



NOMADS TIDE

JANUARY – MARCH 2025

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SGDSAA



SADSAA

In this issue.

Page 3	SADSAA Calendar.
Page 4	International code and flags
Page 5	Windsock
Page 5	Nomads Calcutta
Page 8	The Rose Bowl
Page 24	Targeting a Reel Screamer
Page 27	Important Dates



SADSAA CALENDAR 2025.

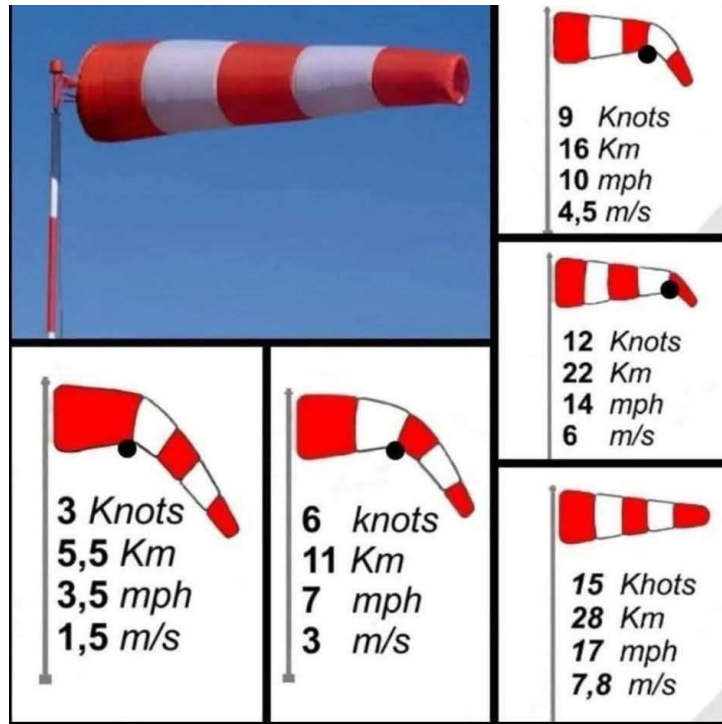
MONTH	DATE	TOURNAMENT	VENUE	HOST
JANUARY				
FEBRUARY				
	19 th - 22 nd February 2025	SADSAA Heavy Tackle Billfish Interprovincial	Sodwana Bay	SSBC
MARCH				
	14 th - 16 th March 2025	Durban Ski Boat Club Interclub	Durban	DSBC
	16 th - 22 nd March 2025	Tuna Challenge 2025	St Francis	PSFSB
	20 th - 22 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				

International Code & Flag.

INTERNATIONAL CODE FLAGS AND PENNANTS							
WITH MEANINGS							
ALPHABET FLAGS							
ALFA --		KILO ---		UNIFORM ---		1 -----	
Have diver down, keep clear		Wish to communicate		You are running into danger			
BRAVO ----		LIMA ----		VICTOR ----		2 -----	
Dangerous goods		Stop instantly		Require assistance			
CHARLIE ----		MIKE ---		WHISKEY ---		3 -----	
Yes		My vessel is stopped making no way		Require medical Assistance			
DELTA ---		NOVEMBER -----		XRAY ----		4 -----	
Keep clear, maneuvering with difficulty		No		Stop your intentions, Watch for signals			
ECHO .		OSCAR ----		YANKEE ----		5 -----	
Altering course to Starboard		Man overboard		Dragging my anchor			
FOXTROT ----		PAPA ----		ZULU ----		6 -----	
Disabled, communicate with me		In harbour: All persons report on board		Require a Tug Fishing: Shooting nets			
GOLF ---		QUEBEC ----		SUBSTITUTES		7 -----	
Require a pilot Fishing: Hauling nets		Request free pratique		1st			
HOTEL ----		ROMEO ----		2nd		8 -----	
Pilot on board							
INDIA ..		SIERRA ---		3rd		9 -----	
Altering course to Port		Engines going astern					
JULIETT -----		TANGO ---				0 -----	
On Fire, have dangerous cargo, keep clear		Keep clear, engaged in pair trawling					

Windssock.



Nomads Calcutta challenge 2024.

20th December 2024 – 03rd January 2025.

Winner of Calcutta Challenge – Shaun Aspden.



