



Angling Trust Team England Fly Fishers.



Guidance Notes for Loch-Style Qualifier Entrants 2017.

**PLEASE READ THESE NOTES IN THEIR ENTIRITY AS CHANGES HAVE BEEN
MADE FOR 2017.**

RULES ARE NOW IN A SEPARATE DOCUMENT.

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Introduction.

The following information is provided following the Loch-style qualifier trials held in 2015 and 2016. The arrangements will of course be subject to a continual review to determine a format for Loch Style Qualifiers beyond 2017. The AT TEFF Executive reserve the right to adapt, change or amend the arrangements as considered necessary for this season and thereafter.

Qualifiers - Multiple Entry Information and Rules.

1. The Qualifier will be fished to the recognised AT TEFF Loch Style rules as published on the AT TEFF Web site and in the document 'Rules for loch-style qualifier entrants'. You are strongly advised to read this document.
2. Local variances to the rules, if any, will be available from the event organiser prior to the match.

3. Qualifier formats, rules etc. will be reviewed annually by AT TEFF at specified AT TEFF Executive meetings.
4. It is recognised that the cost of entry, practice and accommodation is a factor in the qualification process and all steps will be taken to minimise the cost of entry to the Angler.

Competition Format.

1. Only the following Qualifier formats are authorized by the AT TEFF.
2. A 2 day 8 hour per session match on consecutive days.
3. A 1 day 8 hour per session match.
4. Each qualifier will be fished with a minimum entry of 20 Anglers but in the extended regions, for example the south east or north east a reduced minimum entry will be allowed so as not to disaffect regional entries.

Venues for 2017.

1. The following Qualifier venues are currently authorized by the AT TEFF:
Chew, Grafham, Rutland, Pitsford, Bewl, Stocks, Kielder, Blithfield, Draycote, Carsington and Blagdon.
2. Other venues may be added by the AT TEFF Executive.
3. **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR THOSE INTENDING ENTERING AT BLAGDON.**
The Blagdon heat is traditionally very popular. To help alleviate pressure on the entry system we have been able to increase the number of available boats to 25 (50 rods). However this does mean, for health and safety reasons, that boats will be loaded and anglers will depart the boat station in 2 waves. This in effect means that angler will have to be ready to leave the dock 30 minutes before the heat commences and will wait in a pre-defined area until they are joined by the remaining boats. The same system will apply at the end of the heat which will inevitably delay the weigh-in.

Qualifier Organisation.

1. Qualifiers will be run, on behalf of the AT TEFF, by volunteers (organisers). Qualifiers are "Open Matches" and there is no mandatory requirement to be a member of any Angling Club. AT TEFF will set the Entry Fees for their Qualifiers. Fishing fees may vary depending on venue.
2. AT TEFF qualifiers are standalone matches and will not be combined with any other Competition.
3. Organisers will nominate an official contact who will be the sole path of communication between the Organiser and the Qualifier & National Co-ordinator. (Q&NC)
4. Practice days are the sole responsibility of the entrant. Fees for practice days will not be collected centrally.

Insurance.

1. Third Party Liability Insurance will be arranged via AT TEFF for this specific competition.

2. Anglers are also encouraged to join the Angling Trust to avail themselves of the Angling Trust personal Insurance.

(You MUST be a member of Angling Trust if you fish in any AT TEFF National Final).

Entry Process – read carefully as changes have been made for 2017.

1. It is the sole responsibility of each entrant to decide and manage which Qualifier(s) they enter.
2. Entrants should make themselves fully aware of the schedule of events, their opening and closing dates etc. Changes have been made for 2017 with the various venues split into BLOCKS each with its own opening and closing date. These BLOCKS have been designed to allow anglers failing in one BLOCK to enter a heat in a subsequent BLOCK. It is envisaged that this will make the administration and tracking of entries simpler for the Q&NC.
3. The schedule of venues and dates can be found on the TEFF web site.
4. An individual is allowed to enter and fish a maximum of THREE Qualifiers providing that they pay the full AT TEFF entry and fishing fee for each Qualifier they enter.
5. The venues, entry dates and closing dates have been carefully selected to ensure the smooth running of the 2017 qualifiers. It is the responsibility of the entrant to plan his / her entries carefully and to plan his / her entry strategy.
6. Entry fees will be determined annually by AT TEFF and will include, where required, an element to cover any reasonable organisers costs. For 2017 AT TEFF Loch Style Entry fees have again been held at £30 per venue.
7. ATTEFF has negotiated on anglers behalf with all the fisheries to attain the best possible deal for the fishing costs.
8. Online entry will be available through the Angling Trust web site and will use credit / debit card payments. **PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENTER ON-LINE.** If you do not have internet access or are unwilling to enter on-line perhaps consider asking a friend to make the entry on your behalf. Handling of cheque payments by the central organiser is very time consuming so please consider on-line entries before requesting an entry form.
9. The on-line system will detail venues, dates, cost of qualifiers and closing dates. The on-line system will also detail the strict cut-off dates for entries and payments.
10. Fees will not be taken by event organisers.
11. **Entry and fishing fees are non-refundable.** (SEE NOTE ON RESERVES BELOW).

Pre-Qualification.

1. The very nature of multiple entries means that it will not be possible to give anglers an exact number that will progress at each heat. A rough guide is 30%. If in any doubt as to whether or not they have qualified, an angler should wait until the opening date of subsequent heats and re-enter.
YOU ARE ADVISED TO ONLY ENTER ONE HEAT AT A TIME. IF YOU ENTER MORE THAN ONE HEAT AND QUALIFY AT THE FIRST ATTEMPT YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CLAIM A REFUND FOR SUBSEQUENT HEATS ENTERED, HOWEVER SEE NOTE ABOUT OFFICIAL RESERVES BELOW.
2. No guidance will be given by the Q&NC or local organiser on this subject.

