

THE GAME FISHING ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

MINUTES OF THE NINETEENTH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE HELD AT BIRKENHEAD POINT, SYDNEY, N.S.W.
ON 29th and 30th NOVEMBER 1979

17 PRESENT:

Mr. W. John O'Brien — President and Chairman: Mr. John C. Johnston, Vice President: Mr. Colin B. Mackay, Hon Secretary.
Queensland: Mrs. Daphne V. Nielsen, Mr. Patrick V. Gay, Mr. Michael E. Leahy, Mr. J. Seepoy, Dr. C. T. Russell (Observer).
New South Wales: Mr. Rowan E. Waddy, Mr. Bill Heyward, Mr. John Dulhunty, Mr. Peter Goadby, Messrs. T. Roach, A. Livingstone, L. Solomon, G. Thompson and B. Downey (Observers); Dr. Don Francois and Dr. Julian Pepperall (NSW State Fisheries).
Victoria: Mr. C. Ian Cutler, Mr. W. Crawley, Mr. R. Fisher, Mr. Robt. G. Ellis, Mr. L. Rowler (Observer).
Tasmania: Mr. John F. Jacob, Mr. J. Smythe.
South Australia: Mr. David N. Fairs, Messrs. John Clark and Ralph Parsons (Observers).
Western Australia: Mr. Kenneth W. Gibbs.
Life Members: Mr. Ernest W. Palmer (IGFA Trustee), Mr. W. B. Coombs.

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME:

Mr. O'Brien welcomed and named the two Life members, the 17 Delegates, 9 Observers, the 2 representatives from the NSW State Fisheries, and the Court Reporter. He also drew attention to the death of two of our Life Members since the last Conference, viz. Tom Bell and Mike Lerner, and of the late Governor of Queensland, Sir Colin Hannah, Patron of QGFA, and gave a brief resume of their respective services to Game fishing.

APOLOGIES:

Were recorded from two NSW Observers, Messrs. Bevan Park and Peter Thompson.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. O'Brien read his Report, copies of which had been circulated. He also read out a Telegram from the N.T. from Mr. Richard Crookes, the new President of NTGFA.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Mackay presented the Secretary's Report which had also been circulated.

MOVED BY MR. CUTLER, SECONDED BY MR. GAY, THAT THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND THE SECRETARY'S REPORT BE RECEIVED AND ADOPTED — **CARRIED.**

ALTERATION TO AGENDA:

Mr. O'Brien advised that he would like the item 'Alterations to the Constitution' to be placed before the item 'Election of Officers' on the Agenda.

MOVED BY MR. GOADBY, SECONDED BY MR. FAIRS, THAT THE ALTERATION TO THE AGENDA BE ACCEPTED — **CARRIED.**

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

MOVED BY MR. JACOB, SECONDED BY MR. GAY, THAT THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED BE ADOPTED — **CARRIED.**

BUSINESS ARISING:

The Chairman led Conference through the Minutes page by page, and the following points were discussed:

MUSEUM RENTAL: In response to a query, Mr. O'Brien explained that GFAA pays no rental for the Birkenhead premises — we pay 10% of the gross door take to D. J. Properties, or 10% of the cash we take, and will be charged some minimal overheads for cleaning etc. Mr. Gay congratulated the Executive on such a good deal.

ALL-AUSTRALIAN TOURNAMENTS: The Chairman advised that under the circumstances it was not practical during this period that his Executive had not re-commenced these. Mr. Palmer suggested the incoming Executive consider renewing the Tournament in one form or another, and that the E.W.P. Trophy be housed in the Australian Fishing Museum.

