

THE GAME FISHING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

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MINUTES OF FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE HELD AT
SCOTT'S HOTEL, MELBOURNE, ON WEDNESDAY, THE
29th JUNE, 1949, AT 2 P.M.

PRESENT: MR. T. A. BELL, (President - Game Fishing Association of
Australia.
Mr. J.W. Taylor, (Hon. Secretary, " " "
Mr. John Wallace, -- Representing Victoria
Mr. Hugh Syme, -- " "
Mr. A.F. D'Ombraim - " New South Wales
Mr. John Kelly, -- " " "
Mr. G.R. Cowell -- " South Australia
Mr. F.C.D. Henderson " Queensland.

ABSENT: Mr. T.E. Cooper -- South Australia.

WELCOME TO DELEGATES: The President, Mr. T.A. Bell, welcomed all Delegates and expressed appreciation for the valuable time given up in the interests of fellow anglers.

Mr. Bell said that the last meeting was held 10 years ago, and expressed the opinion that future meetings must be held annually or biennially.

He stated that the object of the meeting was to bring G.F.A.A. up to date; to go through the rules and endeavour to make overall rules for Australia, to be adopted by each State Club, and their affiliated Clubs, and those rules to be so watertight that no arguments could arise in the future.

Mr. Bell proposed that each State have two votes and that the Minutes of the Meeting be adopted by each State.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were tabled and confirmed.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. Taylor, stated that the account of G.F.A.A. with the Commonwealth Bank was in credit to the extent of £32/11/2d. - this was the amount handed over by the last Hon. Secretary and no monies had been expended since Mr. Bell had taken office. Any expenses had been met personally by Mr. Bell and Mr. Taylor.

RESOLUTION NO.1. It was moved by Mr. Cowell, and seconded by Mr. Henderson that the financial Statement be accepted.

IS G.F.A.A. WARRANTED?

The President stated that doubts existed in the minds of some anglers whether the existence of G.F.A.A. was justified or needed at present. At a meeting of the Swordfish and Tunny Club, a motion to the effect that G.F.A.A. was unnecessary, was defeated. To clarify the position delegates will be asked to vote on this question. Should they agree that G.F.A.A. was unwarranted, he, the President, would close the Conference as all matters on the Agenda dealt with the future of that Association.

Mr. Taylor stated that G.F.A.A. warranted being

being carried on, mainly for the purpose for which it was formed, viz :-
 To standardise Rules for Game Fishing throughout Australia. These Rules to be agreed to by delegates in conference from all States.
 Recording of Australian Record Fish, and advising State Clubs of any new Records, as established.
 Originally all correspondence with I.G.F.A. was dealt with through G.F.A.A. This has got out of hand and will be dealt with under the next item on the Agenda.
 After discussion it was moved by Mr. Henderson, and seconded by Mr. Kelly, and resolved that G.F.A.A. would continue.

SHOULD ALL
 MATTERS FROM
 I.G.F.A. BE
 DEALT WITH
 THROUGH THIS
 ASSOCIATION
 OR DIRECT TO
 ANY INDIVID-
 UAL CLUB OR
 ANGLER:

Mr. Taylor informed the meeting of the difficulties at present existing through each State, and even individuals writing direct to I.G.F.A. and receiving replies, without any notification to G.F.A.A. As all delegates would understand, this system is entirely unworkable, and he was firmly of the opinion that future holders of office in G.F.A.A. should not suffer this handicap. There was no reason why all correspondence should not go through the Hon. Secretary of G.F.A.A. as far as America was concerned. It was purely a domestic matter for Australia by agreement between the State Clubs and their Affiliated Clubs.

Mr. Taylor read an extract from a letter received from the I.G.F.A. as follows :

"The problem in your particular case seems to be rather simple; we allow your clubs to send applications for Records directly to us; you do not wish to allow this because of quite natural circumstances. The solution would seem to me to be equally simple. If you wish to make a ruling for your branches that all such communications should go through you, by which I mean the Game Fishing Association of Australia, all you have to do is to make this ruling and to notify us that it has been agreed upon by all your branches that communications to us shall come through you and that you request us to send our communications to the branches also through you. If this is your decision, we will, of course, comply with it. The only difficulty I can see in connection with this is that should an angler submit a claim independently and should he fail to state that he was a member of one of these clubs, we cannot ignore the claim, as anglers, according to our rules, are under no obligation to be members of any club whatever in order to present a claim for Record. We also, of course, must honor claims from Australian Anglers who do not happen to belong to one of your Branches or perhaps to any club at all.

"In other words, if the Game Fishing Association of Australia has a rule which applies to their entire membership, they will of course, enforce this rule with their membership. We cannot say that it is our rule, when it is not. However, if the Game Fishing Association of Australia will inform us that this is their rule and that they have so informed all their branches, then it would appear to me that all

they have done is to request us to comply with their rules for their branches and for themselves in cases of claims stated to come from members of the Game Fishing Association of Australia or any of its branches.

"I think you will understand that we cannot impose such a rule on any other clubs or individuals. However, if the clubs have such a rule, all they have to do is to tell us that they have such a rule and that claims are coming to us through a central body."

RESOLUTION NO.3. After discussion on the matter, it was moved by Mr. Wallace, seconded by Mr. Cowell, and RESOLVED that all administration, correspondence, and dealings with I.G.F.A. be confined as far as Australia is concerned to direct communication between G.F.A.A. and I.G.F.A., G.F.A.A. then to deal direct with State governing bodies.

