Newcastle & Port Stephens Game Fish Club Ltd
FISHING RULE BOOK amended September 2016

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1. RULES OF FISHING

All fishing and competitions shall be fished in accordance with the rules of the Game Fishing Association of Australia (GFAA) and the New South Wales Gamefishing Association (NSWGFA). All rules current at the time of capture/tag & release shall apply. Rules are published and distributed each year in the 'Official Australian Game Fishing Journal'

2. FISHING YEAR

Shall commence at 7:00 a.m. on the third Sunday in September and finish at 4:00 p.m. on the Monday of the long weekend in June in the following year.

3. MAJOR POINT SCORE COMPETITION

(a) Fishing days – will be

(i) All Sundays or nominated Saturdays (refer rules 3{ci} & Overnight Club competitions (refer Rule 3b);

(ii) All public holidays;

(iii) All days of long weekends;

(iv) All other competitions organised by the committee of N&PS GFC;

(v) Where a boat or an angler is representing N&PSGFC in a recognised sanctioned game fishing tournament within the state of NSW they shall be credited with major point score competition points in line with Rules 5(a)& 9(b)

(vi) Boats and anglers fishing away from home ports of Newcastle or Port Stephens and not complying with Rules 3(a i-v) shall be eligible for Northern Zone point scores and trophies, NSWGFA Coastal Waters Trophies and GFAA Trophies at all times provided they fulfil the rules of those competitions and submit point score certificates to the designated point score recorder within the time prescribed in these rules.

(b) CLUB OVERNIGHT COMPETITION

(i) Boats/anglers are allowed to fish three club overnight competitions during the fishing season (see Rule 2) on weekends only.

(ii) Nominations for boats/anglers to fish overnight competitions are to be done by contacting the club or club director by phone or emailing the club, advising your intention before leaving the port to fish the overnight competition.
When nominating as above, fishing the club overnight competition major point score will be allocated.

(iii) Vessels already at sea Saturday and wishing to stay and fish overnight must contact the sked boat, other NPSGFC vessel or NPSGFC

Club by phone and leave a message of your intention to fish overnight. Contacting Marine Rescue Port Stephens and recording your intention will also be accepted. Boats that have nominated Saturday as **major point score** (see Rule 3c-i) may continue to fish **major point score**. Boats fishing Saturday as **midweek point score** and wishing to fish overnight are to nominate as above. Major point score for boats fishing Saturday as midweek will commence at the end of normal major point score fishing for Saturday (see Rule 5a). All boats must nominate before the close of normal major point score fishing on Saturday (see Rule 5a)

(iv) Overnight competition will cease at the end of normal major point score on Sunday (see Rule 5a) or if the boat returns to port. Once a boat has returned to port, no more major point score will be allowed for the balance of that weekend.

(v) When submitting your capture/tag-release form, you must show in writing that this was a club overnight competition and how you nominated and to whom.

(c)Nominated Saturdays

(i) To nominate a Saturday as a major point score competition fishing day, the boat's skipper is to notify a Director or Fishing Committee Member prior to departing port of the anglers (and thereby the boat's) intention to fish that Saturday as their major point score competition fishing day. If you cannot contact a Director or Fishing Committee member a message may be left on the club office answer machine. When submitting your capture/tag & release certificate you must write the name of the person you contacted at the top of the certificate.

(ii) Failure to notify the intention to fish a Saturday as a major point score competition fishing day as described in Rule 3(c)(i) will result in points being awarded to the mid-week point score competition for both anglers and boat.

(d)Sunday Fishing

(i) If anglers/boat fish only on a Sunday on any given weekend it is automatically a major point score fishing day;

(ii) If an angler/boat nominates and fishes Saturday as their major point score competition fishing day, and also fishes the Sunday of the same weekend, points for the Sunday

fished will be allocated to the mid-week point score competition.

4. MID-WEEK FISHING POINT SCORE DAYS

   Are the days and fishing hours other than those covered in Rules (3) & (5).

5. FISHING TIMES MAJOR POINT SCORE COMPETITION

   (a) Fishing/burleying shall commence at 7:00 a.m. and finish no later than 4:00 p.m. during the dates not affected by daylight saving time during the calendar year. During daylight savings time fishing/burleying shall commence at 7:00 a.m. and finish no later than 5:00 p.m.

