



BALMAIN LEAGUES CLUB FISHING CLUB

Constitution, Rules and Bylaws



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Club Regulations



Constitution, Rules & Bylaws

It is up to each member to become familiar with and comply with the rules under which we fish.

INTRODUCTION



These pages have been prepared for prospective, new and existing members, so that by knowing the rules, legal sizes and bag limits, we might all enjoy the *sport* of fishing that much better.

The Rules (with the exception of legal fish sizes) have been made by members over the years since the Clubs inception. In general the rules have been formulated to ensure that a days fishing is as fair as possible to all participants, the boat owner (who we depend upon for our trips) and the fish themselves.

No sport can exist without rules, they exist to make the sport better for all who follow it. Our Club has about 50 rules, far less than Golf, Tennis or League and most of them are just common sense

If you “just want to go fishing ” with no rules, then don’t join a fishing club.

The Rules are set by the majority of members present at the Annual General Meeting voting on a Notice of Motion presented at the AGM,

The Fishing Club Fishes deep sea on the third Sunday of each month and meets at TIGERS at 7.00pm on the 2nd Monday of each Month.



CONSTITUTION



- ✎ 1. The Club shall be known as the Balmain Leagues Club Fishing Club, being affiliated under the Balmain Leagues Club Ltd. constitution and shall be referred to in this constitution as the “Club”.
- ✎ 2. The object of the Balmain Leagues Club Fishing Club is to promote and encourage the participation in Fishing and any other activities as seen fit and proper by the Board of Directors of the Balmain Leagues Club Ltd.
- ✎ 3. At all times the Balmain Leagues Club Fishing Club shall abide by any direction given by Management on behalf of Directors of the Balmain Leagues Club Ltd.
- ✎ 4. Members of the Balmain Leagues Club Fishing Club shall be financial members of the Balmain Leagues Club Ltd.
 - (a) Participation on non-members of the Balmain Leagues Club Ltd. is not permitted as this would be detrimental to Club member’s use of facilities.
 - (b) Participation of non-members is only permitted in accordance with the Articles of Association of the Balmain Leagues Club Ltd.
 - (c) Persons living within a 5 km radius of the Club will only be permitted in accordance with the Articles of Association “Guests”.
- ✎ 5. The Balmain Leagues Club Fishing Club has prepared its own by-laws appertaining to fishing activities. These by-laws have been submitted to and approved by the Board of Directors of the Balmain Leagues Club Ltd.
- ✎ 6. The Annual General Meeting of the Balmain Leagues Club Fishing Club will be held within two (2) months of the end of the financial year.
- ✎ 7. The financial year of the Club shall coincide with that of the Balmain Leagues Club which is the 1st July - 30th June.
- ✎ 8. The Management of the Balmain Leagues Club Fishing Club and custody of its funds and property shall be vested in COMMITTEE of the Balmain Leagues Club Fishing Club.
- ✎ 9. The Honorary Treasurer of the Balmain Leagues Club Fishing Club shall deposit all moneys received in a bank account opened in the name of the Club. All payments shall be made by cheque. Cheques shall be signed by any two of the President, Honorary Treasurer or Honorary Secretary or any such person nominated by the Club. All moneys received shall be receipted.



- 10. A record of all financial members shall be retained and made available for perusal at all times by Management or Directors of the Balmain Leagues Club Ltd.
- 11. Account books, Audit Sheets and Financial Members List shall be submitted to the Sports Committee **no later than 31st August each financial** year to qualify for any grant approved by the Board of Directors of the Balmain Leagues Club Ltd.
- 12. The Club shall have the power to fix membership and fishing fees as necessary. A sporting body must be self-supporting in its own right and not rely solely on the parent Club's grant.
- 13. The Club shall be wholly responsible for its own financial arrangements and shall indemnify the Balmain Leagues Club Ltd. from any such responsibility whatsoever.
- 14. The Club shall maintain liaison with the Sports Committee of the Board of Directors in that it shall appoint two members of its Committee to attend the **Sports Committee**. The Club shall be known as the Balmain Leagues Club Fishing Club, being affiliated under the Balmain Leagues Club Ltd. constitution and shall be referred to in this constitution as the "Club".
- 15. The grant received from the parent Club may be used within the Balmain Leagues Club Ltd. as each sporting club Committee sees fit, as long as it is in the best interests of their Club. The grant may also be used for the direct costs of outside sports, such as the hiring costs of fishing boats, golf courses, shooting galleries, table tennis venues, et cetera where appropriate, and **not** entertainment.

