2004

Loch-style Home International - Spring

Lower Lough Erne - 14th May 2004

INTERNATIONAL FLY FISHING CHAMPIONSHIP

Irish Trout Fly Fishing Association

ENGLAND • IRELAND • SCOTLAND • WALES

Lower Lough Erne,
Lusty Beg,
Co. Fermanagh

Friday, 14th May, 2004

Match Booklet

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International Fly Fishing Association

Acknowledgements

The International Fly Fishing Association would like to express grateful thanks to the following for their help and co-operation in organizing this match.

Arthur Cadden, Mary and Staff of Lusty Beg.

Department of Culture Arts & Leisure (Permits)

Fisheries Conservancy Board (N. Ire).

Mr Gerry Kerrigan, Boa Island

Chief Boat Steward Jack Spratt and all the boatmen

The Ulster ITFFA Committee

International Dinner
Lusty Beg
Friday, 14th May, 2004
@ 8.30 p.m.
Dress: Blazer or Lounge Suits.

OFFICIALS

International President
P J HALLINAN
Tullysleva, Ballina,
Co. Mayo.

International Secretary
IAN CAMPBELL
"Cruachan", 16, Marindin Park, Glenfarg,
Perth & Kincross, PH2 9NQ.

National Secretaries

England
PETER GODFREY
1, Bridge Terrace, Bedlington,
Northumberland, NE2 7JT.

Ireland
MICHAEL CALLAGHAN
Virginia Road, Ballyjamesduff,
County Cavan.

Scotland
DR. NEIL W. McCARRY
57, Galbraith Drive, Milngavie,
Glasgow, G62 6LZ.

Wales
MOC MORGAN, OBE
97, Maesceinion, Waunfawr,
Aberystwith, SY23 3QQ

ENGLAND

TEAM MGR: Dave Barker	Trout	Weight
1 Jeremy Lucas (Capt)		
2 Tony Baldwin		
3 Iain Barr		
4 Chris Bobby		
5 Vince Brooks		
6 Trevor Colclough		
7 Andy Cottam		
8 Tony Curtis		
9 Phil Dixon		
10 Ron Gent		
11 Andrew Hedger		
12 Simon Hodges		
13 John Horsey		
14 Keith Nicholson		
TOTALS		

IRELAND

TEAM MGR: Michael Callaghan	Trout	Weight
1 Mick McCormack (Capt)		
2 John Burke		
3 Peter Byrne		
4 Mervyn Campbell		
5 Pat Carson		
6 Tony Doherty		
7 Barry Fox		
8 Gerry Fox		
9 Patrick Kelly		
10 Ross McClearon		
11 Dudley Murphy		
12 Arden Pollack		
13 Noel Shiels		
14 Damien Walsh		
TOTALS		

SCOTLAND

TEAM MGR: John Ross	Trout	Weight
1 John Dunbar (Capt)		
2 Mike Cordiner		
3 Craig Cowan		
4 Calum Crosbie		
5 Greig Davie		
6 David C. Downie		
7 Bill Farquhar		
8 James Gardiner		
9 Gordon Inglis		
10 Eddie Malone		
11 John Morton		
12 Derek Purves		
13 John Rhind		
14 Jim Watson		
TOTALS		

WALES

TEAM MGR: Moc Morgan	Trout	Weight
1 Anthony Cartwright (Capt)		
2 Alan Banwell		
3 George Barron		
4 Tony Bevan		
5 Gareth Dixon		
6 Ian Jones		
7 Steve Jones		
8 Brian Middleton		
9 Ellis Phillips		
10 Dewi Rees		
11 Paul Tappin		
12 Ned Thomas		
13 Stewart Watkins		
14 Steve Winston		
TOTALS		

MATCH RESULTS

	Country	Total Trout	Weight
1st			
2nd			
3rd			
4th			

Brown Bowl - Top Individual Weight

Name	Country	Weight

H Emyr Lewis - Best Fish

Name	Country	Weight

TROPHIES

National organisations will compete for the Association Trophies as listed hereunder and such other Trophies as may from time to time be accepted by the Association. No other prizes or awards will be competed for in any match arranged by the Association.

