

# Newcastle Game Fishing Club Inc.

## Fishing Rules & By-Laws



### Index

<u>Rule No</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Page No</u>
1	Rules of Fishing .....	2
2	Fishing Year .....	2
3	Fishing Point score Days – Summer Competition .....	2 - 3
4	Fishing Point score Days – Mid-Week Competition .....	3
5	Fishing Point score Days – Winter Competition .....	3
6	Tag & Release Competitions – Summer & Winter .....	3
7	Intention of Fishing .....	3 - 4
8	Fishing Times – Summer Competition – Ladies & Junior Days .....	4
9	Fishing Areas for Club Point scores & Trophies .....	4
10	Weighing of Fish for Club Point score & Trophies .....	5
11	Anglers/Boats entitled to fish for Club Point score & Trophies .....	5 - 6
12	Anglers & Boats not entitled to fish for Angler/Boat Point score & Trophies..	6
13	Capture Point score .....	6
14	Minimum Weights .....	6
15	Sharks .....	6
16	Tag & Release Point score .....	7
17	Capture Certificates & Tag & Release Cards .....	8
18	Trophies to be competed for .....	8 - 11
19	Line Class .....	11
20	Safety Rules – NGFC Vessels .....	11
21	Fishing Gear .....	11
22	Orange Flag .....	11
23	Radio Schedules. ....	12
24	Junior Members .....	12
25	Minimum Number to Fish .....	12
26	Unwanted Fish .....	12
27	Fishing Away at Tournaments .....	12
28	Fishing Rules/By-Laws .....	13
29	Boat Wash .....	13
30	NSWGFA Interclub Competition – Selection of Teams .....	13
31	Member of Committee .....	13
32	Definitions .....	13
33	Intent of the Rules .....	13

# Newcastle Game Fishing Club Inc.

## Fishing Rules & By-Laws

### 1. RULES OF FISHING

Shall be fished in accordance with the "Rules of the Game Fishing Association of Australia (GFAA) and New South Wales Game Fishing Association (NSWGFA) at the time of capture or tag & release shall apply.

### 2. FISHING YEAR

i) **Summer Competition**

**Opens** – The First Sunday in September.

**Closes** – At the conclusion of fishing on Monday of the long weekend in June.

**Competitions within the Summer Competition**

- (a) Summer Competition Capture Point score
- (b) Summer Competition Tag & Release Point score
- (c) Mid-Week Capture Point score
- (d) Mid-Week Tag & Release Point score

ii) **Winter Competition**

**Opens** – at the conclusion of fishing of Summer Competition

**Closes** – on the Saturday prior to Opening Day of the Summer Competition

**Competitions within Winter Competition**

- (a) Winter Competition Capture Point score
- (b) Winter Competition Tag & Release Point score

### 3. FISHING POINT SCORE DAYS – SUMMER COMPETITION

- i) Point score days shall be conducted on Saturday or Sunday, all Public Holidays, Saturday and Sunday of long weekend with the exception of **Christmas Day** or such other days as the Committee may from time to time determine. (Refer Rule 7).
- ii) Where a boat or angler is representing *NGFC* in a *NSWGFA* sanctioned tournament or *NGFC* competition within NSW coastal waters then these days of the *NSWGFA* sanctioned tournament or *NGFC* competition will be deemed to be normal competition days for personal and boat point scores and point scoring trophies (with such exceptions as defined). Boat/s or angler/s participating in a *NGFC* competition shall be entitled to such points and awards etc., as those given for normal summer competition point score fishing days.
- iii) Boats travelling from home port on a normal *NGFC* Summer Competition day to compete in a *NSWGFA* sanctioned tournament and representing *NGFC* will be eligible for boat and personal summer points only, as long as these captures are weighed on certified scales and the capture/tag certificate is signed by an official of the tournament in which the boat is entered (refer to Rule 17b).
- iv) Boats fishing sanctioned *NSWGFA* tournaments and fishing from home port and representing *NGFC* must comply with:
  - (a) Fish are caught within NSW Coastal Waters.
  - (b) \* Must comply with rules of that tournament and any disputes must be lodged with that Tournament Committee as per tournament rules, the Tournament Committee's decision shall be final.
    - \* If a cut off time to be at the weigh station is in place for the last day of fishing and a vessel does not make this cut off time then these points will be applied to mid week point score so long as the capture(s) /tag(s) meet all other rules of the tournament.
  - (c) Fish must be weighed on certified scales as set down by *GFAA* rules.
  - (d) If no certified scales are available, a certificate of accuracy for the scales on which the fish was weighed must be produced before point score will be allowed. (A photocopy will suffice).

