



Surf Casting and Angling Club of WA (Inc.)

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May 2012 Field Day, Rottnest

For our international readers, Rottnest Island is located 18 kilometers off the Western Australian coast, near Fremantle. It is called Wadjemup by the Noongar people, meaning "place across the water". The island is 11 kilometers long and 4.5 kilometers at its widest point. Its total land area is 19 square kilometers. For many years Rottnest Island has been a popular fishing venue for our club.

Once again the "Rotto" field day was filled with excitement and total enjoyment. This venue just never disappoints and every member is left with a great experience and memories for a lifetime. I always try to explain this fishing venue with a few words, but really, one needs to go and experience it for yourself to totally grasp what this beautiful Island has to offer. To those of you who have ventured with me to the place across the water, thanks again for your mateship, help and camaraderie.

With fairly accurate weather and swell predictions we could plan our weekend a little in advance. Saturday was predicted to be a great fishing day with the reef very accessible and safe. Sunday's predictions were good weather with a high swell. Thus we knew we had to make the most of our reef fishing on Saturday and then Sunday fish the protected and safer areas.

This worked out well and many a good fish was hooked on Saturday, however not all of them could be landed with some very big fish deciding to go for the Indian Ocean and just never stopped. Although the Yellowtail Kingfish were in abundance, only 2 legal size fish could be captured, and only by Peter Osborne. With the calm water the Skippy seemed reluctant to go on the bite and only a handful were landed. They were all of good size and Sandra once again landed the biggest one.

On Saturday some people fished Wilsons and they were rewarded with some nice Tailor, Ian Taggart landed 3 in quick succession. On Sunday Theo van Niekerk fished the same area and also landed 5 good Tailor in a short time.

With the high swell on Sunday the reef was tested but found to be very demanding and we decided to fish calmer waters. This worked out well as 3 prized Westralian Dhufish were landed. 2 were just short of legal length and were released immediately.

Theo bagged a beautiful Dhufish and is now one of only a handful of people who can claim they caught a Dhuie from shore.

Frank Gaudin impressed once again with his fly rod and managed to weigh in a full bag of fish. Frank hooked into 3 big fish but lost the battle every time at the final stages of the fight, with the probable cause, dirty fighting Yellowtails using the reef caves as an escape route.



Theo with Rottnest West Australian Dhufish

The charter bus, with its helpful and friendly drivers was once again bang on time and a great thank you goes to this rather special service our club enjoys year after year.

Sunday night at the weigh in some quality bags were presented, with many an angler weighing in a full bag of fish. The field day prizes go to Peter Osborne for his beautiful Yellowtail and the heaviest bag goes to Theo van Niekerk.

Our next field day is Bowes River to Kalbarri with the sign-on and weigh in to be held at the Wagoie Chalets. This Field Day will run over the long weekend in June. See details published elsewhere in this Reel Talk.

Hope the next time I see you is with a bent rod in the hand. Tight lines.

Peet Wessels, Field Day Officer

Catch results and points for May Field Day

Angler	Weight	Species	Fish	Points
Peter Osborne	10.97 kg	8	30	239.7
Peet Wessels	7.46 kg	7	30	194.6
Theo Van Niekerk	7.76 kg	6	24	177.6
Sandra Wessels	6.75 kg	6	30	177.5
Francis Gaudin	4.57 kg	3	30	115.7
George Holman	1.65 kg	4	5	76.5
Ian Taggart	1.26 kg	1	3	72.6
Allan Jones				20.0
Martin Wearmouth				20.0

Points include Field Day and May General Meeting points. Species weighed at the Rottnest Field Day were Skipjack Trevally, Breaksea Cod, Cod (other than listed), Tarwhine, Wrasse, Western Rock Blackfish, Herring, Tailor, Yellowtail Kingfish and Westralian Dhufish. Species weighed at the Local Field Day were Tailor, Skipjack Trevally, Snook and Flathead.

Sportsperson of the Year winners for May 2012

Best scale fish	Peter Osborne	Yellowtail Kingfish	2.3 kg
Best bag of scale fish	Peter Osborne	Mixed bag	10.97 kg

Field day section winners for May 2012

Best scale fish	Peter Osborne	Yellowtail Kingfish	2.3 kg
Best bag of scale fish	Theo Van Niekerk	Mixed bag	7.76 kg

Field Day top scores for 2012/13

Total scores up to and including May Field Day and General meeting. Competition Rules section 2.4.5 specifies only the best 11 months out of 12 will count at the end of the competition year. The winners will be announced at the Presentation of Trophies in June 2013, and adjusted scores will be published after that.

Name	Points	Rank
Peter Osborne	239.7	1
Peet Wessels	194.6	2
Theo Van Niekerk	177.6	3
Sandra Wessels	177.5	4
Francis Gaudin	115.7	5
George Holman	76.5	6
Ian Taggart	72.6	7
Allan Jones	20.0	8
Martin Wearmouth	20.0	9

Field Day sections 2012/13

Up to and including May 2012 Field Day.

1A	Best scale fish (1st six months)	Peter Osborne	Yellowtail Kingfish	2.3 kg
1B	Best scale fish (2nd six months)			
2	Most meritorious fish	To be awarded by Committee		
3	Best Shark (4.5kg min)			
4	Best Mulloway (2.0kg min)			
5	Best Tailor (1.0kg min)			
6	Best Salmon (3kg min)			
7	Best Skipjack Trevally (0.5 kg min)	Sandra Wessels	Skipjack Trevally	1.06 kg
8	Best Mackerel (2kg Min)			
9	Best scale fish (other than above)	Theo Van Niekerk	Westralian Dhufish	1.9 kg
10	Best bag of scale fish	Peter Osborne	Mixed Bag	10.97 kg
11	Best bag of Mulloway (2 fish Min)			
12	Best bag of Tailor (2 fish Min)	Theo Van Niekerk	Tailor	2.8 kg
13	Best fish on S/H rod 4kg b/s line (max)			
14	Best fish caught on fly rod	Francis Gaudin	Wrasse	0.54 kg