1. Graham Munro Hall Trophy (the premier award).
   Held by winning team until next international match.
2. Captain's Badge.
   Held by winning Captain until next international match.
3. Brown Bowl.
   Best individual basket.
4. H. Emyr Lewis Memorial Trophy.
   Heaviest trout in the match.
5. The Grafham Trophy.
   Best individual basket in English Team.
6. Harry Lafferty Cup.
   Best individual basket in Irish Team.
7. The Phoenix Salver.
   Best individual basket in Scottish Team.
8. Gillie Farr Trophy.
   Best individual basket in Welsh Team.
9. The Spoon.
   Held by team with the lowest weight.
10. John Hedges Chalice.
    Best individual basket — Officials.

MATCH HISTORY

Matches were fished annually on Lough Leven from 1932 to 1970 inclusive, except during the war period, 1940 to 1949. Since then, they have been fished biannually with all four countries normally taking their turn as hosts. However, England resigned from the Association in 1972 and rejoined in 1974 and so have fished fewer matches than the other 3 countries.Ireland did not fish in 2001 due to Foot & Mouth restrictions.

RESULTS TO DATE

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
England	42	25	18.5	5.5	91
Ireland	10	18	25	39	92
Scotland	26	26	22.5	20.5	95
Wales	17	26	29	24	96

(Neither England nor Scotland caught a trout at Llyn Alaw in 1972; hence the halves).

RECENT RESULTS

		1st	2nd	3rd	4th
1998	Lough Arrow	I	E	W	S
	Llyn Trawsfynydd	E	S	I	W
1999	Ruthland Water	E	W	S	I
	Loch Leven	S	E	W	I
2000	Lough Erne	I	W	E	S
	Llyn Brenig	E	S	W	I
2001	Grafham Water	S	E	W	-
	Loch Leven	E	S	W	-
2002	Lough Conn	S	E	I	W
	Llyn Brenig	S	E	I	W
2003	Chew Valley	E	W	S	I
	Loch Leven	S	W	E	I

LOCAL RULES

1. The minimum size limit is 12 inches and all undersized fish must be returned to the water unharmed.
2. During practice days fishing will be on a 'catch and release' basis. One fish may be kept for the purpose of examining stomach contents.
3. On match day there will be a limit of 4 fish killed. A competitor having caught and killed four fish may continue to fish on a 'catch and release' basis and each eligible fish will count as 1.5 pounds. Details to be recorded by boatman on card provided. At the end of the match, The Boatman, The Angler and the Boat Partner must all sign the card.
4. No boat may leave the starting area (Lusty Beg Jetty) before 10.00am and all boats must be ashore before 6.00pm.
5. There will be a minimum 20 minute break for boatmen during which they may go ashore.
6. Competitors are asked to wear buoyancy aids of approval standards and eye protectors.
7. Teams will weigh-in in the order of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales following the order printed in this booklet.

BOATING ARRANGEMENTS

The chief boat steward is **Mr. Jack Spratt.** He will attend to all queries and no boatmen, other than those appointed by Mr. Spratt will be used for official practice and match days. Each country will have their own boat steward appointed by Mr. Spratt. They are as follows:

England	-	**Colin Love**
Ireland	-	**Stanley McCart**
Scotland	-	**Eamon McMahon**
Wales	-	**Ronnie Patterson**

INTERNATIONAL FLY FISHING ASSOCIATION

SECTION A — FISHING RULES

1. Fishing shall be carried out respecting the spirit and traditions of game angling.

2. Matches shall be fished with artificial flies only. Tandem flies shall not be permitted. No flies shall be artificially weighted. No more than **four** flies shall be mounted on a cast and flies must be at least **20 inches** apart.

3. A fly shall comply with the following specification. The hook shall be single or double provided that in the case of a double hook, the angle between the bends does not exceed **90 degrees** and when viewed from the side, the bends lie one behind the other. Fly irons will measure not more than **five-eights of an inch** overall, including the eye. The overall length of the fly shall not exceed **fifteen-sixteenths of an inch**. Fly dressings may include beads, provided these beads are buoyant. Attractor chemicals and the use of light emitters to flies are debarred.

4. Lines, casts and leaders shall not be additionally weighted. Shooting heads, metal core lines and metal core braided leaders are debarred.