SHOULD THE
PRESIDENT
OF G.F.A.A.
BE THE
AUSTRALIAN
REPRESENT-
ATIVE FOR
I.G.F.A. or
SHOULD THERE
BE AN ADDIT-
IONAL PERSON
AGE:

The President stated that Mr. Firth resigned as the Australian on the International Committee to I.G.F.A. unknown to G.F.A.A., and the first indication was when he mentioned it to Mr. Taylor on his way through to New Zealand, and a letter received by Mr. Bell from Mr. Carrodus saying he has been in communication with New York for some time and had accepted the office of Australian Representative on the International Committee for Australia. Mr. Bell wrote to Mr. Firth asking for confirmation of the statement from Mr. Carrodus. Mr. Firth's reply, dated 28/4/49 read :-

As regards the filling of this vacancy in accordance with the rules of the I.G.F.A., when any member of its International Committee resigned, the resigning party is required to nominate a successor, which I was requested to do. The appointment is a permanent one, and it is therefore not suitable for the office to be filled by a frequently changing President of G.F.A.A. It will now be Mr. Carrodus' right to nominate a successor should he resign from this office, or in the event of his death it would become the right of the existing President of G.F.A.A. to do so. As all the major clubs in Australia are in direct contact with I.G.F.A. the Australian representative on its International Committee is not called upon to function to any degree, and the appointment therefore becomes purely a courtesy one."

Mr. Bell replied 1/5/49:

"Looking at it from an overall Australian point of view, I cannot see it is for the best. As an instance - one State has the Australian representative - if it came to a show down, no other State could have one of their members in that capacity. As each representative became old, or for some other reason resigned, it is quite on the cards that he would pass on the job to one of his best pals in the same State. You have proved the fallacy of this argument. But then - another instance - supposing our old friend Mr. Carrodus had a bad accident and was killed - from the ruling you give me, I, as President of G.F.A.A., have the right to

nominate his successor. Can you imagine the howl of wrath over Australian land and adjacent water if I appointed myself."

Mr. Bell went on to say that only the Australian Representative is entitled to vote for Australia in an "All Countries" Conference. This representative has not been appointed by any club or conference, but merely nominated by his predecessor.

To give one more instance why the two offices should be in the hands of one man ... When the Farringtons came to Australia, G.F.A.A. was not notified officially, or otherwise, of the date of their arrival, or the itinerary arranged for their visit. We only found these particulars out through Mr. Taylor being a member of the New South Wales Game Fishing Club and reading the details of the Farrington's visit from the very excellent magazine of that Club.

It is asking too much that the Clubs should not have the nomination of their Australian representative.

RESOLUTION NO.4. After discussion it was moved by Mr. Henderson, seconded by Mr. Cowell that the President of G.F.A.A. be the Australian Representative on the International Committee.

SHALL I
SUGGEST

Mr. Kelly (N.S.W.), spoke against the motion and was supported by Mr. D'Ombraim (N.S.W.) and Mr. Wallace, (Vic.)

These gentlemen considered there should be a separate Australian representation for I.G.F.A. the Representative acting more in the nature of a liason officer.

Mr. Cowell (S.A.) spoke in favor of the motion to the effect that :

- (a) It would strengthen G.F.A.A.
- (b) Give better contact between G.F.A.A. and I.G.F.A.
- (c) There would be no possibility of overlapping duties.
- (d) The positions have always been filled by the same man and functioned satisfactorily. Since this has changed the situation has become difficult.
- (e) Australian Representative to I.G.F.A. would have the advantage of a Secretary appointed constitutionally in the same way as President of G.F.A. who would be the best man for the job in the State.

The motion was then put to the vote, with the following result :

S.A. and Queensland - In favour
N.S.W. and Victoria - Against.

The Chairman then used his prerogative and issued a casting vote in favor of the Motion.

Carried

The Chairman requested that this motion will become operational as from December 1st. 1949.

Carried

I.G.F.A.'s
NEW RULING
POUNDAGE
REPLACING
THREAD
COUNT:

RESOLUTION NO. 5. Moved by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mr. D'Ombraim, and RESOLVED that in submitting applications for World's records, in addition to the required sample of line used, a sample of unused line of the same origin also be included with the affidavit and that the breaking strain be determined from the unused line. This suggestion to be sent to I.G.F.A. as a recommendation from this Conference of all States.

LENGTH
APART OF
SECOND
HOOK WHEN
USED:

The President said that some time ago G.F.A.A. wrote to I.G.F.A. suggesting that a limit of distance be put on the second hook, if used. It was suggested that a limit of 20" be put on between the two hooks. He quoted from a letter which was received back from I.G.F.A. as follows :

"The Committee says that the measurement of not more than 20" would be rather impractical for lots of baits used here which are for very long fishes and therefore they do not think that the changed wording is suitable for general use."

RESOLUTION NO. 6. Moved by Mr. Wallace, seconded by Mr. Kelly and RESOLVED that the I.G.F.A. be written to stating that in the opinion of this Conference a definite maximum length be placed between two hooks taken from barb to barb. The Conference considers 20" to be adequate for these waters but having regard to their letter of the 2nd June 1948, this Conference requests that a maximum length suitable for International conditions be nominated.

BEACH
FISHING
NO RESTR-
CTIONS
I.G.F.A.

RESOLUTION NO. 7. Moved by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mr. Henderson, and RESOLVED that G.F.A. would not recognise captures made from the shore for Australian records.

AT 6 P.M. THE MEETING ADJOURNED FOR DINNER

MEETING RESUMED AT 8 P.M.

AMATEUR
STATUS NO
RESTRICTIONS
A.G.F.A.

RESOLUTION NO. 8. After discussion it was moved by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mr. Henderson that the amateur status be retained and the definition of an amateur be as laid down in the supplement to the rules.

N.S.W. and Victoria voted against the motion Queensland and South Australia in favor.

The Chairman exercised his right of a casting vote and voted in favor of the motion.

FISH TO
TAKE BAIT
ON OWN
INCENTIVE:

RESOLUTION NO. 9. Moved by Mr. Wallace, and seconded by Mr. Henderson and RESOLVED that it be essential that any fish taken under G.F.A.A. rules must take the bait, or lure, on its own incentive. Carried

INTRODUCTION
OF JOURNAL
COVERING BIG
GAME ANGLING

Mr. D'Ombraim suggested that a journal be published through the G.F.A.A. to supply all interstate news, and this distributed throughout the various States so that all States could be kept conversant with the news of other States.

