



13TH MAY – 11TH JUNE 2023

VICTORIAN BROADBILL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT RULES

1. ANGLERS

As per GFAV Bylaws: *“Only members affiliated with GFAV, GFAA or overseas visitors affiliated with IGFA can fish a GFAA/GFAV sanctioned tournament”*. Anglers must provide proof of affiliation on request. Proof of affiliation will be required for allocation of prizes.

Boat teams shall consist of a minimum of 2 adult anglers and a maximum of 5 anglers per boat. There will be only one team per boat.

Teams may have up to 10 anglers over the duration of the tournament but a maximum of only 5 anglers at any one time. Observers who are not fishing and have not entered the tournament are **NOT ALLOWED**

2. FISHING RULES AND SPECIES

Fishing rules shall be the current G.F.A.A. rules for equipment, capture, and tag & release. G.F.A.V. By-laws must be adhered to. Only species listed below will be recognized.

BILLFISH

Marlin (Black, Pacific Blue, Striped), Broadbill Swordfish.

GAMEFISH

Albacore, Mahi-mahi, Southern Bluefin Tuna, Yellowfin Tuna, Yellowtail Kingfish. (Snapper - for GFAV, GFAA & IGFA Record claims only)

SHARKS

Blue sharks can only be tagged.
Hammerhead, Mako, Porbeagle, Thresher, Tiger, Whaler sharks must be a minimum of 80kg for weighing (unless a potential record).

Note 1:

Any device used in conjunction with a lure that could impede the fighting ability of the fish **MUST** be on a breakaway system.

3. FISHING TIMES AND FISHING BOUNDARY

Fishing times are from 7:00am to 4:00pm each day of the tournament.

(Note that boats wishing to remain at sea overnight must have a minimum size of 21ft and must be equipped with a satellite phone or satellite communication device (or have access to one), to sign ON and OFF with tournament base while at sea for the beginning and completion of the days fishing).

The fishing boundary will be all areas within the areas marked on the sked map being 147°59.000 S & 37°52.000 E

4. SAFETY

All boats must depart and return from Lakes Entrance port during the competition.

While crossing the bar, it is advised that vessels contact Marine Radio Victoria on CH16 VHF before crossing the bar and confirm bar crossing on safe completion.

Boats staying at sea overnight, do so at their own risk. Boats staying at sea overnight, must do so in the immediate company (tethered or line of sight), of at least one other boat.

Boats staying overnight at sea, **MUST SIGN OFF FOR THE DAY** (a satellite phone or satellite communication device, or access to one is required).

5. LINE CLASSES

All GFAA approved line classes

2kg, 4kg, 6kg, 8kg, 10kg, 15kg, 24kg, 37kg, 60kg

“Braid or Gel-spun lines are NOT PERMITTED for CAPTURE”. Braid or Gel-spun lines are however permitted to be used as backing in line with current GFAV regulations.

6. TAG & RELEASE

All tag cards must be marked with the time the fish was tagged. In the event of equal scores, the first angler to attain those points shall be deemed the winner. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to request photographic or video evidence of a tag and released fish. Failure to produce this evidence upon request may result in disqualification of the fish.

NOTE: A video of the angler fighting the fish including the fish at the boat (with tag in place and visible), is required. The video must also show the fish being released alive and able to swim away.

The video **MUST** include vision or sound of one of the crew stating the code word of the day. The code word will be provided prior to the day's fishing.

The Victorian Game Fishing Club and Gippsland Lakes Fishing Club accepts no responsibility whatsoever for any action caused or damage arising out of the conduct of this tournament.

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The tournament committee may also request GPS information (or a photo of the GPS tracks where you captured or tagged the fish on the day)**

** Please do not wipe the GPS trails from your GPS unit as you may be asked to show or provide a photo and time on your GPS of the time you caught your fish.

POINT SCORES:

Marlin, Broadbill Swordfish	10000 pts
Southern Bluefin Tuna (under 1.5m Fork Length)	2000 pts
Southern Bluefin Tuna (over 1.5m Fork Length)	10000 pts
Yellowfin Tuna (under 1.5m Fork Length)	2000 pts
Yellowfin Tuna (over 1.5m Fork Length)	10000 pts
Albacore	2000 pts
Yellowtail Kingfish	2000 pts
Mahi Mahi	1000 pts
Thresher Shark	5000 pts
Blue Shark	2000 pts
Mako, Porbeagle	4000 pts
Hammerhead, Tiger & Whaler Sharks	3000 pts

The minimum weight of all game fish species to be tagged & released shall be 3 kg and minimum weight of sharks to be tagged shall be 5kg.

