

Sunshine Coast Game Fishing Club
PO Box 998
Buddina Qld 4575



Dear New Member

Thank you for joining the Sunshine Coast Game Fishing Club.

The Sunshine Coast Game Fishing Club is lucky enough to have Australia's number one light tackle sports fishing area, Mooloolaba, on our doorstep and the Club has won the award from the Australian Game Fishing Association for the most fish tagged and released by any game fishing club in Australia an impressive six times, making us one of the most successful tag and release clubs in Australia. We also boast an impressive history as Queensland's Champion Gamefishing Club since the beginning of the QGFA Championship records.

Our monthly meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at the Kawana Waters Hotel, Nicklin Way, Kawana. Meetings commence at 7.30pm, with nibbles served at intermission. Members are usually in attendance from 6.30pm, and you are most welcome to join us for a social chat or a bite to eat in the hotel bistro before the meeting commences. We present a different feature at each meeting – eg tackle and gear maintenance, fishing techniques, marine electronics, boat maintenance etc – and are only too happy to put something together if there is a particular fishing / marine feature you are interested in. A prize is presented at each meeting to the highest point-scoring angler for the previous month.

Our club magazine *Reel Talk* is produced on a quarterly basis. This publication is designed to keep our members informed of the clubs activities and report on fishing for the month. The success of *Reel Talk* is widely based upon our member's input, and you are most welcome to submit a story or anecdote to the editor for inclusion in the magazine. Additionally, the club website is a great source of information, and being a member means that you will have access to the member exclusive "members" section, which also includes the clubs forum where you can read up on some fishing hints and locations, let others know if you available to crew or looking for crew, and sell stuff. You can also maintain your personal info and password details. This section is not available to the general public.

One of the greatest strengths of our club is the camaraderie that is evident amongst our members, and the willingness of our members to share fishing tips, tricks, and information. If you are new to fishing, looking for advice, or looking for someone to either come out fishing with you or take you fishing with them, don't hesitate to mention your requirements at the club meetings, in the club website forum, or get the editor to put a line in the club magazine.

We are justifiably proud of our club. One of the ways you can show you are a part of the SCGFC is to purchase a club shirt. A variety of club merchandise can be purchased at our monthly club meetings, and being distinctive in their style are great to wear to inter-club events.

Included is information regarding Club rally days, tag cards and activity sheets, general fishing info and the Club trophy list. The Club By-Laws are listed in the *Members* section on the website.

We look forward to seeing you at the monthly club meetings, and out on the water.

Warmest regards,

Sunshine Coast Game Fishing Club

SCGFC History

Terry Parker founded the SCGFC in 1981 after putting an add in the local paper asking people interested in game fishing to come along to a meeting at his bait and tackle shop on First Avenue Maroochydore. There was a good rollup of mostly inexperienced people. A steering committee was elected, and a meeting with QGFA put the SCGFC in action.

The next twenty years saw the club move from strength to strength in all areas of Game Fishing. We now have a vast wealth of experience, with the Clubs and our members' achievements demonstrating the depth of knowledge and fishing expertise within our club membership. The SCGFC have five life members - Brian Stuart-Nairne, Dawn Earle, Bob Bury, Rob Werry and Dr Evan Jones – all who have made significant contributions to the club and to gamefishing. Evan and Dawn also hold positions in Queensland Gamefishing, with Dawn also recognised as a QGFA Life Membership for her services to Queensland gamefishing.

It is with great pride that the SCGFC has been awarded the GFAA John O'Brien Trophy for the highest point scoring GFAA club an impressive six times. This is a brilliant achievement, and is a great credit to the efforts of all of our club members. Several past and present club members' currently hold, or have held Queensland and Australian records for game fish species

The SCGFC have also done exceptionally well in the individual angler tag and release arena, with four club members being awarded the Sir Garrick Agnew Trophy for the angler who tagged and released the most billfish in Australian waters. Our 2002/2003 President, Michelle Temminck (Jansz) was the first recipient in 1997/98 with 88 billfish, followed by Peter Pescell in 1998/99 (98 billfish), Fred Temminck in 2000/01 (24 billfish) and Andrew Yeh in 2001/02 with 28 billfish. Past members Peter and Michelle respectively hold the two highest tag and release numbers since the inception of the trophy in 1987/88. Club boats Kenka, Palagero and Outrageous (r/up) also hold Australian Tag & Release records.