- (e) A capture certificate must be completed and duly signed by the Weigh master of the tournament and handed to *NGFC* Secretary or Capture Recorder **within 14 days of the capture or tag.**
- (f) Point score allocated as per day of capture or tag.
- (g) Vessels fishing away from the Club's port must complete a capture certificate for each tag & release, clearly recording the tag number, fish species and position of tag & release. In addition all fields of information must be completed on the capture certificate for captures and tags (refer Rule 17)
- v) Vessels travelling back to *NGFC* home port after representing *NGFC* at a sanctioned tournament and travelling from the sanctioned tournaments port on a summer point score day will be eligible for boat and personal point score only (refer Rule 17).
- vi) A *NGFC* registered boat may fish a maximum of fifteen (15) normal competition days for boat and personal point score, away from *NGFC* ports on home port summer point score days, not including fishing in a sanctioned tournament where the boat and angler is representing *NGFC* in a sanctioned *NSWGFA* tournament, e.g. A vessel visiting another port on holidays or extended visit after a tournament. The skipper is to notify the club **Committee** of his intention to fish an away day from home ports, prior to the vessel putting to sea. Failure to do this will result in points for capture or tag being allocated to mid-week competition and the committee's decision shall be final. Capture/tag certificates must have the event field marked as away day summer point score with the name of the committee person notified prior to fishing and the port that was fished. Ports eligible for away days are any ports that are affiliated with *NSWGFA*.
- vii) No *NGFC* boat or personal point score or *NGFC/NSWGFA/NORTHERN ZONE* personal or boat trophies will be allowed for boat(s)/angler(s) who fish a non-sanctioned *NSWGFA* tournament.

### **Rule 3 (a) Coastal Waters Fishing Days**

Fishing days eligible for coastal waters trophies are sanctioned tournaments fished away from *NGFC* home port (excludes the Interclub) and away days.

## **4. FISHING POINTSCORE DAYS – MID-WEEK COMPETITION**

All days and times other than those covered in Rule 3 and Rule 8 with the exception of **CHRISTMAS DAY – which is a non-fishing day.**

## **5. FISHING POINT SCORE DAYS – WINTER COMPETITION**

Can be caught at anytime, seven (7) days a week and **MUST** be fished from the home port. Vessels fishing *NSWGFA* sanctioned tournaments will be eligible for boat and personal points only. Vessels can also nominate away days for boat and personal points as set down for summer point score.

## **6. TAG & RELEASE COMPETITIONS**

- i. **Summer Competition** – is a completely separate competition from Capture – both of equal standing and both follow the same rules.
- ii. **Winter Competition** – is a completely separate competition from Capture – both of equal standing and both follow the same rules.

## **7. INTENTION OF FISHING**

- (a) All vessels must nominate their intention to fish on a particular day before proceeding to sea. If contact can not be made with the sked boat for that day or another *NGFC* boat before proceeding to sea then contact must be made with Marine Rescue with the intention of the days fishing summer or mid week point score, failure to make contact with any of the parties mentioned before proceeding to sea will automatically be deemed mid week point score and or suffer a points penalty deemed by the committee.
- (b) Members on weekend work rosters may make application to the Committee to fish for Summer Point score during weekdays providing these days are nominated in the application. These days are limited to a choice of two (2) days per week as per **Rule 3 – Fishing Point score Days.**

- (c) A vessel cannot nominate both Saturday and Sunday for mid week point score or any day of a long weekend. It is the intention of the rule to fish summer point score where applicable in a situation where a vessel nominates Saturday as mid week and then does not fish Sunday for any reason the vessel must submit any captures or tags for summer point score providing the capture/tags were caught within the summer point score times of fishing.

**Note:**

If a boat nominates Saturday as their Summer Competition point score fishing day, then all crew on board this boat is also classed as fishing Summer point score. If an angler fishes on board another boat on the Sunday and this boat is fishing Summer Competition point score, it is expected that this angler will notify the Skipper of this boat that he/she has fished the previous day for Summer point score whether or not he/she has weighed or tagged a fish. If this angler does weigh or tag fish on Sunday, then the angler's personal points and also the boat points for those particular fish will be deemed as Mid-Week point score.