   (b) When boats or anglers are competing in a sanctioned Inter-club competition representing N&PSGFC, and fishing times of that competition have been extended, the extra time will be allowed for club point score.

   (c) All fish hooked before finishing time will be allowed to be played out, provided they have been reported to the Sked boat for that day before finishing time.

   (d) Failure to report fish hook-ups, capture/tag & release before closing time may make point scores ineligible for major club point scores and trophies.

   (e) Any boats fishing mid-week point score must return to port before commencing major point score fishing.

   (f) If fishing major point score boats may then fish for mid-week point score after major point score competition finish time by continuing to fish.

6. FISHING TIMES MID-WEEK POINT SCORE COMPETITION

   (a) Shall be all other times not included in the major point score times.

   (b) Fish hooked on major competition fishing point score days outside of hours designated under rule 5.

7. JUNIOR SPECIAL TROPHY DAYS

   Occurs on the nominated Saturday or Sunday of the third (3^{rd}) weekend of the month. Capture certificates should be clearly marked 'JUNIOR DAY' and each junior angler clearly noted with 'J'.

8. FLY FISHING DIVISION COMPETITION RULES & TROPHIES

   (a) Trophy List

Champion Boat	Tag & Release	Capture
Champion Angler	Tag & Release	Capture

   (b) Fishing Days: As set out in the N&PSGFC Fishing Rules with no distinction for major or mid-week point score competitions.

(c) Point Score Competition

(i) There is only one point score competition that will include fish caught on either a mid-week point score competition day or a major point score competition day.

(ii) Any fish caught using fly fishing techniques will qualify for the point score competition (major or mid-week) of the fishing day of capture/tag & release as well as the Fly Fishing competition.

(iii) Points awarded for capture/tag & release of eligible fish species will be according to the NSWGFA point score system for both capture/tag & release.

(d) Rules & Regulations

(i) All equipment and tackle regulations set down by GFAA and the International Gamefishing Association (IGFA) for Fly Fishing will apply.

(ii) The following tippets ONLY will qualify for N&PSGFC Fly Fishing Trophies: 4 kg, 6 kg, 8 kg, 10 kg & 15kg (minimum tippet class for sharks will be 6 kg)

* Any fish caught on 1 kg 2 kg or 3 kg tippet class will be eligible for GFAA & IGFA records and will be processed by N&PSGFC. Any fish caught on these tippet classes will not qualify for N&PSGFC Fly Fishing points.

(iii) Minimum capture weights for all fish species as set down by NSWGFA will apply for tippet classes of 10 kg or less.

* Marlin & Sharks	Minimum weight will be 60 kg
*Yellowfin Tuna	Minimum weight will be 15 kg - must weigh equal to tippet class for junior anglers only.
*Other Game Fish	Minimum weight equal to tippet class used.

(iv) 15kg Category Rules

1. 15kg tippet is for Billfish and Sharks only
2. Shock tippet length is not to exceed 100cm (1m)
3. A minimum of 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
6. Sharks and Marlin must weigh a minimum of 80kg on 15kg tippet
7. Yellowfin Tuna & Southern Bluefin Tuna must weigh a minimum of 15kg

9. FISHING AREAS FOR CLUB POINT SCORES & TROPHIES

(a) Must be within one (1) days travelling and return time from the ports of Newcastle or Port Stephens. Boats must leave from, and return to, the above ports on the day of capture/tag & release.

(b) Anglers and boats fishing away from home ports of Newcastle or Port Stephens competing in a sanctioned inter-club competition in NSW shall be entitled to all major point score trophies excluding 9.e (this rule applies for a registered club member on board a registered club boat)

(c) Fish hooked during the fishing hours of the sanctioned tournament may be fought out and will count for all major point score regardless of any cut off time at the weigh station for that tournament.

(d) Boats may depart from Broughton Island.

(e) First and last point scoring fish trophies, first and last marlin trophies, you must leave and return to your home port of Port Stephens

10. WEIGHING OF FISH FOR CLUB POINT SCORES & TROPHIES

(a) Fish must be weighed on the day of capture, if not a written explanation must be submitted with signed and completed capture certificate to the N&PSGFC Committee for their consideration. The Committees decision is final.

(b) The weigh master or the assistant appointed by the Committee to weigh fish, must not be a crew member of the boat from which the capture is made.

(c) In the event of neither of the above being available, two (2) independent witnesses may check the weight and sign the certificate. The addresses of the independent witnesses must also be shown.

