

THE GAME FISHING ASSOCIATION
OF AUSTRALIA

MINUTES of the 16th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE held at the
ROYAL AUTOMOBILE CLUB of AUSTRALIA, 89 Macquarie St.
SYDNEY, on THURSDAY 22nd and FRIDAY 23rd NOVEMBER,
1973

PRESENT:

Mr.T.M.Caughlan	-	President and Chairman
Mr.W.B.Coombs	-	Vice President
Mr.R.Oliver	-	Executive Officer
Mr.H.J.McIntyre	-	Hon. Secretary
Queensland	-	Mrs.D.V.Nielsen
		Mr.P.Gay
		Dr.T.Russell
		Mr.N.Leydon
New South Wales	-	Mr.K.Gray
		Mr.P.Goadby
		Mr.T.Roche
		Mr.R.Gibson
Victoria	-	Mr.I.Cutler
		Mr.W.Stewart
South Australia	-	Mr.B.Mitchell
Western Australia	-	Mr.K.Gibbs
		Mr.E.W.Palmer (Life Member)
Tasmania	-	Mr.J.Jacob
		Mr.T.Charlton

APOLOGIES: Our Patron - Sir Paul Hasluck
Mr. Tom Bell (Life Member)
Mr. John Taylor (Life Member)
Mr. Clive Firth (Life Member)
Mr. Michael Lerner (Life Member)
Mr. John Johnston of South Australia

MOVED MR.CUTLER, SECONDED MR.COOMBS that APOLOGIES BE
ACCEPTED.

Carried

MOVED MR.GOADBY, SECONDED MR.CUTLER that A LETTER BE
SENT TO MR. JOHN JOHNSTON OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA EXPRESSING
THE SYMPATHY OF THE MEETING ON HIS ILLNESS AND
REGRETTING HIS ABSENCE.

Carried

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME: Mr.Caughlan welcomed the delegates and thanked them
for their attendance, particularly those people who had
travelled so far to be in attendance for the benefit
of the sport.

DELEGATES: MOVED MR.GOADBY, SECONDED MR.GRAY, that THE MEETING ACCEPT
THE TELEGRAM FROM THE WEST AUST. GAME FISHING ASSOCIATION
APPOINTING LIFE MEMBER, MR.E.PALMER, AS DELEGATE FOR
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Carried

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Mr.Caughlan presented his report and apologised for a
number of typographical errors appearing.

MOVED MR.CUTLER, SECONDED MR.COOMBS, that THE REPORT
BE ACCEPTED.

Carried

- HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT: The Hon. Secretary presented his report and briefly commented on each section.
- The Hon. Secretary drew attention to "Administration" and tendered an apology to Mr. Coombs for any offence contained in this section. The Hon. Secretary stated that Mr. Coombs had done everything required of him in matters of replies to correspondence etc.
- MOVED MR. GRAY, SECONDED MR. GAY, that THE HON. SECRETARY BE COMPLIMENTED ON HIS REPORT AND THAT IT BE ACCEPTED. Carried
- OBSERVERS: Mr. Caughlan requested permission from the meeting for the admission of two observers to the Conference: Dr. H.J. Delohery and Mr. B.F. Welsh.
- MOVED MR. CUTLER, SECONDED MR. GAY, that THESE OBSERVERS BE ADMITTED. Carried
- LIFE MEMBERSHIP: Mr. Caughlan requested the consent of the Delegates to bring Item 8, proposal for Life Membership - Dr. H.J. Delohery - forward. This was agreed.
- Hon. Secretary gave details of the submission by N.S.W. G.F.A. and the subsequent replies by the States.
- MOVED MR. GOADBY, SECONDED MR. CUTLER that THE CITATION AND LETTERS OF SUPPORT BE ACCEPTED AND THAT LIFE MEMBERSHIP BE GRANTED TO DR. H.J. DELOHERY. Carried
- Dr. Delohery entered and Mr. Palmer was requested to make the presentation of Life Membership Badge on behalf of the Association.
- Mr. Palmer spoke briefly on the work done by Dr. Delohery during the years of association with the G.F.A.A. and expressed the feelings of all present in congratulating Dr. Delohery on his elevation to Life Membership.
- CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: MOVED MR. CUTLER, SECONDED MR. GOADBY, that THE REFERENCE TO MR. HUNGERFORD UNDER ITEM 4 SHOULD READ "ONE (1) YEAR", not two (2) years. Carried
- MOVED MR. CUTLER, SECONDED MR. GOADBY, that THE REFERENCE TO CAIRNS CLUB UNDER 'MUTILATED FISH' (page 7) BE AMENDED TO READ "ALL CLUBS". Carried
- Mrs. Nielsen drew attention to the problems that had occurred with the change of Fishing Rules dating from November 19th 1971 and the implementation of filing fees dating from January 1st 1972.
- MOVED MR. CUTLER, SECONDED MR. JACOB, that ALL RULE CHANGES BE EFFECTIVE FROM THE JANUARY 1st IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CONFERENCES WHERE SUCH RULES ARE CHANGED. Carried
- MOVED BY MR. PALMER, SECONDED MR. JACOB, that THE MINUTES BE CONFIRMED WITH THE FOREGOING AMENDMENTS. Carried
- BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: Mr. Caughlan spoke on Item 4 regarding the Secretariat and apologised on behalf of the Executive for not proceeding with this item. Mr. Caughlan noted that estimates of costs for a satisfactory, established office would be in the vicinity of \$3,000 per annum.
- Office Mr. Oliver spoke on the desire to have such an office but expressed the view that the cost would be prohibitive and that the figure mentioned by the President was, in his opinion, conservative. Mr. Oliver stated that a suggested levy of \$10 per enrolled member was out of the question.

Mr. Coombs agreed with Messrs Caughlan and Oliver and said that such financing was beyond our means. He suggested that contacts be established with State and Federal bodies to see if some assistance could be given by them.

