



NOMADS TIDE

AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2025

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In this issue.

Page 3	SADSAA Calendar.
Page 4	Mapelane Interclub.
Page 5	12 x 12 Species
Page 11	SADSSA All Stars
Page 15	Big Baits = Big Fish
Page 19	Nomads Chant.



SADSAA CALENDAR 2025.				
MONTH	DATE	TOURNAMENT	VENUE	HOST
JANUARY				
FEBRUARY				
	19 th - 22 nd February 2025	SADSAA Heavy Tackle Billfish Interprovincial	Sodwana Bay	SSBC
MARCH				
	14 th - 16 th March 2025	Durban Ski Boat Club Interclub	Durban	DSBC
	16 th -22 nd March 2025	Tuna Challenge 2025	St Francis	PSFSB
	20 th - 22 nd March 2025	Zululand Interclub	St Lucia	SLSBC
	20 th - 23 rd March 2025	Shelly Beach Gamefish Classic	Shelly Beach	SBSBC
APRIL				
	4 th - 6 th April 2025	Umhlanga Festival	Umhlanga	USBC
	11 th April 2025	SADSAA Council Meeting	Johannesburg	
	20 th - 26 th April 2025 (or 4-10 May)	SADSAA Tuna Nationals	Hout Bay	ABC
	25 th - 28 th April 2025	Durban Festival	Durban	DSBC
	29 th April - 3 rd May 2025	Tuna Masters	Hout Bay	ABC
	28 th April - 2 nd May 2025	SADSAA Junior Bottomfish Nationals	Port Elizabeth	PEDSAC
MAY				
	16 th May - 18 th June 2025	Shelly Beach Interclub	Shelly Beach	SBSBC
	20 th - 24 th May 2025	SADSAA All Coastal Interprovincial	Knysna	KDSAC
	23 rd - 25 th May 2025	SADSAA Gamefish Interprovincial	Umhlanga	USBC
	end May 2025	SADSAA Gamefish Nationals	St Lucia	SLSBC
JUNE				
	13 th - 16 th June 2025	SADSAA All Stars	Richards Bay	MSSBC
	13 th - 15 th June 2025	Tuna Interprovincial	Shelly Beach	SBSBC
	30 th - 4 th July 2025	SADSAA All Inland	Sodwana Bay	MDSAA
	30 th - 4 th July 2025	SADSAA Junior Gamefish Nationals	Sodwana Bay	MDSAA
JULY				
	9 th - 12 th July 2025	SADSAA Junior Bottomfish Interprovincial		OBC
	later in July: TBC	SADSAA Light Tackle Billfish Interprovincial	Sodwana Bay	NGDSAA
AUGUST				
	8 th - 10 th August 2025	Junior & Senior Garrick Release	Richards Bay	RBSBC
	13 th - 16 th August 2025	SADSAA Bottomfish Interprovincial	Durban	PYC
SEPTEMBER				
OCTOBER	-	-	-	-
	13 th - 17 th October 2025	SADSAA Light Tackle Billfish Nationals	Sodwana Bay	NGDSAA
	26 th October - 1 st November 2025	SADSAA Bottomfish Nationals	Richards Bay	MSSBC

NOVEMBER				
	17 th - 21 st November 2025	SADSAA Heavy Tackle Billfish Nationals	Sodwana Bay	MDSAA
DECEMBER				

Mapelane Interclub.

Skipper - Colin Green.



The Nomads team of Adrian, Natelie and new member Lyle Langley were selected to represent Nomads at the Mapelane Ski Boat Club Interclub competition held over the weekend of the 11th to 13th June 2025.

They were hosted and skippered by yours truly on Reel Screamer sporting 2 x new motors.

The Friday fishing was called off due to high winds and a few drinks were consumed getting to know our new Nomads member Lyle. He purchased a 16 ft King Cat from Chrisjan, that was previously owned by me, that coincidence.

Saturday was fine and we put to sea early and decided to target Tuna and Wahoo on the ledge. Unfortunately, we did not have any bites, so we moved into shallower water off Bats Cave and switched to dead baits. Adrian was first up and fought a suspected 15kg Cuda for about 5 minutes but applied too much pressure and lost the fish with a straitened hook, later Lyle was on and landed a 4,5kg Cuta.

Very few fish were caught by the fleet and Nomads were placed 4th.

