



# 36<sup>th</sup> BIG HORSE CREEK BARRA CLASSIC 2024

4TH – 5TH MAY

Victoria River via  
Timber Creek

ROD & RIFLE  
TACKLE  
**WORLD**  
KATHERINE

KATHERINE GAME FISHING CLUB  
NORTHERN TERRITORY



# **ROD & RIFLE TACKLE WORLD**

## **KATHERINE**

Rod & Rifle Tackleworld is locally owned and operated, it has been serving the Katherine Community for over 40 years!

We live and breathe fishing and the outdoors so you can be sure you're getting the right advice first time, every time.

With the largest range of fishing, camping and hunting gear in Katherine you can't go wrong.

**Drop in and check out our range!**





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## NOMINATION COSTS

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Senior  | \$165   |
| Junior  | \$55    |
| Poddy Mullet  | \$55    |
| Family ( <i>2 Seniors, 2 Juniors/Poddy Mullet</i> ) | \$385   |
| Additional Children                                 | \$40 pc |

## AGE CATEGORIES

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Senior Age Category       | 17 yrs+      |
| Junior Age Category       | 7 yrs—16 yrs |
| Poddy Mullet Age Category | 0—6 yrs      |

Please note that for Juniors to be eligible to win either of the Major Prizes they must be nominated as a Senior.

Nominations will be accepted at Timber Creek Travellers Rest on Friday, 3rd May up until 8:00pm

**No nominations will be accepted after 8pm Friday, 3rd May**  
**Nominations will not be accepted at Big Horse Creek boat ramp**

**EFTPOS—Available**

**Nominations & Payment to**  
KGFC PO Box 190 Katherine 0851

**Contact:** Harry Renfree 0408 187 034 [katherinegamefishingclub@gmail.com](mailto:katherinegamefishingclub@gmail.com)



## PROGRAM OF EVENTS

### FRIDAY 3RD MAY

**Registration and Competition Bag Collection**

3.00 - 8:00pm

All competitors must register and collect their information kit

**There will be sessions running every half hour from 3 - 8pm with information and help for the Track My Fish for Tournament App**

**Dinner at Timber Creek Travellers Rest**  
BYO Alcohol

From 6.30pm

### SATURDAY 4TH MAY

**LINES IN**



6:00am

**Breakfast BBQ at the Timber Creek Travellers Rest BBQ area**

4:00am - 9:00am

Bacon and Egg Sandwich \$8.50

Tea & Coffee available

**Dinner at Timber Creek Hotel**  
BYO Alcohol

From 6.30pm





## PROGRAM OF EVENTS

### SUNDAY 5TH MAY

**Breakfast BBQ at the Timber Creek Travellers Rest BBQ area**  
Bacon and Egg Sandwich \$8.50  
Tea & Coffee - available

4:00am - 9:00am

#### LINES OUT



#### Weigh Master

Catch verification photos reviewed (5:00pm cut off!!)

3.00pm

3:00pm - 5:00pm

#### PRESENTATION DINNER

2 course meal provided for all registered competitors

**(extra meals \$40.00 adults and \$20 child)**

*Entrants will be required to present their lanyard card to obtain their meal—  
this ticket will then go into lucky door prize draw*

6:00PM - 7:00PM

#### PRESENTATION CEREMONY

*Including;*

- *Category prizes*
- *Early nomination draw*
- *Lucky Door Prize*

7:00pm till late

**1st Prize:** Seven Spirit Bay Adventure. 2 nights with 2 days fishing for 2 people. Deluxe villa accommodation and air transfers to Vashon Head included. Valued \$9K  
**2nd prize:** North Horizon Heli Adventures (NT Heli-Ops) full day heli fishing adventure. Valued \$3.5K  
**3rd Prize:** Engel fridge and cover bag valued at \$1800 donated by Nutrien AG Solutions  
**4th Prize:** Paspaley pearl bracelet. Valued \$1080 donated by RPC Landscaping  
**5th Prize:** Weber Traveller BBQ & Cover and meat voucher.  
Valued \$1K Donated by Lendlease Construction



## LOCATION

The competition is based at the Timber Creek Travellers Rest.

Timber Creek is a small town located on the Victoria Highway 285kms West of Katherine and 193 East of the NT/WA border.

## BOAT RAMP

The boat ramp is located at Big Horse Creek—8kms West of Timber Creek within the Gregory National Park and is accessible at all times and tides.

Competitors are requested to have boats ready to launch when approaching the boat ramp.