Point of
Order

Mr. Cutler raised a point of order that the Conference was debating "Business Arising From the Minutes". Mr. Coombs agreed to reserve further comments until a later time.

General

Dr. Russell requested information on Item 7(b) Gaff Ropes, Item 8(e) Deletion of certain species by I.G.F.A. and Item 8(d) Line Testing. The Hon. Secretary read extracts from a letter from I.G.F.A. wherein the points were noted but no further action was forthcoming. The Hon. Secretary advised that line testing was done in accordance with S.A.A. Standard L54 (amended) on an 'Instrom' machine by the University of Adelaide.

MOVED BY MR. GOADBY, SECONDED MR. GAY, that ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE MINUTES OF THE CONFERENCES BE SENT TO STATE BRANCHES WITH AGENDAS FOR NEXT CONFERENCE.

Carried

FINANCIAL
STATEMENT:

The Hon. Secretary presented the report and briefly explained the comments on several items. It was noted that the cost of the 1972-73 Year Book in preparation would require a heavy expenditure and that all outstanding accounts should be settled quickly.

MOVED MR. CUTLER, SECONDED MR. ROCHE, that THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT BE RECEIVED.

Carried

ALTERATION
TO
CONSTITUTION:

MOVED BY MR. CUTLER, SECONDED MR. GAY, that THE AGENDA BE ALTERED TO PERMIT INTRODUCTION OF THOSE ITEMS PERTAINING TO THE IMAGE OF THE SPORT, CONSERVATION, PUBLICITY, RESEARCH, ETC.

Carried

Mr. Cutler spoke on the impact of publicity criticising the sport and the obvious need to present a better case for the sport to the public at large.

The President spoke briefly of an Executive Meeting held where Dr. Delohery and Messrs Dyer and Goadby were invited to attend, to obtain the views of these gentlemen on the aspects of criticism.

Dr. Delohery spoke on this meeting and stated that he felt at the time that the meeting was perhaps a little too sensitive to the jibes of an unfriendly media.

Mr. Goadby read a critical editorial contained in the Sydney 'Sun' of 30th January 1973, regarding the capture of a Tiger Shark during the All Australian Competition. Mr. Goadby tabled further articles reflecting the image of the 'millionaire' dollar influence fostered by some reporters and some individuals.

Mr. Palmer spoke of a TV interview in Adelaide wherein he had stressed emphasis on tagging, research, etc.

Mrs. Nielsen spoke of the influence of the Cairns G.F.C. on the Australian scene and the fact that the Club had introduced tagging with little support from G.F.A.A. She considered that this was the first time interest had been shown in tagging.

Mr. Goadby replied that N.S.W. was about to implement a tagging programme after 2 years of preparation.

Dr. Don Francois, N.S.W. Director of Fisheries, addressed the meeting at the invitation of the President and explained details of the tagging programme and offered

to provide tags, literature and applications to other States upon request.

Dr. Delohery moved a vote of thanks to Dr. Francois for his remarks and for assistance in making Dr. Mackay available for field studies at Cairns.

Carried

Mr. Oliver spoke on the tagging programme in N.S.W. and suggested that perhaps some consideration be given to reducing the heaviest accepted tackle from 130 lb to 80 lb to increase the merit in capture of big fish at Cairns.

Mr. Gay relayed a request from Cairns G.F.C. that consideration by G.F.A.A. be given to providing a subsidy of 9¢ per lb for transport of marlin carcasses to Townsville for disposal as pet food. The feeling of the meeting was that the financial commitment was beyond G.F.A.A. means.

Mr. Gay suggested that exploitation by commercial interests would be disastrous, and would lead to increased pressure on the marlin population.

Mr. Palmer made the observation that marlin dumped at sea return to the food chain but that this fact was hard to explain to laymen.

Mr. Cutler noted that questions on the capture of large marlin had been raised in Federal Parliament in both Houses.

Much discussion ensued on the foregoing matters with all Delegates contributing.

MOVED MR. PALMER, SECONDED MR. JACOB, that THE EXECUTIVE OF G.F.A.A. BE REQUESTED TO COMPLETE A FACTUAL AND INFORMATIVE STATEMENT CONCERNING ETHICAL PRINCIPLES OF GAME FISHING AND THAT TOPICS SUCH AS TAGGING, COLLABORATION WITH SCIENTISTS, CONSERVATION, ANGLER EFFORT AND SIMILAR RELATED MATTERS BE PREPARED. THIS STATEMENT TO BE USED AS NECESSARY TO COUNTERACT ILL-INFORMED CRITICISM.

Carried

The meeting agreed to bring forward the G.F.C. of S.A. Inc. Item 9(G) before discussing aims, objectives, etc. of G.F.A.A.

G.F.C. of S.A. Inc.

Discussion ensued on Item 9(G) (i) - (iv) with all Delegates contributing.

The G.F.C. of S.A. Inc. withdrew clauses (iii) and (iv) of their motion.

IT WAS MOVED BY MR. MITCHELL, SECONDED MR. JACOB, that

(i) CLAUSE 10 OF THE G.F.A.A. CONSTITUTION BE AMENDED TO READ "SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF CLAUSE 11, THE MANAGEMENT OF THE G.F.A.A. BETWEEN GENERAL MEETINGS SHALL BE VESTED IN THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE."

(ii) CLAUSE 11 OF THE G.F.A.A. CONSTITUTION BE AMENDED TO READ "THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF G.F.A.A. SHALL COMPRISE THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

PRESIDENT
SECRETARY } TO BE ELECTED FROM ONE STATE BRANCH,
VICE PRESIDENT, TO BE ELECTED FROM ANOTHER STATE BRANCH,

FIVE (5) EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, EACH STATE BRANCH TO PROVIDE ONE EXECUTIVE OFFICER OTHER THAN THOSE PROVIDING THE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND VICE-PRESIDENT.

