

Sea Bees Boating Club Inc



Code of Conduct

Sea Bees Boating Club - Code of Conduct

General information:

This information has been produced to enlighten the new member with the everyday workings of the Sea Bees Club. As a new member you will receive a copy of the of the Competition Guidelines, (which is reviewed each year) a list of Club members with their respective CB number, the N.S.W Fisheries Saltwater and Freshwater Guide, three Club stickers and a Club flag. Club clothing can be purchased at a reduced cost.

The Sea Bees Boating Club is an Incorporated Association under the Associations Incorporation Act and in accordance with that Act, a copy of the rules is retained by the "Public Officer" It will be made available to any member of the Club upon request to the President at any reasonable hour.

Club web site:

The Sea Bees Club has its own web site www.seabeesboating.com you will find a lot of information on this site regarding the Club. For example: There is a forum where members can post messages, a photo gallery, scoresheets, indoor program (meetings) and outdoor programs (outings) brag board results, reports, records and links to many related sites. Over 90% of members have an email address and regular contact is made to and between members.

Club Meetings:- General

The Club meets on the second and fourth Friday of each Month. Don't fall for the trap of arriving for a meeting every second Friday as every now and again there is a five Friday month.

Our meetings commence at 8-00pm with doors opening about 7.40pm so members have the opportunity to have a short yarn and to arrange seating in the small hall at the Roselea Community Centre Carlingford for the meeting. Being late can be costly as the Sheriff watches the door like a hawk and fines all late comers!

All members are invited to place and remove chairs on meeting nights as other groups also use the same hall and chairs are located in the adjacent store room.

The normal Club meeting is held in two parts. The first covers news items, fishing reports, future outings, update of the brag board, ANSA reports, proposed guest speakers and any items of general business an the famous Sheriff. After a short break the second part of the meeting consists of a guest speaker, or a panel night of experienced members discussion specific fishing issues, video night, social evenings, games night ant the like are also held. The evening is completed with a short supper.

Dress:

It is a requirement that members be appropriately dressed at all Club functions including Club meetings. Thongs and singlets are considered unacceptable. Members are encouraged to wear the new (2006) Club clothing which is available to members at a reduced cost.

Club meetings: - The Sheriff:

The Club is well known for the antics of the Sheriff. He is well informed and you are invited to contribute to his knowledge by "dobbing in" your mates after you enter the Clubroom each meeting, particularly if one has misbehave! If you aren't sure of what to do carefully observe the actions during the meeting.

Attendance Book:

A most important requirement is the signing of the Attendance Book. This not only registers you in for the night; it also indicates to the Publicity Officer that you were in the Clubroom and have collected your magazine.

Club Magazine:

The Club Magazine is produced bi-monthly and is available on the second meeting night of every other month. Should you need another copy to one to hand onto a prospective member or good friend, please take another copy. Magazines are also available throughout the retail outlets of the advertisers. Most of the information contained in the magazine is on the Club web site or can be found on the Club links.

This saves the Club postage if you can deliver a magazine to a fellow member please take it and write his name at the bottom of the page advising a magazine has been taken for other members. Cont.

The editor is always looking for stories of interest and you are invited to contribute. Preferably material should be forwarded by email to the editor or provided on a disc for inclusion in the Club magazine. Hand written articles can be given to the editor at Club meetings.

Nine o'clock rule: - Day outing

In order to allow the Outing co-ordinator to know how many boats and persons will be attending the outing you are required to book-in before 9-00pm on the night prior to the event.

Nine o'clock rule: - Afternoon/night outing:

On an afternoon/night outing you must book in prior to 9-00am on the morning of the outing. You may also book-in at anytime or day prior to the event.

Outdoor Events:

The Outdoor Programme is found on the back pages of each magazine or the web site, it provides forthcoming events. The Outing Co-ordinator is nominated for each outing. If you intend to be part of an outing you must book-in for each outing. Failure to book-in will cause the Outing Co-ordinator to preclude the points scored for your catch. You may still record your catch, but do not receive any accreditation for the catch unless the Committee considers there are special circumstances.

The outdoor programme will provide details such as the preferred launching ramp, fishing time, Outing Co-ordinator and telephone number. In order to maintain the impeccable safety record of the Club you are encouraged to launch at the preferred ramp and return to the same ramp. Most members do have a boat but beach and estuary rock fishing is permitted – however no fishing from ocean rocks is allowed at programmed outings.

The Sea Bees have a point scoring system for saltwater and freshwater competitions that is based on length. This enables those members who do not eat fish or do not want to retain their caught and practice “catch, measure and release”. Specific details of this activity are covered in the Competition Guidelines.

At this stage Club records both “A” (within NSW) and “B” (outside NSW) is still determined by weight. It is therefore advisable that you carry a list of Club records (web site) which will assist in deciding if you want to retain a specific species as a possible Club record. Members are encouraged to carry a set of scales in their boats so if needed they can quickly weigh a fish, say in the net, to determine if they have a potential Club record. Member’s scales are to be certified against the Club scales.

Recently (2005) the Clubs Brag Board catches were converted from weight to length. This is an annual event with successful members being rewarded at the annual adults Christmas party.

