

IN THIS EDITON OF THE HOOK-UP:

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YOUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2009-2010

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YOUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS CONTINUED

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CLUB CAPTAINS REPORT

As you are aware by now that Jess Walker has resigned from Club Captain and I am her replacement til the end of this season. I would like to thank Jess for her contribution to our club. It has been a massive work load that she has performed over the last five to six years and she will be missed.

Our Billfish Bash Tournament was fished in very unpleasant conditions, it was a big effort for boats under 7 metres to compete. I am working on a weather policy for our Bonanza in April before we regret not having one in future events.

December saw the Spotted Mackerel arrive and also some good sporadic bursts of Billfish that continued into January.

Bribie Island competition was very quiet on the billfish numbers and was well attended. Sunshine Coast had a great run of billfish some 77 odd fish being tagged, in great whether conditions. From all reports it was well attended.

I have been out once on Luna, great weather all day, our score 2-1-1, a black to Nathan. There were quite a few boats in the morning but they gradually disappeared by midday as there was no action, however Animal wandered off and found three 'kamikaze' blacks elsewhere. Steve will give you the lats and longs of this secret spot if you ask!!!

Regards Brian Black

SUNSHINE COAST COMP — BY DAVE MORTON

Comments from the deck of Luna

As three novice fisherman headed from Mooloolaba on the mighty Luna for their first day of fishing heavy tackle we were ready to be molded into a crack fishing team by our skipper who was so experienced and full of confidence he had told us we were the winning team before we had departed, a little premature we thought.

The night before at the calcutta the skipper, who I will refer to as (Bligh) from this point on in time, bid for the team on our boat Luna. (Bugger missed it, sold to a Sunshine Coast member but revenge is sweet we can bid on their boat and minutes later we had them on the ropes with the receipt for their boat (Shamwari) in our hands.

We can swap if you want said Bligh besides we are going to win (and so the \$5K treasure chest was lost) not to be mentioned again with a penalty of keel hauling hanging over our heads.

FISHING DAY 1

The weather was great, the wind was 5 knots and the seas were a mere 1.2m we were told the rods, reels and equipment were all in prime working condition and that Bligh had been up all night preparing the boat and equipment. We were just passing the eight mile and the GPS froze. "Oh F--- no" shouted Bligh, "my marks". The crew looked worried as we were heading toward New Zealand without navigation. I'm glad Bligh had a crash course in electronics, with a few quick thumps and a kick we were back in action.

A sigh of relief passed over the crew.

Soon we were at the 150m mark 5 minutes before the start of fishing. The rods were prepared and we were given 1.35 minutes of instruction on how to use the chair and what to do when the monster from the deep peels line from the reel, everything was in waiting for the call to start fishing.

And then the torture started. We were subjected to Bligh's insane elevator music which would have been ok had there been more than 2 CD's on board. By the 4^{th} repeat of the same CD the crew was restless and by the 6^{th} the word mutiny was on the crews mind.

It was about 9am and one of the crew was a little under the weather (dinner the night before comprised of a seafood pizza and a dozen beers). There must have been something off in the pizza as it was sent into the blue leaving a multi-coloured burly trail which was acknowledged by Bligh with some compassionate laughter and distasteful comments.

Hook up # 1

A reel started to peel line and the well oiled machine went into operation, I was so glad for the 1.35 minutes of instruction from the experienced Bligh. He bellowed instructions from the flybridge (If any of these instructions were not followed to the letter it was due to deafness due to extreme torture from elevator music)

SUNSHINE COAST COMP CONTINUED

Our off colour fisherman was on the rod but too sick to grab the rod so another shout came crashing down from the bridge "would someone grab that F---ing rod" as the blue went ballistic on the end and jumped across the line busting us off. "That fish could have cost us the comp" belowed Bligh (was that a sea gull perched on his shoulder? It was hard to see with the sun glinting in our eyes).

"Get that line out" shouts Bligh as one of the crew shouts back it won't release line. "Bull Shit" shouts Bligh but sure enough it was reel failure. Again the crew's confidence dwindles. Was it gear failure that had cost us the fish? Bligh went quiet.

As we head for home at the end of day one we are all siting on the fly bridge and one of the crew has gone red in the face, was it the harassment or the sunburn? I guess we will never know.