Carried

Business then returned to the form of the Agenda.

Item 9(A): N.S.W. withdrew this item in view of the G.F.C. of S.A. Inc. Item 9(G) being carried.

Item 9(B): N.S.W. G.F.A. moved that G.F.A.A. Constitution Section 15 be amended so that the number of delegates be proportional to the number of full financial members in the State without limit. Full financial members do not include those overseas and international anglers who take advantage of the visiting member privileges offered by some clubs at less than full membership dues.

Discussion ensued and an amendment was moved by Mr.Gray, seconded Mr.Goadby, that N.S.W. Delegate strength be increased by one (1) extra Delegate. Lost

The motion was then put and Lost

Item 9(C): N.S.W. G.F.A. moved that the objects of G.F.A.A. be changed to be similar to the following with the accent on scientific co-operation and conservation for future generations. This in turn means recognition of the effect on the fish population and ecology in general by the pressure of sportfishing as well as commercial fishing:

- (i) To govern and co-ordinate the sport of gamefishing in Australian waters.
- (ii) To affiliate with the International Game Fish Association and work closely with the I.G.F.A. and scientific institutions and Government bodies interested in marine fisheries, conservation and management.
- (iii) To encourage and further the study of marine game fish angling, the related marine species and the ocean habitat requirements of such species.
- (iv) To adequately represent the Australian offshore game fishermen at any meeting where the future of the game fish population is being determined.
- (v) To develop and support gamefish tagging programs and other scientific data collection efforts.
- (vi) To formulate and support fair, uniform and ethical angling rules.
- (vii) To assist and participate in domestic and international gamefish seminars and symposiums where the expertise, data and purposes of this Association may be helpful in assisting other organisations with similar objectives.
- (viii) To analyse the pressure of sport fishing and commercial fishing upon the respective game fish species.
- (ix) To act as a data accumulation centre for fishing results and to make such information available to Governments and others for the furtherance of education in the wise use and conservation of the species.
- (x) To accumulate and maintain a history of marine game fishing for the use and benefit of future generations.
- (xi) To disseminate information and knowledge of scientific studies of commercial and game fish to G.F.A.A. member clubs and to the general public.
- (xii) To make grants to game fish orientated organisations and institutions for the support of research and education in the marine sciences related to game fish and the angling sport.

- (xiii) To compile and maintain Australian records for the heaviest angling catches for men and women in each line division in line classes recognised by the Association on each species recognised by the Association as a game fish or game shark.
- (xiv) To do all such acts and things which may be deemed necessary by the Full Council of the Association to achieve these objects.
- (xv) To receive gifts, grants and subscriptions to allow the functioning of the Association.

Discussion ensued.

An amendment was moved by Mr.Gibbs, seconded by Mr.Gay, that Clause (iii) of the motion be worded:

"Conserve marine gamefish and food resources for recreation and food purposes" and that the present Clause (iii) be (iv) and all other clause numbers adjusted accordingly.

Carried

A further amendment was moved by Mr.Coombs, seconded by Mr.Palmer, that Clause (xiii) (as shown on Agenda) be amended by the addition of the following:-

"To adjudicate on all claims for and grant Australian Game Fishing Records and to keep up to date lists of such Records."

Carried

The motion was then put and

Carried

Item 9(D):

N.S.W. G.F.A. MOVED THAT THE BOOKS AND ACCOUNTS OF THE G.F.A.A. BE AUDITED ANNUALLY AND PASSED AS AT JUNE 30th EACH YEAR.

Carried

Item 9(E):

N.S.W. G.F.A. moved that the nomination for the Executive or Office Bearers be forwarded by the State Branches to the Secretary of G.F.A.A. two (2) months before the date of the meeting of all Delegates.

Discussion ensued.

The motion was put and

Lost

Item 9(F):

N.S.W. G.F.A. moved that G.F.A.A. have a registered seal and design and that this is only to be used after decision by the Executive in publicity and media, and that it be easily identified with G.F.A.A. and its officers.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Palmer suggested that the G.F.A.A. insignia be registered with the relevant Federal Government body.

MOVED MR.JACOB, SECONDED MR.CHARLTON, that THIS MATTER BE REFERRED TO THE INCOMING EXECUTIVE FOR ACTION AS OUTLINED IN THE MOTION AND MR.PALMER'S SUGGESTION.

Carried

G.F.C. of S.A. Inc.:

Item 9(H):

G.F.C. of S.A. Inc. moved that the incoming Executive Committee redraft the present Constitution for presentation at the 17th Biennial Conference.

Discussion ensued.

G.F.C. of S.A. Inc. agreed to withdraw this motion and

submitted the following amendment:

"THAT THE INCOMING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REDRAFT THE PRESENT CONSTITUTION FOR PRESENTATION TO A GENERAL MEETING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE."

MOVED MR.MITCHELL, SECONDED MR.COOMBS.

Carried

G.F.A.A. Executive:

Item 9(I): Motion:

"THAT THE CONSTITUTION BE AMENDED TO INCORPORATE PROVISION FOR THE FORMAL ACCEPTANCE AND RETENTION OF THE 'TOM BELL TROPHY' FOR THE HEAVIEST GAME FISH TAKEN IN AUSTRALIAN WATERS EACH YEAR. Further, THAT THE TROPHY MUST ALWAYS REMAIN UNDER THE CONTROL OF G.F.A.A. AND THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL IT BE PERMITTED TO BE TAKEN OUT OF AUSTRALIA."

Carried

Item 9(J): Motion:

"That consideration be given to registration under the Companies Acts of each State in the names: 'The Game Fishing Association of Australia' and 'Game Fishing Association of Australia' to ensure protection of the Association's identity."

Discussion ensued on the legal implications and the considerable cost involved.

MOVED MR.PALMER, SECONDED MR.GIBBS, that THIS MATTER BE REFERRED TO THE INCOMING EXECUTIVE TO ENABLE LEGAL ADVICE TO BE TAKEN AND THAT THE MOST APPROPRIATE ACTION BE TAKEN.

