

MERCURY BAY GAME FISHING CLUB (INC)

12 The Esplanade – PO Box 150, Whitianga
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Phone: Clubrooms – Office 07 866 4121



WINTER TUNA TOURNAMENT

1 July – 31 August 2021

RULES

WELCOME TO THE 2021 WINTER TUNA TOURNAMENT

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 for your team entry to be accepted. 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. 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.

4. ELIGIBLE SPECIES

Tuna Southern Bluefin
 Albacore

5. FISHING AREA

NZ 200 mile EEZ. NB. Fish must be weighed at the MBGFC weigh-station

6. FISHING TIMES:

Fishing must not commence until 0700 on 1st July 2021. Stop fishing is at 1700 on 31st August 2021.

7. 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.

8. WEIGH IN

a) Catch cards & Tag cards

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

Latitude & Longitude must be entered on tag cards.

PROVIDING FALSE INFORMATION ON CATCH CARDS WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE TOURNAMENT

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) 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.

d) On the last day (Aug 31), fish, catchcards, tag cards and tackle must be in the weighmasters hands by 1900.

9. POINTS

a) Fish weighed will gain points as follows:

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

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

Southern Bluefin Tuna: 150 pts

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.

10. DISPUTES

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

11. PRIZEGIVING

Prizegiving will be included in Club Prizegiving at 6pm on Saturday 25th September 2021

12. PRIZE ALLOCATION:

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

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| (a) Southern Bluefin Tuna (weighed) | 1 st 40% of total pool |
| | 2 nd 20% of total pool |
| | 3 rd 10% of total pool |
| (b) Albacore (weighed) | 1 st 5% of total pool |
| | 2 nd 3% of total pool |
| | 3 rd 2% of total pool |

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

- (c) **Tuna Fishing Company tagging prize** drawn from teams tagging a bluefin tuna. Each tagged fish is an entry in the draw. Teams must be present at prizegiving to be eligible.
- (d) **Champion Team** (on points) 10% of total pool

If no fish are caught in categories (a) or (b), there will be three (3) drawn team prizes each of a third of the prize money in that category.

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

13. WHARF:

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

14. 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
WINTER TUNA 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 (CH61) 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 61.

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