It is very important to us that the club is very much suited to everyone, and in particular that we have always had a strong junior membership. These young ladies and gents have proven in no uncertain terms that they are the anglers of the future with Christopher Yeh, Luke Longworth, and Peter Rhys Matthews all holding state and/or National titles in the GFAA Junior Tournaments.

Whilst the SCGFC is a very high achieving club, we base our primary fishing ethic on getting out there, having fun, and recognising that we have an important part to play in preserving our fishing resources. It is for this reason that the SCGFC is very active in the field of Research and Development.

SCGFC Research and Development

The Sunshine Coast Game Fishing Club has been at the forefront of Game Fish Research and Development for many years.

Because of the long held Tag and Release ethos of the club, we have been major contributors to the Research Tagging program administered by NSW fisheries. Thousands of tag cards have been distributed by the club and then, when utilised, the tag cards then being returned to NSW fisheries for recording. This action has contributed to the large body of information about marlin movements that has been built up. The Club, by analysis of the records, has been able to show deficiencies in the current design of tags and has advocated for the proposed move to new tags, which we believe, will increase tag returns.

The club was also involved in a Vision and Visual Ecology of Pelagic Fish research program conducted by Dr Kerstin Fritsches of University of Qld. During the research period Club members were instrumental in supplying fresh specimens for this research, which will ultimately contribute to our understanding of marlin eyesight.

Club members have also supplied DNA samples for Sailfish research, which has contributed to our understanding of sailfish distribution, and have participated extensively in the current PSAT (pop up satellite tagging program being conducted by renowned marine scientist Dr Julian Pepperell. SCGFC also proudly note that the club has been instrumental in advocating ways to minimise trauma to game fish such as the use of non-offset circle hooks.

Advocacy has been a major role by the club. Club members have contributed to debates over the use of fish resources including important bait species including pilchards, slimey mackerel and yellowtail. The club continues to have a keen interest in fisheries management and the Moreton Bay Marine Park management.

What you need to know to get the most out of your SCGFC Membership

Rally Days

Rally Days are club events that are designed to promote a friendly competition amongst club members, and to enhance our social activities.

Rally Days occur on the first weekend following our club monthly meeting, and all Qld wide public holidays. Both Saturday and Sunday count as a Rally Day, with any points scored by our club members on these days counting not only towards our normal club championship points, but also towards our Rally Day Champion points.

The Rally Day Champion for the year wins \$1000 towards the cost of fishing any tournament they would like to fish outside our club zone (exception is Hervey Bay Tournament). The aim of this prize is to enable an angler to participate in other clubs tournaments and travel to places they may have otherwise not had the opportunity to. The \$1000 must be spent within the financial year that it is awarded. Points are automatically entered into the club database upon your submission of your activity sheet and tag cards, but remember, these **must be submitted to the Club Captain within 14 days of the tag or capture** or **no club points** will be allocated. Please note '*Rally Day*' on your activity sheet if the fish is caught on a rally day.

A fishing year is the same as the financial year.

On the social side, we endeavour to have a get together on the Saturday evening of Rally Days. This provides an opportunity for our fishing group, partners and families to get together and have a good ol' fishin' fibs session. The venue is announced at the monthly club meeting.

Activity Sheets and Tag Cards

Why do we fill out Tag Cards?