(d) All fish must be weighed at Newcastle or Port Stephens or as in Rule 3 to be eligible for club point scores.

(e) Any angler wishing to weigh fish at Newcastle must make their own arrangements for having the fish weighed. The fish is to be weighed on certified scales.

(f) Fish weighed during sanctioned competitions away from N&PSGFC shall be eligible for all major trophies, provided a duly completed point score certificate signed by the competition weigh master is received by the club point score recorder within the specified time.

(g) Capture certificates are to be signed by the weigh master on the day of capture.

11. ANGLERS & BOATS ENTITLED TO FISH FOR CLUB POINT SCORES & CLUB TROPHIES **(NO POINTS WILL BE ALLOCATED IF YOU ARE OUTSIDE ANY OF THE CRITERIA BELOW)**

(a) Anglers who are full financial members of the N&PSGFC. A full financial member is a member who has paid a membership fee prior to the capture/tag & release of the fish or shark for which point score is claimed.

(b) Anglers who have completed an application form for membership, being duly nominated & seconded by any full financial fishing member of one (1) years or more, and the application form, together with the payment is in the hands of a Committee member prior to the time of departure for fishing, shall be entitled to fish for point score and trophies, providing the application is accepted by the Committee at the next meeting.
(c) Honorary and Life Members shall be entitled to compete for club trophies and club point scores.
(d) Visiting members provided they are members of a fishing club affiliated with GFAA or IGFA, shall be allowed to score boat points only.
(e) Boat point scores will only be allowed to boats registered with the N&PSGFC. Personal point scores will be allowed when fishing on a registered N&PSGFC vessel or land based. Personal point scores will be allowed to anglers (excluding professional boat crew) of N&PSGFC fishing from a licensed charter boat, whilst on charter. Charter boats cannot score boat points whilst on charter. Anglers fishing on a registered NSWGFA boat (other than a NPSGFC boat affiliated with NSWGFA and they are fishing from the home port of Port Stephens can claim personal capture and tag and release points only all club rules and times apply. It is the responsibility of the angler to send all necessary paper work to the club within 14 days of the capture as per rule 17(c)
(f) Dual Membership: where a member or boat is registered with two (2) or more game fishing clubs, point scores or trophy entitlements will not be recognised unless the member nominates to fish for N&PSGFC prior to the commencement of fishing. The boat and angler must register their capture/tag & release with the same club.
(g) An angler or boat may not register their capture/tag & release with more than one fishing club or competition.
(h) Introductory Members: names are to be reported by the skipper to the sked boat if or when the angler catches or tags their first fish. Introductory anglers are allowed to catch or tag 1 fish. Skippers are reminded that they are responsible for payment of the introductory fishing fee with in seven (7) days.

NOTE: Introductory Members

1. Fee - $25.00 when first fish is caught. Introductory members are allowed 1 fish only.
2. Introductory members are not permitted to fish sanctioned tournaments, they are allowed in all other club days and intra tournaments, they can only be an introductory member once.
3. Introductory members must submit an application to join the club with in 28 days to receive personal points.
4. In the event of an introductory member catching a fish, all of the above criteria must be met before personal capture/tag & release points will be credited.

5. Boat points will be awarded for introductory member's capture /tag & release if the $25 dollars is received.

(i) Boats replaced by their owner/s by obtaining ownership of a different boat and retaining the same name of the replaced boat providing the replaced boat does not compete in further competition under the same name will be eligible for boat point score.
(j) A boat may only be registered with N&PSGFC by the legal owner being a club member & over the age of eighteen, however a member other than the legal owner may be deemed the responsible skipper for any specific fishing day.

12. ANGLERS AND BOAT OWNERS WHO ARE NOT ENTITLED TO FISH FOR CLUB POINT SCORE OR COMPETE FOR TROPHIES

(a) Club members whose club accounts are in arrears for a period of sixty (60) days.
(b) Anglers who have not paid their membership fees prior to fishing.

13. POINT SCORES

Will be awarded as per point score system of the NSWGFA: -

Capture points equal the weight of the fish squared x factor, divided by line class. Factors are as follows: 4kg – 29.5; 6kg – 19.5; 8kg – 14.5; 10kg – 11.5; 15kg – 7.5; 24kg – 4.6; 37kg – 3; 60kg – 1.7

(a) Marlin points be doubled as above factor system
(b) Broadbill points be doubled as above factor system
(c) Other Gamefish (exception Broadbill as above) points are trebled as above factor system
(d) Shark points half except blue sharks, which are one-quarter of as above factor system.
(e) NOTE – no points shall be awarded for shark capture on 4kg line class.

