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**MINUTES OF THE 64th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2021 AT THE NEW PLYMOUTH SPORTFISHING AND UNDERWATER CLUB IN NEW PLYMOUTH COMMENCING AT 9 AM**

**PRESENT:**

NZSFC President B Gutsell via zoom

NZSFC Vice President P Campbell

NZSFC Vice President Ian Steele

CEO Steven Stanford via zoom

Secretary H Pastor via Zoom

Ahipara GFC L Matthews via zoom

Akitio BC R Beales

Ashley SFC J Bruce

M Connor Zone 7 Delegate - Canterbury proxy, Pegasus Proxy, Marlborough Rec Proxy

Scott Macindoe Zone 2 Representative - Proxy for Bays Fishing Club, Manukau Cruising Club, NZ Land Based Gamefishing Club, The Piha Deep Sea Fishing Club

Bay of Islands SC Jennifer Troup – via zoom

Cape Egmont BC Richard Van der fits and Tim Goodin

Counties Stephen Harper via zoom

Hauraki Gulf Sportfishing Peter Stewart via zoom

Houhora Paul Batten via zoom

Gisborne Tatapouri Hilton Webb (Life Member)

Hawkes Bay Wayne Bicknell

Kawhia Doug Taucher via zoom and

Cecil Hickman via Zoom

Kaikoura Marty Sullivan in the room and

Glen Carbines via zoom

Mercury Bay Alan Proctor

Mt Maunganui Mark Hemingway IGFA/Life Member/board member

New Plymouth Ian Steele Vice President, L Drummond and P Saunders

Raglan Ken Barry via zoom

Tairua Pauanui SFC Warren Maher

Tautuku SFC Dunedin & Haast B Bensemman

Tauranga SFC D Nielsen

Te Aroha S Cox and G Shanley

Te Kaha	R Lucas, D Murie
Waihou Bay SFC	B Muir
Whakatakataka Bay	Bill McGarry via zoom
Warkworth	Terry Creagh via zoom
Whangaroa	Kelvin Mowat via zoom
Whangamata Ocean Sports Club	B O'Neill, K Lynch, P Keogh
Whangarei Deep SAC	P Saul and Brenda Saul via zoom proxy for Marsden Cove Hokianga, Doubtless Bay and Marsden Cove
Whakatane	D Davey, M Read and H Johnston
LegaSea	Sam Woolford via zoom and Trish Rae (Life Member)
Blue Water Marine Research	John Holdsworth (Life Member)

**Meeting opened 9.00am**

Welcome - Ian Steele and Bob Gutsell welcomed all delegates both in the room and also via zoom.

Ian Steele / Bob Gutsell - Thank you to the New Plymouth Club for the effort involved in organising the AGM.

**Apologies**

Bays Fishing Club Cliff Solomon  
 Canterbury Sport Fishing Club Mark Scaife  
 Clevedon Game Fishing Club Lewis Avenell  
 Doubtless Bay Sportfishing Club Evan McKay and Annette Hall  
 Gisborne Tatapouri Sports Fishing Club Roger Faber  
 Hokianga Big Game Sport Fishing Club Linda Pattinson and Shane Percy  
 Manukau Cruising Club Peter Garrett  
 Manukau Sport Fishing Club Mark Kelly  
 Maraetai Beach Boating Club Fish and Dive Section Ian Twist  
 Marlborough Recreational Fishers Association Tony Orman  
 Marsden Cove Fishing Club Graeme Ellis -  
 Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club – Stuart Arnold and Peter Murphy  
 Mt Maunganui Sportfishing Club Vance Fulton  
 Muriwai Sport Fishing Club – Spencer Roff  
 New Zealand Fishing News Grant Dixon  
 NZ Land Based Gamefishing Club Scott Bradley  
 Pegasus Bay Game Fishing Club Peter van Eekelen  
 Southern Sport Fishing Club\Ian Carrick -  
 The Piha Deep Sea Fishing Club Ben Arkle - Ben later attended via zoom  
 Tony Hill - IGFA  
 Whakatane Sportfishing Club Milton Reynolds  
 Whangaroa Sport Fishing Club Tony Allan

Moved - Mark Connor Seconded Brett Bensemman - accepted

## **MINUTES SILENCE:**

A minute's silence was acknowledged for those members who passed away over the last year.

## **LegaSea AGM - Chaired by Peter Campbell**

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Thank you to Sam Woolford for leading the team. We now have 10 specialist contractors delivering terrific results. Thank you to Scott Macindoe for your ongoing support and mentoring.

**Apologies** - No apologies were noted

Minutes of the previous meeting - moved that the minutes be accepted PC and MC - carried

Annual accounts - as there were no questions it was moved that we continue with auditors Mark Connor seconded Peter Campbell - carried

Peter Campbell moved be accepted - Mark Connor seconded - accepted

Current directors will remain the same and no directors fees will be paid.

Standing committee - same as last year.

General business - as there was no general business the meeting was closed

## **AGM – NZ Sport Fishing Council**

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### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:**

Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed.

**Minutes moved Warren Maher /Peter Saunders – carried**

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

Wayne Bicknell advised that Sheryl Hart was in zone 6 not zone 5. - correction in the minutes.

Confirmation of the minutes with this correction

**Moved P Saunders seconded Warren Maher – carried**

## **President's Annual Report - Bob Gutsell**

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See attached report

Thank you to Peter Campbell for all his hard work over the last 20 years as he is retiring as Financial Chair.

Special thank you to Lewis Avenell for all the work he has done with our constitution, Fisheries Management Chair and as zone 2 delegate.

Welcome Warren Maher as our second Vice President, Zone 3 Board delegate and Chair of the Youth Committee.

Farewell to Ros Lucas who has been our Zone 8 delegate for 5 years and is stepping down this year.

Welcome to Heyden Johnston from Whakatane Club who has taken up the position of Zone 8 delegate.

Welcome Kylie Fordyce to the board as a co-opted member of the board.

Ian Steele thanked Bob Gutsell for all his effort, travel, problem solving, and hours worked.

Moved Barney O'Neill - Mark Connor - carried

### **Annual Financial Statements**

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Peter Campbell presented the annual accounts. Advised that the accounts were unaudited. Change of auditor has delayed re covid and discussions of consolidation and audited accounts will be available shortly.

See performance report attached.

#### **Points to note**

- Revenue was down due to Grants received
- Volunteer employee related costs
- Tags Sales were up - double from the year before.
- Hiwi the Kiwi is no longer working with NZSFC, and the website is closed.
- Nationals income is \$30,000 for the tournament.

The accounts are still healthy but with two losses in a row we cannot continue to move in this direction. With the affiliation fees increasing in 2022, this will help with a bit of this problem.

Yearbook is about \$18,000pa and advertising for this publication has reduced - most advertising is now digital.

Interest received has been lower with interest rates being so low. \$100,000 has been placed in the First Mortgage Trust - with a return of 4.91% interest.

Peter advised that he has been working with the council finances for the last 13 years and he has really enjoyed the challenges and support he has received. He will be staying on the board but will no longer be the Financial Chair and Vice President.

It was moved that the financial report be accepted, Dave Murie seconded Warren Harris - carried

### **Appointment of Officers**

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It was moved that the Auditors be PKF Kerikeri for the 2021-2022 year

**Moved Peter Campbell - Mark Connor - carried**

#### **Patron**

John Chibnall was nominated as Patron

**Nominated by Bob Gutsell seconded Kelvin Mowat - carried**

## **Board**

The following positions have only had one nomination and will be moved en blanc

President Bob Gutsell

Vice Presidents - Warren Maher and Ian Steele

Records Officer - Peter Saul - Peter advised that he is happy to continue.

