# Australian National Sportfishing Association Ltd

ACN 063 293 514

COMMITTED TO CONSERVATION AND INTEGRITY IN SPORTFISHING
SINCE 1967

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025/2026

Presented via Zoom Conference from Sydney, NSW
Sunday 1st November 2026

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# PREFACE

History of ANSA.

ANSA originated as result of fishing developments following the war, an increasing number of anglers started using modern tackle mainly bait casting rods and reels imported from the U.S., for bass, barramundi and for surfcasting. Developments are reflected clearly in magazines of the period. (Outdoors was first published in 1948, Anglers Digest in 1950).

There was an increasing recognition that the sporting value of many Australian species was not reflected in existing organisations.

From 1960 forward, a number of people had thought of the idea of a new sportfishing organisation. I do not know who was "first" to think of it, but I do know that it was discussed for quite a few years by Sydney anglers and people such as myself - a country boy. I can put a finger on one such discussion, held on the roadside just south of Kiama, between myself, Jack Erskine and Ed Pratt. That was January 1964 during my first round Australia trip. I had started my exploration of Australian fishing on July 1, 1963. The next couple of years, after repeated visits, I had realised that North Queensland offered the most potential for a fishing future. Others such as George Bransford had decided the same way.

I built my home in Cardwell in 1966, with the bricklaying being done by my friend Ed Pratt, who had moved north to Cairns about the same time. The ANSA concept was understood by a number of Cairns anglers, and I believe its success came because it reflected what was happening to Australian fishing. It could not have succeeded otherwise.

In February 1967 we formed the "Australian National Sportfishing Association" at a meeting in the old hall at Yorkey's Knob, just north of Cairns.

Within a few months a constitution had been drawn up and an account opened in the Cairns branch of the Bank of NSW in the name of the "Australian National Sportfishing Association" It is worth a mention that the late Wal Hardy was patron of that initial organisation.

Dick Lewers recorded that the NSW group "got the message" of the Cairns movement and responded by forming what was then the NSW division of ANSA on Saturday August 12, 1967.

Three months later, in November 1967, Jack Erskine and Clyde Kelton with three NSW sport fishermen from Wollongong, John Kettle, Peter Fuller, and Bill Ferguson visited North Queensland in a light plane. Discussions took place with the Cairns group, and the accepted name of ANSA was endorsed by both groups. However, it had already become clear that the NSW fraternity would not accept the Cairns constitution. Then, as now, State Divisions (branches) were more representative of regional interests. Accordingly, the Cairns ANSA group met on February 7, 1968, and became instead the Cairns Sportfishing Club.

At this time there was no Queensland Division as such, however Dick Lewers and the National Organisation have always recognised that the Cairns Sportfishing Club has the unique distinction of being the first ANSA club.

The first NSW ANSA club was the St. George Sportfishing club, which had its first general meeting on November 13, 1968. On December 13, 1969, the first official body was formed as the "Australian National Sportfishing Association". The original A.N.S.A. badge design was selected from a competition published in "AUSTRALIAN SPORTFISHING", summer edition 1969. The winning design was submitted by John Renolds, Liverpool, NSW.

It was agreed to form the first record chart from the then existing Queensland and N.S.W. record charts. ANSA's first official Queensland division was formed on August 5, 1970, with only three clubs - Cairns, Maryborough, and Cardwell, with a State total of 150 members.

So far as ANSA goes, the story since has been one of steady growth. We now have more than 200 clubs Nationwide. We are represented on every State fishing council, at Federal level, and on IGFA. Looking back, we can see that the hassles over constitutions and rules, even point scores, were part of the process of developing sportfishing on a truly representative and wholly Australian basis.

One of the nicest thoughts is that many of those people who contributed to the forming of the association are still with us today.

Vic McCristal

The talk on the previous page was given by Vic at a Queensland Statewide meeting held in Cairns, (1988).

## NATIONAL BOARD 2025 – 2026

| | |
|---|---|
| Chairman | Vacant |
| Executive Director (Acting Chairman) | John Burgess |
| Business Director | Joe Garufi |
| Membership Director | Joe Garufi |
| Financial Director | Trish Wloch |
| Research & Development Director | Vacant |
| National Masters Keeper | Simon Green |
| National Recorder (Line Class) | Phil Turner |
| National Recorder (Trophy Length Only) | Ken Johnson |
| National Safety Officer | Stan Konstantaras |

## MEMBER BRANCHES

New South Wales
Northern Territory (Defunked)
Queensland
South Australia
Tasmania
Victoria
Western Australia

## LIFE MEMBERS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1979 | *Eric Moller | Queensland |
| 1980 | *Vic McCristal | Queensland |
| 1982 | John O'Sullivan | Queensland |
| 1983 | *Dick Lewers | New South Wales |
| 1983 | *Pat Hunter | New South Wales |
| 1983 | *Hank Newman | New South Wales |
| 1983 | *Alex Blair | Victoria |
| 1983 | *Robert Dunn | New South Wales |
| 1984 | Mick Dohnt | Queensland |
| 1984 | *Geoff Hawkins | New South Wales |
| 1984 | Bill Glasson | Victoria |
| 1992 | Steve Theofanes | Queensland |
| 1992 | Ron Poole | Queensland |
| 1992 | Joe Leonard | Victoria |
| 1992 | Tom Mohr | Victoria |
| 1992 | *Les Brown | South Australia |
| 1995 | Nik Phizacklea | Victoria |
| 2001 | *Bill Harvey | New South Wales |
| 2006 | John Burgess | New South Wales |
| 2007 | Bill Sawynok | Queensland |
| 2007 | Stan Konstantaras | New South Wales |
| 2021 | Joe Garufi | New South Wales |

*Deceased

# National Executive Director's Report (Acting Chairman)

During 2025/26, ANSA continued to rebuild membership, welcome new clubs and strengthen participation in records, awards, conventions and competitions. National advocacy focused on fair, evidence-based fishing regulation, marine park management, environmental stewardship, research partnerships and the long-term resilience of recreational fishing. Operational priorities included improving website capability, resolving merchandise-ordering problems and maintaining a sound financial position. Looking ahead, leadership renewal, stronger member engagement and practical conservation partnerships will be central to ANSA's continued success.

Reviewing 2025/26 from an ANSA perspective, it is pleasing to see the continuing recovery in membership and the formation of several new clubs across the national branch network. A small number of longstanding clubs have closed, largely because they were unable to attract younger members through contemporary technology and activities that appeal to emerging generations of fishers.

Reluctance among members to take on committee leadership roles has also left many clubs dependent on senior members who have contributed generously over many years. This is not a criticism, but a call for younger members to step forward and share responsibility for their clubs' future. ANSA's continued strength depends on leadership renewal, effective succession planning and fresh ideas suited to a modern, technology-enabled organisation.

Also pleasing is the notable increase in Record claims and Masters awards, ANSA conventions and other events and competitions over the year. This reflects the dedication and innovation of those individuals who give up their precious time to keep the ANSA flag flying and carry the burden of administering branch and club affairs and the promotion of sportfishing and merits of being part of a progressive ANSA fishing club network.

To those branches, clubs and individuals that have taken the lead and reshape the appeal of ANSA, congratulations on your achievements and please keep up the momentum. The ever-growing popularity of recreational fishing presents great opportunities for ANSA to build and remain a strong and appealing forward thinking recreational fishing peak body.

An estimated 4.5 million Australian adults fish at least once a year. Recreational fishing also supports approximately 100,000 jobs and contributes about $11 billion to the national economy. These economic and social benefits warrant fair and proper recognition by governments and agencies whose policies affect recreational and commercial fishing. Collectively and individually, recreational fishers must communicate this "fair go" message and seek genuine, meaningful consultation on decisions that affect the sector.

Against this background, it is concerning that many decisions by State and Commonwealth governments during the past year have reduced or recreational fishing access and changed size limits and possession limits for several species popular with recreational fishers. ANSA fully supports measures that protect and preserve threatened species and the marine environment. However, where restrictions are introduced, the supporting science, policy rationale and consultation process should be open to scrutiny.

ANSA will continue to advocate nationally for fair recreational fishing regulations. At the same time, members should remain informed about development in their own regions and engage constructively with their local state peak bodies, fishery agencies and elected representatives. Collectively, well-informed advocacy can influence decisions and ensure that the interests of recreational fishers are clearly understood.

While mentioning state peak bodies it is encouraging that NSW is still progressing towards the establishment of a properly funded peak body to represent recreational fishing - an outcome ANSA NSW and other recreational fishers have pursued for decades. Let us hope the time is right and that we secure the representative body we deserve. While a Chairman has been appointed, we are still waiting on details of the member composition of the peak body which will be determined by the NSW government. In the interim the NSW Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA) which is strongly supported and influenced by ANSA NSW, continues to represent the broad interests of NSW recreational fishers. It is also encouraging that Queensland is seeking to re-establish Sunfish as the state's independent peak body for recreational fishers.

Last year I mentioned that Recfish Australia, the once nationally recognised peak body for all Australian recreational fishers was in the process of being voluntarily wound up. The role and functions of Recfish Australia were absorbed by the Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation (ARFF) of which ANSA is a founding and active full member. As a prelude to the winding up, funds on hand of some $70k were disbursed on projects that were with the stated objectives of Recfish Australia. This has resulted in some $32k being made available to support the Angel Ring and Fishing Safety projects administered by ANSA and the NSW RFA. A further $34.5k has been set aside as a Recfish Australia Bursary fund which will be administered by FRDC and match funded. The bursary fund will be used to assist with the professional development of emerging leaders in the recreational fishing sector. This is a fitting legacy for Recfish Australia which did and achieved so much for recreational fishing over its operating life.

ANSA and other peak body members of the Australian Recreational Fishing Foundation continue to collectively represent and advocate for the interests of all Australian recreational fishers at a national level but do so on a voluntary basis. There has been no funding available from the Federal government for many years now to engage the level of human resources required to properly service the many complex and challenging issues facing recreational fishing. Fortunately, Ozfish (another national peak body member of ARFF) does provide essential administrative support to keep ARFF functional and this is a very much appreciated gesture.

ANSA together with other peak body members of ARFF continue to work closely with the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) and I continue to be a member of the FRDC Recfishing Research Steering Committee which plays a pivotal role in setting the parameters for research investment relative to the recreational fishing sector. Over the past year ANSA has participated in FRDC funded projects such as the “National Study of Stewardship in Recreational Fishing” and "Voluntary Behavioural changes in Recreational Fishers” and we will have a part to play in the roll out of a new project “Benchmarking Co-management of Recreational Fisheries”.

