



# NGFC 2021 EAST COAST CLASSIC TOURNAMENT & AIBT

## Registration Form

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021



Boat Name:		Club:	
Boat Mobile Ph:		Boat Make/Size:	

Please tick if berth required + Captain to contact NCYC Marina Manager to arrange berth 0408 299512

**PLEASE NOTE:** Berth is NOT secured until full tournament entry payment has been received.

### CAPTAIN:

Name:		Club:	
Address:			
Mobile Ph:		Email:	

**ANGLERS:** Minimum 2 "Adult anglers" including Captain for vessels under 8 metres; Minimum 4 "Anglers" including Captain for vessels 8 metres and over. All persons involved in effecting either the capture or tag and release of a fish must be a registered/paid angler. Please indicate whether angler is Adult Male (M), Adult Lady (L), Junior (J) or Small Fry (SF). Please also list date of birth in the case of Junior & Small Fry anglers.

Name:		Club:		M/L/J/SF		DOB	
Name:		Club:		M/L/J/SF		DOB	
Name:		Club:		M/L/J/SF		DOB	
Name:		Club:		M/L/J/SF		DOB	
Name:		Club:		M/L/J/SF		DOB	
Name:		Club:		M/L/J/SF		DOB	

### ENTRY FEES:

Captain + Adult Male and Female Anglers ( includes presentation ticket & breakfast vouchers )	\$170.00 pp	Qty:
Junior & Small Fry Anglers ( includes presentation ticket & breakfast vouchers )	\$50.00 pp	Qty:
Additional presentation dinner tickets (Non-Anglers)	\$40.00 pp	Qty:
<b>2021 Australian International Billfish Tournament ( AIBT )</b> <b>Must be a paid entrant in the 2021 ECC to validate AIBT entry</b>	\$100 per Boat	Qty:
<b>TOTAL: \$</b>		

Entry forms can be submitted by post or email & paid by completing the details below.

**Bank Deposit** – Bank Details: **Greater Building Society** A/c Name - NGFC BSB 637 000 A/c No - 721827852

**Reference:** Your Last Name & Boat name. Send this form & receipt of payment to [accounts@ngfc.com.au](mailto:accounts@ngfc.com.au)

**Paying by Cheque / Cash** – Please make all cheques payable to Newcastle Game Fishing Club Inc. & deliver application form + payment to the NCYC Office upstairs at the Marina.

PHONE: 0412 127400

EMAIL: [accounts@ngfc.com.au](mailto:accounts@ngfc.com.au)

# NGFC 2021 EAST COAST CLASSIC TOURNAMENT & AIBT

2 | [Type text]

## Boat Safety Rescue Form

### DESCRIPTION OF VESSEL:

Name: ..... Make: ..... Reg. No: .....  
Length: ..... Colour - Hull: ..... Deck: .....  
Colour – Flybridge: ..... Distinctive Features or Markings: .....  
Superstructure: ..... Hull Material: .....  
Engine Type: ..... Number: ..... Horsepower: ..... Fuel Type:.....  
Capacity: .....Range:..... Cruising Speed: ..... Max Speed: .....

### CONTACT DETAILS:

Captain Name: ..... Mobile: .....  
Owner Name (if not captain): ..... Mobile: .....  
Address: ..... Postcode: .....  
Home Ph: ..... Business Ph: ..... Email: .....  
Emergency Contact Name (not on-board vessel): ..... Tel: .....

### VESSEL INSURANCE:

Insurance Company: ..... Policy Number: .....  
Expiry Date: ..... Public Liability: \$.....

**PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF INSURANCE POLICY'S CERTIFICATE OF CURRENCY ( P/L Minimum \$10 million )**

### SAFETY AND EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT:

Please tick the applicable boxes and provide relevant details.

Flares: Yes [  ] No [  ] Details - Parachute [  ] Smoke [  ] Colour: .....

Life Raft: Yes [  ] No [  ] Type: ..... Capacity: ..... Colour: .....

Life Buoy: Yes [  ] No [  ] Number: ..... Make: ..... Colour: .....

Life Jackets: Yes [  ] No [  ] Number: ..... Type: ..... Colour: .....

Radios: 27 MHz: Yes [  ] No [  ] VHF: Yes [  ] No [  ] SSB HF: Yes [  ] No [  ] Frequencies: .....

EPIRB: Yes [  ] No [  ] Number: ..... Type: .....

Radar: Yes [  ] No [  ] Type: ..... Range: .....

GPS: Yes [  ] No [  ] Type: .....

Depth Sounder: Yes [  ] No [  ] Type: ..... Depth: .....

Compass: Yes [  ] No [  ] Type: .....

Food on Board: Yes [  ] No [  ] Number of Days: ..... Water on Board: ..... Litres

**My crew and I agree to abide by the Rules of the Tournament and understand that any clarification required will be provided by the Tournament Committee. On behalf of me and my crew, we agree that participation is at our own risk and that the holding of the Tournament is not to be construed as an invitation to go to sea, or stay at sea, in conditions beyond the capability of the vessel or its crew.**

**NGFC reserves the right to refuse entry to the tournament.**

**Captain's signature accepting above:** ..... **Date:** .....



Proudly invites you to attend the

# **2021 EAST COAST CLASSIC TOURNAMENT** **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

## **BRIEFING**

**NOTE:** The cut off for entries will be **THURSDAY 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 7.30pm (including online registration)**. This is to alleviate cueing at the Yacht Club prior to briefing due to Covid restrictions. We will have committee members at the Yacht Club to take entries on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March.