**Moved to accept records officer Pete Saul - Wayne Bicknell seconded Mark Connor - carried**

The following members have been nominated as zone representatives on the board and will be moved en blanc :-

## **Board Zone Reps**

Zone 1 - Peter Saul

Zone 2 - Scott Macindoe

Zone 3 - Warren Maher

Zone 4 - Vance Fulton

Zone 5 - Wayne Bicknell

Zone 6 - Ken Barry

Zone 7 - Mark Connor

Zone 8 - Heyden Johnston

Council Treasurer / Finance Chair - Ian Steele

IGFA/life member Representative Mark Hemingway

**Moved the positions en blanc Brett Bensemman seconded Deryk Nielsen - Carried**

The board advised the co-opted members on the board this year.

Kylie Fordyce - Co-opted board member with marketing and communications experience - Kylie will take over Chair of the communications committee.

Richard Baker - Co-opted member with a focus is on communications.

Peter Campbell - Co-opted member as a director of LegaSea.

## **Budget**

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Presented by Ian Steele.

The budget has been made on an assumption that we will have approximately 37,000 affiliated members being 34,300 senior members and 3000 junior members.

## **Points**

Regarding fees - this year we are still on \$9 + \$2 - the effect of the increase we accepted last year does not come into effect until next year.

We aspire to achieve points as per our strategic plan. We want to focus on growing membership of clubs, engaging youth in clubs and the community, telling our story our communications and fisheries management and increasing challenges, and funding; we do realise these things need to be resourced.

Budget in keeping with the direction we are going, but we will need to see further commitment for example the Youth committee and FM. At present we have overall \$255,000 going to FM. It was noted that in the future this number will need to increase. Comms are already factored in. With clubs there are initiatives and some of these will cost money and we have been working hard to find income for these things.

Measure champs cost \$12,000 with sponsor support of \$6,000 from PIC Marine. Unfortunately, these have been put on hold until all of us can fish again.

It is noted that at the board meetings some members are now using zoom and this saves costs but generally the board costs are standard.

Comments / questions

**Deryk Nielsen - Tauranga** - commented re seeking grants - are there any plans for the Council to apply for these. Deferred to Steven Stanford. Significant grant applications were processed this year - aimed at Maritime NZ. They were involved to help with the applications, but the outcome was rejected in all three processes. Seems we are still seen as a poor reason to invest. Sport NZ has had the same approach. We have been pushing those two organisations to fund us and are continuing to do so. This will be followed up in the CEO report.

**Moved the 2021 - 2022 Budget be accepted.**

**Peter Campbell and Warren Maher - carried.**

### **Affiliation fees**

Fees have been set for 2022/2023 year in 2020. No motions have been received for change this year.

### **CEO report – Steven Stanford**

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**Overview membership** - as per membership numbers. 38,500 - grown 1200 from last year.

24 clubs have grown and 20 reduced slightly. Despite problems the network is still healthy.

### **Nationals**

Revenue up this year - 454 teams - 1551 anglers - total recorded catch 1300. 1000 weighed and 315 tagged. Nearly all the gamefish were tagged. Table food fish tend to be weighed.

**Sportfishing app.** This is a combination of NZSFC information and fishing app. It is available to all clubs, and we request that clubs use it. We encourage the clubs to use this as a tournament app.

SS gave a rundown on the app and how it works. This is being developed all the time and we want it to become a good information source. This could work for those anglers who are out of the area during the nationals.

Strategic Plan success metrics - club members are at 70% of target. A number of non-affiliated clubs have been contacted and the response has been lukewarm, but an action from this is that two clubs have offered donations to LegaSea.

A new club – Kaikoura as joined NZSFC. There is hope that a returning club will join and there are 14 other clubs considering joining. This has been a team effort to get these clubs involved.

Club manager support network by 2022 - this is well underway and a course for managers is planned with support from Aktive NZ, and hopefully will be run in April next year.

Club delegate education programme - this is being run through the communications committee and they will be developing a programme which will be promoted next year.

Club knowledge base - on webpage by 2022 - this is well underway and is being built on with HR items.

**Youth** - youth programme and youth committee. A youth committee has been established with juniors are involved. The youth have been great at the committee meetings and are quite impressive.

PIC will have a Broker Cadetship for 16 - 18-year-olds. This would be a 2-year project. They will take interested youth and show them how they operate in the marine industry with the possible opportunity of full-time employment.

**Junior Nationals** - Inaugural competition in 2022 April.

Comms- 6,945 followers on Facebook. 35% growing steadily. Would like all our network to follow our page. It has been suggested that Council get social media people together to discuss and share.

**Funding** - applications have been unsuccessful. BG and SS have been in discussion with Sport NZ and Maritime NZ. A successful meeting was had with Sport NZ, and from this the agency has realised Council does have a capacity to help them to meet their targets. Sport NZ have challenged us to be involved in a youth programme.

## **Sponsorship**

Worked well with Asahi, PIC, Marine Deals and First Mortgage Trust.

Asahi have provided stock and will help clubs to increase their margins on the bars.

PIC have invested \$30,000 so far this year. They are a Brokerage firm and will work with individuals for insurance and have a plan to offer club insurance which should be able to provide clubs with a saving.

FMT are the primary nationals sponsor last year and will do the same this year.

Marine Deals - Measure champs – are matched pricing with us regarding prizes. Working on an agreement that would offer the same deal to clubs individually.

Council is on track with strategic plan objectives. This has been a struggle with Covid.

Grant funding is a challenge. We will find the opportunities as our profile is increased and work our way through the ideocracies of grant applications. The Council has increased its profile politically and Council will create a closer relationship with Sport NZ and Maritime NZ.

**Ed Beetham - Wairarapa** asked what is available by way of a programme to record catches at tournaments. SS advised the app we have developed can be used by individuals. We

also have a programme that can be used by the clubs to run tournaments. IS - advised that New Plymouth have used it. \$550.00 NZD was the fee for a 4-comp tournament. Software developers will help run the first tournament.

**B McGarry - Whakatakataka.** Is lack of funding due to gender and diversity. Sport NZ have stated that if more than \$50,000 is requested clubs are required to have 40% male/female diversity. SS did a straw poll on 21,000 members - 51% of club membership were female - 16% Māori which is nearly on-line with national demographics.

BG - we have a good proportion of gender diversity in terms of our clubs, and we have a number of ladies leading our clubs and, on our committees, - would be nice to see it flowing through into delegate space. This is the challenge for us.

SS - thank you for the great hospitality he has received from the clubs he has visited. He has really enjoyed watching some of our members fish virtually.

**Move CEO report be accepted - Ross Lucas - Mark Connor - carried**

**NZ Marine Research Foundation. Terry Creagh**

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See report attached -

Moved TC report and finance report adopted - seconded BG - carried

**Notices of Motion**

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Motion 1 Bluenose

**Notice of Motion #1 - 50% Voting Required**

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**Bluenose policy to be adopted and introduced to the NZSFC Fisheries Management Policy Document**

Proposer: Warren Maher                      Seconder:                      Bob Gutsell

Speaker at AGM: John Holdsworth

**Proposal  
Goal**

Restore abundance of bluenose in New Zealand to 50% of un-fished levels.

**Objectives**

- Rebuild bluenose populations in areas that have been depleted.
- Ensure robust breeding populations are maintained.
- Maintain a high value niche fishery for commercial, recreational and customary fishers.

