

# Guidelines for a applying for a Nomads Club record

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These guidelines are based on the SADSAA requirements  
<http://www.sadsaa.com/images/fbfiles/files/3.pdf>

# **Guidelines for a applying for a Nomads Club record**

## **General**

1. Nomads maintains records for saltwater fishes in the LINE CLASS and ALL TACKLE categories.
2. The TERRIRORAIL LIMITS for the LINE CLASS shall be: (refer to section Territorial Limits on page 4).
  - 2.1. LOCAL WATERS
  - 2.2. AFRICAN WATERS
3. The LINE CLASS categories are maintained for THREE separate GROUPS of anglers ie.
  - 3.1. MEN
  - 3.2. LADIES
  - 3.3. JUNIORS
4. The ALL TACKLE category encompasses all three groups.
5. In order to qualify for a record, a catch must be a minimum of one kilogram in weight and must outweigh the existing record by the required amount, or meet the minimum weight requirements, if any, for vacant records.
6. All catches must be made in accordance with IGFA International Angling and Equipment Regulations.
7. All fish species must be caught from a craft at sea are eligible provided the fish can be positively identified from the data and photographs submitted.
8. No entries will be accepted for fish caught in hatchery waters or sanctuaries.
9. The catch must not be at variance with any laws or regulations governing the species or the waters in which it was caught.
10. When an additional species of fish is made available for Club records, the effective date will be announced.
11. Fishes caught on or after the effective date will be considered.

## **All Tackle category**

12. All tackle records are kept for the heaviest fish of a species caught by an angler in any line class up to 60kg.
13. Fish caught on lines designed to test over the 60kg class will not be considered for record claims.
14. All tackle record claims are considered for all species fish caught according to IGFA ANGLING RULES.
15. Applications for species not currently included in the Nomads line class listing must meet the following criteria:
  - 15.1. The fish must be a valid species with a recognised scientific name.
  - 15.2. The fish must be a species commonly fished for with a rod and reel in the general area where the catch is made.
  - 15.3. The fish must be identifiable, based on photos and other supporting data presented with the application.
  - 15.4. The fish must be considered “trophy-sized” with a rule of thumb being that the weight must fall within the top half of the estimated weight of the species.

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## Line class categories

16. With the exception of ALL TACKLE claims, line classes are limited for many species.
17. The listed FISH SPECIES and the MAXIMUM line classes acceptable by Nomads are defined under table "Table Line Class Species with Limitations", under point 50 on page 5.
18. Line class records are maintained according to the wet testing strength of the line used by the angler.
19. Records are kept in the following line class categories, which are limited for certain species:

Table 1: Line Class Categories

### **Metric**

1kg  
2kg  
4kg  
6kg  
8kg  
10kg  
15kg  
24kg  
37kg  
60kg

## Line testing

20. Nomads tests all the line samples submitted with club record applications in accordance with METRIC LINE CLASS designations.
21. Line samples submitted with record claims are uniformly tested in accordance with Government specifications which have been modified and supplemented by SADSAA.

## Regulations governing record catches for fish caught from craft at sea

22. Protested applications or disputed existing records will be referred to the Nomads Club Committee for review.
23. Its decision will be final.
24. Nomads reserve the right to refuse to consider an application or grant a claim for a record.
25. All Nomads Club decisions will be based on the intent of the regulations.
26. When a substantial reward is specifically offered for a RECORD catch, only a claim for an ALL TACKLE record will be considered.
27. To qualify for JUNIOR LINE CLASS records, the angler must be under the age of 18 years i.e. Must not have turned 18 years of age on the date on which the catch was made.
28. LINE CLASS records are restricted to the group in which an angler qualifies, e.g. WOMEN cannot defeat a MENS record or vice-versa, and nor can the JUNIORS defeat MENS and/or WOMENS records.

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## **Territorial Limits**

29. The territorial limits for all Nomads Club records in South African waters shall embrace the coastal waters and all off-shore islands of SOUTH AFRICA from KOSI BAY in the East to the KUNENE RIVER in the West.
30. The territorial limits for all Nomads Club records in African waters shall embrace the coastal waters of the AFRICAN CONTINENT with the following variations:
  - 30.1. The waters as defined under point 29 will be excluded.
  - 30.2. The following off-shore islands are INCLUDED:
    - 30.2.1. INHACA.
    - 30.2.2. The ISLANDS making up the greater BAZARUTO ARCHIPELAGO.
  - 30.3. All other ISLANDS are EXCLUDED.