Trailers are NOT to be left on the ramp—Please be considerate of other users.

Parking available opposite turn off to boat ramp. Please follow all traffic management directions and NT government Road rules whilst in the car park area.



## ACCOMMODATION/FUEL/MEALS

Accommodation available at **Timber Creek Travellers Rest**;

Motel units, cabins demountable units and caravan/camping facilities.

Booking inquiries—08 8975 0722

Many thanks to **Timber Creek Travellers Rest** for providing a 10% discount on motel or caravan accommodation to all KGFC members for 2024

*Please note: camping on Sunday 5th May - Presentation Night- is NOT FREE- please pay all fees.*

*Unpowered is \$20 p/n (max 2 people) extra person \$10 p/n or \$3 per child (12 & Under) Powered Site \$45 p/n (max 4 people) extra person \$10 p/n*

**Fuel available at;**

- Timber Creek Puma Service Station
- Supermarket

Both have EFTPOS, Ice and grocery items.

**Meals available at;**

Timber Creek Travellers Rest will be providing evening meals on Friday and Saturday nights at a small cost—BYO Alcohol

\*\*\* Note: no alcohol to be taken out of dining area



## **NOMINATION AND COMPETITION BAG COLLECTION**

Competitors who wish to camp on the river will still need to confirm their registration, collect their team nomination bag and watch the safety briefing at the Timber Creek Travellers Rest grounds.

Committee members can be contacted at Timber Creek Travellers Rest on Friday 3rd May from 3:00pm.

Competitors require a phone/ipad with the Track My Fish for Tournament App, as photos need to be taken within the App. More info on pages 11 – 13.

Brag mats will NOT be available before 3:00pm Friday 3rd May.

### **Nomination Forms can be left at;**

- Rod & Rifle Tackle World
- Katherine Camping & Fishing
- Katherine Betta Home Living
- Town & Country Butchers

### **Nomination forms can be emailed to:**

[katherinegamefishingclub@gmail.com](mailto:katherinegamefishingclub@gmail.com)





## MAJOR & SENIOR PRIZE CATEGORIES

### 1. Champion Angler

2. Big Horse Champion Angler Runner Up
3. Longest Barra Overall Adult
4. Longest Barramundi (Female)
5. Longest Barramundi (Male)
6. Longest Jewfish
7. Longest Salmon

**\$4000**

## JUNIOR & PODDY MULLET PRIZE CATEGORIES

8. Adam Buzzo King of the Kids Overall Champion Angler Junior
9. Longest Barramundi— Poddy Mullet (Male)
10. Longest Barramundi— Poddy Mullet (Female)
11. Champion Angler— Junior (Male)
12. Champion Angler —Junior (Female)
13. Longest Salmon— Poddy Mullet
14. Longest Salmon— Junior
15. Longest Jewfish— Poddy Mullet
16. Longest Jewfish— Junior
17. Longest Catfish— Poddy Mullet
18. Longest Catfish— Junior
19. Longest Mullet— Poddy Mullet
20. Longest Mullet— Junior





## MISCELLANEOUS PRIZE CATEGORIES

21. KGFC Lure Biggest Barramundi
22. Best Team of up to 3 Anglers
23. Best Team of up to 5+ Anglers
24. Mystery Length Barramundi—Saturday
25. Mystery Length Barramundi—Sunday
26. Best Dressed Team/Boat (on the water)
27. Most Creative Team Name
28. Hard Luck Story
29. Lucky Door Prize
30. Best picture - people\*
31. Best picture - scenery\*
32. Smallest Barramundi Caught on Line
33. Metery Mug Prize - Metre Barra Caught (for the weekend)



**\*Entries for these categories can be emailed to the KGFC email account.  
Please list prize category, team name and/or angler name in the subject title.**

***katherinegamefishingclub@gmail.com***



## COMPETITION & FISHING RULES

- No fishing that utilises a helicopter
- Any competitor found not abiding by competition and fishing rules will be disqualified from competition with no refund of entry fees.
- Any misuse of the boat ramp – ie parking to cause congestion, blocking of other competitor boats, aggressive behaviour will likely result in disqualification of the team.

