

## Sunshine Coast Game Fishing Club 2026 Garmin Classic Tournament Rules

*Capitalised terms are defined in Schedule 1.*

These rules are to be read in conjunction with the SCGFC's By-Laws, which are available on our website: [www.scgfc.com.au](http://www.scgfc.com.au).

Copies of the tournament brochure, the tournament application form and our clubs' membership forms are all available on our website.

For all enquiries, please contact:

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### 1. WELCOME

The SCGFC is pleased to present and invites you to join us for the Sunshine Coast Game Fishing Club Garmin Classic, hosted from 5 February to 8 February 2026.

The SCGFC Classic is designed to test skippers, crews, and anglers' skills in the light and heavy tackle arena. We wish our competing anglers and boats every success, and hope that you enjoy our famous venue, camaraderie, and fun atmosphere. Welcome and good luck.

### 2. TEAMS

Teams shall consist of a minimum of 2 anglers and a maximum of 6 anglers per boat.

In accordance with QGFA requirements, all competitors, skipper, and assisting crew who are aiding in the event of catching a fish are required to be financial members of a QGFA or GFAA affiliated club and will be required to provide proof of current club membership via the Gamebase Club Management System or recent proof of payment to an affiliated club if not in GameBase.

Each angler is to receive equal fishing opportunity.

### 3. ENTRY FEES AND PACKAGES

\$275 Senior Angler  
\$80 Junior Angler  
\$200 Non-competing Skipper & Crew

### Angler Packages include:

Competing Angler fee, QGFA RED Levy, Tournament Shirt, Tournament Pack, \$30 Adult and \$14 Junior KWH Dinner Voucher, Briefing party Thursday evening, Drinks & Nibbles Saturday evening, and Presentation Breakfast Sunday morning. Entry into all applicable draws.

### Non-Competing Skipper & Crew Packages include:

Non-Competing Skipper & Crew fee, Tournament Shirt, Tournament Pack, \$30 Adult and \$14 Junior KWH Dinner Voucher, Briefing party Thursday evening, Drinks and Nibbles Saturday evening, and Presentation Breakfast Sunday morning. Entry into all applicable draws.

### Additional Purchases and Function

**Tickets:** Tournament Shirt \$50.00 (XS, S, M, L, XL, 2XL,3XL, 4XL, 5XL)  
Trucker Cap \$35  
Classic Raffle Tickets \$20 or 6 for \$100  
Extra Presentation Breakfast \$30.00 per person.

### 4. TOURNAMENT ENTRY

**Nominations Close 7.00 pm Thursday 5th February 2026.**

Please complete the included application form and send your email to: [treasurer@scgfc.com.au](mailto:treasurer@scgfc.com.au). Or complete your application form online via <https://scgfc.com.au/tournament-application/>

Nominations and payments can also be made online and via EFT. Credit Cards and Cash can be used in person at the briefing.

Go to [scgfc.com.au/tournaments/](http://scgfc.com.au/tournaments/) page for more details.

Entry to the tournament is at the sole discretion of the Tournament Committee. The Tournament Committee reserves the right to refuse any team or individual skipper, crew or angler's entry and shall not be required to give any reason for doing so.

Entries received after the early entry date cannot be assured of a Tournament Pack on the night of the briefing. SCGFC will endeavour to provide Tournament Packs to late entries at a later date, subject to availability.

### 5. EARLY ENTRY PRIZE

All entries received and paid for by 6:00pm Wednesday, 21 January 2026, will be eligible for an early entry draw.

The early entry draw prize is a refund for that person's entry fee.

### 6. LATE ENTRIES

Entries are accepted on the briefing night until 7:00pm.

The Tournament Committee may accept late entries in its sole discretion.

Late entries cannot be guaranteed a Tournament Pack.

### 7. BOAT INSURANCE

All boats nominated to fish the tournament are required to have current boat insurance.

Details of such insurance must be completed on the entry form supplied (including Policy Number).

Should a boat not have insurance, nor be able to supply evidence of insurance before the commencement of the tournament, that boat shall be excluded from participating in the tournament.

All onboard safety remains the responsibility of the owner/skipper.

### 8. CONDUCT

It is an expectation that an angler or a team of anglers/crew/skippers and their guests will conduct themselves responsibly and courteously to Tournament Officials and other competitors, members, and guests at all times throughout the tournament.

Penalties for misconduct may include a reduction of points or disqualification from the tournament.

### 9. BRIEFING NIGHT & CALCUTTA

A compulsory briefing night will be held at "Smithy's Wharf" at the Kawana Waters Hotel at 7 pm.

At least one member from each competing team is to be in attendance, unless prior arrangement has been made with the Tournament Committee.

The Calcutta (Auction of competing boats) will be held immediately following the skippers' briefing. Phone bidders must be vetted, registered, and directly involved in the tournament before the commencement of the Calcutta. Payment by cash or card must be made on the briefing night.

