

HOKIANGA BIG GAME AND SPORTS FISHING CLUB Inc.

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MAY 2016

NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Hope everyone had a good time over the comp/Nationals week and managed to get some good fish. I was lucky enough to go out on Shanes boat and get some good fishing in which was really great! Here's a pic of my snapper that missed out on 3rd by very little in the comp! There's always next year...

Cheers, Imogen

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PRESIDENTS PRATTLE

FEBRUARY— Landbase at Pouto

Great weather - perfect conditions - first day of the nationals and everyone was keen, except for the fish that is. Unlike last year where everybody loaded up and three trophies were won the crew struggled to rake in a few Kahawai. So not a lot more to be said except some of the thirteen fish caught between us did feature in the Nats so well done there.

MARCH—Kupe Classic Mitimiti

Once again this was combined with the Kupe Classic where the weather and sea conditions were probably the best we have had for a few years now. The swell was down, the rocks got fished hard and some good results were had across the board. It was interesting to note that the top ten snapper were all caught on North head or Tokotau as we know it. I was lucky enough to bag a 3.66 kg one on Saturday morning which lead for most of the weekend until a 3,8 kg model was caught in the exact same spot relegating me to second. After Steve had caught some mean Trevally and Snapper also earning good club points his weekend was cut short with a wrecked ankle and Gavin had the shackles put on him with vehicle issues, what is it they say about tits and tyres..??? Anyway an awesome weekend with great company finished off under the big top tent with plenty of cold ale - good music and lots of laughs; not to mention the 800 odd kg of fish that got auctioned off earning some big Dollars for local community causes.

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APRIL

This round was to be held at Kaimaumu but the shit forecast of 30 knot winds and rain forced us to duck for a bit of cover at Rangiputa. Given the bad weather we started fishing early, ie 7.30 pm instead of midnight just so we could squeeze an extra tide in but that proved fruitless because by 3.00 am when I jacked it in I had only caught eels - stingray - small kahawai and dozens of throw back snapper. So what a bloody test that was and a good indicator that a new pozzie might be needed, so off to bed I crawled. Well, come 5.30 am the alarm went off and a new day was born complete with rain and a strong tail wind, so the already cold and wet Wetsuit was refitted and backpack reloaded for a hike around the rocks. As night became day Imogen was the first to draw blood with a nice snapper weighing 4.3 kg whilst the rest of us went on to bag a good load of snapper and trevally averaging between 2 and 3 kg. With only about six decent Kahawai being caught Imo also slipped in a 20 gram heavier one and stole the cash haggle out from under noses making her the fishing queen for the weekend. Damn, that girl is starting to get too good for us and as the weekends points were tallied up there is still only a two point split at the lead, so an interesting final two months to come, the first of which will be at Kaimaumu in May come RAIN - HAIL or SHINE so be ready. Also pencil in Tauranga bay for 17th 18th and 19th of June where camping and accommodation will be available.

THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY

As Steve and I are locked in an on going cat and mouse battle for the most points we are in a position where size does matter. Over the course of the weekend we both lost some seriously big trevally as they made the final lunge for survival into the depths of the gnarly ledge before us, simply smashing us off on the oysters. Well I changed position and we had about 2 hours before final weigh in on Sunday when...

I hooked up what I thought was going to be the game changer only once again it headed for the weed covered rock that was now about 20 feet in front of me. With the tide now well out and a clear visual on the bottom I decided to let the drag off and clamber down into the water then cross the 12 foot wide channel that separated us from the submerged bit of fowl that had repeatedly robbed us of our prize. The plan was to get over the top of the fish and coax it out of the dark depths but that is where it all went wrong because just as I made it to the other side Damon - Steve and Kiri started yelling "get out of the water". Here I am in chest deep water doing great seal impersonations whilst covered in smelly fish and bait juice wondering what da f--k is going on but that soon became frightfully apparent...

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As I turned the hardwood butt of my rod accidentally hit this 3 meter monster in the head as it was less than six inches away from chewing me in half. Logic tells us it was a bronze whaler but the darker back and 12 inch rounded dorsal fin says it was a 250 --300 kg Mako, all I know is it came in at speed and did a hard 90 degree turn as it rolled over and dialled in on me with clear intentions of making a meal out of me. If it wasn't for the poke in the face and the inability for it to do a complete u-turn in the narrow channel I'm convinced it would of been back for more but that didn't make the slow wade back seem any less than ten miles, nor have I been so happy to be standing back on dry land. Now I could go on all day with this story but I need to get my wetsuit down to the dry cleaners so I will just end this by saying whilst I never caught my fish, there must be a god up there and that I'm THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY.

MARLIN

As I have no stats in front of me I'm guessing there were about 20 marlin across our scales this season and a further twenty not being weighed. Whilst the Nationals being combined with our comp, ran smoothly, the number of entrants was a little low I think only 8 marlin were caught there which is no reflection on the effort that all the crews put in. If you try and analyse it all, it's as if all the fish bypassed us and came in further south because there have been outstanding results down there, especially in New Plymouth and Manukau areas. Its now early May and we had hoped all those fish would come back this way in numbers, but it's still been a struggle to find them if that's the case. However the few tail enders that have been caught are of the notable variety including a nice black marlin not too far behind the bar as Jeremy and Chris trolled there way home, so a pleasant surprise for them. We also hooked an estimated 140 kg stripey on the 24th of April but after a series of violent zig zags and aerial acrobatics it made its well practiced escape to freedom, so bad luck there for my mate from Christchurch. The water is still 21 deg and the blue water in close but if you don't get out in the next week or two I'd say its gonna be over, but who knows as stranger things have happened.