FISHING DAY 2

Today we made sure we had real music with CD's scavenged from our cars.

"We can still do this" shouted Bligh whose navigation skills we thought to be fantastic as we actually managed to find a fish on day 1.

We later found that the auto pilot programmed by Bligh senior had been doing all the work.

Hook up # 2

"Hooked up", yells Bligh The well oiled machine jumps into action and the deck is cleared in seconds and Bligh screams again "faster, faster, harder harder". Worried about the underlying sexual innuendo the crew responds, 15 minutes later the Blue is in sight of the boat. "Grab THAT tag pole" shouts Bligh, not that the other one is better (it's a Reelax, no worries George) "Tag it, tag it now" shouts Bligh. A shot with the pole a miss, then another. Bugger the pole slips and Bligh screams "get the other one" the shot is made and the tag is in. Bligh jumps from the bridge in a single leap and has a wrap on the line in seconds, not slowed at all by the case of scotch and coke (we watch on in amazement) as the tagged fish swims off into the blue.

"What are you lot looking at" shouts Bligh "we need another one" as insults empty cans and cigarette buts are thrown to the deck below.

The rest of the day passed and Bligh mellowed. I guess the scotch was working. As we entered the canal and headed in to hand in the tag card Bligh bellowed for a bottle, not a full one, an empty one. Seconds later a full bottle was thrown to the waiting crew below was this a peace offering? It couldn't be could it (*mental note* never drink warm yellow water)

Summary after being subjected to abuse, musical torture and been pelted from the bridge by empty cans, I think we had a great time and I'm looking forward to the next trip with the dreaded Bligh. (Guess we are all just crazy fishermen after all)

The Crew of the Bounty-full Luna

SUNSHINE COAST COMP — BY NATHAN DOUGLASS

Comments from the bridge of Luna (the true story)

The Sunshine Coast Game Fish tournament was held on the 5th, 6th and 7th of February 2010. Phone calls were made to the normal crew to see who was available to fish the comp. Unfortunately none of the regulars could take the Friday off work and the search was on for an elite, well oiled game fishing team to uphold the reputation of the good ship Luna. Unfortunately no elite, well oiled crew could be found so the bottom of the barrel was scraped and we came up with three starry eyed hopefuls that were keen to show what they were made of. They were three novice fisherman; Dave Moreton, Peter Schaffer and Mike Wrack. Between them they had the pristine record of many days fishing with a hand line off the rock walls and had forged a name for themselves as the best butter bream and herring fisherman on the Sunshine Coast if not the world. The mighty Luna did not have its normal skipper Wayne at the helm however his son who apparently sounds exactly like him on the radio checked her over and the call was made we are fishing the comp.

The briefing was held and during the calcutta the crew decided to bid for the boat and the maximum we decided would be \$400. Bidding started at \$100, the next bid was \$200, \$300 then \$400 from our mates across the canal on Shamwari (As I noted the maximum was \$400 I let it go). Bugger missed it, sold to a Sunshine Coast member but revenge is sweet we can bid on their boat and minutes later we had them on the ropes with the receipt for their boat in our hands for \$400. This was the first part of Dave's story that misses the truth. I asked the crew what would you like to do "swap it for our boat and walk away, however they are a red hot team and there is a chance they will do well". The call was made that it doesn't matter as we would win (I agreed, I admit that) and we sold the boat back to them in exchange for ourselves. This proved to be the first mistake of the trip as they would end up winning the comp and taking the calcutta money of \$5,000.....ouch!

FISHING DAY 1

The weather was great, the wind was 5 knots and the seas were a mere 1.2m the rods, reels, baits and equipment were all in prime working condition as I had been up all night and the early hours of the morning checking, rigging, cleaning and preparing (Two and a half hours of sleep was all I needed...) We gathered live bait at the 8 mile just in case and set a course for the Noosa Canyons. Just then the GPS froze. "Oh F--- no" shouted myself (Dave was correct here), "my marks". The crew did look worried but the C - map card was transferred to the second C80 GPS monitor and we were away again. A sigh of relief passed over the crew (Dave was also correct here also).

