male anglers)
2. Runner up champion Male angler.
3. Champion Female Angler (open to all female anglers)
4. Runner up champion female angler.
5. Champion Junior Angler (open to all Junior anglers (11-16yrs- @ July1)
6. Runner up Junior Angler.
7. Champion Small Fry Angler (open to all small fry anglers only (<11yrs @ July1)
8. Runner up Small Fry Angler
9. Champion Angler – Tag & Release (open to all anglers)
10. Champion Boat over 7mtrs
11. Champion boat under 7mtrs
12. Runner up Champion boat Over 7mtrs
13. Runner up Champion boat Under 7 mtrs
14. Champion Angler – Outside Whitsunday GFC Boundaries
15. Champion Angler - Billfish

The points score system for the Whitsunday GFC is outlined on the next page. For any fish to be eligible for an annual points score, the following game fishing rules as outlined in this book, (which are those of the QGFA & GFAA) must be adhered to.



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CALCULATING POINT SCORES

CAPTURE POINTS

1. All fish must be legal length or longer.
2. All fish weighed must meet or exceed line class and use the following calculation for point score.
3. Juniors and small fry can weigh fish that are a minimum of 50% (half) the line class and are only eligible for club points.
4. For gilled and gutted fish add 10% of the weight to the total weight then use calculation

BILLEISH.

$$\frac{\text{FISH WEIGHT} \times 200}{\text{LINE CLASS}}$$

ALL OTHER GAME FISH

$$\frac{\text{FISH WEIGHT} \times 100}{\text{LINE CLASS}}$$

TAG POINTS

Minimum size fish 60cm

BILL FISH.

1kg = 2200points
2kg = 2000 points
3kg = 1800 points
4kg = 1600 points
6kg = 1400 points
8kg = 1200 points
10kg = 1000 points
15kg = 800 points
24kg = 600 points
37kg = 400 points
60kg = 200 points

OTHER GAME FISH

1kg = 220 points
2kg = 200 points
3kg = 180 points
4kg = 160 points
6kg = 140 points
8kg = 120 points
10kg = 100 points
15kg = 80 points
24kg = 60 points
37kg = 40 points
60kg = 20 points



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RULE BOOK



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There are 3 types of tags

Pelagic Tags
(for Tunas, Mackerels, Wahoos, etc..)



Steel Headed Shark Tags
(For Sharks only)



Billfish Tags
(for Marlin & Sailfish)



How to make a tag pole

Attach the tag applicator to the end of a broom handle or similar pole. For billfish and shark applicators, drill a small hole in the end of the pole and secure the applicator in position using a strong epoxy based glue. Large and small pelagic applicators, are generally whipped to the end of the pole using nylon line and again secured with glue. For billfish ensure that approximately 75mm* of the applicator needle is exposed to ensure that tags are inserted the correct depth into the fish. For sharks and other game fish, ensure that approximately 50mm* of the applicator needle is exposed. Secure the tag to the pole with a rubber band or similar.





Whitsunday Game Fish Club

RULE BOOK

Tag Cards & QGFA Angler Activity Record Book

Whitsunday GFC will issue members with NSW Department of Primary Industries tag cards and a QGFA Boat/ Angler Activity Record Book. Only NSW Dept. of Primary Industry tag cards can be used to be eligible for points scoring in the Whitsunday GFC. Only Game fishing information is to be recorded on the Activity Record sheets.

All tags are issued to individual members of the club (normally the owner of a boat) and a record is maintained by the Whitsunday GFC weighmaster of who has been allocated with which tags. Each member that has been issued with tags will also be issued with a **QGFA Boat/ Angler Activity Record Book**.

BOAT / ANGLER ACTIVITY RECORD

DATE: 27.09.03 BOAT: *Rock Hunter* CLUB: *SCGFC*

No. of persons on board inc. crew: 7 Hours on the water: 10 1/2

Strike	Hit	Cap/Tag	Method	Time	Species	Tag No.	Est. Weight	Line Class	Angler	Cat.	Location	Club Points
✓	✓	1	D	8.45	Black Marlin	S123456	30	8	<i>John Seidlitz</i>	SM	Tonco	50
✓	✓	C	B	8.55	Celac			6	<i>Brian Jones</i>	SM	Tonco	100
✓	✓	C	B	9.12	Sailfin						Cape Monaro	
✓	✓	C	B	9.17	Sailfin						Cape Monaro	
✓	✓	1	B	1.02	Sailfin	S123457	25	8	<i>Mary Blush</i>	GF	Madroalua	70
✓	✓			1.45	Hoffman Fox Tuna						Madroalua	
✓	✓	1	C	3.16	Black Marlin	S123458	40	10	<i>Thomas White</i>	DM	Hean	100
✓	✓		D	3.55	Black Marlin						Hean	
✓	✓		C	4.05	Delphinus Fish						Cadogan	
✓	✓		C	4.05	Delphinus Fish						Cadogan	
✓	✓	C	C	4.05	Delphinus Fish		4.5	8	<i>Sam Owen</i>	SF	Cadogan	10

