

NZSFC Club Monthly Report: July 2023

A Round up of NZSFC Club News and information for Club Committees, Delegates and Members

JULY 2023: This is a report for our clubs throughout New Zealand. Please distribute this information throughout your Club. This report includes a summary of:

- NZSFC NATIONALS 2023 TROPHIES
 - NZSFC COOKBOOK
 - AGM REMITS
 - NZSFC ANNUAL AWARDS 2023
 - ZONE MEETINGS AND UPCOMING BOARD MEETING
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 - NZSFC YOUTH OCEAN TRUST
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NZSFC NATIONALS 2023 TROPHIES

Reminder to clubs to ensure that they have forwarded any trophies they may hold to the current winner. This information is available on our website under records and rules.

<https://www.nzsportfishing.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Scoreboards--2023-NZ-NATIONALS-COMBINED.pdf>

Please forward any invoices you may incur with regards to engraving and courier fees. All the certificates and plaques have been sent to your clubs in time for your prizegiving. If you have not received them as yet they will be with you shortly.

NZSFC COOKBOOK

The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council invites members of affiliated clubs to submit their most delicious and creative seafood recipes for our Cookbook Competition. From whole fish to inventive dishes utilising different parts, we want to showcase your mouth watering creations.

By participating, you will support our Youth Ocean Trust - proceeds from the cookbook sales will contribute to nurturing the next generation of marine enthusiasts

We're also seeking your creative input to name our cookbook. Craft a title that captures the essence of our vibrant fishing community and the diverse flavours we are lucky to have on our back doorstep. Your idea could be the one that graces the cover of this culinary masterpiece. We have some great prizes to be won just by entering including a three generation guaranteed [Ironclad Legacy Pan](#) worth \$279.

Together we will create a cookbook that showcases the skill, passion and camaraderie of our fishing clubs. [Enter here](#) or go to our website and click 'news'

<https://www.nzsportfishing.co.nz/cookbook-competition/>

AGM REMITS

All notices of Motion, remits or rule changes are due to the Secretary (Helen) at least **60 days prior to the AGM - 23rd July 2023**. Once received they will be forwarded as a block to all clubs to review and inform their delegates of which way they want to vote at the AGM.

NZSFC ANNUAL AWARDS 2023 - IMPORTANT REMINDER

The annual awards' nominations are due to the secretary by the **7th of July 2023**. Entries cannot be accepted after this date. Application forms have been sent to your clubs and delegates. If you wish to ask any questions please do not hesitate to contact Helen.

Reminder: check the First and Heaviest results and submit by **7th July 2023 - last date for notification**.

ZONE MEETINGS AND UPCOMING BOARD MEETING

All of our affiliated clubs have recently had the opportunity to attend our recent rounds of Zone meetings. The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council operates through a structured process that involves club delegates, zone meetings, and quarterly board meetings. Here's an overview of how it works:

Club Delegates: Member clubs affiliated with the NZSFC appoint delegates who represent their interests and participate in the decision-making process. These delegates serve as the primary point of contact between the NZSFC and their respective clubs.

Zone Meetings: The NZSFC is divided into different geographic zones. Zone meetings are held regularly, providing a platform for club delegates from a specific zone to come together, discuss important matters, and share information. These meetings serve as a forum for delegates to voice their club's concerns, contribute to discussions, and stay updated on relevant issues.

Minutes: During zone meetings, minutes are taken to document the discussions, decisions, and actions taken. These minutes serve as an official record of the meeting's proceedings.

Board Meetings: The NZSFC's Board consists of representatives from each Zone. The minutes from the Zone meetings are collated and presented at the quarterly Board meetings.

Quarterly Board Meetings: The Board convenes every quarter to review the minutes from the zone meetings and discuss matters of importance. These meetings provide an opportunity to address any issues raised by clubs via Zone delegates and Zone Reps at a strategic level.

