

NZSFC NATIONALS RULES

22ND – 29TH FEBRUARY 2020

Please note the following rule changes for the 2020 Nationals.

1. All tackle and equipment used in the capture of a T & R fish **MUST** be presented to a weighmaster or IGFA Rep for inspection when the hardcopy Tag card is submitted. **For all Billfish and Sharks - In the event that a hook cannot be safely removed or in the best interest of fish welfare it is acceptable to cut the leader as close as practically possible to the hook and release the fish, the trace must still be presented to the weighmaster for inspection/measuring.**
2. Broadbill must equal or exceed 90 kg
3. The tournament will run for eight days, finishing on the last Saturday in February. Teams can start fishing at 6 am on the first day. **All catch cards must sighted by a weighmaster or recorder by 4 pm on the final day.**
4. There is no lines out of the water time, an angler may fish until such time as they believe that if they land a fish they can have their catch card for weighed fish sighted by a weighmaster of the club weighing the fish **by 4pm** on the final day. There is no playing out of fish after **4pm** on the final day. All fish must be reported to NZSFC by the Club the team is fishing for by 8 pm on the final day.

Please note this important point with regard to scoring:-

NOTE

In all situations if any aggregate points category is tied at the end of the tournament, the angler or team to boat/release their last fish first is deemed to be the winner, date and time of boating or release must be recorded on the catch card (if no time is stated then it will default to **11:59pm** **Therefore it is imperative that catch or tag times are noted.**

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The New Zealand “**Nationals**” shall form the arena in which anglers from throughout New Zealand compete, club against club, team against team and angler against angler for the honour of winning various trophies and titles that have been offered for this tournament.

The ‘Council’ will determine the rules and conditions that will apply to this tournament.

The ‘Council’ will determine the dates and hours of fishing the tournament.

In addition to the **NZSFC** Nationals Tournament Rules and Conditions, the following will also apply:

1. The NZSFC Fishing Rules and Regulations are incorporated as tournament rules. Only fish caught in accordance with these Fishing Rules and regulations and within the intent of these rules will qualify for the tournament.
2. All current New Zealand Laws and Regulations regarding the taking of fish in New Zealand territorial waters.

The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council reserves the right to use any information received by it through results sheets of the **NATIONAL TOURNAMENT** for publicity, statistical, or other purposes that may be beneficial to the Council or its membership.

1. JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

A Judicial Committee will be appointed prior to the tournament starting. The Judicial Committee’s decisions shall be final on all matters pertaining to the contest, and any controversy arising over interpretation of these rules. Any dispute relating to the weight of a fish must be lodged with the weighmaster prior to the fish being removed from the weigh station. All other disputes must be lodged in writing and emailed or faxed to the tournament secretary within 48 hours

of the tournament ending. The judicial committee may delay the final results if any dispute requires further investigating. Final results will then be announced, with no subsequent protests or disputes being accepted.

2. SAFETY

Although the Tournament has been arranged for 8 days, it is the skipper's responsibility to determine that on any one day, the sea conditions and weather forecasts are safe for his/her boat to put to sea. The Tournament is being run nationwide and the fact that boats may be fishing in one area, is not to be taken as an indicator that it is safe to fish in any other area. It is each Skipper's responsibility to ensure that the boat they intend to participate in is capable of putting to sea safely.

It is the Skipper's responsibility to ensure that the boat carries minimum legal safety equipment and flotation aids, including the requirements of local Coastguard/Harbour Board, or any other local body that has assumed control over the waterways and ocean that the team intend to fish in.

Each boat must have a reliable means of communication, with the expectation that they can make contact, or be contacted at all times. Each Boat must return to port, or report to their base each day. Any club who is made aware of a Skipper who has put to sea against the advice or directions of one of the authorities named above, or who has not met minimum safety requirements in equipment must report the matter to the Tournament Secretary, and the Judicial Committee will consider the complaint and can disqualify the team. Any such disqualification will also disqualify any catches previously weighed by that team for the Tournament.

Land Based, Kayak, and personal Watercraft teams will suffer the same penalties if they are found to have ignored advice from officers of surf lifesaving clubs operating in the area.