Carried

Notice of Motion from 15th Biennial Conference:

K. "That consideration be given to holding future G.F.A.A. Conferences annually instead of biennially. (Also suggested that a member of I.G.F.A. Executive be invited to attend 16th Biennial Conference.)

Moved at 15th Biennial Conference by Mr.J.O'Brien (N.S.W.), seconded by Mr.P.Gay (Qld.).

Discussion ensued.

It was noted by Mr.Cutler that due to the new structure of the Executive and the alternatives contained in Clause 19 of the Constitution there seemed little advantage in annual meetings at this time.

The motion was put and

Lost

Item 10. Election of Officers:

ELECTION
OF OFFICERS:

Mr.Caughlan requested that, as he was not a candidate for any office, he be permitted to remain in the Chair.

The meeting agreed.

The Chairman then called for nominations for the position of PRESIDENT.

Mr.Mitchell nominated, Mr.Gay seconded, the nomination of Mr.E.W.Coombs.

There were no further nominations and the Chairman declared Mr.Coombs elected unopposed.

Mr.Coombs thanked the Delegates for their confidence and assured them that he would do his utmost to uphold and

further the aims and objectives of G.F.A.A.

Mr.Coombs then announced the appointment of Mr.B.D.Mitchell of South Australia as his HONORARY SECRETARY.

The Chairman then invited nominations for the position of VICE PRESIDENT.

Mr.Goadby moved, Mr.Gray seconded, the nomination of Mr.Cutler of Victoria.

Mr.Palmer moved, Mr.Jacob seconded, the nomination of Mr.Gay of Queensland.

A ballot was conducted with Chairman and Hon. Secretary as scrutineers.

The Chairman declared Mr. Gay elected as Vice President.

The President then invited nominations for the five (5) positions of EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.

It was agreed by the meeting that the President of Northern Territory G.F.A., Mr.George Redmond, be elected in absentia.

W.A.: Mr.K.Gibbs, nominated by Mr.Palmer, seconded by Mr.Jacob. Elected

Victoria: Mr.I.Cutler, nominated by Mr.Stewart, seconded Mr.Gray. Elected

Tasmania: Mr.J.Jacob, nominated by Mr.Charlton, seconded Mr.Palmer. Elected

N.S.W.: Mr.P.Goadby, nominated by Mr.Gray, seconded Mr.Cutler. Elected

Item 11. Alterations to Fishing Rules

ALTERATIONS
TO FISHING
RULES:

G.F.C. of S.A. Inc.:

11(A): "That all measurements mentioned in the G.F.A.A. Rule Book and the Australian Record Chart be converted and shown in metric terms in future publications."

The Chairman called upon Mr.Coombs to speak on this matter. Mr.Coombs tabled various conversion charts etc. and explained the implications of metric changeover.

AMENDMENT MOVED MR.GOADBY, SECONDED MR.CHARLTON, that ALL WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS SHOWN IN THE G.F.A.A. FISHING RULES AND RECORD CHART BE SHOWN IN BOTH METRIC AND IMPERIAL SYSTEMS AND THAT METRIC SYSTEM BE SHOWN TO TWO (2) DECIMAL PLACES. Carried

Mr.Gray moved a vote of thanks to Mr.Coombs for the obviously considerable amount of time and effort that he had put into the study of the metric system. Carried

The West Australian Game Fishing Association:

11(B): "Where a record claim is lodged in a nominated line class and the line when tested breaks over or under that nominated class by sufficient amount to enter another class then the claim should be considered in the class entered."

Amendment moved by Mr.Gibbs, seconded Mr.Cutler, that the words "or under" be deleted from the motion which would now read:

"WHERE A RECORD CLAIM IS LODGED IN A NOMINATED LINE CLASS AND THE LINE WHEN TESTED BREAKS OVER THAT NOMINATED CLASS BY SUFFICIENT AMOUNT TO ENTER ANOTHER CLASS THEN THE CLAIM SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN THE CLASS ENTERED."
Carried

The New South Wales Game Fishing Association:

11(C):

"G.F.A.A. Rule 4 to read as I.G.F.A. Rule 5."

Discussion ensued and Dr. Russell paid tribute to the people of G.F.A.A. who had, over the years, formulated an extremely concise set of rules and he stated that he would be reluctant to see these rules summarily despatched to make way for what were, in his view, a set of ambiguous rules drafted by I.G.F.A.

Mr. Cutler supported these views.

Discussion ensued on the desirability or otherwise of including surf or shore fishing in the rules. Mrs. Nielsen noted that these forms of fishing were adequately catered for by the activities of the Australian National Sport-fishing Association.

MOVED MR. PALMER, SECONDED MR. JACOB, that RULE 17 OF THE G.F.A.A. FISHING RULES REMAIN UNALTERED IN THAT ALL FISH MUST BE CAUGHT FROM A BOAT AT SEA AS DEFINED AND THAT ALL FURTHER DECISIONS ON RULES BE TAKEN WITH THIS MATTER IN MIND.

Carried

An amendment to the motion by N.S.W.G.F.A. (Item 11C) was proposed by Mr. Gray, seconded Mr. Gibson, that the last sentence of the I.G.F.A. Rule 5 be omitted. The proposed rule would now read: "RODS MUST BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SPORTING ETHICS AND CUSTOMS. CONSIDERABLE LATITUDE IS ALLOWED, BUT RODS GIVING THE ANGLER AN UNSPORTING ADVANTAGE WILL BE DISQUALIFIED. THE RULE IS INTENDED TO ELIMINATE THE USE OF FREAK RODS, AND TO ACT AS A MEANS OF PROTECTION TO ANGLERS. THE MINIMUM LENGTH OF THE ROD TIP IS 50 INCHES, AND THE MAXIMUM LENGTH OF THE ROD BUTT IS 27 INCHES. THESE MEASUREMENTS SHALL BE MADE FROM A POINT DIRECTLY BENEATH THE CENTRE OF THE REEL. A CURVED BUTT IS MEASURED IN A STRAIGHT LINE."