Line class	Ultra Light	4 – 6 kg
	Light	8 – 10 kg
	Medium	15 kg
	Heavy	24 – 37 – 60 kg

Maximum Points to be allocated for capture on …

4,6,8,10 kg	15,000 points + 1 point per kilo
15,24,37,60 kg	20,000 points + 1 point per kilo

(f) Classification of species

Sharks - All species except for Grey Nurse and White Sharks (which are protected species) are not to be targeted. There are many species of sharks and therefore the classification of species is the same as for

	T&R shark species which is: Blue, Hammerhead (all), Mako (all), Porbeagle, Thresher (all), Tiger, Whaler, White sharks are a protected species and as such cannot be targeted.
Marlin	- Blue, Black and Striped
Other Gamefish	- All eligible species listed for NSWGFA and including Broadbill, Swordfish, Shortbilled Spearfish and Sailfish. - Southern Bluefin Tuna are now eligible for capture since 1st June 2004.

(g) Tag & Release point scores shall be in accordance with the NSWGFA point score list. Species common to our waters: -

(h) NOTE – The maximum number of Yellowtail kingfish and Mahi Mahi tagged & released by one angler be limited to five (5) of each species per day, with a maximum of ten (10) of each species per boat per day shall apply also.

(i) NOTE – White sharks are a protected species and CANNOT be targeted.

Tag & Release point scores shall be in accordance with the NSWGFA point score list. Species common to our waters: -

	4-10kg	15kg	24kg	37kg	60kg
MARLIN					
Marlin – Black	12,500	11,500	10,000	8,500	7,500
Marlin - Blue	12,500	11,500	10,000	8,500	7,500
Marlin - Striped	12,500	11,500	10,000	8,500	7,500
OTHER BILLFISH					
Broadbill Swordfish	12,500	11,500	10,000	8,500	7,500
Sailfish	6,250	5,750	5,000	4,250	3,750
Shortbill Spearfish	6,250	5,750	5,000	4,250	3,750
SHARKS - minimum 100cm					
*Shark - Blue	3,125	2,875	2,500	2,125	1,875
*Shark – H/H (Smooth Only)	3,750	3,450	3,000	2,550	2,250
*Shark - Mako (all)	3,750	3,450	3,000	2,550	2,250
*Shark - Porbeagle	3,750	3,450	3,000	2,550	2,250
*Shark - Thresher (all)	3,750	3,450	3,000	2,550	2,250
*Shark – Tiger	3,750	3,450	3,000	2,550	2,250
*Shark - Whaler (all)	3,750	3,450	3,000	2,550	2,250
TUNAS					
Tuna - Albacore	625	575	500	425	375
Tuna - Longtail	625	575	500	425	375
Tuna – Bigeye	1,250	1,150	1,000	850	750

Tuna - Dogtooth	1,250	1,150		1,000	850	750
Tuna - Bluefin & Southern Bluefin		1,150		1,000	850	750
Tuna - Yellowfin	1,250	1,150		1,000	850	750
MISCELLANEOUS						
Narrow Barred (Spanish) Mackerel		625	575	500	425	375
Wahoo		625	575	500	425	375
*Yellowtail Kingfish - minium 70cm		310	290	250	210	190
Barracuda		31	29	25	21	19
Cobia		31	29	25	21	19
*Mahi Mahi (Dolphin Fish)		31	29	25	21	19
JUNIOR POINTS ONLY						
Tuna - Kawa Kawa		13	12	10	9	8
Tuna - Strp - Catch & Release Only		13	12	10	9	8

- The maximum number of *Yellowtail Kingfish and *Mahi Mahi tagged and released by one angler be limited to five (5) of each species per day, with a maximum of ten (10) of each species per boat per day shall also apply.
- All sharks tagged & released must measure a minimum of 100cm in length.
- Yellowtail Kingfish tagged & released must measure a minimum of 70cm in length.
- *Striped Tuna and *Kawa Kawa are eligible species for JUNIOR PERSONAL POINT SCORE AND APPLICABLE TROPHIES ONLY in club competitions and tournaments.

