



**AUSTRALIAN ANGLERS ASSOCIATION, (WA DIVISION) INC.
DELEGATES' MEETING**

**Held at Sports Association WA, Stancliffe Street, Mt Lawley
Tuesday 15th June at 7.30 pm**

The AAWA AGM and Angler of the Year Awards will be held on Tuesday 17th August 2009 at the above address from 7.00 pm. Delegates from all Affiliate Clubs are urged to attend. All Clubs are urged to attend.

MINUTES

1. OPEN MEETING

Vice President George Chaired the meeting and welcomed all delegates.

2. PRESENT

Russell Bunce, FAAC

Don Cox, MAAC

James Strong, Denmark AC & Patron

John Crompton, Esperance Surf Casters

Peter Pekaar, Geraldton AC

Marcia Pekaar, Northampton AC

Terry Fuller, SCAC

Joe Horvath, OSAC Perth Beach Branch

Rick Cameron, OSAC South Coastal

Diane McDonough, Secretary/Treasurer

3. APOLOGIES

Pat Shinnick, Chas Riegert, Paul Longo, Jason Pember.

4. VISITORS

Nil

5. NEW MEMBERS OR PROXIES

Nil

6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by Don Cox and Seconded by Joe Horvath that the Minutes of the May 2010 Meeting be accepted.

7. ERRORS OR OMISSIONS FROM MINUTES

Nil.

8. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

A list of updated records was to be forwarded to Terry Fuller for inclusion on the AAWA website but this did not happen. George Holman will follow up with National Recorder, Richard Siudak.

Australian Surf Casting Federation

George Holman followed up on this from the May meeting. He contacted the AAA Federal President and NSW President Robert Smith who commented that the Aust Surf Casting Federation has a very small representation, with 2 members in Victoria, 1 in SA and 2 in NSW. They are registered with the Hastings Division in NSW (in order to access their insurance cover). They do a different type of casting to that done by AAWA. Pat Shinnick/Robert Smith will follow up in due course.

9. CORRESPONDENCE INWARDS (BY MAIL)

Westmore	Advertising brochures
Surf Casters	Reel Talk June 2010

10. CORRESPONDENCE INWARDS (BY EMAIL)

1. Pat Shinnick	FW: OCEAN REEF SEA SPORTS
2. Paul Longo	RE: AAAWA DELEGATES MEETING 15TH JUNE
3. Terry Fuller	Update for affiliated clubs list on AAA website
4. Jurak, Nina	2010 Budget Estimates Hearings
5. Pat Shinnick	Apologies
6. Jenny Travis	Media Statements - Norman Moore Fisheries Minister
7. Con Costa	Public to comment on new direction for management of State's fisheries
8. Con Costa	FW: DSR & DCP TV advert
9. Jenny Travis	Recfishwest Reel News - Northern Community Fishing Clinic Tour
10. Jenny Travis	Media Release - Comment Sought on Managing Recreational Abalone Fishing
11. Pat Shinnick	RE: ANGLER OF THE YEAR; CHAMPION CLUB
12. Terry Bell	RE: ANGLER OF THE YEAR; CHAMPION CLUB
13. Jenny Travis	Media statement - New \$420,000 jetty for Rottnest.
14. Jeff Trew	Competition points and champion club calculation
15. Les Jones	Museum
16. Margaret Riddel	AAA - Mid Term Meetings - SWR 26 July 2010.
17. Marcia and Peter Pekaar	Tailor Frames - Wanted by Fisheries
18. Jenny Travis	Media Statements from Fisheries Minister
19. LAWRENCE BIRCHALL	Tailor Research
20. Jeanette Ensor	RE: AAAWA DELEGATES MEETING
21. Chas Riegert	ASF Casting article you wanted
22. Marcia and Peter Pekaar	ASF report
23. Pat Shinnick	RE: State Boat Champs

11. CORRESPONDENCE OUTWARDS

Delegates & Clubs	Minutes & Agendas
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12. BUSINESS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

George read out email No 15 from Les Jones.

Dear Sir,
 Can you please advise me if there is a Museum which would be interested in displaying an old (mid 1950's) reel used to secure the Australian Casting Championship in both Single and Double handed in around 1955 together with a photo of winners with Trophies?
 Sincerely, Les Jones

Delegates discussed possible repositories for the equipment and suggestions included the Fremantle Maritime Museum or the Esperance Museum. Terry Fuller suggested that if Mr Jones could provide a photo and a story he could put an article on the AAAWA website for all to read. The secretary will convey this information to Mr Jones.

