



# Bass Sydney Fishing Club Inc.

BRANCH OF NATIVE FISH AUSTRALIA



Affiliated with

The Council of Freshwater Anglers



## NEXT MEETING

**Tuesday**  
**14<sup>th</sup> August**

**Northmead Bowling, Recreation and Sporting Club Ltd.**  
**166 Windsor Rd Northmead.**  
**7.30 pm start till 10pm.**

- PATRON:** Dr Wayne Erskine, PhD
- President** Domenic Squadrito..9799-1796(H)  
**Vice President** Alan Izzard.....9653 2309  
**Past President** Dave Claydon..... 9829-1503 (H)  
**Secretary** Jim Taylor..... 9631 7485 (H)  
**Treasurer/Membership Secretary** Garnet Noble.....9476-3881(H)  
**Points score & Basscatch Officer** Geoff Shadbolt.....9636-4340(H)  
**Publicity Officer** Alan Izzard.....9653-2309(H)  
**Editor:** Chris Ghosn.....9636 6896(H)  
**Event Co-Ordinator** Chris Ghosn.....9636 6896 (H)  
**Project Officers:**  
**Parramatta River** Alan Fowkes.....9626-9938(H)  
**Hacking River** Warren Hackshall....9525 0090(H)

# PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hi Fellow Basser's

Well the winter chill has certainly set in, with some welcome rainfall and very cold nights, the lowest in almost 20 years. Those members who attended the June GM would certainly agree that Dean Hayes, our June Guest Speaker provided a wealth of knowledge on Bass and Estuary Perch, from techniques, lures, times and Locations. We also had a couple of visitors from Western Sydney Bass and Bream come along to the meeting.

To the clubs already long list of achievements, another was recently awarded at the recent NFA AGM. Bass Sydney Fishing Club Inc. was awarded the Alan Thurbon Shield as the branch of the Native Fish Australia (NFA) which had contributed the most to the welfare of native fish with the provision of fishways and tree planting on the Parramatta River. For a relative small club Bass

Sydney has been active and successful in the habitat rehabilitation and regeneration. Congratulations and well done to all members.

I would encourage all members to check out the Bass Sydney website as it hosts a great deal of information from General Meeting dates, copies of the Bronze Battler, photos, etc

at: [www.basssydney.com](http://www.basssydney.com)

Also if any members who would like their photos added to the Bass Sydney Gallery please drop me a line with a few words and the photo(s) and I will upload them at: [photos@basssydney.com](mailto:photos@basssydney.com)

See you all at the August General Meeting and those brave enough to venture out in the cold months, take care and successful fishing.

Domenic

President

Bass Sydney.



MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES  
MINISTER FOR ENERGY  
MINISTER FOR MINERAL RESOURCES  
MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT

## MEDIA RELEASE

The Iemma Government has announced changes to saltwater and freshwater fishing rules after extensive consultation with NSW recreational and commercial fishers.

Minister for Primary Industries, Ian Macdonald, said the bag and size limits for recreational fishing are reviewed periodically to ensure a sustainable future for high quality recreational fishing in NSW. The size limits also apply to commercial fishing.

“These changes reflect the findings of scientific assessments, the National Recreational and Indigenous Fishing Survey, the Palmer inquiry into illegal fishing, advice from expert committees of fishers and more than 3300 public submissions,” Mr Macdonald said.

### **The changes to freshwater fishing include –**

- Increasing the minimum legal length for Murray cod and a new closed season for Australian bass and estuary perch to protect breeding fish.
- Leaving a line unattended will now be prohibited but the distance a fisher can be from each line has been increased.
- Simplifying the trout water classifications.

*As you are all currently aware there is now a closed season to protect spawning fish in NSW. This is a positive step towards protecting our future fish stocks in our rivers. For some time now spawning fish have been unfairly targeted by a percentage of people who take advantage of them being so vulnerable. As bass anglers this is a step forward to creating an awareness amongst the general public as to the importance of the existence of Australian native bass in our eastern draining rivers. We all look forward to seeing the results in the not too distant future.*

(editorial)

## Winter blues

It certainly has been a long cold winter as temperatures have plummeted to record lows. It has been quite some time since I have felt the cold like this before, none the less the positives to come out of this is high rain fall across areas that have been dry for some time including some good falls in the catchment area. This means that the Nepean system has received a good flush off fresh water that has been sorely missed for some time. Any one who fished around Cobbitty last year will remember the lime green cordial coloured water and the toxic smell that omitted from the place.