TROPHIES: After a long discussion on the value and future site destination of the Tom Bell Trophy (of Gold and probably worth over \$10,000) and the E. W. Palmer Trophy, it was:

MOVED BY MR. GOADBY, SECONDED BY MR. PALMER, THAT ALL THE GFAA TROPHIES AND THE TROPHIES PRESENTED TO GFAA BE HELD IN THE AUSTRALIAN FISHING MUSEUM — **CARRIED.**

REPLICAS: Considerable discussion followed as to the production and presentation of Replicas of these and other presentation Trophies, and it was:

MOVED BY MR. GAY, SECONDED BY MR. GIBBS, THAT GFAA AWARD A SUITABLE REPLICA OF THE GFAA TOM BELL TROPHY ANNUALLY TO THE APPROXIMATE COST OF \$100 WITH ATTENTION BEING GIVEN TO IMPROVING THE PRICE BY ORDERING A QUANTITY IN THE REGION OF TEN — **CARRIED.**

LINE TESTING: Delegates discussed the long delays experienced in recent years in receiving results of Line Tests for Record Applications. The incoming Executive was recommended to have future tests conducted by a qualified authority in Sydney, and to treat this as urgent.

CONSTITUTION: Mr. Palmer pointed out the omission of a Resolution from 18th B. Conference, and it was Resolved that the words 'for the term of his office' be added after (a) in the next re-print of the Constitution.

IATA: Discussion revealed that there were no problems with Airlines within Australia regarding freight on G-F gear, and only few minor ones with Overseas Airlines.

THE 200 MILE AUSTRALIAN FISHING ZONE: Mr. O'Brien outlined the action taken to date by his Executive, and Dr. Russell covered that taken by the Commonwealth-appointed Gamefish Working Committee. Dr. Francois then gave a full and frank summary of the Government views and reactions on this subject. Points of view were also expressed by Messrs. Goadby and Gay, and by Mrs. Nielsen. It was then:

MOVED BY MR. PALMER, SECONDED BY MR. WADDY, THAT THIS CONFERENCE SUPPORTS THE FORMATION AND WORK OF THE GAMEFISH WORKING COMMITTEE AND ALSO ENDORSES THE POLICIES SET OUT IN THE MEMORANDUM OF 12th NOVEMBER — **CARRIED.**

LOG BOOKS: Dr. Francois, at the request of the Chairman, then gave details of the NSW Government proposals, for the extension of the Gamefishing Tagging programme, and the issue of relevant Log Books and Data Sheets.

SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA: As Dr. Francois would not be in attendance later, Mr. Palmer, with permission, drew attention of Delegates to the taking of juvenile Tuna by W.A. commercial interests, and recommended that GFAA express concern at this trend. After discussion and on the recommendation of Dr. Francois, it was Resolved that GFAA take up this matter with the Federal Minister, and that W.A.G.F.A. do the same with their State Minister.

50 MILE BUFFER ZONE: Mr. Gay sought discussion on the arbitral figure of where this zone would be. A map of Australia was drawn on the blackboard and Delegates were invited to fill in their suggested State areas. Dr. Francois drew attention to the implications involved and the matter was not pursued.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Mr. Gay raised the question as to the sufficiency of the proposed \$1500 p.a. Secretarial Allowance. This was deferred pending a later discussion to follow regarding the delegation of duties between the two affected areas when the Australian Fishing Museum was in operation.

MOVED BY MR. JACOB, SECONDED BY MR. WADDY, THAT THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT BE ADOPTED — **CARRIED.**

ALTERATION TO CONSTITUTION:

Mr. O'Brien stated that his Executive had proposed the alteration to the Constitution, vide Agenda, and asked Mr. Palmer to expand. Mr. Palmer explained that the recommendation was framed to cover the future administration of the Association following the establishment of the Secretariat and the Aust. Fishing Museum. He went on to outline the separate duties of the Executive Vice-President at the Secretariat, as opposed to the decision-making policies dealt with solely by the President and his Executive Committee. The choice of description of President-Elect/Vice-President/Resident Vice-President Executive Director Senior Vice-President etc. was debated at length. The following Amendment was proposed:

PROPOSED BY MR. GIBBS, SECONDED BY MR. GAY, THAT CLAUSE 11 (a) BE REPLACED BY A NEW CLAUSE 11 (a) READING: THE EXECUTIVE OF GFAA SHALL BE COMPRISED OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WITH EFFECT 1st JANUARY 1980; PRESIDENT TO BE ELECTED FROM ONE STATE BRANCH; PRESIDENT'S SECRETARY TO BE APPOINTED FROM THE SAME STATE BRANCH AS THE PRESIDENT; VICE PRESIDENT TO BE ELECTED FROM ANOTHER STATE BRANCH; EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT TO BE ELECTED FROM AND RESIDENT IN THE STATE IN WHICH THE AUSTRALIAN FISHING MUSEUM AND SECRETARIAT ARE SITUATED; SEVEN EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, EACH STATE TO PROVIDE ONE EXECUTIVE OFFICER INCLUDING THOSE STATES PROVIDING THE PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT — **CARRIED.**

