



# Cairns Professional Game Fishing Association Inc.

Incorporated Association No,8990. ABN 45 982 138 420.

P.O. Box 5722, Cairns, Qld. 4870. Australia

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## CODE OF PRACTICE

As professional operators with the gamefishing industry, there is an industry, government and community perception that all operators will act in a responsible and professional manner.

This Code of Practice developed by, and for, the members of the Cairns Professional Game Fishing Association Inc. will ensure that those expectations are realized.

1. **Always act with integrity and in a responsible and professional manner.** As Ambassadors of this industry, each and every individual's actions will reflect the community's perception of the whole industry.
2. **Promote the marine environment and its natural resources.** Educate charter guest's and others, about the Great Barrier Reef, the surrounding waters and it's inhabitants.
3. **Protect the marine environment and its natural resources.**
4. **Abide by all Local, State and Federal Government Laws and By Laws.**
5. **Encourage all anglers and crew to fish within the regulations of the Game Fishing Association of Australia and the International Game Fish Association.**
6. **The Cairns Professional Game Fishing Association** encourages the use of circle hooks and other accepted conservation techniques with all billfish being held at the boat for a minimum amount of time prior to release.
7. **The Cairns Professional Game Fishing Association** endorses 100% catch and release fishing for all **Billfish** species. Only billfish for consideration for Queensland Game Fishing Association, Game Fishing Association of Australia and the International Game Fish Association records should be weighed on land as per the regulations.
8. **Any Billfish weighed for record purposes shall, upon completion of the weighing be immediately returned to sea and disposed of in a responsible manner.**
9. **Abide by the bag limits and in possession limits for all fish species.** Only keep what is immediately required, releasing the rest.
10. **Keep the marine environment free from any pollution.** Abide by all relevant regulations with regard to dumping of all garbage and petroleum products. Report any and all incidents of pollution whether from fuels, oils or any form of rubbish. Report any large dead aquatic mammals. wherever possible, retrieve small amounts of garbage and dispose of properly. Marine sewage laws should be abided by at all times.
11. **Use moorings wherever possible, and avoid anchoring where damage to coral could result.** The Cairns Professional Game Fishing Association owns and maintains seven (7) moorings in the Cairns area, and there is in place a separate 'Code of Practice' for the use of those moorings.
12. **Be particularly careful when approaching other vessel's.** There may be people in the water.



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13. **Keep radio communication on Coast Guard safety repeater stations to a minimum.**
14. **Be courteous to all other operators, landholders, government officials, and the general public**
15. **Ensure that all vessels are operated by licensed operators and the vessels are in a well maintained condition**, and they are in current survey, have the required safety equipment on board, not carrying excess passengers, and all passengers and crew have been drilled on the emergency procedures in place on the vessel.
16. **Recognize the rights and beliefs of all historical and traditional users of the Marine Environment including indigenous people..**
17. **Encourage and promote to anglers and crew the benefits of releasing all Billfish.**
18. **Support research that has obvious benefits to the Great Barrier Reef, and its Ecosystem.**
19. **Report any illegal and irresponsible activities to the appropriate authorities.**
20. **Keep up to date with legislation changes that impact on this industry.**
21. **Become familiar with this "Code of Practice", the "Mooring Code of Practice" and the Associations "Rules of Incorporation".**
22. **Actively promote the aims of, and the benefits of being a member of the Cairns Professional Game Fishing Association Inc.** and encourage all professional and recreational game fishers to accept and endorse these "Codes of Practice".
23. **Refer all media enquiries to the Association communications officer.**
24. **Undertake training courses that from time to time may be organized to inform on changes to legislation and licensing requirements etc.**

Yours sincerely,  
Cairns Professional Game Fishing Association Inc.

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DARREN HAYDON  
PRESIDENT