Nomads had a great weekend and fished well.

Thank to Nomads for the opportunity to represent our club and hopefully we will send another team in 2026.

Yours in fishing

Colin

12 x 12 Species Competition.

St Lucia

16 – 19th July 2025

Shaun Aspden – Skipper

Gus Pinker – Angler

Wednesday 16/07/2025, the registration and opening were held in the main club of St Lucia Ski Boat Club. It was agreed by all skippers that no auction would take place for the boats but, a R1000 in per team and winner takes all. The format was catch as many species as you can per day with a limit of 5 per angler per day.

Thursday 18/07/2025

We were woken up to a howling NE wind around 12 – 16 knots. The safety officer informed the skippers that all boats can launch and muster behind back line for all to launch before going our merry ways. It was difficult fishing, but Gus caught a Snoek 5.6Kg on a crystal minnow while Shaun was spinning and got a 4.8Kg Snoek. With us battling for live bait and we managed 1 pinky we put it out and to our joy got a nice 8.2kg Cuta. Two species on the board with “FINTASTIC” in 4th position.



Friday 19/07/2025

Different story, in the weather with the wind around 5 knots and a little cloudy we looked at the fish finder to see it like a lava lamp. (Orange). Every drop saw a full string and within seconds we were on our way to “Elanor’s Patch” our favourite hunting ground. On the way the birds were going crazy on a colour line with scum at

the edges. We put out a few lures and on we were with our 1st species of the day. A nice 7Kg Yellow fin tuna. With one in the bag on the way we looked for snoek or a queenfish but nothing. Put the livies out and started our drift at the “patch” on 19m water depth and three hours later of being persistent a nice cuta was caught of 20.6 kg. Now 2 species so we started again for snoek. Just be lines up for the day we got a small snoek, but this did not weigh. The rest is history.



Figure 1 Gus very happy



Figure 2 Team FINTASTIC of Skipper - Shaun and angler - Gus

Saturday 20/07/2025

The competition was called off with the rain bucketing down since midnight together with very strong westerly, but the swell was 3.5m and the safety team called it off.



Figure 3 Team FINTASTIC winning 4th position



Figure 4 Gus Biggest Game Fish of the competition

12x12 Final Results Ski Boat 2025							
FISH WEIGHED	59	SPECIES WEIGHED OR RELEASED		10		POINTS SCORED	380,4
SAILFISH RELEASED	2	MARLIN RELEASED		0		BOATS THAT WEIGHED OR RELEASED FISH	13
BOAT TOTALS				TOP 10 ANGLERS			
Position	Boat		Points	Angler		Boat	Points
1 ST	Maverick		220,00	1 ST	Ockie Theunissen	Hannock	36,9
2 nd	Hannock		124,60	2 nd	Ane	Vyfster	36,1
3 rd	Vyfster		98,50	3 rd	Anna van Dyk	Ocean Commotion	26,8
4 th	Fintastic		91,00	4 th	Gus Pinker	Fintastic	26,2
5 th	Ilander		74,70	5 th	Luan van Aswegen	Wizard	22,7
6 th	Ocean Commotion		74,50	6 th	Clint Spammers	Hannock	20
7 th	Two Oceans		58,60	7 th	Carmen Breedt	Wavedancer	19,7
8 th	Wizard		57,50	8 th	Nicholas van Dyk	Ocean Commotion	19,7
9 th	Wavedancer		50,00	9 th	Shawn Aspen	Fintastic	19,3
10 th	S'ma Lekka		47,80	10 th	Louis Nel	S'ma Lekka	16,3

BIGGEST FISH					TOP LADY ANGLERS			
PLACE	WEIGHT	ANGLER	FISH	BOAT	Angler		Boat	Points
1 ST	20,60	Gus Pinker	CUTA	Fintastic	1 ST	Anna van Dyk	Ocean Commotion	26,8
2 nd	20,60	Dylan	PRODICAL	Maverick	2 nd	Carmen Breedt	Wavedancer	19,7
3 rd	15,80	Shelley Klomfass	YELLOW FIN TUNA	Two Oceans	3 rd	Shelley Klomfass	Two Oceans	15,8
4 th	15,10	Francois Myburgh	CUTA	Ilander	TOP JUNIOR ANGLERS			
5 th	13,50	Fiona Hofman	PRODICAL	Two Oceans		Angler	Boat	Points
6 th	12,00	Mitchell Joseph	WAHOO	Against All Odds	1 ST	Ane	Vyfster	36,1
7 th	9,40	Daniel Rosslee	CUTA	Hannock	2 nd	Daniel Rosslee	Hannock	9,4
8 th	9,10	Carmen Breedt	CUTA	Wavedancer	BOATS WITH MOST SPECIES			
9 th	8,90	Ockie Theunissen	CUTA	Hannock	Boat		Number	
10 th	8,40	Johan van Rooyen	YELLOW FIN TUNA	Maverick	Maverick CAUGHT 5 SPECIES			