On the second days attempt to catch the big one for December, I went back to basics and live bait not walla was order of the day. By now every boat had caught Dorado and on first days fishing we boated and returned home by 11am to Mapelane.

Anyway, we managed to get some decent baits, about 40 of which we had Shad, Mackerel, Cigar Mackerel Mossies and a few Red Eye Sardes which managed to stay alive. Secret with live bait is not to touch the bait with hands at all, try shake off by holding the hook, or if that does not work use a de-hooker or a wet rag.

The bait at St Lucia was full up in 12 m mark and it looked like east gate shopping mall on Xmas eve, so I move to the 20m area straight off St Lucia and after 10min sounding we found the bait.

The plan was to go fish deep ledge as there was no wing and current was about 5km so down rigger would be order of the day, but since there was bait there and sounder showed what I assume were cuta and a few other big marks we decided to do a few trawls around that area. I had a live Mackrel on a 16-ounce sinker right on the bottom. The other 5 rods were spread out with various baits, but all deep as we were not after dorado.

On the second pass over the bait ball, we found my rod which was almost in my had screamed off, my two boat assistants Eleanor and Jan Kapp who have beaten Husain Bolt and local Mike Green over a 3m sprint, just had no chance.

What we thought was a big Cuta, then a Tuna finally on 10kg line was that GT you see in the picture.

Gloves on and tail grab, quick measure photo and release was order of the day.

So, 25,2kg was what Ori estimated the fish weight according to measured size, we estimated 22 to 24kg so was with-in reason.

The tackle I used was a Saltist Daiwa reel with 10kg line and 15kg maxima ultra green leader on a kingfisher cuta ski fishing rod, trace I used is called sneaky. What is sneaky you may ask well simply put it's a single small hook tied directly to my leader, I then using a needle thread a no 4 wire through under the skin of the live bait and just behind the head the wire comes out and I then push the hook through the wire loop and through the nose of the hook.

The reason for this is quite simple, I can target king fish, Garrick, tuna, snoek and cuta with this trace as the wire is out of sight and fish has no restricted wire on his nose to the leader. My strike rate vs the normal cuta trace is probably 5 to 1. Yes, you might get an odd bite off, but numbers don't lie.

2 SADSAA silver and gold in 2 years and this was my only trace used.

Over the December period, which consisted of 7 launches I stopped counting dorado on 3rd launch as did most boats, but we also got baby black of approx. 8kg, hooked 3 sailfish of which Eleanor got 1, my 12-year-old grandson got one and I broke mine off (to help the others and I'm sticking to that). There was also snoek and tuna boated, and all on sneaky and live bait.

Unfortunately, Eleanor lost a Cuta over 25kg when on final run just out of gaff reach, snapped the rod and line got caught in the fibre and burnt off. Had that not happened she would be writing this letter.



All the Best NOMADS for Rose Bowl.

Shaun Aspden.

From the Editor.

The biggest of congratulations from all at Nomads but remember December 2025 the boys are out to catch you.

Rosebowl 2025 – SGDSAA Interclub

Sodwana

3 – 7 March 2025

Hosted by TSBC.



Nomads were represented in full force with 11 boats. Dedicated marlin, sail fish and game fish boats which gave us a good spread.

Gaffer Dog

Wade Martin – Skipper. Dave Martin – Angler.



Fintastic

Shaun Aspden – Skipper. Elanor Roode – Angler.



Fish Hunter

Hennie Liebenberg – Skipper. Ignus Viljoen – Angler. Hein Engelbrecht – Angler.



Watermark

Mark Cockcroft – Skipper. Guy Pinker – Angler. Sean Cockcroft – Angler. Mike Baty – Angler.



Our crew worked tirelessly for 5 days hunting sail fish. We were rewarded with 1 sail fish on Thursday together with a Bonita and a Cuta. During the week we were bitten off five times by Wahoo. The teams moral was never in question and will be back in June for Nomads closed. To TSC for a great competition we thank you.



Bulldog

Kevin Allardyce – Skipper. Kevin Wallace – Angler. Neil Maloney – Angler. Patrick Maloney – Angler.



Slice of Life

Chrisjan Jansen – Skipper. Chris Jansen – Angler. Nelis Leonard – Angler.



Saily Days

Henk Liebenberg – Skipper. Rynard Keet – Angler. Cronje Potgieter – Angler. Johannes Geldenhuis – Angler.