5. One rod, not exceeding **12 feet** in length, to be used by each competitor, but each competitor will be entitled to have in the boat with him, a spare rod (length as before) - both rods, however, not to be mounted at the same time. A rod is considered to be mounted if any two sections are joined or if a reel or line is attached.

6a. Drogues, which must be uniform for all competitors, are permitted at the discretion of the host country. It being the responsibility of the host country to have **32 drogues** available for each Match.

b. The anchoring of boats when fishing, is prohibited. Boats must be allowed to drift freely when fishing, and not be held on the oars in such a manner as to gain an unfair advantage over either angler in the boat or over any other angler.

c. Boat seats, thwart boards and the use of tackle boxes as seats are permitted provided the height of the "seat" is not more than **5 inches** above the gunwale.

d. During a Match, no boat may encroach within a distance of **100 yards** in front of another boat from which competitors are fishing, nor disturb the water in front of or around any such boat by the indiscriminate use of the motor.

e. Electronic aids, eg. Telephones, Fish Finders, Echo Sounders etc. are debarred during the official practise days and the actual Match day.

7a. A competitor's rod when working flies or retrieving casts, must be hand held and must be above water level. Competitors must not stand in the boat when casting or retrieving line. Competitors may stand when playing a fish.

b. Trolling of flies behind the boat is not permitted, whether the boat is drifting or being driven by motor or oars. Side casting is permitted but flies must not be allowed to trail behind the boat. When drifting it is permissible to cover a rising fish behind the boat.

c. The command of the boat will change ends every two hours. Competitors shall change ends every two hours or as may be mutually agreed.

SECTION B — MATCH RULES

1a. Boats and boatmen shall be allocated by ballot. Mixed pairings will apply.

b. No boatman shall be allowed to fish during the competition, nor handle a mounted rod (see **Section A Rule 5**) during the hours of the competition.

2a. Match results will be decided by weight of fish - the higher weight taking the higher placing. In the event of equality in weights, the country with the greater number of trout will take precedence over the country with the fewer. In the event of a tie in weight and numbers of fish, each country will hold any trophies for an equal period.

b. The same conditions will apply in respect of the individual awards except that in the event of a tie, by weight and numbers, the tying competitors will hold the trophy for an equal period of time. Where a replica is involved each tying competitor will receive such a replica.

3a. There shall be no trophies or prizes awarded to individual anglers apart from "The Brown Bowl" and "The H. Emyr Lewis Memorial Trophy". There is no objection however, to a cup or award of a similar nature being put up for competition among the team of any member country.

b. Sweepstakes amongst the competitors are not pernitted.

4. Subject to any direction of the Association, any Match shall be fished under the Rules of the governing body of the water on which the Match is fished, insofar as these are compatible with the Rules of this Association. For every Match, the Association shall fix the hours of fishing. The minimum size and species of fish which may be weighed in and the starting and finishing point will be decided by the Host organisation. Such information will be included in the Match Booklet.

5. When the match is fished from boats, competitors shall not fish from the bank and shall return to the finishing point in the boat in which they set out, except in the event of damage to a boat or oar, failure of motor, or being overtaken by storm, when they may return by other means, but the circumstances shall be reported on return to the Secretary who shall deal with the report as if it was a complaint made under **Rule 7** below.

6. All competitors shall present their fish at the weighing point immediately after the closing hour for fishing. Nil returns are required. Any competitor not reporting to the official weigher within **15 minutes** of the end of the Match will be deemed to be clean.

7. Any dispute or complaint on any matter in any Match shall be notified to the Secretary before the weigh-in is completed and before the results are announced. A Sub-Committee consisting of the International President, who will have the casting vote, and one non-competing official from each country taking part, shall at once be convened to investigate the matter and adjudicate thereon. The International Secretary will attend the meeting but will have no vote. The decision of the Sub-Committee shall be final.

N.B. Competitors are **strongly advised** to wear buoyancy aids and eye protectors when either travelling in or fishing from boats.