3. INFRACTIONS

Any person, club, boat skipper or crew, guilty of infraction of the rules could be disqualified from participation in this or any other NZ Sport Fishing Council contest.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

All team members must be financial members of an affiliated club. Team members that enter as a day member must pay the day membership fee for each and every day (8 days), irrespective of how many days the team member actually fishes.

All clubs being represented in the National Tournament must be affiliated to, and be financial members of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Inc. For the Club to be considered financial their fees must be paid and in the NZSFC account prior to the Tournament commencing.

Junior anglers must be under the age of 17 years at the conclusion of the tournament.

All teams must have access to a copy of the rules for the National Tournament.

All teams must nominate a member who will be responsible for the receiving of information for that team, and for certifying that the above conditions have been met.

All information given to the nominated member **shall be deemed to have been given to the whole team.**

A signed entry form, accompanied by the appropriate entry fees for the whole team must be lodged with the club the team is fishing for, before an entry is valid.

5 REGISTRATION

A registration fee of \$25 per angler (inclusive of GST) must accompany the official entry **form and be paid to the club the angler is representing.**

All teams must register at the headquarters of the club they are going to represent in the tournament. Correct registration is the team's responsibility through their nominated member.

All team members must be registered, and registration fees paid **before** they commence fishing. New teams, and additional team members can register after the tournament has started but registrations must be completed, and registration fees paid, and the Tournament Secretary notified **before** they commence fishing.

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, as indicated in the Bylaws.

6 CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

All participating clubs must have a nominated recorder, who will be the official contact for the Tournament Secretary for all matters relating to the tournament.

For the 2020 Nationals the preferred method of receiving and transmitting results will be by email. Council would expect all clubs to make a serious attempt to comply with this preference. However, it is recognised that some clubs may not be able to comply, and for these clubs a fax link will be maintained. Those clubs that are forced to use the fax link must inform the Tournament secretary early.

All participating clubs must have an email address to receive and transmit results and other information between the club and tournament secretary.

All catches must be relayed to the tournament secretary on the day the fish is weighed or tagged. A day being 6 pm to 6 pm (see rule 9).

Daily catch results must be transmitted to the Tournament Secretary not later than 7.30 pm each day and be certified as true and correct. (Certifying will eliminate the need to send catch certificates in) **Nil returns are just as important as positive returns!**

Final catch results must reach the Tournament Secretary prior to 8 pm on the last fishing day of the tournament. The results for Day 8 will be sent as Day 8's results but Recorders and Anglers will have 24 hours to check that all fish have been entered and recorded correctly.

Tagged fish must be reported as soon as possible after the fish has been tagged but must not be notified to the Tournament Secretary until such times as the card has been sighted electronically or physically by the Club the team is fishing for unless prior arrangements have been made. All tagged fish must be reported by the club to NZSFC by 8 pm on the final day.

All affiliated clubs must provide courtesy weighing and email/fax reporting to all anglers fishing in the tournament in line with Rule 13.

Clubs who have teams fishing away from their home base should make every effort to make sure they are aware of their obligations under Rule 13.

Clubs must provide competent weighmasters to officiate during the clubs weighing times.

Clubs should hold a pre-tournament briefing to make teams aware of their responsibilities as regards all aspects of the tournament – Local Coastguard/Harbour rules, radio frequencies and weigh station times.

Clubs must have available copies of the Council booklet for teams to purchase or copies of the rules so there is no excuse for teams to be ignorant of the rules.

7 TEAMS

Teams will be identified by a team name as well as a team number. The Council will, through the clubs, allocate the team number.

All members of the team must fish for the same club, and at least one member of the team must belong to the club they are fishing for. A team must comprise not less than two (2) and not more than ten (10) persons. There must not be less than two members of the same team on the boat at any one time and in the interests of safety at least one person on the boat should be over the age of 18 years.

If for any reason the responsible member is changed, the tournament secretary must be notified as soon as possible.

MORE THAN ONE team may fish off the same boat, but all teams must be fishing the Nationals tournament.