Mr. Taylor said that a magazine called "Outdoors and Fishing" might be willing to publish news of Big Game Fishing.

RESOLUTION NO. 10. Moved by Mr. Taylor, and seconded by Mr. D'Ombraim and RESOLVED that an effort be made to introduce this through "Outdoors and Fishing", that the N.S.W. Delegates do all in their power to bring this about and the Hon. Secretary of G.F.A.A. also write on similar lines.

PERUSAL AND
ALTERATION
TO RULES:

The Chairman suggested the following alterations and amendments to the rules of G.F.A.A.

Rule 1. Moved by Mr. Cowell, and seconded by Mr. Taylor that - "Mako be classed under Shark". All Mackerel, Wahoo (*Acanthocybium solandri*) Samson (*Seriola Hoppos*), Bonefish (*Alba Vulpes*) and all the game fish that will be found from time to time on the I.G.F.A. chart of World's Record Game fish, be added to Game fish list.

N.S.W. and Victoria voted Against.
S.A. and Queensland in favor.
The Chairman voted in favor.

TACKLE SPECIFICATIONS

Rule 3. Moved by Mr. Cowell, and seconded by Mr. D'Ombraim, that "Prescribed Tackle" shall mean conforming to the following specifications: "The rod butt shall be straight and shall not exceed 21 inches in length, and the length from the end of the butt to the tip shall not be less than 5 feet - This to apply to rods using lines of the 80 pound classification, and heavier.

Rule 3(a) to 3 (d): Moved by Mr. Kelly, and seconded by Mr. Wallace that this rule be amended as follows :-

LINE CLASSIFICATION:

12 pounds)	The line shall not be doubled at the trace
20 ")	end for more than 15 feet, and the trace
30 ")	shall not exceed 15 feet in length.
50 ")	
80 ")	The line shall not be doubled at the
130 ")	trace end for more than 30 feet, and the
180 ")	trace shall not exceed 30 feet in length.

Rule 4. (Be deleted).

Rule 5. Add after line 5 - "and must not exceed 20 inches. Both hooks to be attached or embedded in the bait."

Rule 7. To be deleted and substituted for the following: "The use of any float is prohibited other than a small ballon, bladder, or float, which may be attached to the line or trace for the sole purpose of regulating the depth of the bait or for drifting the bait. In water shallower than the length of the trace a second similar float may be used."

Rule 8. To read as follows :-

No fish shall be deemed to have been caught or qualify for record unless :-

- (d) It shall have taken the lure on its own initiative; and no fish shall qualify for record purposes if it has been deliberately jagged, harpooned, lanced or shot, or any like method.
and the addition of a sub-clause as follows :-
- (e) Resting any part of the prescribed tackle, other than the butt, on the boat is prohibited until the trace comes to hand.

Rule 9. (add) "Except on written authority from the State Branch concerned, when a fish may be measured and weighed on approved scales on a boat. An affidavit sworn by the angler and attested by two witnesses on a boat, before a Justice of the Peace giving the exact weight and measurements will receive consideration from the G.F.A.A.

Rule 11. Substitute "number of thread line" for "Particulars of line".

Rule 14 Line 3 (Amended) "Must be lodged in writing within 7 days.

Rule 15. Line 6 onwards to read :- "Must be accompanied by the actual double and the next six feet or more of line used in the capture of the fish. It will also be necessary for Australian records that nine feet of unused line identical to that used in the capture of the fish be submitted, with the application for a record. It will be from this unused line that the poundage classification will be based for which an Australian Record is being claimed. The affidavit for Record Claims must be filled in and should be accompanied by a photograph of the fish. In the case of shark, the photograph should show the full length of the fish and also another photograph clearly showing the front teeth. Two breaking tests shall be made and the average of these two tests shall constitute the poundage classification. All line to be tested WET

Rule 19 To read as follows :-

"Coloured Buttons may be issued by the State Club on written application to the Honorary Secretary, such application to be supported by an authentic "Capture and Weight" Recording Certificate, duly complete. Any button so issued shall be inscribed with the name of the Angler, the class and weight of the fish and the date of capture. Only one button in each class may be issued to any one angler during any one year computed from the first day of July to the thirtieth

day of June".

The following are the amended weights for the award of buttons :

Weights for Game Fish under poundage Classification

<u>Line Classification</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Red</u>	<u>Blue</u>
12 lb	10	15	20
20 "	20	30	40
30 "	30	40	50
50 "	60	80	100
80 "	150	250	350
130 "	250	350	500
180 "	500	650	900

SHARKS :

50 lb	120	200	300
80 "	300	500	700
130 "	500	700	1000
180 "	1250	1500	1750

Rule 21 The addition of a New Rule as follows :-
 "Each Club affiliated to a State Club to keep a list of game fish and sharks captured with the name of the angler, weight, date of capture and approximate locality of capture. This list to be sent to the State Club in which the affiliated Club is situated at the close of the season. The State Club in turn will send a list of all game fish and sharks with particulars to the Honorary Secretary of G.F.A.A. These particulars to be circulated to all State Clubs by G.F.A.A. each year."

RESOLUTION NO. 11. Mr. Cowell moved, and Mr. Taylor seconded, that the beforementioned alterations and amendments be accepted.

SUBSCRIPTION TO G.F.A.A. The Hon. Secretary stated that in previous years the G.F.A.A. had not been active, therefore no subscriptions has been called upon, but from now on subscriptions would be called for in proportion to the membership of each State Club.

RESOLUTION NO. 12. Moved by Mr. Taylor, and seconded by Mr. Wallace, and RESOLVED that the Secretaries of each Club be asked to send in the numbers of Members to Mr. Taylor, Hon. Secretary of the G.F.A.A.