**Strategy**

Urgent

- Update bluenose commercial catch per unit effort and stock assessment by region.
- Encourage fishers to limit bluenose catch to no more than three per person per day. Current daily bag limit is five per day.
- Produce a FishCare guide for bluenose fishers and include bluenose vs ocean blue-eye ID.

- Review fine scale catch data and close some areas to all bottom fishing for a period where local depletion has or is occurring.
- **NZSFC club committees or Zone members to recommend suitable areas to close to all bottom fishing to help rebuild the bluenose population in their region.**
- Medium Term
- Introduce a management system at a local or regional level.
- Apply Rescue Fish principles to maintain a high value niche fishery, without open access
- John Holdsworth explained the rationale for this policy. Commercial stock has reduced.

**Warren Maher - Tairua** - this is another fishery under concern with depletion of blue nose. Wanted to make sure we do have a policy adopted for this species so we will be ahead with a policy in place as more of these species are targeted.

**Motion – was put and as there were no votes against –  
this motion was carried 100% in favour.**

### **Notice of Motion number 2**

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#### **OIA Policy to be adopted and introduced to the NZSFC Fisheries Management Policy Document**

Proposer: Scott Macindoe

Seconder: Lewis Avenell

Speaker at AGM: Scott Macindoe

Board Proposal:

3.XX Official Information Act (OIA) Requests

Council will make reasonable requests to source information that is relevant to NZSFC members' interests

Reasoning: NZSFC FMMP saw fit to write a policy simple OIA policy

Due to the amount of work to get information from the OIA - Ministry of Fisheries advised that we reword them. Therefore, it was agreed that we have to continue to request information in line with this policy.

**Motion - as there were no votes against –  
this motion was carried 100% in favour.**

### **Notice of Motion Number 3**

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Catch reporting policy see the nomination

#### **Notice of Motion #3 - 50% Voting Required**

#### **Catch reporting Policy**

Proposer: Peter Saul

Seconder: Vance Fulton

Speaker at AGM: John Holdsworth

Proposal:

X.XX Recreational Harvest Surveys

### **Goal**

High quality harvest estimates for recreational fisheries

#### **Problem definition**

- A range of survey methods have been used to collect information from recreational fishers to estimate annual harvest by species. Often changes to the survey method have resulted in large changes to estimates across all species.
- Technology has changed methods of contacting survey participants (mail, landline, smart phone) so surveys must evolve, but some basic principles of obtaining a representative sample of participants remain.
- Apps on mobile phones are powerful and easily scalable but self-selection by participants and voluntary reporting do bias results.
- Recreational harvest from a number of sought-after species has increase, as stock abundance and fishing technology has improved (kingfish, southern bluefin tuna etc). Regular harvest estimates help with management and allocation decisions.

#### **Objectives**

- Ensure that recreational fishers and organisations maintain confidence in the harvest estimates and survey methods used in fisheries management.
- Recreational fishers continue to provide complete and accurate information when surveyed.
- Ensure survey methods are fit for purpose and avoid misinformation and confusion about harvest survey results.
- Insist that data standards and peer review of methods and results is maintained.
- Collect information to monitor recreational fishery performance, the harvest in tonnes, and the size or age distribution of fish kept.

John Holdsworth spoke to this. Discussion was had around catch recording and reporting and the difficulty of getting reliable self-reported data. The goal is to get high quality estimates that people can have faith in. When Survey methods change, sometimes the results and information can be altered. Note the standards listed in the notice of motion.

WM - request a definition of the motion - JH the meeting was voting on a policy that has the objectives listed of maintaining confidence, providing good information, avoiding confusion and insisting on good standards. This is the policy that NZSFC could take to meetings which discuss new types of surveys.

BG - mandatory catch reporting was not acceptable but for localised surveys such as what is done for southern bluefin catch recording and reporting we will support when there is a specific need.

**Alan Proctor - Mercury Bay** - advised that the last few sentences usefulness billfish and tuna. Have to be aware if we don't align with the rules then boats will go home without

getting them recorded. We could end up in a situation where anglers will avoid reporting. He feels that there could be a fair bit of under reporting.

JH - Under reporting is increasing rather than decreasing. Blue fin there is an allowance for un-reported catch. Generally, club data is useful and it is difficult to gather together at the end of the year.

**Pete Saul - Whangarei** - as a proposer, we all know we need better information, and this policy says that we will collect information that is accurate and verifiable.

**Motion - as there were no votes against  
this motion was carried 100% in favour.**

## **Notice of Motion number 4 - Hapuku and Bass Policy reduce catch levels and prohibit targeting**

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John Holdsworth commented that a Hapuku Bass policy was passed last year, and we have found that revision to the Hapuku Bass policy is required. This proposal is to reduce catch levels below current catch and prohibit targeting. This is a more precautionary approach to Hapuku Bass than the previous one.

### **Proposal:**

#### **X.XX Hapuku and Bass Policy**

#### **Goal**

Restore abundance of Hapuku and Bass in New Zealand

#### **Problem definition**

- Hapuku were once abundant in a wide range of depths in New Zealand but were overfished by the time the quota system was established in 1986. A lack of any effective management since then means it is easily forgotten how prolific they once were.
- New technology and fishing gear have, until recently, helped maintain catches by steadily exploiting more distant and deep grounds where bass have also been overfished.
- Commercial catches in hapuku and bass areas 1 and 2 (HPB1 and HPB 2) have been steadily declining and there is across the sector support for urgent action to rebuild stocks.

#### **Objectives**

- Rebuild hapuku and bass populations in New Zealand to 50% of the unfished biomass.
- Ensure robust breeding populations are maintained in selected areas.

Maintain a high value niche fishery for commercial, recreational and customary fishers

BG - An important part of this policy is that it includes an aggregation limit for overnight trips - final Minister's decision came to 3. This was done to target those chartered boats that are going to places like the Kings to fill up their freezers and come home with multiple days of 5 fish per person.

**Wayne Bicknell - Hawkes Bay** the policy talks of closing areas - in Hawkes Bay they are well down the track to close of a part of the Lochlan bank – a meeting is being held on Monday to go this again and if an agreement is reached, they will go to the local club it affects and put it to them and we are hoping to have this in place by 1 December.

**Alan Proctor - Mercury Bay** - at the at this point his club won't support. In the strategy there are a lot of things that they would support but could not support the daily bag limit of 1 due to the way they are fished. Electric reels are being used and this makes it very easy and because of this they are not being recorded. Discussion was had around this.

**Robin Beales Akitio Club** is supporting this amendment but as a club would be disappointed to have to take it off the competition prize list.

**R Baker** - daily bag limit (needs to be amended to 2) and then the wording on accumulation limit to 4 fish to multi day trip. This needs to be worded more clearly. Is it 4 per vessel or 4 per person. Wayne Bicknell advised it is now down to 2 per person.

**Moved “to amend the daily bag limit to 2 per person per day and accumulated limit to 3 fish per person per multi day trip.” moved Richard Baker Seconded Bob Gutsell.**

**Jennifer Troup - Bay of Islands**, has this already gone through? John Holdsworth - advised that hasn't happened yet as it has to go to cabinet and can take up to a year.

**Hilton Webb - Gisborne Tatapouri** - fully support this remit - have had massive problems with dumping Hapuku Bass commercially. 70% Reduction might help.

**Richard van der Fits - Cape Egmont Boat Club** - Club is fully supportive. They took it on board as a voluntary exercise a few years ago - 1 per person on the boat. This seems to be working for the cape. This has been quite beneficial for their club and fishing area.

