

STRIKE

MAGAZINE 2022/23



Perth Game Fishing Club Sponsors



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President's Address



2023 has been an exciting year for the Perth Game Fishing Club. After some quiet years the club has rebounded with new ideas, solid membership and a positive desire to get back into game fishing.

First major of the season was the Tag and Release Shark Initiative which was run for the second year. A huge number of fish were caught, and it resulted in some young guns of the club showing the old guard how it's done. It also showed you don't need a big boat or a big budget to be competitive and our congratulations to Captain Aiden Humphries is well deserved.

The Complete Angler Nedlands Marlin Cup was again a great tournament. M&M had a Striped Marlin to the boat and young Bodie Blackwell caught a ripper tuna. The weather was not friendly but with 25 boats and 85 anglers it was a great weekend.

The WA Open was held back in Jurien Bay and was an excellent event. Big Jurien Blues were caught and with heaps of other species it was competitive fishing. We endeavour to make the WA Open a truly statewide competition and seek the involvement of other WAGFA clubs to get behind it.

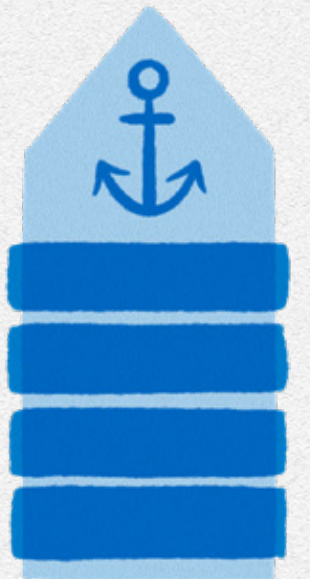
We had some incredible support from individual members who have supported our club. Alejandro Gonzalez has completely developed our new website, Tyla Durell has supported us with all our social media and Francois De Vries has developed the new scoring system. We thank these individuals for the efforts as the results are game changers for the club.

The committee this year has been brilliant. Scott Turrell has taken over as Weigh Master from the master, John Webber. John was Weigh Master for 42 years and it has been a big role to fill. Rikki Kohn is our new membership coordinator and her efforts with the establishment of the automated Hello Club system is very appreciated. Aiden Humphries as secretary and Marlin Cup

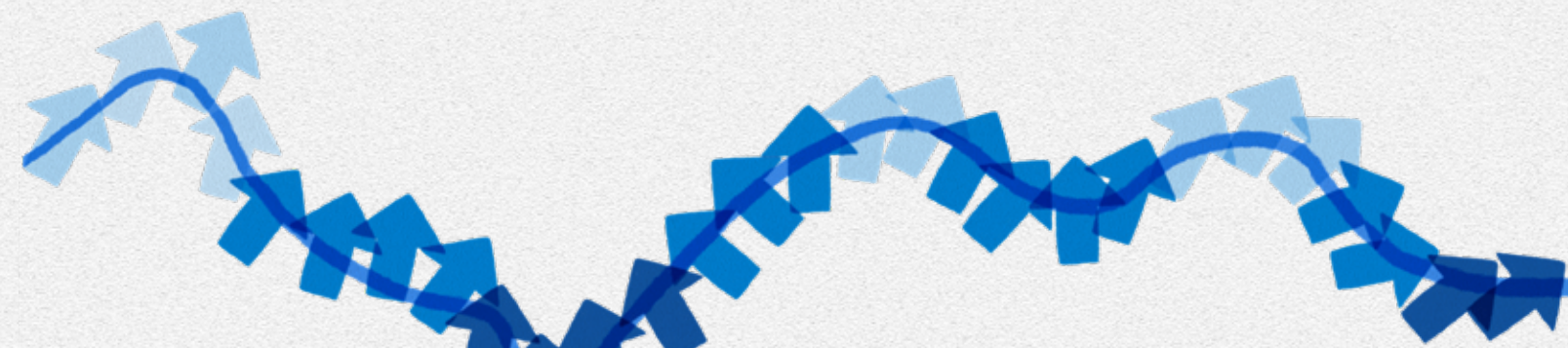
tournament director, Dylan Picken as WA Open Tournament director and Ash Hicks, our resident marine expert and Tag and Release Shark Initiative co ordinator, your efforts have been invaluable. Treasurer John Olszewski and Vice President Matt Hodgkinson your efforts, advice and direction is always appreciated. For the remainder of the committee, the work behind the bar, selling of raffle tickets, running masterclasses and everything in between is helping to create a great club.

The club is in a solid financial position, we feel that we are providing a return to our sponsors and membership is growing. With over 370 members we are the largest club in Western Australia and we want to maintain the initiative. Please come fish our tournaments. We know the pressures of time and cost, so we have our Marlin Cup and Tag and Release Shark Initiative always free entry to members. Come down next season and enjoy a drink and feed with fellow members, get excited by catching a big metro fish, whether it be a shark, marlin, tuna or kingy and enjoy being part of the premier game fishing club of Western Australia.

- Adam Durell, President of the Perth Game Fishing Club



2023 Compleat Angler Nedlands Marlin Cup



The Leeuwin current produced some exceptional results for metro marlin in the lead up to the Compleat Angler Nedlands Marlin Cup this season, with prime examples being PGFC President Adam Durell's single-handed Perth metro marlin, and another keen angler's marlin capture in Mandurah.

Ross Newton kicked off the masterclass and shared his favourite lures and tackle and techniques in safely handling and releasing these magnificent fish. The competition commenced at the sound of 25 boats and 85 anglers at full-throttle for the shot gun start at Rottnest on Saturday.

