



IRISH MARINE BILLFISH SHOOTOUT 2024



18th – 20th October 2024

Back up Dates: 25th – 27th October 2024

Hosted by: Gold Coast Game Fish Club Inc.

Game Base Address: 2 Marina Crescent, Hollywell Qld 4216

TOURNAMENT PROGRAM:

Friday 18 October 2024	
4:00pm	Check in OPENS
6:00pm	Check in CLOSES
6:30pm	Dinner
7:00pm	Skippers Briefing

Saturday 19 October 2024 (Possible Sunday fishing dependant on weather)	
07:00am	Start Fishing
09:05am	Sked 1
12:05pm	Sked 2
03:05pm	Sked 3
04:00pm	Cease Fishing (limited overtime permitted)
06:00pm	Tag cards & Activity Sheet/Sked Sheet handed in to Game Base
07:00pm	Presentation Dinner & Awards Ceremony

For further information please contact the **Tournament Director - Ash Haigh - 0421 394 208**

BOAT ENTRY FEES:

\$300	Minimum 2 Anglers [entry covers up to a four (4) angler Team] *
Includes	Entry, Sponsored Grid Chart, Meals & Entry into lucky boat draws & random giveaways

***\$20 per Additional Presentation Meal Ticket**

PAYMENT: Direct Deposit or Cash on the night

Account Name	Gold Coast Game Fish Club
BSB	084 - 917
Account Number	577- 478 - 308

ENTRIES: must be emailed to gcgfc@yahoo.com and must include:

1. Completed Entry Form
2. Indemnity Form with Boat Insurance details*
3. FULL Payment
4. Additional Presentation Meal Numbers

All Boats entering the Tournament are required to have current Boat insurance. * Details of such insurance must be completed on the entry form along with a photocopy of your insurance certificate. Should a Boat not have insurance, nor be

able to supply evidence of insurance and certificate prior to the commencement of the Tournament, that Boat shall be excluded from participating in the Tournament. All on-board safety remains the responsibility of the Skipper/Owner.

WEATHER:

In the event of a strong wind warning being issued before the start of fishing for either day of the Tournament, that day's fishing will be cancelled. If a strong wind warning is issued during a fishing day the Tournament Committee reserve the right to cancel/amend that day's fishing program. Notification will be broadcasted on VHF Channel 82. Tournament results will be awarded if, at a minimum, 6 hours of fishing is achieved. If due to bad weather the Tournament is cancelled on all days, it will be re-scheduled. If you are unsure if a day's fishing has been cancelled, please contact Game Base on VHF Channel 82 or call Ash Haigh on **0421 394 208**.

FISHING RULES & METHODS – Minimum of 8kg

GFAA Rules will apply. Anglers, Skippers and Crew (any person involved in effecting a Tag & Release or capture) must be current financial fishing member of a Club affiliated with QGFA or GFAA.

Live bait may be collected prior to start fishing and use of teasers is allowed prior to start fishing. Non off set Circle hooks must be used for live baiting and dead baits.

ALL boats are required to provide photographic/video evidence of ALL Tagged & Released fish to Game Base. The photograph/video must clearly show **the fish, date & time and the coloured ribbon**. Ribbon will be provided at check in. Photograph/video evidence must clearly constitute the tag & release of a billfish. Blurred photos and ambiguous shots will not be counted and may result in the disqualification of the billfish. *All hookups and weight estimates for the heaviest billfish must be reported to Game Base*. ALL tackle used in capture or tag & release must be ready for presentation to weigh station officials together with the Angler i.e. the rod & reel, line, hook(s), terminal tackle, gaff(s), tail rope(s) etc. at the time sked sheets are presented. Any fish tagged/released or captured with nonregulation GFAA requirements will be disqualified from the Tournament. **Please note:** Gear presented as that used per fish is deemed the correct one and cannot be changed/substituted.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to refuse any team or individual Angler's team entry. The Tournament Committee also reserves the right to place an observer on any Boat throughout the Tournament at random.

ELIGIBLE BILLFISH SPECIES					
Blue Marlin	Black Marlin	Striped Marlin	Swordfish	Sailfish	Spearfish

ELIGIBLE OTHER SPECIES		
Mahi Mahi	Yellow Fin Tuna	Wahoo

ONLY NSW DPI "Billfish Only" tags are to be used for billfish to be eligible for tag points. No points will be awarded where wrong tags are used. Tag cards are to be issued by your own Club. **No** Tag & Release points are awarded to a captured fish unless claiming for a QLD, NSW or Australian Record.

‘All bycatch encouraged to be brought back to Game Base a BBQ Dinner ‘

FISHING AREA:

All fishing for this Tournament must be conducted within the area between 27-20' to the North and 28-22' to the South, and all Oceanic Waters in between.