**Ian Steele - New Plymouth** - this has been one per person for some time at their club. They are very happy to support this motion.

John Holdsworth advised that this policy is for the East Coast of the North Island, around to Tirau Point and not for the South Island.

**Terry Creagh - Warkworth** - concerned about the Hapuku stock especially around great Barrier - they have agreed on 2 but would only want 1 in their area.

**Warren Harris - Mercury Bay** - Truly believes that electric reels need looking at. Fish are not being recorded and he believes they should be banned in contests. No record is being kept of the numbers as they are not recorded. This covers all the species.

**Ken Barry - Raglan** - agrees with 2 and the issue is that in the same line it states that from there after 2 per day per person - he was worried about the accumulation numbers. Noted that as soon as it is an overnight it goes into a multi-day trip.

Discussion was had regarding this matter and Scott MacIndoe pointed out the failure of the QMS and that we need to work on the Rescue Fish Policy.

**“Amend the motion to read that the daily bag limit is 2 per person per day and the accumulated limit is 3 fish per person per multi day trip.”**

**moved Richard Baker seconded Bob Gutsell - 100% agreed - carried.**

The motion with the amendment was then put to the vote.

**Voting on this motion showed Mercury Bay with 5 votes against. As the motion required 50% voting - the motion was carried.**

### **Notice of Motion #5 - 50% Voting Required**

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#### **Member Benefits**

Proposer: Ken Barry

Seconder: Peter Campbell

Speaker at AGM: Steven Stanford

Proposal:

NZSFC develops reciprocal Club visitation agreements with like-minded incorporated societies such as Yachting NZ.

Reasoning

1. Provides Club members with a wider range of Club facilities in locations where Sport Fishing Clubs are not present.
2. Has the potential to drive extra custom to Sport Fishing Clubs
3. Will help foster national relationships with likeminded organisations

All potential agreements to be confirmed and signed by the Board before implementation.

Idea to provide members a wider range of facilities. All potential agreements to be confirmed and signed by the Board before implementation.

Discussion was had. One point to discuss is having a zone in their particular area where members were not automatically accepted into the clubs due to the difference of the entry fee of other clubs and this could encourage people to join the cheaper club and then come to the club to use the facilities. Wayne Bicknell also commented on this point. A specific area around clubs could be difficult. Point is like minded clubs - therefore Cosi clubs would not automatically be accepted.

**Brett Bensemman - Tautuku** - has had the bar relicensed and they had to show it would be like-minded clubs only to be allowed to enter eg; fishing and water sport clubs.

**Kelvin - Whangaroa** - BOI and Whangaroa have been members of clubs NZ for many years. This is a benefit to them, and all the clubs could do the same.

**Hilton Webb - Gisborne** - wants it left to the clubs to decide how to control this to avoid numbers getting too high.

**K Barry - Raglan** – when they allowed RSA members to join they were surprised to find out what we are involved in and the work we do. This has worked as a benefit.

**Barney - Whangamata** - double edged sword - not in favour of the motion - detrimental to the council. They are not keen to allow this. Perhaps water sport clubs only. Prefer to keep it solely to Council members.

**Cecil - Kawhia** – this could cause problems with numbers in the clubhouse. Limited numbers only allowed.

SS - Feedback that only like-minded clubs should be accepted, perhaps water sports and the local club has control as to who would be allowed into their club. Also this will be determined by the club licence.

**D Nielsen - Tauranga** - already have affiliations with other water clubs. This is a good guidance policy.

IS - suggested marine/ocean sports should be included.

**Marty Sullivan - Kaikoura** - their main issue would be the use of their ramp as they don't have clubrooms. SS advised that the motion was only intended to be for the use of the clubrooms and not ramps and other facilities.

**W Harris - Mercury Bay** - this should be left to the clubs to decide and not have a global decision. The motion is not necessary.

**Voting - support - 19 against 44**

**Abstention 1**

**Failed**

## **Notice of Motion Number 6**

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### **Reef Fish Policy**

Proposer: Richard Baker

Seconder: Scott Macindoe

Speaker at AGM: Richard Baker

The NZSFC support the addition of the following species: to the 'Sale of Reef Fish' schedule which reads 'No person shall sell or possess for sale any species of fish taken from the Auckland fishery management area that is specified in the following table (Appendix 1)'

pink maomao, blue maomao, grand daddy hapuku, pigfish / wrasses

Given the low productivity and increasing commercial & recreational demand for these species, a daily bag limit of three of any of these fish per person be adopted for the Auckland Fisheries Management Area. The maximum of 3 of any of these species is to be included within the amateur daily bag limit 20 mixed fin fish per person.

The species need protection - these are being targeted.

Recent media exposure has highlighted the issue, with what could only be illegal commercial levels of harvesting from recreational boats. Policy on this is required.

**Motion - as there were no votes against –  
this motion was carried 100% in favour.**

## Notice of Motion Number 7

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### Game Fishing Tags

Proposer: Brett Bensemann

Seconder: Ian Gunion/Michael Todd.

Speaker at AGM: Brett Bensemann

Proposal:

13: As fish are tagged for the purpose of Research; all bona fide research tags are recognised by the council.

Reasoning - The council and represented clubs should endorse all attempts to participate, contribute, or support all forms of research in our Marine Environment. These would include marker darts and electronic tags.

Tautuku Club is in a pilot programme with Otago University using tags and Massey University on school sharks satellite tags and dart. It is felt that the current rule that states that only fish tagged by tags approved by the Council will be recognised.

John Holdsworth - acknowledges potential of conflict of interest as he runs the tagging programme. Generally supports recognition of NZ tags, the problem was in the past from overseas tags which were issued free, and we were not getting any information and the recaptures from NZ fish. The rule was to ensure that gamefish tagged in NZ were recorded and reported in NZ. The issue of free overseas tags coming into NZ still needs to be addressed. Brett Bensemann - agreed NZ tags and also technology moving forward that research comes back to NZ.

**Terry Creagh - Warkworth.** What independent and objective assessment has been achieved by other tagging organisations and what information has come out.

**Brett Bensemann – Tautuku** - University Otago are putting together an analysis of the tagging system they are putting in place. More of the data is coming out as we move forward.

**Ian Steele – New Plymouth** - has council declined these tags? - answer no. Fish that are tagged for the purpose of research should be recognised by Council.

**Lee Drummond - New Plymouth** - rule presently states “supplied or approved” - have any been supplied to Council for approval. It would seem there needs to be an approval process.

**Deryk Nielsen - Tauranga** - NZ tags - we also have the work that the Tindall Foundation are doing - they have their own tagging programme. Does that mean our members who recover those tags, that we supply that information, and the other organisations supply the information back to us? The response from John Holdsworth was yes, we do share this information. There are other tagging programmes working for Rock Lobster in NZ and these

are quite useful. Southern inshore have been tagging kingfish recently and have tagged approximately 1500 so far and we would want them reported.

**P Saul – Whangarei** - we have a list of approved species for tagging. Not in favour of recognising any project that tags other species. Rock lobster tags are recognised.

**Bob Gutsell** - noted that this motion is missing a problem statement. He feels that this rule is around the recognition of fish for competitions and national awards and trophies. In essence we are only talking about the fish that attract points for competitions. Other projects are certainly worthy but not necessarily relevant to us.

Concern here that this mostly applies to sharks and other tags that are not recognised might be used. Want to make sure that they would be recognised for trophies.