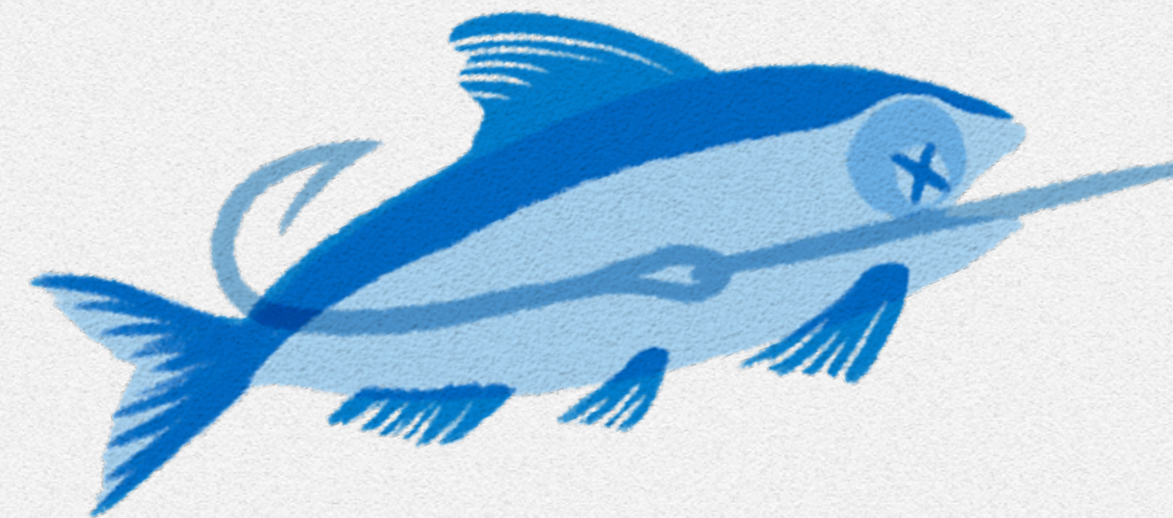
Captain Vince Stacey on M&M elegantly and swiftly lured a beautiful striped marlin to the boat in 20 minutes and managed to grab

the leader before his fish narrowly escaped. Meanwhile, Captain Andre De Vries' crew on Cabana wrestled a big metro for 3 hours before unfortunately losing the battle when it dropped deep.

Young Bodie Blackwell put all seniors to shame with another record skipjack tuna capture over the weekend.

With a final score of 8-5-0 on marlin, this is a testament to PGFC members' commitment during some brutal weather dished out over the weekend. The Club is excited for a massive 2024 Marlin Cup, with great thanks to Compleat Angler Nedlands increasing the prize pool for next year's competition. We could not do it without our sponsors.

- Aiden Humphries, Marlin Cup Director



Fish Aggregating Device - FADS

FAD'S went out on the 13th of November, thanks to the awesome work by committee members Matt Hodgkinson, David Messina, Alastair Manifold, Aiden Humphries and new club member Scott Moffat.

Great support from young members Helene and Juliette Hawthorne, and a big thanks to Vince Stacey for his donation of his truck for a couple of hours.

Cockburn Power Boats Club and Royal Perth Yacht Club provided use of their respective facilities and Port Bouvard Charters had a successful deployment.

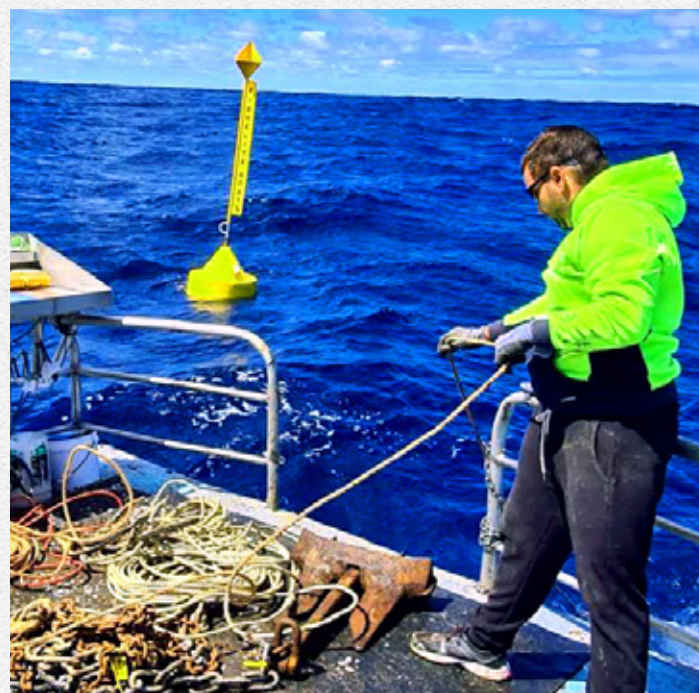
Thanks again to our FAD naming sponsors

Club Marine
Fremantle Sailing Club
Compleat Angler Nedlands
Furuno Australia
Fibrelite Boats

The FADs started holding fish early, and a late December marlin was hooked within 50m of the Fremantle Sailing Club FAD.

The PGFC FAD went rogue after a ship strike and was picked up in Jurien Bay. A big thanks to Dave Littlejohn from Taylor Marine, Neil McTavish for splicing ropes, Ben Punch from Fibrelite for repairing the ship strike damage to the FAD and Todd Dowdall for recovery (in appalling weather) for its redeployment.

- Adam Durell, President



Gilligan's Island River Cruise

The annual Gilligan's Island Cruise was a spectacular evening as always! The weather couldn't have been more perfect, providing a balmy atmosphere as the members embarked on a delightful cruise up the picturesque Swan River.

The event was made possible thanks to the generous support of Kristin and Mark from Seaester Charters, who provided their top-notch services to ensure an unforgettable experience for everyone. Their dedication to the PGFC was truly commendable, and the members were grateful for their contribution.

A special mention goes to Matt and Lynda Hodgkinson, who not only took care of the catering but also enlisted the help of their adorable young daughters as waitresses. Their hard work and enthusiasm added an extra touch of warmth and hospitality to the evening.

Friday night was filled with excitement and camaraderie as PGFC members gathered on the Gilligan's Cruise. The atmosphere was electric as old friends reunited and new friendships were formed. The anticipation of a night of fun and fishing adventures was palpable.

The cruise set off from the scenic port of Perth, and as the boat glided along the tranquil waters of the Swan River, members took in the breathtaking views of the city skyline illuminated against the night sky. The gentle breeze carried laughter and stories, creating an ambiance of pure bliss.

For avid anglers, the highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the opportunity to engage in some game fishing. The waters around Perth are renowned for their abundant marine life, and the Gilligan's Cruise provided an excellent chance to test their skills. Members cast their lines, hoping to hook the elusive trophy fish.

