



# HOOK-UP



PERTH GAME FISHING CLUB INC

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30<sup>th</sup> May 2020

*It is now right on 5 months since the last Hook-Up Newsletter was sent to members, The longest gap since the first Hook-Up was sent out on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2003. What a five months it has been with disruptions within the Club followed by pandemic issues both of which have affected happenings and decisions concerning the future of the Club.*

*Now, there is every reason for optimism a removal of travel restrictions will allow members who have been regionally bound to travel, either to fish, visit family or friends, or conduct business and return to a level of normality.*

*That's it, enough talk on that subject, we are all suffering coronavirus fatigue.*

## **FISHING and ORGANISED EVENTS ►►**

Right up until the call to suspend scoring on 10<sup>th</sup> April, and since, light tackle fishing has been good to excellent with the PGFC FADs and the additional Recfishwest FADs deployed in late November attracting striped tuna, followed by mahi mahi which grew more plentiful and bigger during the season. A splash of salmon and mackerel followed and big schools of hungry southern bluefin tuna have been entertaining in shallow waters in April and May. Snapper have also been high on the catch list but alas only one marlin was recorded as being tagged and released. Those who have enjoyed competing in the All Species Competition run by Ash Hicks have had lots to do and the interest has been excellent.

Following up on the successful events shortly after Christmas, the Gilligan's Cruise, the Treasure Hunt for the kids in Matilda Bay and the Social Night at the invitation of Seaestar Charters on their 80 ft Two Seas, the only fishing event the Club was able to get going this year was the Bluewater Tackle World Marlin Cup in mid-February. In keeping with most fishing comps Australia wide this year greater numbers of fish and boats would have been good.

Regrettably, the Shimano WA Open was unable to proceed due in part to regional travel restrictions. On water activities are currently on hold and decisions for 2021 season are yet to be made.

Social events will be more topic and interest driven. resulting quite likely in them being more irregular.

## LOOKING FORWARD ►►

### Scoring

It was decided early in April to suspend scoring. This was partly following a decision by GFAA to put on hold record claims but mostly due to the social distancing requirements which had been introduced. With containment measures being relaxed, the Club's scoring may be resumed. More soon.

Considering the possibility of a shortened season in 2020 and again in 2021 due to the planned change in year end from 30<sup>th</sup> September to 30<sup>th</sup> June, it was decided to combine the two seasons into one with awards being made for the extended period.

### Fees

Because of the shortened season, reduced events, the reduction in the Club's services and the probability that many members will have experienced some tough times, membership fees for current financial members will be waived until the end of the 2021 Financial year on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

This works in with the financial impact of the shortened season. The Club will need to make considerable savings, one of which will be the postponing of the annual Presentation Dinner and trophies for 2020 into 2021.

### Communications

Yes, Hook-Up is back. The whole communications plan is being revisited and will be offered to members for comment hopefully by mid-July.

Other tidying up:

The Club will be moving its accounting package from the Excel spreadsheet that has served it well for the last 20 or more years to a Xero system which will make it more user friendly to successive treasurers.

In accordance with the Associations Act 2015 the Club is getting close to having its revised Constitution put before members for approval. This has been a ball and chain for at least three years and is finally close to completion.