**Brett Bensemann - Tautuku** - - our club members are using them for research purposes. They are tagging all species. This motion is for tournaments and would like the Council to recognise these tags.

John Holdsworth advised that the data is still used as a measure of catch for research as this is all good information. Tags should only be used if the data is going to be used.

All should work together for the information. Heyden Johnston - question - shouldn't we be offering to supply tags to other research groups instead of accepting their tags.

**Bob Gutsell** - intent is to open to other tag sources. None of those alternatives have been presented to council for approval. Discussion was had around the issue of other schemes and the information and assessments coming back for research and tag recognition, reasons for tagging and the fact that we recognise tag releases and that is the process we need to concentrate on.

**Motion - as there was only one vote in favour  
this motion failed.**

**Notice of Motion Number 8 -**

**2/3rd Voting Required**

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**Change to minimum number for affiliation fees.**

**Proposer** – Peter Van Eekelen – Pegasus Bay

**Secunder** – Mark Connor – Ashley

**Speaker at AGM** – Mark Connor

Clause 20.6 currently reads as follows:-

All Clubs must pay a minimum affiliation fee for at least 35 members if the Club has less than 35 members.

## **Change to**

All Clubs must pay a minimum affiliation fee for at least 20 members if the Club has less than 20 members.

Smaller clubs are struggling and have limited resources but still wish to be part of the NZ Sport Fishing Council. Previously small clubs have been paying a premium to become a member. It is harder for small clubs to get grants and support from local community grant schemes. This will make very little difference to the overall income of NZ Sport Fishing Council. Some small clubs play a very big part in the activities of the NZ Sport Fishing Council – for example LegaSea donations, working on the technical advisory group with Fishing NZ.

Minimum requirement of 15 for the Incorporated Societies Act.

Discussion was had around the number of clubs involved and the point that very small clubs, under 20 members who are now paying a minimum of 35 members.

**14 votes against - as 2/3rds is required the motion was carried.**

**Notice of Motion Number 9 -**

**50% Voting Required**

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### **Awards and trophies: Day member entitlements**

**Proposer** – Ian Steele

**Seconder** – Peter Saunders - New Plymouth

**Speaker at AGM** – Ian Steele

Day members - consideration about an award to a day member and the assumption from most of the fishing committee they would be eligible but not at clubs.

The reason for this is simply to supply clarity. Should they be entitled to trophies or not. Day members who want to fish at the nationals then they would have to pay full 8 days of day membership rules. Some clubs do not have day memberships.

**Pete Saunders – New Plymouth** - full memberships support the facilities. They should be supported. Not day members. Therefore, they should not be entitled to end of year prizes.

**Peter Campbell** - would be a mistake to take away the rights of day members that we have now. The idea of day memberships is to try to encourage people to join clubs.

**Alan Proctor – Mercury Bay** - Each club decides whether they have this category or not. Leave it at club level if the Council is paid as it is supposed to be.

**Paul Batten** - day membership gives the angler the right to membership for the day and would give them the privilege of being a member on that day. Therefore, the fish would count towards awards and trophies. Day members have paid a full membership fee to council - should be entitled to trophies.

BG - what we are trying to do is provide clarity. Open the door to encourage members into our clubs. This would be an incentive to join the club and therefore they should be eligible for awards and trophies.

**Barney - Whangamata** – advised his club does day members and they are not eligible club trophies, but the points go towards the boat points.

**Deryk Nielsen - Tauranga** - day members at each club are required to pay affiliation fee and this is annual fee.

Whether day members should have rights to national awards and trophies

**Over 50% voting in favour - motion carried**

The intent with Motion 1 and 2 is that there is absolute clarity for all NZSFC Members (Clubs) regarding Day Membership entitlement for NZSFC Awards and Trophies.

Nationals - 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 actually fishes.~~ This does not include day members.

WB - if an angler pays 8 days payment should be entitled to the trophies.

In the Nationals you have to pay for the full 8 days to qualify.

Motion to remove day members from the Nationals.

**Vote - against the motion is a vote for the status quo -**

**Motion failed**

### **Notice of Motion Number 9 Fishing Rule - When is a Fish Caught**

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**Proposer** – Mark Hemingway - Mount Maunganui

**Secunder** – Pete Saul - Whangarei

**Speaker at AGM** – Mark Hemingway

As our rules are now

#### **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

***2a. "Time of Capture" - For the purposes of competitions or awards time of capture shall be when the fish is secured within or on the vessel or the fish is successfully tagged & released or released.***

When it is weighed it still applies as equipment must comply and therefore must be ratified.

Bob Gutsell - a weighed fish the time of capture is when the fish is landed on the boat, but the fish must be taken to the weigh station for confirmation.

this means that you could get last fish and first fish next day.

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.

**Richard Baker** - changed "deemed" to "confirmed".

**Amended switch 2a and 2 and change the word. As per notice of motion.**

***2. "Time of Capture" - For the purposes of competitions or awards, time of capture shall be when the fish is boated or landed (weighed fish) or is successfully tagged & released or released.***

***2a. The catch will not be confirmed as caught until the fish is weighed or the tag card presented. 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 or tagged and released. Once a fish is gaffed it cannot be tagged and released.***

***Moved - Richard Baker - seconded Bob Gutsell - carried***

*Meeting closed for the evening to reconvene at 9.00am tomorrow.*

**Meeting opened 9.00am**

**Legasea report – Sam Woolford**

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**Main points**

- Thanks to Trish Rae and Benn Winlove for their work and support during Covid.
- Rescue Fish is moving Regional Campaigns - these are based around fishing techniques and how they are impacting fishing spots. 10,000 submissions for Snapper West Coast and South Island blue code.
- Minister acknowledged the public and contribution we are making to fisheries management. This is the first time this has happened.
- Public awareness needs to continue to grow.
- Coromandel scallop conversation. Worked with Opito Bay and Ngāti Hei during this campaign. The entire area is now closed under section 186A.
- Warren Maher spoke about the history regarding this. Local divers and trainees did the survey, with a number of dives over a few days and achieved a Rāhui to be put in place.
- This has helped the club profile in the community and also got the community involved. Good to see FM in front of the public and local communities.
- The conversations are increasing due to moving into smaller campaigns and elevating the conversation to the rest of the country and highlighting nationwide issues.

**Legasea Hawkes Bay - Wayne Bicknell**

- 6 Wharf project involving building a new 350m wharf in Napier Port. This required dredging of 3.2 million cubic meters of material. Now have a monitoring programme to protect the reefs.
- Artificial Reefs - in conjunction with the 6 Wharf project they have been created.
- Have identified bottom trawling issues. Discussions re silt filtration.
- Ahuriri Estuary enhancement. \$10,00 donated by the estate of Barry Rollo - and they are now planting 3,000 trees.

**The price of fish**

- Effort re the Hauraki Gulf. no trawling or dredging in the gulf.
- Looking to produce a sequel to “Price of Fish”. Documentary is a powerful talking point. Designed to be positive - what is going on - what is wrong with the OMS, how can we generate more revenue with less impact. TV 3 is happy to air the documentary.
- Kai ika Project has had another big year. Conjunction with Papatūānuku Marae, OBC and Westhaven

- In lockdown demand goes through the roof. Overnight the anxiety in the community increased.
- March last year went from 250 kilos to 1250 kilos. Lock downs cause problems. Grow 1250 to 2000 kilos per week. In Conjunction teamed up with Kiwi Harvest - sharing food packs and with everybody eats re made meals.