George also read out email no 4 from MLC Giz Watson, which concerns 2010 Budget Estimates Hearings and not relevant to the AAAWA.

Its was proposed by Marcia Pekaar and seconded by Russell Bunce that the correspondence be accepted.

13. TREASURERS REPORT

General Account Balance \$ 19,722.80	Carnival Account Balance \$1224.73
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Income for June 2010

Melville Amateur AC	Nomination for State Beach and Rock Championships	\$162.00
Total		\$162.00

Accounts for payment June 2010

Diane McDonough	Secretariat	\$500.00
Telstra	June account	38.78
Total		\$538.78

It was proposed by Joe Horvath and seconded by Rick Cameron that the Treasurer's report be accepted and the accounts passed for payment.

14. INDIVIDUAL REPORTS

President's Report

George Holman read Pat Shinnick's Chairman's report.

Again there is not a lot to report on, everyone is going into hibernation. Hopefully there are those that are looking at sitting on the executive chairs of the AAAWA. Hope that Terry Fuller had a great time in Exmouth and is back rejuvenated for a few more months. I note also that Terry Fuller has been nominated and accepted in the SCAC to become a life member, well done Terry. I am personally aware of the extraordinary efforts that Terry goes to, to ensure that all is correct in the association, and can only assume the same with his commitment since 1964 at the SCAC, congratulations!

George advised that Terry will be formally presented with his life membership on June 19th and all delegates congratulated Terry.

Boating Report

The next meeting has been organized. As indicated previously, the MAAC club is hosting the event with a subcommittee being formed from interested boating clubs to ensure we get it right. Please refer to the debrief minutes from the last State Boat Championships.

Estuary, Rock and Beach Report

Don Cox reported that he has sorted out two Patron's cups which had information missing. He will be contacting Terry Bell regarding trophies. A meeting is scheduled for 24th June. Don will provide more information on the Golden Ponds (see May 2010 minutes) when he gets it.

Dry Casting Report

The group is still trying to sort out the money from the Wallaroo trip. George Holman plans to get the Surfcasters to table the motions under which the participants will compete on the October casting day.

Trophy Officer Report

When Geraldton some categories of the competitions at Port Gregory a couple of years ago, the trophies were sent to them so that the team could have photos taken with them. Unfortunately the trophies got lost which caused some concern, but that has been resolved and the trophies returned. George thanked Rick Cameron for his efforts in sending and retrieving the trophies.

Recfishwest Report

Marine Parks and sanctuary/no fishing zones:- myths and realities

Marine Parks and sanctuary/no fishing zones are not the same, but are often used interchangeably which confuses lots of people. Marine Parks (in WA) can have different zones, of which sanctuary/no fishing zones are just one type, and usually make up less than 30% of the area covered by the Marine Park. Of course taking a large part of the good fishing spots into no fishing zones can mean that the impact on certain types of fishing like shore based fishing can be much greater than 30%, since what is left can be areas which are not very productive for shore based fishing.

A topic which comes up regularly is the justifications for Marine Parks to protect the marine environment and actually improve fishing. Environmentalists claim that large Marine parks (and they really mean large areas/percentage of no fishing zones) are essential for lots of reasons. They cite lots of overseas research about no fishing zones and benefits for everything from whales to leafy seadragons to better catches of fish outside the no fishing zones.

Some claim many universal and indisputable benefits from closing areas to all fishing, and then apply that to the WA situation which is quite different in many ways, and is ignoring the actual levels of fishing which may be taking place, and the management rules applied to that fishing or the past lack of rules or enforcement in some countries.

When challenged on that, they sometimes cite the "*precautionary principle*" which is that if there is not enough information, then the correct approach is to take a low risk approach and restrict or prohibit activities which ***might*** be having an impact now or ***might*** do so in the future.

Finally, two separate very informative and important reports have been released which cover the West Australian situation, and confirm things informed people in the fishing community have been saying for years. The reports are:-

1. Fisheries Research Report No. 169, 2010, "The efficacy of sanctuary areas for the management of fish stocks and biodiversity in WA waters." 48 pages available from <http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/frr/frr169/index.php?0401> and
2. "Report on the Scientific Basis for and the Role of Marine Sanctuaries in Marine Planning." by the Marine Scientific Panel. Both the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Department of Fisheries are named on the front cover. 96 pages <http://www.dec.wa.gov.au/content/category/40/952/2323/>

Already the Conservation Council of WA has issued a media release and very selectively used the contents and recommendations of the second paper in its attempts to put uninformed or misinformed public pressure on politicians in support of large Sanctuary/no fishing zones for WA. Don't be surprised to see more.

