

WHITSUNDAY GAMEFISH CLUB

RULE BOOK
2025/26





Whitsunday Game Fish Club



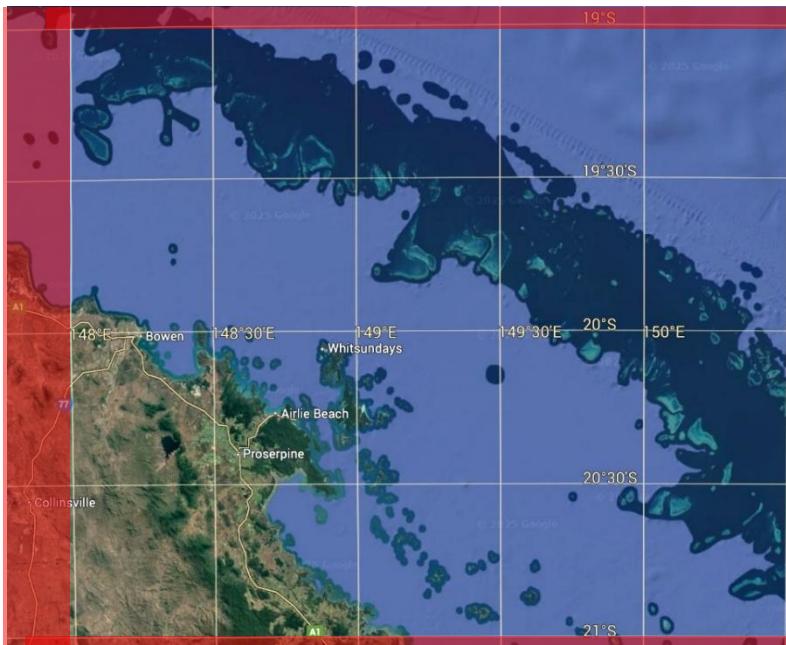
Whitsunday Game Fish Club Inc.
P.O. Box 120 Cannonvale 4802
QLD

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 631195
Club Captain	Matt Bird	0414 516958
Committee	Gareth Trefz	0455 516696
Committee	Dave Cranmer	0439 044516

Fishing Boundaries

Area bounded between: -

Latitudes 21°00'000s – 19°00'000s
East of Long 148°00'000.





Whitsunday Game Fish Club



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. Champion Angler – Outside Whitsunday GFC Boundaries
14. 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.

Categories

- **Senior Male** – male person s who have attained the age of 16 years and over
- **Senior Female** – female person s who have attained the age of 16 years and over
- **Juniors** – male and female person s who have attained the age of 11 years but not yet attained the age of 16 years.
- **Small Fry** - male and female persons who have not yet attained the age of 11 years.



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

BILLFISH.

FISH WEIGHT X 200
LINE CLASS

ALL OTHER GAME FISH

FISH WEIGHT X 100
LINE CLASS

TAG POINTS

Light Tackle – Inside outer reef

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



Whitsunday Game Fish Club



TAG POINTS

Heavy Tackle – Outside outer reef

BILL FISH.