### 10. FUNCTIONS

All functions will be held at Smithy's Wharf at the Kawana Waters Hotel – Nicklin Way, Kawana. There is no official function on Friday and Saturday night. Some refreshments and nibbles

will be provided at the Saturday Night Raft Up.

#### **Thursday 5th February 2026**

President's Address & CC – 7 pm  
Skippers' Briefing – 7:15 pm  
Raffle and random boat draw.  
Calcutta to follow.

#### **Friday 6th February 2026**

Raft up & Refreshments from 5 pm.

#### **Saturday 7th of February 2026**

Raft up & Refreshments from 5 pm

#### **Sunday 8th February 2026**

Doors Open 8:15 am, Breakfast service  
8:30 am, Classic Presentation 9 am

### **11. ACCOMMODATION**

Rooms are available at the Kawana Waters Hotel for competitors & guests. To book, please contact the hotel directly (07) 5444 6699 and advise that you are booking for the tournament.

Alternatively, accommodation is available at Bluewater Point Apartments adjacent to the hotel. Bookings can be made on 07 5477 9900 or [www.bluewaterpointresort.com.au](http://www.bluewaterpointresort.com.au).

### **12. BREAKFAST & LUNCHES**

The Kawana Waters Hotel does not supply breakfast or lunch for anglers as part of the competition package.

### **13. SHOWER FACILITIES**

For the convenience of our competing anglers, the SCGFC has secured a room at the hotel to provide shower facilities. Please bring your own towel and toiletries.

### **14. GFAA TOURNAMENT RULES**

In addition to the SCGFC Rules, the GFAA rules apply for the duration of the Classic.

The GFAA rules can be found at: <https://www.gfaa.asn.au/rules/angling-rules>

To the extent of any inconsistency between the GFAA Rules and the SCGFC Rules, the SCGFC Rules apply.

### **15. FISHING GROUNDS**

The permitted area within which competitors must compete during the Classic is set out below:

Southern Boundary 27°26'000  
Northern Boundary 25°56'000

Boats departing from other ports may proceed directly to the fishing grounds to commence fishing when called on Day 1.

### **16. BOAT LENGTH**

"Boat Length" will be considered as the measured length of the boat in accordance with these QGFA guides and NOT the manufacturer's 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.

This measurement will be used to determine 7.5m and under, or over 7.5m.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to measure any competing vessel at any time before, during, and including after the official cease fishing period.

Refusal to comply will result in disqualification.

### **17. LINE CLASS AND ANGLING**

During the Classic, the following line classes apply and must be adhered to by all competitors:

**Light Tackle:** 4kg, 6kg, and 8kg, 10kg up to a depth of 150m.

**Heavy Tackle:** 15kg, 24kg, 37kg, and 60kg in greater than 150m of water depth.

**Dead Bait / Lure:** A maximum of two (2) rods per angler may be in use at any one time.

**Live Baiting:** One (1) rod only per angler may be in use at any one time.

Non offset circle hooks must be used for live bait.

### **18. ELIGIBLE SPECIES AND POINT SCORING**

The following points apply to the various line classes:

#### **Light Tackle Billfish:**

4kg Line Class 4,000 points  
6kg Line Class 3,000 points  
8kg Line Class 2,000 points  
10kg Line Class 1,000 points

#### **Heavy Tackle Billfish:**

15kg Line Class 6,000 points  
24kg Line Class 5,000 points  
37kg Line Class 4,000 points  
60kg Line Class 3,000 points  
Irrespective of the line class used, tag points will apply to all billfish captures.

Only GFAA Billfish tags are to be used. Failure to use the correct tags will result in no points being awarded.

Boats are NOT required to call in hook-ups unless the hook-up is during or after 3:03 pm sched each day until cease fishing is called.

GameBase must be notified immediately when a billfish is tagged or boated for weighing. Angler, species, and line class only is required over the radio.

All other GFAA game fish species are eligible in this tournament on a capture basis only and must equal or exceed line class but will only count towards the Minor Trophy List Categories. Other Species points will not count towards the Major Trophy Prize List.

**For species other than billfish:** A limit of three (3) captures of any one species, per angler, per day applies. One (1) billfish per day per angler is allowed to be weighed; the game base must be notified of any fish to be weighed.

The SCGFC promotes billfish conservation and encourages all species of billfish to be tagged and released. In the advent of a weighed billfish, tag points will be allocated.

#### **Capture points for other species:**

Fish weight x 100, divided by line class. An allowance of 10% will be made for gilled and gutted fish. Record claim fish must be intact.

### **19. FISHING TIMES AND OVERTIME**

**Friday 06th February 2026 (Day 1)**  
7:00 am – 4:30 pm. Overtime permitted.

#### **Saturday 07th February 2026 (Day2)**

7:00 am – 4:30 pm. Overtime permitted.

