



**ANSA NSW**  
**Tightlines E-bulletin**  
**Issue 14 - APRIL 2006**

**E-news from the Editor**

Welcome to Tightlines No 14. Congratulations to Sth. Sydney AFA and St George SFC on the success of the Sydney Sportfishing Tournament which was held on 24/25/26 March, 2006. Good time had by all.

Come election time I will be standing down from the ANSA State Committee which means Tightlines will be looking for a new editor. It's time for me to hang up my keyboard and go do some serious retiring. Please contact any Committee member if you are interested in taking on the role of Editor.

Sam Anderson [sam\\_ando@hotmail.com](mailto:sam_ando@hotmail.com)

**E-news from the President**

It's mad out there in the world of fishing. I listened with interest to the 2KY Hi Tide show recently when the Minister spoke on the Marine Park issue. Thrown in the mix was the Botany Bay Ports claim, the Grey Nurse Shark issue and the slaughter of Marlin by long liners and dioxins in Sydney Harbour.. Couple these with the taking of the Slimey Mackerel/baitfish food chain out of the equation and you know why the whole scenario of confusion, frustration, anger, retaliation, refusal to pay licence fees and a general feeling of dissent amongst many recreational fishers exists.

Doom and gloom I think not but as we've said previously, clubs and club members need to take a good look at what is happening, don't be blasé and concern yourself with what's occurring, write or have your say and be prepared to get dirty if and when the opportunity arrives.

John Burgess writes a good article in his brief in this version of Tightlines so please read and absorb.

The invite to all club Presidents to our last Committee meeting fell largely on deaf ears. Thanks to those who made the effort to attend and a lively discussion of over an hour resulted from their input. In a nutshell, I wanted clubs to share their ideas of where ANSA was, where it is or can go and what do we need to do to turn around the decline in membership and participation at organized events and outings/conventions.

The Fish and 4 Wheel Drive Expo is not far away and we will again be at the event, although in what capacity, is yet to be determined. Please have any material you want distributed to the fishing public ready

and we'll contact you all when final arrangements are made. The show is in June 06.

Several positions are available on the Committee for 06/08 starting from the AGM this year. Please consider giving some of your time to contribute to ANSA NSW and all the affiliated clubs and members.

The 12 month comp continues to be well contested and some great fish being entered. We have had a look at the comp from a Committee level and a major change for next year is to occur. Darren has written about it in his column. This decision to eliminate 1 kg line from the 12 Month competition was not taken lightly but reasons determined this direction.

The arrangements for the AGM and presentation night have commenced. Held in Sydney this year, please discuss and consider attending, both the AGM and the evening are always in need of your presence.

Good Fishing  
 Les

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**E-news from the Secretary**

What's that old saying, "doesn't time fly when you are having fun", well I have been having an absolute fantastic time. Here we are and into the middle of April, we have had the Nowra BYO Convention, the Narooma Convention and the Sydney Tournament and all have been terrific events, as I am sure anyone who has attended will attest to. I know personally that the Narooma Convention was another enormous success and I would like to pass on my congratulations and thanks to Ian & Linda Smith and the entire Narooma Committee and their Club members, for staging a great Convention. In addition I also would like to congratulate both St George SFC and South Sydney AFA, for running another of their great Tournaments, well done to everyone involved. By the time that you read this Easter will have been and gone and the NSW State Titles will be on our doorstep, this is another event that is really growing in popularity, so I would encourage every one to get behind it and participate. It wont be long and the AGM & Delegates Meeting, planned for 26th August will be here, this year it will be hosted by St George SFC and is being held at The Tradies Club, Miranda, keep an eye out for further information in the near future. As this is an election year I would encourage as many ANSA NSW Members to attend, especially the club delegates. If anyone has any "Notices Of Motion" they would like to have put forward, then please make sure that they are sent to the ANSA NSW Committee no later than the next State Committee Meeting held on Saturday 15th July. Nominations for Committee positions will be sent out to all Clubs in the coming weeks with the regular quarterly mailout, but I have also attached a copy here for your use now.

