

MERCURY BAY GAME FISHING CLUB (INC)

12 The Esplanade – PO Box 150, Whitianga

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Phone: Clubrooms – Office 07 866 4121



LADIES BLUE

1 Dec 2020 – 30 April 2021

RULES

WELCOME TO THE 2020-21 LADIES BLUE

1. GENERAL

Please read your rules and make sure you understand them. If there are any matters that need clarification please ask the tournament convener.

Any matters not specifically covered by these rules will be covered by IGFA rules, NZSFC rules, MBGFC Fishing Rules and/or at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.

ENTRY and registration in the tournament constitutes acceptance of the rules by **ALL** participants, and an agreement to abide by **ALL** judges decisions.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to amend the rules, should it be deemed necessary in the interest of the Tournament.

Competitors participate in the tournament at their own risk. MBGFC does not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the tournament. Leaving port is at the sole discretion of the skipper and crew at all times.

2. ELIGIBILITY

All anglers must be current financial members of Mercury Bay Game Fishing Club Inc (MBGFC) or an affiliated NZSFC Club. Proof must be provided. Day membership to MBGFC will suffice.

NOTE: A commercial vessel must provide a particular approval form under Section 111(1)(a) of the Fisheries Act to the Club office before going fishing.

3. FISHING AREA

The area covered by our Sponsors Grid:

Northern Boundary:	Latitude	35°50'
Southern Boundary:	Latitude	37°30'
Western Boundary:	Longitude	175°30'
Eastern Boundary:	Longitude	176°50'

4. TACKLE

All tackle used **MUST** comply with IGFA and NZSFC regulations.

It is the angler's responsibility to be conversant with these regulations.

Line classes are: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 15, 24, 37, 60kg.

5. ELIGIBLE SPECIES

Billfish	(All species)
Tuna	(All species) except Skipjack

6. MINIMUM BOATED FISH WEIGHTS & SIZES:

Striped Marlin 90kg (Billfish Moratorium Agreement)

7. RADIO

Contest Channel	Channel 65	Gamebase
Boat to Boat	Channel 6 & 8	
Coastguard	Channel 63	
Continuous Weather	Channel 20	

For safety reasons it is the responsibility of all skippers to ensure that their vessels have operational VHF radios.

8. FISHING TIMES:

Fishing must not commence until 0600 on 1st Dec 2020. Stop fishing is at 1700 on 30th April 2021.

9. MULTIPLE STRIKES:

If a multiple strike occurs with more fish than anglers, the team must not present any fish caught on rods that were not immediately removed from the rod holders. The same angler may not present more than one fish (the first chronologically) from a multiple strike.

10. REPORTING:

All fish must be called in to Gamebase when boated or tagged giving the vessels name and the area from the Sponsors Grid map, and advising it is for the Ladies Blue. If out of radio range, notification should be given as soon as back in range.

11. BILLFISH TAGGED AND RELEASED:

Billfish must **NOT** be removed from the water during the tagging and releasing process.

12. WEIGH IN

a) Catch cards & Tag cards

ALL sections **MUST** be filled in **BEFORE** fish are brought to the weighstation. First and last name must be written in full, not initials.

Latitude & Longitude must be entered on tag cards.

b) Along with the **FULLY COMPLETED** catch card and/or tag card each angler must present the rod, reel, lure and or terminal tackle which the fish was caught on, and anything else required by the weighmasters such as gaffs, tailropes, any securing ropes used to transport the fish to the weighstation.

A FISH IS NOT DEEMED TO BE CAUGHT UNTIL IT HAS BEEN WEIGHED (or tagged).

c) Digital photos clearly showing the tag in place must be shown to the weighmasters when tag cards are presented.

d) Weighmasters Indemnity

It is the anglers responsibility to present all cards and equipment when weighing in, **NOT** the weighmasters. If any of the required equipment is not in the hands of the weighmasters along with the completed catch card and fish no responsibility will be accepted by MBGFC or its weighmasters for any failure to do so.

13. POINTS

a) Fish weighed will gain points as follows:

$$\frac{\text{FISH WEIGHT X 100}}{\text{LINE WEIGHT}}$$

b) Billfish tagged and released will gain points as follows:

Marlin & Broadbill – 450 points

Shortbill Spearfish – 100 points

Lines may be tested at the weigh station. Lines that over test will be moved up to the appropriate line class. Under testing lines will **NOT** be moved down.

14. DISPUTES

The MBGFC will appoint a disputes committee to investigate any disputes. Any disputes must be received in writing by 1600 on 1st May 2021. The disputes committee decision shall be final and binding.

15. PRIZE ALLOCATION:

Prizes will be CASH and offered as follows (Note: Club will retain 10% of the total pool to cover administration costs):-

(a) **Billfish weighed** Heaviest 40% of total pool

If two or more fish of equal weight become eligible for a prize the relevant prize will be shared equally.

(b) **Billfish Tag & Release**
40% of total pool won by the team (or teams) with the most T & R points.

(c) **Tuna weighed** Heaviest 10% of total pool

(d) **Champion Team**
Overall Trophy for team scoring the most points.

Note: If no fish are caught in one category, the prize money will be shared by the fish caught in the other category in the above ratio.

If no fish are caught in the tournament, there will be three (3) drawn team prizes each of 30% of the total pool.

If teams are not present at prizegiving on Sept 25 drawn prizes will be redrawn. All prize winners will need to provide identification, i.e. passport, driver's licence may be asked for.

16. WHARF:

Mercury Bay Game Fishing Club Inc will not be responsible for any harbour, wharf or berthage charges.

17. TERM DEFINITIONS

"TAIL ROPES" - A tail rope is any rope used in either or both the capture of the fish and securing the fish for transport to the weighstation. **NO** "Tail rope" may exceed 9.14m in length.

"RULES" - Includes all rules written herein, IGFA Rules, NZSFC Rules, MBGFC Fishing Rules and/or any changes and additions made by MBGFC during the Tournament.

"WEIGHT" - The weight of a fish as deemed correct by both the weighmasters and the angler signed off on the catch card.

"CAUGHT" - A fish is not deemed to be caught until it is weighed or tagged.

GOOD LUCK AND GOOD FISHING

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

NOTICE TO OWNERS & SKIPPERS OF VESSELS FISHING IN THE MERCURY BAY GAME FISHING CLUB (INC) 2021 LADIES BLUE TOURNAMENT

In the interest of safety at sea and to assist in the efficient day to day running of its activities the Club will provide Base Radio Station facilities for vessels fishing our tournaments and contests.

Game Club/Office phone number:	07 866 4121
Gamebase Radio (CH65)	Mobile 021 0256 2849

It is therefore required that all vessels registering for these activities be equipped with an efficient VHF radio capable of accessing the Club's working frequencies on Channel 65.

Except in an emergency all radio transmissions should be made by certified operators and a good standard of procedure is requested.

With changes to the legislation on marine radio usage being considered stations is regularly being monitored by radio inspectors with attention being given to VHF repeater usage or perhaps their misuse. It is in all our interest to do the job right.

Good luck to you all