

Small Arms

Volume 12

Newsletter of the Pt MacDonnell Offshore Angling Club. June, 2024

Hi Gang,

Its been a while since our last newsletter so, what's been happening? Most of the Committees time has been taken up with tuna competition preparations and I think that you will agree, it was time well spent.

TUNA COMPETITION

How long has it been since we were able to fish every day of the competition? Quite a few I recon.

The feedback that we continue to receive has been all positive and it seems like everyone had a great time.

The final tally saw 163 entrants! I can't remember having a bigger list of competitors. I'm not sure why we had so many entrants but the \$5000 door prize didn't do any harm. I guess that the presence of big tuna helped as well. One of the basic ideas behind the competition is that we are not trying to make a fortune out of it however we don't want it to cost us too much either. This year, almost by accident, we made a **very** tidy profit.

AGM

The Club AGM will be held at the clubrooms on Sunday 14th July, commencing at 11am. We often have trouble getting enough people to these meetings so, as an enticement we are having a lucky door prize. To be eligible to go into the draw, you must attend in person.

We have a few people up for re-election and some that are standing down so there will be vacancies. If you want to be a part of the committee, please talk to a current committee member to see how to get involved.

GFAA Mid Term Meeting

Tom and I travelled to Sydney for the mid term Exec meeting of the GFAA recently.

Contrary to popular belief, we actually did some work at the meeting. Just a few snippets are listed below:

The production cost and postage of the Journal (rule book) has escalated significantly and with the increasing difficulty in gaining much advertising, it has become a bit of a money pity. The postage alone works out to about \$4 each and we print 10,000 copies. Added to this is the fact that the Secretary, on top of all the other stuff that he does, is pretty much solely responsible for its production. In an attempt to alleviate some of this pressure, there is a suggestion that we could publish it every second year, maybe produce a digital copy or perhaps some sort of combination of both. If you have any strong feelings regarding this, please let me know.

GFAA Historian and Life Member John McIntyre attended the meeting and displayed a flag that was hung over Zane Grey's camp in Bermagui during his visit in 1936. The flag shows the "ugliest marlin in existence" according to John but even so, it is certainly a nice piece of Australian Gamefishing history to have.



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Kids Chat seems to be going from strength to strength with the latest production being very well attended. Our club has 5 participants, all of whom have given the programme the thumbs up. Our next plan is to encourage those involved to invite their friends who are not currently club members to get involved. The next planned session will be held on 23rd June with a presentation by HALCO. If any of our Juniors would like to be involved, please give me a call.

Plans are still being confirmed but it looks very likely that the GFAA AGM will be held in either Melbourne, Sydney or Brisbane on the 18 & 19 October. There is a push to get some new faces to attend and to facilitate this, each State will be encouraged to bring along an observer. By then we will have had the SAGFA AGM so Tom and I will be out of the President and Secretary roles and the GFCSA will be in the seat (after all, we have done it for 4 years). I guess the final selection will be made by the State President at the time.

The new GFAA web page is into the production phase! Anyone that has tried to look up a record on their phone will soon realise that the current page is not mobile friendly. The new site should be up and running by the end of July and I am sure that you will be impressed. The main reason that pushed this project was the insane amount of time that it took to update the Junior Tournament details. Looks like we fixed two problems with one fix.

National Junior Coordinator Kevin Oates will be stepping down from this position and his current assistant Karen Wright will be taking over. They will basically be changing places with Kevin hanging around for a while to help get the new web page up and running.

The Adelaide Gamefishing Club looks likely to close its doors at the end of the year.

Hopefully, most of their members will join us. Tom & I did quite a bit of groundwork with one of their members John Marsh (GFAA Treasurer and all round nice guy) to help push this along.

Fridges

If you call past the clubrooms you cant help but notice **a few** glass fronted fridges that we have purchased. There is a grant that makes this possible for sporting clubs but the deal is that we had to take the complete offered package. Don't panic. They didn't cost us much at all – yes, we do have receipts! Fridge space is no longer a problem. These are all there in preparation for us getting a liquor license. Hopefully we can put them to good use very soon.