NSW Fisheries, GFAA and ANSA are cooperating in a game fish tagging program to gain insight into the life history of game fish. If your fish is recaptured, the new details will be recorded and sent to you. You will receive a certificate telling you how far the fish has travelled, how much it has grown, how long since it had been tagged, who originally caught it etc.

Why do we fill out Activity Sheets?

It is vital that information is correctly recorded in your activity book as it is important not only to our members, but to the survival of game fishing. There is an example at the front of your activity record book – this serves as a very good guide to the completion of activity sheet. If you need assistance in completing activity sheets, please do not hesitate to contact any committee member for advice.

Activity sheets are competed in triplicate. The top two copies need to be submitted to the Club Captain along with any associated tag cards; you retain the final copy for your records. Once submitted, your two copies are used as follows:

One copy is sent to QGFA who use the information on the activity sheet to allocate points to our club and to our individual anglers for State and National recognition. Our club history supports that we have been consistent achievers in this arena.

QGFA also record the hours spent fishing, and numbers of persons fishing to show how much money is spent on the sport, and thus how much the resource is worth. It is very important to complete, and return Activity Sheets for all days on the water – even if you didn't catch anything. Nil returns also provide valuable data as the fishing resource used by recreational anglers and are crucial to prove fishing to help fight issues like incorrect commercial fishing practices and fisheries management between recreational and commercial fishing.

The remaining copy is used by the SCGFC to allocate club points to boats and individual anglers via entry of your activity sheet details into our club database. We use the finalised database information (to 30 June yearly) to prepare our records, our trophy list, and to identify fishing patterns throughout the year.

Who gets the Activity Book?

Every boat owner receives an activity book. Refer to the details below on how to complete your activity book.

When do we fill out Activity sheets?

Every time you go out on the water. It does not matter if you do not see a fish all day. Fill out the hours you spent fishing, number of crew etc. Make sure you retain the third (yellow) copy for your records.

Where do I send my Activity Sheets and Tag cards?

There are strict time frames involved in the submission of Activity Sheets to Q.G.F.A. To coordinate and streamline the process for our club, there is one central point that all activity sheets and tag cards go to.

Please post the top two copies (white and blue pages) of your activity sheets and any accompanying tag cards to **the club captain**. The committee contact list can be found in the **Members** section on the club website. Alternatively, you can bring them along to the next club meeting, but remember they need to be received no later than **14 days after tag or capture date** or **no club points** will be awarded. Nil returns can be accumulated and sent in batches if preferred.

Where do I get new Tag cards and Activity books?

Tag cards and activity books are available at every club meeting, or by sending an email to the club at the following email address: club@scgfc.com.au. A tag register of all dispatched tags is kept for tracking purposes.

How much information is required on Activity Sheets?

The first and most important point is to keep a note pad and pen on the dashboard so you can record each activity, and transfer this information to your activity book on your return to port.

All information on the activity sheet has to be complete, correct and accurate. Write the date and time (24 hour format to avoid confusion), boat name and club, number of persons on board, hours on the water and species in the spaces provided.

A strike is when a billfish (or any fish) has a go at a lure or bait, but does not hook up. You would record the time, the method, and place a tick the strike box. If the fish hooks up, then you would tick the strike and the hook up box. If you tag or capture the fish, tick the strike, hook up and capture / tag column (use 'T' or 'C').

The 'method' coding is provided in a table at the bottom right had corner of the activity sheet. You

should refer to this table and note the appropriate code (eg 'C' for lure on troll) for all strikes, hook ups, and tags or captures in the method column.