Soon we were at the 150m mark 5 minutes before the start of fishing. The heavy tackle lures were attached and the learner crew were given a solid tutorial for anything that could happen during the course of the day. I knew nothing sunk in when start fishing was called and they all looked up to the bridge to find out exactly what they had to do. Once again I calmly walked down the stairs and explained once again that to catch marlin the lures/ baits needed to be in the water and to do this they need to be placed over the side of the boat and the drag lever on the side of the reel will have to be released and the lures/baits fed back into position as previously discussed.

Yes we were subjected to my insane elevator music which would have been ok had there been more than 2 CD's on board (you would think my crew would be able to organise something during the two days). By the 4th repeat of the same CD the crew was restless and by the 6th the word mutiny was on the crews mind.

It was about 9am and one of the crew was a little under the weather (dinner the night before comprised of a seafood pizza and a dozen beers). My soft as butter deckie sent the pizza into the blue leaving a multi-coloured burly trail which was acknowledged by myself with some compassionate words, a wet towel and a caring voice as to not make the situation worse.

SUNSHINE COAST COMP CONTINUED

Hook up # 1

The long rigger lure was being harassed by a Blue of around 300lb and sure enough ate and a solid hook-up was played out with line peeling. From this point in the story I will tell you the **truth** of what happened during the following events. I calmly stated "gentleman you might want to start clearing the deck so we have a chance with this fish" this was totally ignored and my three amazed crew starred aimlessly at the fish dancing all over the ocean repeatedly saying "woooww...did you see that, look at it go, it's amazing...woooww how good is that...does this normally happen woooww...is that a blue woooww" numerous times without turning a single handle or clearing a teaser. I then calmly stated "Please wind something in NOW!" and "Pete, please pick up that rod. I later found out that Pete was not so keen on fighting a fish this big after the chuck a few minutes before and gave his rod up to Dave, who quickly (45 seconds later) mustered the courage to pick up the rod and get himself in the chair. While this was happening I watched the blue on the horizon grey hounding, tail walking and then watched the fish double back on itself and that was the end. Line went slack a 500m wind back in and the whole lot was gone. "Your disgraceful attempt to clear the deck may have just cost us the comp" stated myself once again calmly. It turned out that comment would be totally correct with only 3 Blue Marlin tagged during the two days. Nothing else was seen that day.

FISHING DAY 2

Today I made sure Dave would bring some of his CD's and he said "sure I have my favourites in the car already" this comprised of the following and is the truth; Shania Twain, Britney Spears, The Corrs, Alanis Morrisette, Shakira, Dolly Parton and Queen. At this stage I thought to myself "the only Queen we have on the back deck is Dave". This would later turn out to be true also as the story of Dave and Pete in the showers the night before came to fruition. Apparently the soap was passed gracefully between cubicles...This was later backed up again when Mike found Dave and Pete in the front V berth kissing (this may have been a case of hallucinating due to sunburn or mistaken identity).

Hook up # 2

"We can still do this" preached myself. No sooner than I had said the words I looked up to see a Blue tailing to the left of the left rigger and sail in and crunch the rigger once more. "Hooked up left rigger" I yelled, and to my amazement there was Mick already clearing a teaser and working on the short corner at the same time. Shortly followed by Pete who cleared the right teaser and rigger and Dave the shotgun (while applying more lipstick) The crew had actually jumped into action and the deck is cleared in seconds and all that was needed was the scream "faster, faster, harder harder" (both Dave and Pete looked up at me and smiled...I was shocked and felt violated, but we had a fish on and work to do). 15 minutes later the Blue is in sight of the boat due to excellent chair work by Mike who was fighting his first ever blue and Pete steering the chair in the direction of the fish. "Grab the tag pole" I calmly proclaimed (it's a Reelax and its lighter than the Top Shot, so I assumed Dave would be able to manage) "Tag it, tag it now" I calmly stated. The first attempt hit the duck board, the second went under the fish by a foot or more, the third missed the water completely, the forth was a little better but still over the fish. It was about now for the first time in the trip I was flustered. The fish dove again but the 37kg held it and again it was on the surface length ways behind the boat, no more than a meter away I might add. Once again a tag shot missed and yes I yelled something along the lines of "David, would you mind inserting the tag in the fish please!" A shot with the pole a miss, then another, then over the side the pole goes and no Dave attached to it. It was at this stage I sat back in my chair and once again ever so softly stated that we might want to get the other tag pole. First attempt and the tag was in. Meanwhile the first tag pole was lodged between the lure and the fish's mouth and slowly slipped away into the depths. There we

SUNSHINE COAST COMP — BY NATHAN DOUGLASS

marlin...I came down the stairs with boat in forward idle, leaded the fish boat side, removed the hook and away swam a lively spotted marlin....

