

# NZSFC Fishing Rules and Regulations - September 2018

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## Section 1: Introduction

### 1.1 Understanding this document

This document contains the Angling Rules and Regulations for the New Zealand Sportfishing Council (NZSFC).

The basis of the rules is the International Game Fish Association International (IGFA) Angling Rules, which are set by IGFA. Where IGFA updates any rule, then that rule automatically supersedes the IGFA sourced wording within this document.

Within Section 2 of this document, the wording sourced from the IGFA Rules is shown as black text. NZSFC additions are shown in Section 2 are in red text. The combination of the two for NZSFC rules and regulations. Any angler wishing to fish strictly by IGFA rules only should refer to that set of rules (only).

NZSFC promotes Tagging and Releasing of Gamefish, and a number of additional NZSFC rules are applied to address this including the definition of when a fish is caught.

There are also other NZSFC rules and regulations added to this document that relate to New Zealand specifically, including alignment with NZ angling practices and fisheries management.

These rules can only be amended at the NZSFC Annual General Meeting following constitutional requirements.

### 1.2 Records

There are records kept by IGFA (internationally), NZSFC and NZACA (NZ only). This document includes the IGFA rules. A full list of the IGFA record categories and requirements is available from IGFA.

This document includes a complete list of requirements/categories for NZSFC Records. NZSFC maintains NZ records for all NZ Anglers. Information regarding process and fees payable are included in Section 2.

### 1.3 NZSFC Awards and Trophies

NZSFC provide awards and trophies for members of NZSFC affiliated clubs.

## **1.4 General**

As these IGFA fishing regulations are for world record claims, these rules have been extended by the NZSFC for better understanding to enable them to be more suited for club trophies and tournaments. Any club who is considering running a fishing tournament with high value prizes should extend these fishing rules further to cover any circumstances pertaining to their club and sponsors requirements.

These fishing rules and regulations must be used for NZSFC National Record Claims.

These fishing rules and regulations must be used in the Annual NZSFC National Fishing Tournament.

Any Club or organization using these Rules and Regulations do so at their own risk. The NZSFC does not accept any responsibility in the use of these rules and regulations in any other Tournaments.

## Section 2: IGFA Rules including NZSFC additions

*Note: In section 2 - Black Text are IGFA sourced Rules, NZSFC additions are shown in Red Text.*

The following angling rules have been formulated by the International Game Fish Association to promote ethical and sporting angling practices, to establish uniform regulations for the compilation of world game fish records, and to provide basic angling guidelines for use in fishing tournaments and any other group angling activities.

The word “angling” is defined as catching or attempting to catch fish with a rod, reel, line, and hook, as outlined in the international angling rules. There are some aspects of angling that cannot be controlled through rule making, however. Angling regulations cannot ensure an outstanding performance from each fish, and world records cannot indicate the amount of difficulty in catching the fish. Captures in which the fish has not fought or has not had a chance to fight do not reflect credit on the fisherman, and only the angler can properly evaluate the degree of achievement in establishing the record.

Only fish caught in accordance with IGFA international angling rules, and within the intent of these rules, will be considered for world records. Following are the rules for freshwater and saltwater fishing and a separate set of rules for All-Tackle Length and Fly fishing.

### RULES FOR FISHING IN FRESHWATER AND SALTWATER

*(Also see Rules for Fly-fishing)*

#### Equipment Regulations

##### A. LINE AND BACKING

1. Monofilament, multifilament, and lead core multifilament lines may be used. For line classes, see *World Record Requirements*.
2. Wire lines are prohibited.
3. The use of backing is permissible.
4. The catch shall be classified under the breaking strength of the first 16.5 feet (5 meters) of line directly preceding the double line, leader, or hook. This section must be comprised of a single, homogeneous piece of line.

##### B. DOUBLE LINE

The use of a double line is not required. If one is used, it must meet the following specifications:

1. A double line must consist of the actual line used to catch the fish.
2. Double lines are measured from the start of the knot, braid, roll or splice making the double to the farthestmost end of the knot, splice, snap, swivel or other device used for securing the trace, leader, lure or hook to the double line.

***Saltwater species:*** In all line classes up to and including 20 lb (10 kg), the double line shall be limited to 15 feet (4.57 meters). The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 20 feet (6.1 meters).

The double line on all classes of tackle over 20 lb (10 kg) shall be limited to 30 feet (9.14 meters). The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 40 feet (12.19 meters).

**Freshwater species:** The double line on all classes of tackle shall not exceed 6 feet (1.82 meters). The combined length of the double line and the leader shall not exceed 10 feet (3.04 meters).

### **C. LEADER**

The use of a leader is not required. If one is used, it must meet the following specifications:

The length of the leader is the overall length including any lure, hook arrangement or other device, and is measured to the bend of the last hook. The leader must be connected to the line with a snap, knot, splice, swivel or other device. Holding devices are prohibited. There are no regulations regarding the material or strength of the leader.

**Saltwater species:** In all line classes up to and including 20 lb (10 kg), the leader shall be limited to 15 feet (4.57 meters). The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 20 feet (6.1 meters).

The leader on all classes of tackle over 20 lb (10 kg) shall be limited to 30 feet (9.14 meters). The combined length of the double line and leader shall be limited to 40 feet (12.19 meters).

**Freshwater species:** The leader on all classes of tackle shall be limited to 6 feet (1.82 meters). The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 10 feet (3.04 meters).

### **D. ROD**

1. Rods must comply with sporting ethics and customs. Considerable latitude is allowed in the choice of a rod, but rods giving the angler an unfair advantage will be disqualified. This rule is intended to eliminate the use of unconventional rods.
2. The rod tip must be a minimum of 40 inches (101.6 cm) in length. The rod butt cannot exceed 27 inches (68.58 cm) in length. These measurements must be made from a point directly beneath the centre of the reel. A curved butt is measured in a straight line. When the rod butt is placed in a gimbal, the measurement from the centre of the reel seat to the pivot point of the gimbal can be no more than 27 inches. (The above measurements do not apply to surf casting rods).

### **E. REEL**

1. Reels must comply with sporting ethics and customs.
2. Power driven reels of any kind are prohibited. This includes motor, hydraulic, or electrically driven reels, and any device, which gives the angler an unfair advantage.
3. Ratchet handle reels are prohibited.
4. Reels designed to be cranked with both hands at the same time are prohibited.

### **F. HOOKS FOR BAIT FISHING**

1. For live or dead bait fishing no more than two single hooks may be used. Both must be firmly embedded in or securely attached to the bait. The eyes of the hooks must be no less than a hook's length (the length of the largest hook used) apart and no more than 18 inches (45.72 cm) apart. The only exception is that the point of one hook may be passed through the eye of the other hook. A hook may not precede bait, lure or bait/lure combo by more than one hook's length.
2. The use of a dangling or swinging hook is prohibited. Double or treble hooks are prohibited.

3. A two-hook rig for bottom fishing is acceptable if it consists of two single hooks on separate leaders or drops. Both hooks must be embedded in the respective baits and separated sufficiently so that a fish caught on one hook cannot be foul-hooked by the other.
4. A photograph or sketch of the hook arrangement must accompany all record applications made for fish caught on two-hook tackle.

## G. HOOKS AND LURES

1. When using an artificial lure with a skirt or trailing material, no more than two single hooks may be attached to the line, leader, or trace. The hooks need not be attached separately. The eyes of the hooks must be no less than an overall hook's length (the overall length of the largest hook used) apart and no more than 12 inches (30.48 cm) apart. The only exception is that the point of one hook may be passed through the eye of the other hook. The trailing hook may not extend more than a hook's length beyond the skirt of the lure. A hook may not precede bait, lure or bait/lure combo by more than one hook's length. A photograph or sketch showing the hook arrangement must accompany a record application.
2. Gang hooks are permitted when attached to plugs and other artificial lures that are specifically designed for this use. Gang hooks must be free swinging and shall be limited to a maximum of three hooks (single, double, or treble, or a combination of any three). Baits may not be used with gang hooks. A photograph or sketch of the plug or lure must be submitted with record applications.
3. Assist hooks or other such single hooks that are attached to a lure with a lead constructed of monofilament, multifilament, wire or other such material must conform to the following: When using assist hooks on any artificial lure, other than a skirted lure, the lead cannot be more than 1 ½ hook's length and the bend of the hook may not be more than 4 inches (101 mm) whichever is less, from the closest point of attachment on the lure. Double and treble hooks may not be used as assist hooks.
4. Only one lure containing hooks may be used at a time.