SIGNATURES
Boat Captain: *Celine Hunter*
Club Captain: *John Clifton*

METHOD OF CAPTURE / TAG
TROLL: (A) Live Bait DRIFT: (D) Live Bait ANCHORED: (G) Live Bait
(B) Dead Bait (E) Dead Bait (H) Dead Bait
(C) Lure (F) Lure (I) Lure

PLEASE RETURN THE 2 (TWO) TOP COPIES TO YOUR CLUB CAPTAIN / WEIGH MASTER

Processing Completed Tag Cards and Activity Records

ALL tag cards and Activity record sheets must be fully completed before being submitted (this data is being used for scientific research and must be accurate and complete as this is the reason we are supplied these tags and record books free of charge)

ALL completed tags cards and the first 2 copies (Yellow & White) of each activity record must be fully completed and returned to the Whitsunday GFC weighmaster for processing within 1 month of the date of the fishing trip.

NSW Department of Primary Industries
www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing or +61 832 4424 7421
Tag to be used in Australia only

NO S 629021

DATE: / / TIME: / / LAT: LONG: LOCATION: / /

SPECIES: / / WEIGHT: / / LENGTH: / /

METHOD: / / LINE CLASS: / / GEAR: / /

YOUR LOCATION: / /

ANGLER NAME: / / PHONE: / /

SEX: / / DATE BORN: / /

REMARKS: / /

NO S 268826

DATE: / / TIME: / / LAT: LONG: LOCATION: / /

SPECIES: / / WEIGHT: / / LENGTH: / /

METHOD: / / LINE CLASS: / / GEAR: / /

YOUR LOCATION: / /

ANGLER NAME: / / PHONE: / /

SEX: / / DATE BORN: / /

REMARKS: / /

NO S 433443

DATE: / / TIME: / / LAT: LONG: LOCATION: / /

SPECIES: / / WEIGHT: / / LENGTH: / /

METHOD: / / LINE CLASS: / / GEAR: / /

YOUR LOCATION: / /

ANGLER NAME: / / PHONE: / /

SEX: / / DATE BORN: / /

REMARKS: / /



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The Whitsunday GFC weighmaster will then process the activity records and tag cards in the Whitsunday GFC database and the QGFA game base database and then forward the record sheets and tag cards to the QGFA recorder for further checks and processing. The Whitsunday GFC weighmaster must have these items processed, mailed to and received by QGFA by the close of the month following the date of the fishing trip.

Lost Tags/ Unwanted Tags

If you lose a tag, return the incomplete tag card with "Tag lost" clearly written on the tag card to the weighmaster for processing.

If you decide you no longer need any tags (eg if you leave the club) please return the tags (& cards) to the weighmaster so they can be reissued to another member.

If you need to give your tags to another angler, provide a list of serial numbers handed over and the individual's name the tags were given to, to the weighmaster, so the club's database can be updated.

Billfish tags are of particular concern of ownership for the club as Whitsunday GFC are only issued with a limited amount of billfish tags from the QGFA for all of our members. If you fail to return tag cards for processing or give away tags to members of another club and the Whitsunday GFC cannot display where our tags have been used, you will be taking away the opportunity for other club members (or yourself) to be issued with billfish tags in the future.



Whitsunday Game Fish Club

RULE BOOK

GFAA ANGLING RULES **& EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS**

The Angling Rules and Regulations have been formulated to promote ethical and sportsman-like angling practices, to establish uniform regulations for the compilation of Australian Game Fish Records and to provide basic angling guidelines for use in fishing tournaments and any other group angling activity.

The word "angling" is defined as catching or attempting to catch fish with a rod, reel, line and hook as outlined in the G.F.A.A Angling Rules and Equipment Regulations. However, there are some aspects of angling that cannot be controlled through rule-making. Angling Rules cannot ensure an outstanding performance from each fish and Australian records cannot indicate the amount of difficulty in catching the fish.

