

COMMODORE'S REPORT 16 DECEMBER 2011

To those who will be unfortunate to attend our AGM and won't be down here for the festive season may I thank you all for the support this year and all the past years.

We have had a fair year and been able to keep our standards during these hard times, spending a lot on maintenance and at the same time keeping big repair costs to a minimum whilst doing routine maintenance. On inspecting our roof structure when installing the air conditioner we noticed that the timber in the roof has deteriorated due to weather from being next to the ocean and this will be a major expense when we have to carry out repairs.

Also a big dent in our budget this year was in sending our anglers to inter clubs who fared very well with bringing home the medals in a lot of the competitions. I personally don't mind the expense as long as it goes for a good backing for our anglers to further their angling abilities nominating for Provincial & National Colours. Our Club has probably got some of the best anglers and yet they are not nominating, please anglers start nominating and put Shelly Beach back high on the board.

Four Shelly Beach members won ski boats in the past year proves that we are doing the right thing. I congratulate our Vice Commodore Pieter Bodenstein who's team won two ski boats, Craig Munro and his team for winning the F100 in the Guinjata Bonanza and PJ Botha's family once again winning the Cobra Cat at our Shelly Bonanza was for second time.

We will again be holding our Bonanza competition from the 27th till 30th June 2012, this will be bigger and better with a Cobra cat 630 and 115hp Mercury 4 Strokes as the main prize. So we need your support in sponsoring and also getting new sponsors for this competition and most of all let's try and break our record of 105 boats. We can promote this in a big way by inviting friends and guests to fish it. Very interesting is the fact we only fished two days this years yet record numbers of fish over the two days which proves that our non chumming on the reef (red area) is working.

We also ran an Inter Provincial in May on 10kg line and good fish was captured "20kg" tuna, but when the teams started chumming south of the Southern Pinnacle the sharks climbed in again.

At an impromptu meeting in November we once again discussed the voluntary "MPA" marine protected area and once again the majority of members and other clubs agree it is a good thing and should remain status quo with perhaps a few minor adjustments. Therefore, please members and friends can we all stand together and promote the cause especially bottom fishing on Protea and let's educate the digressers to willfully protecting our sea fisheries.

I have been working hard since 2007 to get our boat parking back to normal and the good news is that it is and we have marked the bays on the tarmac with “Recreational boats only” and can use bays 5 to 34.

A few rules and bylaws that we ask our members and recreationals to please abide by:

1. No vehicles are allowed to park inside the boom or boat parking area unless they have a boat and trailer behind.
2. We may only park in the demarcated area for recreationals and not allowed in the charter, divers or pleasure boat areas.
3. We may not wash our boats at the warm up taps and ask you to rinse your boat out at sea.
4. The taps are only for warming engines and flushing when you get off the sea. Your boat may not stand there longer than 15 minutes.
5. No cleaning or filleting of fish to be done in the bays and you must insist that your gillie does this at the fish cleaning area provided.
6. Please do not give the gillies any fish because this causes arguments and the sale of the fish for booze. Rather leave the bonnitas in the food chain out at sea, dead or alive. Don't boat what you are not going to eat.
7. Please leave your bay clean and instruct your gillie to not mess, but to clean up, they are being paid for it. Leave it the way you would like to find it.
8. If the fish cleaning area is locked in the evening, the barman will have a key, open the lock and return the key immediately. Please ensure you lock when finished otherwise our locals use it to do their dirty laundry on the fish cleaning slab.
9. If a tractor is launching you please tell the tractor driver he must park your trailer at the back of your vehicle. Do not use two parkings. There will be fines issued by traffic department and it is also considerate to other uses.

Once again I thank you all for your support through the year and years. A special thanks to my Committee, Pieter, Dick, Jackie, Elmar, Henry and Michelle.

A special thanks to Brenda for all her hard work and dedication to ensure our club is always floating and the right way up.

To Gary, Victoria, Lorraine, Mary, Inathi and Marco you don't go unnoticed and do the Club proud for your constant and dedicated service given over the years. Victoria 15 years, Gary 11 years, Mary and Lorraine 9 years. We must have something right when we have staff that look after us for so many years.

May you all have a super festive season an excellent Christmas and may your year be prosperous safe and happy.