FRDC has also provided financial support for the ARFF National Recreational Fishing Forums which are held bi-annually and provided financial sponsorship for recreational fishers to attend the 11th World Recreational Fisheries Conference held in South Africa over February 2026. FRDC remains a strong supporter and advocate for recreational citizen science and we hope this continues. I regularly do circulate to the ANSA branch network, electronic copies of the FRDC Newsletter which contain great reading material on what’s happening in the National science and research space. Clubs wishing to receive these newsletters directly are invited to contact me.

I also continue to engage with BOM, CSIRO, FRDC and other related government agencies in briefings on the concerning impact of ocean warming on our marine habitat and marine life generally and more specifically coral bleaching, the spawning/reproduction cycle for many fish and crustacean species and the migration of pelagic species.

Current briefings indicate that temperatures across much of Australia’s surrounding oceans are significantly above the levels recorded in 2020, with projections that warming pressures may intensify over the remainder of the decade. During the past year, many Australian territorial waters experienced record or near-record temperatures, and it is forecast that commencing September 2026 we will experience extreme wet weather along the Australian east cost through to February. The rest of the country is predicted to be very dry.

There are also terrestrial environmental impacts that flow on from these elevated water temperatures, and we can expect more chaotic weather across much of Australia with severe economic consequences for the nation. This is very scary stuff which we presently don't have ready answers for or solutions on how to deal with impacts including the national economic cost. I can only hope we will not see a repeat of the algal bloom which had such devastating impacts on marine life and fishing in the SA Spencer Gulf

I will continue to remain in the BOM working group which now has almost 150 individuals engaged, mainly scientists but also representatives from various government agencies and the commercial and recreational fishing sectors. These are concerning issues we appear to have little influence or control over but need to aware of what is happening and expected to happen.

In this context, we as recreational fishers with a strong conservation ethos, need to be on guard to preserve and enhance our environmental social licence by doing more to better look after our marine environment particularly at a practical grass root level.

ANSA members can contribute directly to fish habitat preservation and rehabilitation through activities such as tree planting, river and stream restoration and clean-ups, oyster-reef installations and citizen-science projects. Organisations such as Ozfish seek new partners for practical projects. Participation strengthens recreational fishing's social licence, improves marine habitats and creates opportunities to connect with like-minded individuals who might become future club members. For further information, visit the Ozfish website (info@ozfish.org.au) or contact me directly.

I did mention in my report for last year, concerns about proposed projects for offshore wind power generation and gas extraction and the potential related impacts upon fishing access and the marine environment these projects may create.

Most of these oceans located, clean energy projects have seemingly lost momentum but have definitely not gone away. Given the Australian government's commitment to a "Future Made in Australia" policy and promised financial support for steel and aluminium smelters/refineries across the Australian coast, the demand for clean energy power to locally produce and add value to exportable green metals, alloys and processed rare earth minerals etc, will be a major driver for the development of offshore power sources.

There has been a lot going on in terms of Commonwealth Marine Parks. As a member of the TEMPAC advisory committee, I have over the past year participated in several meetings of the joint Marine Parks Advisory Committees as we progress with the first stage of review of expiring plans of management for 5 of the marine park networks within the Commonwealth Marine Park network. This is a prelude to the development of future 10-year management plans (2028-2038) for each park network which include the Temperate East network, Southwest network, North Marine network, Northwest network and the Coral Sea network.

Since this review process has commenced, the Australian government has announced its 30/30 goal for expansion of the area of high-level protection within the existing park network to 30% by 2030. This will mean a doubling of the area where commercial and recreational fishing will be restricted. There was no indication of where these proposed high level protected areas (approx. 524k sq Kms) will be located but it was stated that there will be no overall increase in the size of the park network. Since that announcement the Government has indicated its intention to increase the size of the Lord Howe and Norfolk Island marine parks which will also include significant expansion of high protection areas in those 2 parks.

ANSA has formally engaged in the first stage of the review/ consultation process and has submitted a comprehensive submission to the Australian Government - this can be viewed on the ANSA website. Peak bodies including the GFAA and other members of ARFF have also made submissions to the government. I am hoping that branches, clubs and members will have made submissions in respect of the marine parks adjoining their own state boundaries.

This is the first step in the consultation process. Parks Australia will consider submissions from recreational fishing, conservation and other stakeholders in developing draft management plans for each marine park network. Those drafts are expected to be released for public review and consultation mid-2027. Following consultation, final plans are expected to proceed to Ministerial approval by year end 2027 and then to both houses of parliament for final determination early 2028. The process may become a major election issue, as was the case in 2016. ANSA will keep members informed, and branches, clubs and members potentially affected by these intended changes should participate actively when the next consultation stage opens in late 2027.

ANSA remains a member of IGFA, as do several of our affiliated clubs and individual members. Membership provides access to benefits beyond eligibility to claim IGFA records. Further information is available via IGFA website at (https.//igfa.org). I remain ANSA's nominated representative for Australia and am available to assist with IGFA-related enquiries. IGFA electronic newsletters are regularly on-forwarded to the ANSA branch network. Clubs wishing to receive them directly, are invited to contact me.

Technology wise it is evident that several state branches are experiencing challenges with their websites. This can be attributable to several factors including hacking but in the main the most common challenge is the reliance on one or two individual members or an external supplier of technology, to set up and maintain websites. When these parties for whatever reason are no longer in a position to carry on their roles and there is no knowledge hand over, things tend to go off the rail.

I am mindful that each state branch has its own unique website, which makes sense considering some Branches run their tagging, records processing, competitions and membership via their websites. Maybe there could be financial and security advantages for the development of a common website platform for ANSA national and branches and for the development and ongoing maintenance to be undertaken by a technical organisation that has the skills and the long-term viability to undertake these roles.

Discussions are underway with the Queensland Branch, which is experiencing significant website problems and requires a rebuild. ANSA has committed a grant of $5,000 and is considering a further loan of up to $5,000 to support the project. The purpose of the rebuild will also be assessed for its potential to provide a common platform for all ANSA branches. This will be discussed at the AGM.

ANSA experienced problems with merchandise orders placed through the national website. Although members submitted and paid for orders, the transaction data was not conveyed to ANSA National,

and the orders were not fulfilled promptly. We apologise to the members affected. The backlog has now been cleared, the existing online ordering and payment process has been temporarily removed, and a replacement process is being developed. Members with an urgent merchandise request should contact Joe Garufi.

Financially, ANSA National is in a sound position, with cash reserves and inventory totalling $113k. Revenue for 2025/26 was $15.6k and expenditure was $9.6k, producing a surplus of $6k. This was $5k better than the budgeted surplus of $1k, principally because the budget included $4k for a face-to-face meeting that did not occur.

ANSA is budgeting to incur a modest deficit of $1.4k over the coming 2026/27 year based on a slight increase in revenues ($17k) and a hike in expenditures to $18.4k. On the expenditure side we have built in a $3k provision to cover the cost of a face-to-face meeting over 2027 and a $5k grant to Qld branch to part cover the cost of its website rebuild. The National executive will endeavour to improve this outcome by lifting revenue and containing expenses where possible.

In closing, I regret that we were unable to meet as planned over the past year. I am hopeful that this can be addressed at the 2026 AGM and delegates' meeting, where frank, open, and constructive face-to-face dialogue will help is consider the important matters ahead. I also thank my colleagues on the National Executive, branch committee members and their affiliated club members - who are the backbone of ANSA - for their commitment and support throughout the year.

Regards

John Burgess.
Executive Officer/ Director. ANSA National Ltd.
Vice President. ANSA NSW.

# National Finance Director's Report

**ANSA - AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION LTD**

**FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026**

Financial statements for the financial year end 30 June 2026 together with comparative results for the prior year are appended. The following points are highlighted:

a) The Association traded at a surplus of $6079 for the 2025/26 year. This was a good improvement on the budgeted surplus of $1070.

b) Revenue over the 20025/26 year of $15652 was under the budget forecast of $18800. Member affiliation fees $12182 were slightly under budget $13000 and slightly under fee revenue $12837 generated over 2024/25. Bank interest of $2915 was slightly ahead of budget $2500 and reflects the better rate of interest negotiated with the ANZ. ANSA Ware revenue of $555 was well below budget $3000 and a long way short of revenue $2381 generated over the 2024/25 year. The reason for this drop was an unresolved problem with Bpay, which required the ANSA Ware product range and ordering/payment process to be suspended from the National website. This is still an unresolved issue, but it is intended that we will dispense with Bpay and deal directly with members going forward. $5201has been expended on new brag mat stock. There was no revenue from website sponsorship as the only sponsor is no longer operational.

c) Expenditure over the 2025/26 year was $9573 as compared to budget $17730. Main variances to budget were savings on travel and accom' expenses $1066 (budget $4000), conference fees $250 (budget $1000), ANSA Promotion $0 (budget $500), donations/tributes $0 (budget $200) and Website $0 (budget $1000). All other expenditures were closely in line with budget projections other than for Computer upgrade expenditure $2000 (budget $1000) and cost of goods sold $204 (budget $2000),

d) The Association at year end 30 June 2026 possessed total assets of $113226 ($107147@ 2025) consisting of cash at bank $24489, term deposit $78256, ANSA Ware stock on hand $8405 and accrued but unpaid interest $2076. Overall, the association had a net equity of $113226 at 30 June 2026.

e) A financial budget forecast for the 2026/27 year has been prepared. For the coming year the association is forecasting a deficit of $1430. This deficit is predicated on revenue for the coming year of $17000 which is slightly above last year's revenue of $15652. Ongoing elevated interest rates on term deposits should generate some $2500 over 2026/27 as compared to modest interest earnings over recent years and a recovery in ANSA Ware sales to $1500 is forecast once we sort out the Bpay issue.

d) Expenditure of $18430 is forecast for 2026/27 which is slightly above last year's budget of $17730 but well above last year's actual spend of $9573. Major budget expenses include $3000 for travel and accommodation, conference fees $1000 and a $1000 allowance for possible upgrade of the National website have been allowed for. Also, a provision of $5000 has been made to cover a potential grant to ANSA Qld to rebuild its website on a shared basis with National and other branches. Other forecast expenses are in line with last year's expenditure and budget.

The Board will endeavour to improve the projected deficit by containing expenses where possible.

