



# **Vikings Fishing Club Inc**

## **Club Rules**

### **July 2025**

The following rules are to be used in conjunction with the Vikings Fishing Club Inc (VFC Inc) Constitution.

The interpretation of these rules and the application of any “special consideration” that may arise is to be at the discretion of the VFC Inc Committee. The VFC Inc Committee shall have the power to make, recant, alter, or amend these rules as circumstances dictate, informing members of such changes as soon as practicable.

Note: Any monetary values within the VFC Inc Rules are as at July 2025. Changes may occur to them any time as the VFC Inc Committee sees fit.

## Membership

1. Prospective members must be a financial member of the Vikings Group to be eligible for membership in the Vikings Fishing Club Incorporated (VFC Inc).
2. An application for membership to the VFC Inc will be accepted after a prospective member has submitted a VFC Inc membership application form and paid the relevant fees as outline in section 4 and 5. This rule may be waived at the discretion of the VFC Inc Committee depending on the circumstances of the application (i.e. interstate application).
3. By joining the VFC, members so authorize the Committee of the VFC Inc to publish any photos of individuals and/or families taken on VFC trips and social events on the VFC Inc social media sites or any other advertising media as deemed appropriate to club business. Individual members/families may revoke this rule at any time by writing to the Secretary advising they wish to be excluded from this rule.
4. Single membership covers the member and the member's dependants (including grandchildren) under the age of 18 (VFC Inc Juniors) for all VFC Inc fishing activities, social activities, and Bermagui house rental. It also covers the member's partner for VFC Inc social activities and Bermagui house rental only (excludes fishing activities). The cost of a Single membership is \$55 per annum.
5. Family membership covers both partners and their dependants under the age of 18 (VFC Inc Juniors) for all VFC Inc fishing activities, social activities, and Bermagui house rental. The cost of Family membership is \$85 per annum.
6. VFC Inc Single member partners are not eligible to compete in club events except those events specifically planned for this purpose (i.e. family trips).
7. Upon reaching the age of 18 a VFC Inc Junior member no longer retains the benefits of junior membership. However, upon reaching the age of eighteen, a junior has the right to full membership without having to attend a general meeting. They do however have to pay full membership fees. They are also required to be a financial member of The Vikings Group.
8. The VFC Inc Committee shall have the option of appointing honorary memberships for a nominated period, normally not exceeding 1 club

year. An honorary member shall have the same rights and privileges as an ordinary member of the club except for the right to cast a vote.

9. An honorary member shall be responsible for meeting all normal club costs except for the annual membership fee.

## **Safety**

10. **You are the Skipper, you are responsible for the safety of your boat and the people on board.**
11. All activities are undertaken at club members' own risk, and no liability will be accepted by the VFC Inc Committee, Safety Advisor or the VFC Inc for any damage, loss or injury occurring on, or as a result of any club activity.
12. The Safety Advisor, and/or the VFC Inc Committee may refuse any member, or vessel from participating in any club event if there is a safety concern.
13. Where the Safety Advisor is not participating on a trip, a representative will be nominated on their behalf. The Safety Advisor, or their representative, will conduct regular "radio scheds" on all fishing days of the trip at predetermined timings.
14. All skippers must log on and off with the designated trip Safety Advisor when coming on and off the water.
15. All boats on club trips must carry a serviceable VHF marine radio and/or a mobile phone.
16. Boats on club trips must have a current public liability insurance policy. It is the boat owner's responsibility to ensure the currency of the policy if participating on club trips.
17. Boats and skippers must comply with all legal, and club requirements relating to registration, licences, insurances, conduct, safety equipment, VFC Trip Schedules and fishing regulations. Non-compliance in any area will negate the club fuel reimbursement.
18. Skippers must familiarise crew on safety aspects of his or her craft when the crew boards the craft.
19. Boats on salt-water trips must log on and off each day with the local Marine Rescue organisation (e.g. Marine Rescue Bermagui) either via phone, radio, or the Marine Rescue App.