Briefing is to be held at the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club (NCYC), Wickham at **7:00pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021**. Those unable to attend the briefing will have to pick up their bags at the weigh station or make arrangements with tournament officials to pick up their tournament bags on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March. **NOTE:** Late entrants will need to download a sched map from the NGFC website until their bag is collected to be aware of the Tournament waters.

## **MANDATORY SAIL PAST - SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021**

Boats will assemble to the West of Dyke Point prior to 7.00 am on **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March** (Day 2). The Sail Past shall commence at 7.00 am precisely and shall be in single file order astern of the nominated lead boat and hold order till proceeding through the heads. Once clear of the heads, turn to their Port & congregate in Stockton Bight. **ALL BOATS MUST NOT PROCEED PAST AN IMAGINARY LINE BETWEEN THE TIP OF THE NORTHERN BREAKWALL & THE NGFC BOUY TO THE NORTH.** A Marshall boat will be used to guide boats to the starting "line" outside the heads. No promotional flags/banners/branding are to be flown / displayed other than official tournament sponsors. **A breach of this rule will incur a penalty.** Radio silence on all tournament frequencies from 7.00am until completion of the sail past is requested. All boats are requested to monitor 27.94MHz, & VHF Channel 80 during this time. **Failure to attend and / or adhere to sail past rules & instructions will incur a penalty.**

On **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March**, fishing will commence when boats are signalled by Game Fish Base to Start Fishing, Start Fishing, Start Fishing.

## **FISHING TIMES**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – 8.00am until 5.00pm.**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – After Sail Past - Approx. 8.00am until 5.00pm.**

**\*NOTE:** ALL TAG AND RELEASE CARDS + CAPTURE CERTIFICATES MUST BE PRESENTED AT THE **NGFC** WEIGH STATION OR THE GAMEFISH MARQUEE AT THE COMPLETION OF THE DAYS FISHING ( see below for exception on \*\*\*Sunday ) OTHERWISE DISQUALIFICATION OF THE DAYS FISH WILL OCCUR.



**\*\*\*On Sunday ONLY, we will allow boats to return to an alternate port if desired.**

Boats returning to an alternate port on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021 are able to submit Tag Cards & Capture Certificates via photos using either email or SMS to the point scorer, David Stringer support@itsfishing.com.au or 0402 953738 by 8.00pm Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Anglers are required to have a reply confirmation from Dave Stringer.

**\*\*\*To be eligible for the Heaviest Marlin or Shark Prizes, the weighing of a fish MUST be presented at the NGFC Weighbridge on both days before 8.00pm. When submitting photos of tag cards & capture certificates from an alternate port, all documents must also include pictures of the paperwork, angler and all tackle used + MUST include evidence that they are back in Port and have not submitted the paperwork whilst still at sea. NO EXCEPTIONS !!**

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT..... Tag & Release or Capture Points WILL NOT be awarded for Tag Cards or Capture Certificates presented or sent that are incomplete, not readable or have incorrect information listed.**

**NOTE:** Any fish hooked and still being fought before the end of fishing on both days may be played out providing that Tag or Capture are completed & submitted as per above rules.

## **FISHING BOUNDARIES**

Tournament boundaries are as follows -

Northern – 32' 24"S – 153' 0"E

Southern – 33' 30"S – 153' 0"E

As per NGFC Sched Map ( in Tournament bag or see NGFC Website )

## **TOURNAMENT FUNCTIONS**

**FRIDAY 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021:** Briefing starts @ 7.00pm.

**SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021:** Morning BBQ breakfast from 6.00am. After Fishing - 7.00pm Start - Lucky boat draws throughout the night in the Tournament Function Room **\*NOTE:** A paid angler representing the winning boat must be present at the time of draw to claim prize. **Heaps of give away prizes !!!**

**SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021:** Morning BBQ breakfast from 5.30am. Proceed to assembly point for 7.00am Sailpast.( see Sailpast details above )

**After fishing** - All competitors & their families are welcome to come to the Newcastle Yacht Club for some Socialising in Tournament Function room.

**MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021:** Presentation dinner for the AIBT & East Coast Classic Tournaments - Starts at **6.30pm** at the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club.

## **TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE**

Contact details:	Tournament Director	David Teasel	0418 425515
	Vice President	Dave Keast	0405 318762
	Secretary	Scott Morris	0412 127400
	Treasurer	Rob Hyland	0418 498598
	Committee	Luke Henkel	0423 230208
		Jason Hewitt	0431 182782
		Carl Twaddle	0401 243011

## **TEAMS / ANGLERS**

The competition is open to all anglers who are financial members of any club affiliated with the NSWGFA, GFAA, ANSA or IGFA ( permanent overseas residents only ). Proof of financial membership must be produced if requested. There must be a minimum of two (2) registered adult anglers on board each boat under 8 metres and four (4) registered anglers on board each boat 8 metres and over. The maximum limit to the number of anglers on each boat shall be as per the limit imposed by vessel capacity plate.

