

The Nomads Tide - A Monthly Brief August 2018



UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

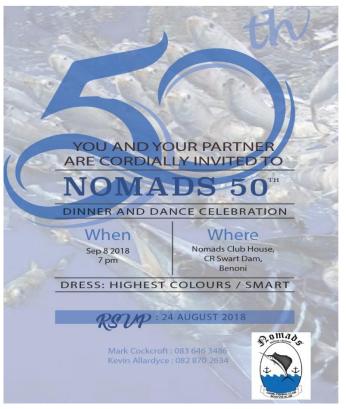
8 Sep Nomads 50th Anniversary Banquet

15 Sep Lowrance Technology Talk5 Oct Nomads Barnyard fundraiser

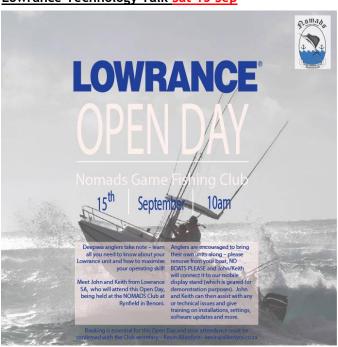
20 Oct AGM

26 Oct Protea send-off

Nomads 50th Anniversary Banquet on Sat 8 Sept



Lowrance Technology Talk Sat 15 Sep



Nomads is arranging for a Lowrance specialist from their Durban office to come and chat about utilising the functions of Lowrance fishfinders - specifically aimed at deep sea anglers. The event will happen on Sat 15 September and is open to anyone.

AGM and Boat Testing

Please reserve Sat 20 October. Boat testing from 08h00, AGM at 11h00. A formal notice of meeting will be issued in due course. However what we need to emphasize now is that boat testing is about to become a lot stricter under the new SAMSA regulations. Please start preparing your documentation, flares, extinguishers and boat safety now so that you are not disappointed on the day when the safety officer does not issue you with a sea worthy.

According to SAMSA there will be spot checks on the beaches and if your boat fails, you and the safety officer will be held accountable. So let's make the job of our officers easier by doing it right the first time.

Safety: VHF Radio Requirements for Boats

- 1. "All category D, C, B and passenger vessels must be equipped with a VHF Marine Radio which must have a Ship station Spectrum license issued by ICASA"
- 2. The operator of a VHF Marine Radio must be in possession of an Operator's Certificate (the old VHF Restricted RT certificate or the new Short Range Certificate(SRC) which includes DSC operation)-note that the SRC Certificate will become compulsory once SAMSA has completed the Installation of the DSC Radio network and when Telkom Maritime ceases to monitor aural watchkeeping on VHF channel 16 ...read more

Billfish catches

Please notify SGDSAA for bill-fish releases for 2017 AND 2018. However, this information is also needed by the club for a club presentation which will be held in January 2019.

So whether you have caught a billfish in competition or social fishing, please let us know and when you send your information to admin@SGDSAA.co.za, please copy Nomads Gamefishing nomadsfishing@gmail.com.

To all the Nomads skippers — this is important — please provide a list of the billfish caught on your boat for 2018. Social or in competition: Angler, Date, Line class, Location, Type of fish, name of competition or social.







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Request from the Chairman Mark Cockcroft

Email sent to members on Date: Fri, 20 Jul 2018, 11:58

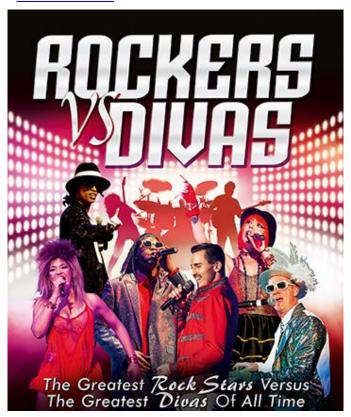
We had a good turnout of boats at the Rosebowl, but in contrast we had a poor showing at the Nomads Closed in Mapelane. Attached is a spreadsheet with 2 questionnaires. One for the skippers to rate the possible venues to hold a Closed, and the other for all members to express your feeling on where you would like us to hold the Closed. Please fill these in and return to the Nomads email address and the committee will take it from there.