Through this process, club delegates actively contribute to the decision-making and policy formulation of the NZSFC. The Zone meetings allow for open communication and collaboration among delegates and between Clubs, while the Board meetings ensure that the concerns and suggestions put forth by the Clubs are addressed at a higher level. This structured approach helps the NZSFC operate efficiently and represent the collective interests of its member clubs

IMPORTANT CLARIFICATION FOR SWORDFISH ANGLERS

Off the back of a recent video NZSFC posted on our social media pages for International Fisherman's day, The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council (NZSFC) reached out to the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) regarding a common dispute in the deep-dropping community. The question was whether it is acceptable to wind in a slackline with the rod still in the rod holder after a swordfish bite. The [IGFA](#) has clarified that this action is not considered an infraction of their Angling Rules, as long as the angler is the only one reeling and removes the rod from the holder once the line becomes tight. Experienced anglers may know when the bait is taken, but the official interpretation considers the fish "hooked" only when the line is tight. NZSFC aims to publicise this clarification to help anglers' fish in accordance with IGFA rules.

NZSFC YOUTH OCEAN TRUST

The creation of the NZSFC Youth Ocean Trust progressed - details including trustees have been completed and the application for the Ocean Youth Trust is being filed with NZ Charitable Trusts. The only outstanding item is the final logo design. The trust has been set up to focus on the delivery of Youth programmes - including resourcing. We will share more information in due course. The Trust sits alongside other NZSFC related organisations including LegaSea and the NZ Marine Research Foundation.

PRIZES - NZSFC YOUTH NATIONALS SUPPORTED BY DAIWA NEW ZEALAND

All the photo competition prizes have been sent to the winners. See the list of them on our website <https://www.nzsportfishing.co.nz/youth-nationals-previous-years/>

Daiwa is now preparing the Youth Nationals winners' prizes and will send them out directly to them. The total number of prizes is 58, with a value of \$7,800.00. Thanks to Daiwa for supporting our Youth Nationals again this year. We could not do it without them.

NZSFC PARTNERS WITH BAIT STATION

After being approached by the CEO of kiwi company Bait-Station, and stress testing the product through our Kai Ika filleting station, NZSFC have partnered with Bait-Station to help keep our oceans and communities healthier. With environmentally friendly products like

“Smell Gone Hand Scrub’, ‘Rod and Reel Cleaner’, ‘Bait Board Cleaner’ and ‘Marine Glass Cleaner’ we think these products are a great offering to our Clubs and members. These products come highly recommended and also make great gifts and prizes.

By using the coupon code NZSPORTFISHING at the check out Bait-Station will donate 15% of the proceeds to NZ Sport Fishing Council and LegaSea.

Check them out [here](#)

<https://www.orageneglobal.com/nz-sport-fishing-bait-station/>

SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA

The Southern Bluefin Tuna run is now on. Some points below.

- Recreational fishers actively contribute to SBT conservation and research through the New Zealand Game Fish Tagging Program, providing valuable insights into fish growth, movement patterns, and migration rates.
- The postponed Winter Tuna Tournament by Whakatane Sportfishing Club will take place from July 6th to 9th, with the Kai Ika filleting service provided by NZSFC and LegaSea, distributing fish parts to the local community. If this is a service that you would like at your next competition please get in touch with NZSFC’s Mike Plant or Dallas Abel at LegaSea.
- Tairua-Pauanui Sports Fishing Club witnessed a remarkable 5-way SBT hook-up.
- Wellington and Kaikoura have seen some Bluefin action, while Fiordland reported recent activity.
- Whakatakataka Sportfishing Club collaborated with Yehaa Fishing Tackle for a sold-out Southern Bluefin evening, followed by a meeting with a strong attendance of 52 members.

TAGGED BILLFISH RECAPTURES

There have been two New Zealand tagged striped marlin recaptured this season. The first was tagged in January 2022 in the Bay of Islands. It was recaptured by a Japanese longliner in the Coral Sea in July / August 2022. The processed weight was 66.4 kg. It is good to get a report from the Japanese Billfish, Shark and Bycatch Group but the tag was recovered when landed and the exact details are not available.