**\*NOTE:** Any person involved in effecting a Capture or Tag & Release must be a paid angler. They are, driving the boat, gaffing fish, tagging fish, running out lines, retrieving lines, clearing teasers or taking the leader. **Any vessel found to be using a person not entered in the tournament assisting in a Capture or Tag and Release will be disqualified from the tournament. This Includes ineligibility for any boat prizes not yet awarded at time of disqualification.**

## **REPLACEMENT OF BOATS AND COMPETITORS**

No replacement of boats or competitors for whatever reason will be allowed after fishing has started. Anglers may not affect a capture or tag & release on any other vessel than the vessel he/she is registered on. Captured fish, tag & release card, angler all equipment used in the capture or tag must be presented to the weigh station on the vessel on which the capture, tag & release was effected and may not be transferred to another vessel, however in the case of an emergency situation the Tournament Committee may at their discretion allow the transfer of an angler/fish and equipment used to effect the capture or tag.

## **BERTHING & FUEL**

Berthing will be made available **FREE OF CHARGE** for **2 days** to boats that have entered the tournament ( limited berths ). Days can be nominated – **Friday 12<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> or Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021**. Please call NCYC Marina 0408 299512 to arrange your berth once you have entered & let them know if you require an extended stay.

**NOTE: This will be a first in first served basis, lots of available berths but not endless !** Extra days are available at own cost. \*Discounted fuel will be available at the Marina.

**\*NOTE: Newcastle Harbour Warnings** - There is a no wash zone past the Honeysuckle wharfs and a 4 knot zone entering the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club Marina, a loss of 2000 Tag & Release or Capture points will be imposed for each breach.

## **CANCELLATION OF TOURNAMENT**

The declaration of a Gale Warning by the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) will automatically require the cancellation of any tournament or event conducted under the rules of the New South Wales Game Fishing Association (NSWGFA) and its member clubs. Cancellation only applies until Gale Warning is lifted. In the event of a declaration whilst vessels are at sea, such vessels are required to cease fishing immediately and return to port. If sea conditions are unsafe and/or a gale force warning is issued fishing will be cancelled.

The decision to cancel will only be announced after the 4.10am forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology on the day of fishing. The tournament committee will use discretion on making this decision, which will be strongly supported by Coast Guard and Government weather watch authorities. In the event of the Tournament being cancelled in part or whole, fish tagged or caught and reported prior to the cancellation will be eligible.



## **SAFETY**

All vessels fishing the tournament must be equipped with safety gear complying with the NSW RMS regulations in force at the time. It is also advisable that an adequate (2 days) supply of food and water be carried on board. All boats must comply with NSW Waterways regulations for safety equipment and the safety standards of the vessel's home Club. A "Boat Safety Rescue form" is included as part of the entry form and must be completed and signed by the Boat Skipper. All boats must carry a **406Mhz EPIRB** and have two working marine radios fitted one of which must be **VHF** frequency.

## **INSURANCE**

Details of the insurance cover must be included on the boat safety section of the entry form. No vessel will be accepted without this information being completed.

**The Newcastle Gamefishing Club Inc. shall accept no responsibility for any accident or injury occasioned during the tournament. The Tournament Committee or NGFC or any sponsor will not be liable for any loss or damage to any person, property, personal injury or death howsoever occasioned at any time during the 2021 East Coast Classic Tournament. All anglers participate entirely at their own risk.**

## **RADIO COMMUNICATION**

Radio schedules (scheds) will be conducted as per NSWGFA Guidelines for Radio Schedules for Tournaments. Inappropriate language will incur a loss of 2,000 Capture and Tag & Release points for each breach or disqualification from the tournament. All boats must log on with Tournament Base to be eligible for any points and trophies. Radio schedules shall be held on Ch80 (VHF) (this may change pending on conditions and circumstances) at **8.10am, 10.10am, 12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.10pm, 5.10pm Saturday & 10.10am, 12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.10pm, 5.10pm on Sunday.**

Boats shall be called in numerical order and it is requested that each skipper answer promptly with their Location & fishing report. Please call in as Captured/Tagged & use the schedules to call in your overall Captures/Tags for the Schedule period using the "000" system, i.e. Strike, Hook ups, Captures/Tags. If possible boats are to give species for strikes and hook ups as well as for captures and tag and release.

Short length, girth measurement and estimated weight of any fish captured must also be supplied. Please note that all fish to be weighed must be measured for the short length at time of capture. Billfish are to be measured from the lower jaw to the fork of the tail (short measurement). Sharks and other game fish to be measured from the nose to the fork in the tail (short measurement). The length in cm must be reported at the time of capture along with estimated weight to game fish base using the weight to length curve graph (located in tournament bag). Any fish found to be more than 10% different from the measurement reported may be disqualified at the committee's discretion. Any fish hooked in the final schedule period **MUST** be reported immediately. A 10 minute period of radio silence is requested prior to "Stop Fishing" on each day to allow the report of late hook-ups. Tournament Base shall be on stand-by until all vessels have signed off. If a vessel has radio failure and cannot contact radio base or relay through another vessel, it must return to port and notify Tournament Base of their actions by other means (e.g. phone). Any boat missing 2 consecutive schedules will be deemed a missing vessel. If a vessel has radio failure and cannot contact radio base or relay through another vessel, it must return to port and notify Tournament Base of their actions by other means (e.g. phone). Failure to log off at end of each day will encounter disqualification of all tag & release points & captures for that day. Tournament Base Contact: Leanne Grieves. Only Tournament Sponsors will be recognised during the Tournament. Breach of Media Rule: Penalties will be at the discretion of the tournament committee.