Patricia Wloch
Finance Director
18 August 2026

# ANSA - AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION LTD

## ACN 063 293 514

## FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

The directors of Australian National Sportfishing Association Ltd (the company) submit the following special purpose report made out in accordance with a resolution of the directors in respect of the financial year ended 30 June 2026.

### Directors and Officers

Your directors present their report on the company for the financial year ended 30 June 2026. The names of the directors in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

| | |
|---|---|
| Mr John Burgess – Director (Executive Officer) | (Maroubra NSW 2035) |
| Mrs Patricia Wloch – Director (Treasurer) | (Westmeadows VIC 3049) |
| Mr Joe Garufi – Director (Membership Services) | (Mascot NSW 2021) |
| Mr Simon Green – Director (Appointed 31/08/2020) | (Parafield Gardens SA 5107) |
| Mr Phil Turner – Officer (National Recorder) | (Yarrawarrah NSW 2233) |
| Mr Ken Johnson – Officer (National Recorder) | (Cardwell OLD 4849) |
| Mr Stan Konstantaras – Officer (National Safety Officer) | (Pagewood NSW 2035) |

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

### Principal Activities

The principal activity of the company during the year was to provide encouragement and support to sports fishing in Australia.

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

### Operating Results

The company made a surplus of $6,079 for the financial year 2026 (2025: surplus of $7,237).

### Significant Changes in State of Affairs

No significant changes in the company's state of affairs occurred during the financial year.

# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION LTD
ABN 80 063 293 514

## DIRECTORS' DECLARATION
## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

**Matters Subsequent to the End of the Financial Year**

No other matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

**Likely Developments and Expected Results of Operations**

Likely developments in the operations of the company and the expected results of those operations in future financial years have not been included in this report as the inclusion of such information is likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the company or there is considered limited or no impact likely upon the company from any likely developments.

**Environmental Regulations**

The company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

**Officer, Auditor or Accounting Reviewer Indemnification**

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer, auditor or reviewer of the company.

**Proceedings on Behalf of the company**

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the company or intervene in any proceedings to which the c is a party for the purpose of taking responsibilities on behalf of the company for all or any part of those proceedings. The company was not a party to any such legal proceedings during the year.

**Audit and Reviewer Independence**

The directors note the attached annual independence declaration provided by the company's external accountant reviewer.

The reviewer's independence declaration for the year ended 30 June 2026 has been received.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

**John Burgess**
*Director*

## DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

The directors of Australian National Sportfishing Association Ltd declare:

(a) the attached financial statements and notes thereto give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2026 and performance for the year ended on that date of the company;

(b) in the directors' opinion, the attached financial statements and notes thereto are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001;

(c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and

(d) we are not aware of any circumstances at the date of this declaration that would render any particulars included in the financial report to be misleading or inaccurate.

When signed this directors' declaration is made as a formal company resolution approved by the directors.

John Burgess

*Director*

## REVIEW INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

### *REVIEW OPINION* FRAMEWORK AND DISCLOSURE

The Australian National Sportfishing Association Ltd (the company) is an incorporated not- for-profit sporting entity with liabilities limited to the member guarantee. Due to Commonwealth law reform that deals with the reporting obligations of the company, an independent audit is not required. The company's Board of Directors are, however, required by the members to commission a **review opinion** on the company's annual financial report using the services of a qualified public accountant. This requirement is driven by the company's constitution.

This disclosure statement outlines the framework of the **review opinion** and it provides information to assist the members with their understanding of the **review opinion** and the independence declaration that follows this disclosure statement.

The report of the company is drafted by the Board of Directors. The directors of the company are legally responsible for reviewing, finalising and approving the company's financial report. The directors are also both responsible for the information contained in the report and ensuring that it meets the information needs of the members of the company, within the reporting requirements of the law.

The public accountant provides a professional **review opinion** on the company's report. The review is based on many of the principals of an audit, but it is not an independent audit, and it must not be relied upon as being an independent audit. The company is not a public interest entity and so the review can take place, in accordance with professional standards and the law, notwithstanding that the reviewer's Firm may assist with the preparation of the company's accounting records and the drafting of the company's report.

The reviewer's accounting Firm is obligated to act in accordance with the ethical rules of a registered Chartered Accountancy firm and the review opinion provided must be accurate. There is a legal obligation upon the Firm and its Principal to conduct a proper review and report accurately to the members of the company. The accounting firm has segregated roles such that the accounting and tax review teams are separate from the review opinion team.

This notwithstanding, the members of the company may also wish to commission an independent audit by a registered company auditor. Should any company member so wish this, then the company board has agreed to put the request to the company members at a properly convened general meeting.

Furthermore, any member, or any interested party with a valid reason, is free to inspect the accounting records of the company upon proper notice being given in writing to the company board.

The independence declaration on the next page and the review opinion following on the pages after that, are made on the basis of this **review opinion framework and disclosure** statement.

# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION LTD
ABN 80 063 293 514

## REVIEW INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

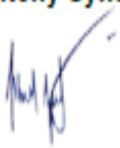
### REVIEWER'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION LTD

Subject to the limitations of the review opinion framework and disclosure statement set out on the previous page, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, and during the year ended 30 June 2026 there have been:

1. No contraventions of the independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the review; and

2. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review.

**Antony Syndicate Pty Ltd**



Per **Mark Antony Guest**

Principal Chartered Accountant - No. 83654

## Reviewer's Report to the Members of the

## AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION LTD

### Review opinion on the financial report

I have reviewed the accompanying financial report (pages 8 to 14), being a special purpose financial report, of the Australian National Sportfishing Association Ltd (the company), which comprises the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Changes in Equity, the Statement of Cash Flows, notes to the financial report and the directors' declaration (page 4), for the year ended 30 June 2026.

### Directors' responsibility for the financial report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Act 2001 / ACNC Act, the needs of the members. The directors' responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### Reviewer's responsibility

My responsibility is to express a conclusion on the financial report based on my review. I conducted my review in accordance with Auditing Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2415 Review of a Financial Report: company Limited by Guarantee or an Entity Reporting under the ACNC Act or Other Applicable Legislation or Regulation, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described; I have become aware of any matter that makes me believe that the financial report is not in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001/ ACNC Act including: giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and its performance for the year ended on that date; and complying with the Australian Accounting Standards and Corporations Regulations 2001. ASRE 2415 requires that I comply with the ethical requirements relevant to the review of the financial report.

A review of a financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable me to obtain assurance that I would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, I do not express an audit opinion.

### Independence

In conducting my review, I have complied with the independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 with limitations, as is stated in my independence declaration.

# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION LTD
ABN 80 063 293 514

## REVIEW REPORT
## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

### Conclusion on the financial report

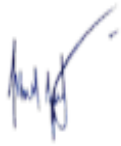
Based on my review I have not become aware of any matter that makes me believe that the financial report of the Australian National Sportfishing Association Ltd is not in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and I believe that the financial report:

- Gives a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2026;

  and

- Complies with Australian Accounting Standards and Corporations Regulations 2001 to the extent outlined in Note 1 of the financial report.

**Antony Syndicate Pty Ltd**



Per **Mark Antony Guest**

Principal Chartered Accountant - No. 83654

# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION LTD
ABN 80 063 293 514

## STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

| | Note | 2026 $ | 2025 $ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Revenue from Ordinary Activities** | | | |
| Affiliation Fees | Note 1 | 12,182 | 12,837 |
| ANSA Store Sales | | 555 | 2,281 |
| Interest Received | | 2,915 | 2,381 |
| Web Sponsorship | | 0 | 220 |
| **Total Revenue** | | **15,652** | **17,719** |
| | | | |
| **Expenditures** | | | |
| Peak Body Subscriptions | | 1,381 | 1,382 |
| Postage & Stationary | | 914 | 1,265 |
| Insurance | | 543 | 528 |
| Phone & Internet Expenses | | 1,656 | 1,900 |
| Computer & IT | | 2,000 | 0 |
| Records & Masters Expenses | | 88 | 1,884 |
| Cost of Goods Sold | Note 3 | 204 | 1,671 |
| ASIC Fees | | 321 | 408 |
| ARFF Conference | | 250 | 0 |
| Travel | | 1,066 | 0 |
| Remuneration & Wages | | 0 | 0 |
| Review / Accounting Fees | | 1,030 | 1,030 |
| Scale Verification | | 0 | 282 |
| Bank Fees | | 120 | 132 |
| **Total Expenditure** | | **9,573** | **10,482** |
| | | | |
| **Surplus Before Income Tax** | | **6,079** | **7,237** |
| | | | |
| **Income Tax Expense** | Note 4 | **0.00** | **0.00** |
| | | | |
| **Surplus At the end of the Financial Year** | | **6,079** | **7,237** |

The Statement of Comprehensive Income is to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements.

# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION LTD
ABN 80 063 293 514

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

| | Note | 2026<br>$ | 2025<br>$ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Current Assets** | | | |
| Cash | Note 5 | 24,489 | 26,322 |
| Term Deposit | | 78,256 | 75,066 |
| Inventory | | 8,405 | 3,408 |
| Receivables – Interest | | 2,076 | 2,351 |
| **Total Current Assets** | | **113,226** | **107,147** |
| **Non-Current Assets** | | **0** | **0** |
| **Total Assets** | | **113,226** | **107,147** |
| **Current Liabilities** | | **0** | **0** |
| **Non-Current Liabilities** | | **0** | **0** |
| **Total Liabilities** | | **0** | **0** |
| **Net Assets** | | **113,226** | **107,147** |
| **Member's Equity** | | | |
| Retained Earnings (Page 12) | | 113,226 | 107,147 |
| **Total Member's Equity** | | **113,226** | **107,147** |

The Statement of Financial Position is to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements.

# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION LTD
ABN 80 063 293 514

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

| | Note | 2026<br>$ | 2025<br>$ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Receipts from Operations | | 12,737 | 15,338 |
| Payment to Suppliers | | (14,570) | (8,811) |
| Interest Received | | 3,190 | 45 |
| **Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities** | Note 6 | **1,357** | **6,572** |
| | | | |
| Net (increase) / decrease in cash held | | 1,357 | 6,572 |
| Add opening cash | | 101,388 | 94,816 |
| Rounding | | 0 | 0 |
| **Closing Cash** | | **102,745** | **101,388** |

The Statement of Cash Flows is to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements.

# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SPORTFISHING ASSOCIATION LTD
ABN 80 063 293 514

## STATEMENT OF CHANGE TO EQUITY
## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

| | Note | 2026<br>$ | 2025<br>$ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Retained Earnings at 1 July Prior Year** | | **107,147** | **99,910** |
| Surplus for the Period | | 6,079 | 7,237 |
| **Retained Earnings at 30 June This Year** | | **113,226** | **107,147** |

The Statement of Change to Equity is to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Financial Statements.

## NOTES OF FINANCIAL REPORT
## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2026

### Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared for use by the Directors and members of the company. The Directors have determined that the company is not a reporting entity, however, it is a sporting entity with legal and community obligations.

The financial report is, unless otherwise stated, prepared on an accrual basis using the historical cost of transactions. It does not take into account changing money values or except where specifically stated, the current valuations of non-current assets.

Membership fees are recognised on a cash received basis.

The company recognises other assets and income when it has legal title or interest in the applicable asset or income.

Auditor review fees are recognised when the accountant's review fee is paid or when the review is complete and thus the fee is payable.

The company recognises liabilities and expenses when there is a legal obligation to pay the applicable liability or expense.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with requirements of the following Australian Accounting Standards.

AASB1031: Materiality

AASB110: Events after the Balance Sheet Date

No other Accounting Standards, Urgent Issue Group Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

### Note 2 – Registration Address

The registered office of the company is 6 Byrne Crescent Maroubra NSW 2035.

### Note 3 – Cost of Goods Sold

| | |
|---|---|
| **Opening Inventory 1 July 2025** | **3,408** |
| Add, Purchases | 5,201 |
| Less, Closing Inventory 30 June 2026 | 8,405 |
| **Cost of Goods Sold** | **204** |

## Note 4 – Income Tax

The company is exempt from paying income tax due to it being a not-for-profit mutual entity that is a sporting entity organising and encouraging sports fishing.

## Note 5 – Cash

| **Cash and Cash Equivalents** | **2026** | **2025** |
|---|---|---|
| ANZ Business Classic 1063 | 26,401 | 28,296 |
| Add, Un-deposited Funds | 0 | 0 |
| Less, Un-presented Cheques | (1,912) | (1,974) |
| Term Deposit | 78,256 | 75,066 |
| **Total Cash** | **102,745** | **101,388** |

## Note 6 – Cash Flow Information

For the purpose of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and at call deposits with banks or financial institutions and is net of bank overdrafts.

| **Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus (deficit) from ordinary activities after income tax:** | **2026** | **2025** |
|---|---|---|
| **Operating surplus / (deficit) after Income Tax** | **6,079** | **7,237** |
| *Non-cash flows in the surplus or deficit from ordinary activities:* | | |
| **Changes in Assets and Liabilities** | | |
| *Increase / (decrease) in inventory* | (4,997) | 1,671 |
| *(Increase) / decrease in receivables* | 275 | (2,336) |
| *Increase / (decrease) in liabilities* | 0 | 0 |
| **Cash Flows from Operating Activities** | **1,375** | **6,572** |

## Note 7 – Directors' Opinion

In the opinion of the directors, the company did not have any contingent liabilities at 30 June 2026 (30 June 2025 – None).

## Note 8 - Events Subsequent to Balance Date

Other than items already recognised in the financial report, there has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material and unusual nature likely in the opinion of the Directors, to affect significantly the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in subsequent financial years.

**End of financial report**

**ANSA - Australian National Sportfishing Association Ltd**
**Reconcilliation of trading results to budget for year ending 30.6.2026**
**Budget forecast for 2026/27 financial year**

| | Budget 2026/27 | Budget 2025/26 | Actual 2025/26 | Budget 2024/25 | Actual 2024/25 | Budget 2023/24 | Actual 2023/24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Income** | | | | | | | |
| Branch affiliation fees | 13000 | 13000 | 12182 | 12000 | 12837 | 12000 | 11998 |
| ANSA Ware Sales | 1500 | 3000 | 555 | 1000 | 2281 | 1500 | 823 |
| Bank Interest | 2500 | 2500 | 2915 | 2500 | 2381 | 2800 | 2582 |
| Web Advertising | 0 | 300 | 0 | 300 | 220 | 300 | 0 |
| **Total Income** | **17000** | **18800** | **15652** | **15800** | **17719** | **16600** | **15403** |
| **Expenditure** | | | | | | | |
| Travel/ Accomodation/ Meals | 3000 | 4000 | 1066 | 4000 | 282 | 4000 | 0 |
| IGFA Membership | 280 | 280 | 281 | 280 | 282 | 280 | 283 |
| ARFF membership | 1100 | 1100 | 1100 | 1100 | 1100 | 1100 | 1100 |
| Auditor fees | 1100 | 1100 | 1030 | 1000 | 1030 | 900 | 1000 |
| Insurance | 600 | 600 | 543 | 500 | 528 | 400 | 506 |
| Website | 1000 | 2000 | 0 | 1000 | 0 | 1500 | 281 |
| Phone /Internet/Zoom | 1800 | 1800 | 1656 | 1500 | 1900 | 1200 | 1878 |
| Bank fees | 150 | 150 | 120 | 150 | 132 | 0 | 148 |
| Post/ Stationery | 1000 | 1300 | 914 | 1000 | 1265 | 1200 | 813 |
| Records/ Masters expenses | 300 | 300 | 88 | 300 | 1884 | 300 | 88 |
| ASIC Fees | 400 | 400 | 321 | 400 | 408 | 400 | 348 |
| Cost of goods sold | 1000 | 2000 | 204 | 1000 | 1671 | 700 | 506 |
| Sundries - Angel Ring National Project | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Computer Upgrade/ supplies | 0 | 1000 | 2000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ANSA Promotion | 500 | 500 | 0 | 500 | 0 | 500 | 0 |
| Trade Mark Registration | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 400 |
| Line Tester Service | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rule Book printing/ distribution | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2000 | 0 | 2000 | 0 |
| Conference Fees | 1000 | 1000 | 250 | 1000 | 0 | 1000 | 0 |

| | Budget 2026/27 | Budget 2025/26 | Actual 2025/26 | Budget 2024/25 | Actual 2024/25 | Budget 2023/24 | Actual 2023/24 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donations/Tributes | 200 | 200 | 0 | 200 | 0 | 200 | 0 |
| Qld Bch Website Grant | 5000 | | | | | | |
| **Total Expenditures** | **18430** | **17730** | **9573** | **15930** | **10482** | **15680** | **7351** |
| **Net profit/(Loss)** | **-1430** | **1070** | **6079** | **-130** | **7237** | **920** | **8052** |

# National Membership Director's Report

ANSA National's total overall membership at the year ending 30.6.2026 was hovering just under 3000 members nationally. Our overall membership is trending up, and hopefully this coming financial year we will see the membership surpass 3000.

Branch census and membership forms are very important. Completing the census form correctly and receiving the quarterly membership by the due dates for each quarter is essential. To date all branch census forms have been received and our contact email database has been updated. I urge all States to update their committee contact details for the coming financial year (2026/2027) and get these details to me urgently. It is imperative that a new census form be completed and submitted to ANSA National. This ensures the flow of information is reaching the desired contacts in each State. Membership form submissions by most States have not been received for the first quarter of the 2026/2027 year and were due on the 31st of October 2026. The States are urged to get returns in on time. If there are Branches that need any sort of assistance each quarter, please contact me and collectively we can work things out.

If you do not receive ANSA National information, please contact me and I can sort this out with you or your Branch or Club.

Promotion of ANSA at a National, Branch and Club level is a high priority, particularly as a means of sourcing new members. ANSA National has a limited amount of its high-quality promotional brochures left. These brochures have been available for some time now and are coming to an end. The brochures can be tailored to suit the unique needs of individual Branches and Clubs. The brochures are available free to Branches and Clubs upon request. Contact me if you require a supply.

Other promotional material such as ANSA merchandise is still available but access to the ANSA material was pulled from our website due to the PayPal change in their level of authentication protocols, which changed the way ANSA National received notification of orders.

We have now cleared the backlog and have set up a new ordering process. There is a new ordering form, where payments now are made to a new banking account. All these details are on the new ordering form. If you have an urgent need for ANSA Ware, please contact me directly and I will organise it for you. We hope to be back online by January 2027, when all your ANSA merchandise can be purchase online by simply visiting the "ANSA Shop" on our website at www.ansa.com.au/shop/.

Remember, ANSA ware can be used to promote ANSA and your club and serve as an effective membership recruitment tool. Prices are very reasonable throughout the entire product range.

ANSA National's website is traveling well. The website address is www.ansa.com.au.

The ANSA National Facebook page is active and has over 1290 follows. This is slightly higher than the followers at this time last year (1253 likes). If you haven't liked the ANSA National Facebook page, please do. Make sure you promote the ANSA National Facebook page amongst your member clubs. The page itself hits thousands of Facebook walls and is just another way ANSA is ensuring current information and events can be communicated to its members nationally, whilst raising the interests of those who are not yet ANSA members. Visit the ANSA National Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ANSA.National.

Joe Garufi
Business Director
ANSA National

# National Recorder's Report (Line Class)

**National Line Class Records**

During the 2025– 2026 season 50 Australian Line Class Records have been claimed and awarded. Special congratulations to the Nickol Bay SFC and Northern Division SFC for their great effort in obtaining so many Australian Records.

| Year | Australian Records |
|---|---|
| 2021-22 | 23 |
| 2022-23 | 20 |
| 2023-24 | 33 |
| 2024-25 | 51 |
| 2025-26 | 50 |

Mia Grasso. Golden Trevally
3.52kg on 2. JF

Eddie Green. SB Tuna
11.36kg - JAT

Simon Green. Blue Morwong
3.91kg AT

Doug Boon. Rainbow Trout
6.84kg on 1 G.

Elijah Schmaal. Silver Perch
4.18kg on 1 SJS

Ellie Hill. European Carp
4.27kg on 1 - SJLBG

Kevin Hunter. SB Tuna
69kg on 10 - G.

**Records per State**

| | |
|---|---|
| WA. | 24 |
| NSW. | 5 |

**Most successful clubs**:

Nichol Bay SFC- W.A. - 24 Australian Records
Nth Div. SFC - SA – 17 Australian Records

**Most successful anglers**:

| | |
|---|---|
| SA. | 18 |
| Vic. | 2 |

Mia Grasso – 10 Australian Records
Eddie Green – 6 Australian Records

| Division | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Senior | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 11 |
| Junior | 6 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 3 |
| Sub-Junior | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |

Congratulations to all those anglers who gained Australian records in 2025-26.

