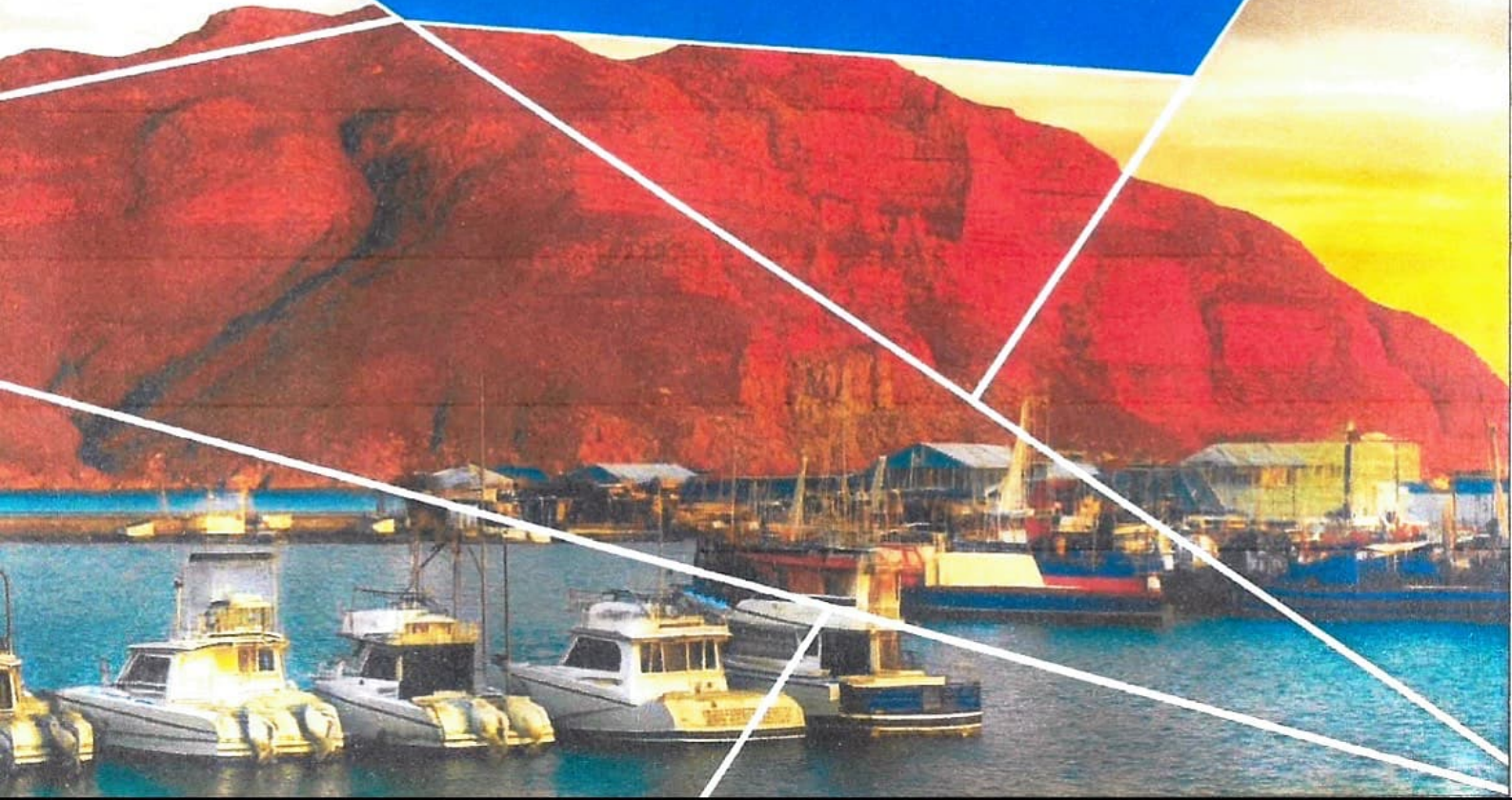




**2026 EFSA  
BIG GAME  
CHAMPIONSHIP**

**02 - 06 NOVEMBER 2026**

*Cape Town, Hout Bay  
South Africa*



# **TOURNAMENT INFORMATION**



## **VENUE**

Atlantic Boat Club, Hout Bay Harbour, Cape Town

## **DATES**

2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> November 2026 (4 days fishing)  
OPENING CEREMONY: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2026

