



The Nomads Tide - A Monthly Brief January 2009



Important Dates

Friday 13 February:

- Nomads Prize giving
- Venue: Summer Place, Boksburg

2008 Billfish caught

Please could all members who successfully caught billfish during 2008 kindly advise Ian by email of their catch **before 10 February 2009**. Ian: ianvz@absa.co.za

Nominations

SADSAA Nominations

SADSAA are calling for the following nominations:- for each of the nationals listed below the following

- 3 MAN SADSAA TEAM
- U19 TEAM SADSAA
- MASTERS TEAM SADSAA

JUNIOR NATIONALS

- SADSAA U19 TEAM
- 1st-5th July 2009
- East London
- 10kg line

GAMEFISH NATIONALS

- U19, Masters And Normal 3 Man
- 8th-12th June 2009
- Sodwana Bay
- 10kg
- Own Boat

TUNA NATIONALS

- U19, Masters And Normal 3 Man
- 12th-16th May 2009
- Hout Bay
- 10kg

BOTTOMFISH NATIONALS

- U19, Masters And Normal 3 Man
- Port St Francis
- 6th-12th April 2009
- 10kg Line

PROTEA HAWAII INTERNATIONAL BILLFISH

- 20th-24th July 2009
- Hawaii
- 3 Man Protea Team

Anglers wishing to nominate must have their nomination forms in with the Provincial Secretary with R100 cash by **Friday 20th February** the very latest.

Gamefish Nationals 2009

- 8th-12th June 2009
- Sodwana Bay
- own Boat and bait
- 10kg species
- R6,500 per team (includes all meals and boat packs)

Anglers interested in nominating are to have their nomination forms in with the provincial secretary by **1st February 2009**.

U19 and U16 Junior Nationals

SGDSAA are calling for nominations for :-

- 1st-6th July 2009
- East London
- 10kg
- Bottomfish/Gamefish
- Teams to organise own accommodation
- All meals provided except one free pm
- Bait provided
- R4,510 per team

Nominations are to be with the provincial secretary by **1st March 2009**



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Nomads Interclub Nominations

Natal Rod & Reel Interclub

Nomads is calling for nominations for the above mentioned interclub:

- Briefing - Friday 27 February,
Fishing - Saturday 28 February & Sunday 1 March
- Venue: Royal Natal Yacht Club, Durban
- Target: Gamefish
- Line: 10kg
- One x 3 Angler team

Anglers interested in nominating are to have their nomination with Dave Visser by **Monday 1 February 2009**.

Sezela Interclub

Nomads is calling for nominations for the above mentioned interclub:

- Briefing - Friday 20 March,
Fishing - Saturday 21 March & Sunday 22 March
- Venue: Sezela Skiboat Club
- Target: Gamefish (species to count)
- Line: 10kg
- One x 2 Angler team

Anglers interested in nominating are to have their nomination with Dave Visser by Monday 16 February 2009.

Durban Skiboat Interclub

Nomads is calling for nominations for the above mentioned interclub:

- Briefing - Friday 27 March,
Fishing - Saturday 28 March & Sunday 29 March
- Venue: Durban Skiboat Club
- Target: Gamefish
- Line: 10kg
- One x 3 Angler team

Anglers interested in nominating are to have their nomination with Dave Visser by Friday 20 February 2009.

Dave Visser

Nomads Interclub Officer

(M) 083-272-4133, (T) 011-813-2038, (F) 011-813-2933

dkvisser@wol.co.za

Willing To Crew

Kevin Brown and Ivor Matthee are available/would like to crew at the Rosebowl in March next year. Do you know of any skippers looking for crew?

Contact Ivor Matthee, 011-2199770, 082-496- 4120

ivor.matthee@lifehealthcare.co.za

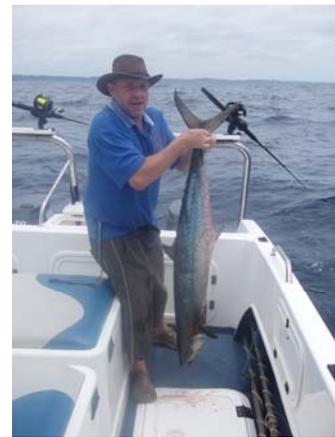


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Photos

Please could members email photos of their prize catches over December for posting on the website.