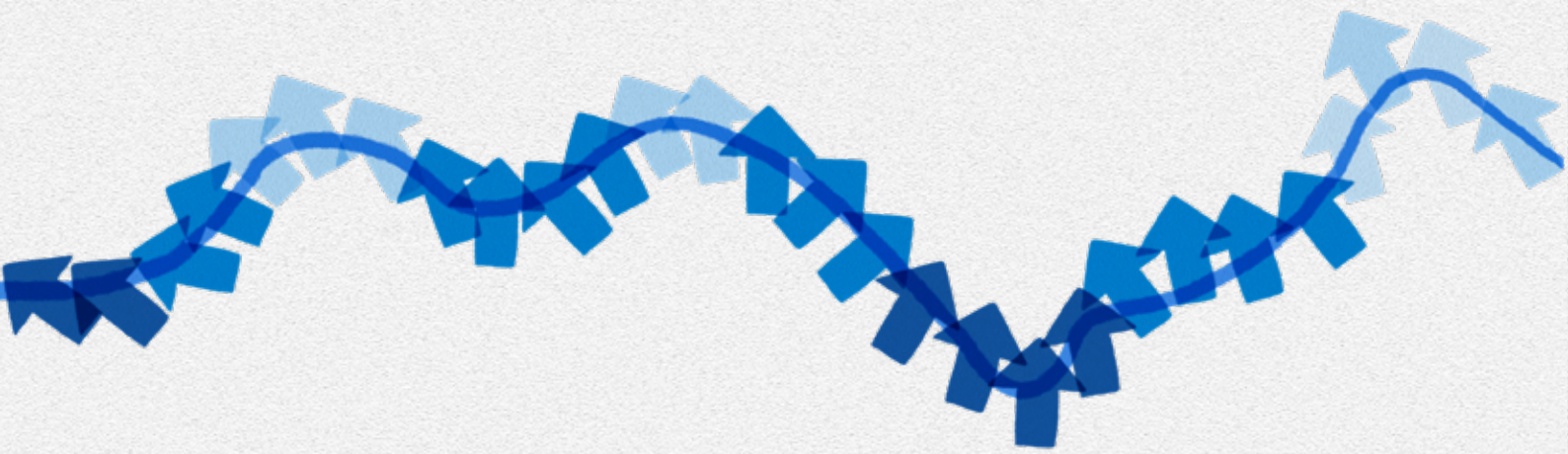
As the night progressed, tales of impressive catches filled the air. Excitement grew with each fish that was reeled in, and friendly competitions emerged among the members. It was a testament to the passion and camaraderie that binds the game fishing community in Perth.

Aside from the exhilarating fishing experiences, the Gilligan's Cruise was also a chance for members to relax and unwind. The onboard entertainment kept everyone entertained, with live music, dancing, and a delectable spread of food and drinks. Laughter and joy echoed throughout the night, creating memories that would be cherished for years to come.

The annual Gilligan's Cruise organised by the Perth Game Fishing Club was undoubtedly a night to remember. From the perfect weather to the fantastic support from Seaester Charters and the hard work of the Hodgkinson family, it was a resounding success. The event not only celebrated the spirit of game fishing but also strengthened the bonds within the PGFC community. As the night drew to a close, the members departed with hearts full of happiness and anticipation for future adventures on the pristine waters of Perth.

- Thurston Howell III
(and Lovey)





PGFC The Metro Tiger Shark

The club is always looking for new ideas to get members fishing. The Tag and Release Shark Initiative was not only to get members fishing early season targeting a prevalent fish, but to also get anglers and crew working together handling these big animals by the boat.

The idea then came to track one of these big tiger sharks and see what they get up to. With sponsorship from WAGFA and contributions from PGFC, we purchased a satellite spot tag from Wildlife Computers and set up an account with Argon Satellites to monitor.

The crew set out on One Shot, a Carribean 49 fitted with a hydraulic marlin board. Fishing north of Rottnest with baits in the water for only minutes, angler Alejandro was hooked up to a 3m 220kg male Tiger Shark. After a 20 minute tussle, deck boss Dylan had the fish wrangled on the submerged platform with a tail rope and lifted just out of the water to be controlled.

Within 9 minutes he had the satellite tag fixed to his dorsal fin, to which he did not flinch, and was back in the water and

swimming west. The world was ready to meet PGFC the Metro Tiger Shark. Then started the waiting game and finally he pinged!

It took a week before the fish popped up north of the Rottnest canyon in 500m. From there he hung around in the waters north of Perth, came inshore near Cervantes and was last tracked up near the Abrolhos Islands.

So what did we learn? He likes the warmer water and follows temperature breaks when we overlaid his track on sea surface temperature maps. He swims about 40 to 50km in 24 hours and we tracked him doing 21km in a 9 hour period. The north end of Direction Bank was an area he liked to visit as well as an area just west of the Abrolhos where he stayed for a month. He never returned to Rottnest where he was first hooked up.

Next season we plan to satellite tag more tigers and perhaps a big whaler.

In line with the Tag and Release Shark Initiative, PGFC members tagged and released over 90 sharks in the Perth metro waters over a two month period. We congratulate those involved for leading the way in providing information on this incredible fishery.

- Adam Durell, President



Tag and Release Shark Initiative

This year the shark tagging program was taken to a new level. The Club members are generally passionate fisherman primarily focussing on billfish, however after last years shark initiative, there was a new found interest in the metropolitan shark population.

Anglers tagged a number of tigers in quick succession opening their eyes to new options. The PGFC committee invested a large amount of time and money in organising a satellite tag. Supported by WAGFA and PGFC this tag was fitted to a large tiger on board One Shot in January. This beautiful animal has been named "PGFC" and now can be monitored on its very own Facebook page.

The Heavy Tackle Shark Initiative saw over 30 sharks tagged including tigers and bronze whalers.

One recapture was also recorded. A tiger that was initially tagged off Mandurah and recaptured TWICE during the two-day fishing initiative both occasions by Laith Rickman on Triple H.

The initiative was complemented by a Master Class presentation outlining techniques that enable safe handling and a healthy release when targeting these large animals. Information compiled from Scott Turrell, Dylan Picken and Ash Hicks.

Plans for next year are to make this initiative bigger and better with new sponsors ready to get behind the program and utilise this fishery on our doorstep.

