

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Billfish Bonanza 2024, hosted by Mooloolaba Game Fishing Club, is a light & heavy tackle, tag & release event with a focus on sportsmanship and good spirit.

# **SCHEDULE**

22 November

5:30pm - Skippers Briefing

23 November

7:00am - 4:00pm - Day 1 Fishing

4:30pm - 6:00pm - Weigh In

24 November

7:00am - 3:00pm - Day 2 Fishing

4:00pm - 5:00pm - Weigh In

6:30pm - Awards Presentation

### **ENQUIRIES**

President: Brigitte Cox

0401 549 559 | president@mgfc.com.au

Website: www.mgfc.com.au

Join our Facebook Group for regular updates.

### TOURNAMENT ENTRY

- \$220 for each senior angler registered before Nov 15
- \$240 for each senior angler registered after Nov 15
- Free for each junior angler
- \$70 for each non-fishing crew
- \$70 for extra meal tickets

Included in your entry is: tournament apparel, boat bag, lucky angler prizes\*, R.E.D. levy, 2 course presentation dinner, beer/wine at presentation, nibbles at skipper's breifing, fisherman's senior/junior draw\*.

\*Only anglers are eligible for the lucky angler prize draws and fisherman's senior/junior draw.

Entries received prior to 5:00pm Friday, November 15 will go into the Early Entry draw. Early entries will be given preference on tournament apparel sizes – late entries may not have correct sizes available.

# REGISTRATION

Get your registration in before November 17 to take advantage of the early bird price! Registration MUST be submitted via email to secretary@mgfc.com.au before 5pm on Wednesday, November 20.

# **PAYMENT**

Cash and EFT Payments available till Friday November 22. Bank Transfers must be paid by Wednesday, November 20.

BSB: 124 001

Account Number: 1056 0883

### QUALIFICATIONS

The tournament will be fished to GFAA rules. All anglers, skippers and crew entered in the tournament MUST be a financial member of a GFAA or QGFA affiliated club. All persons may be asked to provide proof of current membership. The Club reserves the right to refuse entry to any person.

### **VENUE**

Skipper's Briefing: Mooloolaba Game Fishing Club House. Next to open boat parking, 33-45 Parkyn Parade, Mooloolaba QLD 4557.

Presentation Dinner: Wharf Events, Upstairs at The Wharf, 123 Prkyn Pde, Mooloolaba.

### **MARINA BERTHS**

Marina berths are available from Mooloolaba Marina. Email info@mooloolabamarina.com.au or phone 5444 5653. Please observe marina rules at all times. Boat details and insurance will need to be provided.

### BRIEFING

Skippers or a nominated representative from each boat must be in attendance at the skippers briefing at The Club House at 5:30pm on Friday, November 22, 2024 to be eligible to fish the tournament. Tournament Bags will be handed out at this time.

### **CALCUTTA**

The Calcutta will take place after the skippers briefing.

## **PRESENTATION**

The Presentation of the Awards will commence at 6:30pm at The Wharf Events, upstairs at 123 Parkyn Parade Mooloolaba.

# **FISHING DAYS & TIMES**

Saturday, November 23
Start fishing 7:00am. Cease fishing 4:00pm.
(Overtime permitted).

Sunday, November 24
Start fishing 7:00am. Cease fishing 3:00pm.
(Overtime NOT permitted).

## **HEAVY & LIGHT TACKLE**

Teams must nominate to fish either the heavy or light tackle category before the start of fishing each day.

Teams must radio game base should they elect to change category of tackle during the days' fishing.

# **FISHING GROUNDS**

Fishing Grounds are between a line running due East from Double Island Point and a line running due East from Point Lookout.

### **BOAT LENGTH**

Boat length overall is to be determined from the measurement taken from the bow, (excluding bowsprit) to stern (including outboard pods). This measurement will be used to determine under 7 metres or 7 metres and over

# **RADIO SKEDS**

VHF 21 only. Competing boats must have VHF. All skippers must keep radio sked sheets. Skeds will be called on VHF 21 only.

