



# Ben Doolin Builders 2024 Light Tackle Game Fish Tournament

Hosted by Whitsunday Game Fish Club Inc.



Whitsunday Game Fish Club Inc (WGFC) invites you to join the Whitsunday Game Fish Club 2024 Light Tackle Game Fish Tournament which will be held from Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2024. The Tournament is an individual & team event and total points scored by that team or individual will decide the champion team & individual. We hope that a healthy competition will result with the emphasis on sportsmanship and good spirit. There are many trophies, cash and prizes to be won. We wish every competitor good fishing over the 3 day event and the best of luck.

## Tournament Entry

Senior \$175.00 per angler

Junior \$75.00 per angler

(under 16yrs at commencement of tournament)

Skipper and or Crew \$100.00 per person

**Entry fees include:** Competition fees, RED levy, briefing night meal, presentation & dinner Sunday evening and tournament shirt.

**Entries (including payment) Close:** 6pm Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2024 . If paying by cash please contact Stacey on 0427 467 377 to organise payment.

## Line Class

10kg monofilament only.

**Dead bait/lure:** A maximum of 2 rods per angler may be in use at any one time.

**Live baiting:** One rod only per angler may be used at any one time.

## Qualifications

The tournament will be fished to Game Fish Association of Australia (GFAA) rules. All Captains, Crew (including Skippers) and Anglers MUST be a current financial member of a club affiliated with either GFAA or Queensland Game Fish Association (QGFA).

**Whitsunday GFC will consider a fish is tagged and released when the tag is secured to the fish.**

Please note that you are required to have video or a photo, the photos must show the billfish next to the boat, and identify the species. If the species cannot be positively identified no points are awarded. Teams are expected to provide their own digital cameras and make sure the date and time on the camera is correct. Queenfish, Barracuda and Giant Trevally must be on a brag mat for the photo (minimum 60 cm for points).

The WGFC reserves the right to refuse entry to any person.

## Briefing & Calcutta Night

A compulsory briefing night will be held from 6.30pm Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at the WGFC, Altman Avenue Cannonvale. It is compulsory for the captain of each competing team to attend the briefing and sign off that they fully understand the rules.

The Calcutta (auction of competing boats) will be held the same night immediately following the briefing at approximately 8pm. **Payment for the Calcutta must be made by cash or eftpos on the briefing night.**

## Tournament Rules

GFAA rules apply for the duration of the tournament.

## Teams

Minimum of 2 anglers and maximum of 5 anglers. All anglers must be current financial members of a club affiliated with QGFA or GFAA and are required to provide proof of current club membership.

**Each angler is to receive equal fishing time.**

Eligible Species

- Marlin
- Sailfish
- Mackerel (school mackerel are *excluded* species)
- Wahoo
- Dolphin Fish
- Cobia
- Queenfish
- Tuna
- Giant Trevally
- Barracuda

## Tag & Release Points

Points scored are split into two categories:

Correct Tags must be used

### Release Points

Marlin	1,000
Sailfish	1,000
Mackerel	100
Wahoo	100
Dolphin Fish	100
Cobia	100
Queenfish	50 [min 60cm]
Tuna	50
Giant Trevally	50[min 60cm]
Barracuda	50 (min 60 cm)

A team can only capture and release a maximum of 5 of any one species per day, excluding Marlin and Sailfish. I.e. if your team has tagged 5 tuna in the first hour no further points will be awarded for tuna on that day.

## Capture Points

All fish listed in the eligible species list (\*excluding Marlin, Sailfish, Giant Trevally, Barracuda and Queen Fish) can be captured for point scoring. Capture points are calculated using the following formulas:

- **All species: Fish weight x 100,divided by line class (10kg) – no sharks are eligible to be weighed.**

All captures (SEE APPENDIX A)

A team can only capture and weigh-in a maximum of 3 of any one species per day (excluding Spanish Mackerel which has a boat limit of 2 per day). I.e. a total of 9 of one species caught over 3 days can be weighed on Sunday.

\* Any Marlin or Sailfish captured must be a potential Queensland, Australian or World Record to be eligible for weighing. Game Base must be notified immediately if a Marlin or Sailfish is captured for weigh-in.