(ii) Measure & Release

is allowed Yellowtail Kingfish* under 70cm ONLY

- *Yellowtail Kingfish are eligible species for JUNIOR PERSONAL POINT SCORE AND APPLICABLE TROPHIES ONLY in club competitions and tournaments.

Following are the only Measure & Release points that may be used by NSWGFA – affiliated member Clubs

	4-10kg	15kg	24kg
KINGFISH - Yellowtail - under 70cm	13	12	10
STRIPED TUNA	13	12	10

14. GAME FISH CAPTURES

(a) Marlin -	Must weigh a minimum of 70 kg on line classes to 10kg and a minimum of 90 kg on 15 kg line class and over.
(b)Yellowfin Tuna & - Southern Bluefin	Must weigh a minimum of 15kg on line classes up to and including 15kg line, equal to the line class

for over 15kg line and for junior anglers equal to the line class in all cases.

(c) Other Game Fish & Broadbill - Minimum weight to equal the line class.

15. SHARK CAPTURES

1. Sharks – Must weigh a minimum of 70 kg on line classes to 10 kg, a minimum of 90kg on line classes 15kg to 37kg and 130kg on 60kg line class. Excluding Tiger sharks and Blue Sharks

Tiger Sharks. New Min. Weights

Line Classes 6 – 10kg min. 120kg which is an increase of 50kg, current is 70kg

Line Classes 15 – 24kg min. 200kg which is an increase of 110kg, current is 90kg

Line Classes 37 – 60kg min. 250kg which is an increase of 160kg on 37kg and 130kg on 60kg, current is 90kg on 37kg and 120kg on 60kg

Blue Sharks.

Line Classes 6 – 10kg min. 100kg which is an increase of 30kg, current is 70kg

Line Classes 15 – 24kg min. 125kg which is an increase of 35kg, current is 90kg

Line Classes 37 – 60kg min. 150kg which is an increase of 30kg, current on 120kg on 60kg.

Minimum Weights for Junior and Small Fry Anglers

Yellowfin Tuna: 15kg on line classes up to and including 15kg line, equal to line class for over 15kg line, and for junior anglers equal to the line class in all cases.

Southern Bluefin tuna: 15kg on line classes up to and including 15kg line, equal to line class for over 15kg line, and for junior anglers equal to the line class in all cases.

Marlin: a minimum of 60kg on line classes to 4kg to 10kg and a minimum of 80kg on 15kg line class and over.

Sharks: a minimum of 60kg on line classes 6kg to 10kg, a minimum of 80kg on line classes 15kg to 37kg, and 120kg on 60kg line class.

Other Game fish and broadbill: minimum weight to be equal to line class.

16. TAG & RELEASE POINT SCORES

(a) As per the NSWGFA point score chart.

(b) Boats fishing tag & release (mid-week) or nominated Saturdays must notify VMR on leaving port. VMR is to be advised of any capture/tag & release on return to port.

17. POINT SCORE CAPTURE/TAG & RELEASE

(a) Details must be submitted on the prescribed N&PSGFC certificate form available from the club office.

(b) All details must be completed including hook up and boated times.

(c) The form must be submitted within fourteen (14) days of the capture/tag & release to qualify for point scores and trophies.

(d) Certificates must be submitted to the Club office.

(e) Tag cards must be attached to point score certificates submitted for tag & release point scores.

(f) A claim for initial capture/tag & release, Junior, Ladies etc. must be clearly identified on the certificate to be eligible for trophies.

(g) NPSGFC Fishing committee reserves the right to request photographic evidence of any tag and release submitted for point scores.

18. TROPHIES

(a) Will be published in the Annual Report and on the Club Website http://www.npsgfc.com

(b) Additional trophies may be added to this list at the discretion of the Committee and published in the Jaws Magazine, the Annual Report and/or the Club Website. All trophy fish (capture) must be weighed at Newcastle or Port Stephens on day of capture/tag & release. All trophies relating to specific fish or fish types can only be won with fish caught from the ports of Newcastle or Port Stephens. Fish captured/tagged & released during other clubs sanctioned tournaments will count for overall point scores and thus such trophies but not individual fish trophies.

(c) First and last marlin of the season may be captured/tag & released at any time provided that they are weighed at Newcastle or Port Stephens and comply with Rule 10 for capture or Rule 16 for tag & release.

