

NOMADS TIDE

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SGDSAA



SADSAA

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**Game Fish Inter Provincial.
Zinkwazi - KZN
Southern Gauteng – Maroon**

What an incredible few days of fishing, camaraderie and competition in the beautiful town of Zinkwazi on the KZN North Coast. On behalf of Southern Gauteng – Maroon, I would like to thank all the anglers, skippers, officials and supporters who contributed towards making this year's Inter Provincial such a memorable event.

We were fortunate enough to fish all three competition days, something that is never guaranteed. Although the weather conditions were not ideal, they were fair enough to allow us to go onto the water each day and give everyone a proper opportunity to compete.

The Zinkwazi launch can definitely be intimidating at times. However, with the right balance of patience, teamwork and the experience of the skippers in the fleet, all launches were handled extremely well. **See for yourselves:**

<https://youtu.be/Ws5dMKLZWnY>

Unfortunately, the fishing itself proved a little tougher than expected. Couta, which was the main targeted species for the competition, was noticeably scarce and very few made their way to the scales over the three days. As is often the case in fishing, plans quickly change and adapting becomes the name of the game.

Despite the challenging conditions, there were still some quality fish that came out over the event. Highlights included a 12kg Wahoo, a 10kg Yellowfin Tuna and an impressive 15kg Yellowfin Tuna landed by Zululand. A Sailfish T&R by the other SGDSAA team on **Fintastic** also added some excitement and variety to the competition.

As for Southern Gauteng – Maroon, we held our own and put together a respectable performance throughout the event. We managed to land several Yellowfin Tuna in the 5kg to 8kg range and, believe it or not, every single one of them came on artificial lures this time around.

In the end, we finished in 4th place overall, narrowly missing out on a medal position. While falling just short is always a little frustrating, there is plenty to be proud of. The team fished hard, adapted well and never stopped pushing until the final lines-up.

Most importantly, we depart with great memories, stronger friendships and stories that will be told for years to come.

Congratulations to all teams and competitors.

Tight lines,
Dries Liebenberg



Mapelane Trophy 15 – 16 May 2026.

Mapelane.



Nomads BlueTeam Captain's Report.

The Nomads team of Mark Cockcroft, Gus Pinker and Colin Green (Skipper) headed to the annual Mapelane Trophy with high hopes and plenty of enthusiasm, fishing aboard Colin's trusty 17ft King Cat, Reel Screamer.



Mapelane remains one of those special places that keeps drawing us back year after year. It is a venue filled with great memories, good friends and stories that seem to get better with age. Our base for the weekend was Colin's excellent permanent camp, which once again provided everything a fisherman could ask for – great company, comfortable accommodation and, most importantly, cold beer waiting at the end of each day.

Unfortunately, the weather was not inclined to cooperate. Both days were characterized by very lumpy seas, with conditions varying from rain showers to strong winds that turned every run into a salt-blasting exercise. At times the boat spray was relentless, ensuring that we were thoroughly soaked long before the fish had any chance to do so.

Despite putting in a determined effort, fishing proved exceptionally difficult. The only weighable fish for the team came courtesy of Mark, who landed a respectable Big Eye Kingfish. The catch earned the team 5.5 points and, importantly, kept us just clear of the bottom of the leaderboard. While it was not the result we had hoped for, it prevented a complete shutout and gave us something to celebrate.

From a fishing perspective, the weekend was undoubtedly disappointing. However, fishing competitions are about far more than numbers on a scoreboard. The opportunity to spend time with good mates, share laughs, and catch up with familiar faces made the trip worthwhile. A particular highlight was once again spending time with the "Wierminator" from Germany, whose presence always adds colour and entertainment to the proceedings.

Congratulations must also go to our Nomads ladies' team on their excellent performance and well-deserved medal placing. They flew the club flag proudly and showed the rest of us how it should be done.

Although the fish did not play along this year, the memories, friendships and stories created over the weekend ensure that Mapelane remains one of the highlights of the fishing calendar. We look forward to returning next year in search of calmer seas, tighter lines and a few more fish in the hatch.