CONSTITUTION FOR G.F.A.A. RESOLUTION 13. It was moved by Mr. Cowell, and seconded by Mr. Henderson, that the President and Hon. Secretary be empowered to draw up a constitution for G.F.A.A. and that they obtain any legal or other help necessary to complete same.

CARRIED

At 11.30 p.m., there being no further business the Chairman declared the Meeting closed.

Confirmed

THE GAME FISHING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA.

Minutes of the Fifth Conference held at the South Australian Hotel, Adelaide, South Australia, on Friday, 19th October, 1951, at 10 a.m.

- PRESIDENT:
- The Chairman, Mr. G.R. Cowell, President, G.F.A. of Australia.
 - Mr. T.A. Bell, representing Victoria and Queensland.
 - Mr. John B. Wallace, representing Victoria.
 - Mr. J.A.C. Kelly, representing New South Wales.
 - Mr. Max Lawson, representing New South Wales.
 - Mr. Charles Livesey, representing West Australia.
 - Mr. E.H.V. Riggs, representing South Australia.
 - Mr. R.W. Palmer, representing South Australia.
 - Mr. T.E. Cooper, Secretary G.F.A. of Australia.
 - Mr. W.B. Coombs, Acting Secretary of G.F.A. of Australia.

1. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from Mr. Clive Firth, Hon. Life Member, and from Mr. C.J. Cornish of West Australia, both on account of ill health.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

The President welcomed the interstate Delegates and gave a brief report on the activities of the Association during his term of office, particularly concerning the Commonwealth Jubilee Big Game Championships, and the preparation of data required by I.G.F.A. of Australian Fish and fishing conditions for their 1951 Year Book. Although this information was incomplete, it would be of great value to Australian Game Fishing, and would be a nucleus around which more complete information could be built.

The President remarked on the cordiality and co-operation he had experienced between G.F.A. of Australia and the State Branches, and with I.G.F.A.

The President explained that, as at the previous Conference, each State would have two votes, and that the decisions of the Meeting would be binding on each State.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The President pointed out that the Minutes of the previous Meeting, the Fourth Annual Conference held in Melbourne on 29th June, 1949, had already been considered by all State Branches.

It was moved by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Wallace that the Minutes be confirmed ----- CARRIED.

It was moved by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Lawson that on Page 4 of the Minutes, Resolution 4, Line 3, the word "be" be deleted and the words "shall be suggested as" substituted ----- CARRIED.

4. FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

The Acting Secretary read out the details of amounts received and paid during the past two years to date, as follows:

<u>Receipts.</u>		
Handed over by Mr. J.W. Taylor on 1/2/50		£3 14 10
Affiliation fees received from:		
West Australia	7 7 6	
South Australia	5 5 -	
Victoria	7 7 -	
Queensland	7 7 -	
New South Wales	10 10 -	
Advance received from W.P. Coombs	1 6 4	
		<u>£42 17 8</u>

Payments:

Printing of Headed Stationery	£5 11 1
Printing of Booklets, Rules of G.F.A.	20 14 1
Bank Charges and cost of cheque book	- 18 9
Paid to J.W. Oswald o/a Postage and expenses in connection with ceremony of handing over C/W Govt. Jubilee Trophies	<u>15 13 9</u>
	<u>£42 17 8</u>

It was moved by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Livesey that the Balance Sheet be adopted ----- CARRIED.

It was moved by Mr. Wallace and seconded by Mr. Palmer that the Scale of Affiliation Fees to G.F.A. of Australia by Member Clubs be revised. Commencing Season 1950/51 Fees to be on a "per capita" basis, viz:-

Clubs with 25-50 members:	£6 6 -
" " 51-75 "	8 8 -
" " 76-100 "	10 10 -
" " over 100 "	15 15 -

Fees to be paid as and when called for in terms of not less than one year ----- CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The President stated that there was a great volume of correspondence filed, but nothing of particular relevance to the Conference which needed consideration.

It was moved by Mr. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Bell that the correspondence be received and confirmed ----- CARRIED.

ALTERATIONS TO RULES:

It was moved by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Livesey, that G.F.A. of Australia Rules be examined in detail in conjunction with I.G.F.A. Rules, and that wherever consistent with the meaning of G.F.A. of A. Rules, the wording of I.G.F.A. rules be adopted.

Mr. Bell pointed out that there were omissions in I.G.F.A. Rules such as the failure to prohibit a bent rod butt. Experiments had shown that the bent butt could eliminate physical strain. Another example was the omission by I.G.F.A. to limit the distance between hooks. Such omissions were not acceptable to Australia.

All delegates were unanimous in expressing the desire to retain the traditions of Australian Game Fishing, such as the tradition that game fishing is done from a boat; and to retain such strictness in our G.F.A. of Aust. rules that makes an Australian record something of which to be proud.

The President pointed out that, while I.G.F.A. Rules were designed to encourage sportsmanship, they had to be broad enough to cover more than 200 Member Clubs, all over the world.

All Delegates spoke in favour of the Motion as a general principle to be adopted by the Conference.

The Motion was put and CARRIED unanimously.

G.F.A. of Australia Rules were then examined in detail, and the following amendments were resolved upon:--

Page 1, Rule 1.

Moved by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Riggs that the last three lines

on Page 1 be deleted, that is from "and all the Game Fish" to the bottom of Page 1. 38

There was considerable discussion as to what constituted a "game fish". The President stated that he would define a game fish as follows: a fish that could be taken on rod and line relatively light to the weight of the fish, but not easily taken on a handline of the same breaking strain; a fish whose fighting qualities and size made it comparatively difficult to catch. He stated that he did not consider it in the best interests of Australian Game Fishing to be pedantic over the exact meaning of the words "fish" and "shark".