Jess Beetham - grant seeking specialist has found \$30,000 emergency funding. She has done a great job. Established 3 more distribution hubs. Working Tongan and Fiji churches. Zero waste award and a visit from PM. Amazing what people will do in times of need.

Commercial fishing industry has stepped up providing fish. They are adjusting the way they are operating. Looking at how they can recover more food.

\$100,000 funding - from the Ministry for the Environment, Auckland Council Waste Management Fund, Marine Research Foundation. This allows us to maximise resources.

Plan is to have an event filleting trailer that can be taken around the country. Need to be mobile and available to other regions. Plan is for a sustainably sourced seafood festival in Coromandel. Offering long line caught fish and then giving the heads and frames away to local iwi. Unfortunately, this is on pause now due to covid.

Free Fish Heads - Matt Watson has advised that he can't do it on his own, so he is happy incorporate it with Kai Ika. Free Fish Heads has 16,000 registered users. App will be rebuilt and allow organisations to register as well. Clubs could register. Matt Watson will continue to be ambassador and through the app we intend to name additional services available through our clubs.

Funding and partners - thanks to all partners who work alongside each other and who are committed to achieve change. Jess Beetham raised \$690,000 last year.

Hi ika - Go Fish card game in Te Reo and English. This is an educational tool and has been well received by some schools. Working with the Tindale Foundation to launch this in the warehouse.

Sam Woolford thanked the board - has been a hard year with lots of change. Nice to have the backing of the board.

This is a great roadmap for LegaSea with the policies council is developing. Big thank you to Scott Macindoe for his commitment.

Regional approach is key learning and making the rescue fish more real. Talking about buy back - breaking it down to a regional level makes it more relevant. Issues are everywhere.

**Mark Connor** - Fisheries Management has had a very big year this year. Big thank you to the entire Fisheries Management team and a personal thank you to Lewis Avenell for his hard work and he will be sadly missed. He has put in a huge amount of work over the past few years. Acknowledgement and thank you to all the contractors who work tirelessly to achieve. We have had legal support regarding RMA issues from Rowan Ashton and Stewart Ryan. We have spent about \$100,000 so far with these issues.

To date we have submissions from July 2020 to August 2021 were 16 in the North Island stock reviews and 15 stock reviews in the South Island. Work in Kaikoura on Paua., Maori Customary and Aggregation limits on Kahawai and Jack Mackerel and various campaigns with 13,000 submissions generated.

Scott Macindoe - It is clear how much we have evolved and that we have 10 specialist contractors who work to allow us to deliver outcomes. He thanked NZSFC for holding the line and standing up for our public interests.

Abundance inshore fisheries and ensuring a fair go for future generations - lots of work ahead to revitalise the gulf. Take a consensus plan with unanimous all sectors - high protection areas and customary harvest - reject recreational dredging - as we have already done and then to have commercial dredging allowed. Thank you, Terry Creagh, for standing up and working towards the revitalisation of the Gulf.

Very Proud of the FM Standing committee and confident that the committee will continue to give their best - Lewis is still working with the OIA and will be continuing to work with Ombudsman discussions.

Bob Gutsell - Northland appeal was held in August over three weeks and we received great feedback from the Judge who appreciated our contribution on the basis that we were the voice of reason. Cost so far \$100,000. The RMA is under review and being replaced with three separate pieces of information, one being the Natural Built Environment Act. This will require quite a bit of input from us. We have the Hauraki Gulf Management Plan and the key objective there is to get bulk harvesting out of the Hauraki Gulf back to the way it was with the Seachange Plan and this will require public campaigns. There will also be the normal sustainability plans. Fisheries NZ will be sharing their draft FM plans shortly and we have an opportunity to input into this.

The current rec bag limit conversation is underway and there is quite a bit work on this and then there is the Rescue Fish campaign. This is an inevitability for the government, and we need to get this to come sooner rather than later.

Work has been done with MPI with Bob Gutsell and Lewis Avenell meeting monthly. Relationships need to be built and we are getting more alliance. Taraeiki decision has been injuncted and we will find out what points will be challenged; also, the Snapper 8 has been challenged by local Maōri commercial interests. We will find out what that challenge is in the next year. Cray 3,7,8 concessions have been in place for many years and the council has regularly objected to these. CRA3 might be reviewed shortly.

John Holdsworth - a lot of our submissions have been prefaced by a discussion about an ecosystem approach and this is something is starting to seep into discussions with the stock assessment and research teams for planning and this is where RMA and rescue fish are heading and possibly more work in this area in pulling it all in together. Government looking at a "land all catches" system and we would have a problem with this. Also, management targets for Rock lobster which is an area that has been traditionally fished hard in NZ.

Acknowledgements for Barry Torkington for all his hard work and wisdom and also Ken Barry. Couldn't have done it without you. It was acknowledged that it is vital to have the support of local clubs and they are encouraged to get involved and work with the team.

### **IGFA - Report - Mark Hemingway**

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IGFA has set up an Oceania committee -South Pacific. They have had 40 nominations. 4 people from the Council have been elected. Two of them got the chair positions. Mark Hemingway Chair - education and Pete Saul Chair - Rules and recognition. We also have Bob Gutsell and Richard Baker on the committees. Scott Tindle from NZ has been elected onto the conservation committee. All to do with forming better results and get back to grass roots. Pete Saul - potentially the Oceania committee will give a a better chance at building a better relationship with Australia and IGFA as between the two counties we have a high percentage of the membership of IGFA. Chance to have a bit more influence.

Good chance to have more influence in the rules and claims - want to improve junior angles in line classes.

Good catches this year and good records for New Zealand. Alot of claims have been delayed but will come through.

### **Welcome to Tim van de Molen**

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National party spokesperson for oceans and fisheries and National member for Waikato.

Tim acknowledged what NZSFC are doing as an organisation. Background - no commercial fishing background but does have a background and scuba diving and rec fishing. All kiwis deserve the right to go out and catch a fish

Tim's comments were :-

159 fish stocks have been scientifically evaluated, 28 considered to be overfished. 1 and 5 is overfished. 8 of those stocks were considered to have collapsed. He has grave concerns about the current system.

There have been massive fluctuations in total allowable catch. Snapper 8 had a 72% increase in the allowable catch. Hapuku and bass reduced by 17% - this suggests that we haven't got the system right. It would seem the QMS is not functioning effectively. He wanted to investigate trends around where we might be going, and technology will grow and help going forward. Marine reserves - he feels we need to have more of these, and he is very keen to continue with these. Stopping dredging is essential. Concern around the delivery of plans going forward. How do we ensure sustainability in our environment? How can Commercial fishers continue to run businesses without fluctuations? QSM not operating as it should be.

**Questions:-**

**Brett Bensemann - Tautuku Fishing Club** – asked whether Tim had heard any indication of a decision re southland reserve? Answer - consultation is happening. The concern is balance but also acting in a manner that then gives certainty what the outcome would be.

**Warren Maher Tairua-Pauanui SFC** - damage rec scallop dredging – he stated that Tim had failed to touch on commercial dredging – and about the overall commercial impact. Tim commented that it was relatively small but how often are we accessing this and how can we get correct results. He would prefer aquaculture going forward to avoid damage. There are challenges around this but there are places doing it very well. WM also asked What is sustainable? - Tim van de Molen advised it is - it is about managing stock - we are not assessing stocks often enough and is the baseline correct?

**Peter Saunders - New Plymouth** - voiced his concern that we were not successful with cutting off the Kermadec and Raul Island area cut off to stop the Chinese influence and other countries from decimating the area. National supports that protection.