Click on the [blue hyperlinks](#) to open the corresponding web page



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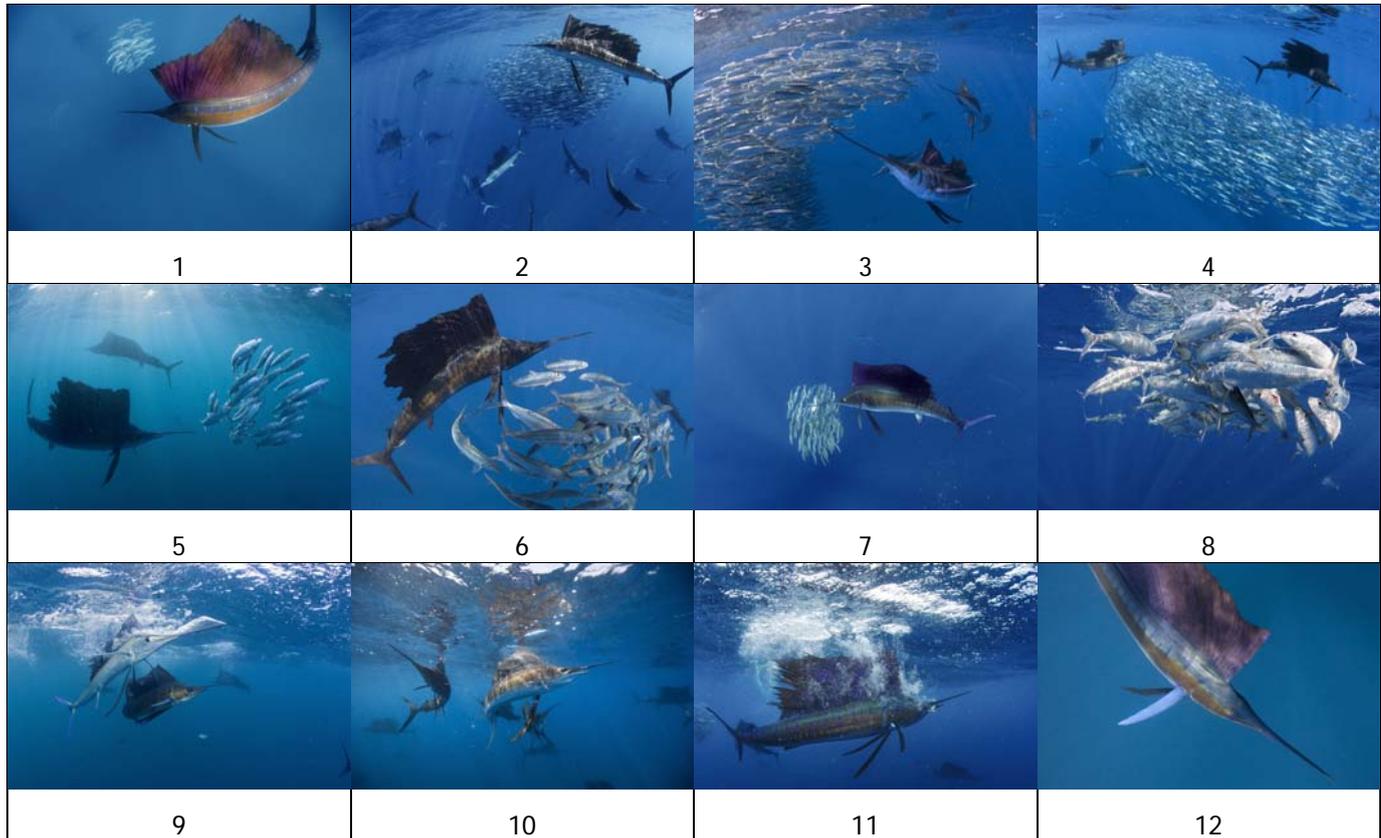


[Amazing Sailfish pictures](#)

<http://ngm.nationalgeographic.com/2008/09/sailfish/nicklen-photography>

Incredible encounter captured by Photographer Paul Nicklen

In the Whirl - sails raised, colour gleaming, they round up prey.



1. Adorned for the hunt, with fin raised and changeable colours flashing, a sailfish in the Gulf of Mexico circles a ball of sardines, preparing to strike.
2. Hunters gather: More than a hundred sailfish keep tabs on an elephant-size school of sardines off Mexico's Isla Mujeres. The big fish, which can stretch eight feet tip to tip, drive their prey up from deeper water for easier feeding near the sunlit surface.
3. Wielding its bony bill, the predator slices through a sardine school to isolate a smaller cluster-more controllable as the prey zigzag to elude capture. Sardines seek safety in numbers, moving as one.
4. Like wolves on a caribou herd, sailfish cooperate-sometimes for several hours-to turn unwieldy prey into a manageable meal.
5. Sailfish circle a small cluster of sardines, broken off from a larger school. The predators shoot in from all sides, popping open fins and flashing iridescent colours as they get up close. 'It's like saying, Boo! I'm here!' says marine scientist Guy Harvey, a longtime sailfish observer. 'There's a shock effect that pushes prey together.'
6. A giant dorsal fin and a powerful bill are part of a sailfish's hunting gear. The fin, when popped open, appears to help in corralling prey-from sardines (above) to anchovies to jacks. The bill is used to stun individual fish. Battered prey may attempt to flee, but few escape the speedy sailfish that chase them down.
7. Once a ball is under control, the sailfish take turns shooting through it, heads whipping side to side as they use their bills to bat sardines with remarkable precision. Pursuers then nab stunned fish before they can escape.



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8. Whittled down to its last bloody stragglers, the ball spins in a slow vortex, prey exhausted and no longer in perfect concert. Typically sailfish will consume every last one.
9. Sailfish display an amazing array of colours, which can change as their environment and activities change. The brightest colours flash when the fish are stressed or excited.
10. Though sailfish will dive a hundred feet or more to find prey, they prefer to feed under the light of day. When clouds blocked the sun during photographer Paul Nicklen's encounters, the sailfish-and then the sardines-quickly dispersed.
11. Splashing back into the sea after breaching the surface in pursuit of prey, this sailfish snapped up a sardine that had become separated from its school. With prey still at large, the predator will soon head back into the whirl.
12. A sportfisher's dream, the sailfish is big and beautiful. Its bill can pierce a wooden boat hull, and its speed rivals that of marlins and tunas.