## **REGISTRATION**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2026 @ 16h00

## **CLOSING CEREMONY**

Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2026 @ 18h30

## **ENTRY FEE**

\* €5466.98 per 3-man boat of 3 anglers inclusive of:

- Opening & closing function,
- Breakfasts,
- Lunch Packs, which includes refreshments on the boat,
- Dinner for the anglers each evening,
- Boats are included, between 26 and 36 feet,
- Bait (10 x 5kg boxes of bait per boat per day),
- But excludes: Accommodation for teams.

## **REGISTRATION**

All anglers, prior to the commencement of the tournament, shall sign an indemnity form which indemnifies the host province, SADSAA, the sponsors, and any person involved in the tournament or its organisation.

## **DRESS CODE**

Opening & Closing Ceremony - Full Step Out Uniforms.

## **SKIPPER'S BRIEFING**

There will be a compulsory team captain's and skipper's briefing @18h00 on Monday evening, 2<sup>nd</sup> of November 2026.

## **PRIZES**

Will be medals, trophies or pins or a combination thereof.

## **PRIZE GIVING**

The prize giving will take place at The Lookout - Atlantic Boat Club, Hout Bay at 19h00, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2026. It is compulsory for all teams to be present. Requests for extra guests must be made to the organizers at least 1 week beforehand and will be charged for.

## **RULES**

IGFA/SADSAA rules will apply, as per this brochure.

## **TEAMS**

Each team will consist of a maximum of nine (9) anglers on three (3) boats, but may be less than this. Each boat will consist of three (3) anglers. Should there be anglers who cannot fill a boat, they will be paired with anglers from other countries.

## **BAIT**

Bait will be supplied each morning before departing from the docks. Bait may be carried over each day.

## **FUEL**

Each boat will be allocated 300l fuel, per official fishing day. Any extra used will be for the teams/anglers cost.

## **WEATHER**

The weather committee will decide on the weather each day from 05h30.

THE WEATHER COMMITTEE AT SEA WILL USE AN ALTERNATE CHANNEL 69 & KAVI COMM WHEN A DECISION NEEDS TO BE MADE AND NO OTHER BOAT MAY GET INVOLVED IN THE DECISION.

They may decide to call the competition off or shorten the fishing hours for any day, if weather conditions so require. Any fish still being fought that was hooked prior to this call must be reported to the control boat or Ski Boat Mobile immediately. In this event, the fish must be cut off immediately.

NB: ALL QUERIES REGARDING THESE RULES MUST BE RESOLVED IN WRITING, AT THE LATEST, 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE START OF THE TOURNAMENT.

*Tournament Committee is still to be announced.*

# TOURNAMENT RULES

## 1. BOATS AND SKIPPERS (CAPTAINS):

- 1.1 A list of Tournament Boats and Skippers (Captains) will be supplied by the Tournaments Committee from which the teams will select through a boat draw that will take place at the opening briefing, for their vessels for the week.
- 1.2 Only boats that hold a current, Valid South African Seaworthy Certificate (Certificate of Fitness or Local General Certificate) for that year may be used in the Tournament.
- 1.3 Only Skippers considered to be competent by the SADSAA and the host Province will take part in the Tournament and they should hold a recognised valid Skipper's ticket (Certificate of Competency).
- 1.4 Each boat will carry a Skipper, a deck hand and an international team consisting of three (3) anglers.
- 1.5 The Skipper of the boat will be bound by IGFA Rules except that he may not assist the competitors in the making up of terminal tackle or the rigging of baits whilst at sea. Only one person, either the Skipper or second crew member may assist at any one time.
- 1.6 Skippers will adhere to all rules, radio reporting times and procedures as laid down by the organisers.