It was at this stage I though I might indulge in another green tea.

The day passed and within 30 minutes of cease fishing another fish of substantial size manoeuvred itself amongst the teasers then back to the left rigger but not interested. After it had seen what we had done to the last fish, I don't blame it.

Summary after being subjected to abhorrent fisherman, musical torture, sheer lack of enthusiasm, total violation of my mind, losing the Calcutta, losing the tournament and many other things I will have to see a professional about. I had a great time, didn't stop laughing from Thursday until Sunday and I'm looking forward to the next trip with the best butter bream fisherman in the entire world. (Guess skippers have to put up with crazy fishermen after all).

On a serious note, the boys did a brilliant job for their first ever taste of heavy tackle fishing and I was very proud of the effort they put in for the two days. I don't remember a time when all 3 were not on the back deck watching the lures/baits, checking drag settings and replacing the bands on the outrigger clips. I would fish with them anytime and I will for sure.

The substitute Skipper of the Bounty-full Luna.

RIGGING A SWIMMING GAR

Keep in mind when you read this article, depending on who you speak to there are so many ways to rig these baits and multiple variations that will also work. For the sake of the exercise this is exactly how I rig swim baits on Luna. Why rig these baits? Simple, game fish can't refuse them, they have very good hook-up rates if fished properly, they are quick to rig once you know how, they can be fished on a down rigger and will get eaten or draw fish to your normal pattern from down deep.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED;

- 100-150lb leader (My preference is 100lb as the gar swim better with the smaller diameter)
- 1.3mm crimps
- Hook (My preference is Gamagatsu saltwater fly 8/0-10/0 depending on size of bait)
- Waxed rigging tape
- Crimping pliers
- Bait needle (My preference is one medium and one small, I will explain why later)
- Good quality garfish (Either common spot or snub nosed, but the trick is good quality)
- No 4-8 ball sinker (size depends on fishing conditions 4-5 for smooth, 6-7 for chop, 8 rarely used except for heavy swell and chop) This weight is important to keep the bait in the water.
- Patience...

I have seen many people rig these from many boats, clubs, locations and the common problem I see is that **they don't swim**. They spin, run dead straight or fall apart within 5 minutes of setting them in the pattern. The good news is we have some very good deckies in our club that are very good at rigging these as I have seen them for myself: Dan Walker (can rig anything from a small gar/mullet to a heavy tackle large skip bait that could be over 8kg with absolute precision), Mike Jongejan (Could make a brick swim if he wanted to and his pin rigged scad/mullet are the best I have ever seen), our newest member Mike Wrack was shown the below method by myself recently and his first bait swam perfectly. He then tried it the next day on his own boat and caught his first ever black marlin – proof anyone can do this. And of course Brian Black who believe it or not wrote an article in Queensland Fishing Monthly over 12 years ago that inspired me to give it a crack (at the time I didn't even know who he was) his method was slightly different to mine once again proving there are many ways to do this. These are just a few that I have seen and as a deckie that prides himself on his baits, was most impressed by the tricks these guys had up their sleeves.

PROCESS;

Keep in mind the whole way through this process you need to keep your bait in perfect condition. Only use baits that have no damage to the body or gill area or freezer burn as this can rip the fish and cause the bait to "blow out" meaning water gets inside the fish and basically blows a hole in the side of the fish normally around the belly and it will no longer swim.

- 1. If using spot gar cut the bill off with side cutters as close as possible to the mouth. Snub nosed are fine to leave as is.
- 2. Cut the length of leader you require (remember you have 4.57m of leader total from wind on loop to bend of hook) and crimp one end.
- 3. Place another crimp on the leader but don't crimp. This will end up forming the loop through the centre of the baits head. Keep this to one side.
- **4.** Measure with you hook along the side of the gar from the eye of the fish to where the hook will exit the fish. Once you find this exit spot, pop a small hole with the barb of the hook. Then insert the hook eye into that hole and carefully feed the eye and shank up into the fish's belly, through the stomach

RIGGING A SWIMMING GAR CONTINUED

and pass the throat. At this stage you should see the eye of the hook in the fish's mouth and this should directly line up with the middle of the eye sockets.