Mark Cockcroft

Team Captain – Nomads Blue

Nomads Pink Team Captain's Report.

The Mapelane Trophy was truly an unforgettable experience for our team, made up of Eleanor Roode, Shaun Aspden and Sophia Venter. Despite extremely rough and challenging weather conditions, we pushed through what was at times very hard fishing. We made the decision to chase and fish bait balls away from the rest of the competitors, which added both difficulty and excitement to the competition.

On the first day, we managed to land our third species, giving us a much-needed boost. A key moment came from Eleanor's mention of Crayfish Point — this was no luck. We specifically targeted kingfish and successfully got it, pulling small crystal minnow with a 8-ounce sinkers over 8m of water at Crayfish Point. The final day proved tough, with three solid pulls that unfortunately all resulted in lost fish.

In the end, we were proud to secure 2nd place, finishing just behind the Mapelane team of Paul Housey and his son, who landed bigger fish including Dorrie and Cuta.

Beyond the competition itself, the experience was made even more special by the excellent accommodation and fantastic food throughout our stay.

A heartfelt thank you goes to Collin and Jill for the use of their camp, for organizing the tractor, and to Collin for sponsoring such incredible prizes.

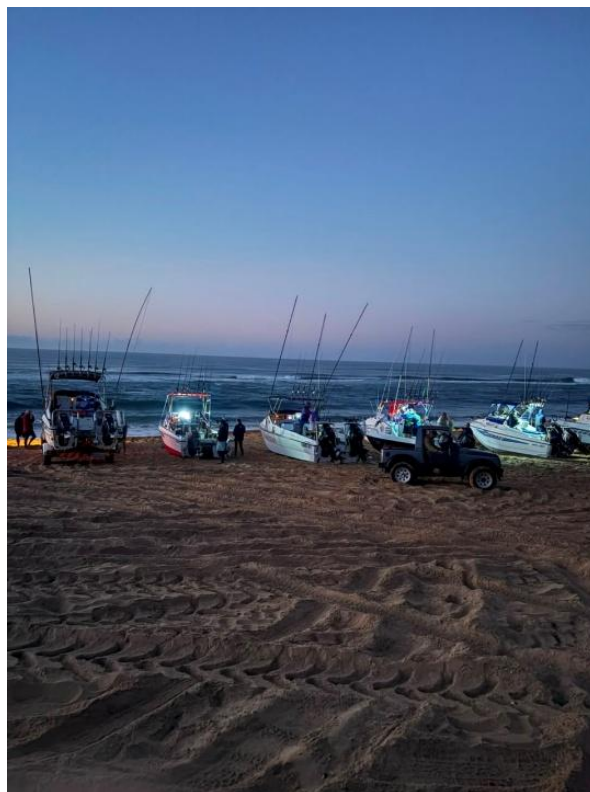
All in all, it was a memorable event filled with challenges, teamwork, and great hospitality.

Kind Regards
Eleanor Roode
Team Captain Pink

Nomads Closed – 2026

East African Safaris

Mozambique



We had our annual Nomads Closed.
To me it's always special. Yes, the fish is good (Mostly)

But the team at EAS always makes the organizing committees' hands lighter.
From beach push and pulls to taking a boat down if a vehicle keeps getting stuck.

We were spoilt. Our boats were brought up every day.

Food was good and the "Pampoen" and R&R was sweet.

Yolanda's special touch with the last evenings table clothes and individual boat names per table. We noticed.

Our crew was really impressed with our quick entry and exit into Mozambique.
Dries "Hammer" De la Rey kept the young Slice of Life boys in tame and we finished hard.

Hats off to Watermark for beating us on the last day.
We will have our "revenge".

Shaun Aspen and the crew of Fintastic really showing us how to catch Cuta. From Monday to Friday, they kept bringing in good quality fish.

We can be so grateful that he shares his knowledge so freely. Apart from his waypoints.
This we only got on day three. If you're not taking tips you're losing out.