The spreadsheet is available from the Nomads website: https://www.nomadsfishing.co.za/2018-nomads-survey/

Nomads Barnyard event Fri 5 Oct

- Annual fund raiser at Emperor's Palace.
- Tickets are Barnyard prices i.e. R180 a head
- Tickets will be printed for sale as soon as we have established the prizes.

Rockers vs Divas

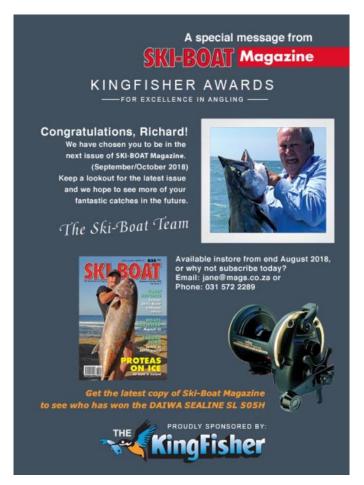


Protea Send-off Fri 26 Oct

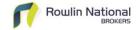


Kingfisher award for Richard Mosley

Richard is an active Nomads member who regularly fishes Shelly Beach. Catches similar to this are possible at next year's <u>Rosebowl</u> - to be fished from Shelly Beach from 10-15 March 2019.









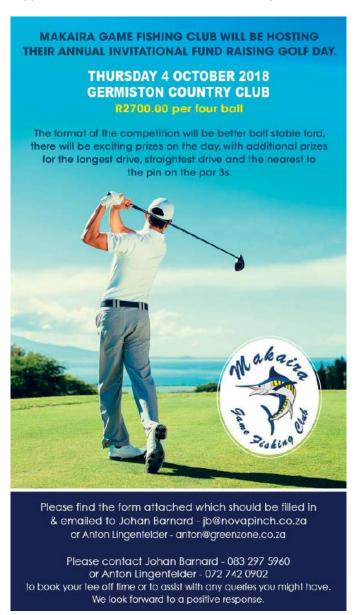
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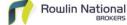
Makaira Golf Day

• Thu 4 Oct 2018

For the Nomads golfers out there: please try and support a fellow club with their fund raising efforts.









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Message from ORI

As most of you are aware we have been upgrading the tagging website to a new, more user friendly, interactive and informative version for the user. This has taken far longer than expected, but I am happy to say that it is finally up and running as a "soft" version. There are still a few minor changes that need to be made, but as for now it is live and ready to be explored.

Some new additions to the website (www.oritag.org.za) include:

- Being able to register online
- Being able to submit tag release and recapture data online
- Being able to edit your profile, change your password, and add a profile picture
- An interactive map allowing you to pin point your tag releases or recaptures
- Automatic tag recapture reports emailed to you once the data has been approved
- A feature allowing members to upload a photo of their catch
- A leaderboard of:
 - o Top taggers for the current year
 - Top tagged regions
 - Top fish species tagged
- A gallery of exciting catches
- Media releases of any news/documents related to the tagging project.

Feel free to explore the website and play around with these new features. Please also let me know if you run into any problems so that we can resolve them.

In order to log into the website you will need to use your existing email address (on your profile) as a user name; with your password being the same as that used in the previous website. If you do not have an email address or you cannot remember your email address or password please contact me on 079 529 0711/031 328 8159 or on original-address or or original-address or original-address or original-address or original-address or original-address or original-address or original-

Please do not try and upload any data that you have previously sent through as this data will be imported into the system shortly. You can upload any new data that you have that you have recorded from today (2018/08/17) onwards.

