



## **RULES FOR SPONSORED FISHING TOURNAMENTS**

### **For the 2017-2018 Fishing Season**

- Headquarters** Headquarters for each contest will be the Sulphur Point Clubrooms. Tournament communications will be through VHF Channel 3 or Coastguard VHF Channel 66.
- Eligibility** All anglers must be current financial members of the Tauranga Sport Fishing Club or other NZSFC member club, or have a paid current Day Anglers Fishing Card. All fish are eligible provided they are species nominated for the contest, exceed the minimum weight and were caught on line not exceeding 60kg test, or line specified for a particular contest.
- Fishing Area** All water encompassed in Hydrographic Modified Chart number NZ54 - Cuvier Island to East Cape. Line north of Lottin Point northwards as per Sponsors Grid Chart.
- Entries** Entry forms accompanied by contest fees must be received by the TSFC Office, Sulphur Point by the time specified on the entry form. Entries will be accepted by direct debit or on our website at [www.tsfc.co.nz](http://www.tsfc.co.nz) up until the day prior to the event. After this time, entries will only be accepted at the Club. Contest starting dates and times will be detailed on the entry form for each contest.
- Teams** Anglers may fish tournaments as individuals including fishing from PWCs and kayaks as long as they have communications with Coastguard Channel 01 or a support vessel. Anglers may transfer from boat to boat during the contest, but fish or points are not transferable and remain with the nominated boat. Contest headquarters must be notified immediately in writing of any angler transfers.
- Cancellation of contest** There will be, in the main, no cancellation of a contest. If, due to the extenuating circumstances or severe weather conditions, the contest is cancelled or postponed, notification of such cancellations will be before start fishing on any given day of the contest.
- Refunds** If a full cancellation occurs and no further date is set for the contest, the Administrator shall, upon written application from the team captain, refund the contest fees. Full refunds will be given for any reason prior to the tournament provided it is requested 24 hours before briefing.
- Briefing** Briefing is compulsory and the team captain or nominated team member fishing the tournament must register at briefing night and attend and remain until the conclusion of briefing unless prior approval to not attend has been given by the Tournament Convenor.
- Stop Fishing** Stop Fishing shall be the end of the contest. All catch cards must be in the weighmasters hands by final weigh in time on the last day of the tournament. Fish caught after weigh in time on all days except the last day of the tournament will go into the next days catch.
- Weighstation** The weighstation for all contests will be the TSFC Contest Headquarters at Sulphur Point. All fish must be weighed from the boat on which they were caught.
- Condition of Capture** All fish to be presented to the weighstation fresh or chilled but not frozen.

**Catch Cards** Normal TSFC Catch Cards will be used and must be completed by the time of the weigh in.

**Minimum Fish Weights** The minimum weights for fish in all sponsored tournaments unless otherwise stated on the tournament entry form are:

Billfish	90kg
Tuna	15kg
Albacore	7kg
Skipjack	5kg
Mahimahi	4kg
Kingfish	1 meter
S/B Spearfish	10kg
Snapper	2kg
Broadbill	must exceed line weight

**Line Breaking Strain** The maximum line breaking strain used shall be 60kg.  
Braid: Braid may be used in tournaments. If the events are line class events, then the top-shot rule applies.

**Disputes** The TSFC Committee will appoint judges to investigate disputes. Such disputes must be received by contest headquarters in writing within three hours of the contest closing time. The decision of the judges will be final.

**Weighmasters** Any authorized weighmaster may weigh fish.

**General** The above Rules of the Tauranga Sport Fishing Club Inc. take precedence over Club Rules for Pins and Trophies and IGFA Rules during sponsored contests only. However, IGFA Rules will cover any matters not covered by these rules. All fish caught during a sponsored contest by current financial members of the TSFC are eligible for Club Records, Pins and Trophies providing the fish has been caught in accordance with the TSFC Rules for Pins and Trophies. This does not apply for Day anglers. Points will be awarded to boats for fish caught by Day Anglers. This applies to the following trophies only: Most Billfish points from a private launch – “Lady Luck Trophy” and Most Billfish points from a commercial launch – “De Luxa Trophy”.  
Rule changes may be implemented prior to the start of the event for any reason and will be communicated clearly at briefing.