Captures in which the fish has not fought or has not had a chance to fight do not reflect credit on the angler, and only the angler can properly evaluate the degree of achievement in establishing the record.

Only fish caught in accordance with G.F.A.A. Australian Angling Rules, and within the intent of these rules will be considered for Australian Records.

Equipment Regulations

A. LINE

1. Monofilament, multifilament, and lead core multifilament lines may be used. For line classes, see Australian Record Requirements.
2. Wire lines are prohibited.

B. LINE & BACKING

1. The use of backing is permissible.

- C.** The catch shall be classified under the breaking strength of the line directly preceding the double, leader, and hook. This section must be comprised of a single homogenous piece of line. (For record claims, 16m of the single line must be supplied).



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D. DOUBLE LINE

The use of a double line is not required. If one is used, it must meet the following specifications.

1. A double line must consist of the actual line used to catch the fish.
2. Double lines are measured from the start of the knot, braid, roll or splice making the double to the furthestmost end of the knot, splice, snap, swivel or other device used for securing the trace, leader, lure or hook to the double line.

Saltwater Species: In all line classes up to and including 10kg (20lb), the double line shall be limited to 4.57m (15ft). The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 6.1m (20ft).

The double line on all classes of tackle over 10kg (20lb) shall be limited to 9.14m (30ft). The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 12.19m (40ft).

Freshwater Species: The double line on all classes of tackle shall not exceed 1.82m (6ft). The combined length of the double line and the leader shall not exceed 3.04m (10ft).

E. LEADER

The use of a leader is not required. If one is used, it must meet the following specifications:

1. The length of the leader is the overall length including any lure, hook arrangement or other device, and is measured to the bend in the last hook. The leader must be connected to the line with a snap, knot, splice, swivel or other device. Holding devices are prohibited. There are no regulations regarding the material or strength of the leader.

Saltwater Species: In all line classes up to and including 10kg (20lb), the leader shall be limited to 4.57m (15ft). The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 6.1m (20ft).

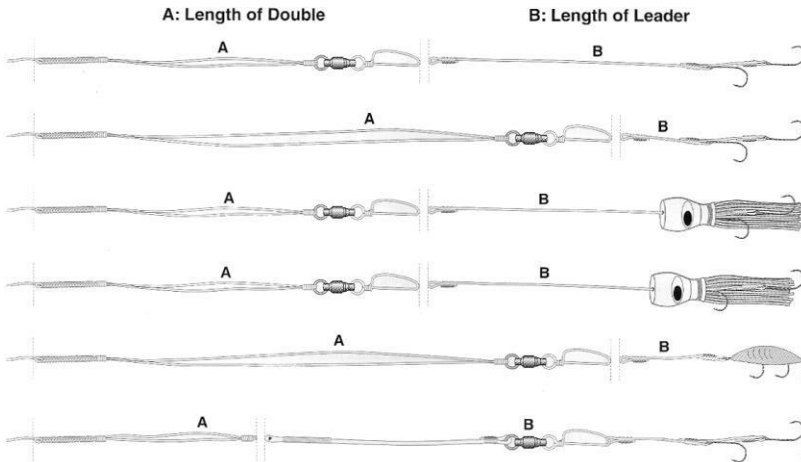
The leader on all classes of tackle over 10kg (20lb) shall be limited to 9.14m (30ft). The combined length of the double line and leader shall be limited to 12.19m (40ft).

Freshwater Species: The leader on all classes of tackle shall be limited to 1.82m (6ft). The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 3.04m (10ft).



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F. ROD

1. Rods must comply with sporting ethics and customs. Considerable latitude is allowed in the choice of rod, but rods giving the angler an unfair advantage will be disqualified. This rule is intended to eliminate the use of unconventional rods.
2. The rod tip must be a minimum of 101.6cm (40in) in length. The rod butt cannot exceed 68.58cm (27in) in length. These measurements must be made from a point directly beneath the centre of the reel. A curved butt is measured in a straight line. (The above measurements do not apply to surf-casting rods.)

G. REEL

1. Reels must comply with sporting ethics and customs.
2. Power driven reels of any kind are prohibited. This includes motor, hydraulic or electrically driven reels and any device which gives the angler an unfair advantage.
3. Ratchet handle reels are prohibited.
4. Reels designed to be cranked with both hands at the same time are prohibited.