Happy tagging and tight lines! Cheers,

GARETH JORDAAN
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LIMIT YOUR CATCH, DON'T CATCH YOUR LIMIT











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Secrets of a sailfish attack

The large, long-nosed fish use their rostrums more like a sword than a spear

By Sarah Zielinski



Sailfish are named for the sail-like fin on their backs, but they can also be characterized by their elongated bills.

John Graves/Noaa

Many of us are familiar with $\underline{\text{sailfish}}$ — relatives of $\underline{\text{marlin}}$ — only from seeing them on the walls of sport fishermen. But watching them underwater, whether in person or on video, shows how beautiful the animals are in their natural habitat. Watch the video

https://www.sciencenews.org/blog/wild-things/secrets-sailfish-attack#video

These fish hunt in groups, driving schools of smaller fish, such as sardines, toward the surface. Then each sailfish takes a stab at the prey. Just what's going on can be hard to see, so Paolo Domenici of the Istituto per l'Ambiente Marino Costiero in Torregrande, Italy, and colleagues slowed down the action.

The researchers located sailfish off the coast of Cancun, Mexico, in February 2012 by following frigate birds, pelicans and other birds flying above sardine schools. Then they created high-speed videos of the sailfish as they hunted the sardines. The videos gave the researchers a detailed look at what was going on underwater. Their study was published April 22 in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*.

Sailfish are fast swimmers, but they're not relying on speed to catch their meals, the researchers found. Instead, a sailfish stealthily inserts its long nose (also called its rostrum or bill) into the school. The sardines don't take notice, and they're unprepared for what happens next: The sailfish either makes a slashing motion with its rostrum, injuring several sardines, or it taps a single sardine, destabilizing it. The sailfish's rostrum may look like a pointy spear, but the fish never actually uses their weapon in that way.

The sardines are unable to do anything in response to the sailfish's attack. And though sardines are fast swimmers, they can't swim fast enough to avoid the tip of the sailfish's rostrum, which has "one of the highest accelerations ever recorded in an aquatic vertebrate," the researchers note.

"Based solely on speed, large fish are expected to eventually catch small fish, but when manoeuvrability and acceleration are taken into account, large fish are often at a disadvantage," the researchers write. "Therefore, the use of morphological adaptations that can be manoeuvred effectively, such as the sailfish bill, can be critical for overcoming these challenges thereby allowing large predators to catch their evasive smaller prey."

Most sailfish attacks didn't result in dead sardines. Only 10 percent of slashes and 33 percent of taps resulted in a direct capture of a sardine. And slashing never resulted in immediate death. But as different sailfish attack a school, more and more sardines are hurt. This type of hunting is surprising because it's more typical of animals that hunt in packs, such as wolves. Sailfish hunt in groups, but those groups regularly break up and reform with new members.

The underwater videos also picked up some interesting details in the behaviour of a sailfish during an attack: The fish keeps its large dorsal fin and pelvic fins erect, probably to keep its body stable. And its body changes color, with the normally bluish-silver lateral sides darkening to almost black just before beginning an attack. Some of the sailfish also showed vertical stripes and blue and orange spots on their sides when they were attacking a school of sardines.

It's not quite clear what the colour changes mean, but they could be some kind of communication between sailfish. The fish attack a school only one at a time - possibly to avoid getting slashed by a compatriot - and they may be using the changes in body colour as a way to signal who goes first.

How sailfish use their bills to capture schooling prey

A detailed research article from the <u>Royal Society</u> - Biological Sciences. Their paper lists two interesting videos showing how sailfish use their bill.

- Slow-motion HS video of a slashing sequence
- HD video of two tapping events

Interesting notes from the article:

- Their analyses show that sailfish use their bill to isolate and capture prey through two main attack strategies (i.e. tapping and slashing)
- Sailfish did not rely on rapid swimming for prey capture (97% of the time speed was 1.2 ms⁻¹)
- Sailfish attacks were accompanied by changes in body posture, colour and pattern