The second striped marlin was caught on a lure and tagged off Te Kaha on 4 February 2023 after a 30-minute fight. This fish was estimated to weigh 110 kg. It was recaptured from the vessel Madjestic north of the Poor Knights on 1 March 2023. Therefore, the fish was recaptured about 190 nautical miles northwest from its tagging location after 25 days at liberty and was retagged and released.

A blue marlin was recaptured with an Australian game fish tag by Rustler northeast of the Alderman Islands on 16 March 2023. It was estimated to weigh 140 kg and was retagged and released. This is notable as it is the first tagged blue marlin recaptured and reported in New Zealand waters. This fish was tagged from Steve Campbell's Blue Marlin Magic off Vaua'u on 20 July 2018. It was estimated to be 80 kg and was released in good condition. Therefore, the tag had been attached for 4 years and 8 months (1700 days) with the fish travelling 1096 nautical miles south-west before recapture.

FISHERIES INDUSTRY TRANSFORMATION PLAN

In May and June the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council worked with LegaSea, the New Zealand Angling & Casting Association, and New Zealand Underwater to submit a response rejecting the draft Fisheries Industry Transformation Plan and offering up an Alternative Transformation Plan. The draft Fisheries Industry Transformation Plan (ITP) outlines Fisheries New Zealand's vision for commercial fishing over the next decade.

The draft ITP is based on a 2022 proposal from industry and commercial fishing interests to replace the ageing inshore fishing fleet with a fleet of new, larger-capacity vessels built in Northland.

The plan proposes the public invests, as a start, 46 million of taxpayer dollars to replace the ageing inshore fishing fleet. The plan fails to set a deadline to phase out destructive fishing, such as bottom trawling, scallop dredging, or Danish seining.

LegaSea initiated a short public awareness campaign in early June to encourage submissions to let the Minister know what people think of the Plan, receiving 2800 submissions in just a few days.

OUR ALTERNATIVE FISHERIES TRANSFORMATION PLAN

Our Alternative Transformation Plan is based on our [Rescue Fish](#) principles which have been developed over the last 5 years. Fish populations must be restored to more natural levels (B50 and above), to allow low impact commercial methods to catch high-quality fish generating good returns. This would negate the need to use bulk harvesting methods to catch enough fish to pay the bills

The alternative Transformation Plan is based on restored fish populations and the following:-

1. Government buyback of all inshore trawlers and all inshore Total Allowable Commercial Catches (TACCs).
2. Government tender for commercial fishing permits with a resource rental on each kilo of fish landed to replace the fees charged by quota owners. Applying a resource rental to commercial catch will incentivise fishers to look after the resource, and encourage innovation to generate maximum returns.
3. Inshore commercial fishing permits would be set aside for small-scale, low-impact, static gear fishers.
4. Allow iwi/hapū and community organisations to establish and manage a spatial plan for their regional marine space. You can read our submission and alternative plan [here](#).

<https://www.nzsportfishing.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/ITP-submission-recreational-11-June-2023.pdf>

CURRENT FISH STOCK REVIEWS

Fisheries New Zealand is consulting on increases to the Total Allowable Commercial Catch for:

1. Trevally 2 fishery - lower east coast of the North Island. This review mainly applies to the Gisborne and Hawkes Bay trawl fisheries.
2. Gurnard 3 fishery - east coast South Island, Southland and Fiordland. This review applies mainly to the Canterbury trawl fishery. Summary of proposal is [here](#).
3. Kina 1A and 1B fisheries - off the upper east coast of the North Island. The review mainly applies to the East Northland dive fishery. Summary of proposal is [here](#). Public consultation closes on 17 July 2023. NZSFC is working on submissions for these species and our fisheries management team will keep you updated on any progress.