Collin pulled the biggest Cuta on 6kg. Well done buddy.

Our fine masters need a new recipe.

We had new members joining us, welcome.

I also want to request you watch out for our new dates for 2027 Closed.

Finally, to our vice chairman, Gus thank you for your continued effort building Nomads.
To our members
"Add in finitum"

Nomads Chairman.

Chrisjan Jansen.



The Launch Site



Old Friends



Team Slice of Life



The Coetzee Tribe



Early Start – Lyle Langley



What a sunrise



Weigh in beverages



Biggest Snoek – Dries Da le Rey



Biggest Couta – Colin Green



Biggest Wahoo – Gus Pinker



Biggest Tuna – Core Mare



The "Coetzee" Kids having fun (Nomads Mermaid)



EAS Hospitality at its best



Prize giving in full gear.

Angler Name	Sum Of Expr1
Shaun Aspden	1,136.34
Colin Green	795.53
Elanor Roode	637.35
Chrisjan Jansen	294.11
Gus Pinker	157.41
Sean Cockcroft	144.99
Dries Da le Rey	121.74
Adrian Feher	109.44
Mark Cockcroft	103.11
Cor Mare	91.91
Reinhard Range	73.45
Mike Green	47.51
Jan Breytenbach	45.59
Dean Hadgson	38.37
Sophia Venter	32.95
Tyrone Langley	28.95
Kevin Allardyce	27.88
Lyle Langley	25.69
Bruce McKenzie	21.26
Natalie Lenferna	10.95
Mat	10.04
Shaun Haycock	9.86

Boat	Grand Total
FINTASTIC	2569.22
WATERMARK	453.02
SLICE OF LIFE	415.85
VOICE MAIL	165.98
JIKA LAPA	134.89
SHAYA LO MANZI	121.67
ROSE ANN	75.9
CHEZZY	27.88



Top Angler – Shaun Aspden



Top Lady Angler – Eleanor Roode



The Prize Winners for 2026



LOCKED AND LOADED

Getting the low down on trolling motors

By Brett Bartho

OFFSHORE angling has evolved dramatically over the past decade. Nowadays, with the technology we fishermen have at our fingertips, including advanced reef-mapping sonar, live-scope imaging and digital chart plotters, we are able to scout, navigate and fish with precision that was unheard of just a few years ago.

A newer development that is transforming how fishermen hold position over reefs, ledges or wrecks offshore, has been the rise in popularity of electric trolling motors with virtual-anchor (spot-lock) capabilities. Instead of dropping a traditional sea anchor, the skipper can use one of these GPS-controlled, bow-mounted motors to maintain vessel position precisely – even in decent current or wind. The trolling motor allows instant repositioning with the push of a button, drastically improving productivity and reducing physical effort.



CAPABILITIES AND BENEFITS

An electric trolling motor equipped with virtual-anchor functions brings several key benefits when used as a sea anchor.

To start with, the GPS-based anchor lock holds the boat steady over a spot – such as a reef, wreck, or structure – without deploying conventional gear, which avoids anchor tangles, damage to bottom structure, and possible anchor loss should conditions deteriorate.

There's also no need to take into consideration all the external factors at play and arduously calculate where to deploy your anchor ensuring you are exactly where you want to be.

These motors feature fine thrust control through 24V or 36V brushless designs that are remarkably efficient and whisper quiet, minimizing disturbances to fish beneath the hull.



Power settings and precise auto-routing keep the vessel exactly where needed, even in rough conditions. We have proven the capabilities and advantages of our Power-pole trolling motor to hold us over the reef and on the fish with consistent use on our 22ft commercial fishing vessel – even in a 25 knot south westerly wind and messy sea!

This link will take you to an Instagram reel showing it in action.

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/DIj48WUKCzG/?igsh=Z2trN3NkaGNoN2Zq>

Many systems provide remote or joystick control (and gesture steering), enabling anglers to reposition the boat quickly. This is ideal for prospecting or moving between structures with virtually no downtime, or even for quietly trolling for gamefish such as king mackerel or leervis, simply by controlling speed and direction through a few pushes of buttons on your remote.