## **LEAVING PORT**

**\*\*ALL BOATS ( INCLUDING TRAILER BOATS ) MUST RETURN TO NEWCASTLE HARBOUR ON THE SATURDAY NIGHT OF THE TOURNAMENT AND MUST LEAVE FROM NEWCASTLE ON THE SUNDAY MORNING. NOTE: See Sail Past Details for Sunday.**

Boats may fish from their home port on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March** but CANNOT commence burleying, trolling or fishing before the Tournament Base announces the official start of fishing at **8.00am**. If a boat is not at that time within the prescribed fishing area on all fishing days, it cannot commence fishing until such time that it is within the tournament fishing boundary.

On **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021**, ALL boats ( Including trailer boats ), **MUST** return to Newcastle. On **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021**, all boats ( Including trailer boats ), **MUST** leave via Newcastle Harbour ( after Sailpast completion ) but may elect to return directly to their home port after fishing. All boats **MUST** still effect a sign-off with Tournament Base. Failure to log off at end of each day will encounter disqualification of all tag & release points & captures for that day.

## **FISHING RULES**

The Tournament will be fished under the “Fishing Rules and Tackle Regulations” of the NSWGFA & GFAA as are in effect at the time. In addition, the NSWGFA Point Score Fishing Rules and Minimum weights shall apply. The Competition is open to anglers who are bona fide members of any club affiliated with NSWGFA, GFAA, ANSA or IGFA ( permanent overseas residents only ). Any ANSA member must fish on a NSWGFA Registered boat. In the event of a tie on any prize category the count back system will be used to determine the winner, i.e. the angler or boat to reach the winning score first will be deemed to be the winner. If no time is recorded it will be deemed to be caught at 5:00pm on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and 5:00pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021. If tag and release is the preferred option, all tag and release cards must be submitted with the time recorded to count for points. If no line class is listed on tag card it will be deemed to be 60kg.

## **PROOF OF TAGGED FISH**

There must be evidence of every Tag & Released fish. This must be provided with the Tag Card if requested by a Tournament Official or the Tag & Release will be disallowed.

A Time / Date stamped digital photograph or video is acceptable.

**LINE CLASSES** - which will be recognised are 8kg, 10kg, 15kg, 24kg, 37kg and 60kg

## **LINE & BACKING**

- a) The use of backing is permissible. ( **NOTE:** There is no restriction on the type or size of backing used as long as it is Monofilament, Multifilament, Lead Core Multifilament but not wire).
- b) The catch shall be classified under the breaking strain of the first 5 metres of the line preceding the double, leader and hook. This section must be comprised of a single homogenous piece of line ( for record claims, 16 metres of the single line must be supplied ).
- c) **NOTE: MULTIFILAMENT LINES ONLY ALLOWED WHEN USED AS BACKING**

## MINIMUM WEIGHTS TO QUALIFY

**Billfish Capture** – Only the Largest Billfish over 150kg is eligible for a tournament trophy.

**Yellowfin Tuna** - Must weigh 15kg on line classes up to and including 15kg, equal to line class for over 15kg line and for Junior Anglers equal to line class in all cases.

**Other Game Fish Capture** - Must weigh at least equal to the line class used.

**Shark Capture** – Only the Largest Shark capture over 350kg is eligible for a tournament prize.

**Junior / Small Fry** – As per NSWGFA Rules - **NOTE:** Junior Anglers must be 11 years & under 16 years at commencement of briefing & Small Fry must be under 11 years at the commencement of the briefing.

## RULES FOR TAG & RELEASE

All billfish must be tagged with the Billfish Tag. This is the only tag that will be recognised for billfish in any tournament, competition, point score or trophy. The Billfish Tag is for billfish only point score (i.e. no other species). The tagging of other fish/sharks with billfish tags will render your points and or fish/shark ineligible and disqualified. In releasing a tagged fish, the hook is to be removed or the leader cut as close as possible to the fish. A fish is considered tagged & released when the tag is secured to the fish & the fish is released back into the water alive !

**\*Mahi Mahi & Yellowtail Kingfish** are to be a maximum of 5 fish per person per day with a maximum of 10 per boat per day, each species. **NOTE:** Striped Tuna, Mackerel Tuna (Kawa Kawa) are eligible for Junior, Small Fry personal pointscore and applicable trophies **only** & don't accrue for overall boat points.

For Juniors - Striped Tuna & Mack Tuna are for Measure & Release only, points as per NSWGFA rules.

## MINIMUM LENGTH FOR TAGGING

**Kingfish** - 70cm

**Mahi Mahi** - 60cm.

**Sharks** - must be a minimum of 100 cm to be eligible for Tag & Release points.

**CIRCLE HOOKS ONLY** are permitted for live baiting and trolling natural baits. No points to be scored for any other species caught using live baits with j-hooks. except narrow bared mackerel.