15kg = 1500 points
24kg = 1300 points
37kg = 1000 points
60kg = 800 points

Yellowfin, Longtail, Dogtooth Tuna

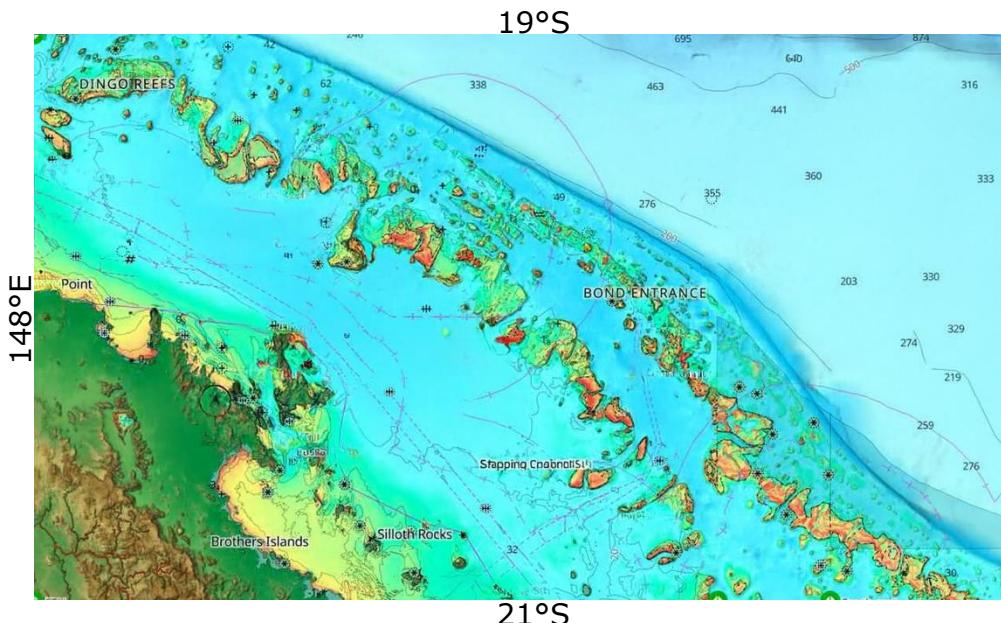
(Half points for Tuna & Other species not going better than line class)

15kg = 800 points
24kg = 600 points
37kg = 300 points
60kg = 100 points

Other Gamefish

(Half points for Tuna & Other species not going better than line class)