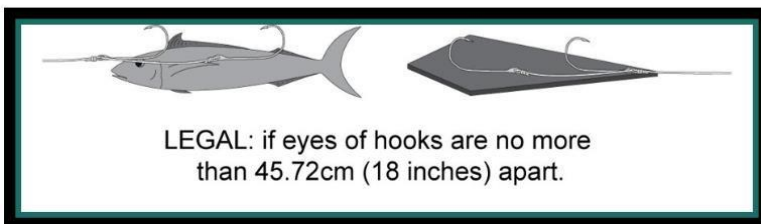
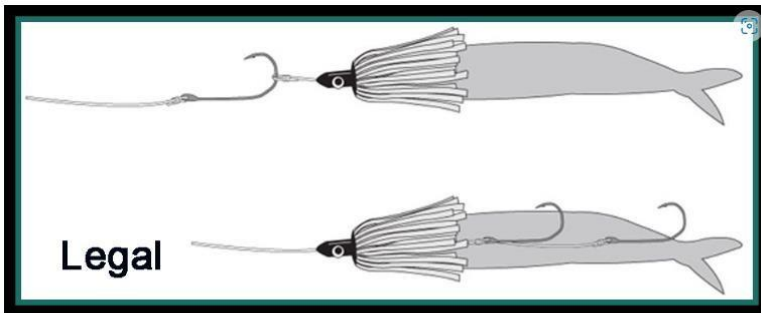


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H. HOOKS FOR FISHING WITH NATURAL BAIT

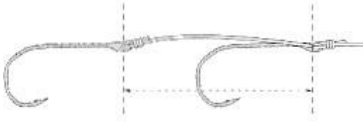
1. For live or dead bait fishing no more than two single hooks may be used. Both must be firmly imbedded in or securely attached to the bait. The eyes of the hooks must be no less than a hook's length (the length of the largest hook used) apart and no more than 45.72cm (18in) apart. The only exception is that the point of one hook may be passed through the eye of the other hook.
2. The use of a dangling or swing hook is prohibited. Double and treble hooks are prohibited.
3. A two-hook rig for bottom fishing is acceptable if it consists of two single hooks on separate leaders or drops. Both hooks must be imbedded in the respective baits and separated sufficiently so that a fish caught on one hook cannot be foul-hooked by the other.
4. All record applications made for two hook tackle must be accompanied by a photograph or sketch of the hook arrangement.
5. A lure may be used in conjunction with a natural bait, provided the hook satisfies the requirements of hooks for fishing with natural baits (g) & the lure touches the bait during normal fishing/trolling practices. The hook must NOT precede the bait/lure combo by more than the length of the hook.





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NOT LEGAL: if eyes of hooks are more than 45.72cm (18 inches) apart.

LEGAL: if eyes of hooks are less than 45.72cm (18 inches) apart.



NOT LEGAL: if eyes are less than hook's length apart.



LEGAL: if eyes are no less than hook's length apart and no more than 45.72cm (18 inches) apart.



LEGAL: point of one hook may be passed through eye of other hook.

Note: hooks connected in this way are ganged hooks and not to be confused with gang hooks in Rule H2.



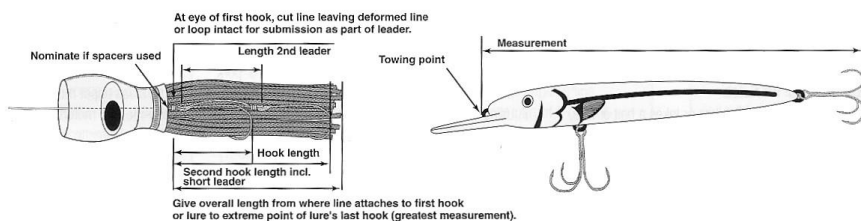
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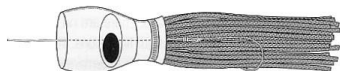
I. HOOKS AND LURES

1. When using an artificial lure with a skirt or trailing material, no more than two single hooks may be attached to the line, leader or trace. The hooks need not be attached separately. The eyes of the hook must be no less than an overall hook's length (overall length of the largest hook used) apart and no more than 30.48cm (12in) apart. The only exception is that the point of one hook may be passed through the eye of the other hook. The trailing hook may not extend more than a hook's length beyond the skirt of the lure. A photograph or sketch showing the hook arrangement must accompany the record application.

