

## HOW TO ESTABLISH AND OPERATE AN ANSA SPORTFISHING CLUB SOME TIPS AND IDEAS ON HOW TO GET STARTED

### Club Structure

You will need to find a group of individuals who are prepared to form the club committee. Members of the club committee don't require any special qualifications but it's handy to have someone on board who knows a bit about finance and how to write up minutes of meetings etc. The committee will manage the day to day affairs of the club but will always be accountable to the ordinary club members.

Generally the committee will comprise of –

- **President.** Chairs meetings and speaks publicly for the club
- **Secretary.** Takes minutes of meetings and handles correspondence to and from the club.
- **Treasurer.** Handles all financial transactions for the club, manages general club finances including bank accounts and the preparation of financial statements.
- **Public Officer.** Responsible for compliance with Associations Incorporation Act if the club is incorporated
- **Club Recorder.** Maintains details of club competitions, processes records and masters claims, register of trophies.
- **ANSA Delegate.** Keeps members acquainted with what is happening at ANSA and represents the club at ANSA meetings.
- **Publicity Officer.** Produces and publishes the club's newsletter.
- **Social/Events Officer.** Organises social events and sale of club apparel.

The number and title of committee members can be tailored to suit the particular size and needs of the individual club

### Club Meetings

Ideally the club should meet at least monthly. Approach one of your local sporting or community clubs to see if you can hold your meetings at their club. Most potential host clubs will be happy to oblige and if you are lucky the club may also invite you to become a sub branch of the club. This can be very beneficial financially especially if you can take advantage of the host clubs corporate status and public liability cover.

The preferred format for conduct of meetings is -

- **President** - welcomes guests and new members and records apologies.
- **Secretary's report** – Minutes of last meeting, business arising, correspondence in and out.
- **Treasurer's report** – Current financial position.
- **Club Recorder** – Reports on club competitions past/future etc. Hands out award certificates.
- **ANSA Delegate** – Reports on ANSA issues. ANSA NSW yearly competition progress results.
- **Social Officer** – Reports on whats coming up next on the social calendar.
- **General Business** – Fishing reports / issues of interest to members / fishing & tackle tips / guest speaker / video.

### **Club Incorporation**

If you are going to establish an ANSA Sportfishing club and you will be acting independent of a large company styled sporting or community club, then it is strongly recommended that you take action to have your club incorporated under the NSW Associations Incorporation Act 1984. The main benefit of incorporation is that it provides limited liability to club members and officials. The cost of having your club incorporated is very minimal and the benefits are many and its easy to do. Contact the Office of Fair Trading website on <http://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au> for more details.

### **Public Liability Insurance**

All ANSA NSW clubs are encouraged to take out public liability insurance. ANSA NSW has arranged a very attractive public liability insurance package for ANSA NSW affiliated clubs with IC Frith & Associates (Insurance Brokers). The package offers participating clubs a combined \$10 mill public liability risk and a \$1mill professional indemnity cover and a \$50 thousand defined event accident cover for all club members regardless of whether they are ANSA members. The insurance cover is provided Sportscover Pty Ltd (a specialist sports insurer underwriter) for a current annual premium of around \$650. This is a very competitive premium for a lot of insurance cover and was negotiated with the expectation that most ANSA affiliated clubs in NSW would join the scheme. If your club is not covered for public liability then you are exposed to unquantifiable risk even though your club may be incorporated. Refer to the NSW website for more details of the ANSA NSW Public Liability Insurance Scheme.

### **Accident Insurance**

All financial members of ANSA NSW and its affiliated clubs are covered for accidental death or disability while fishing at any time or place via accident insurance cover provided by the NSW Sporting Insurance Committee, a NSW Government backed insurance body. Premiums for the insurance cover are met out of membership fees paid to NSW Branch. Refer to the NSW website for more details of the accident insurance scheme.

### **ANSA Rulebooks**

Every thing you need to know about ANSA, how it works, the rules, eligible species, fighting factors, tackle divisions etc is set out in the ANSA Rulebook. Every member should be provided with a copy of the Rulebook at the time of joining ANSA. Copies of the Rulebook can be obtained from the NSW Membership Officer. A copy of the 2008 ANSA Rulebook is also available on the ANSA National website [www.ansa.com](http://www.ansa.com) .

### **National Records / NSW State Records**

Current record charts for both National and NSW State Records can be obtained from the ANSA National and ANSA NSW websites. Claim forms can also be sourced from the ANSA National or ANSA NSW websites.

### **Competition and Point Scoring methodologies**

There are two distinct competition and record scoring methodologies provided by ANSA. One is a line class/weight criteria and the other is a length only criteria. There are state and national records for both line class/ weight captures and state and national Master awards for both line class and length only captures

The length only criteria requires the angler to take measurement of the fish from the edge of the jaw to the end of the tail on an acceptable measuring device. The measuring must be witnessed or a photo taken of the fish on the measuring device. Any type of tackle can be used and there is no line class factor. This is referred to as “All tackle” fishing.

