

MAINSTREAM REEL LADIES GAMEFISHING TOURNAMENT
13th - 14th February 2026

TOURNAMENT RULES AND POINT SCORING SYSTEM

Anglers Entry Fee: \$100 per angler or \$50 for a junior angler (17 years of age or under)

1. **ENTRY FEES:** No team or angler can compete in the tournament unless their entry fee and membership payments have been made in full prior to start fishing. A team must consist of two or more anglers and no more than eight anglers. Pre-registration is encouraged, call BOISC Russell by email office@swordfish.co.nz or on our website, www.swordfish.co.nz
2. **FISHING TIMES:** Day one Friday from 0800 to day two Saturday 1600. Friday radio schedule will be 1130 and again at 1500. Saturday radio schedule will be 1200.
3. **TOURNAMENT MEMBERSHIPS:**
If an angler is not a member of a club affiliated to the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council then they must also pay a tournament membership of \$30 before their team starts fishing.
4. **MEET THE TEAM AND BRIEFING:** Thursday 12th February commencing at 5.30pm followed by the briefing at 7.00 pm at the Bay of Islands Swordfish Club – **Opuā**. Spot prizes will be drawn on the night and you must be present to collect any prizes. All teams must have a representative at briefing unless you have gained an exemption under the fishing in rule. We encourage all participants to register online as we will close of registrations at 6:45pm.
5. **FISHING AREA:** Northern boundary is no further west than Longitude 173E and no further north than Latitude 34.20S no further south than latitude 35.40S No eastern boundary exists. All fishing must take place on the east coast of the North Island within the prescribed fishing areas. All fish caught outside this area are deemed non-tournament fish. Boats may anchor in Tom Bowling Bay but must not fish in this area.
Boats are welcome to commence fishing from another port other than the Bay of Islands, however, only fish captured in the fishing area will qualify and boats must follow fishing times as per above.
6. **PRIZE GIVING:** Saturday 14th February. This will be held at the BOISC Opuā commencing at 7.00 p.m. The bistro will be open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
7. **FISHING RULES:** BOISC, NZFSC and IGFA rules apply.
8. **LINE:**
Line Weight:
Max 37kg
Minimum 15kg for Billfish (Marlin & Broadbill) and Tuna.
No line weight restriction for Snapper and Kingfish.

Braid/Spectra backing is permissible, please refer to NZSFC & IGFA & BOISC rules.
9. **OMNI DIRECTIONAL SONAR** turned off for the duration of the tournament.

10. DEAD OR ALIVE BAIT HOOKS:

All tournament participants must use **non-offset circle hooks** for all species whenever live or natural bait are being used.

11. WEIGHING FISH AND TAG CARDS:

On day one fish may be weighed at Opuā, Paihia, Russell, Whangaroa or Houhora weigh stations but on day 2 all fish must be weighed at Opuā weigh station.

All fish, physical weigh sheets and tag cards must be presented to the weigh master no later than 1800 on day two (Saturday) please note that if an angler/team decides to continue to fight a fish hooked before stop fishing time and do not arrive at the OPUA weigh station by these times that fish and all others aboard plus all tagged fish will not count for the tournament.

12. TOURNAMENT FISH, WEIGHTS AND SIZE:

Marlin – Bill Fish	Minimum 90kgs
Shortbilled Spearfish	Minimum 10kgs or over line weight.
Broadbill Swordfish	Must exceed line weight
Yellowfin Tuna	Minimum 10kgs or over line weight
Bluefin Tuna	Minimum 20kgs or over line weight
Big Eye Tuna	Minimum 20kgs or over line weight
Albacore Tuna	Minimum 5kgs or over line weight
Skipjack Tuna	Minimum 5kgs or over line weight
Yellow Tail Kingfish	Minimum 750mm long
Snapper	Minimum of 30mm long

13. RADIO & CONTACT: The radio will be manned on **VHF channel 3** using the name Reel Ladies. Olivia Beauchamp's phone number is **0276855066** if having radio difficulties.

14. POINTS SYSTEM: This is a point's system tournament with the overall winning team being the team who accumulates the most points over the 2 days. The points system is as follows:

Weight of fish x 100 divided by line weight. Applies to Billfish (Marlin & Broadbill) Shortbill Spearfish and Tuna.

Weighed Snapper and Kingfish weight in kilos x 5, no fish formula applies.

Measured and released Snapper and Kingfish 1 point per cm, only top 5 scoring fish for each team or top two for each angler of each species per day recognised.

Snapper must measure over 40cm and kingfish over 90cm.