20. Boats require a minimum of two members per boat to be eligible to participate in club events.

## **Weighing of Fish**

21. All fish to be weighed must comply with relevant State and Territory regulations and VFC Inc club limits for size, bag limit, possession limit, method of capture, and any other notified regulation such as exclusion zone, river closure or temporary moratorium:
- a) You are individually responsible for ensuring full knowledge of and compliance with State and Territory regulations applicable in the waterway/s you are fishing;
  - b) You are responsible for ensuring you comply with fishing licence requirements for the area you are fishing in.
22. The minimum length of **ANY** fish weighed-in on a VFC Inc club event is 30cm.
23. An attempt to weigh illegal fish will result in the disqualification of the entire catch for that member:
- a) Repeat offences may result in disciplinary action being taken by the VFC Inc Committee.
24. Members must register their catch within 30 minutes of the nominated weigh-in time:
- a) Failure to do so may result in disqualification from the event;
  - b) A valid reason may be accepted at the discretion of the appointed Weigh Master for that trip.
25. Unless otherwise stated prior to the trip, the competitions shall commence at 12:00pm on the Friday night and conclude at weigh-in time on Sunday or Monday in the case of a long weekend competition:
- a) Weigh-in time is at the discretion of the appointed trip Weigh Master and will be notified to all participants prior to the commencement of fishing on that day.
26. At all VFC Inc club salt-water events, fish are to be recorded total weight minus 10%, unless the fish is presented gilled and gutted:
- a) If the fish is presented gilled and gutted, the weight will be recorded as presented.

- 27.** For freshwater trips, all fish are to be weighed gilled & gutted:
  - a) An exception may be made at the discretion of the appointed trip Weigh Master to facilitate members having large fish mounted; and
  - b) These fish are to be recorded total weight minus 10%.
- 28.** At all VFC Inc club events, except family trips, members compete in three categories:
  - a) The heaviest fish taken by a member;
  - b) The biggest bag (by number) taken by a member;
  - c) Best boat prize is awarded to the skipper of the boat that catches the most fish.
- 29.** Juniors compete in two categories:
  - a) The heaviest fish taken by a junior;
  - b) Biggest bag (by number) taken by a junior.
- 30.** At all VFC Inc club events, except family trips, the best boat prize will be determined by the combined tally (by number) of fish taken by members on each boat:
  - a) No transfer of catch can be made between boats.
- 31.** When competing for the biggest bag or best boat, if two or more anglers or boats record the same number of fish, the winner will be decided by the total weight of the bag.
- 32.** A member or junior weighing in both the heaviest fish and the biggest bag shall only be awarded the heaviest fish prize. The member or junior with the next biggest bag on that trip will be awarded the biggest bag prize.
- 33.** When competing for the biggest fish, if two or more anglers record equal weights each of the anglers will be awarded equal first prize:
  - a) Each prize will be the same value as awarded to a single winner.
- 34.** When competing for Annual Trophies if two or more anglers or boats are equal, each of the anglers or boats will be awarded the trophy with each name engraved on the trophy:
  - a) The VFC Inc freshwater and saltwater Angler of the Year trophies are determined by the total number of fish caught on all outings

attended of all species within the VFC Inc club year, with the exception of the family trips;

- b) The VFC Inc fresh and saltwater Best Boat trophies are determined by the combined weight of fish taken by members on each boat within the VFC Inc club year. In the event that a skipper acquires a new boat part-way through the VFC Inc club year, the catch records attributed to the previous boat will be transferred to the new boat.
  - c) The VFC Inc most Species Angler of the year trophy is determined by the number of individual species caught within the VFC Inc club year.
- 35.** The VFC Inc Committee shall decide allocation of a category winner not covered above.
- 36.** A fresh water “Catch and Release” trophy is determined by the total number of freshwater fish caught and then released by a member within the VFC Inc club year:
- a) The fish released must be equal to, or larger than, the legal minimum length for each species:
  - b) Another VFC member must witness the catch and release, which will be recorded on a catch and release form and signed by the witness;
  - c) Fish recorded under provision 37 are not eligible to be recorded under provision 36.
- 37.** Special provisions exist for the catch and release of Australian Bass, Golden Perch, Murray Cod and Salt-water billfish species, allowing the capture to be recorded and included in the determination of heaviest fish, biggest bag, and best boat awards:
- a) The weight of such fish will be estimated according to provisions outlined in points 38 and 39;
  - b) These provisions have been made in recognition of sustainable fishing practices and to remove the disincentive to releasing such species.
- 38.** The estimated weight of Australian Bass, Golden Perch and Murray Cod released and recorded under provision 37 will be determined in accordance with the tables attached:

- a) The tables indicate an estimated weight of an intact fish;
  - b) 10% of that total is then subtracted to provide an estimation of the fish's weight had it been gilled and gutted.
- 39.** The estimated weight of salt-water billfish species (marlin) will be determined accordance with the following formula:
- a) (Girth squared) multiplied by (length) divided by 800.
- 40.** The following qualifications are offered by way of explanation for the formula:
- a) The girth is measured in inches at the widest point of the body;
  - b) The length is measured in inches from the point of the lower beak to the fork of the tail.
- 41.** The minimum length of salmonoids eligible for weigh-in during VFC Inc club events is 35cm;
- a) An exception is allowable to enable a junior member to keep and weigh-in one fish no smaller than 30cm, providing no other fish greater than 35cm has already been caught by that junior member;
  - b) Subsequent fish must be greater than 35cm to be weighed in.

## **Trips**

- 42.** In order for a trip to be sanctioned there must be **a minimum of 8 financial fishing members** attending all salt or freshwater trips.
- 43.** Members must be fully financial to attend a club trip.
- 44.** To aid in the provision of accommodation for trips, all participants must register their names for a trip by either:
- a) Placing their name on the trip sheet with the Weigh Master at a General Club Meeting; or
  - b) Contacting the Trip Master by either telephone (contact information can be obtained from the club website [www.vikingsfishing.com.au](http://www.vikingsfishing.com.au) or email; or
  - c) Signing up on the Trip sheet online at [www.vikingsfishing.com.au](http://www.vikingsfishing.com.au);

- d) The trip will be closed off at 7pm on the Wednesday night 10 days before the start of the trip (these timings may be altered from time to time at the Trip Masters discretion) unless maximum numbers have been reached prior. Any names after this time may miss out on going on that trip if accommodation cannot be found.
- 45.** To participate in a trip the member must pay the applicable fee/s for the trip or have made arrangements for such payment with the Treasurer prior to the start of the trip. Members are required to pay the trip fees if they have registered for the trip and it has been closed off.
- 46.** Trip Fees - A trip fee of \$40 is payable by each member attending a fresh or salt water trip except for a boat owner who is taking his or her boat on a trip and who pays a fee of \$20. The fee does not cover any meals. On occasions a meal may be provided with a fee payable at the time or by arrangement with the Treasurer. Juniors are not required to pay trip fees.
- 47.** Reserved.
- 48.** Accommodation Levy - An accommodation levy based on the number of members attending the trip, the cost of accommodation and the duration will be applied to each salt and fresh trip, but will not exceed \$50 per person (adults only). The accommodation levy is in addition to the trip fees stated above. Accommodation levy costs will be advised for each trip on the Trip sign-up sheet on the club webpage.
- 49.** A VFC member who has reached the age of 65, and has been a continual financial member of the VFC Inc for at least 5 years, is eligible to a 50% discount on any trip fees.
- 50.** Reserved.
- 51.** All boats attending a trip must be seaworthy and have all safety equipment required by the State/Territory the trip is being conducted in.
- 52.** A member may pay fees on behalf of other members. Trip fees are not transferable between trips (unless approved by the Treasurer) but may be between members on the same trip.

53. Trip fees are not refundable unless exceptional circumstances are encountered when the VFC Inc Executive Committee may approve a refund or transfer of trip fees.
54. Saltwater - VFC will reimburse boat operators for actual fuel consumed on salt-water trips up to a maximum of \$25 per member (including juniors) in the boat on each day.
55. Fresh Water - VFC Inc will reimburse boat operators for actual fuel consumed on fresh water trips up to a maximum of \$15 per member (including Juniors) in the boat on each day.
56. To be eligible for the fuel levy on either fresh or saltwater VFC Inc club trips, boats must start with full tanks and refuel at a designated fuel stop.
57. The fuel stop will be notified to all participants prior to or during the trip. If no fuel stop is designated for any trip, members must obtain a receipt from their own refuelling point within 24 hours of the end of the trip. To be eligible for reimbursement the receipt must be presented to the treasurer within 30 days of the end of the trip:
  - a) To qualify for fuel reimbursement boats must comply with all VFC Inc rules and State legal requirements;
  - b) Fuel reimbursement will not be made to vessels carrying non-VFC Inc adult members on any day.
58. Boat and crew allocation will be confirmed on the club website trip sheet prior to the trip.
59. Bed allocation will be advised on the Club trip sheet prior and is at the discretion of the Trip Master.
60. Where the Trip Master, Safety Advisor or Weigh Master are not participating on the trip, a representative to act on their behalf will be nominated.
61. Reserved.

