



Australian National Sportfishing Association Ltd

ANSA NEWS BULLETIN 29

25 November 2008

National Board Contacts. An updated Board Contact list is attached.

Membership Fees. Branches are reminded that membership fees and membership statistical updates for the 1st quarter ended 30 September 2008 are now due. Branches are required to send fees and membership census sheets to Joe Garufi, Membership Director c/o PO Box 328 Matraville, NSW 2036. With most Branches holding their AGM and elections over the past month or so, Branches are also asked to provide an up to date list of Committee members and contacts especially email addresses so that we can keep in touch with your Branch.

ANSA Ware. A reminder that these products can be ordered direct from Joe Garufi, Membership Director. Product range, price and ordering procedure are available on the National web page www.ansa.com.au or contact Joe direct at 02 9661 9297 or 0417491868.

ANSA Promotional Brochures. These high quality colour brochures which are available free to clubs are an ideal tool for for promotion of ANSA to new clubs and members. Contact Joe Garufi or myself if you want to place an order.

Rule Books. All Branches were provided with supplies of the revised 2008 rule book early in July. Hopefully by now all clubs and members should have a copy of the new rule book. If you have not received your rule book then you should make inquiries with your Club or Branch. Clubs requiring additional copies of the rule book should contact either Joe Garufi or myself. Members are also reminded that there is a marked up copy of the new rule book available on the ANSA National website. All the recent rule changes are clearly highlighted in red.

Released Fish Survival. Free Information kits are available from Shirley Sawynok at shirleys@zbc.com.net Every club should have this material on hand for its members.

Neatfish. All Branches and clubs running major tournaments or competitions are encouraged to have their event rated under the Neatfish accreditation process. This process was jointly developed by Bill Sawynok and Recfish Australia. Interested clubs can undertake a free self assessment of their events by accessing the Recfish Australia website www.recfish.com.au . Clubs wishing to progress with a formal Neatfish assesment will need to pay a prescribed fee to Digfish Services PL which is now managing agent for Neatfish. Details are available on the Recfish Australia website.

New Rules. By all accounts the new rules have been well received by members. ANSA received positive coverage in the fishing print media for its wide reaching changes to incorporate length only into the competition arena and to facilitate the use of braid line. The feed back from members has been very positive and and it is encouraging to see an increasing number of new length only records and masters claims starting to flow to the National Recorder and Masters Keeper. There are new format Record and Masters claim forms and instructions for completion and processing available on the National website

ANSA AGM. The 2008 AGM was held in Sydney on 26 October 2008. It was encouraging to see a number of State Branch delegates in attendance. This was not an election year and there were no notices of motion for discussion. Branches have been provided with copies of the minutes of the AGM and a copy of the 2008 ANSA Annual Report is available on the National website. Members are encouraged to read over the Annual Report and member comment and feedback is welcomed.

Meritorious Capture Award. There were some excellent captures nominated for the 2007/8 Most Meritorious Capture Award. After much deliberation it was unanimously agreed at the AGM to present the award to Anne Przybysz from the Ottway Fishing Club, Victoria for her capture of a 8.35 yellowtail kingfish on 1kg . Congratulations Anne and also to all other members who were lucky enough to have achieved some great captures over the year. Special mention is made of Joshua Hodge (junior) from Bundaberg SFC who managed to take out 24 records over the year.

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Recfish Australia. Recfish Australia held its AGM, National Conference and Recfishing Research workshop in Canberra over 17-21 October 2008. Bill Sawynok, Shane Jasprizza and myself were in attendance. The theme of the Conference was "Recreational Fishing 2020 – A Shared Vision". There were some very topical and spirited presentations by an array of speakers and it was encouraging to see so many keen fresh faces participating in the discussions and working groups. Much of the time was spent addressing the key issues and challenges confronting recreational fishing and reviewing and redefining the 1994 National Recreational Fishing Policy. The revised policy will hopefully serve as a useful tool for the Australian Government in its management of our fisheries and the recognition of the rights and socio economic values of recreational fishing. It was generally agreed by the some 80 attendees that the key issue of concern for recreational fishers was the escalating and ongoing threat to access. The Recfishing Research workshop also reviewed and reprioritised the key areas for research investment. Summarised notes of the conference and the workshop will be available shortly on the Recfish website.