1000 points will be awarded. Record claim fish must be intact.

No fishing including bait fishing will be allowed before the start of fishing time on Day 1 (no live bait on board). Bait collected during the tournament may be kept over for the following day.

Bait fishing before the start of fishing time on Day 2 and 3 is permitted.

## Fishing Days & Times

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October:** 7am Compulsory

Sail past from the front of the WGFC.

8 am start fishing. Cease fishing 5 pm.

\*1 hour overtime permitted.

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October:** 6 am Start fishing. Cease fishing 5 pm. \*1 hour overtime permitted.

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October:** 6 am Start fishing. Cease fishing 2 pm. No overtime permitted.

\*Overtime is only permitted to hook-ups prior to cease fishing. Game Base must be informed of the progress of all hook-ups that go into overtime and be informed if the fish is boated or lost.

## Radios & Skeds

Competing boats must have VHF radio facilities. All competing vessels must remain contactable at all times via radio, by either Game Base or another vessel.

Failure to maintain contact will result in team disqualification for the day if the boat misses 2 consecutive skeds on the day. A boat logging off from Game Base for the day (even before cease fishing) will be deemed as no longer fishing within the tournament for that day and thereby no longer be eligible to score points for fish caught after doing so. (The boat can still log on with Marine Rescue Services for safety purposes).

Friday and Saturday Skeds are at 10.25 am, 1.25 pm, 3.25 pm VHF Ch 82 and 81

Sunday Skeds are at 10.25 am and 1:25 pm

Radio silence is to be maintained five minutes prior to and during skeds.

Sked details: Map location, angler name and species

All hook-ups after 4.30pm Friday and Saturday and 1.30pm Sunday must be called into Game Base of the progress of all hook-ups that go into overtime and be informed if a fish is boated or lost at the time it occurs.

Tag/Capture times must be accurately recorded on the daily activity sheets provided.

**Each team must present a text photo or the activity sheet or details on the activity sheet to Stacey on 0427 467 377 or Gavin on 0438 631 195. before 7pm on Friday and Saturday, and a reply text must be received back as acknowledgement. All paperwork must be provided to the committee at the Clubhouse by 4pm Sunday to be awarded points. If a team is forced into overtime on Friday or Saturday this information must be presented to the committee no later than 8 pm on the day.**

## Fishing Grounds

Lat: 19° 25 to 20° 35 and

East of Long: 118° to 150° .

GBRMPA Zones and regulations apply.

## Boat Insurance

All boats nominating to fish in the 'Whitsunday Game Fish Club - 2024 Light Tackle Game Fish Tournament' are required to have a current certificate of boat insurance. Details of such insurance must be completed on the entry form supplied. Should a boat be unable to provide details of insurance, that boat shall be excluded from participating in the Tournament due to safety reasons. All onboard safety remains the responsibility of the owner/skipper.

## Bad Behaviour

The WGFC reserves the right to disqualify individuals/teams whom have brought disrespect to the sport of game fishing, WGFC or its sponsors, or made a public nuisance of themselves through their behaviour or actions. Such disqualification will immediately null and void any pending prize allocations.

## Weather & Breakdowns

No allowance will be made for fishing time lost due to bad weather or breakdowns.

The Tournament committee reserves the right to alter fishing times, cancel or postpone any day due to bad weather. (The above may be varied at the discretion of the committee.)

## Disputes

A Dispute Committee comprising members from a minimum of three clubs (where possible the tournament club and two other clubs should form any protest committee and if possible, the clubs forming the protest committee should not include a club that the protested or protestor are members of) will hear any protests provided they are submitted in writing in accordance with tournament rules for disputes. The committee's decision will be final, and no further discussion will be entered into.

## Weigh-Ins

Weigh-ins on Friday and Saturday will be by request only and on Sunday between 3-5pm. All weigh-ins to be conducted at the WGFC Clubhouse.

Boats are permitted to stay out Friday & Saturday night.

No fish are to be left at the weigh stations, and points will be deducted for infringement. Record claim fish must be intact. No points will be recorded unless capture forms are filled in correctly for both released and captured fish.

