



Kayak Fishing Club
Information

Taranaki Kayak Fishing Club

1. Introduction

Welcome to the Taranaki Kayak Fishing Club (TKFC).

The club was established by a group of Ōakura surfcasters in October 2005 and incorporated into the Ōakura Surfcasting Club. The club was the first in NZ to embrace kayakers and allow them to participate as legitimate sport fishers. The kayak group became a standalone club in 2009 and was named Taranaki Kayak Fishing Club.

In this handbook you will find the club's fishing rules, a list of club trophies and awards which members can compete for, the club's fishing boundaries, and a procedure for recording any fish you catch. There are also sections on a points system which the club uses for competition purposes and club records.

Our aim is to encourage a social and fun fishing club for kayak fishers. Our members also do boat fishing, surfcasting and charter trips as well. Always looking to promote fishing in a positive way.

The club actively runs events such as fishing competitions, club days and social activities. Each year the committee sets these out in a calendar which is published on Facebook (Taranaki Kayak Fishing Club) and via the club website.

[Taranaki Kayak Fishing Club Committee; elected by AGM June 2021](#)

President: Weston Newman

Treasurer: Blair Haase

Secretary: Chris Clarke

Weighmasters:

Jonno Robinson

Weston Newman

Andy McBride

Club details:

Email: info@tkfc.org.nz

Website: www.tkfc.org.nz

FB: [Taranaki Kayak Fishing Club](#)

Committee meeting: First Wednesday of each month

Club season:

The club season is 1st June to 31st May

[Club Kayak – Available for loan](#)

The club has a Viking 400 Profish kayak available for loan. You must go out with a club member to use this kayak. Contact info@tkfc.org.nz to arrange borrowing this kayak.

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2. Club Philosophy

Members will be encouraged to:

1. Promote safe kayaking practices at all times
2. Fish for quality – practice sustainable fishing
3. Fish for conservation - observe MPI regulations, release unwanted fish unharmed
4. Practice good fish catching and handling techniques
5. Fish for recreation – relax and have fun with family, children & friends
6. Fish for competition - improve performance and results through club and other NZ kayak competitions
7. Display conduct that is courteous, sportsmanlike and considerate to club members and members of the wider kayaking community
8. Observe the rules of the club and act honestly at all times
9. Share your knowledge about where and how to catch fish with other members
10. Take every opportunity to take an active part in club activities.

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3. Health and Safety

The Club takes the health and safety of its members seriously as kayak fishing can be risky as sea conditions can change quickly. Therefore, the Committee reserves the right to restrict the fishing range or and/or categories of eligible species if the wind is forecast to be above 15 knots or for any marginal conditions.

The club stresses the importance of the following statements:

- Think 'safety first' when going fishing
- Fishing alone is not advisable
- Kayakers must be competent to handle the conditions
- Kayakers must comply with standard boating and Coast Guard regulations

Please note: Participants enter Taranaki kayak fishing club competitions and club days at their own risk. Neither the Club nor any sponsors shall be liable for any loss or injury.

Minimum safety requirements:

- Kayaks must be seaworthy – check bungs and hatches are secure
- Approved Personal Flotation Device/Life Jacket at all times
- Minimum one form of communication device (VHF Radio and/or cell phone)
- Tow line/anchor rope.

Optional requirements (but strongly recommended):