- Ashley Hicks, Committee

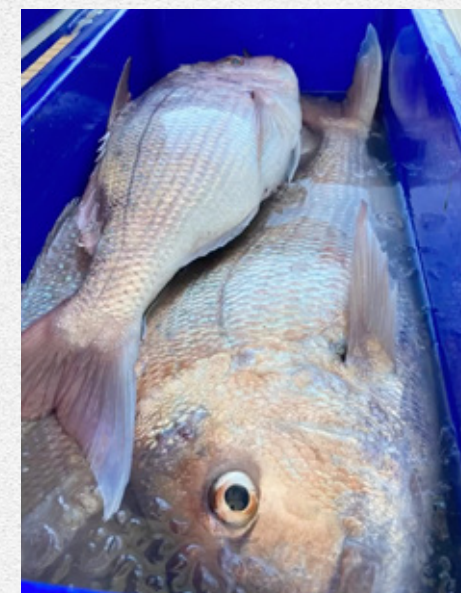


SW Skeletal Snapper Competition

The PGFC season kicked off in August 2022 with the SW Skeletal Snapper Competition. We started with a masterclass run by snapper aces, Dylan Picken, Scott Turrell and Ash Hicks. The boys gave up nearly all their secrets and Compleat Angler Nedlands jumped in to support with a heap of gear plus some advice from their young guns.

For the fishing on the day, as usual the weather gods were angry plus a heap of dirty water coming out of the rivers made things tough. A few snapper and good tuna were caught and the afternoon presentation with beer and brisket supported by Hostile Marine and Exmouth Storage Units rounded up a great afternoon.

- Adam Durell, President





Shimano WA Open 2023

This season the Shimano WA Open returned to Jurien Bay after a hiatus due to poor weather and COVID19 hampering efforts the previous three years. Anticipation was high from the fleet with 40 competitors across 15 boats making the trip to Jurien Bay.

The week leading up to the tournament Black Bear, Low Blow and Valhalla spent some time pre-fishing with them reporting a tag and release of a 400lb Blue Marlin aboard Black Bear, a first for angler Brad Carey and large mahi mahi in excess of 10kg at the newly deployed Recfishwest FADs for anglers Laith and Clayton Rickman. Chris Tanti also raised a shy blue marlin onboard Low Blow.

The weather forecast was looking poor for day one due to an approaching cold front from the south and cyclone Ilsa from the north. Forecast of winds to 40 knots and swell of 5m saw the tournament committee make an early decision to cancel the day's

fishing and use the Jurien Bay Country Golf Club facility for a round of 9 holes. As the evening progressed, crews made their way to Kakka Alley Brewing Co. for the social evening and meals.

An early morning check of the Jurien Bay wave rider buoy on day two seen the swell had decreased to 3.7m and was easing though out the day. The fleet was greeted with a clear pass through North Passage and light winds under 5 knots. Low Blow captained by Chris Tanti raised a solid Blue Marlin early getting the hook-up, however after a short fight the hooks pulled and it was game over. Black Bear captained by Tom Doyle was next to raise a blue marlin, with a healthy tag and release of a 600lb+ blue marlin for club President Adam Durell at 11am. This saw Adam awarded both the Ivan Erceg and Jack Clugston Medallions.

Nuisance, Valhalla and Seatrix spent the morning muscling around the wreck on the species hunt with Valhalla capturing

three nice Mulloway 8.8kg, 9.06kg & 10.56kg respectively, whilst Nuisance & Seatrix spent the time constantly rigging gear due to being dusted on the light tackle. Low Blow hooked up again on a 300lb blue marlin, this time finding the tag and release for virgin marlin angler Brad Harrison just before the 1pm sked. The rest of the fleet released mahi mahi, samsonfish and southern bluefin tuna. The competitors spent the evening at the Jurien Bay Hotel Motel with a pub meal provided and some crews being lead astray and partying until the early hours.

Sunday dawned on the fleet with Nuisance and Low Blow leaving well before sunrise, racing one another to the northern most FAD as it was untouched on the Saturday. Unfortunately for Nuisance there were no mahi mahi on the FAD. Just before 9am Low Blow called in a second tagged Blue Marlin, taking the lead for champion boat species and billfish. Triton and Dirty Oars both hooked marlin next to one another between FAD 2 & 3, unfortunately losing both fish after some close quarters fishing and line damage. Triton captained by Alistair Manifold raised a second fish, however it fell off after a short run. Trouble Maker spent the day at the FADs and caught an 8kg Wahoo. In the final minute before lines out, Nuisance called in two hook-ups to Shimano Base, both being pink snapper with one a potential World & Australian All Tackle Length Record for angler Josh Went, measuring 87cm fork.

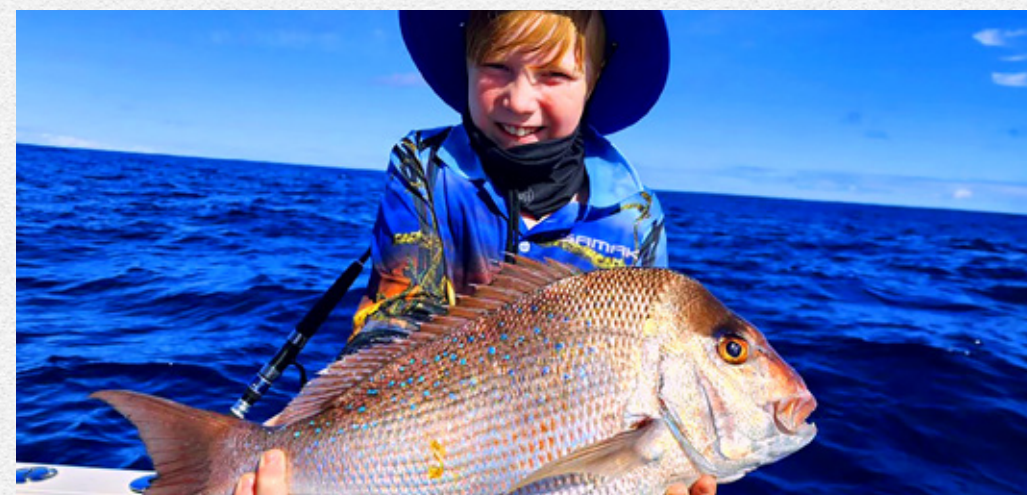
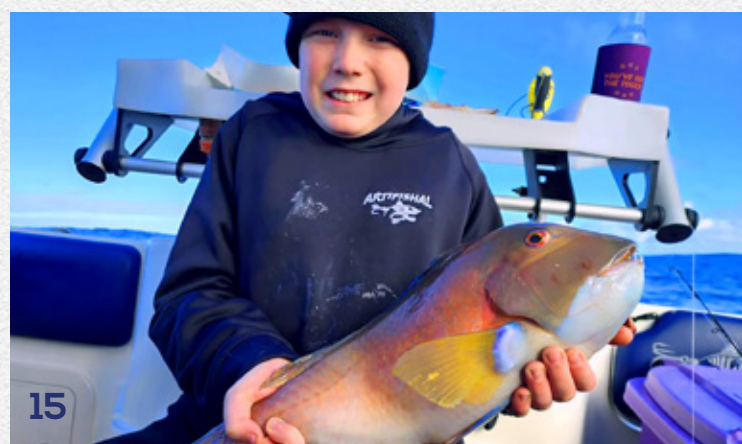
Back at the weigh station it was abuzz with teams handing in tag cards, gear checks and a potential State and Australian Record Amberjack of 14.66kg on 4kg line class for small fry angler Rhys Martin. Salty Bones