## SCORING, PHOTOS, LANYARDS, BRAG MAT

- All scoring fish caught during this competition will need to be photographed on the 2024 measuring mat provided, with individual lanyard laid on top of the fish so that competitor name is clear.
- Scoring will be completed via the Track My Fish for Tournaments app (No paper score sheets will be available or accepted)
- Photographs need to be taken from within the new Track My Fish for Tournament app, not in your camera roll. TMFTournament. Please ensure you have downloaded the app in the lead up to the comp.
- Official brag mat for all competition fish photos will be provided in your competition bag, please ensure you check your competition bag before departing Timber Creek.
- KGFC Big Horse Barra Classic committee members and or KGFC members WILL NOT be responsible or liable for loss of damages to phones/ipads and or photographic equipment during KGFC Big Horse Barra Classic competition.
- Photos can only be uploaded into the App during fishing times as stated on page 15.

## FISH

- All competition fish accepted will be Catch & Release ONLY
- Fish must be legally released to be eligible for entry into any category of competition.
- Only the below fish species will be eligible for entry into any category in competition. Barramundi, Jewfish, Salmon, Catfish, Mullet (Juniors & Poddy Mullet ONLY)
- NO set lines or nets are to be used by competitors to catch competition fish. Competitor's lines are to be always attended to.
- Anglers may ONLY fish with a maximum of 2 lines at a time, these can be of any combination.
- Fish shall NOT be gaffed then recorded and released.
- Smallest Barramundi caught with a hook (cast net catches not accepted) photo evidence to be emailed to KGFC.





## PRIZES, TEAMS

KGFC has the right to substitute any prize with one of equal or near equal value. All prize values are based upon recommended retail inc GST. Teams - If there are two Major Prize winners, the prize is to be split at the discretion of the Committee

- Winners of each category DO NOT have to be present at the presentation evening to collect their prizes. Please ensure contact details are on registration forms.
- KGFC Lure biggest fish prize is a fun and honest prize where a photo as evidence is to show the lure attached to the fish in the water and another photo to show the length. There will need to be a witness also.
- To be eligible for the Team Fishing categories fishing must be carried out in the same location e.g. same boat or land area—cannot be split up into different areas/boats.
- Team events are judged on fish species and point system, (can be a combination of all these fish species) Barramundi, Jewfish, Salmon, Catfish
- Teams can consist of a combination of male and female, and or Junior/Sub Junior competitors.
- KGFC Big Horse Barra Classic weigh master's decision is final. Any protests are to be in writing and to be presented to weigh master within 1/2 hour of close on Sunday. A protest fee of \$100 will be payable to lodge a protest.
- Honesty is required by parents in that Juniors and Paddy Mullet catch their own fish and are not entering fish caught by parents or other team members.
- Teams with day use of the boat ramp get priority parking at the boat ramp!!!
- River campers are kindly asked that they consider those accessing the boat ramp daily by parking their vehicle away from the boat ramp towards the highway.

## TRACK MY FISH FOR TOURNAMENTS APP - 2024 BIG HORSE CLASSIC

### Prepare for the Event

Download the Track My Fish for Tournament app from Google Play or Apple App store. If you have already downloaded the app, check for updates. TMF must be used in the most current update & your phone must have current software. Open TMF and two pop ups will appear.



Have you used TMF apps before?

- Yes – enter email / password and login
- No – click to sign up

If you get any pop ups advising invalid username or password or screen name not available, please use the forgot my password in app.

Select your group > KATHERINE GAME FISHING CLUB > ENTER

Click Record Catch > Choose the event you would like to fish in, and press ENTER.

Log your Catch When you open TMF the photo screen appears.

PHOTOSTREAM | make sure the save to camera roll the top of the screen is ON (set to green). This enables your photos to save to your phone on the gallery as well as upload into the application after submitting.

OFFLINE MODE | turn your phone to offline mode. This saves your battery power and use in low mobile reception. To go offline, click the green button: when you are back in good phone reception go online & follow the prompts, check your scorecard & log for submission updates.

**LOG YOUR CATCH** | take a clear photo through the app as per the events rules. Press the tick, then if you wish to take a glory photo follow the process. If you have save to camera roll turned on this should save to your phone. Check & trial before the event.

It takes you to the data entry page.

At the bottom of the screen enter the fish details: • Fisher – if you would like to submit a fish for another angler you click here and type their first and last name. In verification process it will be switched to them, please read the the scorecard details about the status of fish submission.

- Select the species
- Enter length in CM
- Once all the photos and data are loaded, press SUBMIT button

### Check your submissions

In the catch screen where you submit your catches in the top right there is a log button, when clicked you can see all the fish submitted, if not showing green received then you are either offline or not enough mobile reception, you can press submit all when to try again when in good mobile service.