## **8. FISHING TIMES – SUMMER COMPETITION**

- i) 7.00 am to 4.10 pm Eastern Standard Time OR  
7.00 am to 5.10 pm Eastern Summer Time.
- ii) Where boats or anglers are competing in *NSWGFA* sanctioned tournaments representing *NGFC* where fishing times of the competition have been extended the additional time will be allowed for Club pointscore.
- iii) In *NGFC* competition all fish hooked prior to the end of fishing time are allowed to be "played out", but must be reported to the "Duty Boat" of the day, before end of fishing is called.
- iv) Failure to report fish hook-ups or captures/tags before end of fishing will make captures/tags ineligible for Club point scores and trophies. The decision of the Committee in these matters shall be final.
- v) Boats cannot start burleying or trolling before the allotted times for Summer Competition i.e. a boat cannot burley and fish Mid-Week and then start fishing Summer Competition. If a boat starts burleying or trolling before the allotted Summer Competition times then the points for that day will be ineligible for summer point score.

## **9. FISHING AREAS FOR CLUB POINT SCORES AND TROPHIES**

- (a) **Boats MUST leave and return to Club port of Newcastle**
- (b) Anglers and boats fishing away from *NGFC* port competing in a *NSWGFA* sanctioned tournament and representing *NGFC* shall be entitled to personal and boat point score, will be eligible to compete for boat and personal trophies ONLY, with the exception of Coastal Waters Trophies. The *NSWGFA* Interclub shall be classed for boats and anglers representing *NGFC* during official days of the tournament as the Club's i.e. *NPSGFC* weighstation in addition to the one at the Clubs Port. Captures or tags will be treated as captures/tags weighed in at Newcastle Yacht club, except where certain conditions are laid down for certain trophies, which have prevailed from the time the trophy was donated.
- (c) All fish captured **MUST** be weighed at *NGFC* weighstation at Newcastle Yacht Club.

## 10. WEIGHING OF FISH FOR CLUB POINT SCORE & TROPHIES

- (a) The boat shall have arrived at the Club's port from the area where the fish would have been boated, on the day of capture or tag. In certain circumstances fish brought to the Club's port to be weighed in by a boat not being the boat concerned with the capture(s) may be considered by the Committee for inclusion in the relevant point score and/or awards. The boat concerned shall advise the "Sked Boat" of its intention and reason for transferring the fish following capture. If no attempt is made to advise the "Sked Boat" or base the Committee reserve the right to exclude this capture(s) from point score and trophy awards.
- (b) A fish must be hooked, fought and secured on the same vessel.
- (c) Fish must be weighed on the day of capture. If not, a written explanation must be submitted with a signed and completed capture certificate to the NGFC Committee for their consideration. The Committee's decision will be final.
- (d) Fish must be weighed by the weigh master, a member of the Committee or Honorary weigh master. If none of these are available then all financial NGFC members will be regarded as responsible weigh persons as long as they the member did not fish on the boat weighing the fish on that day. In the event of a World, Australian and NSW record claim, the capture **MUST** be weighed and checked by the Weigh Master and Committee person.
- (e) Fish must be weighed on certified scales.
- (f) It is the responsibility of the vessel concerned to arrange for weighing of fish under this regulation.
- (g) All fish must be weighed at NGFC Weigh Station at the Newcastle Yacht club to be eligible for club trophies.
- (h) All fish must be weighed at Newcastle Weigh Station at the Newcastle Yacht Club or as in Rule 3 to be eligible for club point score.
- (i) Any crew found to leave the Weigh Station dirty will be penalised 2,000 pts. Any breach of this regulation has to be reported within seven (7) days in writing to the Committee of NGFC.
- (j) Boats must give weigh master adequate notice of intention to weigh fish.

## 11. ANGLERS/BOATS ENTITLED TO FISH FOR CLUB POINT SCORE & TROPHIES

- (a) Anglers who are financial members of NGFC. A financial member is a member who has paid his/her membership fee prior to the capture or tag of fish for which point score is claimed.
- (b) Anglers who have completed an application form for membership duly nominated by financial members and the application form together with the payment is in the hands of the Committee 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 their next meeting.
- (c) Honorary and Life Members shall be entitled to compete for club trophies and club point score.
- (d) Visiting members (non-club members) are allowed to weigh in or tag ONE (1) fish per season only and that no personal points will be allowed for that fish, but points may be claimed for the boat if the owner wishes.
- (e) Boat point score will only be allowed to boats registered with NGFC prior to the capture or tag of a fish for which point score is claimed.
- (f) Personal Point Score – Club members may fish from boats not registered with the club for personal point score but the boat must be registered with a GFAA club. When fishing from a non-registered boat the member must inform the Committee or "Sked Boat" of the day of his/her fishing intentions and captures/tags.
- (g) Duel Membership – Where a member or boat is registered with two (2) or more Game Fishing Clubs, point score or trophy entitlements will not be recognised unless the members nominate to fish for NGFC prior to commencement of fishing. Furthermore, an angler or boat may not register his or her capture or tag with more than one (1) Game Fishing Club. The boat and angler must register his or her capture/tag with the same Club.