## H. OTHER EQUIPMENT

1. **Fighting chairs** may not have any mechanically propelled devices that aid the angler in fighting a fish.
2. **Gimbals** must be free swinging, which includes gimbals that swing in a vertical plane only. Any gimbal that allows the angler to reduce strain or to rest while fighting the fish is prohibited.
3. **Gaffs and nets** used to boat or land a fish must not exceed 8 feet (2.44 meters) in overall length. In using a flying or detachable gaff the rope may not exceed 30 feet (9.14 meters). The gaff rope must be measured from the point where it is secured to the detachable head to the other end. Only the effective length will be considered. If a fixed head gaff is used, the same limitations shall apply and the gaff rope shall be measured from the same location on the gaff hook. Only a single hook is permitted on any gaff. **Choke ropes must not exceed 30 ft (9.14 meters) including the wire or chain on one end.** Harpoon or lance attachments are prohibited. Tail ropes are limited to 30 feet (9.14 meters). **(Once the catch is along side and under control and the crew are unable to lift the fish on board, an anchor rope or block and tackle may be attached to the tail or gaff rope to bring the catch on board as long as the crew can verify it was not used in the fight of the fish).** (When fishing from a bridge, pier or other high platform or structure, this length limitation does not apply).
4. **Entangling devices**, either with or without a hook, are prohibited and may not be used for any purpose including baiting, hooking, fighting or landing the fish.

5. **Outriggers, downriggers, spreader bars and kites** are permitted to be used provided that the actual fishing line is attached to the snap or other release device, either directly or with some other material. The leader or double line may not be connected to the release mechanism either directly or with the use of a connecting device. Spreader bars are also acceptable when used strictly as a teaser.
6. **Daisy chains, birds, floats and similar devices** may only be used if they do not unfairly hamper or inhibit the normal swimming or fighting ability of the fish, thereby giving the angler or crew an unfair advantage in fighting, landing or boating the fish.
7. **A safety line** may be attached to the rod, reel or harness provided that it does not in any way assist the angler in fighting the fish.
8. **Tag poles must not exceed 12 feet (3.66 meters) in length.**

### **ANGLING REGULATIONS**

1. From the time that a fish strikes or takes a bait or lure, the angler must hook, fight, and land or boat the fish without the aid of any other person, except as provided in these regulations.
2. If a rod holder is used once the fish is hooked, the angler must remove the rod from the holder as quickly as possible.
3. In the event of a multiple strike on separate lines being fished by a single angler, only the first fish fought by the angler will be considered for a world record.
4. If a double line is used, the intent of the regulations is that the fish will be fought on the single line most of the time that it takes to land the fish.
5. A harness may be attached to the reel or rod, but not to the fighting chair. The harness may be replaced or adjusted by a person other than the angler.
6. Use of a rod belt or waist gimbal is permitted.
7. When angling from a boat, once the leader is brought within the grasp of the mate, or the end of the leader is wound to the rod tip, more than one person is permitted to hold the leader. Anyone assisting a shore-bound or wading angler must be within a rods length of the angler before touching the leader or netting or gaffing the fish.
8. One or more gaffers may be used in addition to persons holding the leader. The gaff handle must be in hand when the fish is gaffed
9. The angling and equipment regulations shall apply until the fish is weighed.
10. **In the event of an angler wishing to re-use a successful lure on the same day, the leader must be cut on a 45 degree angle at the swivel top or loop end. Both pieces together with the re-rigged lure must be presented to the weighmaster or judge that day.**
11. **Any catch will not be deemed to be complete until after the catch is weighed. In the event of a fish being tagged, the catch will be deemed complete when the tag is inserted in the fish. Subject to verification of weighing or releasing requirements.**
12. **When tagging a fish, the tag pole must be held at all times.**
13. **Only fish tagged with tags supplied or approved by Council will be recognised. Fish are tagged for the purpose of research.**
14. **Tag cards should be handed into weighmasters as soon as possible after the fish are tagged**
15. **Any fish tagged while still in the water should be alongside the boat and under control so the tag can be placed correctly.**

16. The council strongly recommends that non off-set circle hooks be used when live baiting for any species. This will give fish a better chance of survival when tagged & released.

#### **DEFINITION OF WHEN A FISH IS CAUGHT:**

1. When landing or boating a fish the leader, if used, should be in hand before it is gaffed.
2. The catch will not be deemed caught until the fish is weighed. The intention is that all angling regulations & rules including equipment used to entice, hook, fight, land and secure the catch must comply with all IGFA International Angling Rules & NZSFC fishing rules until the fish has been weighed. Once a fish is gaffed it cannot be tagged and released.
3. In the event of a fish being tagged for releasing the leader should be in hand when the tag is inserted into the fish. When the tag is inserted the catch is deemed complete. The leader then can be intentionally cut as close to the fish as possible, or the hooks removed, or the fish releases itself.
4. In the event of a fish being released without tagging the fish is deemed caught and released when the leader is in hand and the leader is intentionally cut as close to the fish as possible, or the hook is removed.
5. A fish that has been tagged and the leader in hand still uncut and attached to the fish, may be gaffed and weighed if the angler considers that it is unlikely to survive or for any other reason. The tag must remain in the fish until it is weighed and then removed and returned to the tag card.
6. When fly fishing it is not necessary to have the leader in hand and when a fish is released without tagging the fish should be within tagging or gaffing distance when released

#### **The following acts will disqualify a catch:**

1. Failure to comply with equipment or angling regulations.
2. The act of persons other than the angler in touching any part of the rod, reel, or line (including the double line) either bodily or with any device, from the time a fish strikes or takes the bait or lure, until the fish is either landed or released, or in giving any aid other than that allowed in the rules and regulations. If an obstacle to the passage of the line through the rod guides has to be removed from the line, then the obstacle (whether chum, floatline, rubber band, or other material) shall be held and cut free. Under no circumstances should the line be held or touched by anyone other than the angler during this process.
3. **Returning the rod to the rod holder**, Resting the rod in a rod holder, on the gunwale of the boat, or any other object while playing the fish. **The rod being passed to the angler after the fish has taken the bait or lure.**
4. Handlining or using a handline or rope attached in any manner to the angler's line or leader for the purpose of holding or lifting the fish.
5. Shooting, harpooning, or lancing any fish (including sharks and halibuts) at any stage of the catch.
6. Chumming with or using as bait the flesh, blood, skin or any part of mammals other than hair or pork rind used in lures designed for trolling or casting.
7. Using a boat or device to beach or drive a fish into shallow water in order to deprive the fish of its normal ability to swim.
8. Changing the rod or reel while the fish is being played.
9. Splicing, removing, or adding to the line while the fish is being played.
10. Intentionally foul-hooking a fish.
11. Catching a fish in a manner that the double line never leaves the rod tip.
12. Using a size or kind of bait that is illegal to possess.

13. Attaching the angler's line or leader to part of a boat or other object for the purpose of holding or lifting the fish.
14. If a fish escapes before gaffing, or netting, and is recaptured by any method other than as outlined in the angling rules.
15. Holding or touching an angler in a manner that assists them in fighting the fish or takes pressure off the angler. Touching or briefly holding the angler to prevent them from falling does not constitute a disqualification.
16. When live baiting and the deckhand or any other person other than the angler is holding the rod when the fish takes the bait.
17. If a fish escapes before gaffing, netting, tagging, or deliberately releasing it, it will be considered a free swimming fish and will not be regarded as a catch.
18. That any marlin or shark intentionally taken out of the water to be Tagged and released will be disqualified.
19. If the tag pole is used in a manner of a Harpoon, when tagging a fish or when it leaves the hand.