I think Saily Days had the most fun and the most laughs. We really didn't sleep much and fished f@#ing hard. Weighed a fish on Monday. Wednesday, we got 2 species on the drift when we looked for the third species, we hooked a Marlin and fought it for about 20min. It was a small black marlin, so I assume the hook only went around his bill, give us a good show. We made great memories and that's what was needed. TSC did a great job hosting the competition and Nomads definitely deserved the "Gees Beeker"



Henk Liebenberg – Skipper

Tjaila Tyd

Norman Coetzee – Skipper. Frikkie Smooth – Angler. Gerald van Emmenis – Angler.



This is not for the feint hearted. Norman launching.



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9



10



11



12



13

Voice Mail

Adrian Feher – Skipper. Natalie Feher – Angler. Jan Breytenbach – Angler.



Shaya Lo Manzi

Pieter Range – Skipper. Riaan Nortje – Angler. Lois Van Wyk – Angler.



Skylar Blue

Christo Myburg – Skipper. Dries De La Rey – Angler. Ilze Myburg – Angler. Izak Venter – Angler.



The team went as defending winners and the excitement and enthusiasm of all our teams was at a high.

Saturday 1 March 2025

A tackle box was hosted at the home of Christo Myburg which was conducted by the legendary Henk Du Plessis on Sodwana angling. Useful tips on where to fish and what has been caught in the previous week. Questions were asked about by our members and all left with up-to-date information. A braai followed the event with Shaun Aspden giving a demonstration on rigging a bonnie.



All five days were fished with light wind conditions and big swells together with a side wash at the launch site that produced some hairy moments.



Dick head of day.



Biggest game fish Thursday.



76Kg Tuna Wednesday.



80Kg Tuna Wednesday.

Club Final Points



Club	Number of Boats	Points
MAKAIRA	7	499,16
ERBFC	7	245,30
GUINJATA	5	245,29
TSC	5	244,49
ALBATROS	5	81,05
NOMADS	11	78,65

The Spirit Winners.





TARGETING A REEL SCREAMER.

Wahoo Targeting Tips with one of the finest South Coasts Wahoo Whisperers.

Our season is in full swing, and we now start rolling into the time of year where PB's are broken, dreams are realized and, in some cases, tall stories of the one that got away or never gave us a chance is all about to kick off. We not talking about just any species though, we talking about every anglers 'Unicorn', boating a 30kg plus Wahoo. We chat to two guys who have caught more of these slabs than anyone I know and get the ins and outs on targeting this REEL SCREAMER – Mr Wahoo.

A FEW THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW.

Wahoo are open water Pelagic species meaning they like the vast expanses of the big, clear, blue ocean and will only hold over an area for a few days/weeks if there is bait holding there, in this case Bonnito, the water is warm 24 degree plus and its ultra clean. They enjoy water between 25 to 50 meters and can be found on structure, pinnacles, reef upwellings or ledges. If they are in a shoal, they are easier to entice to take the bait as there is competition for the same bait but if there are only one or two then it becomes a little tougher to entice the strike. Your bait has to be lively and be presented perfectly and this is all before you have even hooked up.

TACKLE

1 x Light spinning outfit 7/8ft spinning rod – Kingfisher Bonnito. 5000 size reel rigged with 20lb braid and 25lb Maxima Ultra green rigged with an 18g bite me or Onda.

If you can't get the Bonnito (Frigate Bonnito are best) on the spinning gear then try trolling a daisy chain for one. The ideal rig is one light Bait rod, either the same stick as above or a 12kg rod with a 20lb ultra green main line on a 30-size multiplier reel like a Daiwa SI30sh used to troll a daisy chain through the shoal. The daisy chain most popular to catch these bonito is a two hook, MAX 20lb piece of line about a metre long with two mini-Yamashita's (approximately 2cm long) above a 1/0 Mustad hoodlum or VMC live bait hook tied to a #4 power swivel.

Live baiting and trolling rods
Tyrnos 30 reels, Daiwa SI50SH, BG50's or the Penn Fathom 40 or any reel with a high gear ratio (you will find out why) filled with 300metres of 50lb backing and 150 metres

of 50lb Maxima Ultra green. They don't use any leader or Fluorocarbon which makes fishing and rigging a lot easier. Once that 150m of 50lb ultra green is coming close to finishing you just put another 150metres on and off you go. These reels are paired with 12 to 15kg trolling rods, the Shimano Beastmaster 7ftMH works well or the Poseidon Dorado ski or Couta stick works very well.