### Check the Status of your Submissions

On the screen under RECORD CATCH, there is a EVENT INFO tab, click this & you can see the live accepted catches, the scoreboard of accepted catches and the scorecard which is the live status of your submissions.

If you see **ACCEPTED IMAGE RECEIVED**, it is the confirmation that the scores in the background have been accepted by the score checker

If you see **SUBMITTED IMAGE RECEIVED**, it means the data & image have been received but the score checker is yet to verify and accept your entry. This simply means the data is to be checked.

If you see **SUBMITTED IMAGE NOT RECEIVED**, it means the data has been received but your photo hasn't, you will need to check your mobile reception and head back into the log screen or contact us to check for you if unsure.



## FISHING BOUNDARIES

Please refer to Map on page 32. The competition area is between SALTWATER YARDS above Timber Creek and down to LOBBY CREEK. The BAINES (East & West Junction).

### **Fishing access granted to Angalarri River for the 2024 Comp!!!**

Conditions of access – please do the right thing and don't wrack it for everyone!

- Access to the Angalarri River is restricted to registered competitors participating in the competition, and any event safety vessels including NT Water Police.
- Access is restricted to this specific competition, from 6am Saturday 4th of May to 3pm Sunday 5th of May 2024.
- Competition participants are to establish communications with Range Control (via VHF radio channel 69 or 0427 185 058 ) on entry and exit to the Angalarri River, providing their callsign and number of boat occupants.
- Access up the Angalarri River is not to extend beyond the Angalarri River Crossing (approximately 19km in a straight line), upstream from the confluence of the Angalarri and Victoria Rivers. The boundary will be marked by Defence, with signage on the river bank.
- Competitors' boats and occupants must remain on the water at all times.

The event organiser and competition participants are required to cooperate with, and follow the directions of Defence's dedicated representative on site whose details are: **Major Luke Battese - Range Control Officer - Bradshaw Field Training Area** dotam.rangecontrol.bfta@defence.gov.au

Mob: 0427 185 058. Major Battese will be at Bradshaw Field Training Area for the duration of the competition. Please refer to competition map on page 32. Note: Delays may occur due to congestion at boat ramp so please consider this when calculating your return after close of fishing, especially at the close of competition on Sunday.

## BOATS

All boats must carry safety equipment as required by Marine safe NT. It is the responsibility of each competitor to acquaint themselves with these requirements. NT Water police will be on the river and at the boat ramp checking compliance. Any boat not having the required safety equipment will result in competitors fishing in that boat being ineligible for prizes for fish entered whilst the boat is non-compliant.

## LIABILITY

KGFC will not accept any liability for any injury, loss, or damage of any kind. It will be the responsibility of each skipper, crew, and entrant whether or not to start or continue the Competition. Due to legal liability requirements each entrant will need to read the acknowledgements on the entry form, watch a safety briefing and acknowledge a liability waiver.

## SAFETY

All competitors must comply with NT Safety Guide For Recreational and Pleasure with particular reference to safety equipment, safe operation and speed limits. Refer NT Maritime Marine Safety Guide (nt.gov.au). If organizers deem weather conditions unsuitable KGFC reserves the right to cancel event in whole or part, this will be announced via Facebook, and on the website. It is up to the competitors to monitor Facebook and the website.





## FISHING TIMES

Lines IN

Saturday 4th May

6:00am

Lines OUT

Sunday 5th May

3:00pm

**ALL FISHING WILL CEASE AT  
3PM SUNDAY 5TH MAY 2024**

## PLEASE REMEMBER

The competition will become active Saturday 4th May at 6am, and deactivated Sunday 5th May at 3pm. Once competitors return to better mobile coverage and or connected to onsite starlink, photos can be uploaded until 5pm on Sunday 5th of May. This will not allow new photos of fish to be uploaded only photos taken within comp time frames. It is each competitor's responsibility to ensure that they cease fishing in time to present their photos.

## SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

Please use VHF channel 69 for the duration of the competition this will allow for easy communication if a team runs into any trouble – All teams will be checked off on arrival to either the boat ramp or presentation area on Sunday. If you are not attending the presentation, please call 0408 187 034 to confirm your safe return.

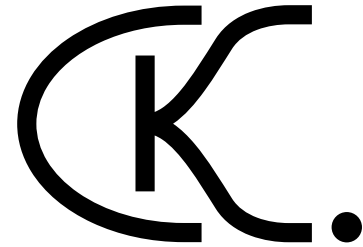


*With special  
thanks to our*

**PREMIER Sponsor**







## DK GRAZING COMPANY

DK GRAZING COMPANY is a family operated pastoral business managing over 1200sq km from the Roper district to the Top End and 2 pre export quarantine facilities at Adelaide River.