**The following situations will disqualify a catch:**

1. When a rod breaks (while the fish is being played) in a manner that reduces the length of the tip below minimum dimensions or severely impairs its angling characteristics.
2. Mutilation to the fish, prior to landing or boating the catch, caused by sharks, other fish, mammals, or propellers that remove or penetrate the flesh. (Injuries caused by leader or line, scratches, old healed scars or regeneration deformities are not considered to be disqualifying injuries). Any mutilation on the fish must be shown in a photograph and fully explained in a separate report accompanying the record application.
3. When a fish is hooked or entangled on more than one line.

## **RULES FOR FLY FISHING**

### **Equipment Regulations**

#### **A. LINE**

Any type of fly line and backing may be used. The breaking strength of the fly line and backing are not restricted.

#### **B. LEADER**

Leaders must conform to generally accepted fly fishing customs. A leader includes a class tippet and, optionally, a shock tippet. A butt or taper section between the fly line and the class tippet shall also be considered part of the leader and there are no limits on its length, material, or strength.

A class tippet must be made of nonmetallic material and either attached directly to the fly or to the shock tippet if one is used. The class tippet must be at least 15 inches (38.10 cm) long (measured inside connecting knots). With respect to knotless, tapered leaders, the terminal 15 inches (38.10 cm) will also determine tippet class. There is no maximum length limitation.

A shock tippet, not to exceed 12 inches (30.48 cm) in length, may be added to the class tippet and tied to the lure. It can be made of any type of material, and there is no limit on its breaking strength. The shock tippet is measured from the eye of the hook to the single strand of class tippet and includes any knots used to connect the shock tippet to the class tippet.

In the case of a tandem hook fly, the shock tippet shall be measured from the eye of the leading hook.



### **C. ROD**

Regardless of material used or number of sections, rods must conform and cast according to generally accepted fly fishing customs and practices. A rod shall not measure less than 6 feet (1.82 meters) in overall length and any rod that gives the angler an unsporting advantage will be disqualified. Overall butt length may not exceed six inches when measured from the centre of the reel foot to the end of the butt. Overall butt length for two-handed or spey rods longer than 11 feet may not exceed 10 inches when measured from the centre of the reel foot to the end of the butt.

### **D. REEL**

The reel must be designed expressly for fly fishing. There are no restrictions on gear ratio or type of drag employed except where the angler would gain an unfair advantage. Electric or electronically operated reels are prohibited.

### **E. HOOKS**

A conventional fly may be dressed on a single or double hook or two single hooks in tandem. The second hook in any tandem fly must not extend beyond the wing material. The eyes of the hooks shall be no farther than 6 inches (15.24 cm) apart. Treble hooks are prohibited.

### **F. FLIES**

The fly must be a recognized type of artificial fly, which includes streamer, bucktail, tube fly, wet fly, dry fly, nymph, popper and bug. The use of any other type of lure or natural or preserved bait, either singularly or attached to the fly, is expressly prohibited. Only a single fly is allowed. Dropper flies are prohibited. The fact that a lure can be cast with a fly rod is not evidence in itself that it fits the definition of a fly. The use of any lure designed to entangle or foul-hook a fish is prohibited. No scent, either natural or artificial is allowed on flies. The use of scented material in a fly is prohibited.

### **G. GAFFS & NETS**

Gaffs and nets used to boat or land a fish must not exceed 8 feet (2.44 meters) in overall length. (When fishing from a bridge, pier or other high stationary structure, this length limitation does not apply). The use of a flying gaff is not permitted. Only a single hook is permitted on any gaff. Harpoon or lance attachments are prohibited. A rope or any extension cannot be attached to the gaff.

### **Angling Regulations**

1. The angler must cast, hook, fight, and bring the fish to gaff or net unaided by any other person. No other person may touch any part of the tackle during the playing of the fish or give aid other than taking the leader for gaffing or netting purposes. Anyone assisting a shore-bound or wading angler must be within a rods length of the angler before touching the leader or netting or gaffing the fish.
2. Casting and retrieving must be carried out in accordance with normal customs and generally accepted practices. The major criterion in casting is that the weight of the line must carry the fly rather than the weight of the fly carrying the line. Trolling a fly behind a moving water craft is not permitted. The craft must be completely out of gear both at the time the fly is presented to the fish and during the retrieve. The maximum amount of line that can be stripped off the reel is 120 feet (36.57 meters) from the fly.
3. Once a fish is hooked, the tackle may not be altered in any way, with the exception of adding an extension butt. A harness cannot be attached to the fly rod.
4. Fish must be hooked on the fly in use. If a small fish takes the fly and a larger fish swallows the smaller fish, the catch will be disallowed.
5. One or more people may assist in gaffing or netting the fish.

6. The angling and equipment regulations shall apply until the fish is weighed.

**The following acts will disqualify a catch:**

1. Failure to comply with equipment or angling regulations.
2. The act of persons other than the angler in touching any part of the rod, reel, or line either bodily or with any device during the playing of the fish, or in giving any aid other than that allowed in the rules and regulations. If an obstacle to the passage of the line through the rod guides has to be removed from the line, then the obstacle shall be held and cut free. Under no circumstances should the line be held or touched by anyone other than the angler during this process.
3. Resting the rod on any part of the boat, or on any other object while playing the fish.
4. Handlining or using a handline or rope attached in any manner to the angler's line or leader for the purpose of holding or lifting the fish.
5. Intentionally foul-hooking or snagging a fish.
6. Shooting, harpooning, or lancing any fish (including sharks and halibut) at any stage of the catch.
7. Chumming with the flesh, blood, skin or any part of mammals.
8. Using a boat or device to beach or drive a fish into shallow water in order to deprive the fish of its normal ability to swim.
9. Attaching the angler's line or leader to part of a boat or other object for the purpose of holding or lifting the fish.
10. If a fish escapes before gaffing or netting and is recaptured by any method other than as outlined in the angling rules.
11. When a rod breaks (while the fish is being played) in a manner that reduces its length below minimum dimensions or severely impairs its angling characteristics.
12. When a fish is hooked or entangled on more than one line.
13. Mutilation to the fish, prior to landing or boating the catch, caused by sharks, other fish, mammals, or propellers that remove or penetrate the flesh. (Injuries caused by leader or line, scratches, old healed scars or regeneration deformities are not considered to be disqualifying injuries). Any mutilation on the fish must be shown in a photograph and fully explained in a separate report accompanying the record application.
14. Holding or touching an angler in a manner that assists them in fighting the fish or takes pressure off the angler. Touching or briefly holding the angler to prevent them from falling does not constitute a disqualification.

**ALL-TACKLE LENGTH RULES**

**General Information**

All fish entered for Length Records must be measured by anglers at the site of capture and released so that it swims away on their own and in good condition. Fish should be revived by moving it forward in the water to ensure a healthy release. Fish caught and entered for length records are not eligible for weighing and submission for other record categories.

**Rules and Equipment Regulations**

All IGFA rules and equipment regulations stipulated for fishing with conventional and fly tackle in fresh and saltwater shall apply with the exceptions below. All angling and equipment regulations shall apply until the fish is measured and released alive.

## **A. GAFFS & NETS**

1. The use of gaffs to land fish is prohibited.
2. Nets used to boat or land a fish must not exceed 8 feet (2.44 meters) in over all length. (When fishing from a bridge, pier or other high stationary structure, this length limitation does not apply.)
3. The use of knotless, rubber coated nets or other similarly designed nets that minimize slime and scale removal is strongly recommended.

## **B. MEASURING DEVICE**

1. All fish must be measured using an official IGFA measuring device.
2. The measuring device mat may be shortened by cutting it, but it may not be rejoined after it has been shortened.