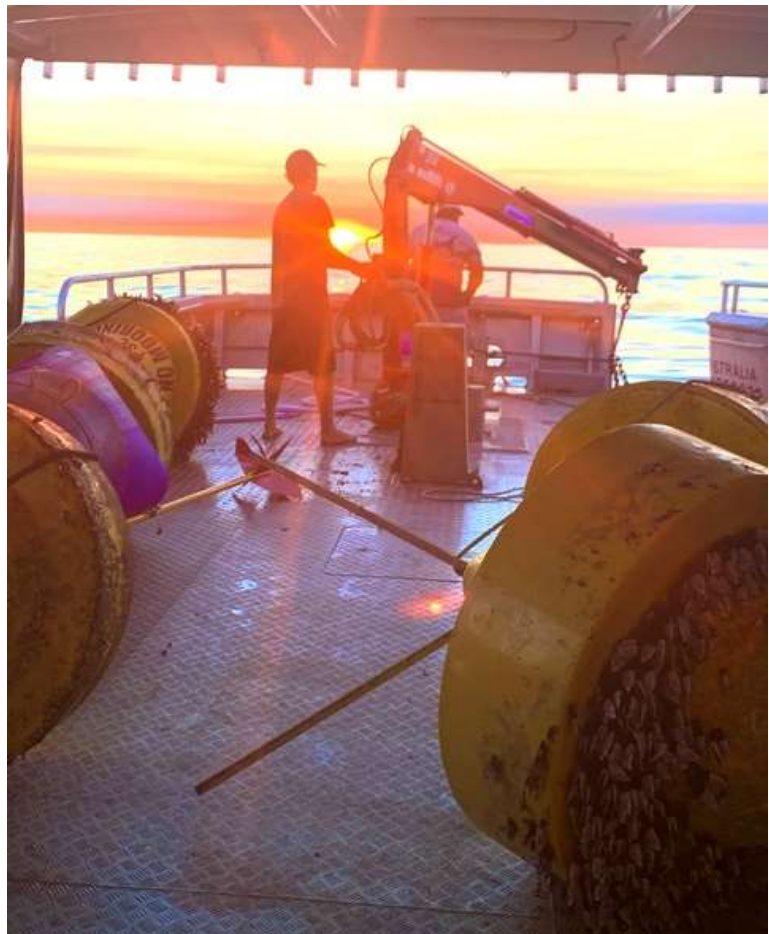
### WANTED>

A member or friend of a member to assist with book-keeping duties including the transition of PGFC accounts to Xero. [contact@pgfc.com.au](mailto:contact@pgfc.com.au) or any committee member. Remuneration to be negotiated.

## FADs▶▶

It is pleasing to report that the 2020 season did not follow the horrors of the 2019 season and for the first time in the FAD program's history no FADs drifted during the season. All were recovered on 22<sup>nd</sup> May with a big effort from the crew of Seaestar's Two Seas.

A long story short is that the crew returned to Fremantle at 9:30 on Friday night after a very long day at sea. The Club was able to muster some, volunteers at short notice including Dave Thomson with a Hiab, and got the gear away from the fishing boat harbour. Others that made themselves available were Kevin Baker, Phil Volich and Peter Coote. Members Kristin McCarthy and Mark Jamieson were the boat crew and did an outstanding job.



Descriptions of up to 50 mahi mahi around the boat when the FADs were being plucked out of the water were lip smacking.

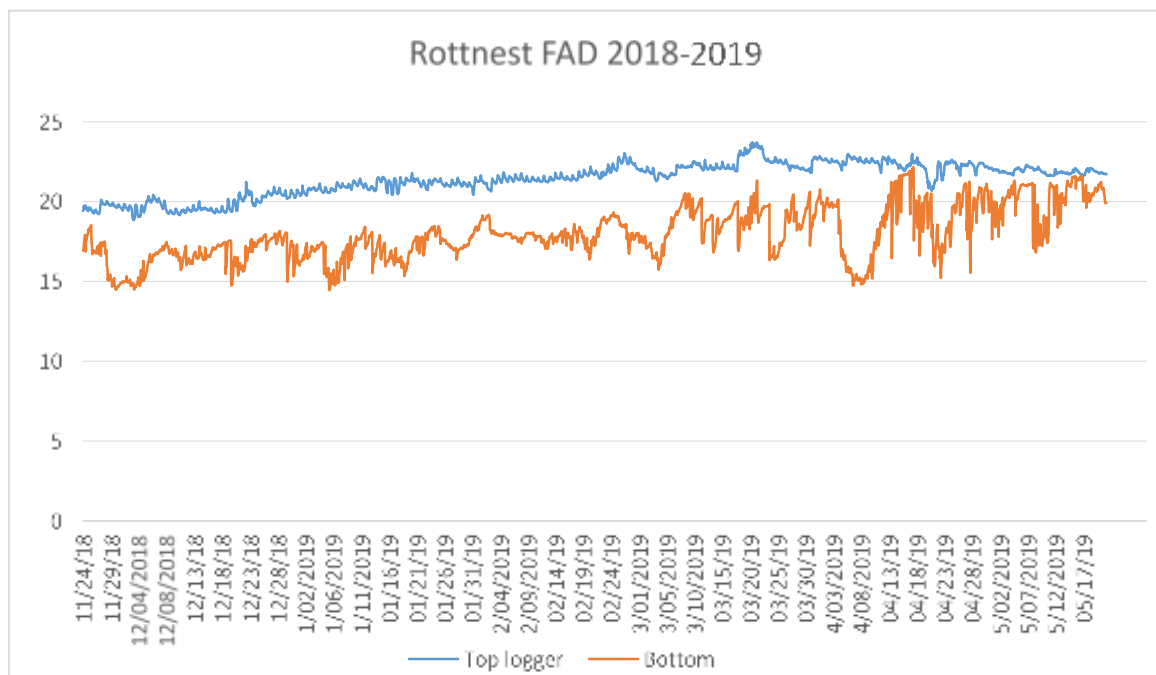
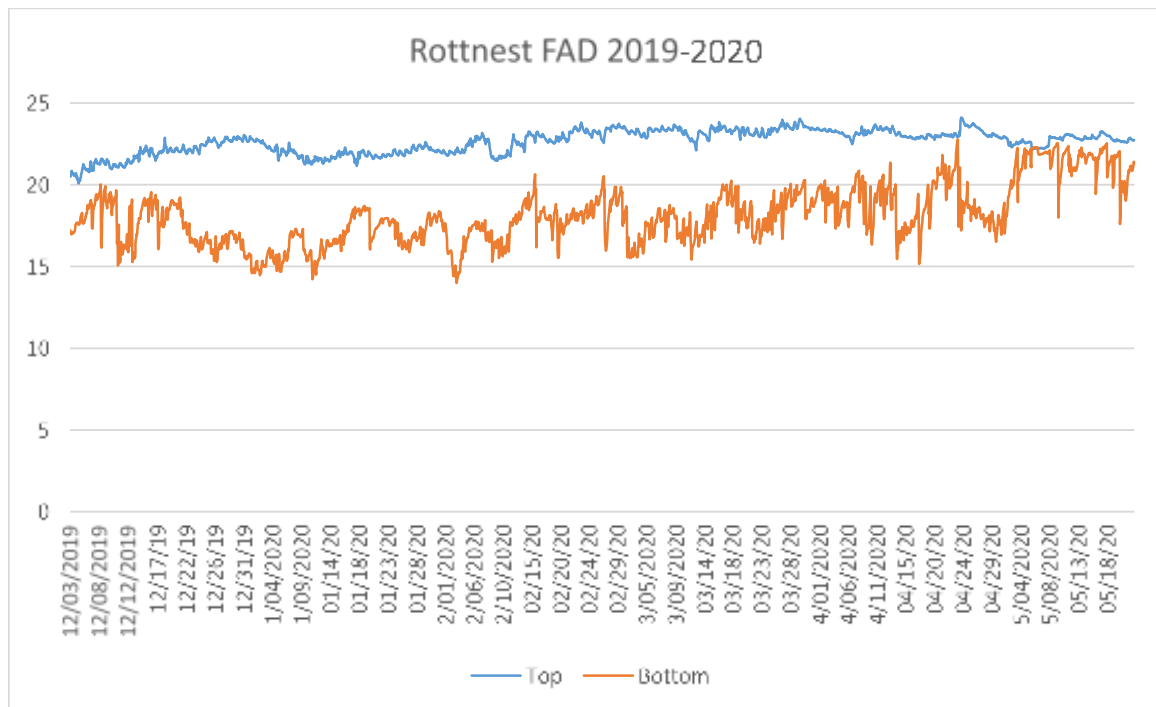
The working bee scheduled for 24<sup>th</sup> May has been postponed, most likely now to 7<sup>th</sup> June, members will be advised.