TEMPORARY MEMBERS



Temporary members shall comprise such of the following persons as may be admitted to Temporary Membership in accordance with these Articles and any procedures established by the Board from time to time for admission of such members.

- (a) Members (as defined in the Act) of another registered Club having similar objects of this Club.
- (b) Overseas, country or interstate visitors or persons residing outside a radius of five (5) kilometres from the Club premises for the duration of their visit.



- (d) Full members of another Club on or over 18 years visiting the Club at the invitation of the Board or a member for the purpose of participating in an organised sport or competition for the day of the competition only. Temporary members shall comprise such of the following persons as may be admitted to Temporary Membership in accordance with these Articles and any procedures established by the Board from time to time for admission of such members.



GUESTS

Guests shall only be admitted to the Club premises in the company of a full member (being an Ordinary Member of any category or a Life Member), a Provisional Member or an Honary Member and after entry (in the register of guests retained for this purpose) of the guest's name and address and the signature of the introducing member on each occasion on any day the guest enters the Club premises. No guest shall remain on Club premises or be supplied with liquor unless in the reasonable company of and on invitation of the member.



Fishing Club Rules



1. Fishing Club (the Club) Rules can only be established or changed by :-
 - (a) The Constitution of the Balmain Leagues Club
 - (b) By the majority of members present at the Annual General Meeting of the Fishing Club voting on a Notice of Motion presented at the AGM .
 - (c) By the majority of members present at a Special General Meeting of the Fishing Club voting on a Notice of Motion presented at the Special General Meeting.

COMMITTEE



2. The fishing club is run by an Executive committee, elected by members at the Annual General Meeting.

COMMITTEEs currently consist of the following positions:-

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



- President
- Club Captain (Vice President)
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Boat Captain

The Executive committee is empowered to run the Fishing Club in accordance with the Constitution, Rules and By-laws of the Leagues Club.

It is important to note that COMMITTEE cannot change the Fishing Club rules, it can however formulate notices of motion relating to new rules, changes to existing rules, or deletion of rules for presentation to an AGM or Special General Meeting

All Committee meetings must be held at the Balmain Leagues Club Limited.



MEMBERSHIP



3. The Financial and Competition Year of the Fishing club is from July 1st to June 30th each Year.

4. Membership Categories and Membership Fees:

Life Members \$ 0.00

Ordinary Members \$ 5.00

Junior Members \$ 5.00

Membership Subscriptions include:

- Ordinary Membership Fees
- New South Wales Govt. Sports Insurance

CHARTER BOAT



5. Trip fees is \$40 per trip and \$45 if the member is not assisting in the The Club Saturday raffle.

Unless otherwise stated Trip Fees Do Not Include:-

Bait, Transport to and from the boat, Food and Drink, Clothing, Hooks, Knife, Sinkers etc.

ATTENDANCE ON TRIPS



6. Fishing Club members have first *priority* on all trips, for up to two (2) weeks prior to the date of the trip. Any visitors who place their name on the trip sheet during this time, will have their names removed to Reserves.

7. Juniors must be at least 12 years of age and members of the fishing club. Juniors must be accompanied by the parent or guardian who sponsored their membership, and no more than two (2) juniors may attend in a group. Visitors are not entitled to bring any Juniors on a Charter trip.

8. Junior Members, placed on the trip notice, other than as “Reserves”, up to one (1) week prior to the trip, will be charged the full Trip Fees.

9. Juniors placed on the Trip from “Reserves”, will be charged Half the full Trip Fees

10. All Trip Fees **must** be paid at the time of booking for the trip. Members are responsible for paying the trip fees of their guests.