The line class/ weight competition takes into account 3 factors

- The weight of the fish.
- The fighting ability of the fish ( ie its fighting factor )
- The breaking strain of line used ( ie line class )

To calculate the points earned for a particular capture, the following formula is used.

$$\text{Points} = \frac{\text{Fish weight (kg)} \times \text{Fighting factor ( as per ANSA Rulebook)} \times 100}{\text{Line class (kg)}}$$

### **Masters Awards**

Any line class/weight capture that gains 100 points or more is called a Line Class Masters capture and earns the angler a ANSA Line Class Masters Certificate. A Length Only Masters capture requires an angler to catch a species which has a length in excess of what is termed a trophy length. Masters certificates which will be issued by the club.

When an ANSA member gains Line Class Masters Certificates for 10 different species of fish using a particular method of fishing ( eg sportfishing, lurefishing, flyfishing, gamefishing, handlining, land based gamefishing, all tackle – as described in the rule book) then that angler is eligible for an ANSA National Award known as a Line Class Master Angler Award. Likewise if a member gains Length Only Masters certificates for 10 different species the member is eligible for an ANSA national award known as an All Tackle “Length based” master Award.

### **Club internal competitions**

Can be based on either or a combination of longest /heaviest fish species or most points earned under the ANSA points system. A competition for the highest point scoring boat can also be a popular activity for members.

If your club is likely to conduct a major fishing competition or convention etc whereby other clubs or the general public will participate then ANSA NSW Branch has guideline rules and policies for such events which all ANSA clubs are encouraged to adopt. The guidelines place emphasis on competitor safety and effective event management to minimise risk for all involved and can be tailored to suit individual club needs. Refer to the NSW website if you need to know more about the guidelines.

### **Tagging.**

ANSA NSW actively participates in the NSW Game Fish Tagging programme run by NSW Fisheries. Club members are encouraged to participate in this important research programme. There are various tags available for different types and sizes of fish species. Tags can be obtained from NSW Fisheries.

### **What are the benefits of ANSA membership**

The most important function and service that ANSA offers to its members is representation. Sportfishers hold a unique viewpoint in respect of the fishery, conservation, access, ethics and innovation. Bringing these viewpoints to policy makers, regulators and the broader general public is essential for the continued fishing enjoyment of current and future generations. Jurisdiction over fishing issues rests mainly with State Governments, so clubs and State Branches of ANSA can play a vital and collective role in progressing and representing the views and concerns of members. Equally important is the social value of belonging to a progressive organisation which actively promotes the ideals and values of sportfishing throughout the broader community and keeps its members informed on issues of interest and importance. ANSA membership has something to offer everybody. Some of the more specific benefits are detailed on the website

### **What does it cost to join ANSA NSW**

Every club is obliged to pay an annual affiliation fee of \$50 to ANSA NSW. In addition the following scale of annual fees applies to individual NSW club members-

Seniors	\$19
Family	\$24
Students	\$7
Juniors	\$4 (under 16)

A club membership database is maintained by the NSW Membership Officer. Member personal details are not made available to any third parties. All affiliation and member fees are paid to the Membership Registrar. More information on membership can be obtained from the ANSA NSW website

### **What does ANSA NSW do with these fees**

The extent of what ANSA NSW can do for its members is governed by the funds available to it. The goal of NSW Branch is to keep member fees as low as possible to encourage member retention and yet still provide a high level of member service. The following exercise gives an insight into how ANSA NSW expends member fees.

	<b><u>Families</u></b>	<b><u>Seniors</u></b>	<b><u>Students</u></b>	<b><u>Juniors</u></b>
NSW Fee	<b><u>\$24.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$19.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$7.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$4.00</u></b>
Less: National Fee	\$14.00	\$10.00	\$3.00	\$2.00
Accident Insurance	\$4.50	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$0.50

PLI Insurance	\$2.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
Available to meet admin' comp' & all other operational expenses.	<b>\$3.50</b>	<b>\$6.00</b>	<b>\$1.00</b>	<b>(\$0.50)</b>

**Nb.** National Fee covers cost of ANSA Rule Book production, various awards and trophies and administrative expenses.

### **ANSA WARE**

ANSA has a range of logo endorsed stickers and badges that most members will find appealing to fix to their cars, boats, tackle boxes, apparel etc. There are also ANSA capture and release approved measuring devices known as "Brag matts" These items can be ordered direct from ANSA National by clubs. Go to the ANSA National website [www.ansa.com](http://www.ansa.com) for details of product range and prices and how to place orders.

### **Access to ANSA NSW State Committee**

If you need any assistance to establish your club or explanation of rules or any other issue that may be a source of confusion then don't hesitate to contact someone from the NSW State Committee. They are there to help you. Names and contact details are on the ANSA NSW website.

JRB4/11