A FURTHER AMENDMENT, MOVED BY MR. DULHUNTY, SECONDED BY MR. GAY, THAT THE WORDS EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT BE CHANGED TO RESIDENT VICE PRESIDENT — **LOST.**

The Amended Motion, Proposed by Mr. Gibbs and Seconded by Mr. Gay, was submitted as the MOTION — **CARRIED.**

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The Chairman stated that it gave him untold joy to call for nominations for the position of President of GFAA commencing on 1st January 1980.

Mr. John Johnston; nominated by Mr. O'Brien; Seconded by Mr. Jacob. There were no other nominations and Mr. O'Brien announced Mr. Johnston as President-elect.

Mr. Johnston thanked Mr. O'Brien and the Delegates for their support and announced his Hon. Secretary as Mr. Ralph Parsons from South Australia, currently Hon. Secretary of the Game Fishing Club of SA and President-elect of that Club. The Chairman then invited nominations for the other Executive Committee positions, and the following were elected Unanimously:

Vice President — Mr. Ian Cutler	Nominated by	Seconded by
Executive Vice-President — Mr. Peter Goadby	Mr. Johnston	Mr. Fisher
Executive Officer: Qld — Mrs. D. V. Nielsen	Mr. Jacob	Mr. Cutler
NSW — Mr. Rowan Waddy	Mr. Leahy	Mr. Gay
Vic. — Mr. Robt. G. Ellis	Mr. Heyward	Mr. Fairs
Tas. — Mr. John F. Jacob	Mr. Cutler	Mr. Fisher
S.A. — Mr. David Fairs	Mr. Gibbs	Mr. Smythe
W.A. — Mr. Ken W. Gibbs	Mr. Palmer	Mr. Johnston
N.T. — Mr. Richd. Crookes	Mr. O'Brien	Mr. Gay
	Mr. Gay	Mr. Goadby

LIFE MEMBERSHIP:

ELWOOD K. HARRY, President of I.G.F.A.

As the originator of the move, Mr. Goadby gave Conference a laudatory description of Mr. Harry's qualifications for entitlement to this honour, and pointed out that Elwood had given up his entire business career for the furthering of recreational fishing. He was supported by Mr. Palmer and Mr. Gray. The Chairman assured Delegates that the required notices and procedures had been observed, and it was:

MOVED BY MR. GOADBY, SECONDED BY MR. PALMER, THAT ELWOOD K. HARRY BE GRANTED LIFE MEMBERSHIP OF GFAA — **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Palmer read out the wording on a Plaque prepared for presentation to Mr. Harry to commemorate the award.

ALTERATIONS TO FISHING RULES:

From South Australia: MOTION — THAT GFAA ADOPT IGFA RULES GOVERNING THE CAPTURE OF FISH.

The Motion was introduced by Mr. Fairs and amplified by Mr. Johnston. It was supported by Delegates from Tasmania and Victoria, with N.S.W., W.A. and Queensland differing on the grounds that GFAA should not lose its identity and find itself obliged to stick to a new Rule introduced by IGFA and to which we could not agree.

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND — **LOST**

Mr. Gay pointed out that defeat of this Motion left us in the same position as we were in before because, at the 18th Biennial Conference in 1977, it was Resolved that, wherever possible, GFAA would adopt the wording of IGFA Rules.

From Queensland: MOTION — THAT GFAA RULE 2 RE HOOKS AND LURES WHEREBY THE USE OF PLUGS AND ARTIFICIAL LURES WITH GANG HOOKS IS LIMITED TO CASTING AND RETRIEVING IN A CONVENTIONAL MANNER BE CHANGED TO THE IGFA RULE SO THAT THE LURE OR PLUG MAY BE TROLLED.

