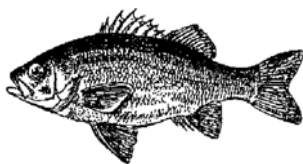




Australian Bass, MACQUARIA NOVEMACULEATA



# THE BRONZE BATTLER

## NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday**  
**12<sup>th</sup> June**

## GUEST SPEAKER

**Sydney's premiere BASS**  
**guide**  
**Dean Hayes**

Northmead Bowling, Recreation and Sporting Club Ltd.  
166 Windsor Rd Northmead.

7.30 pm start till 10pm.

<b>PATRON:</b>	Dr Wayne Erskine, PhD
<b>President</b>	Domenic Squadrito..9799-1796(H)
<b>Vice President</b>	Alan Izzard.....9653 2309
<b>Past President</b>	Dave Claydon..... 9829-1503 (H)
<b>Secretary</b>	Jim Taylor..... 9631 7485 (H)

<b>Treasurer/Membership</b>	
<b>Secretary</b>	Garnet Noble.....9476-3881(H)
<b>Points score &amp;</b>	
<b>Basscatch Officer</b>	Geoff Shadbolt.....9636-4340(H)
<b>Publicity Officer</b>	Alan Izzard.....9653-2309(H)
<b>Editor:</b>	Chris Ghosn.....9636 6896(H)
<b>Event Co-Ordinator</b>	Chris Ghosn.....9636 6896 (H)
<b>Project Officers:</b>	
<b>Parramatta River</b>	Alan Fowkes.....9626-9938(H)
<b>Hacking River</b>	Warren Hackshall....9525 0090(H)



**Bass Sydney Fishing Club Inc.**  
BRANCH OF NATIVE FISH AUSTRALIA



Affiliated with  
**The Council of Freshwater Anglers**



## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hi all,

Bass Sydney Fishing Club Inc. will be holding it's June General Meeting (GM) at the Northmead Bowling, Recreation and Sporting Club Ltd at 166 Windsor Rd Northmead 2152. The GM will be on Tuesday the 12th of June 2007 at 19:30. All General meetings are now held on the second Tuesday of every second calendar month. The June Guest Speaker is Dean Hayes of Sydney Sports fishing. Dean is a Bass Guru and well respected fishing writer, guide and DVD maker/presenter. Dean's Bass experience is legendary in NSW

**June 2007**

and this is not a night to miss! . I encourage all members and guests to attend.

Well it's been just over a year since the Bass Sydney Committee was elected, all roles including my role as President were spilled at the AGM in April and members decided this year's electives. I would like to thank everyone for allowing me to be President again and also on behalf of the Committee, thank you all for allowing us to lead the club and look forward to seeing you all very soon at the club meetings or club event. Looking back over the year that was, it has been an eventful and fulfilling year for the Bass Sydney Fishing Club. As well as the usual assistance rendered to Greening Western Sydney with revegetation of South Creek, Stream watch water of various rivers and creeks and securing funding for the installation of Fish ways, just to name a few.

Bass Sydney was also honoured with the NSWCFCA 2006 Award to the organisation that has made the greatest contribution to NSW freshwater recreational fishing, and in particular for the conservation of the bass fishery natural environment in the Sydney region. Details can be found on the Bass Sydney website at:

<http://www.basssydney.com/news/newsframe.php>

With the AGM being concluded in April, all member registration fees are again due. When paying your registration fees you will be supplied with a Bass Sydney Membership card with the outline of club events for the 2007 / 2008 season, the calendar will also be available online on the Bass Sydney website shortly. Those members that attended the 2006 / 2007 club events would all agree that they well organised and very successful and I would encourage as much participation with the remaining club events.

If you know of anyone that is interested in Bass fishing or even would like to learn how, where, when and why bring them along to meetings this includes the AGM. New as well as ongoing membership is the key to a continued and successful club, gives the added benefit of being able to fish productive water without a lot of the guesswork.

I trust that you all have had a fruitful fishing year so far and that it continues throughout the cooler months for those still venturing out.

Take care and successful fishing.

Domenic Squadrito  
President  
Bass Sydney Fishing club

## Blue Dynamite

With the cooler months approaching I generally pack away my bass fishing gear which can make for some pretty boring weekends however I was lucky enough to get a call from Dom and given an opportunity to fish aboard his magnificently decked out boat on the harbor for breem.

We were on the water before sun up fishing a secluded bay when Dom hooked up with probably his first cast of the day.



It was a flathead close to legal size, although it wasn't a breem it certainly was the auspicious start we were looking for. With the sun up not much was happening so we headed for the more populated areas on the eastern side of the Harbor bridge, however our inclination ceased when we spotted several birds working an area. Captain Dom guided us into position with consummate ease up wind of where the school was he readied the crew for action and before long young Joseph was hooked up, his rod buckled over and he was into a good fish whilst enjoying the action I was lucky enough to hook one of these speedsters and moments later Dom was also on making it a "triple hook up" Young Joseph played the fish like a pro and showed angling skills of that much beyond his age. Soon he had it in the net and to this day is one of the best captures I have seen by a youngster using light line. We boated all 3 fish and put them in the live well. However both Dom and I proved how easily one can lose fish as we both got busted off which in turn caused the school to go off the bite.



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Back to bream'n and throwing around my new Diawa 40mm hard body lure I quickly cranked a good bream off a pylon in 7 feet of water, after a spirited fight we released it.