Teams may change boats during the tournament but must retain the same team name and number. At any one time, all members of the team who are fishing must be on the same boat.

No substitute of a team may be made after registration without the consent of the tournament secretary (generally it should not be expected to have substitutes approved after the tournament has commenced).

In the case of land based anglers, at any one time, all members of the team who are fishing must, be on a stretch of uninterrupted foreshore, must be in sight of one another, and without the use of aids, be close enough together to be able to call to one another. Or if fishing from a structure, (such as a wharf or jetty) all members must fish from the structure.

In the case of Kayak and Watercraft anglers, at any one time, all members of the team who are fishing must be in sight of one another, and without the use of aids, be close enough together to be able to call to one another. They must have all prescribed safety equipment deemed appropriate for Kayak and Watercraft users. As per team numbers rule, minimum of two anglers (that may fish on one kayak or watercraft, or individual watercrafts) and no more than 10 anglers allowed.

With the exception of the rule regarding the catching of bait, only team members may fish from the boat during the tournament, and only team members may catch any of the fish as listed under Rule 15 Species. Guests, spectators and crew on the boat who are not team members may assist with the boating of tournament fish. When no game fishing tackle is in the water, they may assist with the catching of baitfish but may not catch any of the tournament species.

Fish should be weighed from the boat they were caught from, whether on their boat trailer or in the water. Fish can't be transferred to another boat any time for the purpose of weighing the catch except in exceptional circumstances. The only exceptions are if the angler or anglers as a team are changing boat because of availability, or in an emergency ie a breakdown. In both these situations their catch when weighed will have to be ratified by the disputes committee. This rule does not apply to Land based Anglers. Catch cards for weighed fish and Tag cards for tagged fish should also be handed in or reported from the boat the team is fishing from by a representative of the team

It is the team's responsibility to make themselves familiar with the rules.

Teams will nominate a responsible member on the registration form. **Any official information given to the responsible member shall be deemed to have been given to the whole team.**

8 ANGLERS

Anglers may change teams but **must not start fishing** from the new team until the tournament secretary has been notified of the change.

Anglers who change teams shall leave all team points behind but will take individual points with them.

9 FISHING DAYS AND TIMES

The tournament will run for eight days, finishing on the last Saturday in February. Teams can start fishing at 6 am on the first day. All catch cards must be sighted by a weighmaster or recorder by **4 pm** on the final day.

There is no lines out of the water time, an angler may fish until such time as they believe that if they land a fish they can have their catch card for weighed fish sighted by a weighmaster of the club weighing the fish **by 4pm** on the final day. There is no playing out of fish after **4pm** on the final day. All fish must be reported to NZSFC by the Club the team is fishing for by 8 pm on the final day.

10 AREA

The tournament will be fished in that area of water bounded by a line 200 miles from New Zealand's two main islands. The provisions of Rule 14 reporting of catches, Rule 11 Weighing, and Rule 2 Safety, must be adhered to.

11 WEIGH STATION AND EQUIPMENT

All fish must be caught on rod and reel only (handlines are permitted only for the catching of bait). All fish must be weighed in the line class of the line manufacturers rating of the line used. All tackle must comply with NZSFC Fishing Rules and Regulations. **Only non-offset circle hooks can be used targeting Billfish when using live and dead natural baits.**

All fish must be weighed or Tag cards presented at the official weigh stations for the tournament i.e. weigh stations are as listed in the front of the NZSFC yearbook, plus any others notified to and accepted by the tournament secretary prior to the tournament.

All tackle and equipment used in the capture of the fish shall be presented to the weighmaster for inspection. The timing of the presentation/inspection is dependent on if the fish is weighed or Tagged (refer below to Section 11a and 11b). In the event that any of the tackle or equipment is incomplete or cannot be presented to the weighmaster, **(exception-please see note in 11b Tag & Release regarding hooks cut free)** the catch will be deemed incomplete and the fish will not qualify for the tournament.

Any matters where the weighmaster cannot make a final decision on, they are to notify the tournament secretary in writing within 24 hours explaining the situation, so the judicial committee can make a final call on the eligibility of the catch for the tournament.