15kg = 300 points
24kg = 200 points
37kg = 100 points
60kg = 50 points





Whitsunday Game Fish Club



ELIGIBLE SPECIES



GFAA/ QGFA ELIGIBLE SPECIES FOR CAPTURE AND TAG & RELEASE



Common Name	Scientific Name	Capture	Tag & Release	T&R Min. Length	Common Name	Scientific Name	Capture	Tag & Release	T&R Min. Length					
SALTWATER SPECIES														
ALBACORE	<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Y	Y	60+	SPEARFISH Shortbill	<i>Tetrapturus angustirostris</i>	Y	Y	60+					
AMBERJACK	<i>Seriola dumerillii</i>	Y	Y	60+	TAILOR	<i>Pomatomus saltatrix</i>	Y	N						
BARRACUDA	<i>Sphyraena barracuda</i>	Y	Y	60+	TREVALLY, Big Eye	<i>Caranx sexfasciatus</i>	Y	Y	60+					
BLACK JEW FISH	<i>Prionotus diacanthus</i>	Y	N		TREVALLY, Brassy (Tea Leaf)	<i>Caranx papuensis</i>	Y	N						
BONEFISH	<i>Albula vulpes</i>	Y	N		TREVALLY, Giant	<i>Caranx ignobilis</i>	Y	Y	60+					
BONITO	<i>Sarda spp.</i>	Y	Y	60+	TREVALLY, Gold Spot	<i>Caranx fulvoguttatus</i>	Y	Y	60+					
BROADBILL (Swordfish)	<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Y	Y	60+	TREVALLY, Golden	<i>Gracilimodon speciosus</i>	Y	Y	60+					
BUTTERFLY MACKEREL	<i>Gasterochismus melampus</i>	Y	N		TREVALLY, Silver	<i>Pseudocaranx dentex</i>	Y	Y	45+					
CHINAMAN*	<i>Symphorus nematophorus</i>	Y	N		TUNA, Bigeye	<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	Y	Y	60+					
COBIA	<i>Rachycentron canadum</i>	Y	Y	60+	TUNA, Dogtooth	<i>Gymnosarda unicolor</i>	Y	Y	60+					
EAGLE RAY	<i>Myliobatis australis</i>	Y	Y	60+	TUNA, Kawa Kawa (Mac Tuna)	<i>Euthynnus affinis</i>	Y	Y	60+					
KINGFISH, Yellowtail	<i>Seriola lalandi</i>	Y	Y	70+	TUNA, Longtail (Northern Bluefin)	<i>Thunnus tongol</i>	Y	Y	60+					
MACKEREL, Broad Barred (Grey Mackerel)	<i>Scomberomorus semifasciatus</i>	Y	Y	60+	TUNA, Pacific Bluefin	<i>Thunnus thynnus orientalis</i>	Y	Y	60+					
MACKEREL, Narrow Barred (Spanish Mackerel)	<i>Scomberomorus commerson</i>	Y	Y	60+	TUNA, Skipjack	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	Y	Y	60+					
MACKEREL, Shark	<i>Grammatotrygon bicarinatus</i>	Y	Y	60+	TUNA, Southern Bluefin	<i>Thunnus maccoyii</i>	Y	Y	60+					
MACKEREL, Spotted	<i>Scomberomorus spp.</i>	Y	Y	60+	TUNA, Yellowfin	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Y	Y	60+					
MAHI MAHI (Dolphin Fish)	<i>Coryphaena spp.</i>	Y	Y	60+	WAHOO	<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>	Y	Y	60+					
MARLIN, Black	<i>Makaira indica</i>	Y	Y	60+	FRESHWATER SPECIES									
MARLIN, Pacific Blue	<i>Makaira mazara</i>	Y	Y	60+	BARRAMUNDI	<i>Lates calcarifer</i>	Y	N						
MARLIN, Striped	<i>Tetrapturus audax</i>	Y	Y	60+	BASS, Australian	<i>Macquaria novocaledonica</i>	Y	N						
MULLOWAY (Jewfish)	<i>Argyrosomus hololepidotus</i>	Y	Y	70+	CARP	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	Y	N						
QUEENFISH	<i>Scomberoides spp.</i>	Y	Y	60+	CATFISH, Freshwater	<i>Tandanus tandoanus</i>	Y	N						
RAINBOW RUNNER	<i>Elagatis bipinnulatus</i>	Y	Y	60+	MANGROVE JACK	<i>Lutjanus argentimaculatus</i>	Y	N						
SAILFISH	<i>Istiophorus platypterus</i>	Y	Y	60+	MURRAY COD	<i>Maccullochella peelii</i>	Y	N						
SALMON, Australian	<i>Arripis trutta</i>	Y	Y	50+	PERCH, English (Redfin)	<i>Perca fluviatilis</i>	Y	N						
SALMON, Threadfin	<i>Polynemus spp. & Eleutheronemus</i>	Y	N		PERCH, Estuary	<i>Macquaria colonorum</i>	Y	N						
SAMSON FISH	<i>Seriola hippos</i>	Y	Y	60+	PERCH, Golden	<i>Plectropterus ambiguus</i>	Y	N						
SHARK, Blue	<i>Prionace glauca</i>	Y [#]	Y	100+	PERCH, Silver	<i>Bidyanus Bidyanus</i>	Y	N						
SHARK, Grey Nurse	Protected Species - Records Closed	N	N		SALMON, Atlantic	<i>Salmo salar</i>	Y	N						
SHARK, Gummy	<i>Mustelus antarcticus</i>	Y [#]	Y	100+	SALMON, Chinook	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	Y	N						
SHARK, Hammerhead	<i>Sphyrna spp.</i>	Y [#]	Y	100+	SARATOGA	<i>Scleropages</i>	Y	N						
SHARK, Mako	<i>Isurus spp.</i>	Y [#]	Y	100+	TENCH	<i>Tinca tinca</i>	Y	N						
SHARK, Porbeagle	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Y [#]	Y	100+	TROUT Brook	<i>Salvelinus Fontinalis</i>	Y	N						
SHARK, School (Tope)	<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>	Y	Y	100+	TROUT, Brown	<i>Salmo trutta</i>	Y	N						
SHARK, Thresher	<i>Alopias spp.</i>	Y [#]	Y	100+	TROUT, Rainbow	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	Y	N						
SHARK, Tiger	<i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i>	Y [#]	Y	100+	*									
SHARK, Whaler	<i>Carcharhinus spp.</i>	Y [#]	Y	100+	#									
SHARK, White	Protected Species - Records Closed	N	N		In accordance with Qld legislation, Chinaman are not to be taken in Qld waters									
SNAPPER	<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	Y	Y	60+	# In accordance with Qld legislation, sharks over 1.5m in length are not to be taken in Qld waters.									
SPANGLED EMPEROR	<i>Lethrinus Nebulosus</i>	Y	N		Tag colour code indicates tag type to use. BILLFISH, PELAGIC, SHARK									