Hooks and Lures



When submitting a drawing or photograph of a lure, the above information is required.



LEGAL: if the hook is wholly contained within the skirt of the lure.



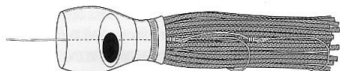
LEGAL: if the hook is partially contained within the skirt of the lure.



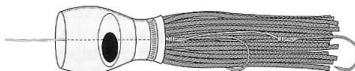
NOT LEGAL: if the hook is not partially or wholly contained within the skirt of the lure.



NOT LEGAL: the trailing hook must be at least partially within the skirt of the lure.



LEGAL: if the leading hook and the trailing hook are entirely within the skirt of the lure.



LEGAL: if all of the leading hook and some of the trailing hook is within the skirt of the lure.



LEGAL: if eyes are no less than hook's length apart and no more than 30.48cm (12 inches) apart.



LEGAL: point of one hook may be passed through eye of other hook.



NOT LEGAL: if eyes are less than hook's length apart.



NOT LEGAL: if eyes of hooks are more than 30.48cm (12 inches) apart.
LEGAL: if eyes of hooks are less than 30.48cm (12 inches) apart.

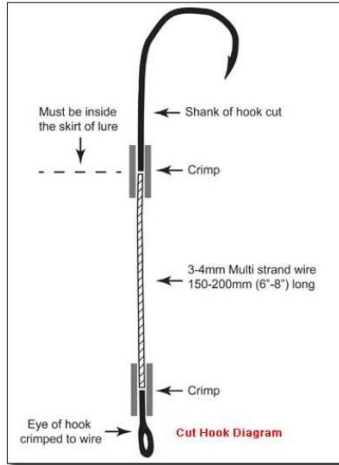


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Clarification: If a hook is cut, then the length of the hook will be deemed to be to the cut – anything beyond the cut will be deemed as leader. See illustration 01.

Illustration 01





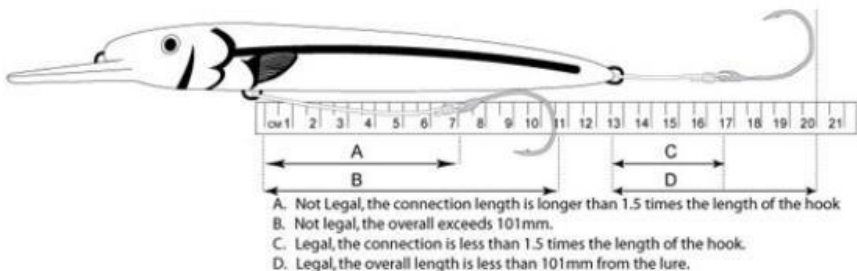
Whitsunday Game Fish Club

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2. Gang (double or treble) hooks are permitted when attached to plugs and other artificial lures that are specifically designed for this use. Gang hooks must be free swinging and shall be limited to a maximum of three hooks (either single, double or treble, or a combination of any three). Bait may not be used with gang hooks.

3. Clarification: Assist hooks or other such single hooks that are attached to a lure with a lead constructed of monofilament, multifilament, wire or other such material must conform to the following: When using assist hooks on any artificial lure, other than a skirted lure, the lead cannot be more than 1 1/2 hook's length and the bend of the hook must not be more than 4 inches (101mm), whichever is less from the closest point of attachment on the lure. Double and treble hooks may not be used as assist hooks. See Illustration 02.

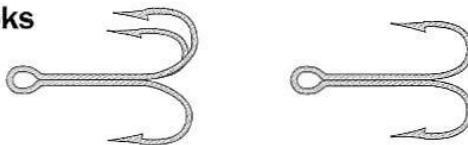
Illustration 02



4. A photograph or sketch of the plug or lure must be submitted with record applications.

5. A gang hook in the intent of this rule is a hook with two or more prongs. (ie. multi-pointed hook, not to be confused with ganged hooks as per diagram in Rule G.1.)

Gang Hooks





Whitsunday Game Fish Club

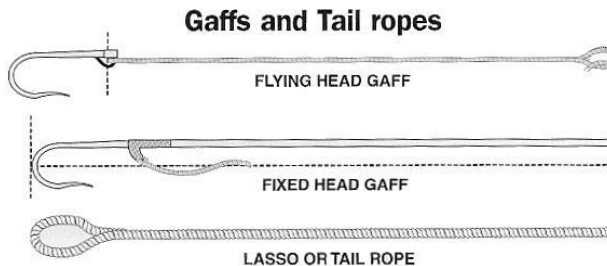
RULE BOOK

I. OTHER EQUIPMENT

1. Fighting chairs may not have any mechanical propelled devices which aid the angler in fighting a fish.

2. Gimbals must be free-swinging, which includes gimbals that swing in a vertical plane only. Any gimbal that allows the angler to reduce strain or to rest while fighting the fish is prohibited.