### **SKED TIMES**

Saturday: 10.03am, 1:03pm, 3:33pm (Overtime permitted).

Sunday: 10:03am, 1:03pm, 2:30pm (Overtime not

permitted)

Skeds will be conducted as follows: When Game Base calls your boat, respond by: Confirm Boat Name, then call number of Strikes, Hook-ups, Captures/Tags (eg: 2.1.1) All tag/captures are to be reported immediately to Game Base. Game Base will issue the tag/capture time which is to be recorded in the sked sheet. All boats must answer the sked or relay via another vessel. A penalty may be applied for failure to do so. If relaying for another vessel, confirm your boat name, then the name of the vessel you are relaying sked details for.

NOTE: All vessels must log on with Game Base before start fishing and log off when back in the harbor or have ceased fishing for that day. Once a vessel has logged off with Game Base it is understood that they will take no further part in fishing for that day.

## **FISHING TACKLE**

The Weighmaster will perform mandatory tackle inspections. Any team found to be using non-conforming equipment will be disqualified of any points.

## SPEED LIMITS

Whilst steaming within the confines of the Mooloolaba Harbour, the speed limit of 6 knots must be observed.

## **DISPUTES COMMITTEE**

A disputes committee comprising of members of a minimum of two competing clubs will hear protests, provided they are submitted in writing no later than 2 hours after cease fishing on the day of alleged infringement. The committee's decision is final and no further discussion will be entered into.

## **FUEL**

Diesel is available at Chippo's Fuel Supplies. Tournament Boats are eligible for a discount. Chippos Fuel Supplies, phone: 0427 002 908.

### **BOATS DEPARTING OTHER PORTS**

Boats may leave from their home port on Saturday and Sunday provided their entry fees have been paid prior. Boats departing other ports still must have representation at the skippers briefing.

All boats competing must return to the weigh station at Mooloolaba Marina on at least Sunday to submit tag cards, activity sheets and have their tackle checked for qualifying fish (deadline 5:00pm). In the event of incorrect checked tackle on day 1 all points up to that point will be disqualified and the team will be allowed to accrue points on day 2. If a boat has fished from their home port and missed day 1 weigh in and is found to be outside of GFAA regulations on day 2 all points will be disqualified for day 1 and day 2. Boats can stay out overnight during the tournament, just radio into Game Base and provide location of where they are staying.

### WEATHER AND BREAKDOWN

No allowance will be made for fishing time lost due to bad weather or breakdowns. The tournament committee reserves the right to cancel or postpone any day due to bad weather. If due to bad weather both fishing days are cancelled, the tournament will be re-scheduled for the approved back up dates of 6-8 December, 2024. In the event of a gale or strong wind warning issued by the BOM of 25 knots or over the club holds the right to cancel or postpone the tournament.

# **WEIGH-INS**

Weigh-ins will be conducted at the public dock in front of Pier 33. Saturday 23rd from 4.30pm - 6.00pm and Sunday 24th from 4.00pm - 5.00pm.

If another boat is already with the weighmaster, please remain in your boat until the weighmaster is free. All anglers must remain with the weighmaster during weighing and recording. All edible fish may be gilled and gutted. A 10% allowance will be made for any fish gilled and gutted. No fish are to be left at the weigh station. Points will be deducted for infringements. (Record claim fish must be intact) Daily activity sheets, tag cards and capture forms are to be delivered to the weighmaster.

# **TROPHIES**

Senior Angler Awards
Champion Light Tackle
Champion Heavy Tackle
Champion Other Species
Champion Male
Champion Female

Junior Angler Awards Champion Junior Angler Runner up Junior Angler Boat Awards Champion Boat Over 7m Champion Boat Under 7m

Junior or Senior Awards
First Billfish Day 1
Last Billfish Day 1
First Billfish Day 2
Last Billfish Day 2

Lucky Angler drawn at each Sked.