



## ***Gamakatsu Teams Series 2009 - 2010 Rules***

### **Entry Fees: \$150 (GST included) per Team**

Prize Money is calculated on the number of entries. The more teams larger prizes will be awarded.

### **Pre Entry Requirements**

- All entry forms must be accompanied by payment by cheque, cash or money order. Entries without payment will be discarded. It is the responsibility of the competitor to contact a Gamakatsu Teams Series (GTS) official if their entry is not listed. All competitors must fill out an entry form, including sponsors and credit vouchers.
- The minimum age of boat drivers is 16 years of age, all boat drivers must have a valid boat license and Insurance to the boat and occupants.
- All competitors must have a valid fishing license.

### **BREAM Events**

- BREAM boats 3.7m in length and 20hp or greater are recommended. Boats less than this may be placed at the rear of field for safety reasons.
- All engines must be fitted with a kill switch and safety lanyard. If in doubt, check with staff or your nearest outboard dealer.
- Boat drivers must wear their engine's safety lanyard strap that connects to the kill switch at all times while the engine is running.
- Additionally, all occupants of the boat are required to wear personal flotation devices while their boat is planning.
- All boats must have a minimum capacity of 60 liters of live well with an aerator or recirculation pump installed and functioning. Live wells must be insulated if above deck, and no Nally bins, garbage bins or fish tubs will be accepted.
- All boat must ensure an GTS official has sighted a copy of their current boat insurance policy before competing and details filled out on entry form.
- All competitors must produce if requested by a GTS official a valid fishing license.

### **Starts:**

#### **Briefing 6:10am**

- It is a requirement of entry that one angler from every team must attend the briefing. Failure to do so will result in a starting position penalty regardless of reason for absence.

- During briefing officials will be checking boats including live wells, safety gear and lanyard to ensure all tournament and safety requirements are met..
- GTS reserves the right to disallow unsafe boats (for either anglers or fish) to compete.

### **Starting Procedure 6:30am**

- After the boat has been checked and approved, anglers are to position themselves according to their key-tag number in preparation for the tournament start. An GTS Official will announce the beginning of the tournament by calling out the starting numbers. Once your number is called, raise your arm to notify your position and idle past the start location until you reach the take-off zone.

### **Fishing Rules**

- It is the responsibility of all competitors to obtain necessary angler permits or licenses as demanded by the waterway in the state being fished. GTS will not allow a competitor to continue in the tournament without the legal licenses and permits. All documents should be brought to the briefing and shown at pre-registration.
- Anglers may fish any line class with spin, baitcast, spincast or flyfishing tackle.
- Trolling is not permitted - Lure and fly CASTING only. Trolling is defined as using the momentum of the boat to give the lure action. Casting along a stretch of bank under electric power is permitted if using the power to keep position. However, when altering boating position, do not leave your lines in the water. GTS Staff reserve the right to disqualify anglers deemed to be purposely trolling in defiance of the spirit of BREAM events.
- Any speed restrictions, non-boating or non- fishing areas must be adhered to.
- Fishing is NOT permitted within any defined non-boating or non-fishing areas. If asked to leave a private marina or oyster lease, you must do so.
- Only live bream are eligible for tournament points (yellowfin, black and pikey).
- Fish must be caught during the designated times and kept in the livewells.
- No more than five bream per team are allowed to be kept at any one time. If you already have five fish and catch another, immediately release a fish. Anglers caught fishing with more than the BREAM bag limit will be immediately disqualified and GTS staff reserves the right to check boats live wells during competition hours.
- Anglers may only use one rod at a time while fishing all BREAM events. This includes such cases as when a lure is snagged but still attached to the rod, anglers can not pick up another rod and begin casting - this would constitute using two rods.
- All pairs of anglers are to stay with each other during tournament fishing times to ensure safety and to validate co-anglers' catches. Anglers are not permitted to fish from outside their fishing vessels at any time during sessions, including fighting and landing fish.
- GTS reserves the right to place camerapersons on boats to accommodate this need.
- In the case of physical or medical emergencies, GTS officials will judge the acceptability of catches.

- Any complaints regarding a breach of the rules must be addressed to the on-site Tournament Director within 24hrs of specific incidents. Penalties for rule and conduct violations may include the following:
  - i. Disqualification of catch for the day
  - ii. Disqualification from the tournament
  - iii. Disqualification from future GTS events
- Any concerns regarding clarification of rules can be discussed with Adrian (A GTS Official) BEFORE the start of the tournament.