Mr. Leahy explained Queensland's views on this subject. His remarks were supported by Messrs. Gay, Goadby and Palmer. There was no opposition. The MOTION was put — **CARRIED.**

From N.S.W.: MOTION — THAT THE INCOMING EXECUTIVE OF GFAA APPROVE THE IDENTIFICATION KEYS SET DOWN FOR BILLFISH, SHARK AND TUNA.

Mr. Hayward drew attention to the identification difficulties facing anglers and weighmasters with the great variety of sub-species of these fish encountered. Following a general discussion of identification problems, and at the suggestion of Mr. Heyward, Mr. Goadby showed on a black-board, the obvious differences existing between the various species of Marlin. He suggested that such differences be depicted on overlay, acetate sheets, covering Marlin and Tuna, to highlight the variations in each species. Mr. Goadby undertook to have composite drawings done in conjunction with Dr. Julian Pepperall, and placed in the hands of the incoming Executive by 31st December 1979 for inclusion in the 1980 Australian Record Book.

THE MOTION WAS PROPOSED BY MR. HEYWARD; SECONDED BY MR. WADDY — **CARRIED.**

From N.S.W.: MOTION — THAT GFAA RULES RELATING TO GAFFING BE BROUGHT INTO LINE WITH THE 1979 IGFA RULES, AND THAT THE WORDING OF THE GFAA RULES REGARDING MUTILATION OF FISH BE ALTERED TO THE WORDING AS IT APPEARS IN THE 1979 IGFA RULES.

The Chairman agreed with Mr. Goadby that it was preferable for these two Motions to be considered and discussed together. Almost an hour was spent — by Delegates from all States — reviewing the reasons for Mutilations and the effects in Australia from following IGFA less rigid Rule covering Mutilation. Mr. Goadby said that the controversy over mutilations caused during gaffing was not confined to Marlin, nor to isolated centres such as Cairns, where the position was perhaps aggravated because of the size of the fish brought in. He told Delegates that it is a vexed subject also in Hawaii, in New Zealand and in other countries.

THE MOTION WAS PUT — **CARRIED.**

Mrs. Nielsen and Mr. Gibbs requested that it be placed on record in the Minutes that they had voted AGAINST the Motion.

From N.S.W.: MOTION — THAT GFAA RULE REGARDING MINIMUM WEIGHTS NEEDED TO DEFEAT EXISTING RECORDS BE ALTERED TO CONFORM WITH THE 1979 IGFA RULES.

Mr. Dulhunty urged the change for the sake of uniformity. Mr. Cutler said he considered GFAA Rule clearer than that of IGFA, who still persisted with 'imperial' weights, and that we should urge them to adopt our wording in this. Mr. Palmer explained the reasons for IGFA low minimum weights used in their Rule.

THE MOTION WAS PUT — **LOST.**

From N.S.W.: MOTION — THAT THE IGFA RULES FROM 1980 BE CONSIDERED WHEN THE 1980 GFAA RULES ARE BEING DRAFTED.

Mr. Palmer pointed out that, for world uniformity among Fresh and Salt-water fishermen, IGFA proposed to standardise all Line Classes in the lower categories. In the general discussion which followed, it was agreed that GFAA Rules Committee, prior to publication of the 1980 Australian Rule Book, consider all amendments announced in the 1980 IGFA Rules relating to Salt-water fishing. Mr. Goadby, as Chairman of the Rules Committee, pointed out that the Motion did not cover the introduction of new Rules, nor affect the intent of our Rules, but gave the Executive Committee power to vary our present GFAA wording within those boundaries, as appropriate.

THE MOTION WAS PUT — **CARRIED.**

From N.S.W.: MOTION — THAT AN ANGLER MUST DECLARE THE SPECIFIED LINE CLASS OF THE TACKLE USED WHEN MAKING AN APPLICATION FOR AN AUSTRALIAN RECORD.

Mr. Waddy explained that the object of this Motion was to preclude Applications for an Australian Record in a higher Line Class category than that in which the capture was actually made, and which may be either bettered by the capture or open.