- (h) A boat owner/s who replaces their boat during the season with another boat will be eligible to retain their current point score as long as the new boat is registered and a "Boat Registration & Safety Declaration" form has been completed with the Club by the same owner/s of the boat being replaced.

## 12. ANGLERS & BOAT OWNERS WHO ARE NOT ENTITLED TO FISH FOR ANGLER/BOAT POINT SCORE OR COMPETE FOR ANGLER/BOAT TROPHIES

- (a) Club members whose fees are in arrears for a period of sixty (60) days i.e. 1<sup>st</sup> September of each year.  
**Note:** Members, whose fees are in arrears on the 1<sup>st</sup> September, are not eligible for point score or trophies in the current winter competition.
- (b) Anglers who have not paid the membership fee prior to fishing (except Visiting Member who are allowed one (1) fish capture or tag only).

## 13. CAPTURE POINT SCORE

**Note:** White Sharks are a protected species and MUST NOT be captured or tagged.  
Grey Nurse Sharks are a protected species and MUST NOT be captured or tagged.

Eligible Species - Capture	
<b>Marlin</b>	Black, Blue, Striped
<b>Sharks</b>	Blue, Hammerhead (all), Mako (all), Porbeagle, Thresher (all), Tiger, Whaler (all)
<b>Other Game Fish</b>	Sailfish, Shortbilled Spearfish, Broadbill, Yellowfin Tuna, Bigeye Tuna, Bluefin Tuna, Southern Bluefin Tuna, Dogtooth Tuna, Longtail Tuna, Albacore, Wahoo, Spanish Mackerel, Yellowtail Kingfish, Cobia, Barracuda, Mahi Mahi. <b>Junior Personal Pointscore &amp; applicable trophies only:</b> Striped Tuna & Kawa Kawa

### FORMULA FOR CALCULATION OF CAPTURE POINT SCORES

Weight of fish (kgs) squared, times the factor divided by the line class used equals calculated points

$$\frac{\text{weight of fish (kgs)}^2 \times \text{the factor}}{\text{line class used}}$$

Line Class	4kg	6kg	8kg	10kg	15kg	24kg	37kg	60kg
<b>Factor</b>	<b>29.5</b>	<b>19.5</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.7</b>

- (a) Marlin and Broadbill will score double calculated points  
 (b) Yellowfin & Southern Bluefin Tuna & Other Game Fish will score triple calculated points  
 (c) Sharks excluding Blue Sharks will score half calculated points  
 (d) Blue Sharks will score one quarter calculated points  
 (e) All Sharks are not eligible for point score on 4kg line

### TACKLE & LINE CLASSES

Ultra Light Tackle	4kg, 6kg
Light Tackle	8kg, 10kg
Medium Tackle	15kg
Heavy Tackle	24kg, 37kg, 60kg

### MAXIMUM POINT SCORES

Maximum points to be allocated for Capture on:  
 4kg, 6kg, 8kg, 10kg = 15,000 pts + 1 point per kilo  
 15kg, 24kg, 37kg, 60kg = 20,000 pts + 1 point per kilo

## 14. MINIMUM WEIGHTS

<b>Marlin</b>	a minimum of 70kg on line classes 4kg to 10kg and a minimum of 90kg on 15kg line class and over.
<b>Sharks</b>	a minimum of 70kg on line classes 6kg to 10kg; a minimum of 90kg on line classes 15kg to 37kg and 130kg on 60kg line class.
<b>Yellowfin Tuna &amp; Southern Bluefin Tuna</b>	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.
<b>Other Game Fish &amp; Broadbill</b>	Minimum weight to be equal to line class.

15. **SHARKS** – No capture points will be awarded for sharks on 4kg line.

## Tag & Release Point Score

16.

effective as of the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2009.