11 a Weighing

All fish must be weighed within 36 hours of being caught.

All tackle and equipment used in the capture of the fish shall be presented to the weighmaster for inspection at the time of weighing.

Weighmasters have the right to inspect any gear on the boat at any time of weighing.

11b. Tag and Release (T & R)

Tag cards must be sighted either physically or electronically by the Club the team is fishing for by 4 pm on the final day.

All tackle and equipment used in the capture of a T & R fish MUST be presented to a weighmaster or IGFA Rep for inspection when the hardcopy Tag card is submitted. **For all Billfish and Sharks - in the event the hook cannot be safely removed or in the best interests of fish welfare, it is acceptable to cut the leader as close as practically possible to the hook and release the fish, the trace must still be presented to the weighmaster for inspection / measuring along with all other tackle and equipment.**

All Tag cards must be accompanied by photographic evidence of the Tag clearly inserted into the caught fish. This may be a still photo or video. Failure to provide photographic evidence which confirms the placement of the Tag and species of the fish will result in the tagged fish being removed from the tournament.

Where Tags have been submitted electronically, the original Hardcopy card must be submitted (including equipment inspection) within 24 hours of the tournament ending. Failure to hand in any tag card within this timeframe will result in the tagged fish being removed from the tournament.

12 FORMULA BASIS

The formula is the weight of the fish times 100 divided by the line weight for weighed fish.

Tagged and released points are as follows:

- | | |
|---|------------|
| ● Blue & Black Marlin, Broadbill & Striped Marlin | 600 points |
| ● Spearfish | 100 points |
| ● Shark | 100 points |
| ● Tuna (yellowfin, bluefin, bigeye, butterfly) | 150 points |
| ● Yellowtail | 25 points |

These tag and release points are regardless of line weight (but must be within the line weights referred to in 15 (Species Section 1)).

Points are gained by:

For Blue & Black Marlin, Broadbill, Striped Marlin, Shortbill Spearfish, Tuna, Shark and Yellowtail **all tagged fish will score points along with the top 3 scoring fish weighed. Only the top 3 scoring Mahimahi, Albacore, (Skipjack, & Slender Tuna combined), Snapper, Kahawai, and Trevally will count in their sections.**

Capped shark points - The maximum points for a weighed shark is 1250 points plus 1 point per kilo weighed

Kingfish - points for length - Instead of weighing Kingfish, fish may be 'weighed' using the conversion in the following table for a fish of a particular length, and then normal formula basis applied. **Points for length only applies for released fish**, and photographic evidence on a sanctioned NZSFC / NZ Fishing Comp measure board must be supplied as evidence to gain the relevant points. No gaff to be used, unless lip gaffed. Length is measured as a straight line under the fish Nose with mouth closed to centre of Tail Fork, rounded down to the nearest centimetre. Anglers are encouraged to Tag the fish, and will be included in tagged tallies, though will not gain Tag points where the fish is counted as a points for length fish, and vice versa.

Fish in this category will also be eligible for the length section. The points for length calculation only applies to the Nationals Tournament, and cannot apply for New Zealand weight records - though may apply for New Zealand length records. Only three fish for (points for length) will be recorded each day. Where additional fish are measured, then the best scoring three fish will apply and, if tagged, those fish will count to Tagged tallies.

Length (cm)	Average wt (kg)	Length (cm)	Average wt (kg)	Length (cm)	Average wt (kg)	Length (cm)	Average wt (kg)
75	5.5	92	9.7	109	15.5	126	23.1
76	5.7	93	10.0	110	15.9	127	23.6
77	5.9	94	10.3	111	16.3	128	24.1
78	6.1	95	10.6	112	16.7	129	24.6
79	6.4	96	10.9	113	17.1	130	25.2
80	6.6	97	11.2	114	17.5	131	25.7
81	6.8	98	11.5	115	17.9	132	26.3
82	7.1	99	11.9	116	18.4	133	26.8
83	7.3	100	12.2	117	18.8	134	27.4
84	7.5	101	12.5	118	19.3	135	27.9
85	7.8	102	12.9	119	19.7	136	28.5
86	8.0	103	13.2	120	20.2	137	29.1
87	8.3	104	13.6	121	20.7	138	29.7
88	8.6	105	14.0	122	21.1	139	30.3
89	8.8	106	14.3	123	21.6	140	30.9
90	9.1	107	14.7	124	22.1		
91	9.4	108	15.1	125	22.6		