Gyotaku has printed the Amberjack for the memory to be immortalised. Eureka captained by Ben James weighed and released three Mahi Mahi for the day including a 7.95kg fish on 3kg line. Laith Rickman had a day out on Valhalla, with four species and five fish for the day including Mulloway, Amberjack, Yellowtail Kingfish and a 23.09kg Samson fish on 6kg line. This sealed the deal for Valhalla with Laith being awarded the Jurien Bay Hotel Trophy and muscling out Low Blow for the champion boat overall prize.

Champion Boat Species
Valhalla - 1830.24
Low Blow - 1783.78
Black Bear - 891.89
Dhurien Bay - 782
Eureka - 539.75
Nuisance - 276.37
Dirty Oars - 216.74
Artifishal - 189.83
Boatox - 109

Champion Boat Billfish
Low Blow - 1783.78
Black Bear - 891.89

- Dylan Pickens,
Committee





Mackerel Islands Fishing Trip

Brian Marshal has been heading up to Mackerel Islands on a regular basis for several years and offered to lead a group from PGFC in October last year.

We ended up with strong interest from a mix of return anglers and those that had never fished the waters around the Mackerel Islands for an eight-day adventure. A total of 30 anglers across 9 club boats headed up Onslow, with our President heading across by water from Exmouth on his new 23 Caribbean.

A briefing was held a couple of weeks ahead of event, with Brian providing a great insight into how to prepare for the adventure ahead of us, including sharing several marks to get us started.

Team Fish Fin-atic was made up of the wife and my two daughters plus the father-in-law. One of his mates flew in from Melbourne to escape the cold.

Everything that could go wrong, felt like it did go wrong in the build-up to the road

trip up to Onslow including a full rewire of the trailer the day before we departed, and our brand-new tow vehicle being towed to the workshop.

We drove through the night and made it to Onslow around lunchtime on the Sunday and met up with Noel and Joe who had flown in the day prior and enjoyed the fine hospitality of the sister resort in Onslow.

The forecast was for stiff winds for the week and being one of the last boats across mid-afternoon we copped our fair share of spray over the deck. It was our first time to Thevenard Island where the Mackerel Islands resort is located. The staff were fantastic in providing clear instructions over the radio, guiding us through the fringe reefs and along the channel to the beach landing. The staff efficiency disembarked the crew and baggage before one of the staff jumping onboard to assisting with mooring at the swing moorings off the beach.

We were buggered, so took things easy on the first day, unpacking, spending time

in the hammock, and wandering along the beaches until we come across large groups of turtles in the shallows and that often come up onto the beach.

That evening we broke out the rods and went for a wade along the north side of the island at sunset to chuck out some soft plastics and poppers. Noel managed to tick off two bucket list items at once, catching his first GT and first on a lure (a Richter Superprat).

After the long trip up, there was nothing quite like a delicious BBQ to welcome onto the island. And that's exactly what the Mackerel Islands served up for us. It was a chance for us to plan ahead, for the Compleat Angler teams to share tips for the week ahead and to get to know our fantastic hosts.

After we had recharged, we headed out for a troll on the north side of the island and we found ourselves quickly surrounded by mackerel schools (mainly school and shark mackerel).

My youngest kicked me off the wheel and had a ball driving the boat around the schools and then manoeuvring the boat around once we hooked up.

Once we bagged out and the wind had dropped off, we decided to have a couple of drops over some promising inshore ground we had trolled over earlier.

The bottom fishing started out slowly, with just the one blue spotted emperor, but 30 minutes later all hell broke loose with Juliette hooking a nice Red Emperor followed by Joe hooking a beast of a black spot.

It was a quick run back to the mooring and a well-deserved beer while taking some more photos of the days catch and starting the afternoons task of filleting and bagging the catch on the excellent facilities down on the beach. That night we feasted like kings, cooking up the 'Fred Flintstone' sized fish wings on the BBQ.

The next day we decided to target a coral trout on the troll. The plan paid off a few minutes after rounding one of the local bommies with Noel chalking up a couple more firsts with a cracking example of these beautiful and tasty fish.

Heading north we were two hits from Spanish Mackerel on the Richter skirted lures, but both fish hit in front of the lures, biting one off and the other recovered lure was a bit mangled to say the least.