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BOTTOM BASHERS

For those that chose to mix it up there were some awesome results in our comp and the Nats with the ladies really showing that they have what it takes. They also proved that you don't need to go too far either with all the best fish being caught just in the harbour entrance, so well done there. To be fair, fishing has been really good up and down the whole coast as the snapper and trevs have been in close chomping on mussels .

SPONSORS

Once again on behalf of the club and organising committee a huge thanks to all our sponsors that got in behind us this year and kindly donated making our job easier and the tournament possible. Because without you people it quite simply would not happen so we can't thank you enough. Cheers and hope to have you all involved next year.

FOR SALE

3 Sets of second hand crutches:

- ⇒ 1st set like new and very reliable, would be suitable for going out or dancing
- ⇒ 2nd set showing signs of wear and tear but still in very good nick for their age with only minor dents and kinks that do not affect their performance, new set of treads just fitted
- ⇒ 3rd set are very rusty - bent and wobble at speed, these have given me trouble free travel and still have a lot of life left in them so don't let the high kms put you off, would be better suited to the beach or farm as I did but with a little TLC the right person could bring them back to their former glory .

Genuine reason for sale as no longer needed. Make an offer as this deal will not be repeated nor offered to watchers.

Cheers for now. Shane, President.

SECRETARY STUFF

Well, with the colder weather it would be fair to say the marlin season is probably at an end. What a poor season we had this year. There were only 20 striped marlin weighed at the weigh station. But at an estimate I'd say there were at least another 20 - 30 caught but not weighed in. Let's hope next year is an improvement. The last couple of weeks of the season we had a couple of good fish caught by club members. President Shane Percy's solo effort saw him bringing in a very nice 156.1kg stripey. I can only but imagine the fiasco of pulling this on board on his own, so well done Shane. We also had a black marlin brought in by Jeremy Jurusich fishing off the vessel St Mawes. This is only the 3rd recorded black to have been caught off the Hokianga with the last one being in 2005, so it's not a common catch. Awesome Jeremy.

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Our annual “Reel Fishing Comp” seemed to go off without any major glitches. We were well down in entries but once again this is probably due to the poor season. At least the weather played ball with fishing being possible on all but one day. This one day unfortunately saw a boat overturn on the bar which was unfortunate, and the injuries suffered were basically minor. This is a stern reminder, “If in doubt, don’t go out”

We had 61 anglers entered in the Nationals putting our club 8th in the number of entries. All up there were 1649 anglers in the Nationals with a total of 473 teams.

Competition results:

Trevally

3 rd	Luke Lane	3.130kg
2 nd	Csilla Ford	3.335kg
1 st	Bouty Tracey	4.450kg

Kahawai

3 rd	Shane Percy	2.980kg
2 nd	Bryce Hall	3.095kg
1 st	Jim Crump	3.330kg

Snapper

3 rd	Csilla Ford	7.695kg
2 nd	Csilla Ford	7.940kg
1 st	Bouty Tracey	9.770kg

Kingfish

3 rd	Alex Chick	16.84kg
2 nd	Therese Castle	16.90kg
1 st	Sean Chick	17.00kg

Marlin

1 st	Zane Ata	124.2kg	
2 nd	Graeme Allen	122.9kg	5 th Jesse Wallace 99.4kg
3 rd	Jack McIntyre	104.7kg	6 th Richard Anderson 92.7kg
4 th	Kevin Barr	101.4kg	

Congratulations to all these anglers, we look forward to seeing you at next year’s comp.

Ladies Day is now not going to be held until probably November. Unfortunately time has gotten away on the organizers who themselves are busy for the next couple of months, and now with the colder weather we thought it would be much more pleasant to hold off until things warm up again. We will keep you updated once a definite date has been set.

Junior Fun Day dates are yet to be confirmed but will be around early October. So keep a look out on our Facebook page and Website for details.

Prize giving and AGM this year will be on *Saturday 10th September* so set this date aside. The format is yet to be decided so once we have a plan of action we’ll let you all know.

Channel 82 has now been delinked from North Kaipara so we will no longer be hearing the boats operating on 66. This was in part done to avoid the confusion between the radio operators as to which unit is being called. Those wanting to hear Dorothy with her daily forecast should be able to do so by going to 66 at about 8.05am each morning.

That’s about it from me so take care and “Happy Fishing”. **Linda**



FISHING PICS

Left: Ross’s son with his kingi, solo effort too!

Centre: Jeremy with his first Marlin—a BLUE! (p/c Chris Hart Facebook)

Right: Ezra with his Strikey—fishing out the Hokianga Harbour(p/c Bonze Lures Facebook)

Send in your fishing pics to our Facebook Page or via email to: webbi02@wairaka.com