Officials
(Raymond Humphreys Photography)



Captains – John Dunbar (Scotland), Mick McCormack (Ireland), Jeremy Lucas (England) & Anthony Cartwright (Wales).
(Raymond Humphreys Photography)



England

Jeremy Lucas (Captain), Tony Baldwin, Iain Barr, Chris Bobby, Vince Brooks, Trevor Colclough, Andy Cottam, Tony Curtis, Phil Dixon, Ron Gent, Andrew Hedger, Simon Hodges, John Horsey, Keith Nicholson & Dave Barker (Manager).
(Raymond Humphreys Photography)



Ireland

Mick McCormack (Captain), John Burke, Peter Byrne, Mervyn Campbell, Pat Carson, Tony Doherty, Barry Fox, Gerry Fox, Patrick Kelly, Ross McClearon, Dudley Murphy, Arden Pollock, Noel Shiels, Damien Walsh & Michael Callaghan (Manager).
(Raymond Humphreys Photography)



Scotland

John Dunbar (Captain), Mike Cordiner, Craig Cowan, Calum Crosbie, Greig Davie, David C. Downie, Bill Farquhar, James Gardiner, Gordon Inglis, Eddie Malone, John Morton, Derek Purves, John Rhind, Jim Watson & John Ross (Manager).
(Raymond Humphreys Photography)



Wales

Anthony Cartwright (Captain), Alan Banwell, George Barron, Tony Bevan, Gareth Dixon, Ian Jones, Steve Jones, Brian Middleton, Ellis Phillips, Dewi Rees, Paul Tappin, Ned Thomas, Stewart Watkins, Steve Winston & Moc Morgan (Manager).
(Raymond Humphreys Photography)

England

Jeremy Lucas (Captain), Tony Baldwin, Iain Barr, Chris Bobby, Vince Brooks, Trevor Colclough, Andy Cottam, Tony Curtis, Phil Dixon, Ron Gent, Andrew Hedger, Simon Hodges, John Horsey, Keith Nicholson & Dave Barker (Manager).

Spring Loch-Style International, May 14th, 2004, Lower Lough Erne, Co. Fermanagh, Ireland.
By Jeremy Lucas, Captain