## **Angling Regulations**

The following acts will disqualify a catch:

1. Failure to comply with IGFA equipment or angling rules.
2. If the fish dies during the documentation process, or does not swim away on its accord after release

## **Length Record Requirements**

All fish entered for Length Records are subject to the same requirements stipulated for other record categories with following additions and exceptions.

### **A. MEASURING REQUIREMENTS**

1. Fish must be measured using an official IGFA measuring device on a flat surface.
2. The fish's snout must be touching the nose stop and free of lures or lifting devices.
3. With the fish lying on top of the measuring device, measurements will be taken from the most forward part of the fish's snout to the rear center edge of the tail.
4. All measurements will be made in centimeters.
5. Fish that measure between centimeter increments shall be recorded at the lower of the two increments. For example, a fish that measures between 45 and 46 centimeters will have a recorded length of 45 centimeters.

### **B. MINIMUM LENGTH REQUIREMENTS FOR VACANT RECORDS**

Fish entered for vacant record categories must measure within the top half of that species maximum recorded length, as shown in the eligible species list.

### **C. MINIMUM LENGTH REQUIREMENTS NEEDED TO DEFEAT OR TIE EXISTING RECORDS**

1. To defeat an existing record, the fish must measure at least two (2) centimeters longer than the existing record
2. A catch which matches the length of an existing record or exceeds the length by less than 2 centimeters will be considered a tie. In the case of a tie claim involving more than two catches, length must be compared with the original record (first fish to be caught). Nothing measuring less than the original record (first fish to be caught) will be considered.

## **D. PHOTOGRAPHIC REQUIREMENTS**

Photographs included with applications must contain the following information.

1. The full length of the fish on the measuring device clearly showing the position of the mouth and tail. The fish may be held in position, but must be done in a manner that does not obscure the view of the fish on the tape.
2. A close up showing the position of the fish's nose and tail on the measuring device.
3. The angler with the fish.
4. The rod and reel used to make the catch.

### **General Best Handling Practices**

To remove your fish from the water to document it for record purposes, anglers should use either hands or a knotless, rubberized landing net to minimize slime and scale loss. Lip gripping devices may be used to help subdue fish. However, large fish should not be hoisted vertically out of the water, as this can cause damage to jaw muscle and bone as well as to internal organs. The best method for removing fish from the water by hand is to grip the fish or the lower jaw and support the fish's underside. Again, the point is always to hold fish horizontally and not vertically.

### **Documentation**

IGFA records require pictures, measurement and/or weighing of the catch. All of this takes time, so you should have the necessary equipment ready before landing the fish. If the documentation process takes longer than several minutes, periodically place the fish back in the water or place in a live well to allow it to breathe.

### **Releasing**

Considerable time and care should be exercised when releasing fish. Fish should be placed in the water and held by the base of the tail. If the fish does not swim away from your grasp on its own, gently move it forward in the water to get water flowing over the gills. For best results, move the fish in the forward direction only instead of back and forth. A fish's gills somewhat resemble the pages of a book and are designed for water flow in only one direction. Moving the fish in a slow circle or gently towing it behind the boat will accomplish this.

### **World Record Requirements**

Game fish catches can only be considered for world record status if they are caught according to International Angling Rules. Following is information on world record categories, requirements, and procedures for filing claims. An application fee of \$50 US for members and \$80 US for non-members is required for each claim. All materials submitted become the property of IGFA.

### **World Record and NZ Record Categories**

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

IGFA maintains world records for both freshwater and saltwater game fishes in all-tackle, all-tackle length, line class, tippet class and junior angler categories.

In order to qualify for a record, a catch must be a minimum of 1 pound (.453 kg) in weight and must outweigh the existing record by the required amount or meet the minimum weight requirements, if any,

for vacant records. No applications will be accepted for fish caught in hatchery waters, sanctuaries or small bodies of water that are stocked with fish for commercial purposes. The intent of this rule shall prevail and IGFA retains the right to determine its applicability on a case by case basis. The catch must not be at variance with any laws or regulations governing the species or the waters in which it was caught.

When an additional species of game fish is made eligible for IGFA world records, the effective date will be announced. Fish caught on or after the effective date will be eligible for records. Announcement of an additional species in the *World Record Game Fishes* book or in other IGFA publications will be considered proper notification in lieu of any other notice.

If an angler submits more than one application for the same record, caught on the same day, only the heaviest or longest fish will be accepted.

If claiming a World Record (apart from Juniors & Smallfry) – only World Record Fees apply – it will automatically become a New Zealand record once ratified as a World Record. For Junior & Smallfry Records the lines need to be tested for NZ Records – just as long as it is caught on a line class that IGFA allows for the species and line weight used. IGFA have no line classes for Junior & Smallfry Records. Where the current NZSFC recognized Line class exceeds the current IGFA line class, then that record shall stand for ongoing competition.

#### **FISH SPECIES RECOGNISED BY NZSFC:**

The NZSFC recognises all species of fish that IGFA recognise that can be caught in NZ waters, all line class species selected will be published in our yearbook, and all other species will be published on our website.

#### **ALL-TACKLE CATEGORY**

*All-tackle world records* are kept for the heaviest fish of a species caught by an angler in any line class up to 130 lb (60 kg). Fish caught on lines designed to test over the 130 lb (60 kg) class will not be considered for record claims.

All-tackle record claims are considered for all species of fish caught according to IGFA angling rules. Applications for species not currently included in the IGFA line class and tippet class listings must meet the following criteria:

1. The fish must represent a valid species with a recognized scientific name.
2. The fish must be a species commonly fished for with rod and reel in the general area where the catch is made.
3. The fish must be identifiable based on photos and other supporting data presented with the application.
4. The fish must be considered “trophy-sized”. A rule of thumb is that the weight must fall within the top half of the estimated maximum weight of the species.
- 5.

#### **ALL-TACKLE LENGTH CATEGORY**

All-Tackle Length world records are kept for the longest of each eligible species caught by an angler in any line class up to 60 kg (130 lb) and released alive. Fish caught on lines designated to test over the 60 kg (130 lb) class will not be considered for record claims. All-Tackle Length record claims are only considered for the eligible species listed on page 184, caught according to IGFA angling rules.

### **NATIONAL LENGTH RECORDS**

Any measuring devices approved by the NZSFC can be used. Any board other than the IGFA Board will not be allowed for World Records. There are only 5 species that IGFA currently recognise and they are albacore, kahawai, snapper, skipjack tuna and yellowtail kingfish.

Trevally, John Dory & Blue Cod are added for NZ purposes, plus any other species that the NZSFC so nominate from time to time.

### **Junior Angler Categories**

Junior Angler world records are kept for the heaviest fish of the eligible species, in any line class up to 60 kg (130 lb) in smallfry and junior categories. Smallfry records are kept for both male and female anglers, ages 0-10. Junior records are kept for both male and female anglers, ages 11-16. Each species recognized for line class records and tippet class records is also recognized for Junior Angler records.

### **LINE CLASS & FLY ROD CATEGORIES**

*Line class records* are kept according to the strength of the line. *Fly rod world records* are maintained according to tippet strength. Each species recognized for the line class records is also recognized for tippet records. Records are kept in the following line and tippet classes:

#### **TIPPET CLASSES**

<i>Metric</i>	<i>US Customary</i>
1 kg	2 lb
2 kg	4 lb
3 kg	6 lb
4 kg	8 lb
6 kg	12 lb
8 kg	16 lb
10 kg	20 lb

#### **LINE CLASSES**

<i>Metric</i>	<i>US Customary</i>
1 kg	2 lb
2 kg	4 lb
3 kg	6 lb
4 kg	8 lb
6 kg	12 lb
8 kg	16 lb
10 kg	20 lb
15 kg	30 lb

24 kg	50 lb
37 kg	80 lb
60 kg	130 lb

With the exception of all-tackle claims, line classes are limited for many species.

### **NZSFC Line and Tippet Classes**

Council has adopted all tippet and line classes as approved by the IGFA.