3. Gaffs and nets used to boat or land a fish must not exceed 2.44m (8ft) in overall length. (When fishing from a bridge, pier, or other high platform or structure, this length limitation does not apply.) In using a flying or detachable gaff the rope may not exceed 9.14m (30ft). The gaff rope must be measured from the point where the rope is secured to the detachable head to the other end. Only the effective length will be considered. If a fixed head gaff is used, the same limitation shall apply and the gaff rope shall be measured from the same location on the gaff hook. Only a single hook is permitted on any gaff. Harpoon or lance attachments are prohibited. Tail ropes are limited to 9.14m (30ft).



4. Floats are prohibited with the exception of any small floatation device attached to the line or leader for the sole purpose of regulated the depth of the bait. The floatation device must not in any way hamper the fighting ability of the fish.

5. Entangling devices, either with or without a hook, are prohibited and may not be used for any purpose including baiting, hooking, fighting, or landing the fish.

6. Outriggers, downriggers and kites are permitted to be used provided that the actual fishing line is attached to the snap or other release device, either directly or with some other material. The leader or double line may not be connected to the release mechanism either directly or with the use of connecting device.

7. Any devices used in conjunction with a lure that could impede the fighting ability of the fish **MUST** be on a breakaway system.

8. A safety line may be attached to the rod provided that it does not in any way assist the angler in fighting the fish.



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Angling Regulations

1. From the time a fish strikes or takes a bait or lure, the angler must hook, fight and land or boat the fish without the aid of any other person, except as provided for in these Regulations.

(CLARIFICATION to ANGLING RULE 1.) If the mate is letting out a bait or lure and the reel is in free spool, the rod can be put back in the cover board. This situation is legal Under NO circumstances can any drag be put on the reel or the rod handed to another person. The rationale is that the hook has not been set with the reel out of gear. When retrieving a bait or lure the fish would be disqualified immediately if the rod is put back into the cover board or transferred to another person as the reel is in gear and the hook has been set.

2. If a rod holder is used and a fish takes the bait or lure, the angler must remove the rod from the holder as quickly as possible.

3. In the event of a multiple strike on separate lines being fished by a single angler, only the first fish fought will be considered for an Australian record.

4. If a double line is used, the intent of the Regulations is that the fish is to be fought on the single line most of the time that it takes to land the fish.

5. The harness may be replaced or adjusted by a person other than the angler.

6. Use of a rod belt or waist gimbal is permitted.

7. When angling from a boat, once the leader is brought within the grasp of the mate, or the end of the leader is wound to the rod tip, more than one person is permitted to hold the leader.

8. One or more gaffers may be used in addition to persons holding the leader. The gaff handle must be in hand when the fish is gaffed.

9. The Angling Rules and Equipment Regulations shall apply until a fish is weighed.



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THE FOLLOWING ACTS WILL DISQUALIFY A CATCH:

1. Failure to comply with equipment or angling regulations.
2. The act of persons other than the angler in touching any part of the rod, reel, or line (including the double line) either bodily or with any device during the playing of the fish, or in giving any aid other than that allowed in the rules and regulations. If any obstacle to the passage of the line through the rod guides has to be removed from the line, then the obstacle (whether berley, floatline, rubber band, or other material) shall be held and cut free. Under no circumstances should the line be hold or touched by anyone other than the angler during this process..
3. Resting the rod in a rod holder, on the gunwale of the boat, or any other object while playing the fish.
4. Hand lining or using a handline or rope attached in any manner to the angler's line or leader for the purpose of holding or lifting the fish.
5. Shooting, harpooning, or lancing any fish (including sharks) at any stage of the catch.
6. Berleying with or using as bait the flesh, blood, skin or any other part of mammals other than hair or pork rind used in lure designed for trolling or casting.
7. Using a boat or device to beach or drive a fish into shallow water in order to deprive the fish of its normal ability to swim.
8. Changing the rod or reel while the fish is being played.
9. Splicing, removing or adding to the line while the fish is being played.
10. Intentionally foul-hooking a fish.
11. Catching a fish in a manner that the double line never leaves the rod tip.
12. Using a size or kind of bait that is illegal to possess.
13. Attaching the angler's line or leader to part of the boat or other object for the purpose of holding lifting the fish.
14. If a fish escapes before gaffing or netting and is recaptured by any method other than as outlined in the angling rules.
15. The act of any person touching any part of the leader when striking or hooking a fish.
16. Holding or touching an angler in a manner that assists them in fighting the fish or takes pressure off the angler. Touching or briefly holding the angler to prevent them from falling does not constitute a disqualification.