- 5. With the medium bait needle prick a hole from the top of the head, through the eye of the hook and out passed the gill covers on the bottom of the fish's chin.
- 6. Now you can insert the leader through this hole from top to bottom and through the sinker of your choice.
- 7. Form a loop back to the crimp already on the leader and crimp tight.
- 8. Now with the small bait needle attach about 10-15cm of waxed thread. Once again in front of the leader, insert through the top of the head down through the bottom chin. Remove needle then tie a knot of your choice so it sits firmly around the leading edge of the fish's mouth therefore shutting the mouth closed. You can also tie the gill plate shut if you desire. Typically I don't as the gills naturally protect water from penetrating into the fish's stomach.
- 9. Now lay the fish flat on the bait table or side of boat. Ever so gently apply pressure to the side of the fish with your thumb and you will feel the backbone break (pop) do this all the way along the lateral line from head to tail. Be careful you don't want to break the skin and wreck your fresh bait (this is why fresh good quality gar is essential)
- 10. Your bait is ready to go.

HOW TO HOOK A FISH ON DEAD BAIT;

- 1. Drag should be set as light as possible when trolling as to not pull out line at normal troll speed. A few clicks with the swell are perfect.
- 2. When a fish is seen in the pattern be prepared to pick up the rod immediately and point the rod at the fish. This way the drag will be as light as possible you can even free spool the bait back to the fish or when the fish takes the bait reduce drag further. The trick similar to live bait fishing is that no pressure is applied once the fish has taken the bait, turned away from the boat and had time to turn the bait head first in its mouth to swallow it.
- 3. Once the above has happened, normally between 4-10 seconds increase the drag lever to the fighting drag and lift the rod to about 45-60 degrees. You will now be tight and the fight is on.
- 4. If the fish drops the bait at any stage, quickly back the drag back to free spool as sometimes they will come back for a second attempt (I have had fish come back 5 times and hooked the fish on the 6th attempt) As long as you free spool at any stage the fish has the bait in its mouth you have less chance of breaking the bait or the fish pulling the bait off the hook or feeling the hooks immediately.

TIPS;

- While trolling run the bait back 3 or 4 meters and check it is swimming upright and it should have a perfect "life – like" action as if the fish was swimming as normal. If not jerk on the rod a few times and you might find it fixes itself and centres the hook and loop better. If not bring it in and flex the fish and pop the backbone (you may have missed a few vertebrae).
- If you find it difficult to see the leader when threading it through the fish and eye of the hook when rigging, remove the fish's eyes. This way you can see if everything is centred and be sure the leader went through the eye of the hook (I have seen baits after a marlin has been "hooked" and the crew scratch their heads why it didn't stay connected and a loop and sinker come back over the side with no hook. I have personally done this once before and it is very very embarrassing...but you may be surprised who much this happens).
- Set the baits at the front of the pressure waves (called the window) as you will find they swim exceptionally well. You should all be doing this anyway with lures, if not you have learnt two things reading this.

RIGGING A SWIMMING GAR CONTINUED

- People will say you can't run baits **AND** lures in the same pattern. That is totally wrong and I would say it's those people that just don't know how to rig decent bait. You could troll these swim gar up to 9 knots. But work at a speed that suits and if you need to slow back to 5 knots that's fine just use lures that have a more cupped face as they will work at that speed. Marlin and game fish don't look at the speed your lure/bait is doing and decide to eat if you're going fast enough or not. They are opportunistic and if they see something they like they will have a closer look.
- Too small a loop and your bait may spin or run side on; too large a loop and it could spin or run side on. The loop should be about the size of a 50c piece. The ball sinker needs to move slightly left and right of centre, one part of the mechanics behind a swim bait with a good action.

Hope this helps some of you, if you have ever wanted to rig something other than a lure. I will guarantee you will see more fish using these baits but patience and persistence is the key. If it doesn't work the first time look at the bait and ask why? You will get it in the end...

You have my number if you want to ask anything.

Nathan Douglass

MGFC President.

