

19TH – 20TH AUGUST 2023

VICTORIAN TUNA CLASSIC

TOURNAMENT RULES

VICTORIAN GAME FISHING CLUB

1. TEAMS

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.

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. Attendance to the tournament briefing is compulsory by a team representative @ 8:00pm Friday night unless prior arrangements made with tournament committee.

Observers are allowed on the boat but will not be able to assist in any part of the fight during the tournament but are allowed to assist in driving the boat and handling the fish after it has been secured.

2. FISHING RULES

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, Hammerhead, Mako, Porbeagle, Thresher, Tiger, Whaler. (All sharks tag and release only)

Note 1:

Capture of all sharks is not allowed except for potential IGFA World, GFAA Australian or GFAV Victorian Records. These fish will score **NIL** Points. If the captured fish does not weigh within 20% of the current record, 2000 points will be DEDUCTED as a PENALTY.

Note 2:

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

3. LINE CLASSES

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.

4. TAG & RELEASE

All tag cards and capture forms must be marked with the time the fish was tagged or captured. In the event of equal scores, the first angler to attain those points shall be deemed the winner. Photographic evidence of the Tagged fish (either video or still photo), is required. The VGFC reserves the right to request photographic evidence and failure to produce such evidence on request, may result in disqualification of the fish.

POINT SCORES:

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

MINIMUM WEIGHTS

Game fish	3kg
Sharks	5kg

MINIMUM LENGTHS

Yellowtail Kingfish	70cm
Sharks	100cm

5. CAPTURES

Only one tuna per angler per day may be presented at the weigh station and count for tournament capture points. Current Victorian Bag and Size Limits Apply.

SCORING

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

Southern Bluefin Tuna	10kg
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All Sharks are excluded from capture.
All Billfish & Gamefish must exceed line class.

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6. BERLEYING

Berleying must not commence until the Start Fishing time, which will be announced by Tournament Base.

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".

7. 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."

In the event of poor weather, the tournament may be postponed and rescheduled to the alternate weekend: **3rd – 4th September 2023**

Entry into the Victorian Tuna Classic is non-refundable in the event of a boat's unavailability on alternate weekends, due to postponement of the event.

Refunds on entry for any other reason remain at the discretion of the VGFC executive committee.

8. WEIGHING

All fish will be weighed as presented at the Gantry. Anglers choosing to gut and gill their fish prior to weighing may do so, but the weight of the fish for prize eligibility, will be recorded as presented (either whole or gutted and gilled).

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 or tag cards presented at the weigh station **must** have the appropriate paperwork. The weigh station will be **open after 4:00pm** on day 1 and **3:00pm** on day 2.

On the final day anglers with fish to weigh or tags to hand in must be at the gantry by **4:00pm** to be eligible for trophies.

9. TACKLE

Any angler weighing fish will be asked to present the tackle on which the capture was made so that it may be checked prior to weighing. Anglers submitting tag cards may be asked to present their tackle for checking.

10. PROTESTS

Any protests relative to capture or tag & release must be submitted in writing by the captain to the tournament committee. Protests must be lodged no later than 6.30pm on **Day 1** and no later than 4.30pm on **Day 2**. The decisions of the tournament committee are final.

11. RADIO

Radios *must be always left on*. All boats must be equipped with an operational VHF radio operating on channel 16, 72 and 80 or a 27 MHz marine radio operating on frequencies 86, 88, 91, 94 & 96.

Radio skeds will commence at 8.05am each day on frequency **VHF channel 80 & 27 MHz 27.96**. Subsequent skeds will be every 2 hours there after. The final sked on **Day 1** will be 4.05pm and for **Day 2** will be 2.05pm.

Boats will be called in order of team number and name. On contact with each team, your reply must give your team number, boat name, position as per tournament map, capture and tag & release species, approximate weight and line classes and name of the angler during that two-hour period. **DO NOT** announce captures of un-weighable fish. As a safety initiative, Tournament Base will repeat your position back to you. In the event that a search &/or rescue is required this will be used as your last known position.