Phil Turner

## National Recorder's Report (Trophy Length Only)

Over the past 12 months there were 31 new National Length only Records submitted from 3 States.  QLD, SA and WA. Resulting in a very slow season, however, there was an increase from SA. ANSA with 14.

QLD with 16

SA with 13

WA with 2

With 11 Fish being released 20 being kept

There were a lot of Record claims poorly written in both the written and missing information. Also, some of the photos were not clearly readable or placed appropriately on the measure mat. We worked through these claims to enable them to be processed

Over this past season we had a HYBRID species claim come forward in which took quite some time (7months) to sort, through Victorian Fisheries as this species was a cross of a Brown Trout and a Brook Trout resulting in a Tiger Trout.

We hope to see further claims for the 2026-7 season

Helen Johnson with an 82 cm Sth Saratoga taken in Cania Dam

Joel Gray with a 684mm Venous Tuskfishtakn of the Barwon Banks QLD

Eligah Weaver with his 560 Golden Perch SA

Below is Ken Johnson with a 140 cm Spanish Mackerel taken of the Reef.

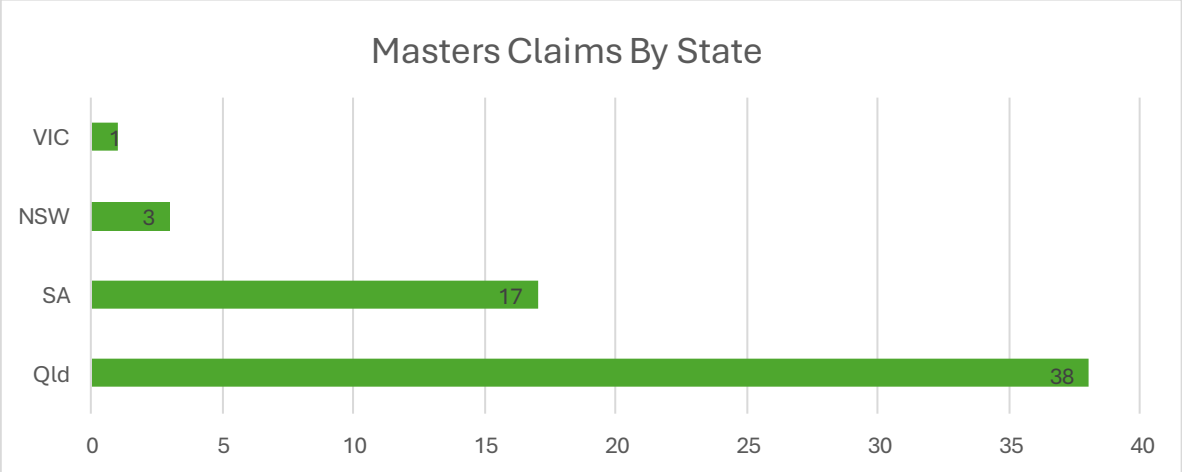
Tight lines,

Ken Johnson
National Trophy Length Recorder
Kfish1955@bigpond.com
0417114103

# National Masters Keeper Report

I hope that this report finds you all safe and well. This year has been another great year for both the quantity and quality of Masters claims. We had 60 Masters claims which puts us at over 210 claims in the past 3 years. This is a great number and is a testament to the number of great fish we have on offer to catch.

Again, this year QLD led the way with the number of claims at 38 with SA coming second with 17 claims, then NSW with 3 and VIC with 1. Overall, a good spread of claims throughout the country.

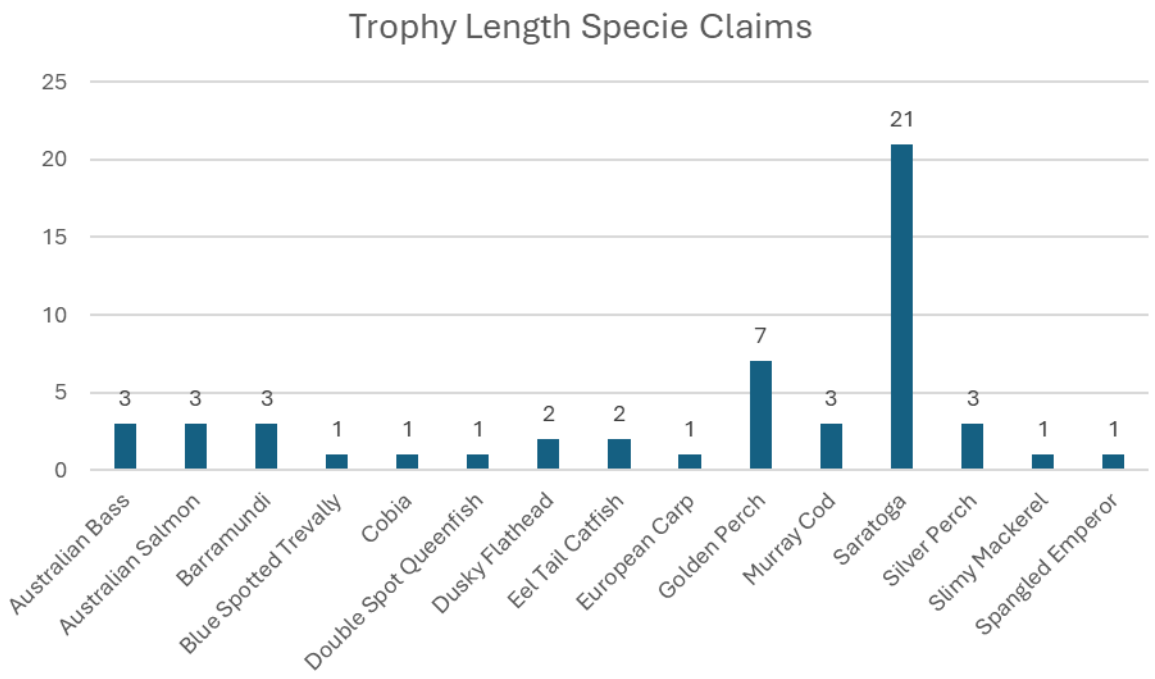



This year of the 60 claims, 53 were Trophy Length Specie, 6 for Trophy Length and 1 for Handline. There were 15 different species claimed as part of the Trophy Length Specie which is slightly down last year's amount of 19 but still a very solid number. The most popular specie this year was Saratoga with 21 claims, then Golden Perch with 7 claims followed by Australian Bass, Australian Salmon, Barramundi, Murray Cod and Silver Perch 3 each.

Again, this year it was good to see a Handline Masters, this time by Paul Cooper of South Sydney AFA. 5 of those species were caught on 1kg line and 3 on 2kg line. Great effort Paul.

Another great achievement was by John Reddicliffe from Sunshine Coast SFC, who claimed his 10 Saratoga Masters and then throughout the year worked his way up breaking the magical 100 mark and ending up with a staggering 130 Saratoga Masters for the year. John is only the 4$^{th}$ person to surpass 100 specie masters and they have all been Saratoga. Well, done John on this achievement and mastering the art of catching Saratoga.

29 Individuals put in Masters Claims this year and with the most was, Lucas Weaver from the Lower Murray Lure Fishing Club had 7 Masters claims including his 30 to 70 Golden Perch and his 30 and 40 Murray Cod. Paul Wolfedale from Northern Districts SFC managed to get his 20 Trophy Length Species which has taken him 9 years to go from 10 to 20. Eddie Green from Northern Districts SFC with his Silver Perch Masters is the first Junior to get a Species Master since I took over the Master Keeper Role from Knut back in 2020. Bundaberg SFC had some great claims come through with a 60 Spanish Mackerel for Helen Johnson, a 40 Australian Bass for Nelson Phillips and a 40 Cobia for Don Patterson. Well done to all these folk as well as everyone else who got a Masters this year.




I always look forward to new Masters claims coming through and seeing what people have achieved, so please get them through to your local adjudicator. I hope that we all have a great fishing year with plenty of Masters claims crossing my desk.

Simon Green
Master Keeper
ANSA National
simon.green.80@outlook.com.au
Ph: 0456866318

# ANSA New South Wales Report

**A year of progress, with plenty still to do.**

It has been a busy year for ANSA NSW. Our membership is growing again, more members are entering competitions, and our clubs are getting people together on the water. That is encouraging, particularly after the difficult years we have been through.

We have also had plenty to deal with away from fishing. Access, boat ramps, fisheries management, marine parks and the way anglers' money is spent all continue to take up a lot of time. These issues matter because they affect whether our members can get out and enjoy their fishing.

I want to start by thanking our committee, club officials and volunteers. Much of the work happens quietly, around jobs, families and other commitments. Without those people, there would be no competitions, records, conventions, Angel Rings or State Branch to report on.

**Our clubs and members**

Our membership increased from 887 to 915 during 2025–26, across 19 affiliated clubs. That includes 243 juniors and 19 students. The junior numbers are particularly pleasing and give us something solid to build on.

We welcomed Red Rock/Corindi Amateur Anglers Club and Taralga Fishing Club. Unfortunately, Toongabbie Sports Club Fishing Club and Wagga Family Fishing Club did not renew. We need to understand why clubs leave and put as much effort into keeping existing clubs as we do into finding new ones.

I believe our clubs remain ANSA's greatest strength. They teach people to fish, help juniors get started, bring families together and give anglers somewhere to belong. They also provide the local knowledge that makes our representation worthwhile.

We need to keep explaining what membership offers: insurance, competitions, records, Masters, help with club matters and a connection to the wider ANSA family. Clubs should hear from us throughout the year, rather than only when their affiliation is due.

There are good ideas already working in our clubs, from junior activities and seminars to fishing apps, newsletters and new competition formats. I would like us to share more of these ideas, so every club does not have to start from scratch.

**Competitions, conventions and records**

Our 12 Month Competition recorded its third consecutive increase in entries. Forty-two anglers from eight clubs submitted 196 fish, up 15.3 per cent on the previous year. Tag and Release was the most popular division, and the traditional ANSA points divisions continued to attract good support.

Congratulations to Greg Clarke, who again won the Most Versatile Angler Division, and to Wollongong Sportfishing Club, our 2025–26 Champion Club. I also want to acknowledge everyone who put in an entry, particularly those having a go for the first time.