11. Any person (Member or Visitor) whose name is on the trip sheet and has **not paid** for the trip, may have their name removed from the Trip list in favour of a paying Member.

12. At the discretion of the Boat Captain or delegated committee member, Fishing positions on the boat will be **DRAWN** by the Boat Captain or other committee member, at a time prior to the Charter. Members must fish at their drawn position. Members who are not present at



the draw and attend a trip will be allocated a position at the front end of the boat and can only change positions at the Boat Captains Discretion but not to the detriment of other members.

13. When the number of members attending the Club to put their names down on the charter boat trip, exceeds the capacity of the boat . It has been decided that the fairest way to determine who can attend will be to draw for positions. Any member (with the exception of the Charter Boat Captain) attending the club on the trip notice night and wishing to go on the charter boat, must obtain a ticket from COMMITTEE.

14. Where a trip is cancelled for any reason, Crew on the cancelled trip have no preference on the next trip.

15. Visitors and juniors will always be drawn next to the member inviting them, all others will be drawn with individual numbers.

16. Any member with a disability may approach COMMITTEE requesting to be allocated a particular position on the charter boat. This request must be in writing, stating the position required and the reason for the request. Upon approval by COMMITTEE, the boat captain will ensure that this position or one close by is allocated

17. Persons who “**CANCEL**” for any reason **MUST** notify the Boat Captain as soon as possible and must remove their name from the Trip list. - This applies to all trip participants and Reserves. - If a replacement cannot be found, such person will be liable for the full trip fee, at the discretion of COMMITTEE.

18. Trip Notices for the next trip will be decided at the club meeting immediately prior to first trip of the current month.

19. The Trip Notice will remain valid until the night before the trip, and may only be changed by the Boat Captain or other committee member.

20. Reserves will be promoted to Crew on a trip in the order they appear on the reserve list. Providing they :-

- i Indicate that they still wish to attend the trip.
- ii Attend the Club and pay their full trip fees,

21. Reserves who are unable to be placed as crew on a trip, will be given priority to attend the next additional trip organised.

22. The nominated Boat Captain is in complete control on each Trip.

23. Cancellations due to weather conditions can only be made by the charter operators, and unless advised by them beforehand. Trips will be cancelled at the wharf

24. In all the above circumstances if no cancellation or trip fee is payable by the Club all trip fees paid will be refunded. Any cancellation of the Trip at any time after leaving the heads, the full trip boat hiring fee is payable and as such, no trip fees will be refunded to members. When a Charter boat trip is cancelled for any reason this gives any persons on such cancelled trip, priority on the next Charter trip



25. The charter boat will leave from the Themes St Ferry Wharf Balmain at 0500 precisely. Any person missing the Boat will be liable for the full trip fees. All members and guests fishing with the Club must hold a current NSW Fishing Licence

JUNIORS



26. Members are responsible for the good conduct of juniors in their care, and must ensure that they fish according to all the rules of the Fishing Club. They should also take precautions against Sea-Sickness, as trips will not be called off for this reason alone.

VISITORS AND GUESTS (INCLUDING JUNIORS)



27. Visitors and Guests are only permitted to attend fishing club activities in accordance with the Sporting Clubs Constitution of The Leagues Club and it is the inviting members responsibility to see that they complete and sign the Visitors register for each such activity they attend. Members are responsible for paying the trip fees of their invited visitors.

ON THE CHARTER BOAT



28. Where defined, everyone must fish the full trip, from the position they were "Drawn" Members who are not present at the draw and attend a trip will be allocated a position at the front end of the boat and can only change positions at the Boat Captains Discretion but not to the detriment of other members.