**CIRCLE HOOK DEFINITION:** A hook with its point turned 90 degrees or less back towards the shank of the hook.







## **MISCONDUCT**

The Tournament Committee may on its own initiative, investigate and act upon any incident occurring during the Tournament. **NOTE:** If any unruly behaviour the night of the tournament presentation may face exclusion from the following tournament. The Fishing / Adjudication Committee may invoke penalties or loss of points or disqualification of fish, angler or boat where misconduct is deemed to have taken place.

All anglers, particularly boat captains, are asked to display a degree of courtesy regarding burley trails and troll patterns behind boats. All anglers are reminded that as members of a Club, they are regarded as representatives of their Clubs. As such any unbecoming behaviour reflects adversely on the Club. Hence the Tournament Committee reserves the right to take any action it deems necessary in these circumstances.

## **MEDIA POLICY/SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

- a) Any **MEDIA RELEASE, POLICY** or any **MAJOR ISSUE** **MUST** go through the NGFC Tournament Committee
- b) FORUMS – Clubs and/or affiliated anglers are **NOT** to post any inaccurate or inappropriate information/photographs on forum sites.
- c) **NO INDIVIDUAL ANGLER / MEMBER** should approach the media or answer any queries from the media, if approached that person should contact the Tournament Director with the details, who will then carry out the requirements of the Tournament Media Policy.

## **WEIGH STATION**

The weigh station will be open on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021** and **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021** from **3.00pm** onwards. Provisions can be made to weigh a fish early by contacting Tournament Base.

All rods, reels, gaffs, tag poles, tail ropes and traces must be produced for checking if directed. All Capture Certificates & Tag Cards **MUST** be prepared for presentation prior to approaching the weigh station. All Capture Certificates **MUST** be presented to the Weigh Master PRIOR to the weighing of any fish off the boat concerned. If line class has not been entered on certificates, it will be deemed to be 60kg line class.

**Failure to comply with these rules will result in disqualification of captures.**

**\*NOTE:** Disposal of Fish and Sharks – Skippers are responsible for the disposal of their captures. Fish not required for eating or burley must be taken **three (3) miles to sea** and disposed of in a manner appropriate. If these criteria are not met an immediate disqualification will be enforced. Leaving a Fish or Shark tied off to a boat in a harbour or mooring for a period of more than 24 hours since weighing is an offence. The President or member of the Executive Committee is to be notified of the situation, if immediate disposal is not possible.

The skipper must ensure that any blood, offal etc. is to be removed from the weigh station area and ensure the area is left in a clean a state as possible. Please note that there are heavy fines for disposing of fish in any harbour. In the event if any shark or marlin given away for eating, only the fillets may be given and the remaining carcass is the responsibility of the skipper.

**NOTE: All fish will be marked for identification purposes by NGFC at time of weighing.**

**\*NOTE:** All anglers must carry Saltwater Fishing Licences (if applicable). Bag limit and size restrictions must also be adhered to. All competitors are reminded that it is an offence to tie any vessel to objects such as wave riders, FADs or fish trap buoys.



## **SALE OF FISH AND SHARKS**

It is an offence for unlicensed fishermen to sell fish or to give fish to a licensed fisherman in NSW. Any Fish captured in this Tournament cannot be sold. Such fish shall be ineligible for any trophies or awards of the Association.

## **THE PROCESS FOR DISQUALIFICATION**

The Committee will meet to discuss the proposal of the disqualification of a Capture and or Tag & Release. The skipper whose fish or shark is proposed to be disqualified will be advised one (1) hour prior to the meeting of the Committee and have the right to present his or her case at that meeting.

## **PROTESTS**

Any protest must be made in writing and presented to a member of the Tournament Committee by 8:00pm on Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The committee's decision will be final.

## **ACCEPTANCE OF TOURNAMENT RULES**

By signing the application to enter and/or paying the entry fee(s), applicants will be deemed to have accepted the tournament rules without limitation or amendment.

**Notwithstanding the above penalties, the Tournament Committee reserves the right in any particular circumstance to disqualify any capture, angler or boat for disregarding any Tournament rules or instructions.**

# **TROPHY LIST FOR 2021 EAST COAST CLASSIC TOURNAMENT**

## **CAPTURE**

- **HEAVIEST BILLFISH OVER 150KG** - Trophy & \$5,000 Cash,
- **HEAVIEST SHARK OVER 350KG** - Trophy & \$5,000 Cash
- **HEAVIEST OGF** : Trophy & TBC
- **CHAMPION JUNIOR ANGLER ( OGF Only )**: Trophy + TBC
- **CHAMPION SMALL FRY ANGLER ( OGF Only )**: Trophy + TBC

# TAG & RELEASE

- **1<sup>st</sup> PLACE / CHAMPION TEAM** - Trophy & \$5,000 Cash
- **2<sup>nd</sup> PLACE / RUNNER UP CHAMPION TEAM** - Trophy + TBC
- **3<sup>rd</sup> PLACE TEAM** - Trophy + TBC
- **4<sup>th</sup> PLACE TEAM** - Trophy + TBC
- **5<sup>TH</sup> PLACE TEAM** - Trophy + TBC
- **6<sup>TH</sup> PLACE TEAM** - Trophy + TBC
- **7<sup>TH</sup> PLACE TEAM** - Trophy + TBC
- **8<sup>TH</sup> PLACE TEAM** - Trophy + TBC
- **CHAMPION JUNIOR ANGLER:** Trophy + TBC
- **CHAMPION SMALL FRY ANGLER :** Trophy + TBA
- **HIGHEST POINTSCORE BOAT SHARK :**Trophy + TBA
- **HIGHEST POINTSCORE BOAT OGF :** Trophy + TBC



Proudly invites you to attend the

## 2021 AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL BILLFISH TOURNAMENT ( AIBT )

( Tag & Release Tournament Billfish Only )

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

\*\*\*\*\*NOTE: You must be entered into the 2021 East Coast Classic to be eligible to enter.