**Scott Macindoe - Warkworth Gamefish Club** asked if Tim could clarify revitalise gulf dredging to all commercial. Is it ok to carry on dredging commercially? Tim advised that over time this needs to be phased out and it should be eventually stopped but it cannot be done immediately. Scott pleased that we have had the opportunity to show why we are not happy with the revitalise the gulf plan. Tim agrees that things need to change but commented do we have confidence that the science is accurate?

**Trish Rea - FM** - the QMS is worse than what you think it is. Most of the catch levels are out of date and TAC TACC being reduced by 80% it is more a realign to reality. Most of the time in terms of Hapuku the catch hasn't been that for decades. Why has it taken 35 years to make these reductions, where are the checks and balances.

**Ross Lucas - Mt Maunganui SFC** - asked if he would be happy to look at an alternative to QMS. Answer is that we must be open to ideas.

Tim advised to check the link re the changes to kingfish - all submissions welcome.

**Hilton Webb - Gisborne-Tatapouri** - we have been through 8 ministers in 20 years with concessions on crayfish - each one has promised re CRA 3 that the concession to be removed. Are you going to look at concessions and remove the concessions that the commercial has? Tim asked for the information to be sent to him. Commercial are taking crayfish 2mm smaller than recreational fishers are allowed to. There is no need to have a different limit.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak.

### **Blue Water Marine Research -John Holdsworth**

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John supplied information on tagging and what the information is used for. 79,781 fish were tagged and released in NZ waters. Of the 2953 fish tagged outside NZ waters they were mostly striped and blue marlin. Yellowtail kingfish have made up 70% of all recaptures. Marlin, Tuna and Sharks have been recaptured around the Southwest Pacific Ocean predominately by commercial fishers.

Information was presented to stock assessment for striped marlin. Fishing is mainly in December to June with the peak in February.

From striped marlin landed or tagged from NZSFC records - has been relatively constant - tagged consistently higher than landed. Wanganella bank fish mostly caught outside NZ EEZ. Over 50% were tagged and released, more when the fishing was good. % striped marlin recaptured in 2021 in NZ. Striped marlin moved from Poor Knights to Ahipara after 732 days. First Australian tagged STM from the Gold Coast was caught on the Manukau after 521 days.

A lot of NZ data was presented for the STM stock assessment and that included catch, length, weight, tagging, satellite tags, age DNA all from our NZSF fishery. Long term weighing records were very valuable and most influential data. It showed a decline in the average weight since 1952.

This assessment identifies some research needs being;

- Better estimates of movement
- Length weight and sex information
- Collection of otoliths for ageing to help resolve future research.

Lucky draw - number 38 - Bruce Lesley - no tag card - kingfish caught January 13 - 2021 - congratulations he has won \$1,000.

Southern bluefin tuna catch 2021. This has been an impressive fishery over the last few years:-

- Ramp survey at Waihou Bay covered 66 days and also from NZSFC club catch records
- Unable at yet to get commercial fishing catch landing - waiting on these
- 80% of boats fishing were interviewed based on trailer counts
- These recorded 305 SBT and 110 (36%) of these were not weighted, this was scaled up for total catch
- Average weight 76 kilos
- Survey estimate will be about 33 T
- Collected 50 Otolith pairs from donated heads which has been very useful
- Recreational catch as been increased to 14 T and 2022 will be 34 T
- Encourage tuna fishers to joining clubs and have voluntary catch limits
- Encourage reporting of landed catch - fishcatch.co.nz
- Provide resources to help clubs with peak times.
- Fishcare segment on handling and utilisation
- Educate fishers on small boat safety
- Thanks to Waihou Bay SFC for support
- This is all landed weight information

**Ben Muir - Waihou Bay** - is there going to continue to be a requirement for data for weighed fish - answer yes - weighed fish give an average weight for fish.

Waihou Bay might not weigh non-members catch - public expect fish to be weighed. Need to create good relationships with Hapu at Waihou Bay. Congestion is a major problem.

Offers :-

- To put out a call, in advance, for our Weighmasters to go and help.
- P Saul - offered to help July next year - he will go down and help out.
- Sam LegaSea - have marine science students to help. Sam Woolford agreed and offered the filleting table.

Trish Rae – asked has the club considered sharing some of the courtesy weigh fee with local Hapu to make that experience a bit more comfortable. Ben advised that they haven't shared any money with the Hapu presently. There are discussions with the ramp due to Treaty Claims. Primarily they have problems with numbers.

Ian Steele - thank you John for the information and insight.

## **Mark Mitchell**

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### **National spokesperson Sport and Recreation**

Ian Steele – welcomed the Hon M Mitchell

Mark Acknowledged the presenters - huge range of information.

He acknowledged Bob Gutsell, Steven Stanford, Warren Maher, Ian Steele, Mark Connor, Scott MacIndoe and the FM team and board. Also thank you Helen and team. He gave a shout out to Terry Creagh and advised that he is extremely active and doing a great job.

Mark's Profile - had a family property Pauanui and has been spearfishing since a child and he still feels we have the best marine environment in the world. Noted that Steven sent a letter to Grant Robinson and NZ Sport. Was surprised that Grant Robinson said he didn't have time to meet. NZSFC Lobby is seen as very well coordinated from Wellington and they do not appear keen to take it on.

Need to have more focussed funding and encourage youth as we come out of this Covid lockdown. Fishing is a very important role for our society. There has been dysfunction in the Sport NZ and high-performance Sport NZ organisations and now Raelene Castles has taken the leadership role - please provide feedback on your relationship.

Mark Mitchell acknowledged NZ Sport Fishing Council and LegaSea and the work that is done and how organised the organisation is. He has advised that he wants to get behind the organisation and support it.

Bob Gutsell - thanked Mark for being available. Advised that we have had a meeting with Sport NZ. And that we are appreciative of the work Mark is doing.

Scott - acknowledged Mark Mitchell for his speech - uplifting to hear what he had to say.

Fishing activity transcends sport and encourages a healthy recreation. Teaches skills that are lifetime skills and makes children get off the couches and their devices. Recreational fishing has an economic power.

Ken Barry - Raglan SFC - why are Auckland boats allowed to go out and Waikato is not. He had been advised by Coastguard that Sport and Recreation controlled what was happening regarding Covid rules. Mark Mitchell will find out whether the information and rules are coming from Sport and Recreation and advise.

Mark Mitchell advised he would stay on and looks forward to working with NZSFC and he was thanked by Ian Steele.

### **Youth Committee - Warren Maher**

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A discussion was had by way of an introduction to the youth committee, where it is at and where it is heading.

#### **Points**

- Purpose of the committee is to develop and implement the programmes to achieve the priorities of the strategic plan.
- Committee members Warren Maher, Ian Steele, Brenda Saul, Cie Robinson-Bates, Mark Hemingway, Steven Stanford and Helen Pastor
- Committee asked clubs for youth to be involved and several young members agreed to join. Warren Maher Introduced the youth team. Brady Ruthe (14) Tairua Pauanui, Marley Orr (16) Whakatane, Matty Nobilo (10) Matarangi, Josh Carran (10) Whakatakataka, Emily Steele (14) New Plymouth, Austin Crowe (13) Tairua, Brock Johnston (14) Counties, Hayden Speed (15) Mt Maunganui, Eva McNulty (10) Waihau, Nerin Jackson (10) Mangawhai. The youth were asked for ideas and what they would like to see. Ian Steele advised that it was the most humorous zoom meeting.