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THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS WILL DISQUALIFY A CATCH:

1. When a rod breaks (while the fish is being played) in a manner that reduces the length of the tip below minimum dimensions or severely impairs its angling characteristics.
2. Mutilation to the fish, prior to landing or boating the catch, caused by sharks, other fish, mammals, or propellers that remove or penetrate the flesh. (Injuries caused by leader or line, scratches, old healed scars or regeneration deformities are not considered to be disqualifying injuries.) Any mutilation of the fish must be shown in a photograph and fully explained in a separate report accompanying the record application.
3. When a fish is hooked or entangled on more than one line.



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Guidelines for Tag & Release

1. All G.F.A.A. angling rules and equipment regulations apply until the fish is tagged.
2. Tag poles must not exceed 4.57m (15ft) overall length.
3. The tag pole or holding device must be in the hand when the fish is tagged.
4. One or more persons, in addition to the person holding the leader, may tag or assist in tagging the fish.
5. Pelagic & Shark tags. The tag needle must not protrude more than 50mm from the end of the tag pole or tag holding device, nor shall it exceed 5mm in diameter.
6. Billfish only tag: the tag needle must protrude a min. 45mm and no more than 76mm from the end of the tag pole or tag holding device, nor shall it exceed 6mm in diameter.
7. A fish is considered tagged and released when the tag is secured to the fish and released alive.

RULES FOR TAG & RELEASE AND MEASURE & RELEASE

1. (a) No tournament shall be approved by a State Association that awards points for free release for GFAA tag species. No Tag & Release points shall be awarded in State Association-approved tournaments unless GFAA approved tags are used.
2. All Billfish **MUST** be tagged with the NSW DPI Billfish only Tag. This is the only tag that will be recognised for billfish in any tournament, competition, point scoring or trophies. Plastic tags are to be only used for pelagic and other species as listed. Steel tags are to be only used for sharks and rays.

THE FOLLOWING ACTS WILL DISQUALIFY A TAG & RELEASE:

1. Failure to comply with G.F.A.A. angling rules and equipment regulations or tournament tag & release rules.
2. Failure to comply with all other regulations that disqualify a capture.
3. Use of a gaff (other than a jaw release device for the purpose of tagging (eg. Bogga Grip).



Whitsunday Game Fish Club

RULE BOOK

Rules For Fly Fishing

EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS

A. LINE

Any type of fly line and backing may be used. The breaking strength of the fly line and backing are not restricted.

B. LEADER

Leaders must conform to generally accepted fishing customs.

The leader includes a class tippet and, optionally, a shock tippet. A butt or taper section between the fly line and the class tippet shall also be considered part of the leader, and there are no limits on its length, material, or strength.

A class tippet must be made of non-metallic material and either attached directly to the fly or to the shock tippet if one is used. The class tippet must be at least 38.10cm (15in) long (measured inside connecting knots). With respect to knotless, tapered leaders, the terminal 38.10cm (15in) will also determine tippet class. There are no maximum length limitation. The breaking strength determines the class of the tippet.

A shock tippet, not to exceed 30.84cm (12in) in length, may be added to the class tippet and tied to the lure. It can be made of any type of material, and there is no limit on its breaking strength. The shock tippet is measured from the eye of the hook to the single strand of class tippet and includes any knots used to connect the shock tippet to the class tippet.

In the case of the tandem hook fly, the shock tippet shall be measured from the eye of the leading hook.

C. ROD

Regardless of material or number of sections, rods must conform to generally accepted fly fishing customs and practices.

A rod shall not measure less than 1.82m (6ft) in overall length. Any rod that gives the angler an unsporting advantage will be disqualified. Extension butts are limited to 15.24cm (6in).



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D. REEL

The reel must be designed expressly for fly fishing. There are no restrictions on gear ratio or type of drag employed, except where the angler would gain an unfair advantage. Electric or electronically operated reels are prohibited.