**PATOW**  
**0429 722 873**  
**24HR TILT TRAY**



**Your stuck or run amuck  
you need to call a Patow  
truck on 0429 722 873"**





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Ag Solutions™

As Australia's leading agribusiness, Nutrien AG Solutions support clients and customers in a multitude of different ways. This includes providing helpful advice and products in there many branches across the country.



**Katherine Country Club**  
*Northern Territory*



Open 7 days a week to members,  
bona-fide guests & travellers.

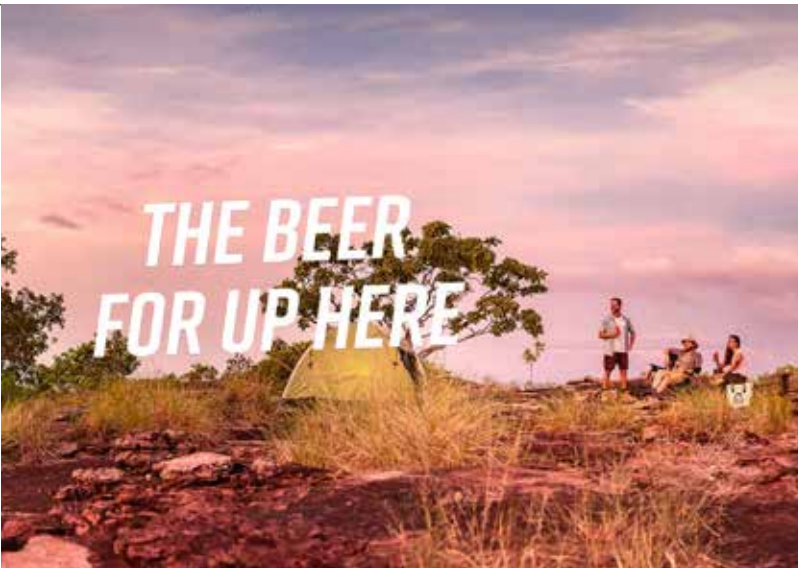
They offer an award winning restaurant, two bars,  
sporting activities, undercover children's play area  
as well as full TAB, KENO & Gaming facilities.

Become a member to enjoy much more!



# Reidy's

**FISHING LURES**



THE BEER  
FOR UP HERE







Located on the Victoria Highway in the Northern Territory, Timber Creek Travellers Rest is 225km east of Kununurra.

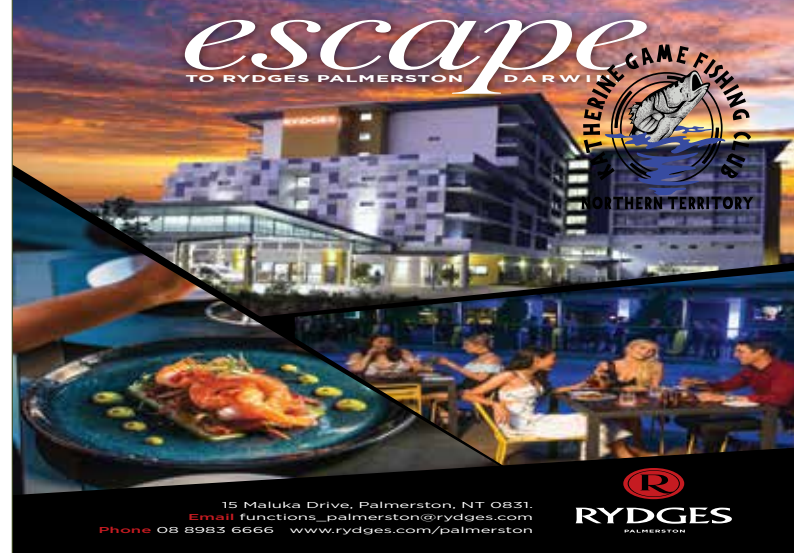
We are a green shady oasis in the middle of the rugged Australian outback.

Where the beer is cold, the food is plentiful and fuel, souvenirs & groceries are available.



At Territory Refrigeration & Air Conditioning, they are passionate about ensuring the comfort of your family and range of air conditioning related services to cover all aspects of keeping people cool





The Katherine Club is located close to the town centre and offers air-conditioned comfort, live entertainment most weekends, monster raffles and the coldest beer in the town!