THE MOTION WAS PUT — **CARRIED.**

From N.S.W.: MOTION — THAT GFAA RULES RELATING TO LENGTHS OF LEADERS AND DOUBLE LINES BE AMENDED TO STATE THAT THE COMBINED LENGTH OF LEADER AND DOUBLE LINE BE NO MORE THAN 45 FEET (OR THE METRIC EQUIVALENT) FOR ALL LINE CLASSES, WITH A MAXIMUM OF 30 FEET (OR THE METRIC EQUIVALENT) FOR EITHER THE LEADER OR THE DOUBLE LINE.

Mr. Dulhunty spoke in favour of adopting the Motion, but pointed out that, since its submission, IGFA had proposed to amend the lengths quoted. Mr. Goadby supported him and stressed that adoption of Leader and Double lengths of about these dimensions would give anglers considerable flexibility, and a complete balance within Light and Heavy tackle. Mr. Palmer as a Member of IGFA Rules Committee, said that he had been advised that IGFA would announce the combined lengths as 13 metres and individual limits (Double and Trace) at 9 metres, and that we could expect their official advice of this by the end of this year.

In view of this, Mr. Dulhunty proposed an Amendment.

AMENDMENT — PROPOSED BY MR. DULHUNTY, SECONDED BY MR. GOADBY: THAT GFAA ADOPT THE INDIVIDUAL AND COMBINED LENGTHS OF DOUBLE LINE AND LEADER AS LAID DOWN BY IGFA WHEN WE RECEIVE THEIR OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION.

THE AMENDMENT BECAME THE MOTION — CARRIED.

From Tasmania: **MOTION — THAT CONFERENCE CLARIFY THE POSITION OF FILING FEES FOR APPLICATIONS IN RESPECT OF WORLD AND AUSTRALIAN RECORD CLAIMS.**

Hon. Secretary explained that the present 510 Filing Fee covered costs incurred in servicing Claims for both Australian and World Records. The incoming Executive undertook to ensure that this would be clearly indicated in the new Rule Book to be issued.

From South Australia: **MOTION — THE GFAA CONSIDER MAINTAINING RECORDS FOR FRESH WATER AND SALT WATER FLY-ROD FISHING ON THE SAME LINES AS IGFA.**

Mr. Fairs stated that the main purpose of the Motion was to give Conference a chance to consider imitating IGFA in this manner and, by so doing, encourage a merging of interests of the Australian Fishing Museum and of all fishing groups throughout Australia.

Mr. Johnston pointed out that a discussion of the subject would give future Executives the general reaction of Delegates to the idea — it was not intended as something to be done forthwith.

Mr. Palmer mentioned that he was sure, from unofficial talks two months ago with ANSA and ANA representatives, that neither of these bodies would readily surrender their Australian Record keeping arrangements. However we could well bear in mind that any movement to unite all fishing groups under one banner should be worthwhile, and prove of benefit to all concerned.

Mr. Goadby stated that, although there were currently three sets of Freshwater Records kept (by AAA, ANSA, and the Federation), Clubs affiliated with ANSA had already supported the concept of the Australian Fishing Museum, donated over \$500 in cash, and helped with the Raffle.

THE MOTION WAS PUT — CARRIED.

From South Australia: **MOTION — THAT GFAA INTRODUCE A 1.5 KG LINE CLASS.**

Mr. Fairs requested that, in view of earlier comments by Mr. Palmer regarding the proposed alterations to Line Classes by IGFA in 1980, the figure in the S.A. Motion be amended to read 1.8 Kgs. He felt that this would open up new fields especially in N.T. and S.A.

Mr. Johnston pointed out that it could also widen the appeal to other areas and assist arresting a decline in number of members in some Clubs.

Mr. Palmer, as an IGFA Trustee, explained that all fresh water groups in the world had a Meeting on 10 Nov. 1979 at which they adopted world-wide, freshwater classes of 2 Kg., 4 Kg., 6 Kg., 10 Kg., and 15 Kg. Classes; that freshwater fly-fishing in 2, 3, 5, 6 & 7. He read a letter from IGFA wherein they proposed to increase present 3 Kg. Class for Saltwater species to 4 Kg., and introduce a new 2 Kg. Line Class sometime in 1980. They would thus work towards the point that, in 1981, there would be no differential between fresh and saltwater species.