## **Species identification**

31. Photographs must be submitted by which positive identification of the exact species can be made.
32. Applications without photographic evidence will not be permitted.
33. If there is the slightest doubt that the fish cannot be identified from the photographs and other data submitted, the fish should be examined by an ichthyologist or qualified fishery biologist before a record is submitted to Nomads.
34. The scientist's signature and title (or qualifications) should appear on the application form or on a separate document confirming the identification of the species.
35. If a scientist is not available, the fish should be retained in a preserved or frozen condition until a qualified authority can verify the species or until notified by Nomads that the fish need no longer be retained.
36. If no decision can be made from the photographs and the angler can provide no further proof of the identification of the species, the record claim will not be considered.

## **Witness to catch**

37. On all record claims, witnesses to the catch are highly desirable if at all possible.
38. Un-witnessed catches can be disallowed if questions arise regarding their authenticity.
39. It is important that witnesses can attest to the angler's compliance with the IGFA ANGLING and EQUIPMENT regulations.

## **Minimum weight requirements for vacant records**

40. The minimum acceptance weight for any record claim is 1kg.
41. LINE CLASS record claims will only be considered for acceptance when the weight of the fish equals or exceeds the breaking strain of the line.
42. Should the weight of the fish be less than the breaking strain of the line, the LINE CLASS record will not be allowed but the claim will still be considered for the ALL TACKLE category if the weight exceeds the current ALL TACKLE RECORD.

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### Weights needed to defeat or tie existing records

43. To replace a record for a fish weighing less than 10kg, the replacement must weigh at least 50grams (0.05kg) more than the existing record.
44. To replace a record of a fish weighing 10kg or more, the replacement must weigh at least one half of one percent more than the exiting record ( $\frac{1}{2}$  of 1% ) EXAMPLE: At 50kg the additional weight required would be 250grams (0.25kg), at 500kg the additional weight would be 2,500grams (2.5kg).
45. At catch that matches the weight of an existing record or exceeds the weight by less than the amount required to defeat the record will be considered a TIE.
46. In the case of a TIE claim involving more than two catches, weight must be compared with the original record (the first fish to be caught).
47. Estimated weights will not be accepted.

### Time limit on claims

48. With the exception of ALL TACKLE records only, claims for record fish must be received by the club within 30 days of the catch.
49. Claims for ALL TACKLE records only are considered for catches made in past years if:
  - 49.1. Acceptable photographs are submitted.
  - 49.2. The weight of the fish can be positively verified, and
  - 49.3. The method of catch can be substantiated,
  - 49.4. For catches made in the past, as much information as possible must be submitted on the Club Record application form.

### List of line class species with line class limitations

50. The following maximum line classes are permitted per species for any intended record claim.

Table 2: Line Class Species with Limitations

COMMON NAME	MAXIMUM LINE CLASS
<b>BILLFISH</b>	
• Black Marlin	60kg
• Blue Marlin	60kg
• Striped Marlin	60kg
• Sailfish	60kg
• Shortbill Spearfish	60kg
• Swordfish	60kg
<b>TUNA</b>	
• Albacore (Longfin)	37kg
• Bigeye	60kg
• Dogtooth	60kg
• Eastern Little ( <i>KawaKawa</i> )	15kg
• Skipjack	24kg
• Yellowfin	60kg

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COMMON NAME	MAXIMUM LINE CLASS
<b>GENERAL GAMEFISH</b>	
• Barracuda, Great	37kg
• Barracuda, Pickhandle	37kg
• Bontio, Atlantic ( <i>Sarda Sarda</i> )	15kg
• Bonito, Striped / Eastern Little ( <i>KawaKawa</i> )	15kg
• Cobia / Prodigal Son	37kg
• Dorado	37kg
• Elf (Shad)	15kg
• Green Jobfish	24kg
• Kingfish, Giant	60kg
• Kingfish, Bigeye	60kg
• Kingfish, Bluefin	15kg
• Kingfish, Yellow spotted	60kg
• Garrick (Leervis)	24kg
• Mackerel, King (Couta)	37kg
• Mackerel, Queen (Natal Snoek)	15kg
• Queenfish	24kg
• Rainbow Runner	24kg
• Snoek, Cape	24kg
• Wahoo	60kg
• Yellowtail	60kg

### Incomplete application form

51. If any incomplete record claim is submitted, it must be accompanied by an explanation of why certain portions are incomplete.
52. An incomplete record claim will be considered for a record if the following conditions are met:
  - 52.1. The incomplete claim, with explanations of why portions are incomplete, must be received by the Nomads record officer within the time limits specified under point 48.
  - 52.2. Missing data must be due to circumstances beyond the control of the angler making the record claim.
  - 52.3. All missing data must be supplied within a period of time considered to be reasonable in view of the circumstances.
53. **Final decisions on incomplete claims will be made by the Nomads Club Committee.**

### Weighing requirements for record fish

54. The fish must be weighed by an official weighmaster (if one is available) or by an official of a member club or by a recognised local person familiar with the scale.
55. Disinterested witnesses to the weight should be used whenever possible.
56. The weight of the sling, platform, or rope (if one is used to secure fish on the scales) must be determined and deducted from the total weight.
57. At the time of weighing, the actual tackle used by the angler to catch the fish must be exhibited to the weighmaster and weight witness.
58. No estimated weights will be accepted.