## **Club House Bermagui**

62. The Housemaster manages the Club House at Bermagui on behalf of the VFC Inc. When not in use for a club fishing trip, or other designated Club function (i.e. Yellow Fin or Blue Water Classic

competitions), the house may be hired for private use by financial members of the VFC Inc in accordance with the following rules.

63. All VFC members are eligible to book the Club House in accordance with these rules. Non VFC members can book the house through the <https://southcoastholidayaccommodation.com.au/> website.
64. The House Master with the concurrence of the VFC Inc Executive Committee reserves the right to refuse any accommodation booking requested by a VFC Inc member or non-member.
65. The Bermagui house cannot be privately booked over any weekend that a club saltwater trip has been scheduled, until after the trip location (other than Bermagui) has been confirmed.
66. Bookings are made through the House Master. The booking is NOT confirmed until the appropriate fee is paid. A receipt will be issued for all payments made.
67. Refunds will only be given in exceptional circumstances and then only with the concurrence of the VFC Inc Executive Committee. Members should attempt to find replacement hirers if unable to take up the booking. Members may transfer dates at the discretion of the House Master.
68. Reserved.
69. Bookings up to a maximum of 14 days continuous duration is permitted, however, can be extended at the discretion of the House Master.
70. Hiring fees are as follows:

**Normal days and weekends (e.g. Non holiday days):**

- Members or Associates: \$70 per night;
- Members or Associates that take a non-member guest or guests, the fee increases by \$35 per night for up to 4 additional adults. An additional \$20 per adult per night is payable thereafter.
- Non-members: All bookings to be made through the website <https://southcoastholidayaccommodation.com.au>

**Note:** The additional fee for non-member guest/guests is for those over 18 years of age.

**Designated Public holidays which make-up Long weekends, School holidays, Easter periods and other Public holidays:**

- Members or Associates: \$85 per night;
- Members or Associates that take a non-member guest or guests, the fee increases by \$35 per night for up to 4 additional adults. An additional \$25 per adult per night is payable thereafter.
- Non-members: All bookings to be made through the website <https://southcoastholidayaccommodation.com.au>

**Note:** The additional fee for non-member guest/guests is for those over 18 years of age.

- 71.** The above rental costs for VFC members DO NOT include a cleaning fee, members are responsible to pay the cleaner direct. A contract cleaner is available if required. Members are responsible to ensure the units are left cleaned in accordance with the checklists placed in each unit.

If the house is not left to standard upon vacating and after signoff of the checklist has been made, a bar will be placed against the member's name who stayed last. If the member receives a bar, they **must** then in future pay extra for the contract cleaner to come in.

- 72.** Bookings for the Christmas/New Year holiday period i.e. 15 December to 31 January (called the **Ballot period**) will be open on 1 July each year and close on 14 July and must cover a period of at least seven days on a Saturday to Saturday basis at the discretion of the House Master.
- 73.** If more than one member requests a booking for the same or over-lapping dates during the holiday period and such requests are made between 1 July and 14 July, then a ballot will be held to determine the successful member for that booking.
- a) The ballot method and date of the ballot shall be at the discretion of the VFC Inc Executive Committee.
- 74.** At the discretion of the VFC Inc Executive Committee (and after **ALL** Ballot periods have been conducted), any vacant days available throughout the year may be made available to outside individuals or an agent for subsequent renting.
- 75.** All members are responsible for the conduct and actions of any non-member they may have as a guest in the club house.