### **LINE TESTING**

IGFA tests all line and tippet samples submitted with world record claims in accordance with the metric line class designations, which vary slightly from the standard US customary designations. For example, the US customary equivalent of 4 kilograms is 8.81 pounds. Thus, line designated by the manufacturer as 8 lb class line may test up to 8.81 pounds (4 kg) to qualify for an 8 lb line class record. The US customary equivalents in pounds for metric line classes are as follows:

<i>Metric</i>	<i>US Customary Equivalent</i>
1 kg	2.20 lb
2 kg	4.40 lb
3 kg	6.61 lb
4 kg	8.81 lb
6 kg	13.22 lb
8 kg	17.63 lb
10 kg	22.04 lb
15 kg	33.06 lb
24 kg	52.91 lb
37 kg	81.57 lb
60 kg	132.27 lb

Line and tippet samples submitted with record claims are uniformly tested in accordance with Government specifications, which have been modified and supplemented by IGFA.

**Note: IGFA offers a line and tippet testing service for members only.**

### **Record Catch Regulations**

#### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. Protested applications or disputed existing records will be referred to the IGFA Executive Committee for review. Its decisions will be final. IGFA reserves the right to refuse to consider an application or grant a claim for a record application. All IGFA decisions will be based upon the intent of the regulations.
2. Any and all claims and/or disputes regarding the IGFA International Angling Rules shall be governed by and construed and enforced in accordance with, the laws of the State of Florida, without regard to such jurisdiction's conflict of laws principles. In the event that the parties are unable to mutually resolve any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of, in connection with, or in relation to the IGFA International Rules, such dispute, controversy or claim shall be resolved by litigation; in that connection, each of the parties to such dispute hereby

3.
  - (i) irrevocably and unconditionally consents to submit itself to the sole and exclusive personal jurisdiction of any federal or state court located within Broward County, Florida (the "Applicable Courts"),
  - (ii) waives any objection to the laying of sole and exclusive venue of any such litigation in any of the Applicable Courts,
  - (iii) Agrees not to plead or claim in any such court that such litigation brought therein has been brought in an inconvenient forum and agrees not to otherwise attempt to deny or defeat such personal jurisdiction or venue by motion or other request for leave from any such court, and
  - (iv) agrees that it will not bring any action, suit, or proceeding in connection with any dispute, claim or controversy arising out of or relating to the Angling Rules in any court or other tribunal other than any of the Applicable Courts. Nothing in this Section shall prevent enforcement in another forum of any judgment obtained in the Applicable Courts.

In the event that it shall become necessary for any party to take action of any type whatsoever to enforce the terms of the IGFA International Angling Rules, the prevailing Party shall be entitled to recover all its costs, including attorney's fees, costs, and expenses, including all out-of-pocket expenses that are not taxable as costs, incurred in connection with any such action, including any negotiations, mediations, arbitrations, litigation, and appeal.

4. When a substantial award is specifically offered for a world record catch in *any* line or tippet class, only a claim for an all-tackle record will be considered.
5. In some instances, an IGFA officer or member of the International Committee or a deputy from a local IGFA member club may be asked to recheck information supplied on a claim. Such action is not to be regarded as doubt of the formal affidavit, but rather as evidence of the extreme care with which IGFA investigates and maintains its records.

#### **NEW ZEALAND RECORD CLAIMS:**

The Council will keep a Register of National records caught by its anglers

To qualify for New Zealand record claims:-

1.
  - (a) Fish must be caught in NZSFC waters
  - (b) All NZSFC fishing rules and angling regulations must be complied with at the time of catch
2. To qualify for New Zealand records, all claims must be in the hands of the NZSFC records officer within sixty (60) days of the catch.
3. New Zealand Sport Fishing Council adopt the IGFA minimum fish weight policy for the qualification of New Zealand record fishes, providing that fish meeting this minimum weight also exceed the minimum size regulations prescribed by the New Zealand Government
4. A sample of the line used must accompany the claim. NZSFC to follow the same line samples requirements as IGFA . The line sample **must** be supplied in a form that can be easily unrolled for testing without tangling. In regard to Braid or any other IGFA permitted type line, if two lines are attached then



- both must be submitted for testing.
5. The following photographs are required to accompany the claim:
    - (a) The full length of the fish, the rod & reel used to make the catch.
    - (b) The angler photographed with the fish.
    - (c) In the event of a Big Eye Tuna claim, a photo must also be submitted of the liver of the fish.
    - (d) A photo of the fish lying on its side with a tape or rule laying alongside the fish.
  6. All NZ Record Claims are open to all anglers in NZ. If the angler is not a member of a national body (NZSFC or Angling & Casting) at the time of capture there will be a fee of \$150 for the claim to be processed. If the angler is a non-member the fish will only qualify for a national record and no other trophies.
  7. **Anglers with disabilities claiming records**

Any angler with a disability will contest NZ records as listed. They may due to their disability make special procedures to enable them to angle a fish safely and mitigate a disability to enable them to fish. They will as far as physically possible fish within NZSFC and IGFA rules. Any departure from these rules is to be noted on the record application and the reason given. The award of the record in this special circumstance will need to pass the records officer requirements and assessment of a special panel of judges appointed from time to time by the Board. The record will be recorded in the appropriate category in the NZ records book.

### **SPECIES IDENTIFICATION**

1. Photographs must be submitted by which positive identification of the exact species can be made. Read the rules on photographs at the end of this section, and refer to the Species Identification section in the *World Record Game Fishes* book to determine which features must show to identify your fish. Applications without photographs will not be accepted.
2. If there is the slightest doubt that the fish cannot be properly identified from the photographs and other data submitted, the fish should be examined by an ichthyologist or qualified fishery biologist before a record application is submitted to IGFA. The scientist's signature and title (or qualifications) should appear on the IGFA application form or on a separate document confirming the identification of the species.
3. If a scientist is not available, the fish should be retained in a preserved or frozen condition until a qualified authority can verify the species or until notified by IGFA that the fish need no longer be retained.
4. If no decision can be made from the photographs and the angler can provide no further proof of the identification of the species, the record claim will not be considered.

### **WITNESSES TO CATCH**

On all record claims, witnesses to the catch are highly desirable if at all possible. Unwitnessed catches may be disallowed if questions arise regarding their authenticity. It is important that the witnesses can attest to the angler's compliance with the IGFA International Angling Rules and Equipment Regulations.

### **MINIMUM WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS FOR VACANT RECORDS**

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2017, IGFA WILL BE IMPLEMENTING MINIMUM WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS FOR LINE CLASS AND FLY ROD RECORDS AS OUTLINED BELOW.

- (i) For line class categories up to and including 10 kg (20 lb) and all tippet class (fly rod) categories:

The weight of the catch must weigh at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  as much as the line class it is eligible for. For example, a fish entered for the 6 kg (12 lb) line class or tippet class category must weigh a minimum of 3 kg (6 lb 9 oz).

(ii) For all line class categories greater than 10 kg (20 lb):

The weight of the catch must be equal to, or greater than the line class it is eligible for. For example, a fish entered in the 24 kg (50 lb) line class category must weigh a minimum of 24 kg (52 lb 14 oz)

### **WEIGHTS NEEDED TO DEFEAT OR TIE EXISTING RECORDS**

1. To replace a record for a fish weighing less than 25 pounds (11.33 kg), the replacement must weigh at least 2 ounces (56.69 gm) more than the existing record.
2. To replace a record fish weighing 25 pounds (11.33 kg) or more, the replacement must weigh at least one half of 1 percent more than the existing record. *Ex:* At 100 pounds (45.35 kg) the additional weight required would be 8 ounces (226.7 gm); at 200 pounds (90.71 kg) the additional weight required would be 1 pound (.453kg).
3. A catch which matches the weight of an existing record or exceeds the weight by less than the amount required to defeat the record will be considered a tie. In case of a tie claim involving more than two catches, weight must be compared with the original record (first fish to be caught). Nothing weighing less than the original record will be considered.
4. Estimated weights will not be accepted. (See *Weighing Requirements*.) Fractions of ounces or their metric equivalents will not be considered.