NSW DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES GAME FISH TAGS



BILLFISH TAG



PELAGIC TAG



SHARK TAG



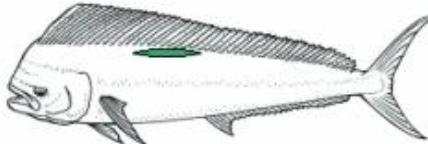
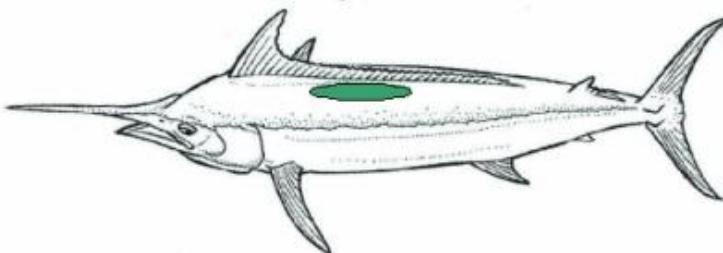
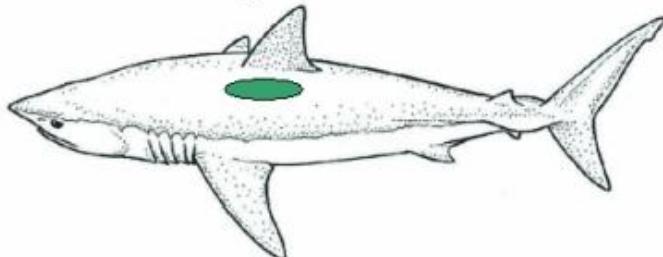
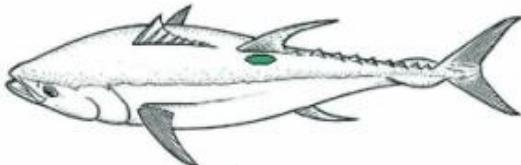


Whitsunday Game Fish Club



Recommended tagging areas

The images below show the recommended tagging areas on game fish:





Whitsunday Game Fish Club



There are 3 types of tags

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



Steel Headed Shark Tags
(For Sharks only)

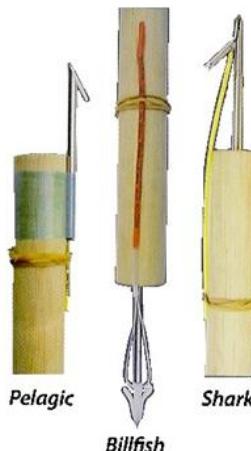


Billfish Tags
(for Marlin & Sailfish)



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



Tag Cards & QGFA Angler Activity Record Book

WGFC 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 WGFC. 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 WGFC weighmaster, 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**.

DO NOT tag any species of fish with the incorrect type of tag. Follow "QGFA eligible species for capture and tag & release" table on Page 4 for tag types and minimum sizes for tagging.

The WGFC is only issued limited numbers of tags and cannot receive more tags until stocks are utilised and returned. If members fail to return tag cards for processing or give away tags to members of another club and the WGFC 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.

BOAT / ANGLER ACTIVITY RECORD

DATE: 27.09.03 BOAT: Reef Hunter CLUB: SCGF

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

Strike	Hup	Cap/ Tag	Method	Time	Species	Tag No.	Est. Weight	Line Class	Angler	Cat.	Location	Club Points
✓	✓	D	4.45		Black Marlin	SI23458	30	8	John Swillens	SM	Tunack	750
✓	✓	C	8.55		Cobia		12	6	Brian Green	SM	Tunack	200
✓	✓	C	9.12		Sailfish					SM	Cape Moreton	
✓	✓	C	10.1		Sailfish					SM	Cape Moreton	
✓	✓	T	8	1.22	Sailfish	SI23457	25	8	Mary Black	SF	Mooloolaba	750
✓	✓	B	1.45		Gafftop Sir Tuna					SM	Mooloolaba	
✓	✓	T	3.95		Black Marlin	SI23458	40	10	Tunabig White	SM	Mess	500
✓	✓	D	3.95		Black Marlin		35			SM	Mess	
✓	✓	C	4.05		Dolphin Fish					SM	Coolangat	
✓	✓	C	4.05		Dolphin Fish					SM	Coolangat	
✓	✓	C	4.05		Dolphin Fish		4.5	8	Sue Green	SF	Coolangat	100