Carried

11(D):

"That G.F.A.A. Rule 5 read as I.G.F.A. Rule 6."

Discussion ensued on this item.

Amendment moved Mr. Palmer, seconded Mr. Jacob, that the rule read: "REELS MUST BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SPORTING ETHICS AND CUSTOMS. DOUBLE HANDED OR SPRING LOADED REELS, RATCHET HANDLE REELS, MOTOR, HYDRAULIC OR ELECTRICALLY DRIVEN REELS OR ANY OTHER DEVICE GIVING THE ANGLER AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE ARE PROHIBITED."

Carried

11(E):

"That G.F.A.A. Rules 6, 7 and 8, and 18 and 20, be amended to take in the wording and intent of I.G.F.A. Rule 4, and that the words ... "the leader is measured in the total limits of the leader, that is from the front eye of the swivel if attached or loop to the back curve of the hook or rear hook. Double lines are measured from the start of the knot braid roll or plait making the double to the back end of the swivel or attachment used for joining leader to line."

Discussion ensued.

Amendment moved Mr. Palmer, seconded Mr. Gay, that Rule 20 be amended to read: "MORE THAN ONE PERSON MAY HOLD THE TRACE: THERE IS NO RESTRICTION ON THE USE OF MORE THAN ONE GAFFER."

Carried

11(F):

"That G.F.A.A. Rules 9 and 12 be amended to take in the wording of I.G.F.A. Rules 9, 9a, 10 and 12." Offshore jigging is now quite an important part of the offshore scene, particularly in Queensland and N.S.W.

Discussion ensued.

Amendment moved Mr. Gay, seconded Mr. Oliver, that G.F.A.A. Rule 9 now read: "FOR BAIT FISHING NO MORE THAN TWO SINGLE HOOKS MAY BE SEPARATELY ATTACHED TO THE LEADER OR TRACE, AND THEN ONLY IF BOTH HOOKS ARE FIRMLY IMBEDDED OR ATTACHED TO THE BAIT. THE EYES OF THE HOOKS MUST BE AT LEAST AN OVERALL HOOK'S LENGTH APART AND NO MORE THAN 18 INCHES. A HOOK'S LENGTH IS THE FULL OVERALL LENGTH OF THE LARGEST OF THE TWO HOOKS. THE USE OF A DANGLING OR SWINGING HOOK IS PROHIBITED. ALL CLAIMS ON TWO HOOK TACKLE MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PHOTOGRAPH OR TRACING OF THE ACTUAL HOOK ARRANGEMENT.

IN USING A 'TEASER TYPE' ARTIFICIAL LINE WITH A SKIRT OR TRAILING MATERIAL, NO MORE THAN TWO SINGLE HOOKS MAY BE SEPARATELY ATTACHED TO THE LEADER OR TRACE. THE EYES OF THE HOOKS MUST BE AN OVERALL HOOK'S LENGTH APART AND NO FURTHER THAN 12 INCHES APART. A HOOK'S LENGTH IS THE FULL OVERALL LENGTH OF THE LARGEST OF THE TWO HOOKS. THE TRAILING HOOK MAY NOT EXTEND MORE THAN A HOOK'S LENGTH BEYOND THE SKIRT OF THE LURE. A PHOTOGRAPH OR TRACING OF THE ACTUAL HOOK ARRANGEMENT MUST ACCOMPANY EVERY APPLICATION.

THE USE OF A PLUG OR OTHER ARTIFICIAL LURE WITH DOUBLE OR TREBLE HOOKS IS PERMITTED. THIS USE SHALL BE LIMITED TO A TOTAL OF TWO HOOKS, EITHER SINGLE, DOUBLE, TREBLE, OR ANY COMBINATION THEREOF. HOOKS MUST BE PERMANENTLY AND DIRECTLY ATTACHED TO THE LURE. ALL DOUBLE AND TREBLE HOOKS MUST BE FREE SWINGING. THE USE OF ANY PLUG OR ARTIFICIAL LURE WITH DOUBLE OR TREBLE HOOKS IS LIMITED TO CASTING AND RETRIEVING IN A CONVENTIONAL MANNER AND THE BOAT MUST NOT BE UNDER ANY FORM OF MECHANICAL PROPULSION. WITH RECORD APPLICATIONS, A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE PLUG OR LURE MUST BE SUBMITTED, AND IF IT IS NOT COMPLETELY SATISFACTORY THE PLUG ITSELF MAY BE REQUESTED."

Carried

11(G):

"That G.F.A.A. Rule 14 be amended to take in I.G.F.A. Rule 13." The wording should be 'gaffs' as the intent of the I.G.F.A. Rules 4 and 13 is that more than one gaff and gaff man may be used.

Discussion ensued and as this motion was similar to the Q.G.F.A. motion 11(V), N.S.W. agreed to delete 11(G) and consider 11(V) in its place.

11(V):

"That Clause 14 of the existing Rules be deleted and in lieu thereof the following Clause 14 be inserted - 'A GAFF NOT EXCEEDING 8 FEET IN OVERALL LENGTH MAY BE USED FOR BOATING A FISH. IN THE CASE OF A FLYING OR DETACHABLE GAFF, THE ROPE MAY NOT EXCEED 30 FEET. ONLY A SINGLE, FIXED HOOK IS PERMITTED. THE GAFF ROPE SHALL BE MEASURED FROM THE POINT WHERE IT IS SECURED TO THE DETACHABLE HEAD TO THE OTHER END. ONLY THE EFFECTIVE LENGTH SHALL BE CONSIDERED. IF A FIXED HEAD GAFF IS USED, THE SAME LIMITATIONS SHALL

APPLY, AND THE GAFF ROPE SHALL BE MEASURED FROM THE SAME LOCATION ON THE GAFF HOOK. NO HARPOON TYPE ATTACHMENTS ARE PERMISSIBLE. The gaff length limitation does not apply when fishing from a bridge or pier."