Our gatherings at Culburra, Narooma, Sydney and Lake Lyell were well supported. Glenbawn, hosted by Newcastle Sportfishing Club on 16–18 October, is still ahead of us. We expect these events to account for around 500 attendances across the calendar year. That is an estimate, but it shows how much these get-togethers contribute to ANSA.

The fishing is only part of their value. They give members a chance to meet people from other clubs, learn a new waterway and catch up with old friends.

There were some excellent record claims during the year. Paul Cooper submitted handline claims for catfish, sea mullet, luderick and bonito, while Stuart Bell submitted a handline claim for carp. Junior Rafael Sanhueza also submitted luderick claims in the sportfishing and length categories. These examples show the range of opportunities available to our members.

Karl Rasmussen completed four length-based Masters awards, which is a great achievement. Masters activity overall was fairly quiet, so we need to help more members understand the categories and check how close they might already be to an award.

**Finances and keeping the Branch running.**

We finished the year with $24,779.06 in combined bank funds: $19,779.06 in the general account and $5,000 in the project account. We recorded a small deficit of $450.27. National affiliation fees were $4,444 and website costs were $1,989.83.

Our position remains sound, although membership and affiliation income was a little below budget. We need to keep managing our money carefully while making sure it supports things members can see and use.

The bigger pressure is time. Too much work still rests with too few people. We need more members willing to take on a manageable job, learn from someone already doing it and help share the load. Our clubs are welcome at State Committee meetings, and I encourage them to get involved.

I thank Eddie Sitarz for his membership work, Joe Garufi for keeping our communications and Branch business moving, and our Treasurer, recorders, Masters Keeper and committee members for everything they do.

**Communications and using AI.**

At the time of our annual reports, we had more than 120 email contact points, over 995 Facebook followers and 348 Instagram followers. These give us a useful way to reach people, but we still need to keep the website current and make sure information gets through to members.

I have also been using AI, particularly ChatGPT, to help with both ANSA-related work and my work with the RFA of NSW. It has helped me sort through large reports and GIPA material, put events in order, compare agency responses and prepare letters, submissions and questions.

This has been particularly useful on Coopers Island access, boating issues, the Recreational Fishing Trust and the promised recreational fishing peak body. It has allowed me to get more work done as a volunteer and explain complicated issues more clearly.

I still supply the background, decide the position and check the finished work. AI can get things wrong, so the original documents and our own knowledge remain essential.

I see a real opportunity for our clubs here. Newsletters, posters, sponsor letters, grant applications and member updates all take time. Sharing a few practical examples and templates across ANSA could make these jobs easier. We should also make sure clubs understand how to check the information and protect members' personal details.

**Having a say on the issues that affect us.**

I continue to believe recreational fishers need an independent and accountable voice. In NSW, the promised statutory peak body has been a recurring concern in our reports. Fishers were expecting a body able to represent them and challenge government when necessary. We need to keep asking whether the arrangements being developed will actually deliver that.

We should take part in discussions, but being in the room does not mean we agree with everything put on the table. ANSA must remain free to speak up for its members.

The same applies to the Recreational Fishing Trust. Anglers deserve to know where their licence money goes, what projects deliver and which costs are being charged to the funds. Questions about staffing, overheads and cost shifting need proper answers and scrutiny.

Plans also need to produce results. With the Recreational Fishing Action Plan 2026–2031, I want to see clear commitments: what will be done, who will do it, when it will happen and how fishers will know it has worked. That needs to include our freshwater members as well as saltwater anglers.

Recognition of fishing as a sport is another issue I would like ANSA National to help pursue. We run competitions, keep records, teach skills and support juniors. Our clubs should have a fair opportunity to access the grants and support available to other community sporting organisations.

**Protecting access and improving boat ramps**

Access continues to be one of our biggest concerns. There is little value in having a fishing opportunity if people cannot reach the water. Once an established access point is lost, getting it back can be a long and difficult fight.

Coopers Island Road is a good example of how complicated these matters can become. Historical records, Crown tenure, council decisions and differing agency advice have all had to be worked through. It has taken a sustained community effort, and the broader lesson is that established access needs to be protected before it disappears.

We also continue to push for a proper look at boat ramps, pontoons, parking and maintenance across NSW. Facilities need to work for families, older anglers and people

with disability. Announcing funding is one thing; providing a ramp people can safely use is another.

Coffs Harbour has been a particular concern. Problems with sand movement and reliable access affect local boaters and visiting anglers. When club members stop travelling to a location because the ramp is unreliable, local accommodation providers, tackle shops and other businesses lose out as well.

We need clearer reporting on boating revenue and expenditure, including the maintenance responsibilities placed on the Waterways Fund. I would welcome more sharing between State Branches about facilities that work well and how those improvements were achieved.

**Marine parks and fisheries management**

The NSW reports raised Booderee and the Commonwealth Temperate East marine park review, including proposals affecting Norfolk and Lord Howe. These processes need close attention because they can have lasting effects on where our members fish.

Our clubs need to be heard. Wollongong Sportfishing Club and other affected clubs bring practical knowledge of fishing grounds and how proposed changes would affect their members. National representation is stronger when it draws on that experience.

I support conservation and sustainable fishing. I also expect restrictions to come with a clear explanation of the problem, the evidence behind the decision, the alternatives considered and how the outcome will be measured. The effects on access, safety and displaced fishing effort need to be considered too.

Mulloway management and the Blue Groper decision have reinforced the importance of a fair and open process. Fishers need to see the information and assumptions being used. Recreational fishing cannot be considered in isolation from commercial catch, discards, habitat and compliance.

Our tagging, records and fish-care work give ANSA a constructive role in this discussion. NEWTAG, Mulloway tagging and cooperation with researchers show that anglers can help build knowledge. We should keep promoting that contribution while continuing to call for properly funded research.

**Safety and Angel Rings**

Angel Rings remain one of ANSA NSW’s most worthwhile community contributions. I thank everyone who inspects, replaces and maintains them, and the land managers who help make the program possible.

Rock-fishing safety needs constant attention. Lifejackets, weather and swell awareness, suitable footwear and local knowledge all matter. We also need messages that reach anglers in the languages they understand.

Access decisions should take safety into account. Closing a location can push people onto fewer or more dangerous spots. That consequence needs to be considered before a decision is made.

There is scope for ANSA National to help share safety material and good maintenance practices, and to give these volunteers the recognition they deserve.

**Where I would like us to go next**

For NSW, the focus is to keep building our clubs, bring more juniors and families into fishing, make competitions and awards easier to understand, and get more people involved in running the Branch.

At National level, I would like us to work together on a few practical things:

Share useful club material, including junior event ideas, sponsor letters, membership campaigns and committee handover notes.

Make a stronger case for recognition of organised sportfishing and fair access to grants.

Promote records and Masters more clearly, particularly to juniors and new members.

Help clubs use digital tools and AI in a practical and responsible way.

Coordinate our response to Commonwealth marine parks and other issues affecting more than one State.

Share experience on access, boat ramps, tagging and fishing safety.

We do not need to make all of this complicated. Much of it starts with sharing what already works and helping each other avoid doing the same job twice.

I thank ANSA National and the other State Branches for their support. NSW has plenty of work ahead, but we also have good people, active clubs and a strong junior base. I look forward to building on that together.

Stan Konstantaras
President
ANSA New South Wales

QLD SPORTFISHERS
Australian National Sportfishing Association QLD

SPORT - CONSERVATION - INTEGRITY

# 2026 ANSA National Annual Report
# September 2026

It’s been another busy for ANSA QLD. It’s has been great to see members (both young and old) out on the water enjoying the sport and catching a fish or two.

Our online platform is being used more and more by members which is awesome to see so this is where a lot of time and effort has been dedicated and finally having some wins with improvements focussing on capturing data errors upon entry.

**Membership**

Membership numbers have eased slightly this year, decreasing from 666 to 586. While this is down on last year, it remains above our 2023/24 membership levels. Several clubs have continued to grow, although these gains have been offset by declines in others.

After many years as part of the ANSA family, Townsville Saltwater Club made the difficult decision to end its affiliation this year. We'd like to thank the club for its long-standing contribution and wish its members all the best into the future.

Short-term memberships have again been a strong contributor, largely driven by the Cardwell Barra Bonanza. These memberships continue to provide an excellent opportunity for prospective members to experience what ANSA clubs have to offer and hopefully encourage ongoing involvement.

**Events**

In addition to our annual Sportfishing Festival, QLD Sportfishers continues to support affiliated clubs through in-kind assistance, liability insurance and awards. During the year, this support extended to events including, but not limited to, the Hinchinbrook Interclub (Hinchinbrook SFC), Tag-a-toga (Kingaroy SFC) and the South Queensland Interclub Challenge (Bundaberg).

In October 2025, with the assistance of our hosts at Hinchinbrook Sportfishing Club, we held our annual Sportfishing Festival.

At the presentation dinner, champion angler awards were presented to Helen Johnson (Hinchinbrook), Zander Mangin (Bundaberg), Hudson Schiffke (Bundaberg) and myself representing Kingaroy, while Cairns claimed Champion Club honours.

The angling awards were followed by our prestigious annual achievement awards. Dave Donald received the Ron Dempster Award, Geoff Chapman was honoured with the Eric Moller Award, Brad Morris received the Hamar Midgely Award, and Helen Johnson was presented with the Phil Brooks Award in recognition of her contribution to tagging. Congratulations to all of this year's deserving recipients.

In May 2026, we held the QLD Sportfishers Statewide Species Challenge. The club competition was considerably closer this year following the AGM rule change requiring fish to meet minimum legal length to qualify. After a closely contested competition, Hinchinbrook emerged as the winning club.

I'd also like to acknowledge the Bundaberg crew for hosting and managing the Southern Queensland Interclub event over the same weekend as the Species Challenge.

**Significant Activities**

It has been encouraging to see clubs making greater use of our state-wide messenger group to communicate with one another, while also providing a simple and effective way to engage with the executive. Our social media presence continues to build momentum.

Insurance once again generated plenty of enquiries this year as clubs sought clarification around specific situations to ensure they understood the protection available. During the year we expanded our insurance by adding volunteer cover, providing protection for those assisting clubs to conduct events, rather than participating in them.

A significant amount of work has also been invested into improving the quality of our capture data. The management committee has reviewed all tagging recaptures, correcting records where possible and removing inaccurate entries where required. Last year we outlined a three-pronged approach focusing on education, monitoring and website improvements. Pleasingly, we've already seen a noticeable improvement in data quality, although there is still more work to do.