Mr. Bell expressed the view that Tiger Sharks and Porbeagle Sharks, for example, should not be called "Game Fish".

The Motion was then put and CARRIED.

Page 2, Rule 1.

Moved by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Bell, that the first seven lines be deleted, and the following words substituted; "For the purpose of qualifying for Button Awards (see Rule 18) the following fish shall be classified as Sharks:-"

And that after the list of Sharks, the following words be inserted; "and such other Sharks as may be added from time to time".

Mr. Wallace spoke against the Motion, stating that his Club (Victoria) wished to have Mako and Thresher Sharks in the Game Fish Button awards.

All other Delegates voted in favour of the Motion-----CARRIED.

Page 2, Rule 2.

To remain unaltered ----- CARRIED.

Page 3, Rule 3.

Moved by Mr. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Kelly that, in line three, the figures 21 be amended to read "23"

And in line four, the word "winch" be inserted before the word "end" -----CARRIED.

Moved by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mr. Bell, that wherever the Line Classification appears expressed in "pounds", the appropriate "thread" classification be used in addition-----CARRIED.

Pages 3 & 4, Rules 4, 5, 6.

To remain unaltered ----- CARRIED.

Page 4, Rule 7.

Moved by Mr. Palmer, seconded Mr. Bell, that Rule 7 be amended to adopt the wording used by I.G.F.A., Rule 12, without omissions, but with some additions as follows:-

- (a) the words "from a boat" to be inserted after the word "caught" in the first line.
- (b) to remain unaltered.
- (c) to be deleted and replaced by Rule 7 (e); that is to say Rule 7 (c) to now read "No fish shall qualify for the purpose of record unless it is gaffed from the boat from which it was originally hooked and fought by the angler".
- (d) to read, in numerical paragraphs numbered 1 to 7, as laid down in I.G.F.A. Organization and Rules Book 1950, Rule 12A to G inclusive, pages 16 and 17, except that on page 17, line 3, after the word "fish" the following words be inserted "for the purposes of releasing a float, kite line or bait". Also that on Page 17, Paragraph F, Line 3, after the word "boated" the words "and weighed" be inserted. Thereafter, paragraphs 8, 9 & 10 be added, worded as shown below:

That is to say Rule 7 (d) will now read:

- Rule 7 (d) The following acts or omissions will disqualify a catch:
1. Failure to comply with the Rules or tackle specifications.
 2. A broken rod.
 3. Acts of persons other than the angler in adjusting reel drag or touching any part of the tackle during the playing of the fish for the purposes of releasing a float, kite line or bait, or giving aid other than taking the leader (or trace) for gaffing purposes, or in replacing or adjusting the harness. (Only one person is permitted to hold the leader, but there is no restriction regarding the use of a gaffer in addition to the person holding the leader.)
 4. Handlining, or using a handline or rope attached in any manner to line or leader for the purpose of holding or lifting a fish.
 5. Shooting, harpooning, or lancing any fish, including sharks, at any stage of the catch.
 6. Mutilation; a fish that is attacked by another fish or mammal between the time it is hooked by the angler and boated and weighed shall be considered a mutilated fish if the mutilation is severe enough to affect the normal fighting power of the fish. Small cuts that are superficial in nature and that do not cause excessive bleeding, should not be considered mutilations. Scratches or cuts in a fish, made by the leader wire or line while the angler is fighting a fish, and that in no way hinder the normal fight of the fish should not be considered mutilations. A cut made by the propeller of the boat while the angler is fighting a fish or the angler or guide is attempting to boat it shall be considered a mutilation. A fish bearing an old mutilation that is healed over in the form of a scar shall not be considered a mutilated fish provided the mutilation does not involve the loss of body parts, such as fins, etc. that would handicap the fish in making a normal fight.
 7. Gimbals must be free-swinging. Any gimbal which allows the angler to reduce strain or rest while fighting a fish is prohibited.
 8. By reason of the engine power of the boat being used in subduing the fish.
 9. By the use of a detachable gaff exceeding eight feet in length, or the use of a length of wire and/or rope attached to the head of same exceeding thirty feet.
 10. Resting any part of the "prescribed tackle" other than the butt, on the boat until the trace comes to hand ----- CARRIED.

A Motion moved by Mr. Wallace and seconded by Mr. Kelly that the new Rule 7 (d) 6, Sub Para 3, be deleted, that is, the mutilation by the propeller clause, was defeated, Victoria only voting in favour of the Motion. All other States voted for the Motion in full ----- CARRIED.

Pages 6 & 7. Rules 8, 9, 10, 11, 12.

To remain unaltered ----- CARRIED.

Page 7. Rule 13.

Moved by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mr. Kelly, that, in line 4, the word "recording" be substituted for the word "weighing" ----- CARRIED.

Pages 7 & 8. Rule 14.

Moved by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mr. Bell, that Rule 14 as printed, be deleted, and the following wording substituted; partly in terms of I.G.F.A. Rule 1. "Any application claiming an Australian and/or World's Record must be forwarded through the Club at the centre at which the fish was weighed to the Secretary of G.F.A. of Australia.

Such application must be accompanied by a ten yard sample of the actual line used. If a double line was used, five yards from the double line must be included with five yards of the line next it. If less than five yards was doubled, the entire double line must be included in the ten yards. The sample must be in one piece.

Backing. If two lines of different test strength tied or spliced together are used in taking a fish, that catch shall be classified under the heavier of the two lines and a sample of both lines must be submitted.

Metal lines are prohibited.

In the event of a line of other than 50's lea linen being used, it will also be necessary, for Australian Records, to supply a sample of ten yards of new line of the same brand and size to that used in the capture of the fish, with the application for a record. It will be from this new line that the poundage classification will be based for which an Australian record is claimed. This sample, after immersion in water for 24 hours, shall be tested by a professional line tester or other independent authority, to place it in the correct poundage class.