(d) Only fish captured & weighed or tagged & released & notified to the Club in accordance with these rules will be eligible for Club points/prizes &/or trophies.

19. SAFETY RULES

(a) All boats must have the safety equipment, which conforms with the N&PSGFC & waterways boat safety requirements.

(b) A boat registration form must be submitted to the club office prior to the start of each fishing season or before fishing for boat or personal point scores.

(c) Boat registration forms must be submitted with a valid insurance certificate of currency showing third party liability and personal liability

(policy number and renewal date is insufficient) before any points are awarded.

(d) Two fishing committee members or directors may make random checks of any club boats.

(e) Boats not carrying the necessary equipment will not be eligible for that days point score and shall not be entitled to any further point score until all safety rules are satisfied and the boat has been re-inspected.

(f) If you wish to have your boat inspected to receive a boat safety registration sticker you must make your own arrangements with Water Ways.

20. ALL N&PSGFC BOATS

Boats must satisfy all waterways & Maritime requirements. In addition, boats registered with N&PSGFC must submit the following information.

<u>N&PSGFC additional requirements</u>

Boat Name

Skipper Name

Boat Details – Model, Make, Boat Length, Engines, Fuel Type i.e. Diesel, Petrol, Unleaded, Fuel Capacity & Cruise Range

Design and Distinguishing details

2 Forms of radio communication i.e. 27 Meg plus VHF or 2 meg including all frequencies

Depth Sounder

GPS (to reach the bottom of the area to be fished)

Fixed compass – a hand held will not be accepted

Distress signals as per MSB, must be in date for the fishing season. Expiry dates to be included.

EPIRB – Compulsory for all N&PSGFC vessels Expiry Date & Serial Number included

First Aid Kit – In date

Radar Reflector

Provisions with a minimum for 3 days per person

Emergency Contact Details

NOTE: All boats must submit a valid Insurance Certificate of Currency when registering the vessel with N&PSGFC

21. SKEDS

(a) It is mandatory that a sked be run for all point score days. If the skipper has not heard a sked run for that day, the skipper is to start one themselves. If you are the only boat at seas for that fishing day all capture/tag & release should be reported to VMR Port Stephens.

(b) It is recommended that all Radio Skeds are operated on two of three frequencies available i.e. 27 meg, V.H.F. and High Frequency. A dual broadcast is desirable with the Radio Operator repeating each report. This allows all vessels to listen to the total Sked. It is understood that in some

areas due to radio traffic and conditions that not all frequencies operate effectively.

(c) Radio Skeds should be conducted at a maximum of TWO HOUR intervals.

(d) Grid Maps of the local fishing area and Sked record sheets are to be used on all point score days. They are available from the club office.

(e) Reporting Procedures;
First Sked - On the first Sked each day vessels will report the following: Number of persons on board. Position in reference to Grid Map. Fishing activity (travelling, anchored, drifting, trolling). Fishing report detailing captures/tag & release.
Following Sked Report - Position in reference to Grid Map. Fishing activity as above. Fishing report as above.
Last Sked Report – Position in reference to Grid Map. Fishing activity as above. Fishing report as above. E.T.A. Estimated time of arrival back in port.

(f) It is mandatory for all vessels to report on each Sked. Failure to report on two consecutive Skeds will activate an Emergency Procedure. A suitable points penalty will be imposed if a satisfactory explanation is not given.

(g) In the event of a vessel failing to report on TWO consecutive Skeds the Base Operator/Sked Recorder will start the Emergency Procedure: Sked Recorder will issue a description of the vessel including all details by radio to all other club boats. Instruct all vessels near the last know position to start a search of their area. After one hour of club vessels searching, the Sked Recorder notifies Local Search and Rescue Authorities of the possible missing vessel and detail all actions taken. The overall Responsibility for Search and Rescue is the NSW Police Service

(h) Vessels must answer each Sked with the required details. If a vessel has radio failure and cannot contact base/sked recorder or relay through another vessel, it must return to port immediately and notify Sked Recorder of their actions by other means (phone etc). Remember that if TWO Skeds are not answered the Emergency Procedure will be activated.

(i) It is mandatory for every vessel to sign off with Sked recorder. The vessel must wait for a reply from the Sked recorder to confirm sign off or with the permission of the remaining vessel/s at sea may be transferred to the local VMR Port Stephens.

(j) An accurate record of each Sked shall be kept and submitted within 14 days to the point score recorder.

