TOURNAMENT RULES

Dates: November 20 – 23 inclusive.

Fishing Times: First three days 1100-1730 hrs. Saturday 1000-1600 hrs

1. Tournament Fishing Zone: Between the top of Ribbon Reef No. 5 and the bottom of Jenny Louise Shoals.

2. Eligibility: Open to all Members of Clubs affiliated with GFAA or QGFA. Club membership details must be provided on entry form. All anglers, skippers and crew entered to compete in the tournament MUST be a financial member of a GFAA or QGFA affiliated club. If not already a financial member of a qualifying Club, anglers, skippers and crew may join Port Douglas Fishing Club.

3. Eligible Species: Black Marlin (ISTIOMPAX indica), Blue Marlin (Makaira nigricans) and Striped Marlin (Tetrapturus audax).

4. Eligible Tackle: As published in GFAA angling rules and equipment regulations.

5. Eligible Line Class: 37kg and 60kg line may be used.

6. TAG & RELEASE ONLY EVENT: No fish will be weighed in the Tournament and Fishing and Tag & Release Rules are as published in the GFAA Angling Rules & Equipment Regulations.

7. Point Score: One (1) point per live marlin tagged & released in accordance with the Rules, irrespective of whether 37 or 60kg line was used.

8. Number of Days Fished: Competitors may elect to fish all or any number of competition days within the Tournament dates. There is no reduction in fees for fishing less than 4 days.

9. Judges: Port Douglas Fishing Club shall appoint Tournament Judges whose decision shall be final and binding and no correspondence will be entered into relating to the Judges decisions.

10. Start Fishing: No Tournament fishing or chumming shall commence before starting time each day. Any fish hooked after the final radio schedule but before stop fishing MUST be reported to the Radio Boat and acknowledged to be eligible. The fish may then be played out subject to the conditions of Rule 6.

11. Radio Schedules: All hook-ups, fish lost, tags & releases must be immediately reported to the Radio Ship. The time of the tag & release is deemed to be the time at which the tag & release is reported to the Radio Ship. Details of Radio Schedules will be given on the morning of the tournament start.

12. Tags: GFAA only recognises NSW Fisheries Billfish Tags in Australian waters. ONLY THESE GFAA RECOGNISED TAGS WILL BE ELIGIBLE IN THIS TOURNAMENT. Tags are available from your local GFAA or QGFA Clubs or contact PDMC at [info@portdouglasmarlinchallenge.com](mailto:info@portdouglasmarlinchallenge.com)

13. Protests: A Protest must be submitted in writing to the Judges by 1900 hours on the last day of fishing.

14. Tackle Inspection: Equipment and tackle used by competitors may be inspected at random by the Tournament Judges.

15. Disclaimer of Liability: The Port Douglas Fishing Club (The Club) and its officers are the organisers of the Port Douglas Marlin Challenge (The Tournament) and all boat owners, boat captains, crew and anglers involved in The Tournament acknowledge that The Club and its officers do not accept any liability for loss, damage, injury or death to any boat entered in The Tournament or any person on board a boat entered in The Tournament