76. All house rules as displayed on the notice board in each unit must be adhered to at all times and include a **strict no pets and a no smoking inside policy**. In the event a member does not comply with this ruling, the VFC Inc Committee at their discretion may impose a cleaning fee and seek recompense from the offending hirer.
77. Any consumables used during a private hiring are to be replaced before vacating the unit.
78. The booking member is responsible for any damage caused to the property, or its contents by any member of his/her party.
79. The House Master, or in his/her absence, any VFC Inc Committee member, is to be contacted or advised ASAP of any issues, concerns, damages, or faults that may be identified with the club house.

## **Code of Conduct**

80. Members are expected to respect the rights and property of others at all times. Breaches of this rule may result in the Committee taking further action.
81. Within reason, members have the right to privacy on club trips.
82. Bad language is to be kept to a minimum ESPECIALLY in the presence of female and junior members. Behaviour is to be acceptable at all times.
83. The VFC Inc is not responsible for loss or damage to member's property, nor is it liable for personal injury to members.
84. If a member is unsure of any rule pertaining to the VFC Inc they must consult with a VFC Inc committee member before taking any action.

## **Elections**

85. A nominated member may stand for only one position on the Executive of the VFC Inc Committee and/or one position as an ordinary member of the VFC Inc Committee.
86. In the case of a member standing for the Executive and the committee, the election shall be held in two parts, the first for the executive positions and the second for the committee positions
87. Only financial members of the VFC Inc are eligible to vote at the AGM.

## Saltwater Species Eligible for Weigh-In

Common Name	Club Legal Length	Club Bag Limit
*Blue Eye Cod	30	5 <b>(4)</b>
*Banded Rock Cod/Bar Cod	30	5 <b>(4)</b>
*Bass Groper	30	5 <b>(4)</b>
Bream	30	10 (20 in possession)
Black Drummer/Rock Blackfish	30	10
Dolphin Fish (Mahi Mahi)	60	10 in total, 1 over 110cm
Bonito	30	10
Eastern Red Scorpionfish (Red Rock Cod)	30	5
Flathead (Dusky)	36	10, only 1 over 70cm <b>(1)</b>
Flathead (Blue spotted and Tiger)	33	10, 20 in possession <b>(1)</b>
Flounder (& Sole)	30	20 in total
Garfish	30	20
*Gemfish	30	2 <b>(4)</b>
Groper (all)	30	2, only 1 over 60cm
Gurnard	30	10
*Hapuku	30	5 <b>(4)</b>
John Dory	30	5
Yellowtail Kingfish	65	5
Leatherjacket	30	20
Luderick	30	10, 20 in possession
Marlin (Striped, Black and Blue)	30	1 of each species
Morwong (Rubber lip, Jackass, Red and Banded)	30	10 of each <b>(2)</b>
Mullet	30	20
Mulloway	70	1
Nannygai	30	10
Pigfish	30	10
Australian Salmon	30	5
Snapper	30	10
Sailfish	30	1
Shark (School, Gummy, Whaler or Mako)	91	5 total of either of these sharks, only 1 Mako
Sweep	30	10
Swordfish	30	1
Tailor	30	10, 20 in possession
Teraglin	38	5
Trevally	30	10, 20 on possession
Trumpeter	30	10
Tuna - Albacore, Big-Eye, Longtail, Yellowfin	>90cm <90cm	2 in total 5 in total
Tuna - Bluefin	30	1
Whiting (sand)	30	20

**(1)** Bag limit is total of **all** flathead caught - limit of 20 in possession.

**(2)** **Red and Banded Morwong** have a bag limit of 5 each per day.

**(3)** For deep sea fishing regulations please contact NSW fisheries for up-to-date rules.

\* **Bag limit:** 5 in total including a maximum of 2 Gemfish. **Boat Limit:** 10 Gemfish per boat.