ALL FISH	DAY 1			BOAT WITH MOST SAILFISH RELEASES			
SPECIES	# WEIGHED	BIGGEST	ANGLER	Boat		Number	
AMBERJACK	0	0		Hannock		2	
BONEFISH	0	0		BOAT WITH THE MOST MARLIN RELEASES			
SKIPJACK TUNA	0	0		Boat		Number	
BONITO ALL	14	5,2	Anna van Dyk				
CUTA	11	20,6	Gus Pinker	BOAT WITH MOST BILLFISH RELEASES			
DOG TOOTH TUNA	0	0			BOAT	NUMBER	TIME
DORADO	1	5,2	Luan van Aswegen	1 ST	Hannock	2	DAY 1
ELF (CHAD)	0	0		2 nd			
GARRICK	0	0		BIGGEST FISH BY A LADY ANGLER			
GREATER BARACUDA	0	0		Angler	Boat	WEIGHT	FISH
GREEN JOBFISH	0	0		Shelley Klomfass	Two Oceans	15,8	YELLOW FIN TUNA
KINGFISH ALL	8	5,8	Louis Nel	FIRST SAILFISH RELEASED			
GIANT KINGFISH	0	0		BOAT	ANGLER	TIME	
LONGFIN TUNA	0	0		Hannock	Clint Spammers	DAY 1	09:51:00
PRODICAL	2	20,6	Dylan	LAST SAILFISH RELEASED			
QUEEN MACKERAL	9	6,7	Ane	BOAT	ANGLER	TIME	
QUEENFISH	2	7	Johan van Rooyen	Hannock	Ockie Theunissen	DAY 1	13:19:00
RAINBOW RUNNER	0	0		FIRST MARLIN RELEASED			
SPEARFISH ALL	0	0		BOAT	ANGLER	TIME	
SWORDFISH	0	0					
WAHOO	1	12	Mitchell Joseph	LAST MARLIN RELEASED			
YELLOW FIN TUNA	11	15,8	Shelley Klomfass	BOAT	ANGLER	TIME	
BONEFISH	0	0					

12x12 Final Results Ski Boat 2025							
POS	BOAT	POINTS					
11 th	Against All Odds	40,60					
12 th	Bobby Flooze	25,50					
13 th	Pinnacle	4,70					



Figure 5 FINTASTIC Coming into beach



SADSSA All Stars

Richards Bay – Meerensee Ski Boat Club

08th – 10th August 2025

Mark Cockroft – Skipper.

Paddy Cockroft – All Star.

Gus Pinker – Deckhand (Gillie).

Sean Cockroft – Proud parent.

SADSAA ALL STAR DREAM CATCHERS Friday 8 August Meerensee boat club Commodore Cl. Meerensee Richards Bay	
Guests check in - Indaba Hotel <small>(Cnr Launder & Davidson In. Meer En See)</small>	14h00
Skippers briefing @ Meerensee Boat club <small>(Commodore Cl Meer En See)</small>	16h30
Registration	17h00
Opening Function	17h30
Skippers meet & greet	17h30
Dinner	From 18h00

Agenda Day 1

SADSAA ALL STAR DREAM CATCHERS Saturday 9 August Meerensee boat club Commodore Cl. Meerensee Richards Bay	
Breakfast for boat crew - Boat club <small>Skippers, Deckhands, All stars & Guardians</small>	5h30
Deckhand to collect boat packs & ice tickets	6h00
Boats start to launch	6h00
All Stars & Parent board boat	6h30
Boats wait in harbour	6h45
Fishing <small>Return @ All stars descretion up to 13h00</small>	7h00- 13h00
Scales open <small>crew enjoy snacks @ lapa</small>	13h00- 15h00
Island party&build-a- burger	17h30