Mark de La Hey runs through his favourite live Bonito trace in this issue but here is another that has had just as much success with these fish. It's the simple cuta trace, just a little more beefed up. Approximately a meter of #8 American Fishing wire from a number 2 power swivel to a lead hook which is anything from a 3/0 to a 5/0 Mustad hoodlum or VMC live bait depending on the size of the Bonito. On the bite trace, between the lead hook and the first treble use # 9 wire and a Size 1 Gamakatsu, black 4 or 5x strong treble. Run two trebles in the trace like you would on a cuta trace but instead of placing the two trebles on either side of the bait, place them on one side, one halfway down the bait and the other just up from the tail. With Bonito, rigging them this way seems to create less issue of the hooks on the baits getting snagged up.

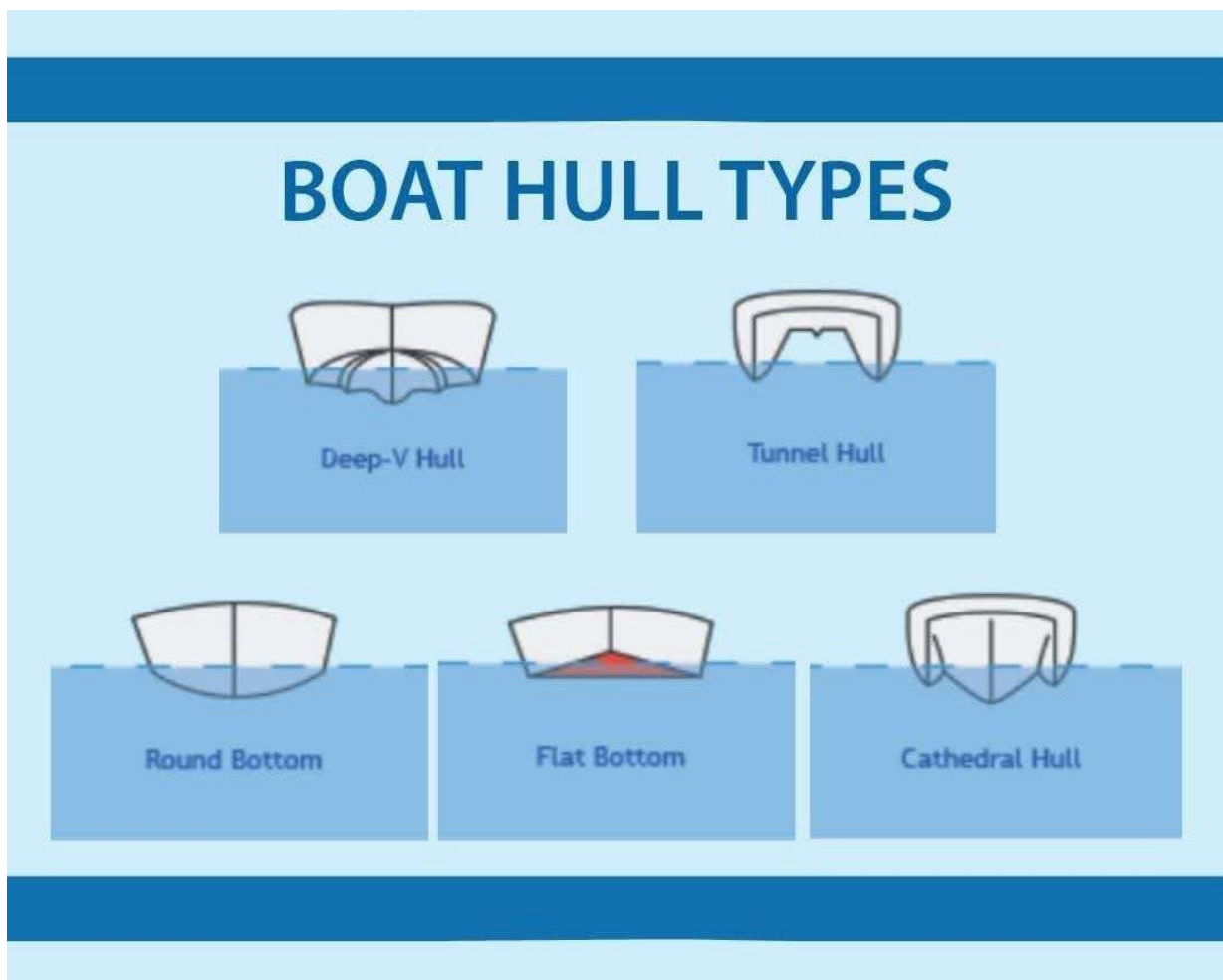
If you see some small Bonito on the surface, make your way up to them, make sure you have your live bait trace ready. Start with your spoon and cast at them, if this doesn't work pull your daisy chain. The daisy chain should never be more than 3 hooks long and is trolled at around 10 to 12kms p/h. You need to have a bit of white water coming out from behind the boat, once you have that then you know you going the right speed. Your daisy chain should be positioned just behind the white water as it starts to fade out.