Cya  
 Ian Phillips (Big E) [iphillips@warrigal.com.au](mailto:iphillips@warrigal.com.au)

**E-news from the Vice President & Treasurer**

From an ANSA National perspective the major issue currently confronting all recreational fishers is the ever increasing erosion of fishing access rights as a consequence of the determination by Commonwealth and State governments alike to create new Marine Parks and Reserves. The Marine Park threat is not unique to NSW but the recent gazettal by the NSW Government of the Port Stephens and Batemans Marine Parks has certainly created a great deal of fear and mistrust amongst NSW recreational fishers. From an ANSA policy viewpoint we are not opposed to the creation of Marine Parks – logically any legislation that protects the environment from development etc should be beneficial for marine park wildlife and also for the public users of the park – including recreational fishers. Unfortunately though every special interest group has its own ideas on what a park should protect and how this should be achieved. There are some groups that would be happy to see all forms of fishing banned within Marine Parks and they are actively campaigning for such an outcome. The NSW Govt has the arduous task of making the right decision for zoning of the park in a manner that will best preserve the eco system and accommodate the needs of all park users. There is no benefit to be derived from challenging the NSW Government over the creation of Marine Parks - this is something we are going to have whether we like it or not. However, we do have the opportunity to express an opinion on how the park will be zoned and the user restrictions imposed. The zoning consultation process is now in progress and public participation is invited. It is expected that the Govt will over coming weeks announce the draft zoning details and invite public comment. This is where you as member of ANSA have the once only opportunity to have a direct influence on the Govt decision making process. The final zoning decisions will be gazetted in October / November this year and it is very likely that the Govt will allocate some 20 % of the park bio mass to Sanctuary Zones (where all fishing is prohibited) and these Zones will be mainly in the bio diversity locations where we want to fish because that's where the fish are. There will be a State election in March 2007 and you can use the weight of your future vote to influence the Govt over coming months to make zoning decisions that will not be detrimental to recreational fishing. It would be tragic to travel to your favourite fishing locations around Port Stephens and Narooma only to be told that you cant fish there anymore. Think of the flow on impact this situation would have on the coastal economies that rely on the recreational fishing dollar. What can you do? You can write to the Premier and your local Member of Parliament expressing concern over the threatened loss of recreational fishing access should poor park zoning decisions prevail. A suggested draft letter to your local MP will be available on the ANSA NSW website ([www.ansansw.com.au](http://www.ansansw.com.au)) over coming weeks and I urge all of you to take an active involvement in this campaign to encourage the Govt to

listen to the voice of concerned fishers. Use the draft letter or make up your own but the critical issue is that you put pen to paper and badger the Premier and your local MP. Even if you live around Sydney and don't fish in the vicinity of existing and new Marine Parks you should be concerned as the next Marine Park on the Governments agenda will be in the Hawkesbury bioregion which extends from the Central Coast down to Wollongong – your backyard. It will be too late complaining once the zoning decision has been made. I have over the past 2 months met with several Govt Ministers, Shadow Ministers, Backbenchers and Independents to voice ANSA and general recreational fisher concerns over the Marine Park process. I will continue to push our case at every opportunity but to make a real impact your personal support and involvement is needed.

The political fight also continues for all billfish species to be declared "recreational only" and for long lining effort off the SE Australian Coast (ETBF Zone) to be substantially reduced. I have met with representatives of AFMA who are advising the Commonwealth Govt on the \$220 million finance package for the restructuring of the Commonwealth fishery including the buyout of a substantial component of the commercial fishery. The ANSA position remains the same ie - All billfish to be declared recreational only species, long lining to be banned from East Coast waters extending out to the 2000 meter isobath or 50 nautical miles, taking of live bait for long lining to be banned. Watch this space for more developments. Many ANSA members would be aware of and disgusted by last months major billfish/striped marlin kill by long liners operating off Ulladulla / Bermagui coastal waters. Details of this tragic event have been notified to both the Commonwealth and NSW Ministers responsible for Fisheries management but little has been heard in response. To those ANSA members who took the time to personally take up the issue with the respective Fisheries Ministers and local MPs a vote of thanks is extended.

Getting away from politics I am pleased to advise that we are travelling ok financially. Our financial position as of 8 April 2006 is summarised hereunder –

Income 1.07.05 to 8.04.06	\$14573
Expenditure “ “	<u>\$10044</u>
Surplus at 8.04.06	\$4529
Bank Balance 1.07.05	Cr <u>\$20731</u>
Bank Balance 8.04.06	Cr <u>\$25260</u>

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**ANSA NSW Upcoming Conventions 2006**

You can find a complete convention listing for 2006 at [www.ansansw.com.au](http://www.ansansw.com.au)