These are long papers with lots of complex information. But I see these as THE most important papers on WA Marine planning in the last 10 years or more because of their potential to put Marine Planning ***in Western Australia*** into a proper context and answer many of the misleading and misinformed statements flying around.

But that also needs people to be aware of the existence of the reports and to have some idea of their contents and then to challenge the misinformation so it isn't used against fishermen. That's against ***YOU and your fishing*** in case there's any doubt.

Some extracts from the Executive Summary of paper 1 are:-

There has been an ongoing debate about the relative value of sanctuary areas for the management of fish stocks, and biodiversity more generally. This debate can often be exacerbated by unrecognised differences among stakeholders in the definitions used and the scope and scale of the objectives to be achieved. Conflicts are also likely where there are strong expectations about the relative value of a specific strategy irrespective of the structure of the system to which it could be applied or the levels of management already being employed. In summary this review concludes that:

- Marine habitats, and therefore a large proportion of the biodiversity in WA waters, are highly protected from negative fishery impacts compared to nearly all other locations in the world. Approximately 35% of continental shelf waters already have full habitat protection at levels equivalent to MPAs under IUCN categories IV, V and VI. The effective area of habitat protection generated through direct and indirect controls on trawl fisheries covers about 90% of continental shelf waters.
- There are few fish stocks in WA with reduced spawning biomass levels where general no-take areas would lead to increased recruitment levels of their juveniles. In such circumstances, highly targeted closures (not necessarily to all fishing activities or for the entire year) in conjunction with other broad scale actions have proven to be effective management options.
- Most of the marine species subject to fishing (including those with benthic stages) in WA are highly mobile either as adults, juveniles or both; which greatly reduces the efficacy of small, static, non-targeted spatial controls for their management at a stock level.
- The implementation of sanctuaries alone, will generally not improve the quality of fishing in the areas left open along the WA coast, as the re-direction of effort from a newly established sanctuary area is likely to result in a reduction in local catch rates within the surrounding regions.

- The main marine habitats in WA at risk are the estuaries and embayments where land-based, non-fishing activities have resulted in nutrient rich run-off and eutrophication, which has significantly altered ecosystems (e.g. the Peel–Harvey Estuary). In these situations closures would neither rebuild affected fish stocks nor assist with the protection of the broader ecosystem.

Based on these assessments this report supports the concept that clearly defined sanctuary areas (within marine parks or FHPAs) will play a valuable, but restricted part of an overall scheme of management to sustain resources and protect biodiversity in WA waters.

Consequently, there is a rational basis to support the establishment of marine sanctuary areas where they have clear, measurable objectives that relate to achievable benefits for tourism, biodiversity, research and other 'no-take' outcomes. There is, however, little scientific basis within the WA context to support their justification where they are proposed as a precaution against undefined 'bad practices' in the management of fisheries.

Where a sanctuary zoning is being considered for a specific area, the planning process would be made more efficient by:

- ensuring there are clear, simple and measurable biodiversity, research, ecotourism or fisheries management objectives, which are meaningful to the key stakeholder groups and the general public, and that the area being set aside is of a scale relevant to its purpose;
- ensuring that the site proposed takes into account and complements any existing fisheries or other management arrangements that could assist with protection of biodiversity.
- having a clearly specified and fully costed research and monitoring program directly linked to the biological and socio-economic (tourism) objectives set, with appropriate performance indicators and a transparent reporting system.
- specifying periodic reviews that could include the provision of sunset clauses if any area is found not to be assisting in meeting the agreed objectives.

