
Australian International
2027
GOLD COAST
Billfish Tournament
AUSTRALIAN
INTERNATIONAL
BILLFISH
TOURNAMENT
2027
7 – 10 JANUARY 2027
SIMRAD
ICEY-TEK
Back Lash
SOUTHPORT
GARMIN®
DYNAMIC
HYDRO-EXCAVATIONS
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GAMEFISHING ASSOCIATION AUSTRALIA
QUEENSLAND GAME FISHING ASSOCIATION INC.
GOLD COAST GAME FISH CLUB

AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL BILLFISH TOURNAMENT 2027

TOURNAMENT PROGRAM

THURSDAY 7 JANUARY 2027 REGISTRATION DAY	02:00pm	Registration Opens
	06:00pm	Registration Closes
	07:00pm	Skippers Briefing Finger Food provided
FRIDAY 8 JANUARY 2027 FISHING DAY 1	07:30am	Start fishing
	09:05am	Sched 1
	12:05pm	Sched 2
	03:00pm	Cease Fishing
	06:00pm	Gamebase Closed - All daily Sched Sheets/ Activity Sheets/Tag Cards in
	07:00pm	Dinner
SATURDAY 9 JANUARY 2027 FISHING DAY 2	07:30am	Start fishing
	09:05am	Sched 1
	12:05pm	Sched 2
	03:00pm	Cease Fishing
	06:00pm	Gamebase Closed - All daily Sched Sheets/ Activity Sheets/Tag Cards in
	07:00pm	Dinner
SUNDAY 10 JANUARY 2027 FISHING DAY 3	08:00am	Start Fishing
	10:05am	Sched 1
	01:05pm	Sched 2
	03:00pm	Cease Fishing
	05:00pm	Gamebase Closed - All daily Sched Sheets/ Activity Sheets/Tag Cards in
	06:30pm	Presentation Dinner and Award Ceremony

BOAT ENTRY FEES

$600 Covers two (2) Senior Anglers

$250 Per additional Angler or Crew Member

FOC Junior Anglers with each paying Senior Angler

Includes Entry, RED Levy, Team Kits, (Tournament Apparel, Sponsors Give Aways, Sponsored Grid Charts & Wristbands, Meals (Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday Presentation) and Entry into lucky boat draws & random giveaways

Account Name - Gold Coast Game Fish Club
BSB 084 -917 Account 577-478-308

EARLY ENTRY DRAW

$2,500 CASH

CLOSES FRIDAY 1 JANUARY 2027

1. Completed Entry Form
2. FULL Payment
3. Boat Insurance details with copy provided
4. Completed Indemnity Form signed by all crew members

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TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

BOAT INSURANCE

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 along with a photocopy of the 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/Skipper.

SKIPPERS BRIEFING

The briefing commences at 7.00pm 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.

WEATHER

During the tournament, in the event of a strong wind warning being issued by **6.15am** on any day of the Tournament, that day's fishing will be cancelled. If a strong wind warning is issued during a fishing day the Tournament Committee reserves the right to cancel/amend that day's fishing program. Notification will be **broadcast at 6.15am** on VHF Ch 62. Tournament results will be awarded if, at a minimum, 6 hours of fishing is achieved. If you are unsure if a day's fishing has been cancelled, please contact Gamebase on VHF Ch 62 or call 0415 910 060. In the week preceding the tournament dates the committee will monitor the forecast and will utilise the GCGFC's Tournament Weather Assessment Guidelines to finalise the tournaments progression and determining each day's fishing. There are no back up dates for the AIBT.

FISHING RULES - LINE CLASS 8kg ONLY

- GFAA Rules will apply. Anglers, Skippers and Crew (any person involved in effecting a Tag & Release or capture) must be a current financial fishing member of a Club affiliated with QGFA or GFAA.
- Live bait must not be collected or teasers towed prior to start fishing on the first day of fishing. Non off set Circle hooks must be used for live baiting and dead baits. Any bait dead or alive will be classified for the bait only Trophy.
- ALL boats are required to provide photographic/video evidence of ALL Tagged & Released fish to Gamebase. The photography/video must clearly show the fish, date & time and the coloured wristband. Coloured wristbands will be provided at check in. Photography/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 hookups must be reported to Gamebase. ALL tackle used in capture or tag & release must be ready for presentation to weigh station officials together with the Angler i.e. the rod & reel, line, hook(s), terminal tackle, gaff(s), tail rope(s)etc. at the time the sheets are presentted. Any 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.