FISHING TRIPS AND CAPTURES



Wahoo caught by Garry Barnes



Mahi Mahi caught by Patrick Skehan



Wahoo caught by Bevan Barnes



Yellowfin Tuna caught by Garry Barnes



NEW YEARS DAY MAYHEM



Mahi Mahi caught by Bevan Barnes previously to New Years Day

FISHING TRIPS & CAPTURES CONTINUED











A TYPICAL DAY OUT ON PHANTOM

FISHING TRIPS & CAPTURES CONTINUED



Nathan on the leader of a black



Ron from BCF on a nice black



Nathan lifting in Sue's 27kg Black



Wayne leadering Nathan's black only two people on board

LUNA IN ACTION ON A HOT BITE





I THINK THEY ARE IN NEED OF A BIGGER BOAT

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		\$14.50	\$35.00	\$33.00

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DPENING HOURS

numbers numbers	aturday	riday	hursday	Vednesday	01 E140 E1 0 E140
	am to Spr	am to 5pm	am to 5pm	am to 5pm	14

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In the interests of promoting the use of cleaner, greener, locally produced fuels, the NSW and QLD State Governments are taking steps to ensure the broader use of biofuels. In NSW, regular unleaded petrol is being phased out and replaced with an ethanol-blended fuel – e.g. Bio E10 Unleaded, which is petrol blended with up to 10% ethanol. Premium grade unleaded petrol without ethanol will continue to be available at your usual outlets.

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For more information visit www.caltex.com.au

Contact: Mabelle Reyes Biofuels Marketing Manager P: 02 9250 5652 E: mreyes@caltex.com.au

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Early Bird Special Only \$170 (Seniors) Entries received and paid prior to March 5th 2010 will be entitled to the early bird discounts and guaranteed T-Shirts in the Tourney Pack. Children aged 4 and under are free at all functions. Children aged 5 to 13 have reduced rates. **Please note that numbers are limited; please get your entries in so that you don't miss out!**



Vessel Name: _

Skipper:_

_ Wet Berth Required: Yes / No Dry Berth Required: Yes / No

Length:

indemnity: I/We who have signed the entry form agree to the rules of the competition as published. In consideration of your accepting me/us as a competitor or guest we absolve the SPG&SFC inc, its Tournament Committee and/or its nominees from any liability whatsoever and however arising and occurring during or arising from the Tournament and we indemnity you and agree to keep you indemnitied against all claims, damages, costs and losses that may be claimed or awarded against you or that you may suffer resulting from injury or loss to me/us or any of my/our invitees or licensees or guests or to my/our property or to any property of your invitees, licensees or guests.

Team Captain/ Angler 1:	Angler 4:
Name:	Name: M/F/J Address:
Angler 2:	Angler 5:
Name:	Name: M/F/J Address:
Angler 3:	Angler 6:
Name:	Name: M/F/J Address:

TEAM ENTRY FEES:		Number:	\$ Amount
Total Senior Anglers in Team	\$230.00*		
Total Junior Anglers in Team	\$80.00*		
ADDITIONAL GUESTS:		Number:	\$ Amount
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Saturday Night BBQ Dinner	Adult: \$20.00; Child**: \$12.00		
Sunday Night Presentation Dinner	Adult: \$50.00; Child**: \$30.00		
Crew Pack (Meals & Shirt)	\$120.00		
* Early bird rates of \$170 for Seniors and \$60 for Juniors	aligibie for entries received and paid TOTAL ENCLOSED:		

by 5th March 2010 "Child aged 5 to 13.

Please post to the address below, or email/fax your entry form (together with Direct Debit (below) confirmation) to: Email: trevorsimons@bigpond.com Fax: 02 6680 1477 The Surfers Paradise Game & Sport Fishing Club Inc, PO Box 1313, Paradise Point QLD 4216

Bank: NAB BSB#: 084-913 ACCOUNT #: 490138175

SOUTHPORT YACHT CLUB, MAIN BEACH CONTACT: TREVOR SIMONS 0418 236 502





We would like all members to remember Margaret Ann Martinelli (Blackie's sister) in your prayers and thoughts as she recently passed away.

In Loving Memory



Margaret Ann Martinelli nee Black

8th August, 1945 - 16th December, 2009.