## 2. WEIGH AND RELEASE TOURNAMENT

- 2.1 This tournament will be a full release tournament, however 1 x boated fish may be brought to the scale per team per day.

## 3. TACKLE, EQUIPMENT AND RULES:

- 3.1 This will be a 50lbs (24kg) line class tournament.
- 3.2 Heavier breaking strain line, other than the prescribed line classes is permitted on the boat exclusively for the purpose of towing teasers or utilization for leaders and traces.
- 3.3 Any team member using line with a heavier breaking strain than the line class of the Tournament will result in his entire team's catch being disqualified for that day. This excludes the line when used as described and covered in point 3.1 or 3.4.
- 3.4 The IGFA weakest link rule will apply as described below:
  - 3.4.1 Monofilament, multifilament, and lead core multifilament lines may be used.
  - 3.4.2 Wire lines are prohibited
  - 3.4.3 Backing is permitted but may not exceed 130lbs (60kg)
  - 3.4.4 The catch shall be classified under the breaking strength of the first 5 meters (16.5 feet) of line directly preceding the double line, leader and hook. This section must be comprised of a single, homogenous piece of monofilament line and may not exceed 130lbs (60kg) line class.
- 3.5 All tackle and gaffs shall conform to IGFA rules (with additions as stated in these rules) as it applies to the line class used.
- 3.6 No braid line may be used for the "weak link" but may be used before the weak link as backing.
- 3.7 Spooning and popping is permissible.
- 3.8 The use of offset circle hooks is not allowed.
- 3.9 If fishing with a circle hook, only non-offset circle hooks may be used for all baits.
- 3.10 The use of rigged artificial lures that have been rigged with treble hooks are permissible as per IGFA Rules.
- 3.11 NOTE: Anglers are warned that should they use the minimum length of line as specified in the "weak link" IGFA rule, there may not be sufficient line for testing for record purposes. It is advised that a minimum of 15 meters be used.

- 3.12 All fish released must be unscathed and will be deemed as a recorded fish for the angler's total for the day. Once a fish has been recorded by the Skipper on the official weigh sheet, it will be deemed as binding.
- 3.13 If a fish is unable to swim away unscathed, that fish may be boated but NOT brought to scale at all. Such a fish will be utilized or donated to the underprivileged.
- 3.14 The Skipper remains the Tournament and SADSAA's referee to ensure the adherence of these rules.
- 3.15 There will be no more than two (2) lines per angler in the water at any one time.
- 3.16 The team scoring the highest number of points shall be the winner.
- 3.17 Leader in hand is deemed as a caught fish, however the bite trace should be cut as close to the fishes' mouth as possible for the release.
- 3.18 In the event of a tie, it will be decided by time. The team with the quickest release on the last fish will be deemed as the winning team.
- 3.19 The results of the Tournament will be decided over the actual number of days fished.
- 3.20 The Skipper positions over the Tournament will be determined by the SADSAA point scoring system.

#### **4. TOURNAMENT ADJUDICATION COMMITTEE**

- 4.1 There shall be a Tournament Adjudicating Committee consisting of the following three members:  
MR. ANTON VAN DEN BERG | MR. NICK NEL | MR. STIAAN DU PLOOY

#### **5. BAIT**

- 5.1 10 X 5Kg Boxes of Pilchards will be supplied and available for collection at the beginning of each day. It is the responsibility of the team to collect this.
- 5.2 No other bait, other than the supplied bait or that purchased from the Tournament Organisers, or bait caught out at sea on the day, may be used.
- 5.3 Any bait that was not used for the day can be carried over for that following day.