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59. Fish weighed only at sea will not be accepted.
60. Only weights indicated by the graduations on the scale will be accepted.
61. Visual fractioning of these graduations is not allowed.
62. Any weights that fall between graduations on the scale must be rounded to the lower of the two.
63. All record fish must be weighed on scales that have been assized and certified for accuracy by a recognised scale adjuster.
64. All scales must be regularly checked for accuracy and certified in accordance with applicable Government regulations at least every twelve months.
65. A CERTIFIED copy of the valid current assized certificate is to accompany every record claim application.
66. If at the time of weighing the fish, the scale has not been properly certified within twelve months, it must be checked and certified as quickly as possible and an inspection report stating the findings of the inspection prior to any adjustment of the scale must be included with the record application.
67. In extremely remote areas where no weighing scales are available, it will be permissible for the angler to use their own scale providing that they are of a quality type and have been certified both before and after returning from their fishing trip.
68. A full report on the trip and both assized certificates must accompany the record claim application.
69. If there are any variances between the two inspections, then an official report stating the findings of the inspection prior to any adjustment of the scale must be included with the record application.
70. Nomads reserves the right to require any scale to be re-certified for accuracy if there are any indications that the scale might not have weighed correctly.

### Application Form

71. All applications must be submitted on the applicable form downloadable from the Nomads website / Records section.
72. The angler must fill in the application personally and submit it within 60 days with all the requirements to the Nomads Club Records Officer.
73. It is recommended that the angler duplicates their record application for their own safekeeping and in case of loss.
74. When making any record claim, the angler must indicate the specified strength of the line used.
75. The following line classes are permitted, subject to species limitation.
  - 75.1. Valid line classes: see [Table 1: Line Class Categories](#) under point 19 on page 3.
  - 75.2. Maximum permissible line class per species in order to claim a record as defined under [Table 2: Line Class Species with Limitations](#) under point 50 on page 5.
76. The angler is responsible for seeing that the necessary signatures and addresses of the boat skipper, weighmaster and witnesses are on the application.
77. If a SADSAA officer or representative, or an officer of a member club is available, he or she should be asked to witness the claim.
78. The name of a crew member, guide or weighmaster repeated as witness is not acceptable.

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- 79. It is important that the witness can attest to the angler's compliance with the IGFA ANGLING and EQUIPMENT regulations.
- 80. The angler must appear in person to have his claim notarised.
- 81. Any deliberate falsification of an application will disqualify the applicant for any future CLUB records and any existing records will be nullified.

### **Line Samples**

- 82. All application line class records must be accompanied by the entire leader, the double line and at least 15 meters of the single line closest to the double line, leader or hook.
- 83. All line samples and the leader (if one is used) must be submitted in one piece.
- 84. If a lure is used with the leader the leader should be cut at the eye attachment to the lure.
- 85. Each line sample must be in one piece.
- 86. It must be submitted in manner that it can be easily unwound without damage to the line.
- 87. Any line sample submitted that is tangled or cannot easily be unwound will not be accepted.

### **Photographs**

- 88. Photographs showing the full length of the fish, the rod and reel used to make the catch and the scale used to weigh the fish must accompany each record application.
- 89. A photograph of the angler with the fish is also required.
- 90. Only the clearest photographs should be submitted to assist with the correct species identification of the catch.
- 91. In all cases, photographs should be taken of the fish in a hanging position, and also lying on a flat surface on its side.
- 92. The fish should be broadside to the camera and no part of the fish should be obscured.
- 93. The fins must be fully extended and not obscured with hands, and the jaw or bill clearly shown.
- 94. Avoid obscuring the keels of tuna with a tail rope.
- 95. When photographing a fish on its side, the surface beneath the fish should be smooth and a ruler or marked tape placed beside the fish if possible.
- 96. Photographs from various anglers are most helpful.
- 97. An additional photograph of the fish on the scale with actual weight visible helps to expedite the application.

### **Weights and Measures**

- 98. Persons submitting the application form for a record claim must provide the weights and measurements of the fish only in units in which they were actually taken.
- 99. These should, whenever possible, always be carried out using the metric scales.