Lough Erne is a highly testing venue, utterly wild and enormous. Competitors from all the nations found it daunting. The mayfly activity gradually increased throughout the week leading up to the International, though the trout were very slow to respond. The trout population density on this lough is very low and no-one had expectations of big bags of trout.
A highly experienced England team, our first under our new sponsors, Reel Hunting, gathered expecting the International to be a challenge. The advance party, Iain Barr, Phil Dixon and me, along with our superb guide Larry Gibb, a seasoned Lough Erne fly-fisher and brilliant fly-dresser, searched the Lough from the Saturday before the International until the rest of the team arrived on Tuesday. We tried methods ranging from dry fly to slow nymphing on intermediates and midge-tips, to stripping dabbler and bumble-like patterns (along a mayfly theme) on slow sinkers and floaters. The lough was split into at least three essential areas; the reef and gravel island strewn Eastern end, where the trout were found to be feeding on hoglice, shrimps, olive buzzers and a small black, terrestrial dipteran; the extensive shallows among the islands of the Western lough, where the mayfly activity was heightening; and the central part of the North shore, where the feeding was more catholic.
The sheer scale of Lough Erne has to be appreciated; once you commit to a certain area, that's really it for the day. With a six horsepower outboard engine, for example, it takes about an hour and a half to travel from East to West (not the limits of the lough), even in calm weather. Most of our team had two brief days, Wednesday and Thursday, to get a feel for the place and to form a strategy for match day. The advance party was able to yield a lot of information, based on some good catches, mostly with nymph techniques; and we had certainly highlighted some key areas. On Monday Phil Dixon explored the reefs of the East shore and managed 10 takes, boating five takable trout, while Iain and I eplored the mayfly areas. I have a lasting memory of fishing slowly down a two mile wind-lane, with Iain casting at rising fish, at range, and boating four perfect, big Erne trout. It was a marvellous performance. Over all the practice days we were averaging between two and three trout a day. Yet the intelligence was far from comprehensive. Even in the final team briefing on Thursday evening, when asked what was my own game plan, I found I could not commit, either to area or method. I knew what I wanted to do, and where, but I felt that to influence others along the same lines might be counterproductive. I felt that I wanted to nymph fish, perhaps with previously successful claret patterns on top dropper and point, during the morning at the Eastern end of the lough, then go as fast and far West as I could in the afternoon for the prayed-for rise to mayfly emergers.
Two new caps, Andrew Hedger and Andy Cottam, fished brilliantly, contributing strongly throughout practice and fishing on the day with all their hearts. They were devastatingly unlucky, with Andrew losing a big trout (estimated at 3lbs) at the net, while Andy caught two trout that were undersized. Veteran Simon Hodges caught a trout early in the day, measured at over 12" (the limit) in the boat. When it came to the weigh-in it came in at just under the 12" and was disallowed. Ron Gent had searched a remote part of the lake the day before and had caught a magnificent fish of 4lbs 15oz; on the match day he too, in spite of a ferocious effort, came in clean. Four of us, just four, got lucky. Tony Curtis, 2003 National Champion, caught two, after blanking the previous day, and ended 6th overall, and winner of the Grafham Trophy, for the heaviest England team bag. John Horsey, after a slow start in the morning used his fantastic wealth of experience also to take two to give him 7th place. I caught two, one undersize, the other the heaviest fish of the match, giving me 8th place overall and the H. Emyr Lewis Trophy for the heaviest fish (as I said, I just got lucky), while Iain Barr used his brilliantly accurate casting to take the one opportunity he had all day to cast at a rising trout, which he caught. Iain finished 15th. Total England team catch was six trout (measurable).
Ireland had the skill and the good luck to boat 10 fish, which included three for the Brown Bowl winner, Dudley Murphy, who caught his trout on dry fly. The Welsh also caught 10 for second place, while the Scots came in as bronze medallists.
The rest of Reel Hunting Team England; nymph fishing master Tony Baldwin (with whom I had the great pleasure of sharing a boat for a day); veteran of Loch-Style, Rivers and World Championships, Trevour Colclough; Phil Dixon, who is simply one of the very best of the younger generation of fly-fishers fighting their way through to the National team; my old Bewl Water mates Vince Brooks and Keith Nicholson, great competitors both, and Irish lough regulars; Grafham aficionado Chris Bobby; team reserve Keith Gollop whose contribution was outstanding; our officials Dave Barker (Manager), Peter Godfrey and John Ball; all of these, along with some England ladies present, Dorothy, Ivy, Jennie and Maggie, made it a priviledge to be Captain of our team. I have a great pride, that will last forever, from those days in Ireland.
We deserved better. Several of us had opportunities that could have turned fate our way. Andrew's big trout might so easily have slipped over the rim of the net; Simon's trout might have been a quarter of an inch longer, as might have Andy's two. I rose two big trout in the afternoon, on dries, that seemed unmissable, yet I missed them both... No-one let the team down. Quite the opposite. I hope with all my heart that none of you give up, and that you carry on being such fine examples for those who will follow, because fly-fishing at this level, in England, needs you. We were defeated on that magnificent lake, but we did not lose. And we will win again. I have been in a lot of England teams now; but this was unquestionably the best. Thank you all. I am yearning for the time when we can all, if possible, be together again representing our country.

1. Ireland	11 fish	14.160 lbs
2. Wales	10 fish	12.730 lbs
3. Scotland	10 fish	12.550 lbs
3. England	6 fish	9.180 lbs

Full Results >>

GLEN GARIOCH INTERNATIONAL RIVER FLY FISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS
GLEN GARIOCH HIGHLAND Single Malt SCOTCH WHISKY

GLEN GARIOCH INTERNATIONAL
RIVER FLY FISHING CHAMPIONSHIP

2004

River Tummel, Pitlochry,
Perthshire, Scotland
Saturday 19th June 2004

Match Booklet and Programme

England • Ireland • Scotland • Wales

Scottish Anglers National Association

OFFICIALS

International President

P. J. HALLINAN
Tullysleva, Ballina, Co. Mayo, Ireland

International Secretary

IAN CAMPBELL
`Cruachan', 16 Marindin Park, Glenfarg, Perth & Kinross, PH2 9NQ, Scotland

National Secretaries

England: Peter Godfrey, 1 Bridge Terrace, Bedlington, Northumberland NE22 7JT

Ireland: Michael Callaghan, Virginia Road, Ballyjamesduff, Co. Cavan

Scotland: Dr Neil McCarry, 57 Galbraith Drive, Milngavie, Glasgow G62 6LZ

Wales: Moc Morgan OBE, 97 Maesceinion, Waunfawr, Aberystwyth SY23 3QQ

Welcome to Pitlochry

The SANA Rivers Sub-committee would like to welcome all Officials, Competitors and their guests to the 2004 Glen Garioch International River Fly Fishing Championship.