Skeds must be answered by all competing boats. A sked will be defined as a period of time of one hour from the commencement time of that sked. After that one-hour period, *any team which has not responded may be disqualified for that day*.

Note: If radio and mobile phone contact not possible, team must report to nearest boat for assistance and contact with tournament base.

All boats **MUST** sign on with tournament base before commencement of fishing.

All boats **MUST** sign off on return each day.

PENALTIES: - Fail to sign on	2000pts
Fail to sign off	10000pts
Sale of fish for cash or kind	Disqualification
Dumping of fish	Disqualification

12. JUNIORS and SMALLFRY

A "JUNIOR" is any person under the age of 16 years and a "SMALL FRY" is any person under the age of 11 years, as at Midnight on the 18th August 2023.

13. TROPHIES

Small Fry and Junior Anglers are only eligible for prizes in the category they pay to enter. Only one category per angler is allowed. One fish can only win a maximum of 2 trophies.

14. GENERAL

All boats must collect tournament bags prior to commencement of fishing from the base station. All boats competing in the tournament must be seaworthy and comply with Victorian Boating Regulations for Safety Equipment.

The tournament committee's decisions will be final.

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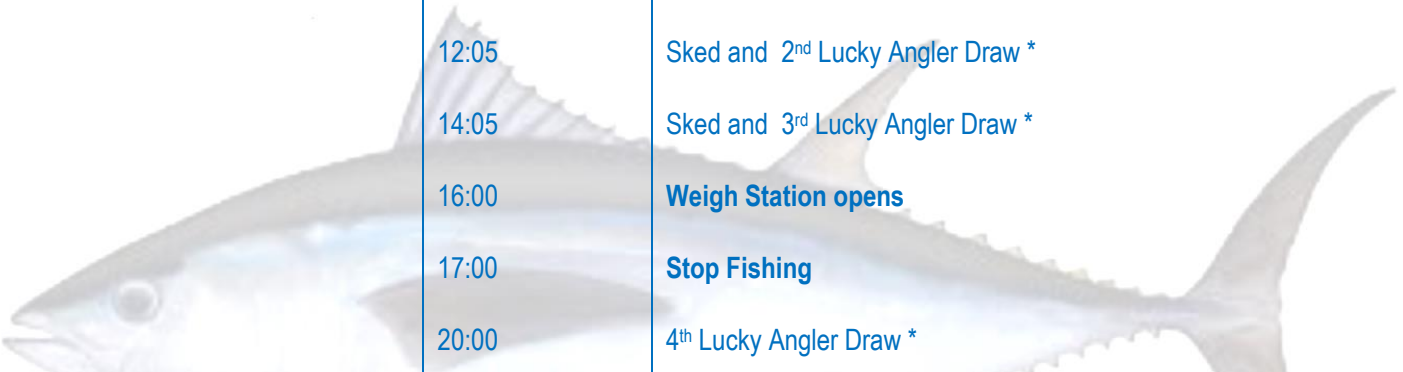
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TOURNAMENT ITINERARY

All Activities are conducted at Apollo Bay Life Saving Club

Friday 18 th August 2023	18:00-21:00	Registration
	20:00	Briefing
	21:00	Early Entry Draw

Saturday 19 th August 2023	07:00	Start Fishing
	08:05	Sked
	10:05	Sked and 1 st Lucky Angler Draw *
	12:05	Sked and 2 nd Lucky Angler Draw *
	14:05	Sked and 3 rd Lucky Angler Draw *
	16:00	Weigh Station opens
	17:00	Stop Fishing
	20:00	4 th Lucky Angler Draw *

Sunday 20 th August 2023	07:00	Start Fishing
	08:05	Sked
	10:05	Sked
	12:05	Sked
	14:05	Sked
	15:00	Weigh Station Opens
	15:00	Stop Fishing
	16:30	Weigh Station Closed
	17:30	Raffle Draw
	18:00	Trophy Presentation

**Times subject to change

* Lucky Angler Draw Prizes to be collected at Trophy Presentation.

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