



FLY FISH AUSTRALIA INC.



® "PROMOTING COMPETITION SPORTS FLY
FISHING IN AUSTRALIA"

www.flyfishaustralia.com.au

Patron: Janet Holmes à Court

COMMONWEALTH FLY FISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS TASMANIA 2012 'FISHING IN FRIENDSHIP'

Hello again to Commonwealth Fly Fishers

Since my last newsletter of December last year, we have seen natural tragic disasters take place around the world with volcanic eruptions again in Iceland, Tsunami in Japan and the earthquake and aftershocks in New Zealand. Our thoughts go out to the folk who have suffered as a result, particularly to our friends in New Zealand who, I am sure, will have direct connections to the affected area.

However the good news is that Tassie is still standing and preparations are continuing for next February's Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships.

As I have been asked a number of questions from various teams, I thought it best that another newsletter be sent out.

At the moment we have Expressions of Interest from 16 teams from 12 countries which will make this CFFC the best attended yet. The teams list will be posted on the Fly Fish Australia website as their registrations are confirmed. What I can tell you is that the mix of skills is amazing from Loch, River UK trout anglers through to teams from Asia qualified as casting instructors and adept at catching tropical freshwater species most of us have never seen on the other hand some of these guys have never seen a Trout !!!!!

So with all of this plus the ladies teams there to keep us all honest the event will truly meet our ideals of '**Fishing in Friendship**'.

Given that we have the Christmas festive season just prior to the event the team registration documentation will be sent in September with a closure in December 2011. Your assistance in completing and returning the application at your earliest is greatly appreciated. I also have sponsored clothing for everyone and will need individual sizes to ensure correct fit.

Listed below are some of the items brought to my attention and requiring answers.

QUARANTINE

I think that above all else this point is the one that deserves the team's full attention.

Tasmania is an island state and relatively free from disease and our authorities are keen to keep it that way. The customs and quarantine departments are particularly vigilant in checking incoming people pursuing outdoor sports. There are a number of websites that go into great detail about this matter i.e. www.aqis.gov.au, www.ifs.tas.gov.au, www.aqis.gov.au/airports. The main message is that all equipment incoming must be **Checked, Clean and Dry**. Please read and understand what

you need to do. FFA has also posted some additional information on the FFA website www.flyfishaustralia.com.au.

FLIES, FLY TYING MATERIALS ETC.

Again, the matter of flies, hooks and fly tying materials is one for you to consider when coming into Australia.

The 2011 FIPS rules now state that all flies shall be tied on barbless hooks. A rule modification for debarbed hooks has been approved by FFA for this event.

With regard to fly tying materials, any natural fur or feather materials for tying flies are viewed with suspicion by Quarantine so my advice is to leave all of your valued capes and natural materials at home. Artificial materials are no problem as well as all tools and threads.

Flies: The advice from quarantine is that all made up flies providing they are in new condition should be OK.

Now for the good news: one of the CFFC criteria is that a fly tying competition be held with each team having a representative fly tyer. The winner will be awarded a most suitable prize at the Gala Dinner.

The committee has been successful in recruiting Ross Pullin, who is the owner of a tackle store in Launceston (10 minutes from your event accommodation) and who will be sponsoring the fly tying competition.

Ross's store "The Essential Fly Fisher" www.essentialflyfisher.com.au is arguably the best fly fishing store in Tasmania and Ross has assured the committee that all of the flies plus the fly tying materials and a huge range of barbless hooks will be available. The store is a fly fisher's treasure trove with the lot so don't worry if you forget, lose or run out of anything. Ross can be contacted on essfly@bigpond.net.au.

Ross himself will be one of the judges of the fly tying competition. The first judge I will be Jan Spencer. Jan has represented Fly Fish Australia on a number of occasions and comes very highly credentialed for the position as one of Tasmania's skilled fly tyers.

Jan has kindly put together a selection of her choice of flies that she would use in Tasmania in February.

The details of the flies and accompanying photos will be on the Fly Fish Australia website www.flyfishaustralia.com.au under the CFFC link/news.

In addition, the website www.flylife.com has the electronic copies of Tony Dell's 'A Basic Tasmanian Fly Box' which has good detail re flies for Tasmania in it.

TROUT FISHING VIDEOS

Most of the team's attending the CFFC in Wales received copies of Chris Bassano's fly fishing videos featuring Tasmania. For those teams that did not, I will be sending out copies as soon as they become available.

For those of you who would like your own copy visit www.highlandgoldtasmania.com.au. Chris's videos are a very accurate explanation of the type of fishing here and worthwhile looking at a number of times. These videos are very popular and just walk off of the shelves.

TRAVEL DETAILS

By now I hope that you have been able to sort out deals with travel agents bearing in mind the opportunity for group travel discounts and cheap through connect flights to Tasmania. Be aware that Tasmania is not an international destination so you will clear customs and immigration via other Australian mainland cities such as Sydney, Melbourne, Perth etc. Make sure that if you are coming straight onto Tasmania that you give yourself ample time for the domestic connection to Tasmania. I would suggest about three hours.

Enquiries regarding visas should be processed through your travel agent.

Why not extend your stay in Tasmania? For more information visit
www.discovertasmania.com



TEAM HOSTS AND GUIDES AND PRE-EVENT ACCOMMODATION AND HIRE CARS.

Just a reminder, that if incoming teams require hosts to assist you in your pre-event adventures please contact me. A number of teams have taken up this offer and are in contact with their hosts.

For those of you who require the services of Tasmanian professional guides please see www.troutguidetasmania.com.au.

Another great website is www.tasfish.com, run by a great supporter of this event, Mike Stevens, and has a host of information.

With reference to your pre-event accommodation, in my previous newsletters I indicated that it is our summer time and you should be mindful of bookings.

The same applies for your hire car needs. We have been fortunate to gain sponsorship from  for your vehicle needs in Australia. The discount deals on  are in a separate email.

As I finish this note I am looking out from my cabin at the winter sun over Penstock Lagoon. The lake, I guess, is just above freezing and there is snow all around. Most of our lakes are full with real winter rains yet to come. This means that the wild trout will all be in prime condition for February next year with the weather much warmer.

In closing I hope this finds you all well and starting to get itchy feet to get on the road down under.

Regards



J Malcolm Crosse
Chairman
Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships Organising Committee
09/06/11