Line class	4-10kg	15kg	24kg	37kg	60kg
<b>MARLIN</b>					
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
<b>OTHER BILLFISH</b>					
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
<b>SHARKS – minimum 100 cm</b>					
*Shark – Blue	2,500	2,300	2000	1,700	1,500
*Shark – Hammerhead	2,500	2,300	2000	1,700	1,500
* Shark – Mako (all)	2,500	2,300	2000	1,700	1,500
* Shark – Porbeagle	2,500	2,300	2000	1,700	1,500
* Shark – Thresher (all)	2,500	2,300	2000	1,700	1,500
*Shark – Tiger	2,500	2,300	2000	1,700	1,500
*Shark – Whaler (all)	2,500	2,300	2000	1,700	1,500
<b>TUNAS</b>					
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	1,250	1,150	1,000	850	750
Tuna – Yellowfin	1,250	1,150	1,000	850	750
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>					
Narrow Barred (Spanish) Mackerel	625	575	500	425	375
Wahoo	625	575	500	425	375
*Yellowtail Kingfish – minimum 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
<b>JUNIOR PERSONAL POINTS ONLY</b>					
Tuna – Kawa Kawa	13	12	10	9	8
Tuna – Striped	13	12	10	9	8
<b>KINGFISH – Yellowtail – under 70cm</b>	13	12	10	9	8

\* White Sharks are a protected species and are not to be captured or tagged.

\*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.

\* Striped Tuna and Kawa Kawa are eligible for Junior personal pointscore and applicable trophies only in Club competitions and tournaments.

Boats fishing Summer Competition MUST advise “Sked Boat” of all fish tagged and released for the day.

## 17. CAPTURE CERTIFICATES AND TAG & RELEASE CARDS

- (a) Must be in the hands of the Secretary or Capture Recorder within seven (7) days of the date of the capture or tag & release. Failure to comply with this rule could mean disqualification of the fish for point scoring purposes.
- (b) If competing in an away NSWGFA sanctioned tournament and fishing away from club port representing NGFC then capture certificates and tag cards must be in the hands of the Secretary or Capture Recorder within 14 days of capture or tag & release.
- (c) All capture certificates must be fully completed and duly signed by the Weigh Master and Checker. The Committee reserves the right to reject a capture certificate that has not been completed in accordance with the above rules.
- (d) All tag & release cards **MUST** be returned to the club Secretary or the Capture Recorder with a fully completed Capture Certificate.
- (e) If the Recorder receives an incomplete Tag Card and Capture Certificate the Recorder will return such cards and certificates to the Skipper the Skipper then has 14 days to return the corrected cards and certificates to the Recorder from the date of posting.

## 18. TROPHIES TO BE COMPETED FOR:

Additional trophies may be added to this list at the discretion of the Committee and will be published on the Newcastle Game Fishing Web site..

All trophy fish must be weighed at NGFC weigh station with the exception of Coastal Waters Trophies.

### (a) **Winter Competition**

May be fished for seven (7) days a week from the club port.

- (i) Heaviest Tuna
- (ii) Heaviest Shark
- (iii) Heaviest Marlin
- (iv) Heaviest Other Game Fish
- (v) Most Meritorious Capture
- (vi) Champion Junior Angler – Capture
- (vii) Champion Junior Angler – Tag & Release
- (viii) Champion Adult Angler – Capture
- (ix) Champion Adult Angler – Tag & Release
- (x) Champion Boat Capture
- (xi) Champion Boat Tag & Release

### (b) **Land Base Trophies**

May be fished for anytime with boundaries restricted to the whole of NSW only.

- (i) Champion Angler Capture
- (ii) Champion Angler Tag & Release

### (c) **Fly Fishing Trophies**

Fished on normal Summer Competition days from clubs port.

**NGFC** – Champion Boat Tag & Release



**(d) Mid-Week Trophies**

May be fished for anytime outside normal Summer Competition hours and must be fished for at club port plus Ladies Day held during NSWGFA Interclub tournament.

- (i) NGFC Heaviest Marlin
- (ii) NGFC Heaviest Shark
- (iii) NGFC Heaviest Tuna
- (iv) NGFC Champion Male Capture Angler
- (v) NGFC Champion Lady Capture Angler
- (vi) NGFC Champion Junior Capture Angler
- (vii) NGFC Champion Male Tag & Release Angler
- (viii) NGFC Champion Lady Tag & Release Angler
- (ix) NGFC Champion Junior Tag & Release Angler
- (x) NGFC Champion Boat – Capture
- (xi) NGFC Runner-up Champion Boat – Capture
- (xii) NGFC Champion Boat – Tag & Release
- (xiii) NGFC Runner-up Champion Boat Tag & Release.