That leads into the website, which has certainly tested our patience over the past year. Our IT support provider of the previous 16 months advised they were closing down the development side of their business due to family circumstances. Every transition to a new provider requires considerable time transferring knowledge and bringing a new team up to speed.

We have engaged a company with seven developers—large enough to provide continuity through staff changes, but still small enough to offer the personal service our organisation requires. Since partnering with them earlier this year, we've finally started making real progress.

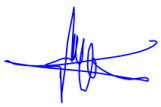
While the circumstances weren't ideal, the change has also created opportunities. Several long-standing issues have now been resolved despite previously being told these fixes would require a complete website upgrade. Although an upgrade is still recommended, we're now confident that progressing with planned improvements beforehand won't create additional work later.

Unfortunately, the annual Qld Fisheries Grant we had intended to use to fund the website upgrade was cancelled last year. In the meantime, we're continuing discussions with ANSA National regarding the potential development of a combined website, allowing us to pool resources and deliver a better long-term outcome.

The website featured prominently in every club survey response, reinforcing just how important it is to our members. As a result, I remain committed to ensuring it remains both reliable and fit for purpose.

I'd like to acknowledge the many volunteers across all our affiliated clubs whose ongoing efforts continue to make ANSA QLD what it is.

Tight lines



*Shaun Manthey*
*President*

## Tagging Report

### Tagging Program

During the 2025/26 financial year, **more than 1,100 fish were tagged** by club members and participants.

Since the tagging program commenced, we have now tagged **more than 13,000 fish across over 40 different species**. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the ongoing commitment of participants to supporting responsible fishing and contributing valuable information to fisheries research.

The year also produced some excellent recapture results. **Twenty-six people recorded recaptured tagged fish, with more than 50 recaptured fish recorded across 13 different species.**

Every recaptured tagged fish provides valuable information about fish movements, growth, survival and population dynamics. These results demonstrate the importance of the tagging program and the contribution our participants are making to a better understanding of our fisheries.

## Annual Recorders Report

***There were 95 new ALL TACKLE LENGTH ONLY RECORDS CLAIMED in the 4 divisions. Below are the number of new records for each division and the most outstanding captures.***

| ***ATLO DIVISION*** | ***ANGLER*** | ***FISH*** | ***LENGTH*** | ***LOCATION*** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ***SPORTFISHING*** (59 New records) | ***Nelson Philips*** | ***Diamond Trevally*** | ***1160*** | ***Kolan Patch*** |
| | ***Geoff Chapman*** | ***Wahoo*** | ***1785*** | ***Holmes Reef*** |
| | ***Ryan McColl*** | ***King Threadfin*** | ***1240*** | ***Mary River*** |
| ***LURE*** (14 new records) | ***John Reddicliffe*** | ***Sth Saratoga*** | ***800*** | ***Borumba*** |
| | ***Isaac McUtchen*** | ***Barred Longtom*** | ***1300*** | ***Althea Wreck*** |
| ***FLY*** (14 new records) | ***Bob Avery*** | ***Barramundi*** | ***1050*** | ***Townsville*** |
| | ***David Belstead*** | ***Milk Fish*** | ***830*** | ***Townsville*** |
| ***LANDBASED*** (8 new records) | ***Will McUtchen*** | ***Dusky Flathead*** | ***850*** | ***Maroochy River*** |
| | ***Chase Patterson*** | ***Sooty Grunter*** | ***370*** | ***Burdekin Weir*** |

***This season seen 4 National Masters and 36 Species Masters added another busy year.***

| ATLO DIVISION | ANGLERS | CLUB | No, |
|---|---|---|---|
| MASTERS | Noel Day | Redcliffe LG7SFC | 10 |
| | Brandon Patterson | Hinchinbrook SFC | 10 |
| 10 Different | Zander Magin | Bundaberg SFC | 10 |
| SPECIES | Scott Hinds | Hinchinbrook SFC | 10 |

| ATLO DIVISION | ANGLERS | SPECIES | No, |
|---|---|---|---|
| SPECIES MASTERS | Nelson Philips | Bass | 40 |
| | Don Patterson | Cobia | 40 |
| 10 Same | Don Patterson | Bluespot Trevally | 10 |
| SPECIES | Tim Harrison | Dusky Flathead | 10 & 20 |
| | Noel Day | Sth Saratoga | 10 |
| | Helen Johnson | Spanish Mackerel | 60 |
| | Helen Johnson | Eeltail Catfish | 20 |
| | Jordan Stoddart | Barramundi | 20 |
| | Bob Dover | Bass | 10 |
| | Shaun Manthey | Saratoga | 20 30 & 40 |
| | John Reddicliffe | Barramundi | 10 |
| | John Reddicliffe | Sth Saratoga | 10 to 70 |
| | John Reddicliffe | Sth Saratoga | 80 to 130 |
| | Barry McArthur | Sth Saratoga | 10 |
| | Helen Johnson | Sth Saratoga | 170 & 180 |
| | Barry McArther | Bass | 10 |
| | Ryan Sanders | Barramundi | 10 |
| | Ryan Sanders | Sth Saratoga | 10 |
| | Geoff Chapman | Spangle Emperor | 10 |
| | Chris Bache | Queenfish Lesser | 20 |

***Ryan McColl with his King Threadfin Salmon of 1240 mm taken out of the Mary River***

***<u>SPORTFISHING</u> Geoff Chapmans 1785mm Wahoo trolled up out on Holms Reef***

***<u>LURECASTING</u> Isaac McUtchen holding his Junior record Barred Longtom 1300 mm of the Althea Wreck***

***LURE CASTING John Reddicliffe with one of his many Saratoga taken at Borumba Dam***

***<u>FLY FISHING</u> Bob Avery with his 1050 mm Fly caught Barramundi off the bank in the Ross River, at night***

……..

*Shaun Manthey*
*President*
*QLD Sportfishers*
*0419 789129*
*19/9/2026*

# ANSA South Australia Report

Presidents Report 2026

I am pleased to present my 17th report as state president for ANSA SA

The past 12 months for South Australian recreational fishers have been a very trying year for all concerned and at this point in time does not look good going forwards.

Snapper ban is still in place which was announced in 2019 and now not to be reconsidered until mid 2027. Snapper can only be taken in the southeast of the state.

Algal bloom has had and is still having a devasting effect on our fisheries decimating many stocks. A total ban on the taking of squid in both Gulfs is in effect as the biomass was wiped out.

Fishing is very poor in both gulfs and is reflected by patronage at the boat ramps.

West coast of South Australia still has good fishing, but the cost of fuel has made that an expensive exercise for many. Quite a few independent tackle stores have closed and those remaining are struggling. To top it all off now we have the early signs of the spreading of the H5 bird flu virus. A bleak picture indeed.

ANSA SA and SAFTAG members providing data to RecFishSA have managed to shut down the commercial netting of Kingfish in SA with commercial fishers now restricted to taking only 2 fish per day. This has been great for recreational fishing in Upper Spencer Gulf where the kingfish congregate each spring and the regional economies of the 3 main regional centres located at the top of the Gulf.

On the upside freshwater fishing is excellent with quite a few reservoirs now open for recreational fishing. One independent Tackle outlet reported that the freshwater section and supplying of bait and worms was the only thing keeping him going.

ANSA SA in March this year held its first get together (Gather Round) for many years at Bundaleer Reservoir with the support of our peak body RecFishSA. Members based themselves at the Spalding Oval travelling to the reservoir each day. Patronage was small but we think well attended given the short notice. Next event is planned for October long weekend 2027, once again with support for RecFishSA.

Overall membership of ANSA SA (232 members) is slightly down from last year but holding steady with 6 clubs. Lower Murray Lure Fishing Club takes the honours this year as our largest Club closely followed by Northern Districts.

Alan Hall
State President.
ANSA SA

# ANSA-SA RECORDERS REPORT. 2025/2026

It has certainly been a busy 2025/26 fishing season for South Australia. We have had the most ever for our state, with a record 67 claims. This is more than double our previous best season from 2015/16 with 33 claims. Fresh water fishing, once again has accounted for more than half of these claims, and it's great to see our Junior anglers still having an awesome time trying to break and set 21 of these records.

| Record claims by Club | Senior | Junior | S/Junior | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Northern Districts Sportfishing Club | 8 | 15 | 1 | 24 |
| Whyalla Sport Fishing Club | 20 | | 1 | 21 |
| Lower Murray Lure Fishing Club | 16 | | | 16 |
| Young Husband Fishing Club | 2 | 4 | | 6 |

Young Husband Fishing Clubs Junior Ben Roberson with an awesome Length Only 1045mm Mulloway.

A cracking Length Only 1305mm Samsonfish for Junior Sulivan Nash of the Young Husband Fishing Club.

Junior Eddie Green of the Northern Districts Sportfishing Club with his 1350 mm Length Only record Gummy Shark.

Whyalla Sportfishing Club Sub Junior Ellie Hill was super happy with her 4.22kg on 1 kg. line European Carp in Land Based Gamefishing.

A beach catch and release 1450 mm Length Only Bronze Whaler at sunset for Junior Sullivan Nash of the Young Husband Fishing Club.

Northern Districts Sportfishing Club Sub Junior Elijah Schmaal with a massive 4.18 kg Silver Perch caught on 1 kg line in Sportfishing division.

Recfish SA Citizen Science member Scott Marsden with a monster 1330mm Trophy Length Murray Cod.

John Scott of the Northern Districts Sportfishing Club with a Length Only record 920 mm Queen Snapper (Blue Morwong).

Matt Emery of the Northern Districts Sportfishing Club with a big lump of 1820 mm Southern Bluefin Tuna for a State Length Only record.

South Australia

Paul Wolfendale,

ANSA SA Recorder.

1800 625 901
levi.nash@ansa-sa.org

# ANNUAL REPORT 2026

Over the last couple of years in particular, SAFTAG has been constantly trying to keep its feet, by means of securing funding to buy tags and cover costs to run the business.

With ANSA SA providing some funds along with Recfish SA's various projects like "let's go fishing" prized tagged fish competition, we have managed to find some financial support to do the bare minimum.

Running SAFTAG on my own now, with Mick Wilson retiring from SAFTAG in 2025, I have sort ways to restructure some parts so I can get some external help with data entry. Something which Recfish SA's projects officer Will Richards will do in the very near future.

