

Fishing Reports

Current Fishing

The light tackle fishing continues through our winter months off Cairns. Targeting a variety of exciting pelagic species including juvenile black marlin (40-100lbs), Pacific sailfish (40-100lbs), yellowfin tunas (15-60lbs) & Spanish mackerel (12-50lbs).

All can provide for great action and at this time of year we are fishing a mixture of line classes ranging from 20 & 30 lb stand up and 30lb spinning. May through to August is considered prime light tackle time on the Barrier Reef and we are now fishing on the inside of the reef with most grounds located less than an hour from Cairns. The South East Tradewinds that we experience through winter generally average between 15 & 20 knots, handled with ease on the large & very comfortable Top Shot.

2006 Marlin Season

Overall another great year!! We finished with a tally of 103 fish from 80 days of fishing which was the most caught and released for the Cairns fleet.

Although September was relentlessly rough, the fishing was excellent for us with great numbers and some quality fish released up to 900lbs.

Mr Ishikawa made another fantastic capture on fly, where we caught an estimated 180lber in extreme conditions with winds at 30 knots and 4 metre swells.

The 40th Anniversary Tournament was a terrific success with rough fishing conditions not taking anything away from the occasion. A wonderful opportunity to reconnect with old friends from across the world.

It was great to fish again with Elliott Close, Dave Curnock, Bill & Cathy Noble, George Henry and Laurie Woodbridge and a real honour to have Richie Obach along for the duration of the tournament.

October presented excellent fishing as usual but like all months and all seasons it did have some quiet periods. We managed to catch some really big fish and released one, well over 1000lbs for Larry Stubbs of the United States.

Martin Hirsh (aka "Big M") once again experienced first class fishing, releasing 25 blacks in 13 days, with several great fish in the 800/950lb range.

We had some great times catching 5 & 6 fish a day sometimes throughout October.

November was similar to October with good bites at No. 10 and along the Ribbons Reefs. Adrian Gornall caught another monster, this time off Lindenbank, released still going hard after 15minutes and well over 1000lbs.

December produced some great fishing with Dec 7th providing one of the best bites for a days fishing that we'd had all season. Myself and one other boat had approximately 13 bites each for the day with fish coming up in packs and multiple strikes. Although the catching wasn't as good as the fishing this day, we still managed to release 4 good sized midrangers (600/700lbs).

A great season with Cairns proving again that its sill easily the best place to chase black marlin and big marlin world wide.

Thanks to my excellent "kiwi" crewmen Geoff Lamond and Brad Fergus, for one of the most enjoyable and successful seasons we've had and a big thanks to my clients who are not just clients but of whom many have become over the years, great friends in fishing.