Weigh in from 5 pm to 7:30 pm each day.

Live bait may be collected before starting fishing on both days; however, fishing for target species may not commence until the start of fishing is called VHF 21 and VHF 22.

All vessels upon the GameBase Official calling "start fishing" each day must mark their waypoint as confirmation they are inside the fishing boundary, if they are not, they must still mark their waypoint as confirmation they are outside and again once they are inside the fishing grounds. The Tournament Committee has the unfettered right to request access to navigation devices to confirm same. As defined in the "Committee Reviews".

## 20. RADIOS

All competing vessels must carry a VHF radio in good working order.

All competing vessels must always remain contactable via radio, either with Game Base or another vessel.

Failure to maintain radio contact may result in team disqualification.

A boat logging off from GameBase 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.

## 21. SCHED TIMES

### Friday (Day 1)

10.03 am, 1.03 pm, and 3:03 pm.

All hook-ups **after 3:03 pm** sched must be called in to GameBase.

### Saturday (Day 2)

10.03 am, 1.03 pm, and 3.03 pm.

All hook-ups **after 3.03 pm** sched to be called into GameBase.

**Sched Channel:** Primary VHF Ch 21. In the advent of boats fishing north of Mooloolaba, a secondary sched will be called on Ch 22 for boats missed on the Ch 21 sched.

### Details required:

Strikes # Hookups # Tags or captures #

## 22. TAG & CAPTURE TIMES

All tagged fish and fish to be weighed **MUST** be called in to GameBase for a verified time to be allocated. This can only be done once the tag is inserted into the fish or the fish is boated. On

contact, GameBase will confirm the species and angler details and whether it is a tag or capture and will allocate your time for the tag or capture.

**Only verified times will be accepted on daily activity sheets.** Times will be allocated when we hear from you.

Therefore, if you cannot contact GameBase, you must relay through another boat or via mobile phone or similar device.

Failure to provide scheds may result in nil points being awarded for the day. Tag and capture times must be accurately recorded on the daily activity sheets.

Do not repeat tag and capture time information during scheds. Only hookup/strike/tag or captures. For example, "1 – 1– 1 as previously recorded".

Radio silence is to be maintained five minutes before and during scheds except in the instance of tag or capture being reported.

GameBase must be kept informed of the progress of all hook-ups that go into overtime and must be immediately informed when the fish is tagged, boated, or lost.

## 23. BAD WEATHER & BREAKDOWNS

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

In the event of a breakdown, teams may apply to the Tournament Committee to fish a substitute vessel, with the same team members. In this event, the Tournament Committee will make its decision in its sole discretion and such decision shall be final.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to alter fishing times, postpone, or cancel the tournament or any tournament day, in the event of bad weather.

## 24. TEAM OBLIGATIONS ON RETURNING TO PORT

Each team must present their signed and completed activity sheets, tag cards, and captured fish, in person, to the weigh station before 7.30 pm on both fishing days. Failure to do so **WILL** result in nil points being awarded for the day.

An exemption may be sought from the Tournament Committee to stay out at sea on Friday night. This exemption must be in writing and confirmed by the Tournament Committee before start fishing on Friday. If an exemption

has been granted, all tag cards and activity sheets must be presented by 7:30 pm on Saturday to GameBase.

Tackle used in any capture or tagging of any fish for any overall points must be presented to the weigh master for inspection.

For any boat electing to remain at sea on Friday, any GFAA tackle infringements will be deemed applicable to ALL fish for that boat and result in NIL points being awarded for the entire tournament.

Failure to adhere to GFAA specifications and rules will result in fish being disqualified, and nil points will be awarded.

Teams (except where a prior exemption has been granted to remain at sea on Friday night) forced to fish into overtime must present their signed and completed activity sheets, and any captured fish, in person immediately upon arrival at the weigh station. Failure to do so may result in nil points being awarded for the day.

In the event of a vessel assisting or aiding another vessel in distress, you may request an allowance to return to port after 7:30 pm to present signed and completed activity sheets, tag cards, and captured fish, in person to the weigh station.

## 25. AWARDING PRIZES

In case of a tied score, the angler or team to reach the tied score first will be deemed the winner. Tag and capture times must be accurately recorded on the daily activity sheets and must be the verified times supplied by GameBase.

The Tournament Committee will decide all trophy winners. Their decision is final.

All eligible trophy winners must be present at the Presentation Breakfast to receive their award. Failure to attend the awards presentation may result in the trophy being awarded to the next most eligible angler/team.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to alter the prize list without notification.

Junior anglers are not eligible to win the Champion Male and Female prize categories.

