



2026 INNISFAIL BILLFISH TOURNAMENT RULES

TOURNAMENT ETHICS

To encourage the sport of game fishing with a spirit of true sportsmanship in an atmosphere of fun and good camaraderie. To encourage the ethic of tag and release fishing for sustainable use of the fisheries.

TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEES

Entry fee on or before 26th August

- \$525 for each senior angler/skipper/crew
- \$150 for each junior angler

Fees cover

- Nomination for anglers.
- Tournament shirt for anglers.
- Meals for anglers and crew as stated.

All anglers and crew must be a current member of a QGFA or GFAA affiliated club for participation in the tournament. Membership will be confirmed via QGFA game base prior to tournament commencement. In accordance with QGFA requirements all competitors Boat 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

SCHEDULE

Sunday 6th of September

6.30pm - Mandatory skippers briefing, TBA
7.00pm - BBQ Dinner and Calcutta

Monday 7th of September

5.30am - Breakfast, lunch Collection Innisfail wharf
6.00am-6.30am - Blessing of the Fleet, Memorial service.
7.30am - 4.00pm - Fishing
7.00pm - Dinner pack collection main wharf

Tuesday 8th of September

5.30am - Breakfast, lunch Collection Innisfail Wharf
7.30am - 4.00pm - Fishing
7.00pm - Dinner pack collection main wharf

Wednesday 9th of September

5.30am - Breakfast, lunch Collection Innisfail Wharf
7.30am - 4.00pm - Fishing
7.00pm - Presentation dinner TBA

WEATHER

In the case of bad weather, the decision to go out to sea is entirely the responsibility of the skipper of the boat. The committee take no responsibility for decisions made by crews. No allowance will be made for lost fishing time. If the official forecast is for winds 25 knots and above the days' fishing will be cancelled. The committee reserves the right to cancel the tournament due to bad weather at any time.

TOURNAMENT RULES

GFAA rules apply to practice, however there are specific additions to cater for the unique format of this tournament.

1. Single class line only - 10kg,
2. All Boats nominating to fish the tournament are required to have current boat insurance. Details of insurance must be completed on the Entry Form supplied along with a photocopy of your insurance certificate. Should a boat not have insurance, nor be able to supply evidence of insurance and certificate, that boat shall be excluded from participating in the tournament. All onboard safety remains the responsibility of the owner/skipper.

3. Teams shall consist of no fewer than two (2) or more than four (4) anglers.
4. There is no limit on boat size. There are prizes for boat class under and over 7.5m. Each category is only eligible to compete in their respective class and will only be eligible for that class prizes. 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.
5. The tournament committee reserves the right to amend the prize list without notification.
6. As per GFAA Rules only NSW Fisheries Tags are to be used.

SCORING

Billfish tagged 1000 points

Gamefish 10 points/kg (must go line class 10kg gilled and gutted)

JUNIOR SCORING ONLY SYSTEM

Juniors are invited to weigh all game fish according to QLD Fishery rules and regs, legal length.

This point system will be 10 points/kg

Theses points are for a junior category only NOT BOAT TOTAL

No sharks

All weighed fish must be a legal length and within possession limits to qualify. All game fish presented at weigh-in must be gilled and gutted and in an edible condition.

Mutilated fish (caused by sharks, propellers, etc) will not qualify.

Daily score cards must be completed. Fish not entered on the card correctly will be ineligible to score.

In the event of a tie, the team achieving the winning score first shall be the winner.

NQ SHOOT OUT

This year's tournament will also include a 3-fishing tournament point system along with Townsville Game Fishing Club and Cairns Game Fishing Club. There will be a cash boat prize pool of \$40k

Break up of prize pool TBA. Nominated boats must compete in 2/3 fishing tournaments to be eligible to win the cash prize. The winning boat will be announced at the end of the last tournament being Cairns Bluewater.

WEIGH-IN TIME

Weigh-ins are at the end of each fishing day. All completed score cards must be in the hands of the weigh master by 1930 hours (according to the weigh master's clock). No exceptions or time delays will be acceptable and if cards are handed after the final time, they will be ineligible. Tag cards may be submitted via txt msg and committee notification in event of unforeseen circumstances.

PROTESTS

Any protests must be submitted in writing to the tournament committee by 8.00pm on the day of the protest and no later than the close of weigh in on the last day. The committee's decision is final. No other form of protest shall be accepted. **Important:** Ensure your daily capture cards are completed and returned to the weigh master with tag cards. 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.

RADIO SCHEDULE

Skeds will be called on VHF 81 and all radios must be in good working order on each vessel. All competing vessels must always remain contactable via radio or agreed alternative communication, by either Gamebase or another Vessel. Failure to maintain 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 with the tournament for that day and thereby no longer be eligible to score points for fish caught after doing so. (This does in no way mean a boat may not log on with Marine Rescue services for safety purposes.

All boats must acknowledge radio schedule calls supplying their score since the last scheduled position as per the map grid reference.

Scheduled calls will be at 10:00am, 1.05pm, 3.05pm. A ten-minute warning of 'cease fishing' will be given at the end of each day. Current hook-ups must be reported within this period.

VESSEL PRIZE CATEGORIES

Boats Over 7.5 Metres	Boats under 7.5 Metres
Champion Team	Champion Team
Runner Up Team	
Highest point scoring gamefish other than billfish	

COMBINED CATEGORIES

Champion Male Angler
Champion Female Angler
Champion Junior Angler
Champion CCRC Angler
Champion Skipper
Champion Deckhand
Fallen Fisherman
Hard Luck Story

DAILY PRIZES

First Billfish Tagged
Last Billfish Tagged
Lucky Door Prize

BUY IN PRIZES

\$150 per day buy in pot per boat

Amounts are daily buy in for each day. Highest points scorer in category daily takes pot for that day.

ENQUIRIES – Club President Charles Camuglia 0428 642 283

contact@igfc.com.au

For full details and nomination forms please visit www.igfc.com.au