## Freshwater Species Eligible for Weigh-In

Species	VFC Club Legal Length	Club Bag Limit. Stream	Club Bag Limit. Dam
Australian Bass & Estuary Perch	30cm	2 (4)	2 (4)
Golden Perch	30cm	5 (10)	5 (10)
Murray Cod	55-75cm	2 (4)	2 (4)
Silver Perch	30cm	0	5 (10)
Salmonoids (Brown, Rainbow, Brook trout & Atlantic salmon)	35cm	*	*
Catfish	30cm	2 (4)	5 (10)

1. Bag limits are shown as 'daily' limits with 'in possession' limits shown in brackets, e.g. 5(10).
2. Only 1 **Australian Bass/Estuary Perch** over 35 cm is allowed in rivers.
3. **Silver Perch** must be released in all streams/dams and may only be taken from stocked impoundments (See DPI website for an approved list of dams).
4. Only 1 **Murray Cod** over 75cm is allowed in possession. Close season for Cod extends throughout September, October and November.
5. \* **Trout and salmon bag and size limits vary with location, as does the fishing season. It is a member's responsibility to be aware of and act in accordance with the relevant regulations.**
6. The summary of regulations presented here should be considered to be a guide only. It is the member's responsibility to be aware of and act in accordance with the relevant regulations.

### **Note:**

1. The above tables are for Club use only and are used to determine eligibility for awards/trophies. The information does not take place of State and Territory fishing regulations.

It is the responsibility of the individual angler to ensure that they comply with State and Territory fishing regulations. These may be found at:

NSW - <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing>

VIC - <https://vfa.vic.gov.au/recreational-fishing>

2. The Weigh Master has the discretion to weigh in other eatable/table varieties of fish that may not appear in the Saltwater and Fresh water species eligible for weight-in tables above. All fish must comply with the sizes relevant to state authorities/regulations.

### Australian Bass – Estimated Weight by Length

Fork Length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Fork Length (cm)	Weight (kg)
25	0.3	43	1.6
26	0.3	44	1.7
27	0.4	45	1.8
28	0.4	46	1.9
29	0.5	47	2.0
30	0.5	48	2.2
31	0.6	49	2.3
32	0.6	50	2.5
33	0.7	51	2.6
34	0.8	52	2.8
35	0.8	53	2.9
36	0.9	54	3.1
37	1.0	55	3.3
38	1.1	56	3.5
39	1.2	57	3.7
40	1.3	58	3.9
41	1.3	59	4.1
42	1.4	60	4.3

### Golden Perch – Estimated Weight by Length

Length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Length (cm)	Weight (kg)
30	0.415	38	0.925	45	1.540
31	0.470	38.5	0.960	45.5	1.590
32	0.525	39	0.985	46	1.645
32.5	0.540	39.5	1.010	46.5	1.700
33	0.570	40	1.040	47	1.830
33.5	0.600	40.5	1.070	47.5	1.960
34	0.640	41	1.115	48	2.065
34.5	0.680	41.5	1.160	48.5	2.170
35	0.690	42	1.225	49	2.345
35.5	0.700	42.5	1.290	49.5	2.520
36	0.760	43	1.315	50	2.565
36.5	0.820	43.5	1.340	50.5	2.630
37	0.855	44	1.415	51	2.690
37.5	0.890	44.5	1.490	51.5	2.750

## Murray Cod – Estimated Weight by Length

Length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Length (cm)	Weight (kg)	Length (cm)	Weight (kg)
55	3.146	79	10.239	104	25.086
56	3.336	80	10.668	105	25.881
57	3.534	81	11.108	106	26.693
58	3.740	82	11.562	107	27.522
59	3.954	83	12.028	108	28.370
60	4.177	84	12.506	109	29.235
61	4.408	85	12.998	110	30.118
62	4.648	86	13.503	111	31.020
63	4.897	87	14.022	112	31.940
64	5.155	88	14.554	113	32.879
65	5.422	89	15.100	114	33.836
66	5.699	90	15.660	115	34.813
67	5.985	91	16.234	116	35.810
68	6.281	92	16.823	117	36.826
69	6.587	93	17.426	118	37.867
70	6.903	94	18.044	119	38.917
71	7.230	95	18.677	120	39.993
72	7.567	96	19.326	121	41.090
73	7.915	97	20.669	122	42.207
74	8.274	98	21.365	123	43.345
75	8.644	99	22.076	124	44.504
76	9.025	100	22.804	125	45.684
77	9.418	102	23.548	126	46.886
78	9.823	103	24.309	127	48.110