# SEAESTAR

BOAT CHARTERS

## FAD TEMPRATURE LOGGERS▶▶



The Temperature Loggers were placed on the PGFC FAD, with the top unit positioned approximately 10m below the sea surface and the bottom unit is positioned at approximately 170m.

Thanks to Mark Rossbach - Fisheries WA for supplying the loggers and the data.

## CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES»

### PGFC ANNUAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES 2020

EDDY MOSS TROPHY – CHAMPION ANGLER		PRESIDENT'S TROPHY – CHAMPION BOAT	
Brian Arnett	1025	Rock'N'Roll	1984
Ash Hicks	750	Short Black	841
Phil Volich	488	Bush Chook	779
Jacob Whyte	488	SeaTrix	544
Kevin Baker	471	Dream Catcher	267
Dylan Picken	446		
Andy Pearson	353		
Francois de Vries	267		
Scott Turrell	128		
Matthys Solomon	105		
NEIL PATRICK TROPHY			
Ashley Hicks	7	Dave Thomson	3
Darren Bowden	5	Jim Ireland	1
Peter Salmon	4		

Club Championship points have been updated to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2020. The season begins on 1st October and ends on 30th September. Members are reminded that whilst all care is taken, members are responsible for ensuring their points are correct. No adjustments, up or down, will be made after the final Club Championship Points have been awarded.

## NSW DPI TAGTIMES>



The banner for NSW DPI TagTimes May 2020 features a photograph of a fisherman reeling in a large fish. On the left, the NSW Government logo is displayed next to the text 'Department of Primary Industries'. The main title 'TagTimes' is in large, bold letters, with 'May 2020' below it. On the right, a red box contains the text 'NSW DPI GAME FISH TAGGING PROGRAM' next to a graphic of three fish swimming.

[CLICK HERE to download](#)

### OPPORTUNITY»

PGFC is a member of Clubs WA, a group which represents the interests of members. They also run training courses.