With the approval of S.A. Delegates, an Amendment was:

PROPOSED BY MR. O'BRIEN, SECONDED BY MR. GIBBS, THAT:

AMENDMENT: THAT GFAA INTRODUCE, 1. A 2 KG. LINE CLASS AS FROM 1 JAN. 1980, and 2. A 4 KG. LINE CLASS AND ELIMINATE THE 3 KG. LINE CLASS WHEN IGFA CONFIRM THE INTRODUCTION OF THE 4 KG. CLASS.

THE AMENDMENT BECAME THE MOTION AND WAS: CARRIED.

AUSTRALIAN FISHING MUSEUM ART UNION:

The President-elect, Mr. Johnston gave Conference a summary of the progress of collections to date, and suggested further means of increasing these. Mr. O'Brien advised that the target had been set for \$120,000 minimum — that we now had about \$80,000 and were thus looking for a further \$40,000 minimum. Various means of achieving this were discussed and Mr. Johnston undertook to pursue them.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

CHANGE OF NAME: Conference confirmed the action taken by the Executive in changing the name of the Museum from Australian Game Fishing Museum to the Australian Fishing Museum.

MOTION WITHDRAWN:

The N.S.W. Motion that the various activities of GFAA and the Australian Fishing Museum be clearly defined etc. was WITHDRAWN.

CONSTITUTION (N.S.W.):

Mr. Dulhunty drew attention to several clauses in the Constitution which he considered needed review, particularly following the establishment of the Museum. He was supported by Mr. Palmer.

MOVED BY MR. DULHUNTY, SECONDED BY MR. HEYWARD, THAT THE INCOMING EXECUTIVE APPOINT A SUB-COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THE CONSTITUTION OF GFAA AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGES WHERE NECESSARY DUE TO THE FORMATION OF THE AUSTRALIAN FISHING MUSEUM AND OTHER MATTERS — CARRIED.

It was further **RESOLVED** that the incoming Executive appoint Mr. Dulhunty as a member of such Sub-Committee.

MARINE RADIO LICENCES:

SALES TAX ON MARINE SAFETY EQUIPMENT (Queensland):

Mr. Seepoy told Delegates that this matter arose at a recent QGFA meeting and was designed to add weight to recommendations made by other fishing organisations. ANSA had recommended to Government that safety equipment be tax-free and that two-way radio licences fees be reduced. He said he thought GFAA should do likewise. Mr. Cutler and Mr. Ellis told Conference that the matter had been raised in Victoria. Dr. Russell advised that the Amateur Fishing Council had attempted to co-ordinate all boating bodies in Queensland in this regard, and that the Queensland Finance Minister had indicated that these aims could only be achieved by a change in legislation. Mr. O'Brien advised that the Fishing Advisory Council in N.S.W. was also involved in this matter and that he was in favour of an approach by GFAA to the appropriate Minister. Mr. Smythe stated that Tasmania had also taken this action. Mr. Goadby suggested some slight amendments to the original Motion, and these were approved by Queensland.

MOVED BY MR. SEEPOY, SECONDED BY MRS. NIELSEN, THAT GFAA TAKE UP WITH THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES THE MATTER OF MARINE RADIO LICENCE FEES, SEEKING AN ABSOLUTE MINIMUM FIGURE AT NO MORE THAN THAT APPLICABLE TO CB RADIOS, AND WITH ONE LICENCE FEE IRRESPECTIVE OF THE NUMBER OF RADIOS; AND OF SALES TAX ON MARINE SAFETY EQUIPMENT, and that THE ADOPTION OF THESE TWO POLICIES BE ADVISED TO ALL MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS AND GAMEFISHING CLUBS IN AUSTRALIA, URGING THEIR INDIVIDUAL ACTION ALONG THESE LINES — CARRIED.

SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA (Tasmania):

On the motion of Mr. Goadby and with the approval of the Proposers, it was agreed that the Tasmanian Motion on this subject be considered in conjunction with a Motion from GFAA Executive, when all current Australian Records could be reviewed in regard to identification of species.