< INSIDE 150m	8kg, 10kg & 15kg
> OUTSIDE 150m	8kg, 10kg, 15kg, 24kg, 37kg & 60kg

POINT SCORES:

Marlin, Sailfish, Spearfish & Swordfish	1,000 points
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For billfish to be weighed for heaviest billfish the estimated weight and short length of the billfish must be relayed to Game Base immediately. This is to limit the unnecessary capture of fish. **NOTE:** No tag and release points are awarded to a captured fish unless claiming for a QLD, NSW or Australia Record. All carcasses must be gutted and disposed of a minimum of 5 nautical miles from the Seaway as soon as practicable after the weighing.

RADIO SKEDS:

All Boats must have a working VHF radio to compete in the Tournament. The skeds will be on Channel 82. In a situation that a Boat is unable to contact base via VHF they must make a confirmed relay through another Boat or make confirmed contact via mobile phone on **0421 394 208**. Failure to contact Game Base on two successive skeds shall result in disqualification of the day's results. A Boat logging off with Game Base for the day (even before cease fishing) will be deemed as no longer fishing within the Tournament for that day and there by no longer eligible to score points from fish caught after doing so. It is compulsory to log on and log off with Game Base and get acknowledgement from Game Base. For safety reasons we strongly advise all Boats log on/off with the Seaway Tower on VHF 73.

SKED REPORTING:

1.	Boat Name
2.	Fishing report using "000" system i.e. Strikes, Hook-Ups, Captures/Tags and relaying the " Fish Species " and the " Angler Name " and the " Line Class "
3.	Boat Location using the " Sponsor Name " on the GCGFC Grid Chart provided

*****ALL HOOK UPS & BILLFISH WEIGHT ESTIMATES MUST BE REPORTED TO GAME BASE*****

All Boats are to report Tagged Billfish immediately with Game Base to be allocated the time of Tagging, or relay with another Boat. The tag time for the Fish will be the time provided by Game Base after the information was received.

If any Boat is unable to fish, it is a requirement that Game Base is notified by radio on VHF Channel 82 or via Mobile on **0421 394 208**. Captures and Tags not reported via radio sked shall not be counted in the point score and eligible for trophies. **ALL** Boats are to report on **EVERY** sked.

DAILY RESULTS: To be accepted for Point Score



ALL Tag Cards, Activity Sheets, Photo/Video Evidence must be presented to Game Base



Rods/Tackle must be presented to the Recorder at the Weigh Station



Fish to be Weighed must be presented to the Weigh Master at Game Base

Failure to do ANY or ALL the above, before Game Base is closed, will result in NIL allocation of points.

OVERTIME:

Restricted Overtime will be available for all Fish hooked up after the last sked and reported to Game Base prior to cease fishing. However, all tags and equipment must be presented by the Game Base before closing time to be considered in the results of the Tournament.

TOURNAMENT CONDUCT:

The Tournament Committee reserves the right at any stage of the competition to effect, disqualify or deduct points from individuals or teams who are deemed to have conducted themselves in a disrespectful manner and are deemed to have brought the sport of Game Fishing or the Tournament into disrepute. If an Angler, Crew Member or Skipper are ejected, no refund of entry fees will be given, however, Jackpot entry will be refunded less the 15% Club Administration Fee.

DISPUTES:

Must be submitted in writing and presented to the Tournament Committee on the day in question, no later than 6.00pm. The Committee’s decision will be final. The Tournament Committee has the right to act on any breach of Tournament Rules whether a protest has been lodged. Where a dispute is lodged a dispute Committee will consist of at least three GCGFC Inc. Committee Members.

PRIZES:

IRISH MARINE SERVICES Heaviest Marlin over 80kg	\$1,000 CASH
Champion Angler Junior Tag & Release	\$300 Doug Burt Tackle World Voucher

JACKPOT CASH PRIZES:

Jackpot pools are voluntary and available in addition to the \$300 Shootout Team entry fee. You can enter none, one or all the Jackpots. The jackpot pools will be divided according to the following (after the 15% Club Admin Fee is deducted, this applies to each individual jackpot category):

JACKPOT CATEGORIES	1st PRIZE POOL	2nd PRIZE POOL	3rd PRIZE POOL
\$1,000 Marlin Only - Highest Billfish T&R for any boat entered in the Pool	60%	30%	10%
\$500 Marlin Only - Highest Billfish T&R for any boat entered in the Pool	60%	30%	10%
\$250 Heaviest Other Species - Heaviest Game Fish weighed with no line class restrictions to any boat entered in the Pool	60%	30%	10%

Early Entry Random Draw	\$500 CASH	Closes 11th October 2024
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If there are only two (2) point scoring boats the pool will be distributed 1st - 65% & 2nd - 35%



If there is only one (1) point scoring boat the pool will be distributed 100% to that boat



If no boats score points in any pool monies will be refunded less the 15% Club Admin Fee