29. Everyone must use the same weight of **sinker** as nominated by the Boat Captain.

30. No person is permitted to fish with more than **one handline** and or Rod at any one time

31. No person is to leave his line **unattended** whilst it is in the water. (Wind it in)

32. Fish caught while **trolling** are **not** eligible for weigh-in and belong to the person catching it.

33. If Your line goes "**LIGHT**" wind it in - Do NOT leave slack line in the water - it only makes tangles worse

34. Beads, Spiderwire, Fish Oil and lures of any discription and plastic baits are not permitted.

35. Whether using fixed winches or rods, they may only be used whilst fishing when the boat is not under way and this winch must be rigged as follows:

(A) Mainline - Must be Braid, or mono-filament line of between 30 and 40lb breaking strain. Thermo filament line eg; "Spider wire", "Fire Line" Etc is specifically banned

(B) Terminal tackle (from main line to sinker) must be tied using Braid, or mono-filament line having a minimum breaking strain of 15kg (30 lb)

The rig must be a standard charter boat rig, ie; consisting of no more than 3 dropper loops for attaching the hooks

1 dropper loop for attaching the sinker.-



A loop swivel, ring or snaplock may be used for attaching the rig to the mainline.

36. No more than one rod or winch (1), may be used at any one time, nor may they have more than three (3) hooks or a flights of hooks attached.

A flight of hooks is defined as “a number of hooks which are ganged or individually fastened to a line for the purpose of securing a single bait”.

FISH



37. Only Fish boated with a hook and line attached are eligible for weigh-in, unless the fish is detached in the process of netting or gaffing.

38. A fish lost in the water during the process of landing and subsequently boated, still belongs to the person catching it and may be weighed in.

39. All fish retained , must conform to the **legal limits** as set by law, and the Club rules, for both Legal lengths and bag limits.

40. ALL FISH PRESENTED FOR WEIGH-IN

Must be

- (a) gilled, gutted, roed and free of foreign matter OR
- (b) Catch and Release in accordance with NSW Fisheries Authority guidelines
- Must be intact ie ; Head and tail attached.
- Scaling is optional.

41. Other fish not conforming to the “Clubs” Size limits but, conforming to the size limits of the NSW fisheries may be retained, but cannot be weighed in.

42. Any person found to be in possession of **illegal sized fish**, As defined by the NSW Fisheries or fish in excess of the bag limits set by that same authority will not be eligible for any points for the trip and at COMMITTEEs determination.

43. Any **challenge as to the eligibility of fish**, MUST be made at the weigh-in, to the Boat Captain or Weigh-Master of the day. Any disagreement may be made in writing to COMMITTEE whose decision will be final.





MEASURING A FISH:

44. (A) Gutted and Gilled Fish - The Fish to be measured should be straightened if necessary so that it will lie flat and straight on the measuring stick and its mouth should be closed. (B) Catch & Release - Measurement is performed in accordance with NSW fisheries



BAG AND SIZE LIMITS for fish caught in NSW Waters

45. Only those fish included on the Fishing Club's eligible species list may be weighed-in for annual competition purposes and then only when they comply with the Club's bag and size limits. In all cases the Club limits will always comply with the NSW Fisheries Regulations however in many instances the bag and size limits set are more restrictive than those set by the NSW Fisheries

Fish ineligible for weigh-in may be retained by the angler providing that they comply with size and bag limits as set by the "NSW Fisheries Act and Regulations" from time to time.

46. **INELIGIBLE SPECIES** for weigh-ins **include** Sharks, Rays, Eels, Saltwater Catfish, Rock Cod, Kelp Fish, Frog Fish, Toad Fish, Sun Fish, Box Fish, Black Spinefoot, Wirrah Cod ("Boots"), Estuarine Cod, Black Rock Cod., Maori Wrasse and other Parrot Fish,

47. **PROTECTED SPECIES.** The following species are totally protected and must be released:- Giant Queensland Groper, Estuary Cod, Black- Rock Cod, Eastern Blue Devil Fish, Elegant Wrasse, Grey Nurse Shark for weigh-ins **include** Sharks, Rays, Eels, Saltwater Catfish, Rock Cod, Kelp Fish, Frog Fish, Toad Fish, Sun Fish, Box Fish, Black Spinefoot, Wirrah Cod ("Boots"), Estuarine Cod, Black Rock Cod., Maori Wrasse and other Parrot Fish,

48. CLAIMING CLUB RECORDS

Club records may be claimed for any species caught on any Club outing, providing the species can be positively identified and complies with NSW Fisheries Size limits. All Club Records are cleaned weights ie; Gilled and Gutted



POINT SCORES

49. There must be at least four (4) Financial Fishing Club Members present at the weigh-in to constitute an official Trip.