Amendment moved Mr.Gay, seconded Mr.Gray, that the words "THE GAFF LENGTH LIMITATION DOES NOT APPLY WHEN FISHING FROM A BRIDGE OR PIER" be deleted. Carried

The MOTION was put and Carried

11(H): G.F.A.A. Rule 16 be amended to include the intent of I.G.F.A. Rule 7 on chairs.

MOTION - that Rule 16 be amended to read: "FIGHTING CHAIRS MAY HAVE NO MECHANICAL DEVICE WHICH AIDS THE ANGLER IN FIGHTING A FISH. GIMBALS MUST BE FREE SWINGING WHICH ALSO ALLOWS A GIMBAL SWINGING ONLY IN A VERTICAL PLANE. ANY GIMBAL WHICH ALLOWS THE ANGLER TO REDUCE STRAIN OR TO REST WHILE FIGHTING, IS PROHIBITED." Carried

11(I): Inclusion of rule on prohibition of metal lines as per I.G.F.A. Rule 8.

MOTION - that Rule 6 be amended to add "METAL LINES, INCLUDING METAL CORE LINES, ARE PROHIBITED." Carried

11(J): "That G.F.A.A. Rules 17 and 18 be deleted and a new rule based on I.G.F.A. Rule 14 be substituted."

Amendment moved Mr.Palmer, seconded Mr.Goadby, that the words "trace or" be inserted before "gaff" and the deletion of the words "rather than anyone else" and the replacement of the word "should" by "shall" - rule to read:

Rule "THE ANGLER MUST HOOK, FIGHT AND BRING THE FISH TO TRACE OR GAFF UNAIDED BY ANY OTHER PERSON. IF A ROD HOLDER IS USED AND A FISH STRIKES THAT BAIT, THE ANGLER MUST REMOVE THE ROD FROM THE ROD HOLDER AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. THE INTENT OF THIS RULE IS THAT THE ANGLER SHALL HOOK AND STRIKE THE FISH." Carried

11(K): "That G.F.A.A. Rule 19 be amended to include the intent of I.G.F.A. Rule 18C."

MOTION - that Rule 19 be strengthened by adding "ACTS OF PERSONS OTHER THAN THE ANGLER IN ADJUSTING REEL DRAG OR TOUCHING ANY PART OF THE TACKLE EITHER BY HAND OR OTHER DEVICE DURING THE PLAYING OF THE FISH, OR GIVING AID OTHER THAN TAKING THE TRACE FOR GAFFING PURPOSES WILL DISQUALIFY A CATCH." Carried

11(L): Redundant - withdrawn by N.S.W.G.F.A.

11(M): "That G.F.A.A. Rule 21 be amended to include the words "ROD HOLDER" after "rest the rod on the boat." Carried

11(N): "That G.F.A.A. Rule 22 be amended to I.G.F.A. Rule 18G."

Discussion ensued on this item. Mr.Palmer read a letter from Mr.E.K.Harry of I.G.F.A., relative to the use of whale oil

as berley wherein it was noted that I.G.F.A. had no objection to its use.

Amendment moved Mr. Palmer, seconded Mr. Coombs, that Rule 22 read: "BERLEYING OR USING AS BAIT THE FLESH, BLOOD, SKIN OR GUTS OF MAMMALS IS PROHIBITED. HOWEVER ANY BERLEYING WITH WHALE OIL OR THE WHOLE OR PARTS OF FISH IS PERMITTED PROVIDED THE BERLEY IS ALLOWED TO FLOAT WITHOUT RESTRAINT. LIVE BERLEY MAY BE RESTRAINED."

Carried

11(O): "That G.F.A.A. Rule 23(b) be amended in line with I.G.F.A. Rule 18B with further definition of 'tip shortened below 50 inches'."

MOVED that Rule 23(b) read: "A BROKEN ROD THAT ALTERS THE EFFECTIVE LENGTH OF THE TIP BELOW 50 INCHES."

Carried

11(P): G.F.A.A. Rule 23(d). "Handling" should read "HANDLINING".

Motion

Carried

11(Q): "That G.F.A.A. Rule 23(f) be amended in line with I.G.F.A. Rule 18F."

Discussion ensued on interpretation of "excessive cuts" etc.

Amendment moved by Mr. Cutler, seconded Mr. Palmer, that Rule 23(f) read: "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 EFFECT THE NORMAL FIGHTING POWERS OF THE FISH. SMALL CUTS THAT ARE SUPERFICIAL IN NATURE AND DO NOT CAUSE EXCESSIVE BLEEDING SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED MUTILATIONS.

SCRATCHES OR CUTS IN A FISH, MADE BY THE TRACE WIRE OR LINE WHILE THE ANGLER IS FIGHTING THE FISH, AND THAT IN NO WAY HINDER THE NORMAL FIGHT OF THE FISH SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED MUTILATIONS. A CUT MADE BY THE PROPELLER OR PROPELLERS 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.

EXCESSIVE CUTS MADE AT THE TIME A FISH IS GAFFED SHALL BE CONSIDERED MUTILATIONS OF THE FISH.

ANY MUTILATIONS ON THE FISH MUST BE EXPLAINED COMPLETELY IN A SEPARATE REPORT ACCOMPANYING THE APPLICATION. IN THE EVENT OF THE WEIGHING AND RECORDING OF A MUTILATED FISH FOR AN AUSTRALIAN RECORD CLAIM OR G.F.A.A. AWARD THE ANGLER MUST PROVIDE A PHOTOGRAPH AT LEAST 6 INCHES BY 8 INCHES SHOWING THE EXTENT OF MUTILATION WHICH MUST BE SUBMITTED TO G.F.A.A. WITH A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CLUB INVOLVED."