Apart from that winter is a very sad time of year for a bass angler as the time drags by so slowly, however it does allow us time to gather brownie points for the upcoming season, it gives the opportunity to organise our gear and prepare our tackle storage systems for new purchases. Work places all over the eastern states productivity increases as bass fishos put in the over time and apply themselves fully to the tasks at hand. Simply because their not thinking about there next bass trip but primarily because its an opportunity to make some more money to spend on financing fishing trips. I cant wait!! . In the mean time I have been lucky enough to be sent some great articles from our very own Tham, unfortunately I had a P.C malfunction recently and lost all my files and had to purchase a new computer which has delayed this edition of the battler which I apologise for. None the less Tham has had his worked published on a U.S website for those who haven't seen it I highly recommend it, it's the best body of work I have read in a long time. Tham is currently on Aus Bass logged in as OzzyBass. So for those who havent his email address send him a P.M and I am sure he will send you the link for the web site.



## Hardcore Bass adventure

Every so often your lucky enough to be a part of a fishing session that is just magic. Last year Dave Clayton, Nev and myself headed upstream of Devlins lane. The day was grey and miserable with balmy sweaty conditions. We prepared our gear and slowly headed up the river. It became very

obvious that the river had ran out somewhere on our way up as the river narrowed and choked up with weed in certain sections that made it difficult to navigate the further up we went. The river twisted and turned with little evidence to suggest it was worth putting the effort in. After a while the river again ended and we had no option but to walk. The terrain took us through some high grass that was reminiscent of the wilds of cape York peninsula and I must admit of being concerned of the dangers off walking thorough the high grass. I stumbled across wild pig droppings and signs of stirred up ground that a lone boar probably had made and I could see where it had made tracks through the rushes which wasn't making me feel any safer.

Dave Clayton our native tracker for the day returned from afar with news he had found the water which reinvigorated our spirits until we discovered the only way down was via a 10 meter drop through jungle like conditions that resembled the "Kokoda track" yet we pushed on through the entangled mess of noxious weeds and biting insects. Again we were afloat but once again we were confronted with another problem we could not paddle no further as we became stuck amongst the weed in the water it was a tangled mess. The only way through was to walk and lucky enough the water was waist deep so we slowly pushed our way through this green slimy mess until we reached a set of rapids.

We slowly made our way up the running water until we reached the coveted top pool. It was a big stretch of water that was very inviting

We each fished different sections of the pool and before long the UHF was crackling with excited yells of quality fish. The action was thick and fast as fish came off most casts. I decided to try a surface lure and to my delight it was hammered so began a great days fishing as we were nailing good fish on surface lures in the middle of the day. It was now poring rain but we couldn't have cared as the fishing was just magic. Before long time had got away from us and unfortunately we had to make the trip back down the river. I am still taken back by the fishing action that occurred that day and look forward to future trips up the river.

### [Message from Sunny Bribie island](#)

Milton has been a mate for many yrs after meeting him at Esco. He was the one who convinced me to join Bass Sydney. Great decision. We have spent many weekends over a few beers and a btl of red at a Bass Sydney fishing weekend. Milton says he doesn't know how I drink so much beer as he's throwing out his several empty bottles of red.

I remember the one time he drank VB instead of wine and could not find the frypan, he's stuck to wine since then. Milton is famous for his lists and menus when going away camping. eg peanuts and chips for happy hour. The aluminium fishing rule that Bass Sydney use is a Milton design.

His time at Esco has earned him huge respect from his co workers. He was always so precise in his work (bit of a fusspot really).

When he told me he was leaving Esco I think he was still in a bit of shock. I rang around and true to Milton's

style no one knew. They soon did.

As I have plenty of time up here on sunny Bribie I sat here thinking about a surprise do for him. I thought we need to mark his retirement with a bit of a bash, not just an Esco do but one all his mates could come along too. Keeping it quiet was not easy.

After many secret phone calls to Lynn it all started to come together. Many thanks to all those in Sydney who helped make it happen.

So I turned up at Milton's to stay for a bit of R and R and went out for dinner (or so he thought) with Milton, Lynn and Tiffany.

Surprise surprise Milton.

His face was a picture when he saw a few familiar faces at the club. Though he still wasn't suspicious. Then he turned around and saw a few more faces and yes the penny dropped. What a good night. Esco got ripped to shreds all those good times and tales not many knew about. All made for an unforgettable night. It was good to see Milton enjoy the good company of his friends. Milton has since told me he had a great night one that he would always remember.

I rang him on the 1st day of his new life to see how he felt as a retired man. He had been on a bike ride, get used to 2 wheels mate no work car now.

Milton is a "Mate" in more ways than one.

Happy retirement mate and many good fishing weekends to come.

GRM



On behalf of everybody in the club congratulations to Milton and we wish him all the best in his new life. I have had the great pleasure of fishing with Milton and spending time in his company and its always a great pleasure as he is a gentleman in every sense of the word. As a young angler Milton is a great person to look up to as his fishing style is reminiscent of his meticulous nature, he is very thorough in covering the water and consistently makes great casts with relative ease. Look forward to fishing with you more now that your retired mate.

CG.

Next Meeting 14/08/07

There is still several members who are not financial for this current year. For all those who have not paid their fees could they kindly do so at the next meeting.