50. Points are awarded on each fishing trip as follows:-

Fish- One (1) Point per fish and Four(4) points per Kilogram (Pro-Rata) for all eligible fish properly weighed in.



51. Weights are to be recorded to the lowest 50gms

52. It is the competitors responsibility to nominate fish for the largest species section when weighing- in.

53. **Only Fishing Club Full Members** are eligible for Perpetual Trophies, Records Etc.; - Visitors and Juniors Points count only towards any trophies so allocated by COMMITTEE.



PENALTIES

54. Members found to be in breach of these rules, or whose bad conduct has been reported to COMMITTEE, **may be suspended** from the Fishing Club and or Cited to the Leagues Club by COMMITTEE.

55. **No points will be awarded** to any person in breach of the rules on any fishing trip.

56. Any member who **cancels** from a trip or social event, for which fees are payable, for any reason , **must pay the full fee**, for themselves and their guests, unless this is waived by COMMITTEE.

57. Any person who **owes money to the Club** will not be eligible to attend any club functions and shall forfeit any entitlement to point scores and trophy awards until outstanding debts are paid in full, unless waived by COMMITTEE



ELECTION OF COMMITTEE

58. All Committee positions become vacant at The Annual General Meeting of the Club.

59. Prospective members of COMMITTEE must be financial members of the Fishing Club and must be Proposed and seconded by Financial members of the Fishing Club.

60. Should more than one person be nominated for the same position on COMMITTEE, then the result will be determined by a vote of financial members present at the AGM.



SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

61. COMMITTEE or 10% of financial members, giving notice to COMMITTEE, may call a Special General Meeting of the Fishing Club for the purpose of discussing and or ratifying any of the Fishing Club Rules. Notice of such Special General Meeting and the reason for which it is to be convened must be placed on the Fishing Club notice board at least 30 days before the proposed date of the meeting.



NOTICES OF MOTION



62. Any proposed changes to the rules of the Fishing Club, must be subject to a notice of motion, moved and seconded by financial members of the fishing and displayed on the Club Notice Board for at least two weeks (14 days) prior to the Annual General Meeting, or Special General Meeting.

FISHING CLUB RAFFLE



63. Each Saturday afternoon the Club operates a Seafood Raffle in the Leagues Club to raise income which goes to subsidising the trips. Every member is encouraged to assist in running the raffle at least once per quarter. Members not assisting in the Raffle will be charged \$45 for the fishing trip in lieu of \$40.

BAG AND SIZE LIMITS GRAPH AS AT APRIL 2009











64. The following information is current at time of printing but some bag and size limits may change over time. It is the responsibility of fishers to ensure they are acting within the law at all times.

A maximum daily bag limit of 20 applies to any species not listed below.











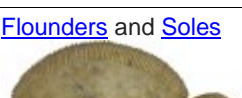



Explanation Of Terms Bag limit: The maximum number of fish or invertebrates per person in possession. Figure plus asterisk (*) denotes limit comprised of any single species or a combination of listed grouped species. Legal length: The minimum length of a fish unless otherwise stated. A fish which does not reach this minimum length must be immediately returned to the water. Some species have maximum length restrictions to protect larger breeding females.

Possession limit: The maximum number of fish a person is allowed to have in their possession at any one time. For all saltwater species the daily bag limit is also the possession limit.