Successful Grant Application

Our recent grant application has been approved and the \$3000 is sitting in the bank. We can basically spend this on pretty much whatever we like as long as it assists the club.

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Membership Fees

The new club year starts on 1st July and this means that your membership fees are due then. Now one of the agenda items every year at the AGM is to set membership fees so don't pay them just yet – maybe pay them at the AGM. I am always astounded by the amount of people that pay their membership at the Tuna Comp thereby paying it a for the year but only using it for 2 months.

I don't know if you noticed how difficult it was this year trying to take entry fees and memberships all at the same time.

How about this year, we all bring our cards to the AGM, fill out the membership form and pay on the day. Yes we accept card payment.

Bogged

Trouble seems to follow these two. **Tom Egan** was driving home from work and noticed a yacht that seemed to be in trouble, close to shore. Being the great guy that he is, he drove onto the beach and followed it along the shore to see if he could assist. Eventually the sand became quite soft and he became bogged. His story is that the 4WD option failed, leaving him stuck. A quick phone call to **Brodie Williams** for help resulted in both of them becoming bogged. Another call to **Nick Smith** resulted in both of them being rescued by the tractor.

Tag Points

There was some discussion at the last committee meeting regarding the tag points system. Currently, a fish of 60kg caught on 37kg gear attracts 200 tag points but if it is caught on anything heavier, its only 50. The thought is that when a 60kg fish hits the deck, the decision to either tag or kill it may be influenced by the fact that it might only attract 50 points. We thought that the easy

way to address this is to make any SBT over **50kgs** (regardless of line class restrictions) to be allocated 1000 tag points. The previous rule was any SBT over 70kgs. To make the tagmasters job easier, we will start this on July 1st.

The other thing that we want to introduce given that 1000 points is not an insignificant amount, is that to claim this there must be photographic evidence. To make it simple, just take a happy snap and send it to me. I can then marry it up with the tag card when I get it.

Oops.

A "little bridie" told me this great story. **Tom Egan** was looking for his club keys so that he could weigh a fish for somebody but couldn't find them anywhere. Thinking back, he realised that he had lent them to Brodie so he rang and asked for them back. Brodie insisted that he had returned them but Tom was having none of it. So, in the "middle of the night" after searching his house and car, Brodie hitched up the dinghy and went out to Brojak where he continued to look for Tom's keys without success. It was about this time that Tom decided put on his jacket and guess what he found in the pocket? About 5 minutes later he lost them again only to find them in his pocket.

Seeya on the water.

Sparksey

Email: gsparks@internode.on.net

Or

Sparksey17@outlook.com

Ph: 0419 866 670

(Text is best)

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FORM OF INSTRUMENT APPOINTING A PROXY

Port MacDonnell Offshore Angling Club Incorporated

I.....being a person entitled to attend and
vote at General Meetings of the above-mentioned association hereby
appoint to be my proxy to vote for me and
on my behalf at the annual general meeting to be held on the 14th July,
2024

Signed.....

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COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM 2024-5

.....is hereby nominated for

the position of

Proposed by

.....signed

Seconded by.....

.....signed

Nominee position nominated hereby agrees to stand for

.....signed

Dated.....

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JOIN LIKE MINDED JUNIORS
WHO LOVE FISHING

KIDS CHAT EVENING

WITH HALCO TACKLE



THE GFAA KIDSFISH2 INITIATIVE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NATIONAL JUNIOR TOURNAMENT WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO A ZOOM "KIDS CHAT EVENING" TO BE HELD ON THE 23RD OF JUNE 2024 AT 5PM AEST

WE HAVE A LURE THEMED CHAT WITH SPECIAL GUEST PRESENTER CURTIS WATERMAN FROM HALCO. BRING ALONG YOUR FAVORITE LURE AND INVITE A FRIEND ALONG.

SPOTS ARE LIMITED SO PLEASE RSVP FOR MORE DETAILS

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ON THE 23RD

RSVP - info@kidsfish2.com.au