The River Tummel Brown Trout are renowned for their abundance, guile and hard fighting qualities. The Perthshire area is a place of outstanding natural beauty and is a particularly interesting area of Scotland for the adventurous and easy going alike. We hope your stay in this area is a pleasant one and we wish your team the very best of luck in the event.

Glen Garioch Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky

Glen Garioch started its long term association with competitive fly fishing when it first sponsored the Scottish Rivers Fly Fishing Team back in 1998.

Since then both team and brand have grown in stature, culminating in a wonderful Scottish victory at the IFFA International Rivers Fly Fishing Championship 2003.

Glen Garioch (pronounced 'Geary') is Scotland's most easterly distillery, established in 1797 in the sleepy village of Old Meldrum in Aberdeenshire. The distillery, renowned for producing a classic Highland malt, is rightly proud of its Highland tradition and this year is delighted to sponsor the Glen Garioch International River Fly Fishing Championship 2004.

This Championship will allow Scotland to show her beautiful landscape and riversides, provide an arena for hard fought competition but ultimately deliver great hospitality and the forging of friendships, no doubt over a glass or two of Glen Garioch. Slainte.

Pitlochry A. C. (www.pitlochryanglingclub.co.uk)

Pitlochry Angling Club was founded in 1884. Its activities originally centred on competitions, and back then the Club had no waters of its own. However, over the past 40 years, it has acquired fishing rights on various trout and salmon waters in the Pitlochry area through purchase and lease. The Club is now well-known and respected in the Scottish angling scene, and several Club members have fished for Scottish Fly-Fishing Teams. The Club has also built its own hatchery and rearing facilities for trout, enabling stocking of waters to be carried out with trout of local origin.

General advice on fishing in the Pitlochry area is available from Ron Harriman (Club Secretary) on 01796 472484 or Ross Gardiner (Club Salmon Secretary / Assistant Secretary) on 01796 472157 (evenings).

2004 Glen Garioch International River Fly Fishing Championship

River Tummel – Scotland

Programme

Wednesday 16th June
10am – 5pm Practice on official competition water

Thursday 17th June
10am – 4pm Practice on non-competition water
5pm Check in to Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry
7pm Evening Meal served
9.30pm IFFA International Meeting and Draw for beats

Friday 18th June
7am – 8am Breakfast
10am – 4pm Walk beats/Practice on non-competition water
5.30pm Official photographs
7pm Evening Meal served

Saturday 19th June
7am – 8am Breakfast
8.30am Controllers' briefing
9am Transport/anglers leave for beats

10am – 11.30am **Session1**
11.30am – 1pm **Session 2**

1pm – 2pm Lunch (at Ballinluig Football Pitches)
2pm Transport/anglers leave for afternoon beats

2.30pm – 4pm **Session 3**
4pm – 5.30pm **Session 4**

8pm Drinks at the Bar
8.30pm International Dinner served

INTERNATIONAL DINNER

MENU

Traditional Scotch Broth
made with vegetables, mutton stock and pulses

✠ ✠ ✠

Roast Sirloin of Angus Beef
with woodland mushrooms, local whisky, leeks and honey cream

✠ ✠ ✠

Blairgowrie Flumery
mousse of raspberry, whisky and vanilla cream in a sweet tartlet with butterscotch

INTERNATIONAL FLY FISHING ASSOCIATION

Acknowledgements

To all the Riparian land owners who kindly allowed their land to be used for access and their water to be used for the International Match.

To Pitlochry Angling Club for the use of their section of this great river and their co-operation and help with organising the event and providing controllers.

To John McCallum for managing the event from its inception in 2003 to its smooth running in June 2004. Well done.