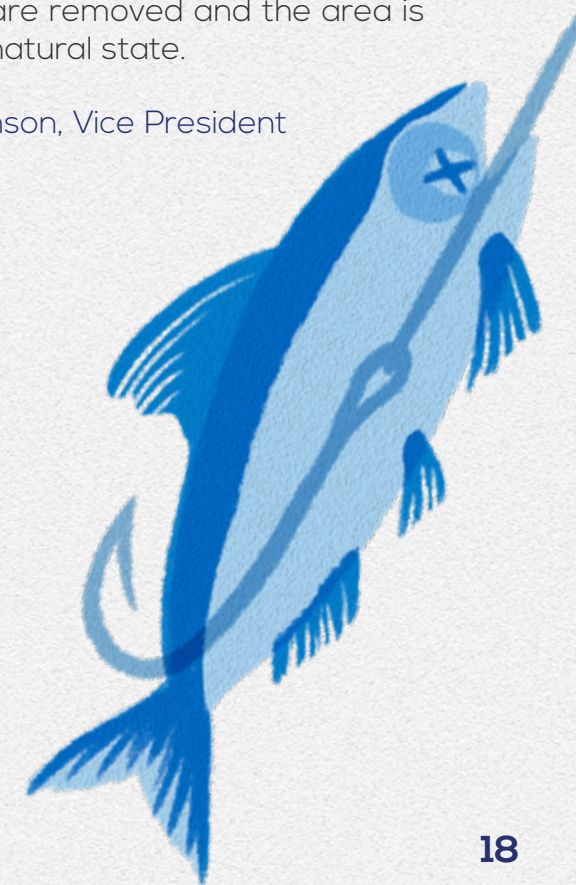
We chased a few more Mackerel but then saw a couple of timid hits on the left deep diver then the right one screamed to life, just as a sailfish started to tail walk across the spread. Noel picked up the rod and come tight, but the hooks dropped out soon after.

It took us a little while to register what had happened and a close look at both deep divers confirmed that we had momentarily hooked up sailfish on both deep divers.

The trip was awesome, especially for the kids, with Juliette reigniting her passion for game fishing (as a skipper) and Helene, as always enjoying every moment on the water.

This place will only get better was the final pieces of the Chevron Oil and Gas installations are removed and the area is return to its natural state.

- Matt Hodkinson, Vice President



Pending Australian Snapper Record on Fly

The weather really looked good for the Sunday of 18 June. We knew this must be our day after a storm and to take Bill, my 73 year old neighbour, life long sheep farmer from Franklin, out for the second time on my boat. The last trip he caught lots of silver trevally, and a beautiful small southern blue fin tuna. The little barrel was just over 2 kilo's.

But today will be the day to get that big snapper and a first for Bill. We left Port Geographe Marina at nine in the morning, after our normal stop at Hungry Jack's for a meal and some coffee. Arriving at the marina the place was packed, and the packed over flow of the parking area gave us some good hope for the day that everyone in town have the same thoughts then us.

After leaving the marina we headed straight off to the 4 mile spot. Straight west of the longest jetty in the Southern Hemisphere, the Busselton Jetty, an iconic structure. When we travelled just for 15 minutes we got to some spots that was successful in the past, and with 16 boats, that looks like "wicked tuna", we knew we will had a change.

After half an hour, only getting a small sambo, we decide to go to "the Secret Spot", a saying that every fisherman uses. After traveling for 15 minutes on glassed off sea, we burleyed up, and the fireworks began. Bill got an estimated 85 cm which made his Penn GTI 330 looked like a small bait caster that cannot handle this fish. Everyone was excited about this fish as it lays next to the boat on the water, and then me, try lifting the fish in the boat, bang off it brakes. One of those needle sharp teeth grind through the mono, 80 pound was not enough. I almost fell overboard try grabbing the beast, that head was a block, I was destroyed.

As I got to my senses and just keep apologise to Bill, we started to fish again. It was then dead from midday, and due being back at 3 pm we moved to the other "Secret Spot" where there is silver trevally all the time. I was burleying up as mad, looking like a shredder getting the mulies in the water.

Well success started, Sharon was nailing the snook, big ones, but noting for Bill and I. I was fishing with 3kg line on paternoster with only one hook, due to the hideous regulations which was implemented by an out of touch minister of fisheries, but yes that is a whole story to write about.

Nothing happened, and I decided on a floating mulie in the burley trail with a white skirt on it. Bang! Not even 5 minutes and on with a 4.19 kg beauty. We extended our arrival time to 5 pm. The bay was like the water in your bath at home. Suddenly tuna just started to rise everywhere. I knew today is my day with the fly rod to get these little buggers that give me so many trouble to get on the fly.

I knew these little SBT way more than 2 kg so that is the fly line to go with. After a good cast and working the fly in the burley trail, not even for 2 minutes, something hit the fly so hard. I thought it might be a tuna, small yellowtail kingfish or a snapper. The line was peeling of my Orvis Battenkill Mid Arbor 5 fly reel. The King Fisher Malachite road 7-8 wt was tested for the first time with a fish of this size in the ocean. Sharon cleared all the remaining rods. Bill started the motors and became my skipper. Never steer my boat before, I had to put all my trust in him to do a good job. Bill never fished with line class and this was the first for him. Following where to go and what to do, the fish started to get tired. Still not knowing what it was, we just waited for the fish to come up. Once I saw the silver pink body, I knew it was the Australian record.



In fly fishing, the last end to the boat is the netting, due to a short 30cm leader to the fly this is the only option. Once the fish was landed in the boat it is still a delicate job not to brake the 2 kg line, because the line class can still snap off if there is any tension out of the water. Measurement was taken of the fish to make sure it is the right size for keeping. A picture with the fish and then pin through the brain. Ending the catch with the beauty straight on ice slurry.

On that time I did not know it was a world record too. Fishing with a fly rod makes line class just that extra special. This rush started 3:56 pm and ended around 4:06. One of my best 10 minutes in my life. The knowledge that I have learned from this catch open up chapters on line class fly fishing for me.

As a fly fisher that used to target trout, tigerfish, black bass, yellow fish and barbell in South Africa just for catching fish, this is out of the world to fish on line class. To tie you own fly and get a fish on it, just make the experience better. Years of trying paid off, line class fly fishing is out of this world!

- Matthys Solomon, PGFC Member

Thank you John Webber



John joined the Perth Game Fishing Club in 1973 and became an active member in fishing and attending monthly meetings. Ron Durell who was President at the time nominated him for committee and he became Weighmaster in 1978.

In the words of his beautiful wife Kay, John is a stickler for rules and accuracy, which makes him perfect for the Weighmaster job. He would spend many hours collating captures at tournaments, all on pen and paper. Fishing tournaments for John always meant he and his crew would have to finish a few hours early to get back to the weigh station to look after other members. The aim in tournaments was to always have scores up to date to give to other members so they knew what they had to aim for. Despite these early finishes he did manage to win a few tournaments. In later years, John developed for the PGFC a custom computer scoring system that was only replaced this year.

John was part of WAGFA as southern delegate for over twenty years and help run a Weighmasters course for other clubs. He was an executive member of GFAA for seventeen years.