A number of awards were presented to recognise excellence and contribution to recreational fishing. Bill Sawynok was the recipient of the " Excellence in Support of Research Outcomes Award" for his long term involvement and contribution towards a wide range of research projects. Stan Konstantaras was also the runner up for the "Volunteer of the Year Award" for his valuable contribution towards rock fishing safety education and the "Angel Ring" life bouy projects. Congratulations are extended to both Bill and Stan for the recognition of their commitment and achievements.

At the AGM the decision was taken to amend the Recfish Constitution to facilitate a structural change of the Board from being expertise based to a member representative Board. As a consequence of these changes ANSA now holds a membership Board position. I have agreed to take on this role for the time being.

Advisory Committee. The Australian Government recently announced that expressions of interest were invited from members of the recfishing public to apply for positions on a new Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee (RFAC) to advise the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry on recreational fishing policy issues. It is expected that there will be some 12 members on the RFAC drawn from different sectoral avenues of recreational fishing - eg game/sportfishing, spear fishing, charter, fishing media and the bait / tackle industry. Applications for membership closed on 14 November 2008. I have nominated for a role on the Committee and I hope others within ANSA ranks have also nominated.

IGFA. ANSA has enjoyed a longstanding relationship with IGFA for more than 30 years. Our game fishing rules mirror those of IGFA and both Bill Sawynok and myself are members of the IGFA International Committee of Representatives. Many of our Branches and affiliated ANSA clubs throughout Australia are contributing club members of IGFA. Likewise many ANSA members also hold personal IGFA membership.

IGFA is actively campaigning for new members and is offering a 25% discount on membership fees for those joining before 30 June 2009. ANSA encourages all clubs and members to consider the advantages of joining IGFA in their own right. Attached is a letter and supporting promotional material from Rob Kramer, IGFA President, addressed to all Australian and New Zealand sport and game fishers. Please take the time to read over the material and give some serious thought to joining IGFA. As a member you will enjoy the benefit of receiving a personal copy of the IGFA world record annual report (which is a great read) together with regular periodical updates and newsletters (including an excellent junior member publication) and direct access to the IGFA World Record Chart. You can send your membership application direct to IGFA or go online via the IGFA website at www.igfa.org/promotion

At the recent ANSA AGM it was agreed that to simplify the process for claiming dual ANSA and IGFA Australian / World line class records. In future the process for submission of a dual record claim will be as follows. An IGFA claim and supporting line sample will be sent direct to IGFA by the member / club and a photocopy of the IGFA claim form forwarded onto the National Recorder with a conventional ANSA record claim form . The claim forms can be submitted to the National Recorder either directly by the member / club or via the State Branch Recorder, particularly if a State record claim is also involved. For the purpose of ANSA Records, the IGFA decision on the World Record claim will be accepted. It will be the responsibility of the member / club to notify the National / Branch Recorder of the IGFA decision on the record claim so that the ANSA claim can be processed to finalisation. IGFA record claim forms are available on the IGFA website.

National Records. All National records have been updated on the website. Certificates have yet to issue for those members who have been awarded length only records – this should be attended to over the next few

weeks. A schedule of new records awarded since 1 July 2008 is attached. Congratulations to all new record holders. Don't forget to send pictures with your length only record claims – this is not compulsory if you have a witness to the measurement of the capture but we are hoping to develop a new record certificate incorporating a photograph of the actual fish caught and the member.

National Website. Keep up to date with whats happening at ANSA and have a look at the ANSA National Website www.ansa.com.au . If you want to have your club linked with the National website then contact Ron Poole, Webmaster at ansa@aanet.com.au .The ANSA website is an excellent way to advertise your product or company across a National network at very competitive rates. Contact Ron if you want to inquire more.

To all members - best wishes for Christmas and a prosperous and productive fishing New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Burgess', written in a cursive style.

John Burgess
Executive Officer / Director
27 November 2008