For this to happen, SAFTAG has engaged help to rebuild the ANSA SA web page, as the previous web builder provider closed, leaving SAFTAG and ANSA SA with no web page.
This itself has been time consuming and thankfully we are nearly complete, with tag data web forms and recapture web forms soon to be accessible on the new web page. These steps will cut out substantial data entry time for me. Taggers will also be able to log in to view their tag data.

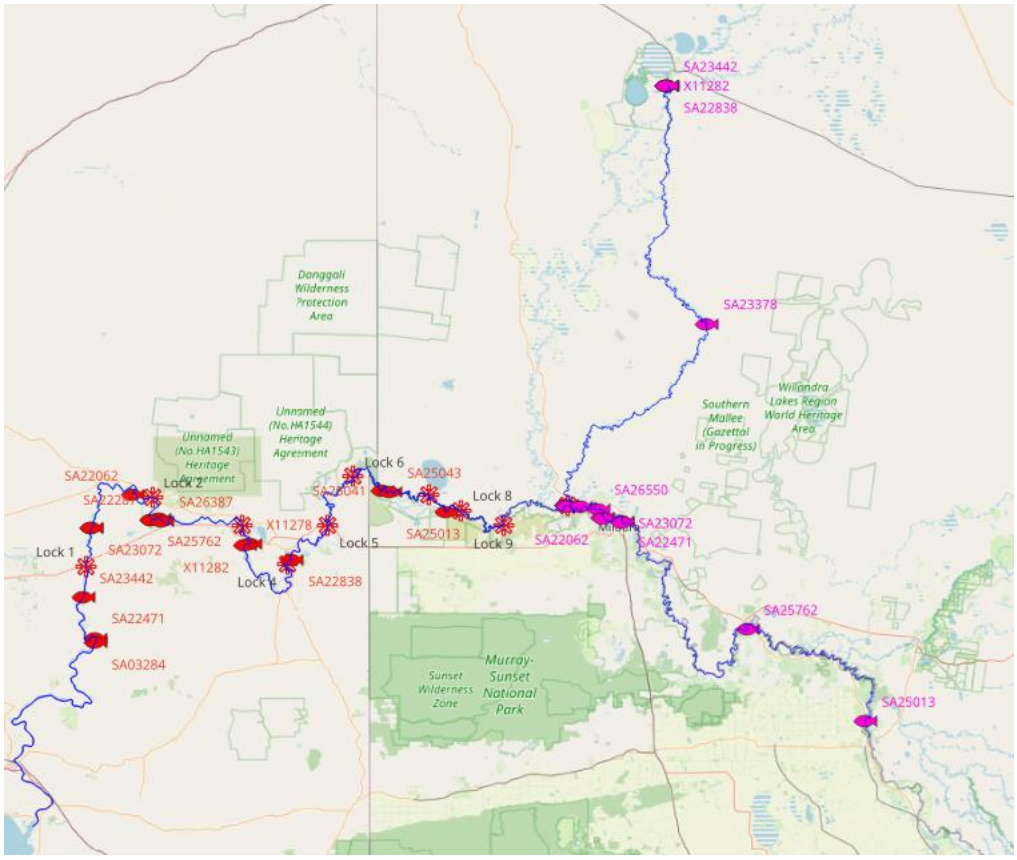
Once again Bill from Infofish/Suntag has been managing our data and recapture certificates when I get the data to him. Bill has also begun dashboards for the Murray River below lock 9, which will soon be uploaded on the new web page. These maps and graphs really make the tag data more usable and attractive to fisheries managers and others, as Bill has found in Queensland.

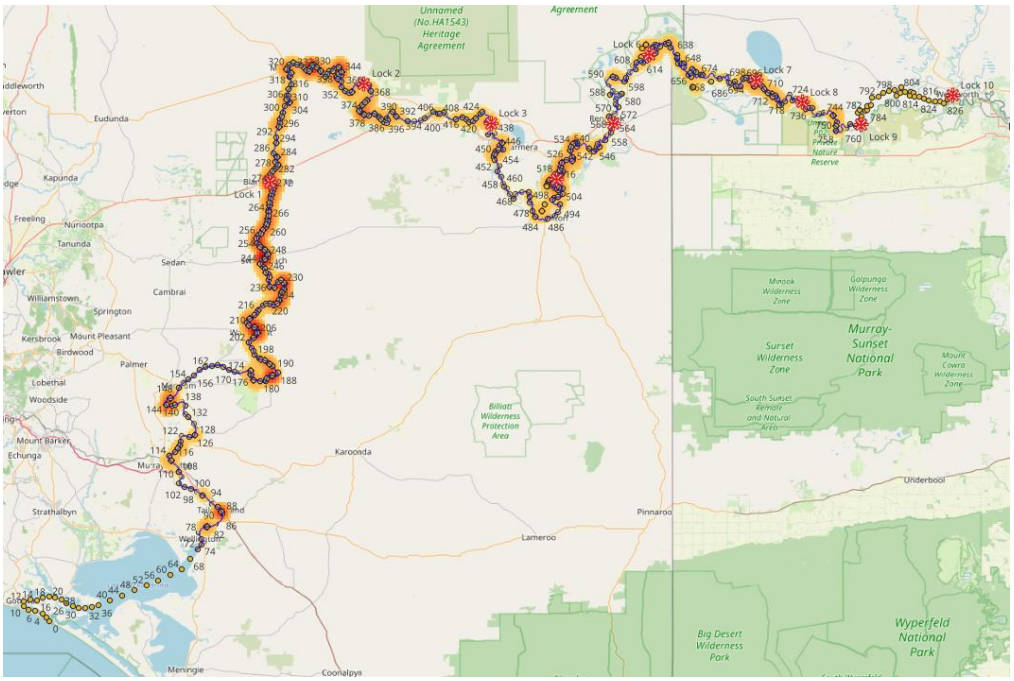
Things are certainly looking up, as our current state Government has put forward quite substantial funding for citizen science fish tagging via Recfish SA. With Recfish SA's support, it won't be long and I believe SAFTAG will be putting in a lot more tags and finding ways to utilise the data more effectively. A web page more user friendly and interactive is something I have strived towards for our ANSA SA members. It certainly has been a slow process, and delayed things like ANSA's SA Sportfisher of the year points collating.

tight lines
***Levi Nash***

***SAFTAG Co-ordinator***

***the two pages attached:***
***- top one shows fish tagged below lock 9 that were recaptured above lock 9.***
***-the bottom picture shows a heat map of the Murray River and where most tags have gone in over the last 25 years.***
***- the red asterix are locks.***



## ANSA Tasmania Report

*REPORT NOT SUBMITTED*

# ANSA Victoria Report

Unfortunately, we had both our President, Pauline and new Secretary, Melissa have to stand down from their positions early in the year due to various reasons. This placed an increased burden on the other executive members, and I thank them all for their support and hard work.

At this year's recent AGM, it was encouraging to see 5 new members elected to the Executive. This included new President Steve Gale who also served as President many years ago.

Membership numbers have remained steady this year after several years of increased numbers following Covid. We have recently been contacted by a newly formed club wanting to join and are in the process of arranging a visit.

Numbers attending our 8 Conventions throughout the year declined this year – no doubt in part due to cost-of-living increases and in particular fuel costs.

On a more positive note, our Annual Presentation Night, held at a new venue this year, was extremely well attended with over 50 members travelling far and wide to be there. A great night was enjoyed by all.

We continue to work closely with the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority supporting their projects to enhance and improve fishing access to the Barwon River in the Geelong area. Work was recently completed on upgrading fishing platforms along the river which included dedicated disabled access. Further upgrade works to a canoe/kayak launching facility are also planned.

The Melton SFC in conjunction with OzFish are assisting with deploying 'fish hotels' into Melton Weir. Thanks to funding from the VFA's Fish Habitat Improvement Fund, the Melton Reservoir Habitat Project is setting out to prove healthy fisheries and great fishing are possible, even in highly urbanised locations. The purpose-built habitat structures are a more natural replacement for the dumped cars that had been serving as shelter for Murray Cod, Yellow Belly and Estuary Perch.

Wayne Zita
Secretary
Victorian Branch

# ANSA Western Australia Report

The WA ANSA Executive is making steady progress on the journey to transition ANSA WA to its new home in the Pilbara albeit with some challenges along the way.

Membership focus has formed a big part of the journey, and a full audit of the branch membership has taken place and though a small drop in numbers in the current two clubs was seen, this was taken as a positive that we are now dealing with the more active members.

Along the way Direct Membership gained some traction with ANSA WA now having a presence in the far south (Albany), the Kimberley (Broome) and in the WA capital (Perth).

WE have also recently affiliated a new club (Cape Naturalist) and have on boarded the first 6 members into ANSA. We will be supporting these members and hopefully expanding membership in due course.

Westag, our fishing tagging platform is also on the building program.

A review of Westag membership is currently in progress. All current and past members are being contacted directly to gauge their interest in continuing the tagging program and if the desire has declined to return unused tags and equipment. The tagging database shows an in-balance on tags issued to members and total tagged fish to date. (tags and tagging equipment costs have risen considerably)

Priority tagging species lists for each region are currently under review or creation to optimize tags and resources.

The WA government has continued on its path for fishing reforms placing a full demersal fishing ban from Augusta to Kalbarri till spring 2027 and permanently closing the commercial fishery.
Fishing is getting harder and more marine parks are slated for the state.
Whenever public submissions are called for, we need to ensure our ANSA voice is heard. Silence is proving costly for anglers in pursuit of a fishing pastime.

Steve Wiseman, a long term ANSA WA executive, is continuing to have health and family issues and will be watching from the sidelines for the foreseeable future. We wish Steve a speedy recovery and hopefully some time to wet a line. Thanks for your efforts, Steve.

The future looks bright and hopefully we can hold the course and complete our journey.

Thank You,

John (Skip) Riding
ANSA WA President

**WA State Recorder Report 25/26**

The 2025/26 season was another great year for records in WA.

We had 24 successful state and national claims with a large majority coming from junior and sub junior anglers and all from Nickol Bay Sportfishing Club.

There were some exceptional captures and big congratulations to the following anglers,

Bridie Turner 1 claim
Patrick Faulkner 1 claim
Luke Leech 1 claim
Max Grasso 2 claims
Zac Wheelock 2 claims
Byron Wheelock 3 claims
Mick Grasso 4 claims
Mia Grasso 10 claims.

Cheers,

Mick Grasso
**WA State Recorder**