Youth Nationals – These will be held in the April school holidays over two weeks, so parents and kids are able to plan the time. With the youth committee input the structure; is 15 species with a first second and third in each species, and in two sections the 0-12 years old then 13-17 years old. Will include photo categories \$10 for non-members \$5 members and \$5 if a non-member enters with a member.

A flyer will be coming out to the clubs after the AGM.

The strategies we would like to see out of this committee are:-

- Growing youth
- Retention of youth membership - teenagers
- Third party youth programmes relevance
- Increased use of forums for youth - eg social media
- To make fishing more accessible to all interested youth.
- Education, safety, environment, fishing methods
- This will encourage our membership to grow.

Bob Gutsell thanked Warren Maher for stepping up and leading this group. This is something that we know is critical to our community.

## Communications plan - Ian Steele

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See attached Strategic plan on one page. (attached). Main point is that all the veins you are hearing about in our committee relate to the strategic plan.

Kylie Fordyce has taken on the role as the Chair of the Communications committee.

Communication strategic priorities are: -

- Communicate NZSFC programmes, actions and value propositions directly to all clubs affiliate members
- Become a recognised National Body - over 650,000 anglers
- Communicate a clear understanding of LegaSea's purpose to affiliated and non-affiliated members
- Connect unaffiliated public to NZSFC policy and the activities of LegaSea

Main goals are to: -

- make sure the council is to be seen as an important partner for all of our clubs.
- Continue to recruit fishers - bring them into the sport and allow them to be able to participate.
- Leverage strategic partnerships to enable council objectives and club benefits. Help the clubs to have contact with them.

Target audiences - clubs, fishers, youth

Communication and tone of voice is important. To be a leader, look after our communities and be inclusive and kiwi - embracing what is kiwi and that we are trusted and responsible.

5 pieces in the communication strategy are:-

### **Partner, recruit, lead and inform, protect and leverage**

**Partnership** - connect with clubs, engage with clubs, and provide communication, support clubs and facilitate events etc and digital too. We need to get to know our clubs better and for clubs to know each other around the country. Work hard to build a many to many relationships.

**Recruit** - new fishers and focus on youth - the next generation, connect to our clubs.

- Actively bring new members to be part of our NZSFC community
- Connect them to our clubs
- Target through social media
- Use digital tools to drive them to the website for information and update
- Connect with them through fishing tournaments, measure competitions & Nationals
- •Encourage existing members to recruit their children and their friends
- Connect with youth through schools
- Establish more youth tournaments

## **Lead and inform**

- Be a trusted and credible source of information for sport & recreational fishing in NZ
- IGFA information and updates
- Celebrate fishing
- Catch Celebration
- Club Promotion
- Club Member celebration
- Funder/Sponsor recognition
- Share fish care information

## **Protect**

- Raise awareness of NZSFC
- Protect the voice of fishers around NZ to protect the rights to fish
- Be a thought leader and advocate for sustainable sport and recreational fishing
- Fishcare information
- Rescue Fish
- LegaSea and Kai Ika news

## **Strategic partnerships**

- Focus is around the club benefit side and to help clubs in their role to make it better for their members. Making sponsorship opportunities for clubs.
- What does this mean for clubs - more engagement and support. To have a resource with policies and documents.
- Awareness of NZSFC in the fishing community

Challenge now is to get this into practice. We have progressed from strategic planning and taken the communications committee and pushed it forward.

Bob Gutsell thanked Ian and extended a vote of thanks to communications community Kylie Fordyce, Ian Steele, Cie Robinson Bates, Scott McNulty, Ross Lucas, Richard Baker, Alister Arkell, Benn Winlove, Steven Stanford and Helen Pastor - we have put in many nights of zoom calls - what you have seen here is a result of a long grind to get to our plan.

Steven Stanford - It is about creating for clubs, and to remember we are a network of clubs. If individual clubs have sponsors who want to have a nationwide spread, please contact Steven and he is happy to work with them to spread the information to the whole network.

Discussion was had on alternatives to get past club secretaries such as website, sending info to delegates and Presidents. We do need to break away from just sending items to the club secretaries. It is important to communicate with a number of people in the clubs rather than just one. We are asking delegates to step up and make sure that the information flows through.

## **Steven Stanford - Safer Boating Forum Survey**

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For the past 18 months we have been members of the Safer Boating Forum under Maritime NZ for messaging safety for recreational boating and avoiding deaths. We have built up a report and every quarter a survey is put out. This is what forms their understanding of recreational boaters. This is the first time we have been asked to respond. As a we accounted for 20% of the survey. This changed their results to the point that they split our results out and see where they are different.

See attached powerpoint attached.

Discussion around the results of the survey. Waikato sent the survey out to their members. The Westcoast has a lot more education around the country. This could be due to the fact that Westcoast boaters generally have a knowledge of bar crossings. It was an insightful piece and conversation starter. Jennifer Troup advised that from a commercial perspective the results are quite surprising. Education is needed. She noted that the Westcoast has far more information at their boat ramps etc. Pete Saul commented that the general knowledge on the East Coast is abysmal. Education is important in our boating community. Survey was for 1000 - and we got 174 responses.

### **General Business**

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- Brett Bensemann - Tautuku SFC - advised that the NZ Masters Games are being held in Dunedin from 3 February to 15 February - his club is staging a fishing event on the 6th February 2022.
- Barney O'Neill - Whangamata OSC - The club has a door policy to charge visitors \$5.00 to come in and from this \$6,200.00 was raised and this will be donated to LegaSea. Thank you Whangamata.
- Ed Beetham - Wairarapa - asked that the LegaSea report and Bluewater Marine report be placed online or sent to clubs. John Holdsworth advised that the Bluefin Tuna information is not for public display at this stage. LegaSea is happy to have their report distributed. **Action** - HP to review the recording and put the reports on the webpage and send them to clubs.
- Pete Saul - Whangarei - Asked whether clubs have given thought to whether they will enforce vaccination to members and staff. This needs to be discussed. Bob Gutsell advised that the Board is seeking legal advice and from Sport NZ as to how we should enforce this. Once we have this information, we will report back with something clubs can use for their own environments. Our lawyers have advised they will give a working paper next week. Ian Steele - New Plymouth has advised that they will come back with a draft policy for clubs to use.
- Ben Muir - Waihou Bay - have Council had communications with the coastguard and discussed working with them and our members to enhance safety. Ian Steele advised that discussions have been had with Coast Guard. They offered to provide instructors at the clubs and NZSFC pay for days' worth of the instructor's time and will take members through courses. IS and Lee Drummond advised that it is often difficult for them to get members to attend courses.

Cecil - Kawhia – Their club has no problem, but that may be due to the bar crossings.

Discussion was had around different Coast Guard courses including the Suddenly in Charge courses. It is felt that the clubs need to have an education approach to boat handling.

General discussion regarding safety and coastguard.

- Next date AGM 16/17 September 2022
- Thank you to sponsors - Asahi pic and OPD
- Deryk - behalf of delegates thank you Ian for taking over chairing the meeting and also Sam our camera man and it has been great. Ian Steele commented that it is great to have had a physical meeting and such a shame that Waikato Northland and Auckland were unable to attend.
- Thank you to Mandy Robyn and Cie and Richard. Great work and all worked well. Great to have Cape Egmont to be involved.
- Helen Pastor thanked Cie Robinson-Bates from Tairua - for her hard work and assistance and Robyn Cox and Mandy for their great work and enthusiasm.

Meeting Closed 3.15pm