(k) Skeds are conducted every two hours at 10 minutes to the odd hour.

22. FAILURE TO SIGN OFF

Failure to sign off on daily Skeds will automatically incur a penalty of 5,000 points unless a reasonable explanation is submitted to the Club office within seven (7) days of the competition. The decision of the Committee will be final.

23. JUNIOR MEMBER

(a) Is an angler who has not reached the age of 16 years. All point scores from the 16th birthday shall be recorded as an adult

(b) Cannot fish in any Club event unless accompanied by an adult angler. With the exception of juniors fishing from land based positions.

(c) Classification of Junior's – 2 categories

1. Small Fry ages 0-11th Birthday
2. Junior's 11 years and up to 16th birthday

24. YOUTH ANGLERS & FEES

A Youth Angler is an angler who's aged from 16 to 18 years and is treated as an adult angler competing for adult trophies. Membership fees for Youth Anglers are 50% of the adult fee.

25. ALL UNWANTED FISH

Fish may not be left at the weigh station, but must be taken by boat and sunk at sea outside the heads. Carcasses should be gutted to ensure they indeed sink to the bottom. Anglers must not clean or fillet or remove sharks jaws in the vicinity of the weigh station, beaches, marinas or places frequented by the public. Fish carcasses must not be hung off boats, moorings or marinas. If required traces to be removed at the weigh station by or at the direction of a Committee member or Fishing Committee Member. Shark jaws to be removed on board boats only. Small boats are to utilize larger boats if necessary. All boats must empty burley pots before entering the port. Disqualification of fish/points will be incurred if not adhered to.

26. REPORTING OF CAPTURES OR TAG & RELEASE

All captures/tag & release are to be reported to the Sked boat immediately following capture/tag & release. Full details should be reported giving the type of fish, approximate weight, line class and anglers name on the Sked immediately following capture/tag & release. Sked sheets are to be handed to the weigh master on return to port or posted to the Point Score Recorder/Club office with in fourteen (14) days.

27. INTRACLUB TOURNAMENTS

(a) All tournaments conducted by the Committee of N&PSGFC for its members shall have any entry fee, the minimum being $5.00 per angler.

(b) Tournament entry fees shall apply to all registered members aboard, nominated either by special entry form or on the first Sked report of each tournament.

(c) The nominated boat skipper shall be responsible for all payments to the club for himself and crew.

(d) The boats scoring the highest major points in capture and/or Tag & Release will lead out the club in the interclub and be team captain, if selected in team 1".

28. MINIMUM NUMBERS

A minimum number of two (2) persons must be on any boat participating in any N&PSGFC event including major and mid-week competition.

29. PROTESTS/DISCREPANCIES OF POINT SCORES

(a) An angler or boat skipper may lodge a protest or notice of discrepancy of point scores in writing to the Club office within fourteen (14) days of the disputed point score being first published.
(b) Being published shall include inclusion on the Club website and/or Jaws magazine.

30. EQUAL POINT SCORES

In the event of a tie in point scores for any trophy or award for capture/tag & release, the angler or boat achieving the tied score first shall be awarded the trophy or award.

31. INTENT OF THE RULES

In the case of dispute on the intent of the club fishing rules, the Committee decision will be final.

32. NORTHERN ZONE POINT SCORE DAYS

Rule 1 of the Northern Zone Fishing Rules Shall Read;

1. Fishing days will be the first Saturday or Sunday of the first full weekend except for the Clubs' first nominated Zonal day of each month or the Clubs' first competition Saturday or Sunday of each month thereafter. Boats can only fish one Northern Zone day per month except for the Overnight Tournaments to be held in November and May, when boats can fish all weekend.
   If any Club boats fish Saturday for Northern Zone point score and the weather turns bad for Sunday, then only Saturday will count for Northern Zone points for that month. If the entire weekend is not fishable, then it will carry over to the following weekend except for the overnight Tournament, which are not transferable.
   Fishing days will begin in July of each year and finish in June the following year.

33. ADVICE TO ANGLERS WISHING TO MAKE A 1000LB CLUB, NSWGFA GFAA, OR IGFA RECORD CLAIM

If you have captured a fish you think may be a record or eligible for the 1000lb club, contact the club office and make your claim through the club, keep all equipment used take measurements and photos (just in case).
Contacting the club to make a record claim is your responsibility.