Each member of the Sea Bees is required to assist the Outing Co-Ordinator by submitting a competition score sheet (available on web site) for each specific outing. These score sheets provide information for the Club recorder who will be able to allocate you points for the fish you catch at each outing you attend. The Competition Guidelines should be read and understood by members as it covers the specific requirements for Club Competitions.

It is a requirement of the Sea Bees Club that if members are approached by a Police Officer, an officer from Fisheries, Marine Parks or the Maritime Authority that they be permitted to perform the necessary checks that are covered by their respective Government role.

Handling and releasing fish:

Members are encouraged to plan ahead and to carry appropriate equipment to enable them to release as many fish as possible. If you are fortunate enough to catch the specified Fisheries bag limit for specific species you do not have to kill the fish to be awarded competition points. The number of live fish returned to the water is a decision you make. Fish that are to be returned to the water should be out of the water for a minimum of time. Do not place fish on hot or dry surfaces for hook removal, use a wet towel on which to rest the fish and use wet hands when handling. Do not put fingers inside gills or eyes. A fish grip can be used but remember to keep fish horizontal and supported at all times. Direct sunlight can damage fish eyes so provide shading when the fish is out of the water. Very large fish or fish that are undersize and do not easily respond to release (Mulloway) should be retained in the water during the release process. Cont.

After you have booked in and for some unforeseen reason you don't make it onto the water you must try to let the outing co-ordinator know you will not be attending. If you do not catch the Outing Co-ordinator before he leaves home try the mobile phone number listed for the outing or contact one of the other members who you know are attending the outing so the information can be passed on.

Safety: - Radio Procedure:

This Club operates on Channel 27.860 for calling and then transfer to channel 27.960, commonly called "ninety sixty". Should you be operating in waters away from Sydney monitoring of 27.880 is advised as most other Marine stations only monitor Channel 88. When participating in organised Club events please adopt the following radio procedure.

Check with the Outing Co -Ordinator:

After launching.

On arrival at fishing location.

Any chance of position.

Prior to the return journey to the ramp

- If you return to the ramp prior to the advertised weigh in time (i.e. long before everyone else) notify the Outing Co-ordinator you are going home early.
- In the interest of safety whilst at the ramp and during the weigh-in please remember to leave your radio on Channel 27.860 until all boats have returned to the Ramp. Don't forget to turn it off before you go home.

All members must accept responsibility for personal, family, friends and community safety. The Sea Bees requires all members to do their best to encourage safe boating and fishing in co-operation with the Authorities. Safety is you're most important consideration at all times.

Safety: - Club identification:

The identification of your car, boat and trailer are important particularly if a fellow members or outing co-ordinator is trying to establish if you are late returning to the ramp or you have gone home early.

Flag:	Is for your boat and to be flown yellow side up. We advise you not to fly it on your radio aerial. Check out other Club boats for ideas of location. The bow rail is a popular choice if you have one.
Car:	The sticker for your car should go on the right hand corner of the back window if possible.
Trailer:	The sticker for the trailer should be placed on the rear of the right hand mudguard and include your Club number.
Boat:	The one for your boat should be placed on the right hand (starboard) return of the screen, side window or stern.

It is imperative that you apply your stickers in the advised locations especially on your car and trailer. Your fellow outing members will then be able to check the car park to ensure every one has returned to the ramp. Additional reflective Club stickers are available from the Treasurer.

Affiliated Peak Organisations:- Australian National Sportfishing Association. (A.N.S.A.)

The Sea Bees are an affiliated Club with A.N.S.A. All members are entitled to A.N.S.A. membership by paying an annual subscription fee to ANSA. As an ANSA member you will automatically be entitled to an insurance scheme details of which can be found on the ANSA web site which is a link on the Sea Bees web site. ANSA is a State body who are also represented on the Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW which is made up of various peak recreational bodies. Both groups main objective is to support the interest/concerns and access of recreational fishers. Cont.

A.N.S.A. offers outings and competitions at both Saltwater and Freshwater locations under its National Sportfishing rules. Points are scored on the basis of fish weight and line strength, and covers line classes from 1kg to 37kg breaking strain. There rules are continually being reviewed and now include non line class and the use of braid type lines. Cont.

The A.N.S.A. competitions are popular family outings attracting participants from more than a dozen fishing Clubs including the Sea Bees. Details of the locations can be found on the ANSA web site. Cont.

The Sea Bees has an A.N.S.A. representative elected each year at the AGM. This person's name is provided in the club magazine. He/she will be pleased to provide more details about ANSA including a rule book. The Sea Bees therefore follow the guidelines of behaviour covered in the ANSA Handbook.

Pollution:

Members are requested to be careful with plastic bags and other unwanted items of waste such as mono and braided fishing line. These items should be disposed of thoughtfully. Members are encouraged to collect plastic bags or other rubbish floating in rivers, lakes etc, especially on their return to the boat ramp or if found on shore or along beaches when participating in land based fishing.

Members are required to clean down fish cleaning tables (to the best of their ability) and the immediate area used for Club Competitions, BBQ and the like. With the current water shortage some Council's have either removed taps or restricted water flow with spring loaded taps making it very difficult to adequately wash down cleaning tables and the immediate area. Consider using salt water or clean your fish at home and freeze the waste for burley or the next garbage collection.

Members are also reminded to take extra care to ensure fuel or oil does not enter the waterways.

Max Castle
Secretary - 2006