**Mounts Bay Angling Society Catch & Release Policy**

Mounts Bay Angling Society allows anglers to self weigh & release fish that are not to be retained for the table.

**THIS IS ALL BASED ON “TRUST” AND MEMBERS SHOULD NOT ABUSE THIS TRUST.**

Members are asked to regularly check that their scales are accurate, by weighing objects of known weights.

* Do **“NOT”** enter fish as catch & release if they have been retained for **“ANY”** purpose.
* Weigh fish in a bag or sling, **“DO NOT”** suspend by gills or mouth.

Catch & Release Rules (Amended 2019/20).

1; Fish **“MUST”** be photographed close up, **“NEXT”** to a clear tape, that clearly shows the fish’s length, or in the case of rays (its wingspan). Look at clubs website to see C&R examples/pictures. – Only good pictures will go on club website, **“ALL”** fish/pictures will be reviewed by C&R committee, who will deem if fish acceptable.

2; If possible a photograph(s) of fish being held/released by the angler before returning to sea, should be included.

3; Photograph(s) **“MUST”** be sent to clubs designated C&R email account, within 48hrs of fish capture.

4; Weight of the fish **“MUST”** be sent in kilograms/grams – fish in pounds & ounces will **“NOT”** be accepted. If you weigh in pounds & ounces it’s the angler’s responsibility to convert to kilograms/grams. – **“ALL”** catch & release fish to be weighed on digital scales in metric.

5; Only fish with a good chance of survival should be released.

6; If you wish to claim a club record you **“MUST”** retain fish and have it weighed on certified scales. The club has started a separate list of catch & release records, for fish that would have beaten existing records, but, have not been retained.

7; Current fish species that **“CANNOT”** be entered as catch & release are common and chub mackerel.

8; Sharks do not have to be photographed next to a tape, but, the measuring of the fish **“MUST”** be witnessed and a photograph of the fish, before release “MUST” be supplied for the website (optional with tape).

9; If the above rules are not adhered to, the committee has the right to remove the fish.