### **TIME LIMIT ON CLAIMS**

With the exception of *all-tackle records* only, claims for record fish caught in US continental waters must be received by IGFA within 60 days of the date of catch. Claims for record fish caught in other waters must be received by IGFA within three months of the date of catch.

Claims for all-tackle records only are considered for catches made in past years if (1) acceptable photographs are submitted, (2) the weight of the fish can be positively verified, and (3) the method of catch can be substantiated. For catches made in the past, as much information as possible must be submitted on an IGFA world record application form with any additional substantiating data.

If an incomplete record claim is submitted, it must be accompanied by an explanation of why certain portions are incomplete. An incomplete claim will be considered for a record if the following conditions are met.

1. The incomplete claim with explanations of why portions are incomplete must be received by IGFA within the time limits specified above.
2. Missing data must be due to circumstances beyond the control of the angler making the record claim.
3. All missing data must be supplied within a period of time considered to be reasonable in view of the particular circumstances.

IGFA's Executive Committee will make final decisions on incomplete claims.

### **WEIGHING REQUIREMENTS**

1. All record fish should be weighed on scales that have been checked and certified for accuracy by government agencies or other qualified and accredited organizations. Disinterested witnesses to the weight should be used whenever possible. All scales must be regularly checked for accuracy and certified in accordance with applicable government regulations at least once every twelve months. If at the time of weighing the fish the scale has not been properly certified within twelve months, it should be checked and certified for accuracy as quickly as possible. An official report stating the

findings of the inspection prior to any adjustment of the scale must be included with the record application. **A copy of the test certificate must be forwarded to the Secretary of the NZSFC before January 1 of each season.**

2. The weight of the sling, platform, or rope (if one is used to secure the fish on the scales) must be determined and deducted from the total weight.
3. At the time of weighing, the actual tackle used by the angler to catch the fish must be exhibited to the weighmaster and the weight witness.
4. No estimated weights will be accepted. Fish weighed only at sea or on other bodies of water will not be accepted.
5. Only weights indicated by the graduations on the scale will be accepted. Visual fractionalizing of these graduations is not allowed. Any weights that fall between two graduations on the scale must be rounded to the lower of the two.
6. IGFA/NZSFC reserves the right to require any scale to be re-certified for accuracy if there are any indications that the scale might not have weighed correctly.
7. **All fish must be weighed by the person/s nominated by the club as the weighmaster of the club or on scales for which a current certification of accuracy is available.**
8. **NZSFC Clubs should set their own rules to cover the trucking of fish to weigh stations within their own recognised waters.**

**Note: IGFA offers a scale testing service for members only.**

### **Preparation of Claims**

To apply for a world record, the angler must submit a completed IGFA application form, the mandatory length of line and terminal tackle (as described in following) used to catch the fish, and acceptable photographs of the fish, the tackle used to catch the fish, the scale used to weigh the fish, and the angler with the fish.

### **APPLICATION FORM**

The official IGFA world record application form or a reproduction must be used for record claims. This form may be reproduced as long as all items are included.

The angler must fill in the application personally. IGFA also recommends that the angler personally mail the application, line sample or fly leader and photographs.

When making any record claim, the angler must indicate the specified strength of the line or tippet used to catch the fish. In the cases of line class and tippet class records, this will place the claim in an IGFA line or tippet class category (see *World Record Categories*). All lines will be examined by IGFA to verify the specified strength of the line. If the line or tippet over tests its particular category, the application will be considered in the next highest category; if it under tests into a lower line or tippet class category, the application will not be considered for the lower line class. The heaviest line class permitted for both freshwater and saltwater records is 60 kg (130 lb) class. The heaviest tippet class permitted for fly fishing records is 10 kg (20 lb). If the line or tippet over tests these maximum strengths, the claim will be disallowed.

Extreme care should be exercised in measuring the fish as the measurements are often important for weight verification and scientific studies. See the measurement diagram on the record application to be sure you have measured correctly.

The angler is responsible for seeing that the necessary signatures and correct addresses of the boat captain, weighmaster and witnesses are on the application. If an IGFA officer or representative, or an officer or member of an IGFA club is available, he or she should be asked to witness the claim. The name of a boatman, guide, or weighmaster repeated as witness is not acceptable.

The angler must appear in person to have his application notarised. In territories where notarization is not possible or customary, the signature of a government commissioner or resident, a member of an embassy, legation or consular staff or an IGFA officer or International Committee member may replace notarization.

Any deliberate falsification of an application will disqualify the applicant for any future IGFA world record, and any existing records will be nullified.

### **LINE OR TIPPET SAMPLE**

All applications for fly fishing records must be accompanied by the lure, the entire tippet, and the entire leader along with one inch of the fly line beyond the attachment to the leader. These components must be intact and connected.

All other applications must be accompanied by the entire leader, the double line, and at least 50 feet (15.24 meters) of the single line closest to the double line, leader or hook. All line samples and the leader (if one is used) must be submitted in one piece. If a lure is used with the leader, the leader should be cut at the eye attachment to the lure.

Each line sample must be in one piece. It must be submitted in a manner that it can be easily unwound without damage to the line.

A recommended method is to take a rectangular piece of stiff cardboard and cut notches in two opposite ends. Secure one end of the line to the cardboard and wind the line around the cardboard through the notched areas. Secure the other end, and write your name and the specified strength of the line on the cardboard. Any line sample submitted that is tangled or cannot be easily unwound will not be accepted.

### **PHOTOGRAPHIC REQUIREMENTS**

Photographs showing the full length of the fish, the rod and reel used to make the catch, and the scale used to weigh the fish must accompany each record application. A photograph of the angler with the fish is also required.

For species identification, the clearest possible photos should be submitted. This is especially important in the cases of hybrids and fishes that may be confused with similar species. Shark applications should include a photograph of the shark's teeth, and of the head and back taken from above in addition to the photographs taken from the side. Whether the shark has or does not have a ridge between the dorsal fins should be clearly evident in this photograph.

In all cases, photographs should be taken of the fish in a hanging position and also lying on a flat surface on its side. The fish should be broadside to the camera and no part of the fish should be obscured. The fins must be fully extended and not obscured with the hands, and the jaw or bill clearly shown. Avoid obscuring the keels of sharks and tunas with a tail rope.

When photographing a fish lying on its side, the surface beneath the fish should be smooth and a ruler or marked tape placed beside the fish if possible. Photographs from various angles are most helpful. An additional photograph of the fish on the scale with actual weight visible helps to expedite the application.

Photos taken by daylight with a reproducible-type negative film are highly recommended if at all possible.

*Note:* IGFA's bimonthly newsletter *International Angler* keeps anglers up to date on world record catches.

It is important that we have clear, publishable photographs of the fish and the angler. If you have action shots of the catch, we would like to see them also.

### Conversion Formulas for Weights & Measures

Persons submitting world record and contest claims are required to provide the weights and measurements of the fish in the units in which they were taken. The following formulas are provided for your information.

#### WEIGHTS

Ounces	x	28.349	=	Grams
Ounces	x	0.02835	=	Kilograms
Pounds	x	453.59	=	Grams
Pounds	x	0.45359	=	Kilograms
Grams	x	0.0353	=	Ounces
Grams	x	0.002	=	Pounds
Kilograms x		35.2736	=	Ounces
Kilograms x		2.2046	=	Pounds

#### MEASURES

Inches	x	25.4	=	Millimeters
Inches	x	2.54	=	Centimeters
Feet	x	30.48	=	Centimeters
Feet	x	0.3048	=	Meters
Millimeters	x	0.03937	=	Inches
Centimeters	x	0.3937	=	Inches
Centimeters	x	0.0328	=	Feet
Meters	x	39.37	=	Inches

#### MISCELLANEOUS

1 pound force	x	4.448	=	Newtons
1 kilogram force	x	9.806	=	Newtons
1 fathom	x	6	=	Feet

## Section 3: NZSFC Regulations

These NZSFC regulations are provided to address New Zealand specific practices.