### **BRIEFING**

**NOTE:** The cut off for entries will be **THURSDAY 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021 7.30pm (including online registration)**. This is to alleviate cueing at the Yacht Club prior to briefing due to Covid restrictions. We will have committee members at the Yacht Club to take entries on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March.

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On **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March**, fishing will commence when boats are signalled by Game Fish Base to Start Fishing, Start Fishing, Start Fishing.

## **FISHING TIMES**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – 8.00am until 5.00pm.**

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – After Sail Past - Approx. 8.00am until 5.00pm.**

**\*NOTE:** ALL TAG AND RELEASE CARDS + CAPTURE CERTIFICATES MUST BE PRESENTED AT THE **NGFC** WEIGH STATION OR THE GAMEFISH MARQUEE AT THE COMPLETION OF THE DAYS FISHING ( see below for exception on \*\*\*Sunday ) OTHERWISE DISQUALIFICATION OF THE DAYS FISH WILL OCCUR.

**\*\*\*On Sunday ONLY, we will allow boats to return to an alternate port if desired.**

Boats returning to an alternate port on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021 are able to submit Tag Cards & Capture Certificates via photos using either email or SMS to the point scorer, David Stringer support@itsfishing.com.au or 0402 953738 by 8.00pm Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Anglers are required to have a reply confirmation from Dave Stringer.

When submitting photos of tag cards & capture certificates from an alternate port, all documents must also include pictures of the paperwork, angler and all tackle used + **MUST** include evidence that they are back in Port and have not submitted the paperwork whilst still at sea. **NO EXCEPTIONS !!**

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT.....** Tag & Release Points **WILL NOT** be awarded for Tag Cards or Capture Certificates presented or sent that are incomplete, not readable or have incorrect information listed.

**\*NOTE:** Any fish hooked and still being fought before the end of fishing on both days may be played out providing that the tag is completed & submitted as per above rules.

## **FISHING BOUNDARIES**

Tournament boundaries are as follows -

Northern – 32' 24"S – 153' 0"E

Southern – 33' 30"S – 153' 0"E

As per NGFC Sched Map ( in Tournament bag or see NGFC Website )

## **TOURNAMENT FUNCTIONS**

**FRIDAY 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021:** Briefing starts @ 7.00pm.

**SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021:** Morning BBQ breakfast from 6.00am. After Fishing - 7.00pm Start - Lucky boat draws throughout the night in the Tournament Function Room **\*NOTE:** A paid angler representing the winning boat must be present at the time of draw to claim prize. **Heaps of give aways !!!**

**SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021:** Morning BBQ breakfast from 5.30am. Proceed to assembly point for 7.00am Sail Past.( see Sail Past details above )

**After fishing** - All competitors & their families are welcome to come to the Newcastle Yacht Club for some Socialising in Tournament Function room.

**MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021:** Presentation dinner for AIBT & East Coast Classic Tournaments - Starts at **6.30pm** at the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club.

## TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE

Contact details:	Tournament Director	David Teasel	0418 425515
	Vice President	Dave Keast	0405 318762
	Secretary	Scott Morris	0412 127400
	Treasurer	Rob Hyland	0418 498598
	Committee	Luke Henkel	0423 230208
		Jason Hewitt	0431 182782
		Carl Twaddle	0401 243011

## TEAMS / ANGLERS

The competition is open to all anglers who are financial members of any club affiliated with the NSWGFA, GFAA, ANSA or IGFA ( permanent overseas residents only ). Proof of financial membership must be produced if requested. There must be a minimum of two (2) registered adult anglers on board each boat under 8 metres and four (4) registered anglers on board each boat 8 metres and over. The maximum limit to the number of anglers on each boat shall be as per the limit imposed by vessel capacity plate.

**\*NOTE:** Any person involved in effecting a Tag & Release must be a paid angler. They are, driving the boat, tagging fish, running out lines, retrieving lines, clearing teasers or taking the leader. **Any vessel found to be using a person not entered in the tournament assisting in a Tag and Release will be disqualified from the tournament. This includes ineligibility for any boat prizes not yet awarded at time of disqualification.**

## REPLACEMENT OF BOATS AND COMPETITORS

No replacement of boats or competitors for whatever reason will be allowed after fishing has started. Anglers may not affect a tag & release on any other vessel than the vessel he/she is registered on. All equipment used in the Tag & Release must be presented to the weigh station on the vessel on which the Tag & Release was effected on and may not be transferred to another vessel, however in the case of an emergency situation the Tournament Committee may at their discretion allow the transfer of an angler/fish and equipment used to effect the Tag.

## BERTHING & FUEL

Berthing will be made available **FREE OF CHARGE** for **2 days** to boats that have entered the tournament ( limited berths ). Days can be nominated – **Friday 12<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> or Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021**. Please call NCYC Marina 0408 299512 to arrange your berth once you have entered & let them know if you require an extended stay.