To each and every Controller for giving their time on match day to enable the competitors to fish. Without you, this event would not be possible.

SCOTTISH ANGLERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

(Rivers Sub-committee)

Thanks

To the Event and Home Team sponsor Glen Garioch Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky.

To the Management and Staff of the Atholl Palace Hotel for making us welcome and providing excellent services.

To John McCallum Butchers, Auchterarder (www.bestbeef.co.uk) for providing excellent packed lunches, free of charge, on the day of the event.

The Scottish team would like to thank Highland Spring, Blackford, Perthshire for their support.

TEAMS

England

Manager: Paul Page

Team: David Mee (Captain), John Tyzack, Howard Croston, Stuart Minnikin, Gary Pearson, Tony Curtis (Reserve)

Ireland

Manager: Ian Rowand

Team: Kevin Somers (Captain), Nicky Moore, Willie Russell, David Grey, Brian Russell

Scotland

Manager: Franz Grimley

Team: Jake Harvey (Captain), Grant Gibson, Derick Logan, Jim Fairgrieve, Neil Sinclair, Billy Dewar (Reserve)

Wales

Manager: Edgar George

Team: Dean Kibble (Captain), Paul Jenkins, Iwan Lewis, Geoff Thompson, Phillip Morgan

2004 EVENT RESULTS

Geoff Clarkson Trophy
Winning Team

1st .....

2nd .....

3rd .....

4th .....

Moc Morgan Trophy
Highest Placed Individual

Winner .....

Mike Childs Trophy
Largest Fish

Winner .....

INTERNATIONAL FLY FISHING ASSOCIATION

RIVER INTERNATIONAL - FISHING AND MATCH RULES

(effective from 1st January 2004)

SECTION A - FISHING RULES

1. Fishing shall be carried out respecting the spirit and traditions of game angling.
2. Matches shall be fished with artificial flies on barbless or debarbed single hooks. Not more than **three** flies shall be mounted on a cast and flies may be artificially weighted.
3. Fly irons will measure not more than **five-eighths of an inch** overall, including the eye. The overall length of the fly shall not exceed **fifteen-sixteenth of an inch**. Flies may be of any pattern or material and may be fished floating or sunk. Attractor chemicals and the use of light emitters to flies are debarred.
4. A competitor may use only one rod at a time, maximum length **12 feet**, but may have a second ready mounted as a spare. Any manufactured fly line may be used. Braided leaders, weighted or unweighted, are allowed. Coloured sleeving may be used at the end of the fly line to improve visibility but no other bite indicators are permitted. **Note**: a "sacrificial" floating fly is not deemed to be a bite indicator provided it is one of the three permitted flies (see Fishing Rules 2 & 3).
5. Competitors must provide for themselves landing nets made of knotless mesh.
6. At the beginning of the morning & afternoon sessions, all competitors must be at the start points they have been allocated. Thereafter, they may fish anywhere within their beats provided that they do not approach within 30 metres of any other competitor who is fishing. A competitor may fish in the same spot for up to 30 minutes. After that, if requested by another angler, he/she must

move at least 30 metres and may not return to the same spot for at least 30 minutes.

7. At the end of Session 1 and Session 3, every competitor must move at least 30 metres from the spot he/she is fishing, irrespective of how long he/she has fished there.
8. Competitors may not walk or cast outside their beat. Should a fish, whilst being played, move outside the beat, the competitor must play it from, and land it within, the beat.
9. If a competitor hooks a fish near the end of a session, he/she will be allowed up to 5 minutes of the next session in which to net it.

SECTION B - MATCH RULES

1. The Match venue will be divided into five beats. There will be one competitor from each country on each beat. The Match itself will consist of four sessions.
2. The Host organisation shall identify the beats and the start points before the draw takes place. The draw for beats and start points will be carried out by IFFA officials and will take place not less than 36 hours before the start of the Match. The Team Captains will draw their team members' morning & afternoon beats, and start points within the beats.
3. The river stretches to be used for the Match may not be fished by anyone during the day preceding the event but beats may be walked.
4. Subject to any direction of the Association, any Match shall be fished under the rules of the governing body of the water on which the Match is fished, insofar as these are compatible with the rules of the Association. For every Match, the Association shall fix the hours of fishing. The minimum size and species of fish to be measured will be decided by the Host organisation. **Such information will be included in the Match Booklet**.

