



Exmouth Game Fishing Club Tournament Rules & Regulations Ladies Day

Last updated 11-9-2024

1. Regulations: All EGFC tournaments must be fished within current WA Department of Transport, WA Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions, and WA Department of Fisheries rules and regulations.

2. Membership: The EGFC Ladies Day is a non-GFAA/WAGFA sanctioned event. Anglers and crews do not need to be current members of the Exmouth Game Fishing Club or a club affiliated with the Game Fishing Association of Australia.

3. Registration: Only registered female entrants may participate as anglers for each team, however, male crew members may participate in any other act which directly contributes to the capture or tag of a fish during the tournament. They are, driving the boat, gaffing fish, tagging fish, running out lines, retrieving lines, clearing teasers or taking the leader. Each team must have a minimum of two participants.

Anglers will fish only from the boat on which they registered. Permission to change boats once registered in the tournament must be applied for in writing to the EGFC Committee and each request will be adjudged on its merits. The Committee will meet ASAP after receipt of such application. The Committee's decision is final.

4. Fishing area: All Tournament competitors must fish within 60 nautical miles of the EGFC Clubhouse. All other safety requirements apply.

5. Lines: The Ladies Day Tournament is a non-sanctioned event so there is no restriction on type or class of line that may be used.

6. Free Release: The Ladies Day Tournament is a catch and release tournament. Billfish may not be weighed in for points or record purposes.

Any billfish hooked will be deemed caught and eligible for tournament points when the leader is touched by any registered member of the crew. Crews are welcome to tag and release billfish for club points purposes, but there is no requirement to do so.

Following the release, the team must complete a Measure & Release Card (as issued by the EGFC Weigh Master) to record full details of the catch and release.

The Ladies Day Tournament is a boat to boat tournament. EGFC Radio Base will not be operating during this tournament, but all details of each released fish, i.e. species, estimated weight, angler's name, boat name, line class, and time of tagging, must be announced to other competing boats over VHF radio Channel 21 as soon as possible after release.

Fully completed Measure & Release Cards must be lodged with the Weigh Master on the day of capture during the official weigh-in times unless otherwise arranged with the Weigh Master under extraordinary circumstances only.

If teams fail to return fully completed Measure & Release Cards for any catches by the end of official weigh in-times on the last day of the tournament, those catches will automatically be disqualified.

7. Sections: Tournament sections for the Ladies Day Tournament are:

- Champion Team Catch & Release Billfish;
- First Billfish Released;
- Last Billfish Released;
- Heaviest Other Gamefish Weighed in.

Champion Team Catch & Release winners will be decided by total number of billfish tagged, regardless of species.

In the event of a tie, the team achieving the points first according to the time of capture will be awarded the win.

8. Weigh-In Sections: The Ladies Day Tournament is primarily a catch & release billfish tournament. However, the following capture section will apply:

- Heaviest other gamefish (excluding billfish or sharks).

Fish may only be weighed at the official weigh-in gantry during the times stated in the program.

Fish must be presented at the gantry on the day of capture unless otherwise arranged with the tournament weigh-master. Fish must be in an edible condition or will be disqualified by the weigh-master. Frozen fish will not be weighed.

Anglers must present the fish, together with the rod and reel, at least 16m of line, and any double, leader, lure or hook arrangement used in the capture. All tackle must be removed by the angler before weighing. The angler or a witness must sign the capture receipt at the recorders station.

Weigh-in times are 6pm-8:00pm.

Billfish may not be weighed during the tournament for tournament points or record claim purposes.

9. Hooks for Natural Baits: When fishing with natural baits for billfish (live or dead), anglers cannot use off-set circle hooks or J hooks. In-line circle hooks only are to be used.

10. Communications: All boats must be fitted with an operational VHF radio system. Tournament radio coverage will be exclusively VHF. A non-functional radio must be repaired before the affected vessel goes to sea. Vessels failing to comply will be disqualified.

11. Fishing Times: During the tournament fishing day, lines in will be at 8am and lines out 5pm.

Any vessel that is hooked up, or hooks up before lines out, must notify other competitors via radio and be acknowledged. A boat may continue to fight a fish after lines out if they have notified other competitors via radio. Weigh-in time restrictions still apply.

All other boats are to observe radio silence during the last 15 minutes of lines in.

12. Protests: A verbal intention to protest must be made to the weigh-master as soon as possible by the protestor. This is to enable the weigh-master to preserve any evidence that may be needed by the Committee if the fish/tag card is presented before the protestor can attend the gantry. All protests must be lodged with the weigh-master in writing with a \$100 deposit which will be refunded if the protest is upheld. Protests must be lodged before the close of weigh-in at which the fish was weighed or tag card presented. No further protests will be accepted after completion of the weigh-in. The Committee will consider all protests as

soon as possible after receipt. The Committee's decision is final and the affected parties will be notified ASAP.

13. Sanctuary Zones & Exclusion Zones: If a team is sighted fishing in a sanctuary zone and/or charged by Fisheries WA or the Department of Biodiversity, Attractions and Conservation Parks & Wildlife with fishing in a sanctuary zone, they will be disqualified from the competition for that day.

If a team is sighted fishing within an oil & gas exclusion zone (500m radius of any offshore oil & gas structure), they will be disqualified from the competition for that day.

No other protests relating to sanctuary zones and exclusion zones will be heard.

14. Conduct & Cancellation: All competitors will participate in a sporting manner and embrace the ethics of game fishing. All fish offal must be returned to the ocean. The Committee reserves the right to penalise any Boat or Angler by deduction of points or disqualification for part of, or the whole, tournament for conduct they consider detrimental to the competition or the EGFC.

Please refer to our weather matrix for possible daily cancellations. Please see our cancellation policy for further details via our website: www.egfc.com.au.

Please refer to our terms and conditions for the event located on our website: www.egfc.com.au

15. Disclaimer: The EGFC committee reserves the right to change any rule, regulation or section which it believes will enhance the Tournament. The EGFC takes no responsibility for loss or damage to competitor's person, personal effects or vessel and competitors fish the tournament at their own risk.