



2010 National AGM and Branch Delegates meeting was held in Sydney over the weekend of 30/31 October 2010. All branches other than the NT were represented and a great deal of national and state issues were discussed some of which are summarised in this bulletin and the "**National Issues Update**" attachment.

Board changes. Geoff Hawkins our long standing Chairman finally called it a day. Geoff has been an integral part of ANSA for as long as most of us can remember and if it were not for his dedication and commitment to ANSA we probably would not be around today. Thanks Geoff for a lifetime devoted to ANSA. Geoff's role has been taken on by Ron Poole who will continue his role as Promotions Director and Webmaster. Our Finance Director Lyn Gassmanis also decided it was time to enjoy retirement and grand parenting. Lyn's role has been taken over by Alan Hale from SA branch. Thank you Lyn for keeping our finances intact and welcome to Alan. An updated contact list for all Board members and the Executive can be viewed on the national website www.ansa.com.au.

Website. ANSA has recently launched a new state of the art/ user friendly website. Take a look at the new website and give us your feedback – positive or negative and any suggestions for what you might want to see on the site. We are always on the lookout for commercial sponsorship of the site so if you have an interest get in touch with Ron Poole via ansanational@gmail.com. The rates are very reasonable for a site that has high level national coverage.

Awards. Congratulations are extended to ANSA NSW and Stan Konstantaras for their achievement at the NSW Government Sporting Minister Awards. ANSA NSW shared the Most Significant Cultural and Linguistic Diverse award with the NSW Recreational Fishing Alliance and Surf Lifesaving Australia for their joint work on the multilingual rock fishing and water safety education / awareness programs. Stan picked up the award for the most significant individual contribution to water safety in NSW for his involvement with the Angel Ring project and multilingual fishing safety/ education awareness projects.

Most Meritorious Capture Award. It was unanimously agreed by the ANSA board and Branch delegates that the 2010 MMC award be bestowed upon Scott Gusman, an 8 year old sub junior from Williamstown SFC (Vic) for his capture of a 620 mm Brook Trout. Scott's account of the capture will be on the national website shortly. All members are encouraged to nominate for this prestigious award. The fish doesn't need to be a record capture but as the name implies there must be a meritorious aspect about the capture. MMCA claim forms are available on the website.

ANSA Capture and Release Brag/Measuring mats. These mats are made from high quality vinyl and feature the ANSA logo and the national minimum trophy size for all eligible capture and release species. The mats are priced at a very reasonable \$10 plus postage and can be ordered via the ANSA website.

Neatfish Accreditation. All clubs and branches running major tournaments or competitions are encouraged to have their event rated under the ANSA endorsed Neatfish process. Clubs can undertake a free self assessment of their event by visiting the www.neatfish.com website and simply following the steps. For a small fee of around \$100 you can then submit for an official accreditation. It now seems likely that marine park authorities may require an acceptable accreditation as a prerequisite to conduct a competition within a marine protected area. Now might be the time to review your event criteria to ensure it has a high environmental and fish friendly rating. More details can be viewed on the ANSA website.

IGFA All Tackle Length Records. IGFA has recently introduced an All Tackle Length Record. The new record criteria mirrors very closely the All Tackle Length Only Records introduced by ANSA some 3 years ago. The main difference for IGFA is a requirement for all captures to be photographed and measured on an official IGFA measuring device which you need to purchase from the USA for USD\$49.95 plus postage. No other form of measurement will be accepted. All fish must be returned to the water alive and the measurement is to be taken from the snout to the inside centre of the tail. More details can be viewed on the IGFA page on the ANSA website or go to www.igfa.org. Members are also reminded that IGFA now requires that all non fly rod record applications must include 50 foot of line still attached to the double line and leader if one is used. This includes All Tackle and Junior record applications. IGFA has also released a new ruling on the use of “assist hooks” namely;

Assist hooks or other such single hooks that are attached to a lure with a lead constructed of monofilament, multifilament, wire or other such material must conform to the following: When using assist hooks on any artificial lure, other than a skirted lure, the lead cannot be more than 1 ½ hook’s length and the bend of the hook may not be more than 4 inches (101 mm), whichever is less, from the closest point of attachment on the lure. Double and treble hooks may not be used as assist hooks.

Rule Changes for 2012. A new rule book will be printed in anticipation of the competition year commencing 1 July 2012. This is the opportunity for branches to submit recommended rule changes for consideration at the 2011 AGM and Branch delegates meeting to be held early November 2011. If your club has any suggested rule changes these will firstly need to be submitted to your state branch for endorsement before coming to national. Close off time for suggested rule changes is 15 July 2011 so now is the time to start putting pen to paper if you have any rule changes in mind.

National Affiliation Fees. ANSA National affiliation fees for the forthcoming 2011/12 financial year will remain at their current level namely - Families \$14, Seniors \$10, Students \$3, Juniors \$2. Branches should factor this into their fee structure for the coming year.

Regards



John Burgess
Executive Officer/ Director