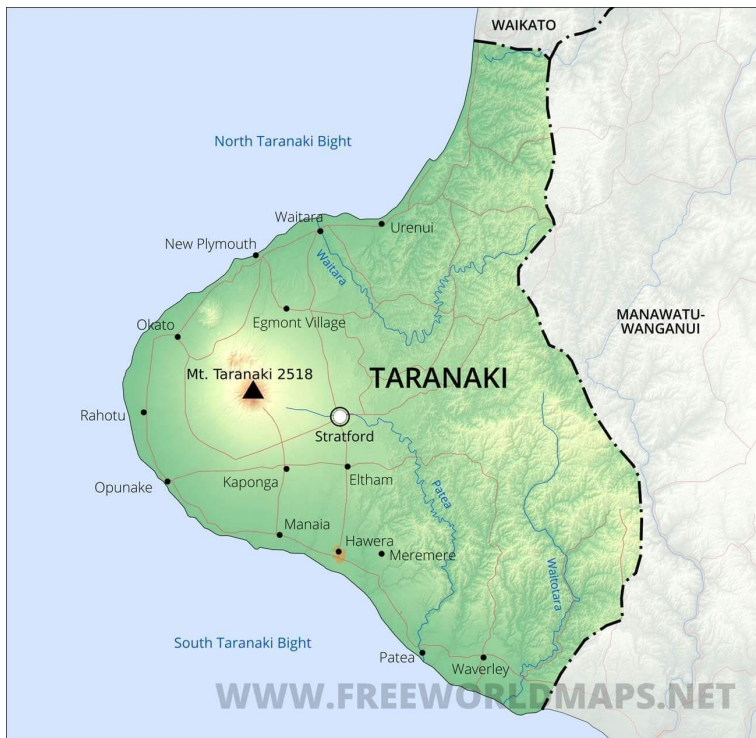
- Log trip report with Coastguard (channel 61), stating kayak name, call sign, destination, and ETA
- Kayak safety flag
- White navigation light or torch (for night fishing)
- Flares & signalling mirror
- EPIRB locator beacon
- Spare paddle
- First aid kit
- Sunscreen
- Sun hat & sunglasses
- Food & water

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4. Rules for Club Fishing Competitions (including club days & annual trophies)

4.1. Club Boundaries

The Club's fishing boundaries are from the southern bank of the Marokopa River in the north, to the southern end of Waverley Beach in the south. All contest fishing must be carried out within these boundaries only. No fishing is allowed within any Marine Reserve or other officially prohibited areas.



Fish must be caught from within the Club's boundaries.

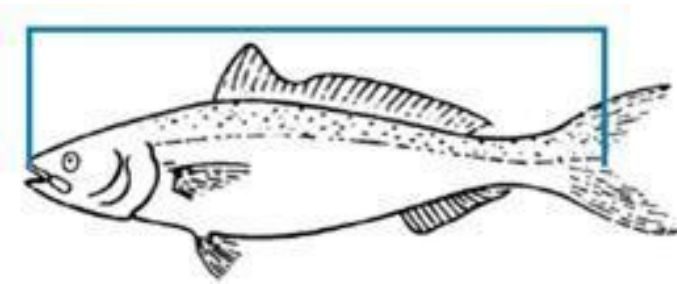
4.2. Fishing

1. Members must first launch their kayak from shore and secondly land their kayak on shore, from within the club's boundaries
2. Launching or landing a kayak from a 'mothership' or any other type of seagoing vessel is not allowed. This is permitted on club trips
3. On club days a designated beach or launch/landing point may be nominated
4. Propulsion by paddle power, pedal power or sails is permitted. Other forms of propulsion are excluded unless otherwise approved by the committee, (e.g. any type of electric or fuel powered motor)
5. Only rods or hand lines may be used, with only two hooks allowed per rod or hand line per kayaker. Sabikis with more than two hooks are permitted. Treble hooks are permitted on artificial lures only
6. Unattended and/or remote drop rigs or long lines are excluded from all competitions and points.

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4.3. Fish

7. TKFC has limited eligible competition fish to the following eight species:
 - Tuna, Kingfish, Snapper, Gurnard, Trevally, John Dory, Kahawai, and Blue Cod
8. Daily bag limits exist. Please check and comply with these limits. Some minimum lengths for common species at time of publication are:
 - Kingfish - 75 cm; Blue Cod - 33 cm; Snapper – 27 cm; Trevally, Gurnard – 25 cm
9. To encourage conservation TKFC has set two limits that shall apply to members for all competitions. These are:
 - Snapper - minimum length of 30 cm
 - All fish are to equal or exceed a minimum weight of 500 gms
10. Remember, all fish caught must be of legal size, and quantity, as determined by the appropriate Government Authority (i.e. Ministry for Primary Industries). Any fish caught which does not exceed the minimum MPI length for a particular species is to be released unharmed.
11. When measuring fish, the legal measurement is from the tip of the nose to the middle ray or 'V' in the tail.



For more information refer to:

[Central Area Fishing Rules](#)

4.4. Recording of Fish

12. To gain club points, all eligible fish caught by members should be reported to one of the elected weighmasters for the purpose of recording the catch in the club's fish catch register.
13. Fish must be weighed whole and must equal or exceed the minimum length/weight as deemed in Rules 7 and 8.
14. For club competitions fish are to be weighed by an elected weighmaster and must be presented for weighing by the stated time.
15. Only the heaviest fish of any species caught by a member per day will be awarded club points.
16. If a member catches a heavier fish of the same eligible species, on another day, then the weight of that fish will be recorded with points awarded. The previously awarded points will be deleted. This is to encourage quality over quantity in submitting fish for points.