Grundfos move and transform water and other liquids via intelligent, sustainable and energy-efficient solutions for use in buildings, industry and utilities.

Innovation has always been the driving force behind Grundfos. Their expertise in combining water solutions and digital solutions helps our partners and customers move water in applications across all customer segments.

At the core of these solutions is a broad range of products & services that set the standard in energy efficiency, reliability and connectivity.



TERRITORY PLASTERING & INTERIORS



TERRITORY PLASTERING & INTERIORS

Territory Plastering & Interiors is a locally owned and operated plastering business in Katherine, specialising in residential, repairs and commercial projects.

Our team is made up of qualified plasterers with over 15 years experience in framing, plasterboard partitions, suspended ceilings and acoustic tiles.





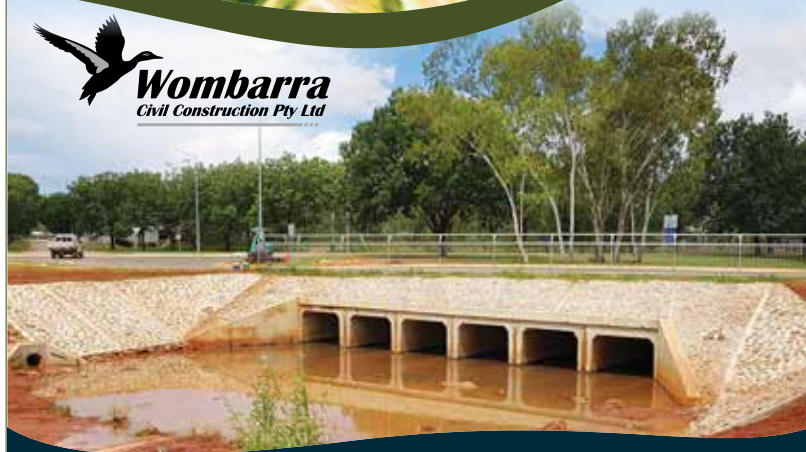


Fishing and Outdoor World is the longest established specialist fishing and tackle outlet in Darwin operating since 1972.

The business was initially known as Stringer's Fishing and Outdoor World when two fishing mates, Col Stringer and George Voukolos decided to open a specialist fishing and tackle store.







AU19696



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Katherine | Ph: (08) 8972 2211 | [www.aeagp.com.au](http://www.aeagp.com.au)





Seven Spirit Bay is an iconic Northern Territory wilderness lodge and one of the first luxury lodges in the outback.

**Enter our raffle to win these prizes!**

**Tickets \$10 each**



- 1st Prize:** Seven Spirit Bay Adventure. 2 nights with 2 days fishing for 2 people. Deluxe villa accommodation and air transfers to Vashon Head included. Valued \$9K
- 2nd prize:** North Horizon Heli Adventures (NT Heli-Ops) full day heli fishing adventure. Valued \$3.5K
- 3rd Prize:** Engel fridge and cover bag valued at \$1800 donated by Nutrien AG Solutions
- 4th Prize:** Paspaley pearl bracelet. Valued \$1080 donated by RPC Landscaping
- 5th Prize:** Weber Traveller BBQ & Cover and meat voucher. Valued \$1K Donated by Lendlease Construction





# GOLD Sponsors













## SILVER SPONSORS

Chris Pest Control  
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Duits Electrical  
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Katherine Fresh Fruit & Veg  
Katherine Laundry  
Katherine Mitre 10  
Katherine Sports & Family Chiropractic

Onsite Refrigeration & Airconditioning  
Reece Plumbing  
Rod Usher Contracting  
Top End Water Storage  
Tradelink  
Tuff Tyres Katherine  
RDO Equipment (Vanderfield)  
Zip Print

## BRONZE SPONSORS

Katherine Ice

Kelly Spraying

*Katherine Game Fishing Club would like to warmly thank our sponsors.  
Without you this wonderful family event would not be possible.*



## PHOTOGRAPHING FISH

- All scoring fish caught during this competition will need to be photographed within the Track My Fish for Tournaments app (details page 11-13) on the 2024 measuring mat provided, with individual lanyard laid on top of the fish so that competitors name is clear.
- Species with a paddle tail (Barramundi Jewfish) measure from the head of measuring board to end of tail.
- Species with a fork tail (Salmon) measure from the head of measuring board to the centre of fork tail.
- **NOTE:** the fish head must be in contact with the end of the measuring board and the mouth closed. Photographs must be taken from directly above the fishes head and showing the whole fish on the board in the one photograph.