13 COURTESY WEIGHING

All clubs must provide courtesy weighs for all anglers fishing the Nationals. They must also provide recording and reporting of catches to the angler. It is the Angler's / Team's responsibility to ensure that the copy of the weighsheet is submitted to the club that they are fishing for. (The general rule should be that visiting anglers should have available to them, the same hours of weighing and reporting services, as a local angler).

All participating anglers wishing to use the courtesy weigh facility of another club must abide by the rules and conditions for weighing at the host club as though they were a member of that club. **It is the visiting teams' responsibility to ensure that their team is familiar with any such rules and conditions.**

ALL PARTICIPATING ANGLERS WISHING TO USE THE COURTESY WEIGH FACILITY OF ANOTHER CLUB MUST INFORM THE HOST CLUB AS SOON AS SUCH A REQUIREMENT BECOMES APPARENT.

Any team intending fishing away from their home base and intending to use courtesy weigh facilities must inform prospective hosts in advance and make their intentions known.

Weigh sheets used for courtesy weighing must be from the club providing the courtesy weigh. Two forms must be filled in, prior to weighing of the fish. One weigh sheet is for the club providing the courtesy weigh, and the other is for the angler to take back to their club for their records. This is the angler's responsibility.

If the words > courtesy, consideration, and common sense < are kept to the fore courtesy weighing should not present a problem

14 REPORTING OF CATCHES

All fish (Species Section 1 only) must be reported as soon as possible after being boated, to the weigh station or club where the fish is expected to be weighed, giving the following details: Angler, Team Number, Team Name, Species and the time boated.

All fish tagged and released must be reported as soon as possible after the release but must not be reported to the Tournament Secretary until such time as the tag card has been sighted either physically or electronically by the club the team is fishing for. Please refer to rule 11b Tag & Release for final handing in of tag cards and tackle and equipment checking for tag & released fish.

15 SPECIES SECTION 1

To be fished in the following line classes

60 kg, 37kg, 24kg, 15kg, 10kg, 8kg, 6kg, 4kg, 3kg, 2kg, 1kg

Blue & Black Marlin

Broadbill -

Striped Marlin

Shortbill Spearfish

Mahimahi

Shark (blue shark, bronze whaler, hammerhead shark, mako shark, thresher shark, tiger shark, porbeagle).

Tuna (yellowfin, bluefin, bigeye, butterfly).

Yellowtail

SPECIES, SECTION 2

To be fished in the following line classes

10kg, 8kg, 6kg, 4kg, 3kg, 2kg, 1kg

Tuna Slender & Skipjack

Albacore

Snapper

Kahawai

Trevally

16 CATCH RESTRICTIONS

Each angler can weigh a maximum of 3 fish per species per day for the Tournament apart from Sharks – **Each angler may weigh one shark per angler per day.** The 3 fish restriction applies to Length for Points fish also. Where weighed and flyfishing are referred too, there are respective sections/categories with tippet referring to flyfishing.

Minimum weights and lengths for fish in all sections are:

Blue & Black Marlin	Weighed incl. Fly Fishing Tag & Release	Must equal or exceed 90 kg No minimum
Broadbill	Weighed incl. Fly Fishing Tag & Release	Must equal or exceed 90 kg No minimum
Striped Marlin	Weighed incl. Fly Fishing Tag & Release	Must equal or exceed 90 kg No minimum
Shortbill Spearfish	Weighed incl. Fly Fishing Tag & Release	Must equal or exceed 10 kg No Minimum
Mahimahi	Weighed incl. Fly Fishing No Tag & Release	Must equal or exceed 4 kg on line weights 15kg and above. On line/tippet weights 10 kg and below there is no minimum fish weight
Shark (all species as listed under 15. Species)		
	Only 1 shark per angler per day may be weighed	
	Weighed incl. Fly Fishing Tag & Release	Must equal or exceed 40 kg 122 cm or 4 feet
Tuna - Bluefin, Bigeye and Butterfly		
	Weighed incl. Fly Fishing Tag & Release	Must equal or exceed line/tippet weight No minimum
Yellowfin Tuna	Weighed incl. Fly Fishing Tag and Release	Minimum weight is 15 kg on line 15 kg and above. On line/tippet weights 10 kg and below the fish must equal or exceed the line weight No minimum
Yellowtail	Weighed incl Fly Fishing Length for points Tag & Release	Must equal or exceed Line/tippet weight and must meet/exceed 100 cm in length 75 cm in length or greater 75 cm in length or greater
Albacore, Snapper, Kahawai, Skipjack & Slender, Trevally (No Tag and Release)		
	On line/tippet weights 1, 2 & 3 kg	
	Weighed	Must equal or exceed 1 kg
	Fly fishing	Must equal or exceed 1 kg
	On line/tippet weights 4, 6, 8 & 10 kg	
	Weighed	Must equal or exceed 2 kg
	Fly fishing	Must equal or exceed 2 kg

Note: Shark (All Species as listed) – Tagged – 122 cm or 4 ft (it is not intended that anglers or crew should risk injury trying to measure sharks to the millimetre but should use the best possible estimate using any practical aid eg a mark on a gaff handle or length of cord).

FLY FISHING SECTION: ALL SPECIES

Tippet classes are as follows: 1kg: 2kg: 3kg: 4 kg: 6 kg: 8 kg: 10kg

SECTION 1

TEAM TROPHIES

The following Trophies will be awarded by the NZ Sport Fishing Council to the team scoring the most points for each of the thirteen species:

Blue & Black Marlin	Air New Zealand Trophy
Broadbill	Motutere Magic Trophy
Striped Marlin	John Hough Memorial Trophy
Shortbill Spearfish	Waihou Bay Trophy
Mahimahi	The Dennis Davey Trophy
Shark	NZI Trophy
Tuna	City of Auckland Trophy
Yellowtail	Westpac Trophy
Albacore	Hickey Sports Trophy
Skipjack & Slender Tuna	Wasabi Trophy & Tautuku Fishing Club Trophy (Slender Tuna only)
Snapper	Sheryl Hart Trophy
Kahawai	Black Magic Trophy
Trevally	Pursuit Trophy

Each species may be fished for on line weights as allocated for that species in **RULE 15** on the formula basis.

Points are gained by:

For Blue & Black Marlin, Broadbill, Striped Marlin, Shortbill Spearfish, Tuna, Shark and Yellowtail **all tagged fish will score points along with the top 3 scoring fish weighed. Only the top 3 scoring Mahimahi, Albacore, (Skipjack, & Slender Tuna combined), Snapper, Kahawai, and Trevally will count in their sections.**

NOTE

In all situations if any aggregate points category is tied at the end of the tournament, the angler or team to boat/release their last fish first, is deemed to be the winner. Date and time of boating or release must be recorded on the catch card (if no time is stated then it will default to 11:59pm **Therefore it is imperative that catch or tag times are noted.**

SECTION 2

CHAMPION NEW ZEALAND ANGLERS – INDIVIDUAL ANGLERS

The most meritorious catch on the formula basis for **a fish scoring the highest points.**

SECTION 3

NZ CHAMPION LINE WEIGHT ANGLERS – WEIGHED FISH

The winner will be the angler with **the heaviest single fish in each line weight and each game fish species.**

NZ CHAMPION LINE WEIGHT ANGLERS – TAGGED FISH

The winner will be the angler with the most fish in each line weight in the following species:- Blue & Black Marlin, Broadbill & Striped Marlin. In the event of the same number of fish being tagged and released on one line weight the angler who tags his last fish first will be deemed the winner.