Some electric motors also seamlessly integrate with advanced sonar.

Built-in transducers stream CHIRP, SideVue, and ClearVue or LiveScope imaging through the motor shaft, giving real-time visuals beneath and ahead of the boat without clutter or external mounts. (This is hugely beneficial in the bass fishing world too.)

Finally, another great benefit that also involves a safety aspect is exceptionally useful when you take young kids fishing.

Employing the sea anchor function gives you the freedom to be able to focus solely on helping the kids and not having to either spend time stuck at the helm or deploying dangerous anchoring equipment.

Many skippers will sometimes forego anchoring and instead constantly be at the helm and on the controls, holding their anglers over a specific patch of reef whilst they bottom fish or jig for certain species of fish.

Unfortunately, this can sometimes lead to line entanglement in the props, especially if the conditions are tricky or crew lose focus. However, with the electric motor mounted up at the bow of the boat, it means that even when you're fishing at the stern and down the sides of the vessel, you never have to worry about getting fouled up in the outboards.

SAFETY BENEFITS

Using an electric trolling motor as a virtual anchor definitely reduces risks compared to traditional anchoring.

There's no need to handle heavy chains or rope in tricky offshore conditions, thus reducing the chance of entanglement or injury.

If anchoring is illegal in a certain area or navigation is restricted – such as in a shipping channel – a virtual anchor enables anglers to hold position without violating regulations or risking anchor drag or fouling underwater hazards. Because the system can detect drag or drift (in integrated setups with smart-anchor functions), the motor can automatically correct position or redeploy virtual anchor control, keeping the boat safe when currents shift.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Another benefit to using the electric trolling motor's capability as a sea anchor is that you are protecting the fragile nature of certain reef systems by not doing any damage whilst deploying or retrieving your anchor.



KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Below I've listed some key considerations to think about when looking into buying an electric trolling motor or sea anchor for use on your offshore fishing vessel. These are crucial to handling wind, current and heavier boat weights safely and efficiently:

- Thrust rating. The rule of thumb here is 5 lb. of thrust per 200 lb. of boat weight-fully loaded.
- Shaft length. Ensure sufficient length to keep the motor head submerged in all conditions.

- Voltage system. Some products offer 24V and 36V options; it's best to go 36V on bigger vessels and look for a lithium battery.
- Saltwater durability. Ensure the trolling motor is rated for saltwater use with sealed components and marine-grade materials.
- Advanced features. To get the best out of the product you ideally want GPS anchor/Spot-Lock, wireless remote controlling and system integration.

There are now several key players in this area of the market, and leading brands such as Lowrance, Power-pole, Garmin and Minn Kota/Humminbird, to name but a few, have all done rigorous testing and development on their equipment.

It is now up to you to decide which one to buy, depending on your personal priorities – whether that's ease of use, imaging quality, or overall automation and anchoring robustness.

If you're looking for safe, hassle-free anchoring and fishing, while being kept on the fish at the simple push of a button, then it may just be time to consider one of these setups.

REMINDER.

Votes are in!!

2027 Nomads Closed scheduled for Mapelane. (Waiting confirmation)

Next line was Cape Vidal, but all would have to camp. (Discussion point)

And 3rd came in at Santa Maria – Mozambique.

The committee will advise shortly.

**Nomads Prize Giving is around end November. (28th
November 2026). NOT CONFIRMED.**

Please keep dates open.

The Nomads Chant

We're Nomads We're Nomads

We live in the sea

Our boats are our homes

And our spirits are free

We travel the coastline

In search of our wish

And when we get lucky

We catch that big fish

We're loyal to Nomads

'cause we are the best

And if you're not with us

You will **lose with the rest!!**

..... Nomads!!!

“Tight Lines and may all the hook ups stick”

Remember:

“Stick and stay and make it pay”

Gus Pinker – Editor.