In regard to the use of sanctuaries or other types of complete no-take areas to meet the objectives of the FRMA, it is our assessment that:

- The static and non species specific nature of sanctuaries as a management tool will preclude their use as an efficient strategy to deal with the stock-level management of the majority of fished stocks in WA, which are typically free ranging and broadly distributed. The high level of overlap in the footprints of these species also conflicts with the complete 'no take' nature of sanctuaries and further limits their effective application for sustainable management of harvested species in WA waters.
- Sanctuaries (or equivalent FHPs) of appropriate scale will be valuable where their primary purposes relate to the preservation of representative examples of biodiversity; the provision of areas for various no-take uses (ecotourism), and/or as sites for long-term scientific monitoring.
- Declaration of a sanctuary will automatically raise resource use and allocation issues, with direct implications for the right of access (especially in near-shore areas). It may be less of an issue for highly mobile fish species, except where the proposed sanctuary is to be situated over the only accessible fishing area (i.e. next to the only boat ramp or overlying the only safely fishable reefs within the region).
- The effective management of MPAs will generally raise significant and ongoing compliance and education requirements, which will need to be adequately resourced. Multiple-use MPAs, incorporating significant sanctuary areas, are likely to exacerbate costs, resource use and allocation issues and therefore, should require a comprehensive cost benefit assessment during the design phase.
- Long-term monitoring programs, including time-series data for harvested fish species (and presumably other components) will be required to assess impacts from the establishment of the sanctuaries and whether they have met the expected objectives.

Whilst simplistic solutions (e.g. all fisheries need sanctuary zones) and generic rules ('x%' of the coastline always needs to be closed to fishing) are often proposed, these are rarely found to be optimal or appropriate when dealing with the management of complex natural systems. Experiences in WA, and elsewhere, have shown that the only effective methods for the overall conservation and maintenance of harvested species (i.e. not their local densities) requires specific, directed and coordinated controls on the overall catch and effort across their entire range. While these controls often involve stock-specific spatial and/or temporal closure systems, complete closures or sanctuaries will generally make only a minor contribution to the management required.

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I have been saying for many years:-

- *Recreational anglers want sustainable fishing and good fishing experiences and a FAIR GO!.*
- *Informed Recreational anglers aren't opposed to Marine Parks.*
- *Informed Recreational anglers aren't opposed to sanctuary zones in the right places for the right reasons.*
- *Informed Recreational anglers want to protect nursery areas, spawning fish stocks and spawning fish aggregations, but these don't need total closures all year long. Example:- Cockburn Sound Pink Snapper seasonal spawning closures championed by concerned recreational anglers.*
- *Recreational anglers want to protect the environment, but locking up large areas is not the only way to protect the environment and is not sufficient to protect the environment.*
- *Informed conservationists would talk about the outcomes they want, and not just keep promoting one of the methods which might achieve them and ignore all the other methods.*

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A Sea Change for Aquatic Sustainability – Framework for a New Act of Parliament to replace the Fish Resources Management Act 1994

<http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/op/op079/index.php?0706>

The closing date for submissions is 26 July 2010

Business Arising from RFW Report

Nil

WARCO

George advised that a group had been formed to do revisions to the legislation and that these had been submitted and passed in parliament. He will provide more information as it is available.

Recording Officer Report

No report.

15. GENERAL BUSINESS

Calculation of overall and divisional Anglers of the Year and Champion Club

A document which explains the procedure for the calculations was tabled to Delegates. They should discuss this at club level and come back to the next meeting with any comments or feedback.

Boating Competitions

Discussion took place about club members who would like to participate in the boat competitions but who do not have access to a boat and how shore based fishermen can have a chance in the competition. Some years ago a group chartered a boat in Geraldton and since then no charter boats have been allowed. If there was a national boating competition here in WA participants would have to hire/charter boats (as in ES competitions).

- Pat Shinnick and the boating group will be asked to discuss at their divisional meeting and come back to the AAAWA delegates for advice on this
- Delegates to discuss with their clubs for comment and discuss at the next meeting

Re Phone call from Joyce Thorpe (ex Fremantle Amateur Angling Club Member)

Joyce has two AAAWA state jackets to give away, complete with cloth badges (1991, 1985, 1987, 1989). Size 95 cm and 105 cm. Peter Pekaar has spoken to her and she is happy to hand the jackets over to Russell Bunce on behalf of the Fremantle Amateur Angling Club. Peter/Russell will liaise to organise this.

Mid Term Meetings – July 2010

As is the usual practice, the AAAWA will pay the cost of George Holman and Peter Pekaar to attend the meetings.