**For the competition the 2024 Brag Mat and individual lanyard must be clearly visible in the photograph.**  
Failure to photograph fish to requirements will likely make that capture disallowed.

## HINTS FOR BETTER PHOTOS

Place the whole fish in a sunny position – not half in sun & half in shade.  
Ensure the angle of the shot has no bright reflections from the fish.





# SAFETY EQUIPMENT TABLE

## MINIMUM SAFETY EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS ON BOARD

|  | Inland waters | Intermediate waters                         | Open waters                                 |
|--|---------------|---|---|
|  One approved <b>personal flotation device</b> for each person on board   | ✓             | ✓   | ✓   |
|  One <b>anchor</b> fitted with not less than 3 metres of chain shackled between the anchor and rope of not less than 50 metres overall length   | ✓             | (Two if vessel is over 10 metres in length) | (Two if vessel is over 10 metres in length) |
|  <b>Two paddles or oars</b> fitted with rowlocks for all vessels under 5 metres in length unless fitted with an auxiliary means of propulsion   | ✓             | ✓   | ✓   |
|  <b>One bailer</b> (fitted with lanyard) or <b>bilge pump</b> .<br>A bilge pump is required for all vessels with covered bilges.  | ✓             | ✓   | ✓   |
|  <b>Fresh drinking water</b> in a leak proof container (two litres for each person on board)  | ✓             | ✓   | ✓   |
|  One <b>waterproof torch</b>  | ✓             | ✓   | ✓   |
|  Two <b>red flares</b>  | -             | ✓   | ✓   |
|  Two <b>orange smoke signals</b>  | -             | ✓   | ✓   |
|  One <b>V distress sheet</b>  | -             | ✓   | ✓   |
|  <b>Portable fire extinguisher</b> (one if the vessel is between 5 and 10 metres in length / two if the vessel is over 10 metres in length. Not required for vessels under 5 metres.) | -             | ✓   | ✓   |
|  <b>Two 9L buckets</b> with lanyards for vessels over 10 metres in length   | -             | ✓   | ✓   |
|  One <b>compass or operational GPS</b>  | -             | -   | ✓   |
|  <b>Electronic or paper chart</b> for the area of intended operation  | -             | -   | ✓   |
|  One <b>lifebuoy</b> (for vessels over 10 metres)   | -             | -   | ✓   |
|  One <b>registered EPIRB</b>  | -             | -   | ✓   |

### Categories of Water

**Inland Waters** - Non tidal rivers, lakes, dams and billabongs.

**Intermediate Waters** - All tidal rivers, declared sheltered waters areas and all other coastal waters up to 2 nautical miles from the coastline.

**Open Waters** - Means beyond intermediate waters.

For further information phone  
Marine Safety Branch on 8924 7100



All competitors are reminded that Marine Safety and Timber Creek Police will be on the water checking boats.

Timber Creek is classified as Intermediate Waters.





Access up the Angalarri River is not to extend beyond the Angalarri River Crossing (approximately 19km in a straight line), upstream from the confluence of the Angalarri and Victoria Rivers. The boundary will be marked by Defence, with signage on the river bank.









**KGFC Juniors having fun!!**





**2023 Winners**





# Kids Fishing Day 2023








# **Blast from the past 2021**











## **Katherine Game Fishing Club Annual Membership: 1st Feb – 31st Jan**

Benefits include:

- A chance to compete for great monthly prizes via the online Facebook Competitions - prizes awarded for the most notable catch:  
Male catch/Female catch/Junior/  
Katherine River catch.
- Invite to KGFC Xmas Party
- Invite to Junior Fishing Development Day
- 10% Discount at Local Katherine/Timber Creek businesses when showing your membership card

**Adults: \$20.00**

**Junior/Poddy Mullets: \$10.00**





# The McGregor-Shaw Family

## One second, one storm, one accident – Arnhem Highway

### The accident

The lives of a beloved, humble, and community-spirited family changed forever on Australia Day. Dedicated fishing enthusiasts Charles, Mary-Lou and two of their three sons headed east from rural Darwin bound for a day's fishing at Shady Camp. On a sweeping bend, in a monsoonal downpour, an oncoming car hit them head-on.

When the car came to rest, Willard, 11, and his elder brother Stirling, 16-year-old, both unaware of their serious injuries, fought to help their parents and make the vehicle safe. The remoteness of their location delayed help, and critically injured Mary-Lou and Charles were eventually freed by emergency services and taken to Royal Darwin Hospital.