If you can't get bait but know there are Wahoo around the favourite plastic that the guys troll is the Halco 160dd 2m diver in the R15/Chrome Pink colour. Troll this lure as fast as you can and position the lures as follows: one short (15metres out) and one long (30 metres). Make sure you put about 30cm of #8 fishing wire in front of the lure tied to a #2 power swivel. Most of the time you pick the first fish up on the short rod due to a reaction bite, carry on a bit, maybe like 10 metres and you should pick up the other fish.

If you get your Bonito and there are a few in the area, put it out immediately and stick around the bait, as long as you are in a decent amount of water and there is bait around, you should pick up some action. I generally check my bait once every five to 10 minutes to make sure it's still swimming fine and is still lively. I will troll a live bait with the motors just in gear and every now and then I will give a little prod of the throttle to pull the live bait little quicker for a metre or so just to wake it up a bit. If you find that the bait is alive but not too fresh (especially if you bring it to the boat and it lies on its side for a bit) and you aren't getting pulls but you know the fish are there, it may be an idea to try and find another bait. It gets a bit more technical than that, there are a few tricks to keeping your bonito swimming fresher for longer. Instead of a side on 'Scotty' type rod holder, try a rod holder that holds the rod straight up, that way there is less line in the water and the bait isn't tiring itself out by fighting the drag of the line as much. By checking your bait every five to ten minutes you also making sure that it hasn't snagged itself on the trace or other line which could also cause it to tire.

The most important thing with these fish is that it's a waiting game. You could fish for three or four hours without getting a bite and then all of a sudden you get three or four decent fish in a matter of minutes. For example, generally the fish off Aliwal Shoal will come on anywhere between 10am and 1pm and again later in the afternoon, early in the morning just doesn't seem like a favoured time for them, so stick it out and wait for them to come on the chew. If you get a fish on a specific spot, mark that spot and try it again with the next bait. More often than not, you will pick up another fish on that mark. They are extremely good at throwing hooks and this is due to a few things. They take blisteringly quick first runs away from the boat and then turn around and head straight back just as quick, this is where you need a reel with a high gear ratio to keep the tension. Their bottom and top jaws move simultaneously which makes it even hard to keep a good hookset. This is an amazing species and definitely one of the most exciting. It takes a while to figure them out but it's all worth it.

Courtesy Go Fish Magazine



Important Dates to Diarise.

NOMADS CLOSED 2025

CAPE VIDAL

16th – 20th JUNE 2025



Boats committed:

- Fintastic – Shaun Aspden
- Mystic Boer – Friedel Kirstein
- Slice of Life – Chrisjan Jansen
- Watermark – Mark Cockroft
- Voice Mail – Adrian Feher
- Chezzy – Alex Lockyer
- Saily Days – Henk Liebenberg
- Fish Hunter – Hennie Liebenberg
- Sea Gull – Leon Nel
- Shaya Lo Manzi – Pieter Range
- Jika Lapa – Izak Venter
- Aquaholic (Provisional) – Elmar Basson

Would be nice to have:

REEL SCREAMER,

TJALA TYD,

KASKAZI,

TEMPTATION

AND OTHERS.

“THE # 1 NOMADS TROPHY”

Tackle box held by Mark del a Hey was very interesting.



Support Members in Our Club.

Members, please send in details about your company to be posted in the newsletter. FOC.

“Tight Lines and may all the hook ups stick”

Gus Pinker – Editor.