Agenda Day 2



SADSAA ALL STAR DREAM CATCHERS Sunday 10 August Meerensee boat club Commodore Cl. Meerensee Richards Bay	
Breakfast for boat crew - Boat club <small>Skippers, Deckhands, All stars & Guardians</small>	5h30
Deckhand to collect boat packs & ice tickets	6h00
Boats start to launch	6h00
All Stars & Parent board boat	6h30
Boats wait in harbour	6h45
Fishing <small>Return @ All stars discretion up to 13h00</small>	7h00- 13h00
Scales open <small>crew enjoy snacks @ lapa</small>	13h00- 15h00
Closing function	17h30

Agenda Day 3

Friday 8th August started off lunch and then skipper and deckhand preparing the boat and tackle for the next morning. A plan was in place, on where we were going to fish and what we were targeting. The rods were set up and the live bait rod with new Sabiki's locked and loaded. Petrol loaded.





Saturday 09th August with ice, bait and boat packs all loaded. We were off with wind around 10 – 12 knots. Weather was a little chilly but warmed up as the day progressed. Live bait was nonexistent. We had mackerel, sardines and red eyes. Crystal minnows and strip bait with a flapper on shot gun next best. Flicking both sides of the boat did not raise any fish.

First rod ran and Paddy himself had a hammerhead shark.

We then ran on the 50m mark looking for tuna and Wahoo's. Empty handed.

Back inside and the wind was picking up, but we continued to try. Closer to home Paddy was on again the board with a bonnie.

That evening the theme was Mohanna and island style. Watermark did not let anyone down by getting into the swing of things.

Sunday 10th August the event was called off due to windy conditions and all were encouraged to fish in the harbour from the bank. All Stars enjoyed this together with skippers and deckhands.

Prize giving followed and every All Star was winners.

BIG BAIT = BIG FISH

Prepare well if you're hunting croc 'cuda

By Justin Paynter



The big fish months are upon us, and we can expect some screaming reels and probably some heartache at losing a big fish or two. Most guys you speak to will tell you they lose big fish, however, a good 'cuda angler knows that those little ones sometimes hit the bait a lot harder than the teenagers do.

When you really get that fish over 20kg, it will hit the bait and, when it realizes it's been hooked, you can hear it speeding up, changing gears as it goes. Then all you can do is try to pick up your rod which is probably wedged so deeply in the holder that it almost feels impossible to get out.

Looking down, you'll notice the spool of line is getting smaller, and your backing is starting to show. At that moment you know it's game on! As you settle into the fight, you start to wonder, if the number 3 lead wire is going to hold up and if your bite trace of no 5 is sufficient. What I have learnt over the past 18 months is that you shouldn't be having that internal discussion with yourself. You should be better prepared and must ensure in advance that your tackle is ready for the challenge. A good friend of mine and a Protea angler, Douglas Dustan, has a few All-Africa records, so when he speaks, I listen. While we were fishing at Mapelane, he said, "Listen here, dickhead, you're not putting that trace in the water! We are here for big fish. That means big baits which need big hooks and upsized wire!"

He was right.

When we got stuck into the fish, we had peace of mind knowing we could pull those fish hard because we were well prepared. Another good friend and co-owner of

Pulsator Lures, Matt Swemmer, and I have managed some really good fish of late, using the same mindset Douglas spoke about. A lot of guys have questioned the thickness of the wire, the hook size and the number of hooks we've used, but we haven't failed yet. We seem to be getting as many if not more pulls than the other guys, and this is mainly down to good quality bait, bait presentation and specific size chin weights and dusters to complement the water colour. Okay, so all you have taken in so far is "upsized everything"? Yes and no. Let's break it down.

BAIT

Most croc 'cudas are caught on either bonnies or walla walla. Yes, you will get one of these prize fish on a mackerel, but a big bait pulled past its nose is getting scribbled.

LIVE BAIT

A live bonnie or frigate is a guaranteed pull – either from a nice fish or possibly a shark. Nine times out of ten it will be a good fish. It is worth spending time fishing for these baits. Any size will do, but the best is a 25-40cm jub jub.

