

GARMIN BLUE MARLIN CLASSIC 2026




GARMIN

10 - 12th April
Back up dates 17- 19th April

**CASH PRIZES
JACKPOTS**



THE BIG SHOT



0415 910 060

www.gcgfc.com.au



TOURNAMENT PROGRAM

FRIDAY 10th April – Welcome night

2.00pm – 6.00pm *Registration & Check In – all boats must attend check in*

6.30pm *Dinner*

7.00pm *Tournament briefing, Calcutta & Sweepstakes*

SATURDAY 11th April – FISHING DAY 1

0700 *Start fishing*

0805 *Sked 1*

1105 *Sked 2*

1405 *Sked 3*

1600 *Cease fishing*

1800 *Game Base Closed - tag cards& activity sheet must be in.*

1830 *Dinner*

SUNDAY 12th April – FISHING DAY 2

0700 *Start Fishing*

0805 *Sked 1*

1105 *Sked 2*

1405 *Sked 3*

1530 *Cease fishing*

1730 *Game Base Closed - tag cards& activity sheet must be in.*

1800 *Presentation dinner and Award Ceremony*

ENTRY FEES (Inc. GST)

- Boat \$600 (incl 3 participants)
- Additional Angler/Crew \$150 (Max 6 per boat)
- Junior Angler FOC with paying senior

Entry fees include:

Meals for Friday, Saturday & Presentation Dinner Sunday.

Team Kits – including limited edition tournament merchandise, Sponsor give away & Sponsored Grid Chart and RED levy fees.

Note: Minimum entry fee per boat \$600

Extra Meals for friends / family / guests: Friday \$20, Saturday \$20, Sunday \$50

Payment: Direct Deposit / EFTPOS/Cash:

Gold Coast Game Fish Club Inc.

BSB: 084-917

A/C No: 577-478-308



EARLY ENTRY DRAW \$1500 CASH prize closes 27th March 2026 must include:

·Completed Entry Form

·Indemnity form

·Boat Insurance Details& copy of Certificate of Currency

·Full payment

Must be emailed to shari.newton@hotmail.com or mailed to GCGFC Tournaments, PO Box 972, Paradise Point, QLD, 4216

All boats nominating to fish the tournament are required to have current boat insurance. Details of such 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 prior to the commencement of the tournament, that boat shall be excluded from participating in the tournament.

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

SKIPPERS BRIEFING

THE BRIEFING COMMENCES AT 7PM SHARP.

ALL SKIPPERS OR A DELEGATE FROM EACH COMPETING BOAT MUST BE IN ATTENDANCE. SKIPPERS MUST MAKE THEMSELVES AWARE OF THE RULES PRIOR TO ATTENDANCE AT THE BRIEFING.

RADIO SKEDS

CHANNEL 82

All competing vessels must carry a WORKING VHF.

All competing vessels must remain contactable at all times via radio or agreed alternative communication, by either Game Base or another vessel. Failure to maintain contact may result in team disqualification.

A boat logging off from Game Base 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.

In a situation that a boat is unable to contact game base via VHF they must make a confirmed relay through another vessel or make confirmed contact via mobile phone on 0415 910 060.

Failure to contact base on two successive skeds shall result in disqualification of the day's results. Furthermore, Game Base will advise relevant authorities of the failure to make scheduled contact on multiple occasions.

It is compulsory to log on and log off with Game Base and confirm acknowledgement from Game Base. For safety reasons we strongly advise all vessels log on/off with the Seaway Tower on VHF 73.

All boats must report at each radio sked as follows:

- Boat Name
- Fishing report (using "000" system i.e. Strikes, hook-ups, captures/tags and specify species and angler)
- Position - using GCGFC Inc. SPONSORED grid chart, using SPONSORS name when referencing your location. Accurate location is important in the event of an incident occurring at sea.

Boats must keep the airway clear from 10 minutes prior to the end of fishing so late hook ups may be recorded by Game Base.