### **3.1 SPORT NZ (formerly SPARC)**

Appeals can be taken to the Sports Tribunal in respect of disciplinary matters or breaches of NZSFC fishing rules and regulations. Any appeals must be submitted within 28 days

### **3.2 NZSFC FISHING WATERS**

To be eligible for NZSFC Awards/Trophies or New Zealand Records fish must be caught in the waters within 200 miles of the coasts of the two main islands of New Zealand including the Chatham Islands

### **3.3 CATCH SUMMARY SHEETS:**

These must be completed and sent to the Council Secretary on a regular basis. They should include all fish weighed by the Club and all Tag Cards handled by the Club.

### **3.4 IGFA & NZSFC RULES**

- a) When clubs are conducting their own tournaments – and visiting clubs are involved, they must make their own rules of entry.
- b) When members of unincorporated clubs are entering the Nationals and fishing for Council trophies they must prove they are a separate club in their own right and not part of another club.
- c) Clubs may conduct fishing tournaments for sustenance reasons without complying with NZSFC fishing rules and regulations (Section 7.5 of the constitution refers). Fish caught for these reasons will not qualify for any present Council awards or prizes.

### **3.5 COURTESY WEIGHING:**

- a) All clubs are required to courtesy weigh fish (at no charge) for anglers of affiliated clubs within the recognised hours of the weigh stations operation of the club. A fee may only be charged to non-affiliated fishers requesting a courtesy weigh. Clubs intending to charge for courtesy weighs for non-affiliates must advise Council of their intention and the fee to be charged at the beginning of the season.
- b) Anglers requiring a courtesy weigh or courtesy Tag & Release must present two completed weigh sheets /catch cards (either on sheets / cards from the club providing the courtesy weigh, or their own club's sheets / cards), to the weighmaster, prior to the fish being weighed. For Tag & Release, the weighmaster shall sight and check the completed Tag Card. The weighmaster shall retain / forward the Tag.  
All club weigh sheets/catch cards shall have three additional tick boxes easily distinguishable near the particular Club's heading.
  - i. Courtesy Weigh – non-member
  - ii. Copy
  - iii. Courtesy Weigh - NZSFC Affiliated Member. There shall be a line beside this box (suitably headed) to record the fishers Club and Membership No
- c) When a fish is courtesy weighed the fish will be accredited for statistical purposes to the angler's club.
  - i. An inland club can negotiate with a coastal club to use their facilities as a satellite weigh station. This must be notified to the NZSFC Secretary. The tally goes to the inland club and the coastal club must be aware they can't count them in their own tally as well.
- d) The recognition of the angler weighing this fish is at the discretion of the anglers club.
- e) Courtesy weighs must be used where practical to ensure fish are recorded to the weigh

stations within the area of catch.

### **3.6 PERMANENT WEIGH STATIONS:**

As included with Club information in the NZSFC Yearbook.

### **3.7 CATCH FLAGS:**

Catch flags are a symbolic and optional gesture to communicate a boat's catch.

ALBACORE	White Flag with Red Fish
BROADBILL	Yellow flag with Black fish
MARLIN	Blue Flag with White Fish
TUNA	White Flag with Blue Fish
SHARK	Red flag with Black fish
YELLOWTAIL KINGFISH	White Flag with Green Fish
WAHOO	White Flag Orange Fish
OTHER SPECIES	Yellow Flag
TAGGED FISH	Red with White T

Generally these flags measure 70 cm x 35 cm

Individual Club's should make their own arrangements with regard to the flying of flags whilst playing a fish.

### **3.8 MARLIN**

- a). It is recommended for all clubs affiliated to the NZSFC that the minimum weight for marlin is 90kg. The minimum weight should apply for award or contest purposes and is recommended as a guide to encourage tagging of marlin, with the exception of b) below. It should not discourage any marlin landed being weighed even if it is assessed as being under the recommended 90 kg weight. All marlin presented to a club for weighing should be recorded and details forwarded to the NZSFC for statistical recording purposes.
- b). All club, NZ or world record claims will be recognised regardless of marlin weight if ratified.
- c). The NZSFC is to seek and provide regular information to clubs on tagging of marlin. This should include recommended techniques and equipment to enhance the initial placement of tags, the recovery of the fish and ultimately improved recapture rates of tagged marlin.

### **3.9 Sharks**

White Sharks are now protected in New Zealand so the records we have are 'historical' only. No Awards will be given.

### **3.10 Tagging Programme**

Species in the tagging programme:

Broadbill

All marlin species (excluding spearfish)

Blue and Mako sharks

Yellowtail Kingfish - Kingfish in particular should be measured before letting them go

Tuna

Tags (each) \$4.14 inclusive of GST

Tags – Nylon (Billfish) \$4.50 inclusive of GST

For non members the cost for tags will be double

### 3.11 New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Calendar

Last 8 days in February ending on the last Saturday NZSFC Nationals

1<sup>st</sup> July each year Fish Tallies  
Membership Details

7<sup>th</sup> July each year Total number of members as at 30<sup>th</sup> June  
Final day for Nominations for Council Trophies

Apart from the first marlin weighed and tagged when the weigh sheet must be faxed within 24 hours of the fish being weighed or tagged

30<sup>th</sup> December each year Last day for payment of affiliation fees  
Last day for Scales Certificates

## Section 4: Awards and Trophies

### 4.1 Requirements for TROPHIES & AWARDS

To qualify for NZSFC Trophies:-

1. Fish must be caught in NZSFC waters
2. All NZSFC fishing rules and angling regulations must be complied with at the time of the catch
3. All anglers must be financial members of Clubs affiliated to the NZSFC at the time of capture. For the Photo competition the photographer must be a financial member of a Club affiliated to the NZSFC. Photos become the property of the NZSFC and can be used in whatever publications they so choose.
4. With the exception of the first marlin of the season trophies, nominations must be received by the Secretary no later than July 7 each year. With regard to the First Marlin these nominations must be notified to the Council Secretary by faxing or emailing the weigh sheet within 24 hours of the fish being weighed or tagged.
5. For each Annual Trophy, NZSFC will present a suitable miniature which will NOT include Council plaques.
6. Judging of the Old Man and the Sea Cup will be by such persons as the Board decide
7. Weighed marlin must exceed 90 kg
8. Nominations for trophies and awards must come from Clubs
9. A Club may put in more than one nomination

### 4.2 RECOMMENDATION TO CLUBS FOR RECORD PIN AWARDS:

*(NB This recommendation is for those Clubs who award Pins)*

For a New Zealand Record a Silver Pin with a Ruby coloured Eye

For a World Record a Gold Pin with a Ruby coloured Eye

Clubs to make their own arrangements with regard to purchase and distribution of these pins at their own cost.



#### **4.3 GRAND SLAM CLUBS:**

The NZSFC has introduced grand slam clubs for its anglers fishing in New Zealand. They are unique to New Zealand and serve as a supreme award for a life time of angling. To qualify for a slam club an angler must catch one of each type specified for each of the awards and meet the minimum weight requirements for each fish. All fish to be eligible to qualify towards your grand slam must be caught in accordance with angling rules for IGFA and NZSFC. You must have proof of capture (certificate, club year book, or photo of your fish with weigh board information included). All claims must be endorsed and verified by your club secretary. Your club must have been affiliated at the time of capture. These are life time awards and retrospective captures count provided the requirements are met. There are 5 different slam clubs.

##### **THE BILLFISH SLAM      Minimum Weights**

STRIPED	100 kg
BLUE	150 kg
BLACK	150 kg
BROADBILL	110 kg
SPEARFISH	10 kg

##### **THE SHARK SLAM**

THRESHER	120 kg
WHALER	120 kg
MAKO	160 kg
HAMMERHEAD	100 kg
BLUE	100 kg

##### **THE TUNA SLAM**

YELLOWFIN	35 kg
BIGEYE	25 kg
BLUEFIN	100 kg
ALBACORE	10 kg
SKIPJACK	5 kg

Tuna slam claims the fish must also exceed the line weight.