**(e) NGFC Champion Boat Billfish**

Total Billfish tagged + captured and may be fished for 7 days a week and from any NSW port.

**(f) Monthly Awards**

Held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of fishing each month from September to June. Highest point scoring boat either in capture or tag & release.

**(g) Line Class Trophies**

Must be fished from club port on normal Summer Competition days.(includes Interclub)

**Sharks:** 6kg, 8kg, 10kg, 15kg, 24kg, 37kg & 60kg

**Gamefish:** 4kg, 6kg, 8kg, 10kg, 15kg, 24kg, 37kg & 60kg

**(h) N G F C - 1<sup>st</sup> Marlin tagged for season**

May be tagged at anytime from club port. (includes Interclub)

**(i) NGFC – 1<sup>st</sup> Marlin captured for season**

May be captured at anytime from club port (includes Interclub)

**(j) NGFC – Last Marlin Tagged for the season.**

May be captured at anytime from club port (includes Interclub)

**(k) N G F C - Last Marlin captured for the season**

May be captured at anytime from club port (includes Interclub)

**(l) NGFC – Most Marlin tagged by boat**

Fished on normal Summer Competition days from club port (includes Interclub)

**(m) Tag & Release and Capture – Personal Trophies**

Fished on normal Summer Competition days from club port (includes Interclub)

- (i) NGFC Heaviest Tuna
- (ii) NGFC Heaviest Other Game Fish
- (iii) NGFC Heaviest Shark
- (iv) NGFC Heaviest Marlin
- (v) NGFC Heaviest Tiger Shark
- (vi) NGFC Heaviest Mako Shark
- (vii) NGFC Heaviest Hammerhead Shark
- (viii) NGFC Most Meritorious Capture by a Junior
- (ix) NGFC Most Meritorious Capture
- (x) NGFC R/up Junior Angler T&R
- (xi) NGFC Heaviest Shark by Adult Lady Angler
- (xii) NGFC Heaviest Marlin by Adult Lady Angler

(n) **T&R Release – Personal & Boat Trophies**

Fished on normal Summer Competition days from club port & sanctioned NSWGFA Tournaments.

- |        |      |                                      |
|--------|------|--------------------------------------|
| (i)    | NGFC | Champion Junior Angler T&R           |
| (ii)   | NGFC | Most Billfish T&R by a Junior Angler |
| (iii)  | NGFC | R/up Lady Angler T&R                 |
| (iv)   | NGFC | Champion Lady Angler T&R             |
| (v)    | NGFC | R/up Male Angler T&R                 |
| (vi)   | NGFC | Champion Male Angler T&R             |
| (vii)  | NGFC | R/up T&R Angler overall              |
| (viii) | NGFC | Champion T&R Angler overall          |
| (ix)   | NGFC | R/up T&R Champion Boat               |
| (x)    | NGFC | Champion T&R Boat                    |
| (xi)   | NGFC | Champion T&R Boat under 21'          |
| (xii)  | NGFC | Most T&R Sharks by a boat            |
| (xiii) | NGFC | Most T&R Yellowfin Tuna by a boat    |
| (xiv)  | NGFC | Most T&R Other Game Fish by a boat.  |
| (xv)   | NGFC | Champion T&R Angler Small Fry        |

(o) **Capture – Personal & Boat Trophies**

Fished on normal Summer Competition days from club port & sanctioned NSWGFA Tournaments.

- |        |      |                                 |
|--------|------|---------------------------------|
| (i)    | NGFC | Champion Junior Lady            |
| (ii)   | NGFC | R/up Junior Angler Capture      |
| (iii)  | NGFC | Champion Junior Angler Capture  |
| (iv)   | NGFC | R/up Lady Angler Capture        |
| (v)    | NGFC | Champion Lady Angler Capture    |
| (vi)   | NGFC | R/up Male Angler Capture        |
| (vii)  | NGFC | Champion Male Angler Capture    |
| (viii) | NGFC | R/up Angler Capture overall     |
| (ix)   | NGFC | Champion Angler Capture overall |
| (x)    | NGFC | Champion Boat under 21' Capture |
| (xi)   | NGFC | R/up Champion Boat Capture      |
| (xii)  | NGFC | Champion Boat Capture           |

**Note:** If a junior angler turns 16 years of age during the current season and has point score in both the junior and senior section, then these two point scores can be added together for determining Champion Angler overall.