E. HOOKS

A conventional fly may be dressed on a single hook or double hook or two single hooks in tandem. The second hook in any tandem fly must not exceed beyond the wing material. The eyes of the hooks shall be no farther than 15.24cm (6in) apart. Treble hooks are prohibited.

F. LURES

The lure must be a recognised type of artificial fly, which includes streamer, bucktail, tube fly, wet fly, dry fly, nymph, popper and bug. The use of any other type of lure or natural or preserved bait, either singularly or attached to the fly, is expressly prohibited.

The fact that a lure can be cast with a fly rod is not evidence in itself that it fits the definition of a fly. The use of any lure designed to entangle or foul-hook a fish is prohibited.

No scent, either natural or artificial, is allowed on flies. The use of scented material on a fly is prohibited.

G. GAFFS & NETS

Gaffs and nets used to boat or land a fish must not exceed 2.44m (8ft) in overall length. (When fishing from a bridge, pier or other high stationary structure, this length limitation does not apply.)

The use of a flying gaff is not permitted. Only a single hook is permitted on any gaff. Harpoon or lance attachments are prohibited.

A rope or any extension cannot be attached to the gaff.



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H. 15kg Category Rules

1. 15kg tippet is for billfish & sharks only.
2. Shock tippet length not to exceed 100cm (1m).
3. A minimum 500cm of fly line must be used.
4. Flying gaffs are permitted for this line class only.
5. All other GFAA rules and regulations for fly fishing apply.

Angling Regulations

1. The angler must cast, hook, fight, and bring the fish to gaff or net unaided by any other person. No other person may touch any part of the tackle during the playing of the fish or give aid other than taking the leader for gaffing or netting purposes.
2. Casting and retrieving must be carried out in accordance with normal customs and generally accepted practices. The major criterion in casting is that the weight of the line must carry the lure rather than the weight of the lure carrying the line. Trolling a lure behind a moving water craft is not permitted. The craft must be completely out of gear both at the time the fly is presented to the fish and during the retrieve. The maximum amount of line that can be stripped off the reel is 36.57m (120ft) from the lure.
3. Once a fish is hooked, the tackle may not be altered in any way, with exception of adding an extension butt.
4. Fish must be hooked on the lure in use. If a small fish takes the lure and a larger fish swallows the smaller fish, the catch will be disallowed.
5. One or more people may assist in gaffing or netting the fish.
6. The angling and equipment regulations shall apply until the fish is weighed.



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THE FOLLOWING ACTS WILL DISQUALIFY A CATCH:

1. Failure to comply with equipment or angling regulations.
2. The act of persons other than the angler in touching any part of the rod, reel, or line either bodily or with any device during the playing of the fish, or in giving any aid other than that allowed in the rules and regulations. If an obstacle to the passage of the line through the rod guides has to be removed from the line, then the obstacle shall be held and cut free. Under no circumstances should the line be held or touched by anyone other than the angler during this process.
3. Resting the rod on any part of the boat, or on any other object while playing the fish.
4. Hand lining or using handline or rope attached in any manner to the angler's line or leader for the purposes of holding or lifting the fish.
5. Intentionally foul-hooking or snagging a fish.
6. Shooting, harpooning, or lancing any fish (including sharks) at any stage of the catch.
7. Berleying with flesh, blood, skin or any part of mammals.
8. Using a boat or device to beach or drive a fish into shallow water in order to deprive the fish of its normal ability to swim.
9. Attaching the angler's line or leader to part of a boat or other object for the purpose of holding or lifting the fish.
10. If a fish escapes before gaffing or netting and is recaptured by any method other than as outlined in the angling rules.
11. Holding or touching an angler in a manner that assists them in fighting the fish or takes pressure off the angler. Touching or briefly holding the angler to prevent them from falling does not constitute a disqualification.

THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS WILL DISQUALIFY A CATCH:

1. When a rod breaks (while the fish is being played) in a manner that reduces its length below minimum dimensions or severely impairs its angling characteristics.
2. When a fish is hooked or entangled on more than one line.
3. Mutilation to the fish, prior to landing or boating the catch, caused by sharks, other fish, mammals, or propellers that remove or penetrate the flesh. (Injuries caused by leader or line, scratches, old healed scars or regeneration deformities are not considered to be disqualifying injuries.) Any mutilation of the fish must be shown in a photograph and fully explained in a separate report accompanying the record application.



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