### **Code of Conduct**

- During fishing sessions, no mobile phones or radios should be used, except in an emergency or to communicate with GTS staff.
- Boats should remain a cast apart (30 meters) while fishing.
- GTS sportsmanship would dictate that care of fellow competitors is of utmost importance. If an angler or boat is in distress it is expected that other competitors will assist. Remember that safety is more important than your day's catch.
- GTS will encourage Fisheries and Boating Officers to attend all GTS tournaments to police safety regulations, registration, relevant boating legislation as well as alcohol and drug laws. Anglers are not to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while competing.
- It is expected that Anglers shall, at all times, conduct themselves in a manner becoming a professional sportsperson. Behavior that will reflect unfavorably on GTS, its members, representatives and sponsors will subject the angler's catch to penalty or disqualification.

### **Weigh-in procedure and Points Scoring**

- Anglers will finish a session by placing the key back on the appropriate peg before the session finishes. Anglers placing their key on the peg after the session finish time will incur a weight penalty. GTS officials are NOT permitted to place the key tag for anglers – it must be placed by either competitor in the boat.
- Tags not returned by the allotted weigh-in time will be penalised at the rate of 50 grams per minute. If a boat returns later than 15 minutes after weigh-in time all fish caught will not be weighed. It is the angler's responsibility to allow enough time to ensure the key tag is placed before the allotted time. There will be NO exceptions to this regardless of circumstance.
- Anglers are requested to retrieve their boats and trailer them to the defined weigh-in area adjacent to the BREAM stage, or to proceed to the on-water weigh-in site. Bream will be weighed in order of arrival. Details of the weigh-in site will be established during the briefing prior to the start of the event.
- Each team may bring in five bream to the weigh-in.
- Bream must be 23cm to the fork of the tail and also 25cm to the tip of the tail to qualify for weighing. Any variations to this will be announced at the briefing.
- Bream will be weighed collectively with "Big Bream" candidates weighed individually. Note: that it is the angler's responsibility to identify these fish to the weighmaster.
- Teams will fish for entry into the Classic Grand Final, ABT reserves the right to change or cancel this event.
- Dead fish, as deemed by GTS officials, will not score points.

- Boats that start in an incorrect order will be penalised 500 grams per team. Boats missing their call-up must wait until all boats have left to be started by GTS staff.
- Boats can return to the weigh - in earlier than the allotted time, however, that is all the anglers in that craft can fish for the day.
- In the event of a tie the prizes will be split.

### **Kids Big Bag**

- Kids under the age of 16 can qualify for this award.
- Fish can be weighed separately for the Kids Big Bag and these fish also go towards your normal bag weight.
- Fish must be marked or kept separate for kids bag, organizers must see that catch is easily identified. E.G. Rubber Band around tail or separate live tanks.
- It is the anglers responsibility to notify weight in officials.
- E.G. Your daughter catches 4 out of your 5 fish then they weight 4 for the Kids Big Bream and 5 for the normal bag.

### **Grand Final Qualifiers**

- The top 6 teams from each event will automatically qualify for the Gamakatsu Teams Series Grand Final.
- Any teams who have qualified already or decline Grand Final invitation their position will be filled by the next eligible team.
- Invitation will send out 6 – 8 weeks before the Final
- The top 10% teams also qualify for the Australian Bream Touranment (ABT) Classic Grand Final 10 and to compete in this event you must be a member of the ABT. The grand final is an ABT run event and ABT has the right to change entry requirements / location and time.

### **Team of the Year Award**

- The GTS BREAM Team of the Year is the one of the most prestigious award a BREAM team can achieve in this series. It rewards the team who is the most consistent highly placed team throughout the GTS BREAM rounds, with points per round allocated according to placing. The first placed angler in each event receives 100 points, and each place below that receives one less point. Anglers do not need to catch a fish to receive AOY points, however, they do need to fish in an event to score. This rewards anglers who have made the effort to attend and fish events to the best of their ability. Note that a negative score will impact on AOY points. Anglers completing a competition with negative points will be placed below anglers scoring zero points in AOY calculations.
- Best 5 out of 9 Finishes
- Teams members and names must be the same to accumulate points.
- Anglers catching no fish for a tournament will incur a 10 AOY point penalty to reward anglers who have landed a fish during a tournament.
- Anglers with zero points will score equal BREAM AOY points.
- At the end of the BREAM Rounds, AOY points are tallied and the GTS BREAM Team of the Year is determined. Typically, anglers need to fish all events in the BREAM GTS to be in the running for the GTS Team title.
- AOY points ties will be settled by countback. The angler with the best performance in the most recent event will gain the higher placing.