(p) **Runner-up & Champion Boat Tackle Sections – Capture**

**Note:** **Champion Boat & Runner-up Boat Capture is determined by:**

- The leading boat in each tackle section is given 5 boat points
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> boat in each tackle section is given 4 boat points
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> boat in each tackle section is given 3 boat points
- The 4<sup>th</sup> boat in each tackle section is given 2 boat points
- The 5<sup>th</sup> boat in each tackle section is given 1 boat point

At the conclusion of the Summer Competition, the boat points from each tackle section are added together to determine Champion Boat Capture.

(q) **Local Waters Boat Trophies – Tag & Release and Capture**

Fished on normal Summer Competition days from club port (includes Interclub)

- |      |      |                                      |
|------|------|--------------------------------------|
| (i)  | NGFC | Champion Boat T&R – local waters     |
| (ii) | NGFC | Champion Boat Capture – local waters |

(r) **Coastal Waters Trophies**

Fished from other NSW ports on normal Summer Competition days – does not include club port or Interclub.

(i) **NGFC**

**Heaviest Marlin Coastal Waters**

(ii) **NGFC**

**Heaviest Fish in Coastal Waters**

(s) **NGFC - Novice Junior**

Presented to a Club Junior Angler who is having his/her first year with the club and has either captured or tagged a fish and would not be receiving any other trophy for that season.

(t) **NGFC – Heaviest Broadbill**

May be fished for 7 days a week and from any NSW port.

Fished for from the end of Summer Season each year through to the end of the next season (i.e. 24 hours a day, seven days a week for the full twelve months).

(u) **The Committee reserves the right to designate any trophy.**

**Note:** All NGFC trophies listed are not perpetual trophies.

**19. LINE CLASS**

No capture or Tag & Release will be accepted in a higher or lower line class.

**20. SAFETY RULES – NGFC REGISTERED VESSELS**

- (a) All Club vessels must carry minimum safety equipment as set out by the **CURRENT** Maritime Authority regulations.
- (b) All Club vessels must carry a registered compliant **406 Mhz** EPIRB.
- (c) All Club vessels must be fitted with an operating VHF radio.
- (d) All vessels initially must have completed and signed a “Safety Declaration Form” to be registered with NGFC. This is to be forwarded to the club Secretary, a signed off approved copy of the Safety Declaration Form will be forwarded back to the owner or skipper. The vessel or anglers fishing from the vessel will not be eligible for any point score or trophies until the safety declaration form has been approved. At any time there have been changes made to the vessel other than what was originally detailed the Skipper or Owner must inform the club Secretary and Boat Registrar of these changes to the original information provided with a new photograph if required. Registration approval will be by mail, email or fax.
- (e) The Committee reserves the right to inspect any Club vessel at anytime. If any vessel is found in breach of the NGFC Safety Rules and / or the statutory requirements of the Maritime Authority the committee apply a penalty to that vessel
- (f) NGFC registered vessels: Skippers/Boat Owners will on subsequent renewal of their membership, sign on their membership renewal form a declaration that their vessel currently meets and will maintain throughout the season all NGFC Safety Rules and Maritime Authority statutory requirements and that the information is true and correct providing any changes of information promptly to NGFC also insurance policy number and expiry date is to be provided at this time.

**21. FISHING GEAR**

- (a) The Weigh Master and the Club Committee reserve the right to sample and test game fishing line used by Club boats for point score captures/tags, also checking of any tackle used for gamefishing in the capture/tag, gaffing and boating of a fish. Non-compliance with this rule could lead to disqualification of capture/tag and the Committee’s decision will be final.
- (b) Fishing tackle must comply with the Game Fishing Association of Australia (GFAA) and NSW GFA rules.

## **22. ORANGE FLAG**

An orange flag measuring 16" x 20" can be flown warning other vessels that they are fighting a fish. Any vessel causing the loss of your fish, whilst you are flying this flag maybe protested against. All protests must be in writing within seven (7) days to the Committee of NGFC. The Committee's decision will be final.