We use the location column so we can follow the movement and patterns of billfish throughout the year. This information is available to members, and is publicised by the Club Captain in the magazine and at club meetings. Please use the locations over as a standard:

Hervey Bay	Noosa	Mooloolaba 10m	Trench
Double Island Pt	Noosa Wide	Mooloolaba 12m	Flat Rock
Coolum 12m	Noosa Canyons	Mooloolaba 18m	Stradbroke
Cape Moreton	Caloundra 12m	Mooloolaba 21m	Gold Coast
Moreton Canyons	Caloundra Wide	Mooloolaba Wide	Tweed

Recording Zones Fished on your Activity Sheets

We need you to tell us what zone you caught your fish in. This is very important. You do this by adding Z1, Z2 or Z3 after the location where you hooked the fish, in the location field on your activity sheet. Z1 is up to 80 meters, Z2 is from 80 meters through 150 meters, and Z3 is 150 meters plus. An example would be a fish caught at the back of the Barwon Banks in 85 meters – you would list the location as Mooloolaba Wide Z2.

Remember that Zone 1 is deemed as light tackle (up to 10kg), Zone 2 is our mid zone (15 – 24kg) and Zone 3 is unlimited (15 to 60kg). Light tackle fished in zone 2 and 3 scores according to 15kg line class for that zone and significantly reduced points apply for fishing heavier tackle (15kg and up) in zone1.

Don't forget, if you need assistance in completing activity sheets, please do not hesitate to contact any committee member for advice.

N.S.W. Fishing Licence

Attention all anglers fishing our southern waters: NSW Fisheries are enforcing their fishing boundaries. The boundaries extend 60 degrees from the Tweed River for a distance of 80 miles. Anybody caught fishing, including tagging, in this area without a fishing licence can be up for a 'on the spot' fine of \$300.

Fishing Licences are available from NSW fisheries and lots of outlets in NSW. For more information ring 1300369365.

Record Claims

There are a number of steps involved in claiming a record fish. These include (but are not limited to):

- Official weight of fish on certified scales
- Various photographs of fish, angler, tackle and scales
- Supply of original tackle used

Full details can be sourced on the Internet at www.gfaa.asn.au or via our Club Captain. Please contact the Club Captain or any committee member to initiate a record claim.

Important Events in the Club Year

You get the full benefit of being a SCGFC member if you are able to plan your year. Below is list of the activities that the SCGFC host on a yearly basis. Please note that exact dates for tournaments can vary slightly. A full list of upcoming events is regularly published in *Reel Talk* and on the website.

- Club meetings – FIRST Tuesday monthly. The exception is January, when the Club meeting is held on the THIRD Tuesday of the month.
- Rally weekends – the weekend immediately following a Club meeting. Ad Hoc Rally weekends can be called during the year, if weather or other circumstances dictate. Notification is forwarded to all boat Captains via email or phone call if this occurs.
- February – The SCGFC Classic
- July / August – nominations accepted for follow year's Committee elections
- August - Presentation of Trophies
- October – The SCGFC Sailfish Shootout
- October Club meeting - the Annual General Meeting & election of the new Committee
- November / December – Club Xmas Party

Trophy List for the SCGFC

Club Champion	Club Champion R/up
Champion Senior Male Angler	Champion Senior Male Angler R/up
Champion Senior Female Angler	Champion Senior Female R/up
Champion Junior Male Angler	Champion Junior Female Angler
Champion Light Tackle Angler	Champion Light Tackle Angler R/up
Champion Heavy Tackle Angler	Champion Heavy Tackle Angler R/up
Champion Boat 6.5m and under	Champion Boat 6.5m and under R/up
Champion Boat > 6.5m	Champion Boat > 6.5m R/up
Champion Light Tackle Boat	Champion Light Tackle Boat R/up
Champion Heavy Tackle Boat	Champion Heavy Tackle Boat R/up
Champion Other Species	Champion Other Species R/up
Champion Capture Angler	Champion Capture Angler R/up
Champion Fly Fishing	Champion Rally Day Angler
Champion Angler Other Zones	Champion Angler Other Zones R/up
First Billfish of Season	Last Billfish of Season
President's Award for Club Service	
Club Encouragement Award - individual and / or team	
Most Meritorious Fishing Award -- individual and / or team	

- All trophies are based on points accrued by anglers / boats in a financial year
- Trophies may be added or subtracted at committee discretion to suit the current season