

THE SOUTHERN SPEARO

Mar 2008 > www.southernfreedivers.org.au



KINGIES!

Well, obviously the big news of the year is the kingfish success over the past month. Some Southern Freedivers have changed the definition of what makes a good catch in Victorian waters!

A big effort is required to put yourself in line for a chance at one of these massive fish which have been found off the west coast of Wilsons Prom. After beach launching the boat, crashing through the bar off Sandy Point, powering the 20km to The Glennie Island Group, and diving in the cold, deep, dirty water with flashers on the go and looking over your shoulder all day, you may be lucky enough to see a kingfish. Although, the strike rate has been very high with about 12 fish ranging from around 12 to 20 kgs landed by spearos in the space of a month.

Time will tell if this how it always is, or have we just been extremely lucky?



▲ Murray, Jack, Aaron and Drew with their catch.



▲ Paul and Frank with Kingies.



▲ Aaron and Murray with Kingies.

Southern Freedivers

Meetings held 8pm 1st Wed of each month at the Showgrounds, Bennett St Dandenong VIC 3175

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SORRENTO BOAT COMP

Conditions much better than predicted, with the savage change holding out until the end of the day. Murray and Louie travelled as far as Charlemont Reef, reporting good viz and bringing home some ripper fish. Brett fished the deep bommies (and some shallow ones) out the back of Point Lonsdale in viz around 2-3 metres. Most others haunted favourite sleazy holes in secret bay locations as far up as Rosebud. Still others shore dived Mornington. We were well spread.

Results as follows.

- 1 Murray 12 fish. 1376.5 points. 100%
- 2 Brett 11 fish. 1269.9 pts. 92.25%
- 3 Louie 11 fish. 1268.8 pts. 92.17%
- 4 Chris 8 fish. 905.2 pts. 65.76%
- 5 Leigh 8 fish. 895.6 pts. 65.06%
- 6 Grant. 8 fish. 857.3 pts. 62.28%
- 7 Justin. 6 fish. 666.6 pts. 48.42%
- 8 Kurt 5 fish. 565.1 pts. 41.05%
- 9 Jake. 4 fish. 431.1 pts. 31.31%
- 10 Tim 3 fish. 347.6 pts. 25.25%
- 11 Ivor 3fish. 342.3pts. 24.86%
- 12 Russel P. 3 fish. 340.9 pts. 24.76%
- 13 Joseph 3 fish. 316.4 pts. 22.98%
- 14 Marek 2 fish. 233.9 pts. 16.99%
- 15 Ryano 1 fish. 135 pts. 9.80%
- 16 Adam 1 fish. 107 pts. 7.77%
- 17Nathan 1 fish 104.3 pts. 7.57%

Best fish 3000gm Banded Morwong (Murray)
Heaviest fish. 4610gm Dusky Morwong. (Louie)
Best shot. 3 Salmon in one shot. (Ivor)
Most interesting boat ride. Nathan's tinny beating back to Queenscliff.

HARMERS HAVEN COMP

1. Chris M, 16, 100.00%
2. Drew F, 13, 81.56%
3. Paul D, 12, 75.37%
4. Leigh E, 11, 68.70%
5. Murray P, 10, 61.31%
6. Christian H, 9, 57.33%
7. Aaron C, 6, 37.25%
8. Ryan H, 6, 35.85%
9. Merrick, 9, 30.11%
10. Greg S, 5, 30.10%
11. Joseph, 5, 30.01%
12. Tim, 4, 24.77%
13. Russell, 3, 18.00%
14. Jordan, 1, 7.54%
15. Mario, 1, 5.79%

Species included; Red mullet, leather jackets, mullet, trevally, black parrotfish, blue throat, long snout boarfish, trumpeter, warehou, dusky, snapper, garfish, sweep, whiting, rock cod, squid, zebra, yellow tail scad, black drummer.

Many people lost fish to sharks. Seven gills and Bronzies mostly. Conor had his float shredded by another shark thought to be a 12ft White! Viz; Very good 5-10m (maybe better??)



▲ Chris Monaghan with 1.5kg Snapper from Harmers Haven.

NATIONALS

The Australian National Spearfishing Title was held recently on the south coast of NSW.

It was a tough comp with not a lot of fish around. Our Victorian team performed well. Drew Fenney starred finishing in second place overall. A great effort against Australias best, who mainly reside in NSW.

Jake Morris-Torelli came 5th in the juniors, Ric Devries and Louie Papadopoulus came 9th and 20th in the seniors.

Overall results after 3 days of competition (46 competitors):

1. Paul Rosso, 256%.
- 2. Drew Fenney, 215%.**
3. Ian Puckeridge, 206%.
4. Paul Christie, 201%.
5. Adam Smith, 198%.
6. Steve Bunney, 195%.
7. Joe Hyzdal, 193%.
8. Gunther Pfrengle, 188%.
9. Tony Heugh, 183%.
10. Rob Wills, 180%.

12. Ric Devries, 166%.
28. Ilias (Louie) Papadopoulos, 102%.
34. Jake Morris-Torelli, 84%.

VICTORIAN CHALLENGE

Yet again, Brett Illingworth looks like thumping everybody in the Vic Challenge. With the heaviest fish in 5 categories, and a full list soon to be weighed in, it will take something special to take this trophy away from him.

Some notable catches entered in The Challenge so far are: Matt Koopmans 2.2kg flathead, Murray Petersons 3.6kg crayfish, Bretts 2kg snapper and of course, all those kingfish from Wilsons Prom.

Brett is leading with 68 points, next best is Aaron Crocombe on 46 points. For a full leaderboard, check out the club website. Dont forget to weigh in your fish for a chance to win a prize at the presentation night. Entries close on May 11.



▲ *Brett Illingworth with a magnificent 2.8kg Snapper.*

Due to poor weather, the Western Districts Title was postponed to a date yet to be named. Our next scheduled comp is the Victorian Titles over the March long weekend on the west coast. Details of locations and confirmed times will be on the website soon.

PRESENTATION NIGHT

The club presentation night will be held on the 28th of June at the Dingley International Hotel as usual.

Address for presentation night is:
Function Room, Dingley International
Garden Boulevard, Dingley Village, VIC, 3172.

The evening consists of a main meal at Hotel prices, followed by a formal presentation of trophies and prizes. There is usually a recent diving DVD shown for entertainment at the end of the night.

For details contact social secretary Rob Miler - 0418 366 521. Hope to see you all there!

If anyone would like to contribute to our newsletter with stories, pictures, recipes, gear for sale, information, advertising (diving and non-diving products/services), opinions, facts or anything else I haven't thought of, please do so by contacting the editor. THIS NEWSLETTER NEEDS THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CLUB MEMBERS TO EXIST.

► *Joseph Bednarek with his 19.6kg Kingfish alongside Rob Torelli.*



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