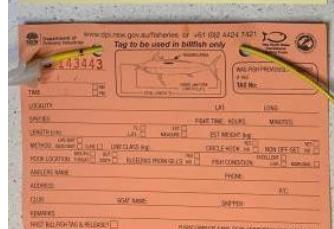
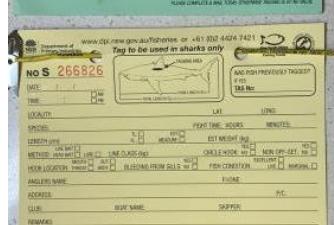
SIGNATURES

Boat Captain: Colin Hunter METHOD OF CAPTURE / TAG

Club Captain: Jelka Ciziger

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





Whitsunday Game Fish Club



Processing Completed Tag Cards and Activity Records

ALL tag cards and Activity record sheets must be fully completed and entered in GAMEBASE before being submitted to WGFC (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 14 days of the date of the fishing trip.

For fishing activity to be recognized for WGFC monthly fishing awards they must be received no later than the 7th day of the following month. The Whitsunday GFC weighmaster will then approve the activity records and tag cards in the Whitsunday GFC database and the QGFA game base database and forward the record sheets and tag cards to the QGFA recorder for further checks and processing. The WGFC 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/Unwanted/Transferred 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 member of the WGFC, the following must be provided to a WGFC Weighmaster within 7 days so records can be updated.

- Name of WGFC member Tag Cards were given to
- Serial numbers of Tag Cards
- Date tags were transferred



Whitsunday Game Fish Club



GFAA ANGLING RULES & EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS

Rules and Equipment Regulations

The following Angling Rules and Regulations have been formulated to promote ethical and sportsmanlike angling practices, to establish uniform regulations for the compilation of Australian Gamefish 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 GFAA 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 GFAA Australian Angling Rules and within the intent of these rules will be considered for Australian records.

Line, Backing, Double, Leader

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 and backing

1. The use of backing is permissible.
2. 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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(c) 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 furthermost 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).

(d) Leader

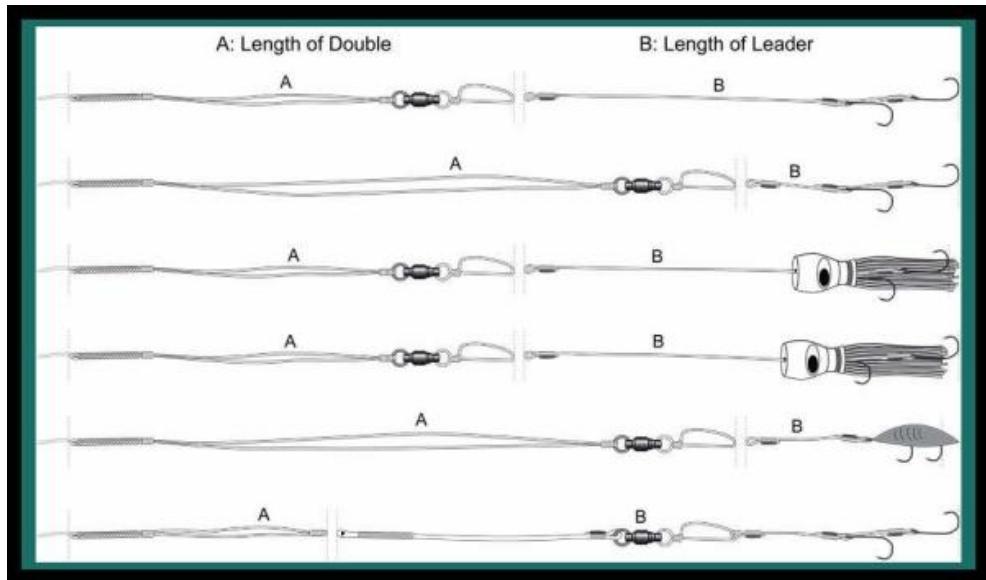
The use of a leader is not required. If one is used, it must meet the following specifications: 1. The length of the leader is the overall length, including any lure, hook arrangement