##### **The Inshore Slam**

SNAPPER	10.00 kg
KINGFISH	25.00 kg
KAHAWAI	3.00 kg
TREVALLY	5.00 kg
JOHN DORY	2.00 kg

The Inshore Slam includes a land based section

##### **THE SOUTHERN SLAM**

BLUE SHARK	50 kg
PORBEAGLE	80 kg
MAKO	150 kg

THRESHER	130 kg
ALBACORE	exceed line weight
SLENDER	exceed line weight
KINGFISH	exceed line weight
TUNA's (Northern Pacific or Southern Bluefin)	exceed line weight
BILLFISH	90 kg

Catch 6 of the 8 fish to claim the Grand Slam

These fish must be caught in the South Island fishing grounds

Any meritorious fish caught ie World Record, unusual fish of note, be considered by Council on a one off basis to count towards part of the slam.

This came into effect 1 July 2010

### **BILLFISH TAGGING SLAM**

STRIPED MARLIN  
 BLUE MARLIN  
 BLACK MARLIN  
 BROADBILL  
 SPEARFISH

To qualify the following criteria will apply;

- a) All fish must be caught and tagged in New Zealand Waters
- b) The slam must be applied for, the application must be endorsed and verified true and accurate by the club secretary whom the applicant belongs to and endorsed by the appropriate Fishing Committee (if applicable) of that club.
- c) Proof will be by an official catch card recognized by the NZSFC, by verification from a club year book or magazine. The club must have been affiliated to the NZSFC at the time of capture.
- d) IGFA & NZSFC rules are to be observed.
- e) A plaque or certificate will be issued if the slam is awarded.
- f) The recipient is to be honoured in the Council's annual yearbook.

To apply send details of your qualifying fish to the NZSFC secretary at PO Box 54242 The Marina Auckland 2144. Enquiries can be made to [secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz)

## **APPENDIX 1 - LIST OF AWARDS AND TROPHIES**

### **Annual Trophies:**

1. The NZSFC will present a Trophy for the first tagged Marlin of the season, each year.
2. The NZSFC will present a Trophy for the first Marlin weighed exceeding 90 kg, each year.
3. The Rob Dinsdale Memorial Trophy:

The Rob Dinsdale Memorial Trophy will be presented annually to the angler who tagged and released or weighed the first marlin of each season in accordance with NZSFC rules.

4. Saul Trophy:

The Saul Trophy will be presented annually to the angler who tags and releases the most recognised NZ Game Fish Species (that are in the tagging programme) in New Zealand waters in a season. Each Club must forward their nomination to the Secretary prior to July 7 each year.

5. The Old Man and the Sea Cup:

Will be awarded annually to the angler who catches the most meritorious catch of the season. It is not necessary for the fish to score the most points (ie fish x 100 divided by the breaking strain). Each club must forward their nomination, including a description about how the catch was achieved and what makes it meritorious, to the Secretary prior to July 7 each year.

6. Lord Norrie Gold Cup:

Will be presented to the angler who catches the heaviest Striped Marlin of the season. Each club must forward their nomination to the Secretary prior to July 7 each year.

7. Fisherman of the Year:

Will be awarded to the angler who catches the heaviest recognised Game fish of the season. Each club must forward their nomination to the Secretary prior to July 7 each year.

8. The Peter & Noeline Short Memorial Trophy:

Will be awarded for the most Tagged Billfish of the Season. Each Club must forward their nomination to the Secretary prior to July 7 each year.

9. The Top Junior Angler Cup:

Will be awarded annually to the junior angler who catches the most meritorious catch of the season. It is not necessary for the fish to score the most points. Each club must forward their nomination including a description about how the catch was achieved and what makes it meritorious, to the Secretary prior to July 7 each year.

10. The Hart Trophy: For the best live Marine photograph taken by an amateur photographer

11. Angler of the Year: Open to all anglers that have competed successfully at Club, National and International level, and contributed to the sport of Sport Fishing.

12. The Volunteer of the year: Open to all volunteers who have contributed to the sport of fishing.

13. The Club of the Year: Open to all clubs that have competed successfully, shown an outstanding ability to provide for its members and contributed to the community.

14. Certificates will be awarded for all line class species and other species that the Council chooses

These Certificates will be awarded for the -

- a. First Fish of the Season Weighed or Tagged
- b. Heaviest Fish of the Season
- c. 5, 10, 15 & 20 -1 Club

Clubs should forward their nominations to the Council Secretary as soon as possible after the fish is weighed or tagged.

National Tournament Trophies:

1) Air New Zealand Trophy:

Will be awarded to the individual team scoring the most points in the Blue and Black Marlin section of the National Tournament.

2) Moutere Magic Trophy:

Will be awarded to the individual team scoring the most points in the Broadbill section of the National Tournament

3) John Hough Memorial Trophy:

- Will be awarded to the individual team scoring the most points in the Striped Marlin section of the National Tournament.
- 4) Waihou Bay Spearfish Trophy  
Will be awarded to the individual team scoring the most points in the Shortbill Spearfish Section of the National Tournament
- 5) Westpac Trophy:  
Will be awarded to the individual team scoring the most points in the Yellowtail Kingfish section of the National Tournament.
- 6) NZI Trophy:  
Will be awarded to the individual team scoring the most points in the Shark section of the National Tournament.
- 7) City of Auckland Trophy:  
Will be awarded to the individual team scoring the most points in the Tuna section of the National Tournament.
- 8) The Hickey Sports Trophy:  
Will be awarded to the team scoring the most points in the Albacore Tuna section of the National Tournament.
- 9) The Wasabi Trophy:  
Will be awarded to the team scoring the most points in the Skipjack Tuna section of the National Tournament.
- 10) The Tautuku Fishing Club - Slender Tuna Trophy:  
Will be awarded to the team scoring the most points in the Slender Tuna section of the National Tournament.
- 11) The Sheryl Hart Snapper Trophy:  
Will be awarded to the team scoring the most points in the Snapper section of the National Tournament.
- 12) The Black Magic Trophy:  
Will be awarded to the team scoring the most points in the Kahawai section of the National Tournament.
- 13) The Pursuit Trophy:  
Will be awarded to the team scoring the most points in the Trevally section of the National Tournament.
- 14) Carol Atwood Memorial Trophy:  
Will be awarded to the angler scoring the most points on the meritorious system for a Tuna caught during the National Tournament each year.
- 15) The Varta Cup Northern:  
Will be awarded to the Northern club scoring the most points in the National Tournament. The clubs that are eligible for this trophy are: Ahipara, Bay of Islands Swordfish Club, Bay of Islands Sports and Fishing Club, Doubtless Bay, Hokianga, Hopin, Houhora, Whangarei, Whangaroa
- 16) The Varta Cup:  
Will be awarded to the club scoring the most points in the National tournament.
- 17) The Penn Tackle Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Blue & Black Marlin Section.
- 18) The Big Fish Bait & Tackle Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Broadbill Section
- 19) The Gordon Traill Memorial Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Striped Marlin Section.
- 20) Stuart Morrison Trophy:

- Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Shark Section.
- 21) The NZ Fishing News Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Yellowtail Section.
- 22) The Composite Development Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Tuna Section.
- 23) The Kilwell Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Albacore Tuna Section.
- 24) The Wasabi Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Skipjack Tuna Section.
- 25) The Canterbury Sportsfishing Club Slender Tuna Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Slender Tuna Section.
- 26) The Penn Tackle Snapper Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Snapper Section.
- 27) The Black Magic Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Kahawai Section.
- 28) The Dave White Memorial Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Trevally Section.
- 29) The Webb Family Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Shortbill Spearfish Section
- 30) The Maui Jim Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Interclub Section of the National Tournament to the Club winning the Mahimahi Section
- 31) The Dennis Davey Trophy:  
Will be awarded in the Team Champions Section of the National Tournament to the Team winning the Mahimahi Section
- 32) Auckland Region Trophy  
Will be awarded to the Auckland Region Club scoring the most points in the Nationals.