In 1996, John was invited to join the Recreational Sports Fishing Council that became Recfishwest and served for fourteen years. He was instrumental in the FAD program and establishing the Rottne Trench area for the PGFC.

In 2000 he was awarded the Distinguished Sports Medal for his services to gamefishing.

Known as a man with very skilled hands for his workmanship on boats, skipper of Talisman, Perth Game Fishing Club life member, club mentor and very good mate to many.

We thank him for his services to the club as Weighmaster for 42 years

- Kay Webber, John's Wife
and PGFC Member

John was already a member of PGFC when I joined around 1978 and in the ensuing years we became close friends. I liked his humour and calm demeanour. I don't think I have ever seen him lose his temper whilst fishing or working on the boat. Sadly I cannot say the same for myself.

Not only was John a great fishing companion, but when he invited me to partner up with him in a Bertram 35, I really discovered what a terrifically knowledgeable friend he was. With only nominal input from me, he and Kaye completely stripped the Bertram down to the engine blocks and the gearboxes. What was being created became Talisman. John did the mechanical and electrical work, the teak decking and made a cockpit freezer and bait rigging station. John installed a game chair, numerous rod holders and outriggers and even installed a third rigger at my request. Kaye did the upholstery. Me, I put the non-skid strip on the flybridge step..... Oh, and the Custom Bertram stickers on the side of the boat.

But the best thing about Talisman was having the company of a wonderful crew with John, Kaye and Kim Meldrum proving to be a formidable team. I think it was 1999 when Talisman won the Sir Garrick Agnew Trophy for catching the most marlin in Perth waters. I think the eligible captures by club members was around twenty that season, but we had another 6 or 8 caught by non-members. The boat had been configured perfectly by John and it provided me with my fondest memories of fishing the Rottne Trench.

On a trip away to the Abrolhos Islands one year we were sitting at anchor in the Aquarium, I think it is called, and whilst swimming we discovered a long piece of anchor chain, mostly buried in the sand. John decided this could be useful so we returned in the rubber duck to raise the chain. John put his head over the side of the duck and slid slowly into the water. But alas, he only managed to immerse himself up to his waist, because his bathers hooked around a rollock and suspended him head down. He was stuck, but it took us a while to free him, as I was laughing so hard. But, back in the boat there were no profanities from John. One cool dude I recall.

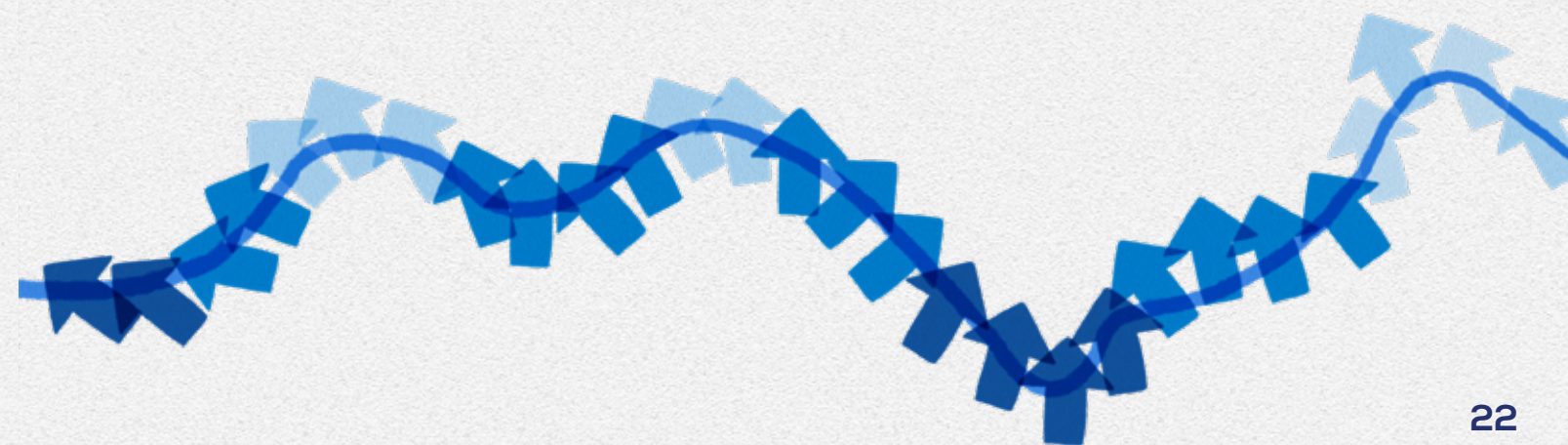
John was always happy to help fellow club members with his boat building knowledge and excellent skills.

John and I have been on several committees over the years and his thoughtful input and knowledge has been of great benefit to the group. John was recognised in 2000 for his services to recreational fishing with an Australian Sports Medal.

John became President of the West Australian Game Fishing Association in 2000 and I was the Secretary and John was still there when I stepped down after 15 years. John stayed on for a further five years stepping down after 20 years. John was always a contributor.

Although we no longer get to fish, mainly because of age and fitness related issues, we still meet regularly for lunch. My fishing years have been greatly enriched through my friendship with John.

- Ian Stagles, PGFC Life Member



Awards Night

The Perth Game Fishing Club had a fantastic awards night held at Royal Perth Yacht Club.

The food and beverages were outstanding and the venue was spectacular, thanks to the setting up of the venue by Club Vice President Matt. Many thanks to Alistair for being MC on the evening and congratulations to those members that were awarded prizes.

Planning is underway for next season's awards night which will be held under a different format with a promise of lots of fun, a few less speeches, accompanied by great food and drinks. You may even see the committee on the dance floor doing the marlin dance!



Small Fry Fun

Perth Game Fishing Club Word Search

All of the words below are hidden in the grid.