The affidavit for a record claim must be filled in and should be accompanied by photographs showing the dorsal and pectoral fins, and if possible, the other fins and tail.

In the case of a shark, the photograph must show the full length of the fish, and also a photograph clearly showing the teeth.

The Capture and Weight Recording Certificate supporting any such application must be countersigned by an independent witness, whose full postal address shall be given, certifying as to the correctness of the weight and measurements set out in the Capture and Weight Recording Certificate.

Any such application for a record shall be accompanied by a Statutory Declaration by the angler stating that all the fishing rules of The Game Fishing Association of Australia were strictly observed in the capture of the fish.

All States were unanimous in the opinion that the classification of the line used in taking a record fish should be based on the strength of the line before taking the fish, as has always been done. This would automatically place all 50's lea linen line in the poundage class nearest to three pounds test per thread, without testing being required. For Nylon the period of immersion of 24 hours was accepted on the information supplied to Mr. Cowell and to Mr. Bell by I.C.I., England, showing that 24 hours was required to saturate .020 Luron, and produce uniform breaking tests. Mr. Cowell pointed out that immersion for a shorter period might result in comparative tests being made on different degrees of moisture content, and hence different strength. ----- CARRIED.

Pages 8 & 9, Rules 15, 16, 17.

To remain unaltered ----- CARRIED.

Page 10, Rule 18.

Moved by Mr. Riggs, seconded by Mr. Wallace that the thread classification be added under the heading of and in addition to "line classification".

In addition, that Gold Button weights be calculated in the manner laid down in the final paragraph of Rule 18, and the weights recorded ----- CARRIED.

It was moved by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Livesey that all Buttons issued to date, and not awarded, be called in, and that Coloured Buttons be issued only by G.F.A. of Aust. on the recommendation of State Branches.

For the Motion, Queensland, and West Australia.

Against the Motion, New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia.

Motion lost.

Pages 10 & 11, Rules 19, 20, 21.

To remain unaltered ----- CARRIED.

ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION:

All delegates were handed a copy of the Constitution as drafted under the G.F.A. of Aust. Conference of 29/6/49.

It was moved by Mr. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Wallace, that Member Clubs be given an opportunity to consider and ratify the Constitution before its adoption. -----CARRIED.

The Constitution was considered in detail, and a number of minor amendments were made, each Delegate amending his own copy. All amendments were unanimous.

It was moved by Mr. Riggs and seconded by Mr. Bell that the Constitution, as now amended, be considered by Member Clubs, and that the ratification be in the hands of the Hon. Secretary of G.F.A. of Aust. prior to the 30th November 1951 ----- CARRIED.

The President pointed out that any alterations desired by State Branches can be effected at the next General Meeting, or by calling a Special General Meeting, and that, in the meantime, the States' acceptance of the broad principles of the Constitutional Rules, if not the details, will safeguard the future of Australian Game Fishing.

Delegates were unanimous in the view that the Clubs which they represented would welcome the Constitutional rules and adopt them.

AUSTRALIAN RECORD CHART:

In order to comply with Rule 21 and so that an up-to-date Australian Record Chart could be produced, Delegates furnished certain required details which, when considered in conjunction with the details already held by G.F.A. of Aust., resulted in the establishment of the following Australian Records:

<u>Type of Fish</u>	<u>Wt. in</u> <u>Lbs.</u>	<u>Thread</u>	<u>Where Caught</u>	<u>Angler.</u>
Albacore	18	15	Bermagui	R. Lyne
Dolphin	18	15	Flinders Reef Q.	V. Jeffs
Kingfish - Black	109	24	Flat Rock Q.	G. Lambert
Kingfish - Black	78	15	Flat Rock Q.	G. Lambert
Kingfish - Yellowtail	88	12	Bermagui	C. Firth
Mackerel, Barred Spanish	54	15	Hayman Is. Q.	K. Owen
" " "	23	9	Combuyuro	J. Colley
" " "	36	6	Heron Is. Q.	K. Larkin
" Spotted "	36	6	West Aust.	G. Leake
Marlin, Black	672	39	Bermagui	J. Porter
Marlin, Striped	355	36	Bermagui	H. Syme
Sail Fish	138	39	Lady Musgrave Is. Q.	N. Beaver
Samson	38	15	Bray Rock Q.	C. Hopgood
Tuna, Southern				
" Blue Fin	238	39	Bermagui	T.A. Bell
" "	135	12	Thistle Is. S.A.	D.W. Taylor
" "	62	9	Coffins Bay S.A.	D.W. Taylor
" "	47	6	Pt. Lincoln S.A.	A.S. Hawker
" "	31	3	Pt. Lincoln S.A.	G.R. Cowell
" Yellowfin	91	39	Bermagui	Zane Grey.
" "	35	15	Bermagui	J. Wallace
Turrum	70	24	Heron Is.	M. Kent
" "	48	15	Flat Rock Q.	G. Lambert
Wahoo	36	9	Heron Is. Q.	S.A. Williams
Grey Nurse	308	39	Wellington Q.	W. Osborne
" "	337	24	Wellington Q.	W. Osborne
Hammerhead	365	39	Caloundra	F. Eager
Mako	690	39	Sydney	Bob Wild
Tiger	1382	39	Sydney	L. Bagnyard
" "	788	24	Sydney	M. Lawson
Whaler	765	39	Mooloolaba Q.	F. Eager
" "	575	24	Sydney	M. Lawson
" "	280	15	Rapid Bay S.A.	J.L. Arthur
White Shark	1919	54	American River S.A.	G.R. Cowell
" "	1752	39	Pt. Lincoln S.A.	J.T. Veitch
" "	1014	24	Pt. Lincoln S.A.	A. Dean
" "	755	15	Pt. Lincoln S.A.	G.R. Cowell
Women's (" "	613	39	Pt. Lincoln S.A.	Mrs. G.R. Cowell
Record (" "	811	24	Pt. Lincoln S.A.	Mrs. G.R. Cowell

It was moved by Mr. Palmer and seconded by Mr. Lawson that these details be accepted as correct to date, and that a Chart of Australian Records be drawn up from these figures and circulated to all State Branches-----CARRIED.