Carried

11(R): "That G.F.A.A. Rules 24 and 27(g) last paragraph be amended to include that 'gaffs, tail ropes, leader and lure and tackle used in the capture shall be submitted to the weighmaster for measuring, taking of line sample and photograph of hook and position in lure at time of weighing.'"

Amendment moved Mr. Palmer, seconded Mr. Gay, that Rule 27 be amended to include a new clause following existing clause (f) to read:

"TACKLE, INCLUDING GAFFS, TRACE, LURE AND SAMPLE OF LINE USED IN THE CAPTURE SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE WEIGHMASTER FOR MEASURING AND EXAMINATION AND PHOTOGRAPHING OR TRACING OF HOOK AND LURE AT THE TIME OF WEIGHING."

Carried

11(S): "That G.F.A.A. Rule 28 be amended to same as Rule 27 'THROUGH STATE SECRETARY'."

Carried

11(T): Are toggle leaders acceptable within intent of rules?

MOVED BY MR.GRAY, SECONDED MR.GAY, THAT TRACES WITH TOGGLES ARE ACCEPTABLE WITHIN THE RULES.

Carried

11(U): MOTION -

G.F.A.A. RULE 1 - REMOVAL FROM THE LIST OF FISH FOR AUSTRALIAN RECORDS THOSE NOT FOUND IN AUSTRALIAN WATERS, I.E. GIANT SEA BASS, SEA BASS, ATLANTIC KINGFISH, ATLANTIC BLUE MARLIN.

Mr.Gibbs requested advice from the Hon. Secretary on admission of "Giant Sea Bass" claim from W.A. Hon.Secretary tabled a letter that had accompanied application from W.A. Museum identifying this fish as "Giant Sea Bass". Mr.Gibbs tabled recent letter from W.A.Museum identifying the fish as a "Queensland Groper" or "Black Cod".

MR.GIBBS REQUESTED ON BEHALF OF W.A. G.F.A. THAT THE RECORD FOR THE "GIANT SEA BASS" BE RESCINDED.

Mr.Gibbs so moved, seconded Mr.Palmer.

Carried

The motion 11(U) was then put and

Carried

Queensland Game Fishing Association

11(W): "That Rule 8 of the existing Rules be deleted and in lieu thereof the following Rule 8 be inserted - 'THE LEADER AND THE DOUBLE LINE ON ALL WEIGHTS OF TACKLE UP TO AND INCLUDING THE 50 POUND LINE CLASS, SHALL BE LIMITED TO 15 FEET OF DOUBLE LINE AND 15 FEET OF LEADER. FOR HEAVIER TACKLE, THE LINE SHALL NOT BE DOUBLED AT THE LEADER END FOR MORE THAN 30 FEET, AND THE LEADER SHALL NOT EXCEED 30 FEET. THERE ARE NO MINIMUM LENGTHS. ALSO, THE USE OF A DOUBLE LINE OR LEADER IS NOT REQUIRED. THE LENGTH OF THE LEADER SHALL BE THE OVERALL LENGTH INCLUDING ANY LEGAL HOOK ARRANGEMENT ATTACHED THERETO. A DOUBLE LINE MUST BE THE DOUBLING OF THE ACTUAL LINE USED. THE LEADER MAY NOT BE LENGTHENED TO COMPENSATE FOR A SHORTER DOUBLE, AND THE DOUBLE LINE MAY NOT BE LENGTHENED COMMENSURATELY FOR A SHORTER LEADER. THE DOUBLE LINE AND THE LEADER MUST BE CONNECTED WITH A KNOT, SNAP OR SWIVEL. THERE ARE NO LIMITS TO THE MATERIAL OR STRENGTH OF THE LEADER. WHEN THE LEADER IS BROUGHT TO WITHIN THE GRASP OF THE MATE, OR THE END OF THE LEADER IS WOUND TO THE ROD TIP, MORE THAN ONE PERSON IS PERMITTED TO HOLD THE LEADER, AND THERE IS NO RESTRICTION REGARDING THE USE OF A GAFFER IN ADDITION TO THE PERSONS HOLDING THE LEADER.' "

Carried

The Executive of G.F.A.A.

- 11(X): "That the Conference consider the situation regarding the six monthly testing of weighing scales and the relationship of the G.F.A.A. and I.G.F.A. Rules to this item due to the complaints of financial hardship by some Clubs."

Discussion ensued, Mr. Palmer noted that the terms of Rule 24(a) did not make 6 monthly checking mandatory but provided for testing in the event of record claim.

The feeling of the meeting was that the provisions of Rule 24(a) should provide relief from financial hardship if such condition was critical and that no further action was deemed necessary.

GENERAL
BUSINESS:12. General Business

Dr. Delohery drew attention to the fact that the official Spanish Mackerel (Tanguigue) flag consisted of a white fish on a green field. This design was noted by all Delegates.

12(A): The Swordfish and Tunny Club of Australia

- (i) Draws attention to the failure to implement a permanent secretariat as decided upon at the last Biennial Conference.
- (ii) Further draws attention to the fact that the need for the kind of service available from a permanent secretariat is now being recognised by I.G.F.A. This club has been advocating such a permanent secretariat for many years.
- (iii) Suggests that the imminence of conservationist pressure against game fishing makes the setting up of the secretariat more than ever necessary, and,
- (iv) emphasises the positive value of educating public opinion and directly assisting environmental studies and marine research.

Mr. Cutler spoke on the changed status of the sport and the conservation issue. He noted that the Club feels strongly about the need for G.F.A.A. to create a powerful, unified force to counter the unfavourable media pressure with constructive, informed material. The Club had suggested a minimum levy of \$10 per head from all affiliated clubs to create a fund to establish a viable Secretariat. Mr. Cutler noted that the failure to create a Secretariat had been adequately explained but he strongly urged the incoming Executive to investigate all avenues to create the Secretariat; he suggested approaches to Universities, Fisheries Departments or Museums to obtain feelings on this matter.