Tagged Billfish (Marlin & Broadbill) 500 points per fish

Tagged Shortbill Spearfish 150 points

Tagged Tuna 100 points (Yellowfin, Big Eye, Bluefin)

15. MAIN PRIZES:

- 1st largest snapper and kingfish measured and released
- 1st heaviest Snapper and Kingfish
- 1st tagged and released Billfish
- Tuna most points
- 1st heaviest Billfish (Marlin & Broadbill)
- Average length snapper

- Average length kingfish
- Angler most points weighed (Billfish, Shortbill Spearfish and Tuna) using the Game Fish formula, or tagged and Snapper and Kingfish weighed, measured, and released combined using points as described below.
- Team most points weighed (Billfish, Shortbill Spearfish and Tuna) using the Game Fish formula or tagged and Snapper and Kingfish weighed, measured, and released combined using points as described below.

In the event of a tie for all points prizes the first team or angler to secure the points will be the winning team or angler.

MAIN PRIZE WINNING TEAM: (A Team consists of two or more anglers.)
\$10,000 CASH

16. In the event of a tie, 1st fish caught will be the winner.

17. LONGEST SNAPPER RULES & REGULATIONS:

- 1: A clear photo must be taken to be eligible for this section.
- 2: Snapper will be measured from the tip of the nose to the shortest point of the 'V' in the tail.
- 3: All fish are to be measured on **IGFA/NZSFC APPROVED MEASURING DEVICE** which are available for sale at the briefing.
- 4: All photos must have the date & time shown.
- 5: Please make sure we are able to zoom into your photo and can clearly see the measurements.
- 6: All photos must be emailed to olivia@trucker.co.nz by 1700 on Saturday 14th to allow time for judging, physical weigh sheets must be delivered to the club by 1800 to accompany the photos for the fish to be counted and eligible for prizes.
- 7: If any of these rules / regulations are broken your fish will be disqualified.

18. FISHING IN: Fishing In is not available for teams who are normally based in the Bay Of Islands it is intended for boats who are normally based in a port outside of the Bay of Islands and who are unable to attend briefing for reason of travel from outside ports. This needs to be agreed upon with the convenor by Thursday 12th of February. It is up to the team to obtain a set of rules and attend an online briefing. All angler entry fees and tournament memberships must be paid prior to Thursday 12th of February at 5-00pm.

Teams fishing in may not enter the fishing area, or if based in a harbour or marina within the fishing area they may not leave the harbour or marina until 8-00am on Friday 13th February.

19. SIDE BET: You will have the option of buying your boat for \$200. Please indicate on your registration form if you intend to buy you boat and make payment with your entry. Teams wishing to enter their team in the Side bet must do so prior to 11:59pm on Thursday 12th of February 2026. Heaviest Fish wins the Side bet with 10% going to the Club. The Heaviest qualifying fish of the tournament wins. In the event that the winning fish is not in the Side bet, it will go to the next heaviest fish and so on. If no fish are weighed, a winning boat will be drawn from those who have entered the Side bets.

20. CONDUCT: Any participant in a Bay of Islands Swordfish Club-sanctioned tournament who engages in misconduct, inappropriate behaviour, or any action that brings the Club into disrepute may face a stand-down from all Club tournaments.

Serious misconduct or significant breaches will result in a minimum stand-down period of one (1) year.

Severe breaches, including but not limited to gross misconduct, violence, intimidation, or deliberate actions which may damage the Club's reputation, will result in a minimum stand-down of five (5) years.

If a breach is committed by an individual member of a team or crew, the stand-down will apply to the entire team and vessel involved in the tournament.

The Executive Committee of the Bay of Islands Swordfish Club will determine the severity of the breach, the parties affected, and the appropriate stand-down period. All decisions made by the Committee are final.

21. DISPUTES: Payment of the entry fee constitutes acceptance of the above rules and acceptance of any decision made by the Committee, in accordance with the BOISC Constitution.

Any dispute should be put in writing to the convener prior 1900 hrs on the day of the incident.

Disputes over a fish's weight must be resolved before the fish is removed from the weigh station.

These disputes will be resolved by the weigh master and tournament convener, and their decision will be final.

22. The Mainstream Reel Ladies Game fish tournament has been arranged for 2 days of competition and it is the skipper's sole responsibility to determine that on any one day, the sea conditions and weather forecasts are safe for his boat to put to sea. It is the skipper's responsibility to ensure that the boat they intend to participate in is capable of putting to sea and meeting local coast guard requirements. Participation in the Reel Ladies Gamefish Tournament does not diminish each skipper's sole responsibility under maritime law, nor shift any of that responsibility to the Bay of Islands Swordfish Club, even if the event officials made the decision on the conditions for that day.

GOOD FISHING AND TIGHT LINES!

BOISC Reel Ladies Game Fishing Tournament Convenor: Olivia Beauchamp, 0276855066