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5. Club Points System

The Club's points system is based on a set of five values for the purpose of evaluating the relative merit of catching differing fish species of differing weights.

These are as follows:

Sporting value – the fighting quality of the fish and the degree of difficulty in targeting and landing the fish.

Resource value – the abundancy or scarcity factor of the fish within the Club's boundaries and the significance of the fish to our fishery.

Food value – reflected by consumer demand and table quality.

Commercial value – importance to the NZ fishing industry in terms of quota availability, catch difficulty and market prices.

Trophy value – Kingfish, Snapper and Trevally have pride of place as the premier sporting fish in NZ.

The following table shows the 'fish factor' TKFC has determined for the eight eligible species, based on the five values above.

Species	Fish Factor
Gurnard	35
John Dory	30
Trevally	30
Tuna	25
Kingfish	25
Snapper	25
Blue Cod	25
Kahawai	10

Points are awarded by multiplying the fish factor by the fish weight.

Simple examples of the way the points system works is as follows:

1.2 kg snapper = Snapper fish factor of 25 x 1.2 kg (weight) = 30 points

0.9 kg gurnard = Gurnard fish factor of 35 x 0.9 kg (weight) = 31.5 points

6.2 kg snapper = Snapper fish factor of 25 x 6.2 kg (weight) = 155 points

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6. Annual Club Trophies

The club's annual trophies are listed here for your information.

No application is required to be eligible. Winners will be determined from the Club's fish catch database.

Category/Trophy

Heaviest Snapper

Heaviest Trevally

Heaviest Red Gurnard

Heaviest Tuna

Heaviest Kingfish

Heaviest John Dory

Heaviest Blue Cod

Heaviest Kahawai

Heaviest Snapper on a club day

Heaviest Gurnard on Gurnard Hunt comp

Three Species Comp

Heaviest fish

People's choice – awarded by the committee

Most Overall Points (2)

Ali Krutz surfcasting trophy – Club members competing in a one-day surfcasting competition against New Plymouth Surfcasting Club.

7. Club Records

Species	Weight	Member	Date	Location	Year
Tuna	8.50	Andrew McBride	26-Feb	Port Taranaki	2021/22
Kingfish	15.20	Ben Brown	20-Feb	Port Taranaki	2020/21
Snapper	13.51	Tony Hurring	30-March	Opunake	2009/10
John Dory	2.285	Tony Hurring	5-May	Fort St George	2006/07
Trevally	2.905	Roger Witts	21-April	Cape Egmont	2006/07
Blue Cod	2.055	Rob Gedye	5-June	Opunake	2016/17
Kahawai	3.095	Tony Hurring	4-March	Port Taranaki	2006/07
Red Gurnard	1.120	Peter Florence	13 May	Port Taranaki	2005/06

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8. Taranaki Kayak Fishing Club Classic Competition

Each year the Club organises the premier kayak fishing competition of New Zealand. The event has been running since 2006. It is usually held in March/April of each year.

The event continues to be a great success due to its sponsors and the work of the Club. If you are keen to assist, please let one of the committee members know.

Thanks

The Committee

Refer: www.tkfc.org.nz

Classic Prize Categories

- Main Contest Spot Prize - won by the contestant whose entry form number is randomly drawn from all the eligible anglers during the official prize giving.
- Early Bird Spot Prize - won by the contestant whose entry form number is randomly drawn from all of the "Early Bird" entry form numbers during the official prize giving.
- Species Grand Slam prize - awarded to the angler who weighs in the most of the eight individual eligible species. The eligible species are: Tuna, Kingfish, Snapper, Kahawai, Trevally, Gurnard, Blue Cod, and John Dory.
- Heaviest Fish and Runner-up prizes - for the first and second heaviest fish of each species category that are weighed-in during the contest period.
- Closest to average fish weight, per species, of the fish caught during the competition.
- Team trophy prize - shall be the team with the highest aggregate of points accrued across all the eligible species weighed-in by the respective team members. A team must be registered in the contest and shall consist of no more than two contestants already individually registered for the main contest.