or other device, and is measured to the bend of 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).



Whitsunday Game Fish Club



Rod, Reel

(e) 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. (Above measurements do not apply to surf-casting rods.)

(f) 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 that 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.



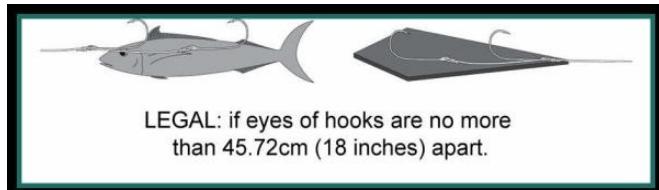
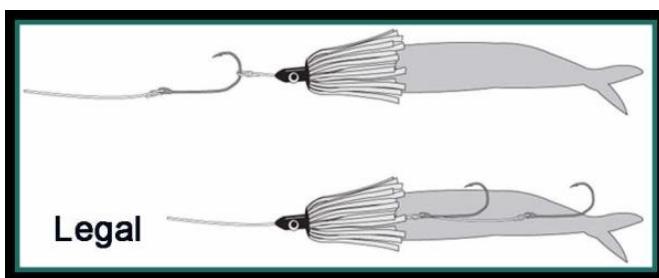
Whitsunday Game Fish Club



Hooks for fishing with natural bait

g) 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 or bait/lure combo by more than the length of the hook

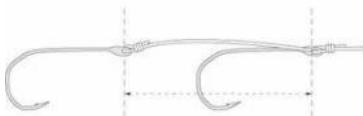




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LEGAL: if eyes of hooks are no more than 45.72cm (18 inches) apart.



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.



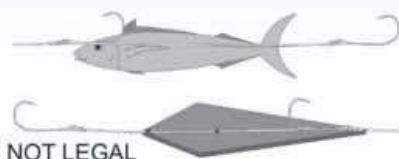
NOT LEGAL: if eyes are less than hook's length apart.



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.



NOT LEGAL



Whitsunday Game Fish Club



Hooks and Lures

(h) Hooks and lures

When using an artificial lure with a skirt or trailing material:

1. 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.

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.

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. 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 11/2 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.

A photograph or sketch of the plug or lure must be submitted with record applications. A gang hook in the intent of this rule is a hook with two or more prongs (i.e.: multi-pointed hook, not to be confused with ganged hooks as per diagram in Rule G1).



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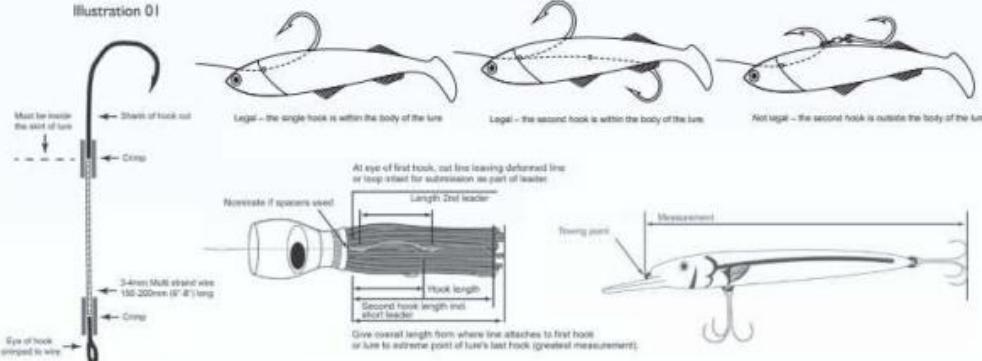


Illustration 02



- A. Not legal, the connection length is longer than 1.5 times the length of the hook.
- B. Not legal, the overall length exceeds 101mm.
- C. Legal, the connection is less than 1.5 times the length of the hook.
- D. Legal, the overall length is less than 101mm from the line.