G	S	H	C	D	S	H	A	G	C	L	U	B	E	I	S	D	F	A	F	C	Q	E	T	Y
H	O	Q	U	H	M	A	H	I	H	L	Y	U	T	Q	R	E	E	L	I	X	A	J	L	S
A	C	D	I	J	D	A	Q	B	M	H	S	D	R	S	R	K	U	J	O	K	L	M	G	S
H	E	D	J	U	N	I	O	R	S	L	G	H	S	Q	Z	C	V	L	H	E	E	R	L	A
P	A	F	A	Q	F	T	G	H	T	U	N	A	K	U	L	E	F	I	N	T	I	L	F	L
L	N	T	S	F	R	G	J	L	X	N	E	H	O	I	H	L	L	C	M	B	S	H	L	M
S	E	Q	M	D	X	C	K	J	R	T	U	I	L	D	G	A	X	Z	Y	E	I	L	H	O
C	B	N	A	M	G	L	I	N	E	J	L	F	Y	H	P	D	B	L	F	R	O	B	K	N
L	H	J	C	D	J	O	E	D	H	U	I	L	D	E	R	M	A	R	L	I	N	D	H	L
E	K	F	K	D	H	E	S	A	F	H	S	H	O	G	Y	T	D	K	U	L	I	R	F	H
A	G	H	E	S	H	T	D	G	H	J	D	E	B	G	E	Y	I	F	R	K	H	O	O	K
D	X	G	R	G	S	M	A	L	L	F	R	Y	A	G	I	D	J	G	E	J	K	V	B	N
E	B	N	A	G	D	G	K	M	S	F	A	G	I	G	Y	E	Q	R	U	Y	J	H	G	H
R	S	F	L	G	J	V	X	T	H	K	D	U	T	L	H	E	R	R	I	N	G	K	H	O
S	D	U	K	O	S	C	H	A	H	I	O	P	L	E	A	Z	V	N	J	F	U	G	K	O
G	H	Q	C	S	X	B	N	O	I	K	F	I	S	H	I	N	G	F	S	C	G	K	J	K
F	P	G	F	C	A	D	D	B	F	B	H	M	L	F	E	Q	R	Y	R	U	T	J	K	L
H	N	M	K	L	D	F	C	V	B	Z	F	H	J	X	H	S	S	O	C	I	A	L	R	Y
T	Y	G	H	J	I	D	S	F	G	S	H	A	R	K	H	K	R	E	Y	I	O	F	Y	B

- TUNA

MACKERAL

MARLIN

LURE

REEL

BOAT
- FISHING

SEA

OCEAN

MAHI

LINE

PGFC
- SHARK

SALMON

FIN

BAIT

HOOK

SQUID
- CLUB

SOCIAL

JUNIORS

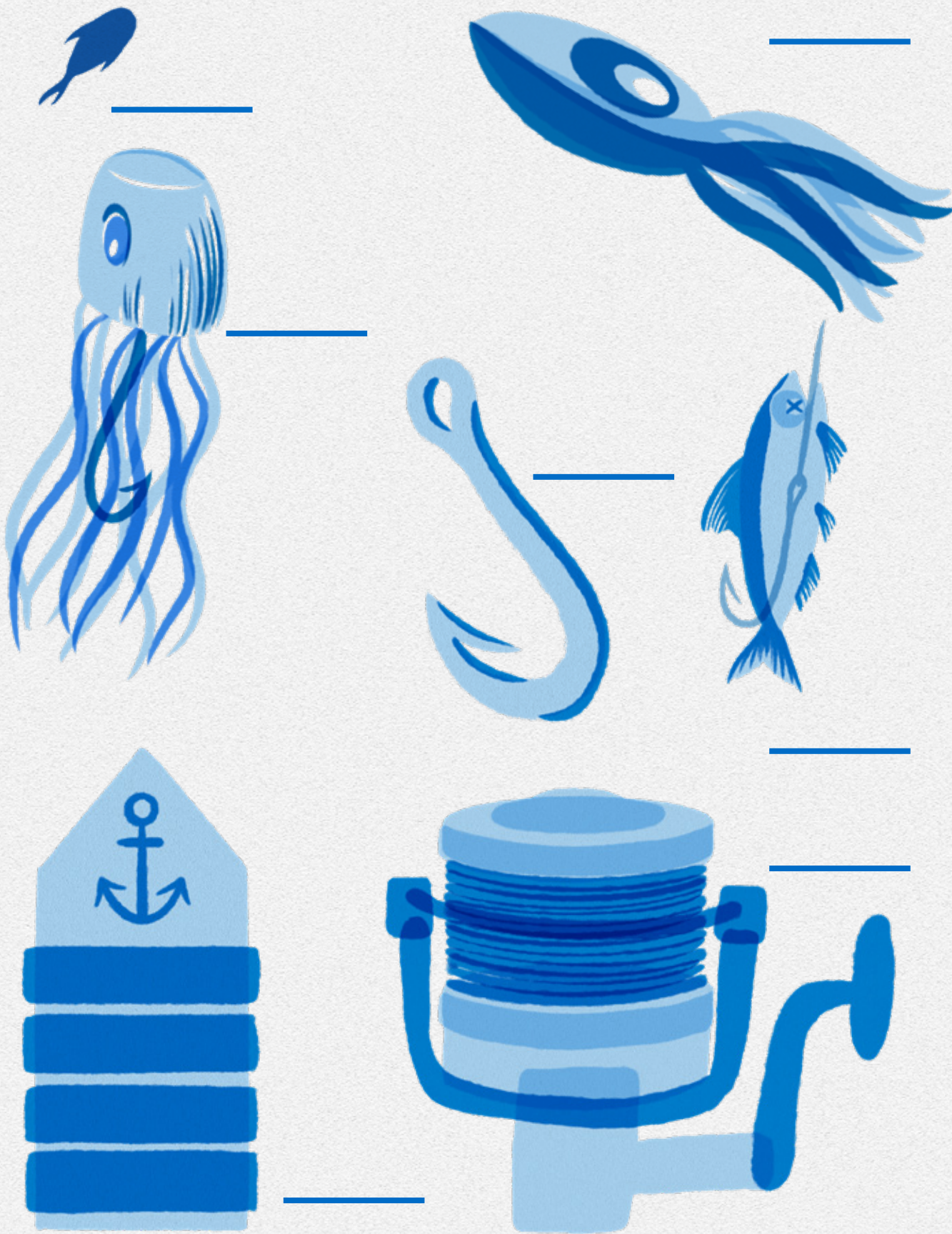
SMALL FRY

HERRING

LEADER

Treasure Hunt Time!

Go through the Strike Magazine and count how many of these you can find?



Answers: 34 little fish, 2 squid, 1 lure, 3 hooks, 2 dead fish, 1 Captains Stripe, 1 reel