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TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

ELIGIBLE SPECIES



ELIGIBLE SPECIES FOR HEAVIEST FISH WEIGHED

Mahi Mahi, Yellowfin Tuna, Long Tail Tuna, Wahoo, Cobia, Spotty Mackerei, Spanish Mackerel

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

POINT SCORES

- Tagged Billfish - (1,000) points each.
- No points to be awarded for weighed fish.
- Only tagged billfish count towards the overall point score.
- 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.
- NSW DPI "Billfish Only" tags are to be used for Billfish. **No** points will be awarded where wrong tags are used.

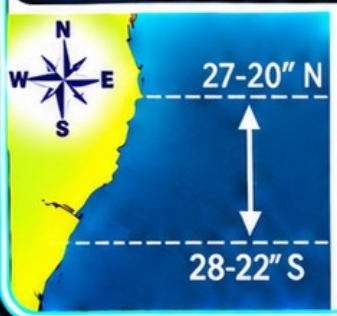
BILLFISH SPECIES



Blue Marlin, Black Marlin Striped Marlin, Swordfish Sailfish, Spearfish

To be tagged unless a State, Australian or World Record is to be claimed. (Must go line dass for records)

FISHING AREA



All fishing for the Australian International Billfish Tournament must be **collected** within the area between;

27-20" to the North, and
28-27" to the south, and
all oceanic waters in between.

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TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

RADIO SCHEDS

- Scheduled radio call ins (Scheds) are a mandatory safety requirement.
- All competing vessels must carry a VHF radio in good working order.
- Scheds will be on Channel 62.
- All competing boats must always remain contactable via radio or agreed alternative communication, by either Gamebase or another vessel.
- Failure to maintain contact will result in team disqualification.
- A boat logging off from Gamebase for the day (even before cease fishing) will be deemed as no longer fishing in 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.
- Failure to contact Gamebase on two successive scheds will result in disqualification of the day's results.
- Furthermore, Gamebase will advise relevant authorities of the failure to make scheduled contact on multiple occasions.
- It is compulsory to log on and log off with Gamebase and confirm acknowledgement from Gamebase.
- For safety reasons we strongly advise all vessels log on/off with the Seaway Tower on VHF 73. It is recommended that all competing boats have checked the functionality of VHF radios to ensure continuous contact with the Fleet and Gamebase.

SCHED REPORTING

1. Boat's Name
2. Fishing report using "000" system i.e. Strikes, Hook-Ups, Captures/Tags and relaying the "Fish Species" and the "Angler's Name" and the "Line Class"
3. Boat's Location using the "Sponsor Name" on the **2027** GCGFC Grid Chart provided

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

- All Boats are to report tagged Billfish immediately with Gamebase to be allocated the time of Tagging, or relay with another Boat. The tag time for the fish will be the time provided by Gamebase after the information was received.
- If any Boat is unable to fish, it is a requirement that Gamebase is notified by radio on VHF Channel 62 or via Mobile on **0415 910 060**. ALL Boats are to report on EVERY sched.

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TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

DAILY RESULTS:

To be accepted for Point Score

- ALL Tag Cards, Activity Sheets, Photo/Video Evidence must be presented to Gamebase
- Rods/Tackle must be presented to the Recorder at the Weigh Station
- Fish to be Weighed must be presented to the Weigh Master at Gamebase
- Failure to do ANY or ALL of the above, before Gamebase is closed, will result in NIL allocation of points

TROPHIES



EW Palmer Trophy - Champion Team AIBT	
Moreton Bay Trophy – Runner Up Team AIBT	
Malcom Ramsay Trophy - Champion Angler AIBT (Tag & Release)	Trophy and **$1000**
Champion Boat Overall BAIT (Tag & Release)	**Cash $5,000**
Champion Boat Overall LURES (Tag & Release)	**Cash $5,000**
Champion Boat 2nd Overall (Tag & Release)	**Cash $2,000**
Champion Boat 3rd Overall (Tag & Release)	**Cash $1,000**
Champion Angler 2nd (Tag & Release)	**$500**
Champion Female Angler (Tag & Release)	**$1,000**
Champion Angler Junior (Tag & Release)	**$500**
Champion Angler Junior Heaviest Other Species (Weighed)	**Prize**
Champion Angler Heaviest Other Species (Weighed)	**Prize**
First Billfish (Tag & Release)	**Prize**
Last Billfish (Tag & Release)	**Prize**
Marina Coffee Co. Heaviest Mahi Mahi	**$500**

Early Entry Draw - $2,500 CASH