#### **6. FISHING TIMES**

- 6.1 Fishing times will be from 06h00 to lines up at 15h00 every day except on the last day.
- 6.2 On the last day of the tournament the fishing times are 06h00 and lines up is at 14h00.
- 6.3 All fish must be hooked by the "lines-up" time and team which report by radio before lines up time, the fact that the fish is hooked but not yet boated, will be allowed extra time of a maximum of one (1) Hour. Any fish hooked by an angler after "lines-up" will be disqualified. No extra time will be allowed on the last day.
- 6.4 Fishing hours may be adjusted during the tournament by the organisers if they deem it necessary for the purpose of safety. Should the organisers wish to extend fishing hours beyond the published times, for whatever reason, then all teams must be informed before the launching of the boats on that specific day.
- 6.5 All teams must report to the scales for "weigh-in" by no later than the time specified by the organisers unless the organising committee decide so, or for reasons of breakdown or rendering assistance to a distress call. To extend the weigh-in time for that specific craft only. The decisions of the adjudicating committee will be final.
- 6.6 Should the decision be taken to call the tournament to a halt by either a "on-sea" or land-based Safety Committee, then all boats will immediately return to the harbour. Any boats fighting fish will immediately cut the line and proceed to the harbour.
- 6.7 If the tournament is called off due to a weather or a safety call, then no boats taking part in the tournament will be allowed to proceed to sea on their own accord, or if the tournament is called off whilst at sea the no boats participating in the tournament will be allowed to stay out at sea and continue fishing.

## 7. BREAKDOWN OF THE TOURNAMENT BOATS

- 7.1 Should any craft break down during the tournament this must be reported by radio to the Adjudicating Committee immediately.
- 7.2 Lost fishing time will not be made up, but the Adjudicating Committee will endeavour to replace or repair the broken-down craft as soon as possible.

## 8. WEIGH-IN AND JUDGING

- 8.1 Weigh-in will be verified by clear, time stamped photograph or video footage taken by the team or Skipper.
- 8.2 The official footage must have a clear date and time visible on the video or photograph.
- 8.3 The entire team and the Skipper must be present at the weight station. The footage must be submitted by the Captain to the Weigh Master, and his decision will in all respects be final and binding.
- 8.4 Each team's catch shall be recorded on a catch return form furnished by the tournament host. This form must be signed by the team captain, Skipper and weigh master at the weigh in.
- 8.5 The angler shall be required to exhibit the bait (lures), rod, reel and any relevant tackle with which the fish was caught, to the Weigh Master, if the Weigh Master deems it necessary.
- 8.6 The Adjudicating Committee may investigate and act upon any incident occurring during the tournament as they deem necessary.
- 8.7 Any protest concerning validity of any catch, shall be filed in writing accompanied by R1000.00 fee, signed by the protesting team and delivered to the tournament Adjudicating Committee within one hour of the close of weigh-in on the day in question.
- 8.8 The decision of the majority of the Adjudicating Committee shall be final.
- 8.9 If the objection is upheld, the protest fee will be returned: if set aside, then the protest fee will be retained by the organising tournament committee and utilised as they deem fit.

## 9. PRIZES

- 9.1 Prizes shall be in the form of pins and/or trophies only and shall consist of the following minimum number of awards per tournament:

TEAM		BOAT	
1st Place	Gold Pins and Trophy (Max. of 9 anglers, total score divided by number of team members)	1st Place	Gold Pins and Trophy (Max of 3 anglers per boat)
2nd Place	Silver Pins	2nd Place	Silver Pins
3rd Place	Bronze Pins	3rd Place	Bronze Pins
ANGLER		SKIPPER	
1st Place	Gold Pins and Trophy	1st Place	Gold Pins and Trophy
2nd Place	Silver Pins	2nd Place	Silver Pins
3rd Place	Bronze Pins	3rd Place	Bronze Pins

## 10. COMMUNICATIONS

- 10.1 All radio communications between tournament boats and between the organisers and tournament boats will be initiated by a call up on VHF Marine Channel 71 only unless otherwise instructed by the organisers.

## **11. COMPETITORS**

- 11.1 A team may consist of a maximum of 9 (nine) anglers, in multiples of 3 (three)
- 11.2 A boat will consist of a maximum of 3 (three) anglers, with a maximum of 3 (three) boats per country.
- 11.3 Awards will be for top teams, top boats, top anglers and top Skippers.
- 11.4 **INFRACTION:** Any person, including Skippers guilty of infraction of any of the rules may be disqualified from participating further in the tournament and all future tournaments sanctioned by SADSAA.
- 11.5 The latest IGFA rules will apply to tournaments, and the onus will be on participants to keep themselves informed of the latest rules and amendments.

