



## **RULES**

**10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> February 2027**

### **WELCOME TO THE 1<sup>ST</sup> CMP BILLFISH CLASSIC**

#### **1. GENERAL**

Any matters not specifically covered by these rules will be covered by briefing notes and IGFA Rules. In the event that there is any discrepancy between any rules/instructions, the order of priority will be: Briefing Notes, Tournament Rules, IGFA Rules.

**ENTRY** and registration in the tournament constitutes acceptance of the rules by **ALL** participants, and an agreement to abide by **ALL** judges decisions.

The Tournament Committee reserves the right to amend the rules, should it be deemed necessary in the interest of the Tournament. Competitors participate in the tournament at their own risk. CMPBC (CMP Billfish Classic) does not accept any liability for material damage or personal injury sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the tournament. Leaving port is at the sole discretion of the skipper and crew at all times.

#### **2. AFFILIATED CLUB MEMBERSHIP**

It is the skipper's responsibility to ensure that all anglers in their crew have a current membership of a fishing club affiliated to the NZ Sports Fishing Council. Failure to do so will lead to disqualification of fish.

#### **3. BRIEFING:**

Briefing will be held at 1930 sharp on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February.

At least one team representative should attend. All rules and/or clarifications as well as additional instructions given at briefing are

deemed to be known and accepted by all participants whether present or not.

#### **4. FISHING IN**

Fishing In is not permitted in this tournament.

#### **5. LEAVING PORT**

Teams **may not** cross the starting line until 0730.

**The starting line will extend from the north eastern end of Moturoa Island to Tapeka Point. Start time will be announced on VHF Channel 3.**

**THIS RULE MUST BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO AND WILL BE ENFORCED ON DAY ONE.**

#### **6. FISHING AREA**

The area covered by our Sponsors Grid Map:

Northern Boundary:	Latitude	34-16
Southern Boundary:	Latitude	36.00
Western Boundary:	Longitude	172°60
NO Eastern Boundary:		

**No fishing may take place on the West Coast of New Zealand**

#### **7. OMNI DIRECTIONAL SONAR**

Must be turned off for the duration of the tournament.

#### **8. TACKLE**

All tackle used **MUST** comply with IGFA regulations.

It is the angler's responsibility to be conversant with these regulations.

Line classes are: 15, 24, 37, 60kg.

#### **9. ELIGIBLE SPECIES**

Billfish (Shortbill Spearfish, Striped, Blue, and Black Marlin and Broadbill)

Tuna (Yellow Fin, Big Eye, Blue fin)

Mahimahi

Kingfish

#### **10. MINIMUM BOATED FISH WEIGHTS & SIZES:**

Billfish	90kg
Shortbill Spearfish	15kg or exceed line weight
Tuna	15kg or exceed line weight
Mahimahi	8kg or exceed line weight
Kingfish	100cm length

Any fish to be weighed **MUST** be at the weigh station within 24 hours of capture to qualify for the tournament.

## **11. RADIO**

CMP Base	Channel 3
Boat to Boat	Channel 6,8,10
Russell Radio	Channel 63
Continuous Weather	Channel 20

For safety reasons it is the responsibility of all skippers to ensure that their vessels have operational VHF radios.

## **12. FISHING TIMES:**

Fishing must not commence until after 0730 on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February and must stop when 'stop fishing' is announced at 1500 on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February.

In the event of a fish being played at stop fishing radio notification must have been given prior to stop fishing.

## **13. WEATHER:**

The tournament will not be cancelled due to weather. Whether or not to fish is not the responsibility of CMPBC and must be based solely on the teams own judgement, taking into consideration the prevailing conditions, the seaworthiness of their vessel, the status of safety equipment on board, and the crews seamanship skills. The tournament is a four day event, as little as one day of fishing or part thereof constitutes a complete tournament.

## **14. REPORTING:**

- (a) CMP Base is not a search and rescue channel.  
If you wish to be monitored by Russell Radio for reasons of safety at sea you should log a trip report on Ch 63.  
In the event of an emergency call Russell Radio on Ch 63.
  
- (b) All fish should be reported on hook-up and when boated, tagged or lost on channel 3. Reports must give vessel name, Sponsors Grid and line class. If out of radio range vessels must report catches to CMPBC base via telephone, satellite phone or VHF relay.