After lunch we were graced by the presence of Doms brother in-law Alberto and his son it was good to have them on board as Al is a great bloke and his young son is a wealth of knowledge on all piscatorial matters.

Doms experience was paramount in electing to fish the boat hulls in the late afternoon. With the sun getting higher in the Western sky we began throwing 3inch Bass minnows at the shadows of boat hulls and the action got thick and fast as fish began to come off most casts. This was not easy however as there was a strong south easterly wind blowing making positioning the boat difficult and to Doms credit he guided the boat around like a pro putting us right on the fish. The action reached a crescendo when I hooked up to what felt like a runaway train this thing pulled 15 meters of line and went deep the fight was long and arduous as this fish was fighting like a "butchers dog" I just couldn't turn its head, after about 8 minutes we sighted colour and it was a magnificent Trevally of around 1.75kg.



With daylight rapidly diminishing we fired up that big "50" and headed for home, Doms boat cut through the water like a "blue razor" it left on lookers seeing nothing but a blur of blue. We soon had the boat back on the trailer and we headed home.

Fishing with Dom was a great experience and if I am invited back again I will jump at the opportunity, as Dom is a top bloke and a great skipper, his boat is "Blue Magic" and one of the best boats I have been a board. If Dom ever leaves the illustrious world of telecommunications I am quite confident he could become a professional fishing guide.

**- Chris Ghosn**

## DEL RIO WEEKEND

The final Bass Sydney fishing weekend dawned clear and cool and as Garnet and I headed off via Galston Gorge there were wisps of early morning mist hanging in the valley below, sign of a good day.

The plan was to kayak fish the lower Colo launching at the ramp beside the bridge to nowhere at the mouth and head upstream. It was about 9am when we finally got on the water, a typical leisurely start for us, no rush really just potter along and enjoy.

A mate of mine from work, Kevin Attard decided to join us and being young and super keen he was on the water by 7am. Two hours later when we joined him, no fish only a hit or two. A bad sign I thought at the time. Never mind, it was great to be on the water even though a cool westerly began blowing downstream. It was very cold fishing in the shade below those high rock cliffs.

We fished the weed beds around the first bend for two small Bass to around 220mm. The expectation was that we might tangle with a few of David Sanegor's pet Bass making their way down from his beloved gorge country upstream. Unfortunately this was not to be. There were no decent size fish to be found, maybe they were schooling deep in the holes against those rocky cliff faces, but we could not entice a hit in those areas.

Never mind just keep at it and something might happen. As it turned out all the fish were caught in against the banks in thick cover. The Colo is a very pretty river, clean and pristine without rubbish or salvinia. A nice change really. We stopped for lunch at a private jetty and ramp someway up on the right hand bank. As we warmed up in the sun wallabies, kangaroos and the odd rabbit could be seen enjoying the freshly planted oats growing in the paddock beside the river. Food for all.

Kevin decided to pull the pin and head home as the fishing was tough, but Garnet and I headed further up fishing the shady banks for another hour or so. One annoying thing was the boat traffic. We reckon most boat owners should paddle a kayak around for a while before they get their boat and then they may slow down when passing by.

We tried all sorts of hard bodied lures and soft plastics trying to up the ante, but the fish just weren't there. Around 3pm we paddled back throwing the odd cast here and there just in case. On arrival at the boat ramp low & behold one of Allan Izzard's fishing acquaintances was there cleaning the odd EP ?. Man, I've never met anyone who could yap so much without taking a breath, bloody hell, this guy could talk under water. Garnet and I just picked up the kayaks and left.

After loading up and having a cuppa, the cold started to set in, so we tossed a coin and made the decision to head home rather than camp. Had there been other Bass Sydney members staying over we would have done like wise. Sad really as there was 2 nice bottles of red in the truck and even some port.

So the final tally was Milton 4 Bass to 220, Kevin 3 to 180 & disappointingly Garnet lucked out. Actually I've fished with Garnet for many years and he never gives up, just keeps at it hour after hour, but this time luck deserted him.

June 2007 .

So to all the keen club members, we missed you.

Cheers,

**The old geriatrics,**

**Milton & Garnet.**

## South Creek tree planting.

Two weeks ago Bass Sydney was involved in regenerating native vegetation along south creek at St Mary's. It was a great day with a large turn out of Bass Sydney members. We planted several hundred native shrubs and trees along the banks of South creek to help alleviate the problems of noxious weeds and bank erosion. It was a great day and I certainly learnt a lot. It was quite a cold start to the morning however we soon warmed up after a few hours of manual labour. Lunch was kindly provided for us and it was a pleasant way to spend a Saturday morning. As Alan Izzard said "Its good to be able to do some real work towards looking after our Australian native bass".

Which is exactly right on the money as Bass Sydney continually promotes and participates in events to help preserve a great resource in that of the Australian native bass.

Another tree planting day is to be scheduled in the near future and I can't wait for it, as it should be another pleasant morning making positive in roads towards protecting our environment.

- Chris Ghosn

## Upcoming events:

[Bass Sydney picnic: TBA](#)

Stay tuned to the Bass Sydney website for this great event that will include prizes, great company and the casting comp of the century "Cast-a-balooza"

## Big Thanks!

I think it is nesercery to extend a big thanks to Al Izzard on behalf of myself and Bass Sydney, as Al has been doing a brilliant job of producing the battler for some time now. Alan's tireless efforts in producing the newsletter and organising club events, is widely known and is appreciated by all immensely. Thanks again and I hope I can keep the high standards that you have set in the past.