In general we use daisy chains, pulled at Rapala trolling speed through the bait balls busting on the surface or in an area where they are known to be. Throwing a small Halco Twisty or Kingfisher snoek spoon will also get a bite. When you have caught them, don't just chuck them in your live well. You need luna tubes. These are very specific, and ensure clean, bubble-free water passes over the fish.

The portable luna tubes sold by Patat De Jager from Teasers Tackle in Richards Bay have become very popular. I recently fished in the Gamefish Nationals, and most anglers had a set of these luna tubes and used them over the boats' built-in ones. What makes them so unique is that you just dump them into any live well and connect them to the battery. They work like a charm, keeping bait alive for hours, can be taken off when you don't need them and can also very quickly be set up on a boat that doesn't have luna tubes. No good 'cudas anglers will leave home without them.

Back to the baits themselves ...

These baits are normally fished on the surface without any down rigging needed. The vibration these fish create in the water attracts most predators at any depth. If you want to down rig them, don't use anything heavier than a 4 ounce.

Another big mistake most ski-boat anglers make is that they pull a live bonnie too slowly.

These are naturally fast-moving fish, and you want to pull them up to 5km/h (size dependent). The rod will have a massive vibration through it, and that's what you are looking to create.

We've got the bait, sorted, now to get the right trace set up.



Everything you need to make your trace

TRACE FOR A LIVE BONNIE

- No 6 Power swivel
 - Lead wire, no 5 or 7
 - Pulsator IGFA clip
 - Two no 7 or 8 Mustad Big Guns
- (I prefer using singles as they present themselves better in a live bait)
- Bite trace wire, no 7
 - No duster or bead in front. The bait needs to have as much clean water running over its mouth and gills as possible.



DEAD BAIT

Dead bait is generally very underrated by most ski-boaters. My enquiries show that anglers fishing from kayaks usually pull dead baits and get plenty of fish.

We ski-boaters tend to waste time catching live bait and then arrive at the fishing grounds an hour too late when the show is over. Meanwhile the kayaks have their hatches full and are beached again by 8am.

If I can give you any advice, it's to spend time this winter catching good quality bait. Look after it and it will change your catch rate in the gamefish months to come.

The top three dead baits of choice will be three: Mackerel on the top, a walla walla on the downrigger (I like the Seahorse downrigger from MH Tackle with a Teaser downrigger flasher), then a bonnie on a 10 ounce sinker and another bonnie on a 4 ounce sinker.

These will most certainly excite any hungry fish swimming past.

Before we move onto the right trace for these baits, I want to make mention of the importance of a downrigger.

A downrigger, is as important, if not more so, as the luna tubes, because the downrigger will get your bait to the required depth where the fish are sitting.

(Obviously you need to ascertain this depth by checking your fish finder.)

I like to use the heavier ball because it creates a better up/down effect. Again, don't leave home without a downrigger.

TRACE FOR A DEAD BONNIE

- No 6 Power swivel
- Lead wire no 5 or 7
- Pulsator 2 or 2 1/2-ounce chin weight
- Tails Up holographic bait wing (This allows the bait to swim beautifully. They make different sizes for smaller and larger bait). If rigged correctly, you can use a 1-ounce chin weight.
- Pulsator duster H004, H005, HD65, HD66, or pink Yamashita
- Three to four no 2 or 4 treble hooks
- Bite trace wire no 7 or 9 (You can use heavy wire as you don't have to worry about restricting the bait's movement.)

TRACE FOR A DEAD WALLA WALLA

- No 6 Power swivel
- Lead wire no 5
- Pulsator 1/2-ounce chin weight
- Pulsator duster H004, H005, HD65, HD66, or pink Yamashita
- Five to six no 2 or 4 treble hooks, spaced 8cm apart
- Bite trace wire no 7

TRACE FOR A DEAD MACKEREL

- No 6 Power swivel
- Lead wire no 5
- Pulsator 1 or 1 1/2 ounce chin weight (I love the 1 1/2 ounce, but Matt from Pulsator insists on a 1/2 to one ounce.)
- Duster (live glow, pink or pink Yamashita)
- Green bead if I don't use a duster
- Two no 2 or 4 treble hooks
- Bite trace wire no 7

The menu for the big fish is now complete! I wish you screaming reels and toe-touching 'cuda. Till we meet on the water ... tight lines!

Follow Justin Paynter on social media:

jt_paynter or @saltwateroracle.

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”

Gus Pinker – Editor.