Weighing Scales used at AAAWA Competitions

- At the State Rock and Beach Competition at Jurien a set of uncertified scales was used for weigh in.
- It is the duty of the Field Day Officer to ensure that scales owned by clubs are certified

- This can impact on records being claimed. Discussion followed about the methods of weighing potential records. Delays in weighing can affect the weight of the fish.
- Digital scales can be calibrated but not certified
- Rules and procedures for competitions will be discussed at the next Rock and Beach subcommittee meeting
- All clubs need to be aware that **scales used in AAWA events must be certified**

Species of Fish which are Ineligible for Weigh In

Russell Bunce introduced a discussion paper from the Fremantle Amateur Angling Club. The club is seeking views on having some species excluded from the next Beach Rock and Beach competition. Clubs to consider the above and provide feedback. Species include

- | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| • Bass (Sand) | • Perch – including Sea and Black | • Sweep |
| • Blue Devil Fish | Banned | • Star Gazer |
| • Bulls Eye Rough | • Zebra Fish | • Trumpeter |
| • Butterfish | • Shark – including all protected | • Wirrah |
| • Eels | species, Epaulette and Wobbegong | • Wrasse – all types |
| • Gurnards | • Silver Spot | • Rays – inclusive |

AAWA T-Shifts

A suggestion was made to have pockets on the shirts, however there are no plans to re-order more shirts at this stage.

Australian Anglers Association – Federal Executive Meeting Agenda Items – Notice of Motions

1. Notice of Motion lodged by AAA (SA Division)

The criteria for a Certificate of Appreciation should be:

1. Need to have participated in at least three conventions
2. Need to have contributed to the Hosting of a Convention, particularly involving the planning and/or running of the event
3. Need to have provided service in their own State Division

Delegates discussed the criteria and believed that point (2) is too limiting and excludes people who should otherwise be recognised. If divisions are not in a position to run a championship, it precludes individuals from the award and favours dominant states such as NSW. Delegates agreed that the middle paragraph should be removed.

2. Notice of Motion lodged by NSWFCFA (Rule 3.(b))

To be eligible to compete as a Junior, a participant shall be under the age of sixteen (16 years) on the first day scheduled for competition

Change the junior age to read:

To be eligible to compete as a Junior, a participant shall be under the age of seventeen (17 years) on the first day scheduled for competition.

Delegates discussed this motion:

- The difference between a 12 and 16 year old is further highlighted if its changed to 17 years old and disadvantages juniors, with a greater difference between young adult and adult
- A 17 to 21 year old group could be considered
- There are not enough competitors to split it into meaningful categories
- It helps retain juniors as participants
- 17 year olds have young on their side, not experience

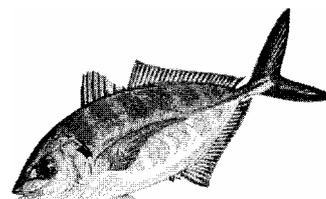
Delegates voted on the above and agreed that the age should be kept at 16 years old

16. CLOSE MEETING

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 20th July at 7.30 pm.

WANTED!

Silver Trevally frames for research



Dear recreational angler,

We are two PhD students from the Centre for Fish and Fisheries Research at Murdoch University who are currently undertaking a study on aspects of the biology of Silver Trevally (*Pseudocaranx georgianus*), commonly referred to as Skippy or Skipjack Trevally.

Building upon previous research on this species by Murdoch University, we will be investigating the diet, patterns of growth and offshore migrations of these fish. We would be extremely grateful if you could provide us with the fish frames (filleted carcasses) of any Skippy that you catch!

Please place the fish caught on each fishing occasion in separate bags and label each bag with 1) the date of capture, and 2) the approximate location of capture, including (if fishing from a boat) the distance offshore and depth where the fish were caught. Store frames in the freezer and contact one of us to arrange their collection.

We look forward to hearing from you soon!



Emily Fisher: e.fisher@murdoch.edu.au 0466 473 974
 Ben French: b.french@murdoch.edu.au 0435 223 877



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2010-2012

2010	
October	• Dry Casting Competition Sunday 31 st October 2010 at Yokine Reserve
November	• Estuary event 27 th / 28 th November. Swan & Canning Rivers/Cockburn Sound.
2011	
March	State Boating Championships. To be held at Hillarys, hosted by Marmion Angling & Aquatic Club.
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5th, 6th & 7th March. Beach and Rock event at Cheynes Beach Caravan Park, boundaries Bremer Bay river mouth to Albany Harbour Jetty. • State Boating Championships hosted by Marmion Aquatic and Angling Club on the 26th March 2011.
October	• Beach & Rock event at Port Gregory. Boundaries Kalbarri to Bowes River Mouth.

Events can be added to this Calender by contacting the Secretary:

Australian Anglers' Association (WA Division) Inc

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