SECRETARIAT — AUSTRALIAN FISHING MUSEUM — SERVICE FEE (GFAA Executive):

Mr. Mackay explained the separate functions to be performed by the Secretariat and by the Museum, and the necessity for GFAA to pay the Museum a fee for services rendered and for sundry disbursements for postage etc. The amount of such a fee was discussed without a decision. Mr. Palmer then read out the names of the 14 Board of Trustees for the Australian Fishing Museum. These were Messrs. O'Brien, Goadby, Johnston, Cutler, Jacob, Gibbs, Mackay, Leahy, Gay, Palmer, Mrs. Nielsen — all Officers or ex-officers of GFAA, and Messrs Lewers, Allen and Dr. Francois. Mr. Palmer pointed out that, under the terms of the Trust Deed, approved in Canberra, these people were responsible for the proper management of the whole project, including appointment of the Museum staff, and that it was essential to keep the two bodies quite separate because of the important Tax angle. The Trust Deed stipulated that the compilation and granting of Australian Records is a Museum function. Other administrative work may also be done for GFAA or other bodies, with the Museum rendering periodic accounts to recoup them for expenses incurred. Similarly ANSA or any other group or Club could hire the Museum for meetings, film evenings etc. on the same basis. There was no vote on the subject.

COUNCIL OF RECREATIONAL FISHING ASSOCIATIONS OF AUSTRALIA (GFAA Executive):

It was pointed out by Messrs. Cutler and Goadby that, at the Seminar at the Australian Fishing Museum on 27 Sept. 1979, it has been agreed in principle that GFAA instigate the formation of such a Council.
MOVED BY MR. CUTLER, SECONDED BY MR. DULHUNTY, THAT GFAA TAKE STEPS TO INITIATE THE FORMATION OF A COUNCIL OF RECREATIONAL FISHING ASSOCIATIONS IN AUSTRALIA WITH A VIEW TO ARRANGING AND DISCUSSING AREAS OF MUTUAL CONCERN - CARRIED.

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HEADQUARTERS AND SECRETARIAT (GFAA Executive):

Mr. O'Brien pointed out that the respective responsibilities of the Secretariat and Museum had already been defined earlier by Mr. Palmer. It was:
MOVED BY MR. GIBBS, SECONDED BY MR. PALMER, THAT AS FROM 1 JANUARY 1980, GFAA HEADQUARTERS AND SECRETARIAT BE ESTABLISHED AT MUSEUM HEADQUARTERS AT BIRKENHEAD AND THAT GFAA PAY SUCH FEES AS ARE REQUIRED BY THE AUSTRALIAN FISHING MUSEUM TO DISCHARGE THAT FUNCTION - CARRIED.

REVIEW OF CURRENT AUSTRALIAN RECORDS (GFAA Executive):

Mr. Goadby pointed out to Delegates that there were several Australian Records on our chart which have either been mis-identified or, for various other reasons, should not be there in the light of modern day knowledge. He instanced Geo. Parkes' 623 lb. Bluefin Tuna, currently listed under Southern Bluefin Tuna, a listed Blue Marlin on 6 Kg. Line which was a Black and removed from the World Chart after identification as such by IGFA scientists, and other similar cases. After further discussion, it was:
MOVED BY MR. JACOB, SECONDED BY MR. GOADBY, THAT GFAA SEPARATE THE SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA SPECIES FROM THE BLUEFIN SPECIES IN THE SAME MANNER AS IGFA, AND THAT ALL CURRENT AUSTRALIAN RECORDS BE REVIEWED IN REGARD TO IDENTIFICATION OF SPECIES, SUCH REVIEW TO BE MADE BY MR. GOADBY AND THE INCOMING EXECUTIVE WITH ACCESS TO THE SCIENTISTS - CARRIED.

PROMULGATION OF RECORDS:

Mr. Dulhunty requested that, until such time as the permanent Secretariat is established, the incoming Executive appoint one of the Executive Officers as 'Record Master', or to co-opt a 'Record Master' to undertake the job of ensuring that Australian and World Records are promulgated quarterly.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS:

Mrs. Nielson gave Notice to the next Biennial Conference that the classification of the Trevally species be considered in relation to the chart.