7. CAPTURES

Fish hooked during fishing hours can be fought until captured and/or tagged, except for the last day of the tournament where captures and/or tags need to be at the gantry by 4:00pm. to be eligible for prizes.

All anglers with either fish for weighing or tag cards to hand in must present them at the weigh station on the day of capture or tag. All fish to be weighed must be presented to the Lakes Entrance gantry via the water. Fish produced via trailer boat from alternate ports will be deemed ineligible.

Fish presented at the weigh station **must** have the appropriate paperwork. The weigh station will be open upon request via phone to the tournament weighmaster.

8. SCORING FOR CAPTURE

Method used to calculate capture points will be as follows: -

$$\frac{\text{Weight of fish} \times 100 \times \text{Species Multiplier}}{\text{Line class}}$$

Species Multipliers: -

Billfish	1
Gamefish	1.5

Minimum Weights

Sharks (unless a potential record) 80kg
All Billfish & Gamefish must exceed line class.

9. BERLEYING

Berleying must not commence until the Start Fishing time each day.,

As per G.F.A.V. By-laws: - "Berley should not be used where tide, wind or currents could take it to swimmers, divers or other water users".

10. WEATHER

As per GFAV By-laws: -" The *declaration of a gale or storm force warning by the appropriate government weather authority will automatically require the suspension of any tournament or event conducted under the auspices of the Game Fishing Association of Victoria and its member clubs for the period of the current warning. In the event of a declaration whilst vessels are at sea, such vessels are required to cease fishing and make way to port.*"

The Tournament Committee (represented by Tony Kemna from Far Out Fishing Charters, or another nominated Tournament representative), will text all entrants with the decision and provide a BOM forecast.

The decision as to whether fishing is to be cancelled for the day is at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. This decision will be communicated to all anglers by 19.00hrs the previous day.

Fishing may also be suspended for other reasons at the discretion of the Tournament Committee, should the committee deem other conditions unsuitable for boats to go to sea.

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11. PROTESTS

Any protests must be submitted in writing by the angler to the tournament committee.

Protests must be lodged no later than **5:30pm on - 11/ 06 / 2023.**

12. TROPHIES

Juniors & Small Fries are only eligible for prizes in the category they pay to enter.

Trophies will only be awarded on a “one category per angler” basis. One fish can only win a maximum of two trophies.

13. RADIO

Radios must be left on at all times. All boats must be equipped with an operational VHF radio or a 27 MHz marine radio.

All boats **MUST** sign on with “Frank” (Lakes GFC) through mobile number 0400564032 before commencement of fishing.

Radio channels for use during the tournament:

- VHF Channel 10 for communication at sea
duel watch with Channel 16
- 27MH Channel 88

All boats **MUST** sign off at through “Frank” (LE GFC) using the above number upon return each day (signing on & off before going to sea TEXT Frank mob 0400564032)

14. PENALTIES

Failure to sign on	Disqualification for the day
Fail to sign off	Disqualification for the day
Running out of fuel (requiring rescue)	Disqualification for the day
Sale of fish for cash or kind	Disqualification
Dumping of fish	Disqualification

15. TACKLE

Any angler weighing fish will be asked to present the tackle on which the capture was made so that it can be checked prior to weighing.

Anglers submitting tag cards will also be asked to present their tackle for checking.

16. JUNIORS AND SMALLFRY

A junior is any person under the age of 16 years as at midnight on the last day of the tournament.

Small Fry is any person under the age of 11 years as at Midnight on the last day of the tournament.

Juniors are only eligible for prizes in the category they pay to enter.

Only one category per angler.

17. GENERAL

All boats must collect tournament bags prior to commencement of fishing from the tournament briefing or tournament base.

All boats competing in the tournament must be registered, seaworthy and comply with Victorian Boating Regulations for Safety Equipment.

The Tournament Committee’s decisions will be final.



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TOURNAMENT ITINERARY

Saturday 13 th May 2023 *	7:00am	Tournament commences Start Fishing
Sunday 11 th June 2023	4:00pm	Tournament ends Stop Fishing
Sunday 11 June 2023	7:00pm	Presentation Night. GLFC Clubrooms

*Times subject to change

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