3. The Q&NC will not enter into any verbal or textual discussion about an entrants likelihood of his / her having qualified.

Entry BLOCKS / Reserves.

1. Entrants will note that venues are grouped into BLOCKS with differing entry and closing dates for each BLOCK.
2. Places at some venues are limited – once a venue is fully booked then reserves will be taken for that venue.
3. If an entrant is unable to fish a reserve will be called from the official list.
4. No refunds will be made to any angler that withdraws from a heat for whatever reason unless that angler can find a replacement off the official reserve list. It will be up to the entrant to make this arrangement.
5. Contact details for official reserves, if any, will be given on request by the Q&NC.

Entry Information - General.

1. Only entrants that actually fish at an AT TEFF Qualifier will be used to decide the number of places awarded in the National Final on a pro rata bases. An Entrant is an angler who has paid all relevant fees and commences fishing the qualifier he/she is entered in.
2. The ratio of anglers fishing the final will be based on the total number that actually fish, not the number that enter. Pre-qualifiers, if any, will be deemed to be non-competitive and taken out of the final equation. The number of rods at the final may be varied slightly to make the computations fairer. This ratio will be applied to all qualifiers. See FAQs for more details.
3. In the event of a National Finalist declining to fish at the National Final, their National final place will be awarded to the next placed entrant at the Qualifier from which the entrant gained their National Final place, even if that entrant had already gained qualification at a later dated qualifier. When this happens the later dated qualifier place will be taken by the next in line at that qualifier and so on.
4. To assist entrants in planning their multi entries and their potential qualification, a spreadsheet will be published (accessed via the AT TEFF web site) that will nationally track entries, record results, give an indication of the likely National Final places per entry ratio and identify potential pre qualifiers. At times this spreadsheet may be taken off-line while it is updated. This spreadsheet will be updated with entrant names on a weekly basis. Do not be concerned if your name does not appear until 7 days after you have entered and paid.

Heats cancelled due to lack of entries.

1. Anglers that have entered a heat that is subsequently cancelled by AT TEFF due to lack of entries will be notified shortly after the closing date for entries.
2. Anglers will then have two choices, either to transfer their entry to another venue or ask for their fees to be refunded. It will be up to the entrant to inform the Q&NC of his decision to take a refund or go to another heat.

Cancelled or abandoned qualifiers.

1. In the event of a qualifier being cancelled every attempt will be made to reschedule the event. If this is impossible then a draw will be held to see who progresses to the National Final.
2. In the event of an abandoned qualifier, provided that at least 2 hours elapsed, a weigh-in will take place as usual. If insufficient fish have been caught to enable all qualifying places to be allocated, a draw will take place to fill the remainder.
3. If the event is abandoned in the first 2 hours then the event is deemed to have been cancelled and the rules as above will be applied.

Entrants should be aware that adverse weather conditions may mean an event is cancelled by the fishery and this may be at short notice. Entrants are advised to sign-in as normal and a decision will be made as to whether boats will be allowed to leave the boat dock. It may be that if the forecast is good the events may commence at a later time.

National Final.

1. The National Final will rotate around approved venues. The rotation will be based as close as possible on the suitability of the venue to match the following years Internationals. The rotation will not be a strict 1 in 4 years but based on a 2 in 8 year cycle.
2. Anglers qualifying for the national final will be notified by email after the last heat is fished. It is the anglers responsibility to ensure he / she informs the Q&NC if he / she wishes to be notified by post.
3. A date will be set when entries to the final are to be received by the Q&NC. ANY ANGLER WHO DOES NOT RETURN HIS / HER ENTRY BY THAT CUT-OFF DATE WILL BE DEEMED TO HAVE DECLARED HIM / HERSELF AS NOT AVAILABLE TO FISH THE FINAL AND HIS / HER PLACE WILL BE OFFERED TO A RESERVE AS PER THE RULES.
4. ALL ENTRIES MUST HAVE A CURRENT ANGLING TRUST MEMBERSHIP NUMBER AND THE SUBSCRIPTION MUST COVER THE PERIOD OF THE FINAL.
5. THE Q&NC WILL NOT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES CHASE ANGLERS FOR THEIR ENTRIES OR ANGLING TRUST MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION.
6. If you are likely to be on holiday or away for the period between the last heat being completed and the national final you will need to ensure you have completed your entry and return payment in full to the organiser before your absence.
7. Your entry is not complete until both payment and the entry form have been received by the Q&NC.

Officiating at events.

1. Before the qualifier commences the organiser will announce that 3 officials will adjudicate in the event of any disputes. The officials shall remain nameless.
2. These officials may include anglers who are fishing in the event.
3. Any disputes must be reported to the organiser within 30 minutes of the weigh-in commencing.
4. The officials will listen to the complaint/s and adjudicate before the result of the competition is announced.
5. Their decision is final - see main ATTEFF rules for rights of appeal.

6. It is strongly recommended that entrants do not leave the venue and make themselves available when the results are announced in case a complaint has been made against them.

Other important information.

1. You must have read and understood the risk assessment provided for the event.
2. You should be in possession of a valid Environmental Agency Fishing Licence for the date of the event.
3. You must agree to comply with the rules governing the event you have entered including all fishery rules.
4. If you remain in any doubt about the above content please contact AT TEFF via their email link on the ATTEFF web site or, if you prefer ring the AT TEFF Qualifier and National co-ordinator on 07751 603 031.

RULES – SEE DOCUMENT ‘RULES FOR LOCH-STYLE QUALIFIERS’.