Mr. PALMER gave Notice that at next Conference he would like consideration to be given to the following changes in the Constitution:

1. In relation to No. 15 (b), with an IGFA Representative now in each State, it may be desirable to say that a Life Member of GFAA or a Representative of IGFA may be a Proxy Delegate.
2. In relation to No. 16 - Requirements for nomination of Life Membership - to amend the present four calendar months before Conference to read two calendar months.
3. In regard to Rule 30 - the Tom Bell Trophy - to add that the E. W. Palmer Trophy be accepted by GFAA for award to the winner of any All-Australia Contest organised by GFAA.

Mr. O'BRIEN gave Notice that at the next Conference he would move that GFAA consider the inclusion of Junior Records in the Record Book.

Messrs. Heyward and Cutler mentioned that Junior Charts were maintained in NSW and Victoria, and that this had encouraged Junior membership in their Clubs. The age limit for a 'Junior' was discussed without decision.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE MUSEUM:

Mrs. NIELSON produced a collection of Gamefishing Stamps which she offered to the Museum. Mr. O'Brien thanked her for the generous gift and said they would be suitably displayed. He also mentioned that both BOB AND DOLLY DYER had given the Museum about 80% of everything they had in casts, photographs and trophies, as well as two films of 40 minutes each, with showing of them confined to the Museum. Mr O'Brien suggested that it would be appropriate to present them with a Citation, and Mr. Palmer offered to prepare one as he had done on the occasion of Elwood Harry's Life Membership. Dr. Russell advised that he and his Committee had enjoyed very good press relationship during the 200 mile Limit campaign, and Messrs. Vines and Moir had donated their original five cartoons to the Museum. He also said that Channel 2 had indicated that they will give the Museum all their video-cassettes covering those episodes in Queensland.

ADDRESS:

Mr. O'Brien introduced Dr. Julian Pepperall of the NSW State Fisheries Dept., who gave Delegates a most informative talk on the progress made in the general Tagging Programme throughout Australia, and on the sampling of Marlin Gonads over the past twelve months. He answered the many and varied questions put to him by Delegates, covering migrations, mortality of tagged fish, sonic tags, growth rates, spawning etc.

Mr. O'Brien thanked Dr. Pepperall on behalf of all those present for his address and for his interest in our Association's activities.

AUSTRALIAN RECORD AND RULES BOOK:

Mr. Fair's mentioned that the undue delay in the issue of the last Rule Book had disadvantaged Clubs and Members. The Rules had been changed in November 1977, to operate as from 1 Jan 78, but the new Book was not received until six months later, he enquired if it were not possible for the new Rule Books to be issued on 1st January every second year.

Mr. O'Brien explained that the 1978 Rule book included additional art work and drawings and that the 1980 Book would also require considerable further restructuring following the addition of the 2 kg. Line Class, amendments to the Rules, inclusion of new sub-species etc., as well as amendments to Australian and World Record details.

It was agreed that the newly appointed Executive Officers and all Delegates were aware of and had full details of amendments to the Angling Rules agreed to at this Conference, to operate as from 1st January 1980, and that it was up to them to advise their State Clubs accordingly. The Hon. Secretary mentioned that the Christmas and New Year period was not a good time to arrange for the printing of the Books.

CHANGES TO CLUB EXECUTIVES:

Mr. Ellis drew attention to the fact that most Clubs throughout Australia change their Executive every twelve months, and enquired how this could be best publicised, it was decided that such changes should be advised promptly to GFAA by State Branches as they occur, and covered in GFAA quarterly News Letters.

CLOSURE:

Mr. Palmer congratulated Mr. O'Brien on the able way in which he had handled the Presidency over the past two years, and moved a formal vote of thanks on behalf of all those present to him and to his Secretary, Colin Mackay.

This was supported by ACCLAMATION.

Mr. O'Brien thanked Mr. Palmer for his remarks and those present for their good wishes. He stressed the great help he had received from Peter Goadby in the setting up of the Museum and made a personal Presentation to Mr. Goadby.

In return, Mr. Goadby presented Mr. O'Brien with the logo and identification of the Museum.

The Chairman declared the 19th Biennial Conference closed.

Signed W. G. O'Brien
Chairman

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