## **23. RADIO SCHEDS**

- (a) The Base station of NGFC shall conduct all NGFC transmissions on VHF Channel 80 where possible with 27MHz Channel 27.940 as a backup(27MHz optional).
- (b)
  - (i) Radio Scheds will be conducted on VHF Channel 80 on each points scoring day if 3 or more boats are fishing. If less than three (3) boats are fishing then they MUST communicate 2 hourly with each other and/or the Marine Rescue.
  - (ii) Radio Scheds will be conducted at 30 minutes past the hour every two hours starting at 7.30am-Eastern Summer Time and 8.30am Eastern Standard Time.
  - (iii) Vessels will notify Marine Rescue before heading to sea with their intention to fish and notify the sched boat at the earliest opportunity once the sched boat has been nominated for the days fishing.
  - (iv) Vessels will report on each Radio Sched accurately their position using the NGFC Grid Map. In the event a grid map is not available the vessel must provide water depth in fathoms and position in relation to known land marks or preferably a GPS position if available. Fishing report for the period since the last sched using the 000 system, anglers name and line class. On the last sched vessels must report total captures and / or tags for the day with an estimated time of arrival back in port. Vessels must report any hook ups to the sched boat prior to the end of fishing to be eligible for summer point score.
- (c) In the event of vessels at sea not willing to conduct Radio Scheds, the NGFC President or Committee person will nominate a vessel.
- (d) All vessels must report on each radio Sched with the correct information. In the event of a vessel not reporting or giving false information, the Skipper will be required to give an explanation to the Club's Committee, and this could result in a points penalty being imposed.
- (e) All vessels must sign off when they have returned to inshore waters with the "Sched Boat" of the day or Standby Base and Marine Rescue.
- (f) Completed sched sheets must be returned to the club Secretary within seven (7) days.
- (g) Failure to comply with any of these Radio Sched rules could result in a points penalty being imposed and the Committee's decision will be final.

## **24. JUNIOR MEMBERS**

Junior members will not fish any Club event unless accompanied by an Adult with the exception of Juniors fishing from land-based positions. A Junior is an angler who has not reached the age of 16 years.

## **25. MINIMUM NUMBER TO FISH**

Minimum number of two (2) persons must be on any boat participating in any NGFC event.

## **26. UNWANTED FISH**

All unwanted fish must be disposed of in an appropriate manner, well clear of the heads. If this rule is not adhered to the Committee has the right to take whatever action they feel is appropriate and the Committee's decision shall be final.

## **27. FISHING AWAY AT TOURNAMENTS**

It is expected when NGFC members are participating in NSWGFA sanctioned away tournaments representing NGFC that they conduct themselves in a manner befitting their Club. If a complaint is received from the host Club of this tournament regarding any NGFC member

the Committee reserves the right to take appropriate action and the Committee's decision will be final.

**28. FISHING RULES/BY-LAWS**

As well as the reprinting of the club fishing rules/by-laws each year, these fishing rules are to be revised at the end of the Summer Season each year at a meeting, to see what our requirements are and whether these rules are to be updated or changed. We are to fish by these rules without changes until the following revision at the end of the season. If a member wants to place a notice for a change of or addition to any fishing rule during the season, the motion will be noted and placed on the agenda for the revision of fishing rules at the end of that season. All Government Statutory requirements must be complied with including minimum fish size and bag limits.

**29. BOAT WASH**

The Committee may impose a penalty of up to 2,000 points if any vessel causes damage to any other vessel or property caused by excessive boat wash in the harbour of Newcastle. Any breach of this regulation must be reported within seven (7) days in writing to the NGFC Committee.

**30. NSWGFA INTERCLUB COMPETITION – SELECTION OF TEAMS**

The selection of NGFC teams to fish the Interclub Competition will be determined by NGFC Committee at that time.

**31. MEMBER OF COMMITTEE**

Who may have an interest or who may appear to have an interest in a dispute or consideration before the Committee, shall excuse himself or herself from voting or officiating at such dispute or consideration, but are free to talk on the subject under discussion and give his or her opinion or observation.

**32. DEFINITIONS**

**Home Port**

Newcastle Harbour.

**Visitor**

A person who has not previously been a member of NGFC or any other NSWGFA Club, a person who is not currently a member of another NSWGFA Club or a person who has never previously at any time weighed or tagged a fish as a visitor for NGFC.

**Junior / Small Fry**

The above are eligible for male or female trophies unless the trophy states Adult Male or Adult Female. The exception to this is when Champion Angler trophies are being competed for when Small Fry, Junior, Male, Female and overall trophies are available, the angler trophies will be awarded to the respective class.

**33. INTENT OF THE RULES**

In the case of a dispute the NGFC Fishing Rules/By-Laws the NGFC Committee's decision shall be final.