## 26. TROPHY & PRIZE LIST

Champion Team Overall - \$10,000  
Champion Boat - 7.5m & U - \$5,000  
Runner-up Boat - 7.5m & U - \$3,000  
3rd Place Boat - 7.5m & U - \$2,000  
4th Place Boat - 7.5m & U - \$1,000

Champion Boat – O/7.5m - \$5,000  
Runner-up Boat – O/7.5m - \$3,000  
3rd Place Boat – O/7.5m - \$2,000  
4th Place Boat – O/7.5m - \$1,000

Champion Junior Angler - \$1,000  
Runner Up Junior Angler - \$500

### Major Trophies

Champion Angler Overall  
Champion Angler Runner Up  
Champion Male Angler - Light Tackle  
Champion Female Angler - Light Tackle  
Champion Male Angler - Heavy Tackle  
Champion Female Angler - Heavy Tackle  
Meritorious Effort Award  
First and Last Billfish Daily  
Top 6 SCGFC Anglers

### Minor Trophies

Champion Adult Angler Other Species  
Champion Junior Angler Other Species

Other trophies, as decided by the  
Tournament Committee

## 27. COMMITTEE REVIEWS

The Tournament Committee reserves the unfettered right to review all tournament results and data records submitted by competitors, up to 14 days from the start of the tournament, to determine compliance with all GFAA rules and these rules until it is fully satisfied.

If the Tournament Committee receives any evidence of a violation of these rules of the GFAA rules at a time later than 14 days from the start of the tournament, the Tournament Committee may investigate the alleged violation and make a determination.

All competitors are required, if requested, to provide coordinates, chart-plotter screenshots, track marks, and any other information requested by the Tournament Committee. Failure to comply may result in disqualification, reduction of points, or removal from the tournament.

If investigations reveal any infringements of these rules claimed fish tagged or captured, these may be disqualified or may result in a reduction of points by the committee, and therefore the tournament results amended.

If results are amended, the affected angler, or a team of

angler/crew/skipper, must return any winning products, prizes, and cash already received.

The Tournament Committee's decision will be final.

## 28. COMPETITOR PROTESTS AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION

A protest is defined as a written submission from any angler or a team of angler/crew/skipper (protester/s) claiming a breach of the tournament rules against another competitor.

A protest must be made by a competitor within 14 days of the start of the tournament.

When a protest submission is received, a Protest Committee may be formed comprising members from a minimum of three clubs.

Where possible, the Protest Committee should comprise one person from the tournament hosting club, provided that person is not a party to the protest, and two from other clubs, who do not have a competitor(s) party to the protest.

The Protest Committee will hear any protest and call for witness submissions where it deems appropriate to resolve the protest.

The Protest Committee's decision will be final. All monies and prizes will be distributed to the declared winners 14 days after the Protest Committee has made its determination.

If a Protest Committee or the Tournament Committee are unable to resolve a dispute or investigation before the 09:00 am presentation on the last day, the Tournament Committee reserves the right to alter the cash and prize list and distribution of awards without notification to the competitors.

## 29. MISCONDUCT

The Tournament Committee may, on its own initiative or by complaint raised by a competitor, conduct an investigation up to 14 days from the start of the tournament, and act upon any incident of misconduct by an angler or a team of angler/crew/skipper or their guests on a boat registered for the tournament.

If, after 14 days from the start of the tournament, the Tournament Committee becomes aware of any alleged misconduct by an angler or team of anglers/crew/skipper or their guests on a boat registered for the

tournament, the Tournament Committee may investigate such complaint and determine the appropriate outcome.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to withhold cash and or prizes while the Tournament Committee conducts such investigations. All monies and prizes will be distributed to the winners declared 14 days after the investigation has concluded.

At any stage of the competition, the Tournament Committee reserves the right to eject or impose penalties such as loss of points, disqualification of fish, on an angler, or a team of angler/crew/skipper and their boat, including refusal of entry to any future club tournaments.

All anglers/crew/skipper/guests are reminded that as members or guests of a club, they are regarded as representatives of that club; as such, any unbecoming behaviour reflects adversely on the club and indeed on all Game Fishers.

Accordingly, the Tournament Committee reserves the right to take any action it deems necessary in these circumstances.

In the event that an angler, or a team of anglers/crew/skipper/guest, is ejected, no result or refund of fees will be provided.

## SCHEDULE 1 – DEFINITIONS

**GFAA** means the Game Fishing Association of Australia.

**Junior Angler** means an angler under the age of 16 years old.

**Protest Committee** means a committee formed in accordance with clause 28.

**QGFA** means the Queensland Game Fishing Association.

**SCGFC** means the Sunshine Coast Game Fishing Club.

**Senior Angler** means an angler 16 years old and over.

**Tournament Committee** means the SCGFC members who preside over the Classic and administer the tournament in accordance with these rules.

**Tournament Official** means a member of the Tournament Committee or other person involved in the Tournament.