Any fish being weighed must have the angler or their representative present the capture form to the weigh master in person and remain with the weigh master during weighing and recording.

## Functions

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October:**

Briefing/Calcutta from 6.30pm with a light dinner at the WGFC Clubhouse

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October:**

Night of leisure. Weigh in of fish if requested.

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October:**

Night of leisure. Weigh in of fish if requested.

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October:**

Dinner and Presentation from approximately 6 pm at WGFC clubhouse.

## Additional Purchases/Functions tickets:

Extra guest Sunday night \$35.00

Extra Tournament shirt \$60.00

## Trophies & Prizes

- Champion Male Angler - \$400 cash
- Champion Female Angler - \$400 cash
- Champion Junior Male Angler - \$150 cash
- Champion Junior Female Angler - \$150 cash
- Runner Up Male Angler - \$200 cash
- Runner Up Female Angler - \$200 cash
- Runner Up Junior Male Angler - \$75 cash
- Runner Up Junior Female Angler - \$75 cash
- Champion Boat/Team 7 metres and over - \$1250
- Champion Boat/Team under 7 metres - \$1250
- Champion Team Overall - \$1500
- Runner Up Boat/Team 7 metres and over - \$750
- Runner Up Boat/Team under 7 metres - \$750
- Heaviest Other Species (if any) - \$200 each
- Team of the day - \$500 per day
- First Billfish and Last Billfish Tagged & Released - \$250 for the first and the last billfish caught on each day (Friday, Saturday and Sunday)
- Daniel Gerhart Young Person Behaviour & Encouragement Award - \$350 cash & entry in the 2025 Light Tackle Tournament
- Oscar Jensen Junior Behaviour & Encouragement Award - \$100 cash & entry in the 2025 Light Tackle Tournament
- General Encouragement Award

Junior Anglers are not eligible to win senior prize categories.

Any tied trophy will be awarded to the angler/team who first recorded their total points first as recorded on the team sked sheet.

**To be eligible for champion team overall, a Billfish must be caught. In the event of there being no Billfish caught, it will be awarded to the highest point scoring team.**

The tournament committee will decide all trophy winners. That decision is final. The WGFC reserves the right to review the awarding of any trophy if a contravention of the fishing rules becomes apparent at a future date.

Rules may be altered verbally at the briefing night to all captains if required.

## Presentation

Presentation of trophies will be held on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October from 6 pm.

Each angler must be present at the presentation if he/she is to receive a trophy.

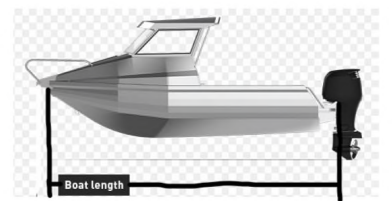
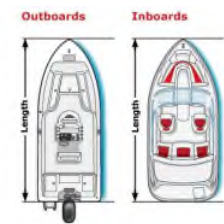
## Things To Remember

Boats that want to stay out overnight **MUST** confirm with Sked Master on the last sked on Friday and Saturday afternoon and a photo of that days Skeds but be texted to Stacey on 0427 467 377 and Gavin on 0438 631 195. If not received the sked sheet (or portion of sked sheet) not received will be disqualified for that day.

## Boat Size

For clarification "Boat Length" will be considered as the measured length of the boat in accordance with these QGFA guides and NOT the manufactures advertised boat length. Specified boat lengths will be measured from the transom where the motor or outdrive of the boat is bolted to the boat. Where the boat has a pod fitted, the transom of the pod where the motors are bolted will be counted in the boat length, to the forward most point of the boat, but will exclude any bowsprit or forward projecting anchor location as per the QGFA Guideline for determining boat length.

Specified length to be determined by the Club Tournament committee and will be deemed to have been calculated in accordance with the QGFA Guidelines.



**Please contact:**

**Ashley Matthews – 0427 524 975**

**President**

**Stacey Gerhart – 0427 467 377**

**Gamebase/Treasurer**

[whitsundaygamefishclubinc@gmail.com](mailto:whitsundaygamefishclubinc@gmail.com)

**for more details.**

**A tournament is not possible without our sponsors. We appreciate their support and ask all members to please support them.**