**** ALL HOOK UPS MUST BE REPORTED TO GAME BASE ****

All boats are to report tagged fish immediately with game base to be allocated the time of tagging, or reay with another vessel. The tag time for the fish will be the time Game Base confirms that the information was received.

Please note:

- If any vessel is unable to fish on any day, it is a requirement that Game Base is notified by radio on VHF 82 or via Mobile on 0415 910 060
- All boats must report on EVERY sked.



WEATHER

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 the course of a fishing day the tournament committee reserve the right to cancel/amend that days fishing program. Notification will be broadcasted on VHF Ch 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 Ch 82 or call 0415 910 060.



Fishing Rules

Line Class Limits: 24kg, 37kg, 60kg

GFAA Rules will apply.

Anglers, Skippers and Crew (which includes any person involved in effecting a Tag & Release or capture) must be current financial fishing members of a Club affiliated with QGFA or GFAA. There is to be a minimum of two (2) senior anglers and maximum of six (6) anglers per boat.

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 Billfish to Game Base. The photograph/video must clearly show the Billfish, Date & Time and the Coloured Armband. New armbands will be provided for each day of the tournament. It is the skipper's responsibility to ensure the correct armbands are used each day. Photographic/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 rods/tackle gear used for the tag/release or capture of all fish must be presented to Game Base for measurement checks at the time sked sheets are presented.

ny fish tagged/released or captured with non-regulation 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.

Pointscore

Billfish = 1000 Points

No points for weighed fish

For Heaviest Other Species a 10% allowance will be given for gilled and gutted fish

All tied point scores are decided by count back i.e. the winner will be the angler/team who scored their total points first.

Daily Results

To be accepted for point scoring you must present to Game base by CLOSING TIME with

- All tag cards, activity sheets and photographic/video evidence
- All tackle associated with tagged/weighed fish
- Fish to be weighed

Failure to do ALL of the above will result in NIL allocation of points.

Eligible Species

Billfish -

Blue Marlin, Black Marlin, Striped Marlin, Sailfish and Spearfish.

Other eligible species - * Mahi Mahi * Yellow Fin Tuna * Wahoo

Teams are encouraged to bring their fish into weigh on a daily basis and offer to be cooked at the club in the evening.



Team Jackpots

Six (6) Team Jackpots will be run aside from the Tournament prizes and trophies.

- Tag and Release Billfish Overall \$2500 - THE BIG SHOT
- Tag and Release Billfish Overall \$750
- Heaviest Billfish weighed \$500
- Heaviest Mahi Mahi \$250
- Heaviest Wahoo \$250
- Heaviest Yellowfin Tuna \$250
-

Voluntary to enter.

•You can enter none, one or all

•Entry and payment must be made by close of registration.

•Winners are deemed to be the Highest point scoring boats entered in the Jackpot

•Points system as per the Tournament Rules

•THE BIG SHOT pool 15% to Club. Winner takes the balance.

•All other Jackpot Prize pool will be distributed as Club 15% then Balance 1st -70%,2nd - 20%, 3rd - 10%

•In the event that there is only 2-point scoring boats the pool balance will be distributed 1st - 75%, 2nd- 25%, if only 1 point scoring boat -100%. If no entries score points the jackpot pool balance will be refunded.

Prize Categories

Champion Boat Overall tag & release - \$5000

Champion Angler Male tag & release- \$750

Champion Angler Female tag & release - \$750

Champion Angler Junior Male tag & release - \$500

Champion Angler Junior Female tag & release - \$500

Champion Angler Heaviest Other Species - \$500

Champion Angler Junior Heaviest Other Species - \$500

First Billfish Tagged

Last Billfish Tagged

Early Entry Draw - \$1500 cash

Social media

As a condition of entry, all entrants shall accept that any video, photo or audio taken during the event may be utilised by GCGFC at any time.

Overtime

Saturday - Unlimited overtime will be granted to a team for all fish hooked up after the last sked and reported to Game Base prior to cease fishing.

Sunday - 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 Closed time in order to be considered in the results of the tournament.