MATTERS BROUGHT FORWARD BY STATES:

42
A. Queensland: It was moved by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Wallace that Mr. G.R. Cowell be appointed as an Honorary Life Member of G.F.A. of Aust. on account of the valuable services rendered to the Association.

LIFE
MEMBERSHIP

There were no dissentient Votes - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

It was moved by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Kelly that Mr. Andy Carrodus be appointed as an Honorary Life Member of G.F.A. of Aust. on account of the valuable services rendered to the Association.

There were no dissentient votes - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. New South Wales: Nil.

C. Victoria: It was moved by Mr. Wallace and seconded by Mr. Kelly that any member of a State Branch Club intending to travel abroad and requesting a letter of introduction to an overseas club or association be furnished with such letter of introduction by G.F.A. of Aust. only at the written request of the State Branch-----CARRIED.

D. South Australia: Nil.

E. West Australia: It was moved by Mr. Livesey and seconded by Mr. Riggs that Mr. T.A. Bell be appointed as an Honorary Life Member of G.F.A. of Aust. on account of the valuable services rendered to the Association.

There were no dissentient votes - CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

It was moved by Mr. Bell that a Vote of Thanks be conveyed to Mr. W.L. Von Doussa of Mount Barker, S.A., for his assistance in the production of the Constitution after the previous Conference held in Melbourne in 1949. Seconded by Mr. Riggs ----- CARRIED.

Mr. Cowell expressed his thanks to Mr. T.E. Cooper, to Mr. J.W. Oswald and to Mr. W.B. Coombs, the three S.A. club members who had acted as his Hon. Secretaries during his term of office.

In this connection it was resolved by the Conference to give Mrs. Brooks, Secretary to Mr. Cooper, an honorarium of £5/5/-, and to Miss Solly, Secretary to Mr. Oswald, who had acted over the very busy period covering the Commonwealth Government Jubilee Celebrations, an honorarium of £10/10/- ----- CARRIED.

Mr. Kelly congratulated the President on the outstanding success of the Conference, and stated that he thought that it would benefit game fishing in Australia for many years to come.

The President thanked delegates for their attendance, involving as it had their travelling many thousands of miles, at their own expense. All were experienced anglers, and that was probably the reason for the fact that there had been such complete unanimity in the decisions on almost every item on a long Agenda.

Mr. Lawson spoke of the work done by Mr. Cowell as President of G.F.A. of Aust. over the past two years, and commended him on the most able manner in which he had conducted the Meeting.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 5.15 p.m.

W.B. COOMBS,
ACTING SECRETARY.
19th October, 1951.

THE GAME FISHING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

Minutes of the Sixth Conference held at Dunbar House,
Watson's Bay, Sydney, on Friday 20th March, 1953 at
10 a.m.
- - - -

PRESENT:

The Chairman, Mr. J.A.C. Kelly, President of G.F.A. of Australia	
Mr. J. B. Wallace representing Victoria.	
" H. R. Syme	" "
" J. Arthur	" South Australia
" J. Cowell	" "
" N. Gow	" Queensland
" J. Mills	" "
" L. Winkworth	" N.S.W.
" A. D'Ombraim	" "
" B. Webster	" Western Australia
" T. Bell	" "
" K. Larkin. Hon. Treasurer & Acting Secretary.	

APOLOGIES:
Apologies received from Mr. Clive Firth, Hon. Life Member.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: The President welcomed Delegates from the various States, and commented on the fact that every State which had an active Game Fishing Body was personally represented at this Conference. It now only remains for Tasmania and Northern Territory to more actively foster their Fishing Grounds, and as a consequence the complete administrative side of Game Fishing should come within the orbit of the G.F.A.

The President also commented on the great number of Worlds Records and Australian Records recently received by the Association. He further stated that in a prior scrutiny of the Agenda now before the meeting it would appear that our interpretation of the rules for Game Fishing in Australia had at last been accepted on a working basis by all Anglers, because it appeared that no radical or contentious alterations were contemplated.

The President then suggested the routine and procedure which would be complied with during the formal business of the Conference.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING. The President stated that the Minutes of the previous Meeting (the fifth Conference) held at Adelaide on the 19th October 1951, had already been forwarded to the State branches for consideration.

Moved by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. N. Gow that the Minutes be confirmed.-----CARRIED. The Minutes were then signed by the President.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES. Certain typographical notations in the Minutes of the previous Meeting were brought to the attention of the President by Mr. Bell representing Western Australia. These were scrutinised by the Conference, and it was unanimously decided to amend as hereunder:-

Page 3 under heading Page 2 Rule 1 5th line after words "from time to time" add "by Game Fishing Association of Australia"
Page 3 under heading Page 10 Rule 18 third line "button" should read "badge".
Page 2 second last line Section 4 the word "less" to read "more"

FINANCIAL STATEMENT. The following quoted Income and Expenditure Account was tabled, and it was moved by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Cowell that this Statement to be adopted.-----CARRIED.

EXPENDITURE

INCOME

Printing of Rule Books	26 10 0		By Affiliation Fees			
Postages	4 10 0		Due from State			
Stationery	<u>15 0</u>	31 15 0	Associations:			
Net Surplus for 2 years		<u>28 2 0</u>	New South Wales	15 15 0		
			South Australia	15 15 0		
			Queensland	15 15 0		
			Victoria	6 6 0		
			Western Australia	<u>6 6 0</u>		<u>59 17 0</u>
		<u>£59 17 0</u>				<u>£59 17 0</u>

I hereby certify that the above statement of Income Due and Expenditure for the two years ending 30th June, 1953 is correct and is in accordance with information received from the President of the Association.

