

DAY 4 ROUND-UP: 2025 NZSFC NATIONALS SUPPORTED BY PELAGIC NZ

Hump day of the Nationals—four down, four to go. **Now's the time to make the call:** pack up and mow the lawns or double down and **go hunting for those vacant sections and sub-sections.**

The **blue briny** is looking better every day, and whether you're running **lures, dead baits, or livies**, there's **always room for just one more cast.** The leaderboard is still wide open, and history tells us that **every section is still winnable.**

BIGGEST FISH SO FAR – SECTION 3A (ALL LINE CLASSES)

Despite four days on the water, some of the **biggest species still have no weigh-ins**—so if you're hunting that one **big bite**, there's still **plenty of room at the top.**

- **Blue & Black Marlin – Nil weighed**
- **Broadbill – Nil weighed**
- **Striped Marlin – Nil weighed**
- **Shortbill Spearfish – Mt Maunganui SFC – 20.00kg**
- **Mahimahi – Waihou Bay SFC – 8.80kg**
- **Shark – Tag & Release only – all tagged**
- **Tuna (yellowfin, bluefin, bigeye) – Hokianga Big Game & SFC – 54.50kg**
- **Yellowtail – Nil weighed**

For those fishing **light tackle**, here's where the heaviest fish are sitting in **SPECIES SECTION 2** (fished on 10kg and below):

- **Slender & Skipjack Tuna – Clevedon GFC – 4.20kg**
- **Albacore – New Plymouth SFC – 9.14kg**
- **Snapper – Raglan SFC – 5.20kg**
- **Kahawai – Whakatane SFC – 2.80kg**
- **Trevally – Tairua-Pauanui SFC – 2.51kg**

HIGHEST POINT SCORING FISH (NOT NECESSARILY THE HEAVIEST!)

Because of the **Nationals' points system favoring lighter line classes**, sometimes the highest-scoring fish **isn't the biggest weighed.** Here's how it's looking:

- **Blue & Black Marlin – Counties SFC – 600.00 points**

- **Striped Marlin** – 40 anglers across various clubs – **600.00 points each**
- **Shortbill Spearfish** – Waihau Bay SFC – **100.00 points**
- **Mahimahi** – Waihau Bay SFC – **23.78 points**
- **Shark (Tag & Release only)** – Raglan SFC – **100.00 points**
- **Tuna (yellowfin, bluefin, bigeye)** – 17 anglers across various clubs – **150.00 points**
- **Yellowtail** – Raglan SFC – **25.00 points**

Light line **continues to dominate** in the **small species**:

- **Slender & Skipjack Tuna** – Clevedon GFC – **42.00 points**
- **Albacore** – New Plymouth SFC – **301.33 points**
- **Snapper** – New Plymouth SFC – **305.00 points**
- **Kahawai** – New Plymouth SFC – **271.50 points**
- **Trevally** – Hawke's Bay SFC – **140.00 points**

STRATEGY FOR THE DAYS AHEAD

- **Moon Phase & Tides Matter** – We're now on a **waning moon**, work with the tides, Lunchtime fish love to interrupt meal breaks, and **evening bites** should be covered until **8:30–9:00 pm**.
- **Early Mornings for Inshore Species** – **Snapper, trevally, and kingfish** are best targeted **at first light** before breakfast.
- **Follow the Signs** – **Find the birds, find the bait, find the fish**. Don't leave **biting** fish to go searching for more.

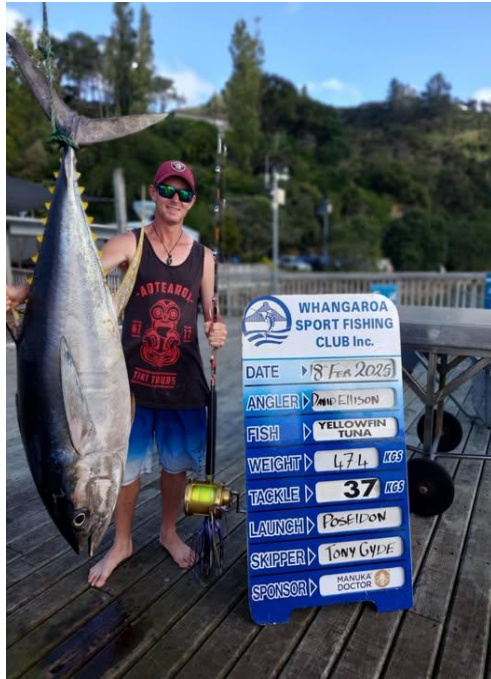
OBSERVATIONS FROM THE WATER

- **More Hookups, More Drops** – A few more **fish seen, a few more lost**— which means **boats are in the right areas**. Right place, right time... just **keep turning right!**
- **History Shows Late Surges Matter** – **All sections are still winnable**, and many of the biggest moves **happen in the final days**.

DAY 5 FORECAST

The **second half of the Nationals** is officially underway, and with the weather improving, we're expecting **more boats to push wide** and **more fish to hit the board**. **Stay sharp, fish smart, and let's see who makes the next big move!**

#NZSportfishing #NZSFCNationals2025



David Ellison Nationals representing The Big Fish Fishing Club

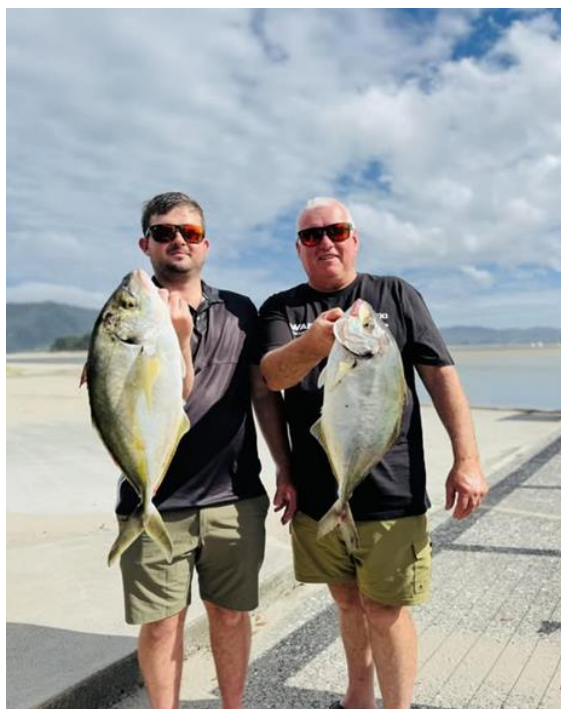
Team Poseidon for Big Fish Fishing Club



The Counties SFC team onboard Flat Out with Dane Foster tagging and releasing his first ever Stripy in the NZSFC Nationals



The Potters on 3kg line in the harbour for Tairua Pauanui Sports Fishing Club





Steven James on Bill Collector tagging for Whangaroa Sport Fishing Club