## **12. POINT SCORING - FOR RELEASED FISH**

- 12.1 Long Fin Tuna = 5 Points
- 12.2 Yellow Fin Tuna, Blue Fin Tuna, Big Eye Tuna = 30 Points

The points for each individual fish will be calculated as follows:

## **12. POINT SCORING - BOATED FISH**

- 13.1 One (1) Fish per team is allowed to be boated per day.
- 13.2 The minimum weight for such a fish is 60kg (IF THE FISH BROUGHT TO THE SCALE TO BE WEIGHED IS LESS THAN THE PRESCRIBED MINIMUM WEIGHT, ONLY HALF OF THE FISH'S WEIGHT IN POINTS WILL BE ALLOCATED TO THE ANGLER).
- 13.3 1 X Point will be allocated per kg.
- 13.4 60kg Yellow Fin = 60 Points
- 13.5 55kg Yellow Fin = 27.5 Points

## **14. GENERAL**

- 14.1 All anglers will prior to the commencement of the tournament sign an indemnity form, which indemnifies the host Province, SADSAA, the sponsors and any person involved in the tournament or the organisation thereof.
- 14.2 Each country must supply an audio recording of their country's National Anthem.
- 14.3 Acceptances / non-participation to the invitation must be returned by email no later than the final date specified by the invitation.

A fully completed expression of interest form from a country should be returned by no later than the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2026 including a 50% refundable deposit of the total amount of the entrance fee €5466.98 per 3-man boat. The remaining 50% of the entrance fee is payable by the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2026 to secure your spot in this prestigious tournament. If the team wishes to withdraw by the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2026 the 50% deposit will be refunded to the team.

Entry fees are payable into the following account:

South African Deep Sea Angling Association (SADSAA)  
Standard Bank of South Africa  
Account Number : 051397498  
Branch Code : 002826  
SWIFT Code : SBZAJJ

# OUR FLEET



*Sean Todd*



## ENTRY FORM

Name of Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Captain \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Team: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Team Members:

	Name	Surname	T-Shirt Size	ID/Passport Nr
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				

Email of leading newspaper in your country: \_\_\_\_\_

### Any company attending the function with you - Name & Surname:

1	_____	7	_____
2	_____	8	_____
3	_____	9	_____
4	_____	10	_____
5	_____	11	_____
6	_____	12	_____

Please confirm the number of team members attending for evening for evening meals:

Special dietary requirements:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please email the above filled in document to:  
secretary@sadsaa.co.za | tournaments@sadsa.co.za | president@sadsaa.co.za

# PROGRAM OF EVENTS

## OPENING FUNCTION:

Monday 2nd November 2026

16h00	Registration & Handout
17h30	Team Photographs
18h00	International Parade
18h30	Captains & Skippers Briefing
19h00	Opening Announcements
19h30	Team Presentations
19h55	Skippers Presentation
20h00	Dinner at The Lookout Deck Atlantic Boat Club

## CLOSING CEREMONY:

Friday 6th November 2026

14h00	Lines up
15h00	Weigh station open
17h00	Weigh station closes
19h00	Closing Ceremony
20h00	Dinner at The Lookout Deck Atlantic Boat Club

## Daily Program for Fishing Days

05h30	Breakfast at The Lookout Deck or Atlantic Boat Club
05h30	Weather call at Atlantic Boat Club
05h30	Lunch box collection
05h30	Bait Collection
05h45	Launching
06h00	Depart from harbor
11h00	Boat Catch Report
13h00	Boat Catch Report
15h00	Lines Up (subject to change)
16h00	Weigh station open
18h00	Weigh station close (subject to change)
18h30	Dinner at The Lookout Deck or Atlantic Boat Club

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