**2023 Rule changes and corrections**

**Clause 11B Tag and Release – Correction to Yearbook**

Tag cards must be sighted either physically or electronically by the Club the team is fishing for (**this can be relayed via VHF if no electronic coverage is available), within 36 hours of being tagged, noting that the final time for submission is 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, large tuna 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.

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.

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.

**Reporting of Catches – this is a correction to the yearbook.**

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 time boated.

All fish tagged and released must be reported Daily, and as soon as possible after the release, to the weigh station or club and to the Tournament Secretary. The tag card must be sighted either physically or electronically by the club the team is fishing for **(this can be relayed via VHF if no electronic coverage is available).** Please refer to rule 11b Tag & Release for final handing in of tag cards and tackle and equipment checking for tag and released fish.

**Section One Scoring Formula – Correction to yearbook.**

Scoring rules for Section One – this is a correction from yearbook – this replaces the wording in Section One team trophies.

**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.**

**Measure and Release**

This section has been discontinued for the Nationals.

**Length of Kingfish**

The minimum length of a kingfish for weighing is 75cm.