Mr. Palmer generally endorsed Mr. Cutler's comments but noted that the financial burden to G.F.A.A. would be onerous and impractical at this time. He suggested that a repository for historical records etc. should be investigated, preferably in a museum or government department in Sydney.

After prolonged discussion with all Delegates contributing it was MOVED BY MR. MITCHELL, SECONDED MR. PALMER, that THE INCOMING EXECUTIVE EXPLORE ALL POSSIBLE AVENUES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT SECRETARIAT.

Carried

12(B) (ii); MOTION -

"That G.F.A.A. consider whether in view of the changed public views on gamefishing and the killing of fish it should endorse or be associated with any competition, or project a detachment from competition."

Discussion ensued on the All Australian competition. It was generally considered that the competition should continue in its present form.

MOVED MR.GIBBS, SECONDED MR.PALMER, THAT THE MATTER OF THE ALL AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION VENUE ETC. BE LEFT TO THE INCOMING EXECUTIVE.

Carried

12(B) (iii); MOTION -

"That G.F.A.A. on behalf of Australian game fishermen endeavour to have an increased voice and influence on I.G.F.A., particularly in view of I.G.F.A. request for outside finance and its declared policy to be a spokesman and forum for the saltwater fishermen of the world."

Dr.Delohery and Mr.Palmer read extracts of letters sent to Mr.Harry of I.G.F.A. on this matter. It was noted that no replies had yet been received.

12(B) (iv); MOTION -

"That consideration be given to the position of Papua/New Guinea and its 'Australian' records in view of approaching nationhood and independence."

Mr.Gay commented on his discussion with various New Guinea club members and the situation in the Territory at the moment.

Mr.Leydon, speaking as President of Lae G.F.C., noted that the situation in N.G. was very unstable at this time and that most anglers had no desire to break away from the Australian body. It was further suggested that a "watch and wait" attitude be adopted.

MOVED MR.PALMER, SECONDED MR.CUTLER, THAT THE FOREGOING COMMENTS BE NOTED AND RECORDED.

Carried

12(C): (Items in this section had previously been discussed.)

12(D): Sixteenth Annual International Game Fish Research Conference at New Orleans, U.S.A. held on October 29-30, 1973, subject - "Law of the Sea and the Angler".

Report on proceedings by Mr.P.Goadby who was accredited by G.F.A.A. to the Conference.

Mr.Goadby spoke briefly on the matters discussed at the Conference and noted that two major motions had been carried and notice of these had been given to U.S. Government. These were:

(i) That U.S.A. support the 200-mile territorial waters proposal at the Law of Sea Conference scheduled for 1974.

(ii) That sportfishing representatives be appointed to the I.C.A.T. Conference.

Mr. Goadby tabled copies of the business paper, precis of speeches and the formal resolutions.

The Chairman stated that the G.F.A.A. would reprint the information and distribute it to all Delegates and State Branches.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Goadby was moved by the Chairman and carried by acclamation.

The Executive of G.F.A.A.

12(E): "That the Conference discuss the initial \$US250 membership contribution paid to I.G.F.A. and establish future policy on this matter."

Discussion ensued.

MOVED MR. CUTLER, SECONDED MR. PALMER, THAT THE INITIAL CONTRIBUTION OF \$US250 BE CONFIRMED AND THAT A SUM OF \$US200 - \$US250 per annum BE CONTRIBUTED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

Carried

12(E) (ii): "That, following I.G.F.A. request, consideration be given to additional species for incorporation into World Record Chart and that if thought fit suitable recommendations be made."

MOVED MR. GOADBY, SECONDED DR. RUSSELL, THAT I.G.F.A. BE APPROACHED WITH A VIEW TO INCLUSION OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIES TO WORLD CHART: HAMMERHEAD SHARK, DOGTOOTH TUNA, GIANT TREVALLY (ULUA), ORIENTAL BONITO (NORTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA) AND QUEENFISH; AND THAT SUITABLE SUPPORTING DATA BE PROVIDED.

Carried

Rule Books

Rule Books

Discussion ensued on the chronic shortage of Rule Books during the past 2 years. The Hon. Secretary stated that 3,000 Rule Books had been printed and that each State Branch had obtained extra copies and that the distribution of these was open to question.

It was RESOLVED that each State Branch should provide details of numbers of books required, to Executive as soon as possible.

Professionalism

Professional interests

Mr. Gay and Mrs. Nielsen commented on the growing influence of professional interests in the operation of Clubs, particularly Cairns.

Discussion on this item ensued.

General feeling was that the solution to the problem probably lay in the hands of the individual clubs and that no general action by G.F.A.A. was warranted at this time.

One fish on two lines

One fish - two lines

Mr. Oliver requested advice on the situation of a fish taking two baits. It was generally felt that in this circumstance the angler must cut one line as quickly as possible. The circumstance of two anglers playing one fish simultaneously would render the fish disqualified.

NOTICE OF MOTION:NOTICE OF
MOTIONIT WAS MOVED BY MR.GOADBY, SECONDED MR.GRAY, THAT NOTICE
OF MOTION BE GIVEN FOR THE NEXT CONFERENCE TO CONSIDEREligible
fish"IN WHAT WATERS ARE FISH TO BE ELIGIBLE
FOR AUSTRALIAN RECORDS."Appreciation:

Appreciation: A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr.Cutler, carried by
acclamation, congratulating Mr.Caughlan on his chairmanship
and control of the meeting.

It was moved by Mr.Jacob, seconded by acclamation, that
a letter of appreciation be sent to Mrs. Judith McIntyre
for her assistance and help given to the Hon. Secretary
over the past 2 years.

Closure:

There being no further business the Chairman declared
the meeting closed at 5.05 p.m.

Signed:

W. Goadby Chairman

Date: 27 Nov 75