## **15. FISH TAGGED AND RELEASED:**

Fish must **NOT** be removed from the water during the tagging and releasing process. Fish intending to be tagged and released must be released as soon as practicable.

## **16. WEIGH IN**

### **(a) Catch cards & Tag cards**

**ALL** sections **MUST** be filled in **BEFORE** fish are brought to the weigh station. First and last name must be written in full, not initials.

**Latitude and longitude must be entered on tag cards PROVIDING FALSE INFORMATION ON CATCH CARDS WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE TOURNAMENT.**

- (b) Along with the **FULLY COMPLETED** catch card and/or tag card each angler must present the rod, reel, lure and/or terminal tackle which the fish was caught on, and anything else required by the weighmasters such as gaffs, tail ropes, any securing ropes used to transport the fish to the weigh station.

### **A FISH IS NOT DEEMED TO BE CAUGHT UNTIL IT HAS BEEN WEIGHED (or tagged).**

- (c) Digital videos, which must be date and time stamped, and clearly showing the tag in place as well as the fish being released, must be shown to the weighmasters when tag cards are presented.

CMPBC reserves the right to request that the original recording device (phone, camera, etc) that generate the image, be immediately surrendered in order that the date and time stamp can be officially validated.

- (d) Weighmasters Indemnity

It is the anglers responsibility to present all cards and equipment when weighing in, **NOT** the weighmasters. If any of the required equipment is not in the hands of the weighmasters along with the completed catch card and fish by the close off time, the fish will not be accepted as being on time.

No responsibility will be accepted by CMPBC or its weighmasters for any failure to do so.

- (e) The weigh station is open from 1500 to 1930 on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Any extension to these hours is at the discretion of the weighmasters.

- (f) The weigh station is open from 1400 to 1700 on Saturday. *On Saturday unless a fish is being played at stop fishing all anglers must have their fish, catch cards and tackle in the weighmaster's hands by 1700. The location of a boat at stop fishing must take into consideration its steaming time to the weigh station.*  
*In the case of a fish being played at stop fishing radio notification must be given prior to stop fishing. For such a fish to be eligible for prizes in this tournament it must be at the weigh station by 1800.*
- (g) Lines may be tested at the weigh station. Lines that over test will be moved up to the appropriate line class. Under testing lines will **NOT** be moved down.

## **17. DISPUTES**

The CMPBC will appoint a disputes committee to investigate any disputes. Any disputes must be received in writing by 1800 on Saturday night. The disputes committee decision shall be final and binding.

## **18. PRIZE GIVING:**

Will be on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February with prizegiving scheduled to start at 1900.

## **19. PRIZE ALLOCATION:**

Prizes will be offered as follows:

- (a) **Gate Prize / Last Man Standing Draw**  
3 year lease or outright ownership deal of a Ford Ranger Tremor 3.0L V6 4x4 valued at \$50,000 (approx.) RRP \$80,000. T&Cs apply.
- (b) **Heaviest billfish \$60,000**  
If two or more fish are of equal weight the prize will be shared equally.
- (c) **Champion Team on Billfish Points**  
- 1<sup>st</sup> 60% of Jackpot purse (if entered)  
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 20% of Jackpot purse (if entered)  
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 10% of Jackpot purse (if entered)  
(remaining 10% allocated to administrative fees)

If any team or teams in the top 3 have not entered a jackpot, the prizes will shift down to the next highest points scoring team or teams that are entered into that jackpot.

In the event of a tie, the prize will be shared equally

Each team will have only their highest points scoring weighed billfish of each species eligible for team totals. All tagged & released Billfish including Shortbill Spearfish will count.

Points will be allocated as follows:-

Tagged Marlin & Broadbill	450 points
Tagged Shortbill Spearfish	100 points
Tagged Tuna (Yellow Fin, Big Eye, Blue fin)	100 points
Tagged Mahimahi	50 points

Weighed Billfish, Tuna, Mahimahi and Kingfish	$\frac{\text{fish weight} \times 100}{\text{divided by line weight}}$
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(d) More prizes may be added closer to tournament date.

N.B Prizes presented in error at Prizegiving remain the property of CMPBC and must be returned for correct allocation upon notification within seven days.

### **19. REFUNDS:**

Once you have entered the tournament, refunds will only be available if your team is able to be replaced. CMPBC will endeavour to find a replacement from the waiting list and other means but there are no guarantees. CMPBC have already committed to allocation of all funds from entries.