Dated 18th March, 1953.

(Signed) H. D. DUCROU
.....
Chartered Accountant (Aust).

Moved by Mr. Wallace seconded by Mr. Webster that Affiliation Fees to G.F.A. of Australia by Member Clubs be revised so that Clubs of over 100 Members be liable for £10.10.0 per annum
Under 100 " " " " £ 6. 6.0 " "CARRIED.

Moved by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mr. Bell that the amount of the Annual Fees due shall be at the discretion of the President.....CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE. The President tabled extensive correspondence which was itemised in various categories, i.e. "Each State Body", "I.G.F.A.", "General", etc.

It was then moved by Mr. Winkworth, seconded by Mr. Wallace, that the correspondence as tabled be received.CARRIED.

MOTIONS TENDERED BY STATE ASSOCIATIONS.

5(a) Q.G.F.A. Motion - That the rules for the use of floats be more clearly defined.

Moved by Mr. Gow seconded by Mr. Wallace that G.F.A. of Australia advised Member Clubs that any fish caught with Float still attached to the line shall be disqualified.CARRIED.

5(b) Motion - That the weighing of cleaned fish for recording purposes be allowed throughout Australia.

After a short discussion Queensland withdrew the motion.

5(c) Motion - That there be classification of Tuna, Kingfish, and Mackerel and with scientific designations.

The Queensland Association was requested to supply G.F.A. of Australia a basic list of Tuna, Kingfish, and Mackerel.

5(d) S.A.G.F.A. Motion - The Association's Officers shall consist of the President, Secretary and Treasurer (provided that both offices may be held by the same person who shall be selected by the State Branch from which the President for the time being is selected, together with the permanent delegate from each State resident in the State in which G.F.A.A. is situated from time to time.

(Amendment to para.10 of constitution).

Moved by Mr. Cowell, & seconded by Mr. Bell. The above motion was CARRIED.

1/1/53

45
5(e) N.S.W.G.F.A. Motion - Restoration of Mako Shark to the Game Fish Class.

Moved by Mr. Winkworth, seconded by Mr. D'Ombraín that the Mako Shark be restored to the Game Fish Class. Motion.....LOST.

5(f) N.S.W.G.F.A. Motion - Delay in acknowledging receipts of application for records.
Motion not put.

However, Mr. D'Ombraín (N.S.W.) expressed concern at the delay in acknowledging receipt of Record Applications both by the present and previous Executives of G.F.A.

5(g) Motion - Opinion on Nylon lines as used in Game Fishing.

Moved by Mr. Cowell, seconded by Mr. Bell that the G.F.A. of Australia endeavour to ascertain from I.G.F.A. particulars relating to the testing of lines particularly mona filament, or plastic lines, speed of stretch, type of machine, weight of line tested, time of soakage.....CARRIED.

5(h) Motion - Request by S.G.F.C. on 18/3/53 - subject to endorsement by N.S.W. G.F.A. - for clarification on question of "recognition of a fish which had been mutilated after capture".

After discussion it was decided not to alter the Rule as it reads at present.

6. RECORD APPLICATIONS.

Various Record Applications for both Australian and Worlds Records were tabled. After consideration and discussion by the G.F.A.A. these captures would be incorporated in the Australian Record Chart.

7. RECORD CHART.

A pro-forma Record Chart was produced for the scrutiny of Delegates. This Chart will be available for distribution to the various State Associations.

8. EXECUTIVE OF G.F.A.A. FOR 1954/55.

In conformity with the accepted procedure it was resolved that the Executive for 1954/55 of the G.F.A.A. should be nominated from the Victorian Sword Fish & Tunny Club.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS.

Mr. Wallace expressed the wish for widening the field of Game Fishing, particularly Light Game as it was from this beginning that New Members and Juniors were most likely to graduate to the Big Game class.

Supported by Mr. Winkworth who mentioned the Sydney Clubs sponsoring of the "School Boy Contest" this year. Mr. Winkworth also said that he hoped that some of the bigger boats on the N.S. Coast might be able to try grounds beyond the Continental Shelf in the hope of finding large Tuna or other fish.

Mr. D'Ombraín mentioned the matter of traces and reasoned that there should be one length of trace for all classes of line sizes, but Delegates closely in touch with I.G.F.A. said that that body was quite firm on that rule, and saw no hope of any alteration.

Mr. Bell requested that the Association write to the I.G.F.A. regarding distance between two hooks which should not exceed 20" not "many feet" as recently suggested in a circular some members received from I.G.F.A.

MANAGEMENT.

Suggested by Mr. Cowell that the names of Delegates be forwarded to G.F.A.A. annually.

ADDITION TO RULES.

(To be printed on small slip for insertion in Rule Books when forwarded to Member Clubs).

Moved by Mr. Bell and seconded by Mr. Webster.

"The Angler must hook, fight, and bring the fish to gaff unaided by any other person".

"Broken rod including the butt is one which has been damaged to such an extent that its usefulness is impaired"

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THE PRESIDENT thanked the members for their attendance and remarked on the courtesy and good fellowship which existed throughout the discussions and considerations.

Mr. Bell thanked the President for the very able way in which he conducted the Meeting. Mr. Cowell mentioned Mr. Kelly's recent trip to America, and the reports of subsequent visitors to that country all confirmed that Mr. Kelly was a great Ambassador for Australian Game Fishing abroad.

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There being no further business the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 5 p.m.

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N.B.

The numerically numbered paragraphs are quoted to assist Delegates in reconciling with the original Agenda Sheet of the Conference.

DISTRIBUTION:-

G.F.A.A.	-	5
V.S. & T.C.	-	8
N.S.W.G.F.A.	-	8
Q.G.F.A.	-	8
S.A.G.F.A.	-	8
W.A.G.F.A.	-	8
LIFE MEMBERS	-	5