**NOTE: This will be a first in first served basis, lots of available berths but not endless !** Extra days are available at own cost. \*Discounted fuel will be available at the Marina.

**\*NOTE: Newcastle Harbour Warnings** - There is a no wash zone past the Honeysuckle wharfs and a 4 knot zone entering the Newcastle Cruising Yacht Club Marina, a loss of 2000 Tag & Release points will be imposed for each breach.



## **CANCELLATION OF TOURNAMENT**

The declaration of a Gale Warning by the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) will automatically require the cancellation of any tournament or event conducted under the rules of the New South Wales Game Fishing Association (NSWGFA) and its member clubs. Cancellation only applies until Gale Warning is lifted. In the event of a declaration whilst vessels are at sea, such vessels are required to cease fishing immediately and return to port. If sea conditions are unsafe and/or a gale force warning is issued fishing will be cancelled.

The decision to cancel will only be announced after the 4.10am forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology on the day of fishing. The tournament committee will use discretion on making this decision, which will be strongly supported by Coast Guard and Government weather watch authorities. In the event of the Tournament being cancelled in part or whole, fish tagged and reported prior to the cancellation will be eligible.

## **SAFETY**

All vessels fishing the tournament must be equipped with safety gear complying with the NSW RMS regulations in force at the time. It is also advisable that an adequate (2 days) supply of food and water be carried on board. All boats must comply with NSW Waterways regulations for safety equipment and the safety standards of the vessel's home Club. A "Boat Safety Rescue form" is included as part of the entry form and must be completed and signed by the Boat Skipper. All boats must carry a **406Mhz EPIRB** and have two working marine radios fitted one of which must be **VHF** frequency.

## **INSURANCE**

Details of the insurance cover must be included on the boat safety section of the entry form. No vessel will be accepted without this information being completed.

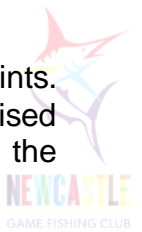
**The Newcastle Gamefishing Club Inc. shall accept no responsibility for any accident or injury occasioned during the tournament. The Tournament Committee or NGFC or any sponsor will not be liable for any loss or damage to any person, property, personal injury or death howsoever occasioned at any time during the 2021 Australian International Billfish Tournament. All anglers participate entirely at their own risk.**

## **RADIO COMMUNICATION**

Radio schedules (scheds) will be conducted as per NSWGFA Guidelines for Radio Schedules for Tournaments. Inappropriate language will incur a loss of 2,000 Tag & Release points for each breach or disqualification from the tournament. All boats must log on with Tournament Base to be eligible for any points and trophies. Radio schedules shall be held on Ch80 (VHF) (this may change pending on conditions and circumstances) at **8.10am, 10.10am, 12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.10pm, 5.10pm Saturday & 10.10am, 12.10pm, 2.10pm, 4.10pm, 5.10pm on Sunday.**

Boats shall be called in numerical order and it is requested that each skipper answer promptly with their Location & fishing report. Please call in as Tagged & use the schedules to call in your overall Tags for the Schedule period using the "000" system, i.e. Strike, Hook ups & Tags. If possible boats are to give species for strikes and hook ups and tag and releases. Any fish hooked in the final schedule period **MUST** be reported immediately. A 10 minute period of radio silence is requested prior to "Stop Fishing" on each day to allow the report of late hook-ups. Tournament Base shall be on stand-by until all vessels have signed off. If a vessel has radio failure and cannot contact radio base or relay through another vessel, it must return to port and notify Tournament Base of their actions by other means (e.g. phone). Any boat missing 2 consecutive schedules will be deemed a missing vessel. If a vessel has radio failure and cannot contact radio base or relay through another vessel, it must return to port and notify Tournament Base of their actions by other means (e.g. phone). Failure to log off at end of each day will

encounter disqualification of all points for that day or minimum 10,000 Tag and Release points. Tournament Base Contact: Leanne Grieves. Only Tournament Sponsors will be recognised during the Tournament. Breach of Media Rule: Penalties will be at the discretion of the tournament committee.



## **LEAVING PORT**

**\*\*ALL BOATS ( INCLUDING TRAILER BOATS ) MUST RETURN TO NEWCASTLE HARBOUR ON THE SATURDAY NIGHT OF THE TOURNAMENT AND MUST LEAVE FROM NEWCASTLE ON THE SUNDAY MORNING. NOTE: See Sail Past Details for Sunday.**

Boats may fish from their home port on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March** but CANNOT commence burleying, trolling or fishing before the Tournament Base announces the official start of fishing at **8.00am**.

If a boat is not at that time within the prescribed fishing area on all fishing days, it cannot commence fishing until such time that it is within the tournament fishing boundary.

On **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021**, ALL boats ( Including trailer boats ), **MUST** return to Newcastle. On **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021**, all boats ( Including trailer boats ), **MUST** leave via Newcastle Harbour ( after Sailpast completion ) but may elect to return directly to their home port after fishing. All boats **MUST** still effect a sign-off with Tournament Base. Failure to log off at end of each day will encounter disqualification of all tag & release points & captures for that day.