They fought for their lives in Royal Darwin Hospital's ICU before they were stable enough to be flown to Perth for more specialist care. Charles had suffered multiple broken bones, including spinal injuries in his neck and back. Mary-Lou was in a coma, her major head trauma resulting in a severe brain injury. She underwent two emergency, lifesaving surgeries in those first 24 hours. Surgeons worked hard to stabilise Charles, performing life-saving surgery on the crushed vertebrae in his neck. Young Willard had surgery to repair a torn bowel, and Stirling underwent surgeries on his broken leg and shoulder. Their middle brother, George, who had been on holiday interstate, flew home to wait with his grandparents and extended family for news.

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## Help support the McGregor-Shaw boys

[gofund.me/932c349e](https://gofund.me/932c349e)





## About the family

*(At back) Stirling, Mary-Lou, Charles, (in front) Willard and George.*

The much-loved McGregor-Shaw family moved to Darwin from Katherine for their boys' high school years and are typically Territorian. They are developing their dream property: a 20-acre block featuring the regulation big shed to house the fishing boat and boys' motorbikes and a neat three-bedroom home they plan to extend to give the boys a bedroom each. They are passionate about family, rugby league, fishing, motorbikes, chooks, vegetable gardens, dogs and friends. Charles is a green thumb and grows locally famous hot chillies and spectacular tropical flowers. Mary-Lou starts each day with a five am, five-kilometre run before settling into a coffee and Wordle game before the school day chaos begins.

But they are most notable for the time they give to volunteering at sports, school, and fundraisers. Mary-Lou's a former CWA champion, volunteer breastfeeding counsellor, a footy team manager (and a die-hard Cowboys supporter), Chuck's been the footy club medic, and both support the coaches in any way they can. Ironically, Charles crews (and trains crew

members for) Care flight's rescue helicopters. He helps save lives daily, caring for people in their most vulnerable moments of fear and trauma. The McGregor-Shaws are committed to helping shape a safe and thriving community for all.



*Mary-Lou, George, Willard and Stirling on a weekend fishing trip*



*Willard (now 11) started fishing young*



*Charles and Mary-Lou*



*Stirling, George and Willard have all played league and union for their local rural Darwin footy teams.*



## Life right now

It's been four weeks of heartache, small joys, hope and prayer. Mary-Lou, who is still in a coma, and Charles are receiving the best of medical care, but their injuries are life-changing. They face many months of medical interventions and rehabilitation in specialist care on their long road to recovery. The boys' grandparents, Bill and Maureen O'Keeffe, have relocated from their small, tight-knit community in Katherine to Perth to care for their grandsons and create as normal a life for them as possible, taking each day as it comes.



*Mary-Lou's parents Maureen and Bill O'Keeffe*

## How can you help?

The family has been overwhelmed by love and support, which illustrates the esteem in which they are held. But financial support is needed urgently to support the boys' grandparents, Maureen and Bill O'Keeffe, who are covering the everyday expenses of caring for three teenage boys while their parents are incapacitated. That's where you come in. Any donation, no matter how insignificant you think it may be, will help pay for the extra food, clothing, and petrol for the boys' daily hospital visits for medical treatment and to visit mum and dad, and internet for remote schooling. Family members are pitching in to make sure Charles and Mary-Lou's bills are paid, and their Darwin home and their pets are cared for, but no one could have budgeted for this level of personal devastation.

## Just a note about privacy

Despite being well known for all the right reasons, we know the McGregor-Shaws and the O'Keeffes are very humble and private people, and while they are recognised as givers, receiving brings discomfort. We held off launching a GoFundMe until Charles was conscious and able to communicate so he could make decisions on behalf of his beloved family. While going public makes him uncomfortable, he understands in these chaotic first few months; it's all hands on deck to help the boys maintain their schooling and routine.



# Adam Buzzo King of the Kids

A special perpetual prize category has been created this year for “champion junior angler” in memory of KGFC stalwart Adam Buzzo. Adam was always ready to lend a hand and always attracted a horde of kids hence the “Adam buzzo king of the kids” trophy. His favourite activity was running the safety demonstration at our kids fishing fun days and could be found in the cloud of orange smoke of a safety flare demonstration!

Vale Adam and thank you for your time, laughs and generosity over many years In the words of Adam “Tight lines & good times”! And “ A bad days fishing is better than a good day at work.”







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