SECTION 4

NZ CHAMPION BLUE & BLACK MARLIN ANGLER

The winner will be the angler with the most accumulated points (landed and tagged fish). **The points to come from the top 3 scoring fish weighed plus all fish tagged and released**

NZ CHAMPION BROADBILL ANGLER

The winner will be the angler with the most accumulated points (landed and tagged fish). **The points to come from the top 3 scoring fish weighed plus all fish tagged and released**

NZ CHAMPION STRIPED MARLIN ANGLER

The winner will be the angler with the most accumulated points (landed and tagged fish). **The points to come from the top 3 scoring fish weighed plus all fish tagged and released**

NZ CHAMPION SHORTBILL SPEARFISH ANGLER

The winner will be the angler with the most accumulated points (landed and tagged fish). **The points to come from the top 3 scoring fish weighed plus all fish tagged and released.**

SECTION 5

CAROL ATWOOD MEMORIAL TROPHY

This trophy will be awarded for the most meritorious tuna caught during the tournament (**tuna scoring most points**).

SECTION 6

TAG AND RELEASE SECTION

The winner will be the angler tagging and releasing **the most fish in each of the seven species sections**, namely Blue & Black Marlin, Broadbill, Striped Marlin, Shortbill Spearfish, Shark, Yellowtail & Tuna. In the event of more than one angler tagging and releasing the same number of fish, the winner will be the angler who tagged his last fish first

Only fish tagged with the Council approved tags will count.

Released fish not tagged do not count.

SECTION 7

OVERSEAS TEAM

The winning team will be the one scoring **the highest aggregate points in the thirteen species** sections.

To qualify as an Overseas Team, one member must reside overseas. Only the top three scoring fish will count.

SECTION 8

CHAMPION NEW ZEALAND JUNIOR ANGLERS – INDIVIDUAL ANGLERS

The most meritorious catch by a Junior Angler on the formula basis for **a weighed fish scoring the highest points in each of the thirteen species sections**, namely Albacore, Blue & Black Marlin, Broadbill, Striped Marlin, Shortbill Spearfish, Mahimahi, Shark, Tuna, Skipjack & Slender Tuna (combined), Yellowtail, Snapper, Kahawai, and Trevally

SECTION 9

NEW ZEALAND JUNIOR CHAMPION BLUE & BLACK MARLIN ANGLER

The winner will be the angler with the most accumulated points (landed and tagged fish). **The points to come from the top 3 scoring Blue & Black Marlin weighed plus all Blue & Black Marlin tagged and released.**

NEW ZEALAND JUNIOR CHAMPION BROADBILL ANGLER

The winner will be the angler with the most accumulated points (landed and tagged fish). **The points to come from the top 3 scoring Broadbill weighed plus all Broadbill tagged and released.**

NEW ZEALAND JUNIOR CHAMPION STRIPED MARLIN ANGLER

The winner will be the angler with the most accumulated points (landed and tagged fish). **The points to come from the top 3 scoring Striped Marlin weighed plus all Striped Marlin tagged and released.**

NEW ZEALAND JUNIOR CHAMPION SHORTBILL SPEARFISH ANGLER

The winner will be the angler with the most accumulated points (landed and tagged fish). **The points to come from the top 3 scoring Shortbill Spearfish weighed plus all Shortbill Spearfish tagged and released.**

SECTION 10

FLY FISHING SECTION

The winner will be the angler with **the heaviest single fish in each tippet class and each game fish species.**

SECTION 11

INTERCLUB COMPETITION

An Interclub competition is to be held in conjunction with the tournament. The following rules relate to the Interclub:

There will be 13 Interclub Champions.

The winning club/s will be the club/s scoring **the highest number of points from the top 5 scoring fish from each club for each of the thirteen species**

Interclub Trophies are:

Blue & Black Marlin
Broadbill
Striped Marlin
Shortbill Spearfish
Mahimahi
Shark
Yellowtail
Tuna
Albacore
Skipjack & Slender Tuna

Snapper
Kahawai
Trevally

The Penn Tackle Trophy
Big Fish Bait & Tackle Trophy
The Gordon Traill Memorial Trophy
The Webb Family Trophy
The Maui Jim Trophy
Stuart Morrison Trophy
NZ Fishing News Trophy
Composite Development Trophy
Kilwell Trophy
Wasabi Trophy & Canterbury
Sport Fishing Club Trophy (Slender only)
The Penn Tackle Trophy
The Black Magic Trophy
The Dave White Memorial Trophy