PGFC is offering three members the opportunity to participate in **Committee and Board Compliance** course which can be completed either online or by attending a workshop. PGFC will cover the cost. [contact@pgfc.com.au](mailto:contact@pgfc.com.au) or any committee member.



## ALL SPECIES COMPETITION▶▶

An excellent start has been made to this year's All Species Comp with the table being quickly populated and many new names appearing.

### 2020 Annual All Species Competition

Current to 14th April	Male	Length	Female	Length	Smallfry Junior	Length	Other
Baldchin Groper	Damien Wham	56cm	Rikki Kohn	41cm	Zandri Oosthuizen	44cm	
Breaksea Cod	Rhyss Whittred	49cm					
Dhufish	Josh Witkin	101cm			Zandri Oosthuizen	69cm	
Hapuka/ Bass Grouper/ 8 Bar/ Blue Eye	Brett Martin	108cm					8 Bar cod
Herring	Peter Babarskas	26cm	Rikki Kohn	23cm	Henry Sandon	25cm	
King George whiting	Andre de Vries	51cm					
Pink snapper	Francois de Vries	72cm			Zandri Oosthuizen	79cm	
Queen snapper	Deon van der Westhuizen	70cm					
Red snapper	Rhyss Whittred	42cm					
Samsonfish/ Amberjack	Damien Wham	120cm			Zandri Oosthuizen	107cm	
Sand whiting	Dylan Picken	22cm			Harry Coulston	32cm	
Skippy	Phil Volich	38cm			Henry Sandon	27cm	
Squid			Sarina Semapech	22cm	Lochlan Turrell	29cm	
Tailor	Dale Moir	58cm			Ollie Anderson	39cm	
Yellowtail Kingfish	Dylan Picken	96cm	Linda Durell	65cm			

It's easy and fun to enter, simply

- Take a photo of the fish laying on a brag mat head to the board, to verify the fork length.
- Take another photo of the angler holding the fish.
- Send both photos, the anglers name, species name and the fork length of the fish to Ash Hicks at hicks87@gmail.com or 0419 510 262.

More details [CLICK HERE](#)



## RESOURCE SHARING ADVANCES ►►



### GFAA Welcomes Southern Bluefin Tuna Decision

GFAA is delighted to advise all affiliated anglers of the decision by the Government of Australia's Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries, Senator Jonathon Duniam to maintain the status quo with respect to southern bluefin tuna. The equitable solution to resource sharing of the species by recreational and commercial fishers has been welcomed by each group.

SBT has been heavily fished and stocks require rebuilding. Thanks to sound research conducted by the University of Tasmania's Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) along with a near 100% survey response in New South Wales, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria, the Tuna Champions program and responsible fishing, the Federal Government has responded by setting aside five per cent of the total catch for recreational fishers.

There are to be no new bag or size limitations imposed by the states.

The benefits of this decision will be felt throughout the regions where SBT is a rapidly evolving recreational target species.

An outstanding effort supporting the decision was mounted by the national peak body, Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation of which GFAA is a foundation member.

Contact: Ian Bladin GFAA President – [president@gfaa.asn.au](mailto:president@gfaa.asn.au)-



## REVIEW OF WA RECORDS»»



### **COVID-19 phase 2-3**

As State Government restrictions are being eased with phase 2 now in place and phase 3 to be implemented later this week, I'm sure there are many WAGFA members getting out and enjoying the sport of fishing. Social distancing and personal hygiene being considered of course.

The State Government announced from Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May that regional travel would be eased significantly. Travel around WA will be permitted everywhere except the areas bounded by the Commonwealth biosecurity determination and 274 remote Aboriginal communities.

Physical distancing, good hygiene and the 4 square metre rule apply to all activities including boating and fishing. Indoor and outdoor non-work gatherings of up to 20 people is in place from phase2. So in light of the latest West Australian government and health news the WAGFA management committee has agreed to now accept any State record claims from 29<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

GFAA are having their mid-year executive meeting this weekend and we hope that the same stance is taken and Australian records will be accepted also. We will keep all Clubs up to date with any decisions. Payment of State record claim fees are to be made by EFT payment. State record claim fee of \$20, with anglers name as reference can be transferred to WAGFA; Westpac account BSB 036-180, Account number 197158. Completed claim forms and associated line and tackle can be mailed to our State Recorder- Peter Babarskas – 37 Stirling Crs High Wycombe WA 6057.

Sanctioned tournaments are still on hold until the appropriate advice and guidelines from the State government health department allow.

The WAGFA committee wish all of you and your family's good health and safety. Tight lines.

Regards

Rhyss Whittred (President)

27<sup>th</sup> May 2020



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PLEASE SUPPORT THEIR BUSINESSES



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