Illustration 01



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.



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 hook is partially contained within the skirt of the lure.



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



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

Gang hooks



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



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



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





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Hooks and Lures

At eye of first hook, cut line leaving deformed line or loop intact for submission as part of leader.

Nominate if spacers used

Length 2nd leader

Second hook length incl. short leader

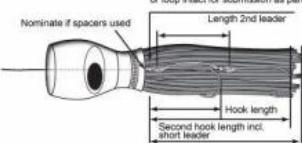
Hook length

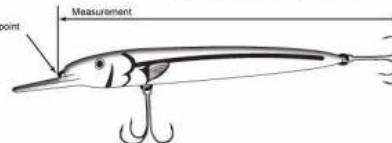
Towing point

Measurement

Give overall length from where line attaches to first hook or lure to extreme point of lure's last hook (greatest measurement).

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 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.



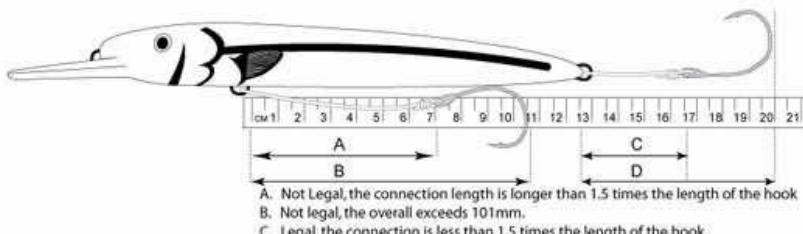
NOT LEGAL: If eyes are less than hook's length apart.



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.

Illustration 02





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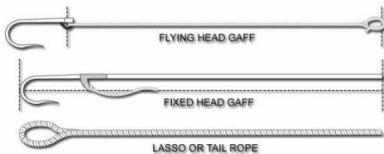


Other Equipment

(i) Other equipment

1. Fighting chairs may not have any mechanical propelled devices that 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).

Gaffs and Tail Ropes



4. Floats are prohibited with the exception of any small flotation device attached to the line or leader for the sole purpose of regulating the depth of the bait. The flotation 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 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.



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

ANGLING RULES

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 for 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.

Disqualifying Acts & Situations

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 intentionally 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



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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 held or touched by anyone other than the angler during this process. 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.

3. Resting the rod in a rod holder, on the gunwale of the boat or any other object while playing the fish.
4. Handlining 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 lures 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 or 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.

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



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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.

GUIDELINES FOR TAG & RELEASE

1. All GFAA Angling Rules and Equipment Regulations apply until the fish is tagged.
2. Tagpoles must not exceed 4.57m (15ft) overall length.
3. The tagpole 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 tagpole or tag holding device, nor shall it exceed 5mm in diameter.
6. Billfish only tag: The tag needle must protrude a min 45mm & no more than 76mm from the end of the tag pole or 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
1. (b) Measure & Release is allowed for species that have been determined by the GFAA from time to time – see section titled GFAA eligible gamefish for Measure & Release and section Guidelines for Measure & Release.

Note:

- (i) All GFAA Angling & Equipment regulations shall apply.
- (ii) All applicable Tag & Release rules shall apply – ie items 1, 2 & 3 of the acts that disqualify a Tag & Release.



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- (iii) No fish can be released after measurement unless it is in a healthy and vigorous state.
- (iv) The GFAA Measure & Release card is to be used to record species release information.

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 GFAA angling rules and equipment regulations or tournament tag and 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 e.g. Boga-Grip.)



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FLY ANGLING RULES

Fly Fishing – Angling Rules

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 watercraft 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 the 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.

Fly Fishing – Disqualifying Acts & Situations

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 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. Handlining 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.



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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:

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.

When a fish is hooked or entangled on more than one line.

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.