Species	Size limits or legal length (cm)	Bag limit
<p>Australian bass & estuary perch</p> <p>Australian bass</p>  <p>Closed season in rivers and estuaries June - August incl.</p> <p>Estuary perch</p>  <p>Closed season in rivers and estuaries June - August incl.</p>	Only 1 over 35cm	2 in total *, 4 in possession
<p>Australian salmon</p> <p>Australian salmon</p> 	-	5
<p>Bluefish</p> <p>Bluefish</p> 	-	0 - release only Lord Howe Marine Park 5
<p>Bonito</p> <p>Bonito</p> 	-	10
<p>Bream & tarwhine</p> <p>Bream (Black/southern)</p>  <p>Bream (Yellowfin)</p>  <p>Tarwhine</p> 	25 cm	20 in total *
25 cm		
20 cm		














Deep-sea fish	Hapuka 	-	5 in total *, gemfish: only 2 and boat trip limit of 10
	Bar Cod 	-	
	Bass groper 	-	
	Gemfish 	-	
	Blue-eye cod 	-	
Dolphinfish	Dolphinfish 	60 cm, only 1 over 110 cm	10
Eels	Eels (Short and longfinned) 	(Shortfinned) 30cm (Longfinned) 58cm	(Shortfinned) 10 (Longfinned) 10
Flathead	Flathead (Dusky/common) 	36cm, only 1 over 70cm	10
	Flathead (Sand) 	33 cm	20 in total *
	Flathead (Tiger) 		
Flounder & sole	Flounders and Soles 	25cm	20 in total *
Garfish	Garfish (eastern sea) 	-	20
Groper	Groper (blue, brown, red) 	30cm, only 1 over 60cm	2 in total *, by line only
Hairtail	Hairtail 	-	10

















Kingfish, yellowtail	Kingfish, yellowtail 	65 cm	5
Leatherjackets	Leatherjackets 	-	20 in total *
Luderick	Luderick 	27 cm	20
Mackerel	Mackerel (Spanish) 	(Spanish) 75cm	5 in total *
	Mackerel (Spotted) 	(Spotted) 60cm	
Mangrove Jack	Mangrove Jack 	-	5
Marlin	Marlin (Striped) 	-	1 of each species
	Marlin (Black) 		
	Marlin (Blue) 		
Morwong	Morwong (Rubberlip) 	30cm	10
	Morwong (Jackass) 	30cm	10
	Morwong (Red/sea carp) 	30cm	5





	Morwong (Banded) 	-	5
Moses perch	Moses perch 	-	5
Mullet	Mullet 	Small (poddy) Under 15 cm	20 in total * for live bait only
		Sea (bully) only 30 cm	20 in total *
Mulloway	Mulloway 	45 cm only 2 fish over 70 cm	5
Pearl perch	Pearl perch 	30 cm	5
Red rock cod	Red rock cod (Scorpionfish) 	-	5
Rock blackfish	Rock blackfish 	30 cm	10
Samson & Amberjack	Samsonfish 	-	5 in total *
	Amberjack 		
Sawtail surgeon	Sawtail surgeon 	-	5
Sharks and rays	Shark (Wobbegong) 	-	0 for wobbegong (release only).



	Shark (Mako) 	-	5 in total *, only 1 tiger, mako, blue shark, hammerhead or other whaler species.
	Shark (School) 	91 cm	
	Shark (Whaler) 	-	
Snapper	Snapper 	30 cm	10
Spearfish	Spearfish 	-	1
Swordfish	Swordfish 	-	1
Tailor	Tailor 	30 cm	20
Teraglin	Teraglin 	38 cm	5
Trevallies	Trevallies 	(silver trevally only) 30 cm	20 in total *
Tuna	Tuna (Albacore) 	90 cm or above	2 in total *
	Tuna (Big-eye) 	Less than 90 cm	5 in total *
	Tuna (Longtail) 		
	Tuna (Southern bluefin) 		
	Tuna (Yellowfin) 		



Wahoo	Wahoo 	-	5
Whiting	Whiting 	(sand only) 27 cm	20 in total *



RECORD OF AMENDMENTS

Document Control

Version Number: 1

Version Date: 15 April 2009

Version Number	Change Date	Summary of Changes	Author
1	April 2009	New Document	D. Moore

Revision History

Version Number	Revision Date	Recommendations	Reviewer	Action