SECTION 12

VARTA CUP NORTHERN

Will be awarded to the Northern club scoring the most points. **Only the top 3 scoring fish will count.**

AUCKLAND REGION TROPHY

Will be awarded to the Auckland Region Zone 2 club scoring the most points. **Only the top 3 scoring fish will count.**

We also recommend other regions consider sourcing a similar trophy for their Zone

SECTION 13

VARTA CUP

Will be awarded to the overall Club scoring the most points. **Only the top 3 scoring fish will count.**

REGIONAL SECTION

Clubs will be split into regional winners and certificates will be awarded for first placings.
Zones can purchase their own trophies to present if they wish

SECTION 14

TOP TEAM FROM EACH CLUB

Will be awarded to the team with the most points from **the top scoring fish from each of the 13 species**

REGIONAL SECTION

Teams will be split into regional winners and certificates will be awarded for first placings.
Zones can purchase their own trophies to present if they wish

SECTION 15

LENGTH SECTION

The winner will be the angler with the longest fish in each of the following species:

Albacore, Kahawai, Snapper, Skipjack, Trevally & Yellowtail

- Fish in this section will remain in this section only
- Fish must be released so they can't be kept and weighed in for another section in the Nationals. Kingfish can be entered as 'points for length', though still may not be weighed.
- Anglers enter their own catches on line at www.fishingcomp.co.nz/Nationals/
- Any fish that qualifies as a NZ Record will be added to the NZ Record section and if the angler is already entered in the NZ Fishing Competition then their entry will also be transferred to that competition.

NOTES FOR RECORDERS – NUMBER 1 RULE – PLEASE READ THE RULES

No Braid to be used in this event except when used as backing, as defined in the NZSFC Fishing Rules and Regulations

1. All Clubs must appoint a Recorder who is willing to check the results each evening – especially those clubs with anglers fishing away from home
2. 'Entry Numbers' and a 'Team Details Form' along with a 'Results Schedule Form' will be sent to each Club prior to the contest. You will need a Results Schedule form for each of the days.
3. Please remember that **Teams must register with the Club they will represent**. If they intend to fish from another location/Club they must still register with their club they intend to represent. Each Club will forward the results for the Teams fishing for them.
4. The Team Details sheet needs to be emailed/faxed to the Tournament Secretary as soon as details are to hand. **Results must be sent on the day the fish are weighed. Results for Tagged fish should be sent when the card has been sighted either electronically or physically by the Club the team is fishing for unless prior arrangements have been made.**
5. The Daily Results Schedule needs to be emailed/faxed to the Tournament Secretary prior to 7.30 pm each evening. All fish weighed, and tag cards sighted (physically or electronically) that day must be written on this sheet. Results after 7.30 pm will go into the next day's tally (except on the final night of course). **A 'Nil' return by phone or email speeds up the results – very necessary on the final night.**
6. Result Sheets are certified correct by the Recorder, it is therefore important that the Recorders check all results as they come out each night. **All Tag cards must be sighted by the Club the team is fishing for and reported only when they have been sighted either physically or electronically.**
7. Teams and anglers can be added at any stage during the contest. Please ensure the 'extras' are emailed/faxed to the Tournament Secretary on a Team Details Sheet – please send the 'additions' only or mark very clearly where the additional teams and anglers start.
8. To make life simple if you have any further entries, additions to teams, or other queries it would be appreciated if these were dealt with during the day to leave the evening free for results to be processed.
9. **Once the tournament has ended, each club will be invoiced based on their number of entries. There is a \$6 deduction for club administration. This payment is to be forwarded to the Secretary, NZSFC, PO Box 54242, The Marina, Half Moon Bay, Auckland 2144, or paid by direct payment to NZSFC bank account as soon as possible after the club has received an invoice from the Secretary**
10. **Recorders and Anglers have 24 hours after the Tournament finishes to check that all their fish have been entered and are correct.**