## **FISHING RULES**

The Tournament will be fished under the “Fishing Rules and Tackle Regulations” of the NSWGFA & GFAA as are in effect at the time. In addition, the NSWGFA Point Score Fishing Rules shall apply. The Competition is open to anglers who are bona fide members of any club affiliated with NSWGFA, GFAA, ANSA or IGFA ( permanent overseas residents only ). Any ANSA member must fish on a NSWGFA Registered boat. In the event of a tie on any prize category the count back system will be used to determine the winner, i.e. the angler or boat to reach the winning score first will be deemed to be the winner. If no time is recorded it will be deemed to be caught at 5:00pm on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and 5:00pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021. All tag and release cards must be submitted with the time recorded to count for points. If no line class is listed on tag card it will be deemed to be 60kg.

## **PROOF OF TAGGED FISH**

There must be evidence of every Tag & Released fish. This must be provided with the Tag Card if requested by a Tournament Official or the Tag & Release will be disallowed. A Time / Date stamped digital photograph or video is acceptable.

**LINE CLASSES** - which will be recognised are 8kg, 10kg, 15kg, 24kg, 37kg and 60kg



## LINE & BACKING

- a) The use of backing is permissible. ( **NOTE:** There is no restriction on the type or size of backing used as long as it is Monofilament, Multifilament, Lead Core Multifilament but not wire).
- b) The tag shall be classified under the breaking strain of the first 5 metres of the line preceding the double, leader and hook. This section must be comprised of a single homogenous piece of line.
- c) **NOTE: MULTIFILAMENT LINES ONLY ALLOWED WHEN USED AS BACKING**

## RULES FOR TAG & RELEASE

All billfish must be tagged with the Billfish Tag. This is the only tag that will be recognised for billfish in any tournament, competition, point score or trophy. The Billfish Tag is for billfish only point score. In releasing a tagged fish, the hook is to be removed or the leader cut as close as possible to the fish. A fish is considered tagged & released when the tag is secured to the fish & the fish is released back into the water alive !

**CIRCLE HOOKS ONLY** are permitted for live baiting and trolling natural baits. No points to be scored for any fish caught using live baits with j-hooks.

**CIRCLE HOOK DEFINITION:** A hook with its point turned 90 degrees or less back towards the shank of the hook.



## MISCONDUCT

The Tournament Committee may on its own initiative, investigate and act upon any incident occurring during the Tournament. **NOTE:** If any unruly behaviour the night of the tournament presentation may face exclusion from the following tournament. The Fishing / Adjudication Committee may invoke penalties or loss of points or disqualification of fish, angler or boat where misconduct is deemed to have taken place.

All anglers, particularly boat captains, are asked to display a degree of courtesy regarding burley trails and troll patterns behind boats. All anglers are reminded that as members of a Club, they are regarded as representatives of their Clubs. As such any unbecoming behaviour reflects adversely on the Club. Hence the Tournament Committee reserves the right to take any action it deems necessary in these circumstances.

## **MEDIA POLICY/SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY**

- a) Any MEDIA RELEASE, POLICY or any MAJOR ISSUE **MUST** go through the NGFC Tournament Committee
- b) FORUMS – Clubs and/or affiliated anglers are NOT to post any inaccurate or inappropriate information/photographs on forum sites.
- c) NO INDIVIDUAL ANGLER/MEMBER should approach the media or answer any queries from the media, if approached that person should contact the Tournament Director with the details, who will then carry out the requirements of the Tournament Media Policy.

## **WEIGH STATION**

The weigh station will be open on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2021** and **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021** from **3.00pm** onwards. Provisions can be made to open early by contacting Tournament Base. All rods, reels, tag poles and traces must be produced for checking if directed. All Tag Cards & Capture Certificates **MUST** be prepared for presentation prior to approaching the weigh station. If line class has not been entered on certificates, it will be deemed to be 60kg line class.

**\*NOTE:** All anglers must carry Saltwater Fishing Licences (if applicable). All competitors are reminded that it is an offence to tie any vessel to objects such as wave riders, FADs or fish trap buoys.

## **THE PROCESS FOR DISQUALIFICATION**

The Committee will meet to discuss the proposal of the disqualification of a Tag & Release. The skipper whose fish is proposed to be disqualified will be advised one (1) hour prior to the meeting of the Committee and have the right to present his or her case at that meeting.

## **PROTESTS**

Any protest must be made in writing and presented to a member of the Tournament Committee by 8:00pm on Sunday the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The committee's decision will be final.

## **ACCEPTANCE OF TOURNAMENT RULES**

By signing the application to enter and/or paying the entry fee(s), applicants will be deemed to have accepted the tournament rules without limitation or amendment.

**Notwithstanding the above penalties, the Tournament Committee reserves the right in any particular circumstance to disqualify any capture, angler or boat for disregarding any Tournament rules or instructions.**

# TROPHY LIST 2021 AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL BILLFISH TOURNAMENT ( AIBT )

## TAG & RELEASE

- **CHAMPION TEAM** – Trophy + Simrad Sounder + \$500  
Simrad Voucher + Free Team Entry into the 2022 NSWGFA  
Interclub Tournament ( Max. 6 Anglers ) + TBA
- **RUNNER UP CHAMPION TEAM** - Trophy + Simrad  
Sounder + \$500 Simrad Voucher + + TBA
- **CHAMPION ANGLER:** Trophy + Simrad Sounder + \$500  
Simrad Voucher + + TBA