SECTION B - MATCH RULES (cont'd)

5. Each competitor will have a controller. Controllers may remain on the same beat at the discretion of the host country.

6. Controllers are responsible for ensuring that the competitors on their beats comply with the rules, including the start and close times of their sessions. To be fair to all, controllers are not to give advice, net fish or in any other way give advantage to their anglers.

7. Catch & release will apply. All fish must be netted and presented to the controllers whilst still in the landing net. At the time of netting the fish, the fly must be in the fish's mouth; if the fly drops out in the net, the fish will still count. The controller and competitor will agree the **overall length** of the fish and the controller will record it on the score card. The competitor will carefully return the fish to the river, making sure that it can swim away before releasing it.

8. Each qualifying fish will score **20 points** plus **1 point for each centimetre or part thereof**. For example, a fish of 30.3 centimetres will score 20 plus 31 i.e. 51 points.

9. The scores for the four sessions will be recorded separately. At the end of each session, both the controller and the competitor will initial the score card.

10. Competitors from each of the five beats will be "placed" separately according to the points they have scored in each of the four sessions; i.e. in each session, the top competitor on each beat will receive a "1 placing", the second a "2" etc. A blank will earn a placing equal to the number of competitors fishing the relevant beat.

11. Individuals' "placings" in the four sessions will be summed and their totals will determine their positions in the Match. The top individual will have the lowest total of "placings" and so on. Similarly, team positions will be determined by a grand total of all the team members' "placings". If individuals or teams have the same totals, the higher position will be awarded to the individual or team with the most points.

12. If any competitor or controller sees anything which he/she thinks contravenes these rules, he/she will if possible notify the individual concerned and report to the International Secretary by no later than 1830 hours on the Match day and before the results are announced. A Sub-Committee consisting of the International President, who will have the casting vote, and one non-competing official from each country taking part, shall at once be convened to investigate the matter and adjudicate thereon. The International Secretary will attend the meeting but will have no vote. The decision of the Sub-Committee shall be final.

SECTION C - LOCAL RULES

1. The competition species will be Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout and Grayling.
2. The minimum size to count in the competition will be 20cm.

ROLL OF HONOUR

All four home nations have tasted success since the inception of the event in 1992. All except Ireland have won in successive years and only Ireland and England have won on home soil.

	Geoff Clarkson Trophy	Moc Morgan Trophy	Mike Childs Trophy
1992 (Welsh Dee)	England	Martyn Adams (Eng)	-
1993 (R. Wharfe)	Scotland	Paul Buchanan (Sco)	Jeremy Lucas (Eng)
1994 (R. Tweed)	England	Jeremy Lucas (Eng)	Jim Fairgrieve (Sco)
1995 (R. Agivey)	Scotland	Jim Fairgrieve (Sco)	Jeremy Herrmann (Eng)
1996 (Welsh Dee)	Scotland	Trevor Colclough (Eng)	Terry Morgan (Wal)
1997 (Derbyshire Wye)	Wales	Carl Jones (Wal)	Paul Buchanan (Sco)
1998 (R. Tweed)	Wales	Gwilym Hughes (Wal)	Gwilym Hughes (Wal)
1999 (R. Liffey)	Ireland	Willie Russell (Ire)	Jake Harvey (Sco)
2000 (Welsh Dee)	England	Ian Jones (Sco)	Ian Jones (Sco)
2001	-	-	-
2002 (R. Ure)	England	John Tyzack (Eng)	John Tyzack (Eng)
2003 (R. Agivey)	Scotland	Simon Robinson (Eng)	Paul Jenkins (Wal)



Captains – Dave Mee (England), Kevin Somers (Ireland), Jake Harvey (Scotland) & Dean Kibble (Wales).
(Strathview Photographic)



England

Dave Mee (Captain), Howard Croston, Stuart Minnikin, Gary Pearson, John Tyzack, Tony Curtis (Reserve) & Paul Page (Manager).
(Strathview Photographic)



Ireland

Kevin Somers (Captain), Nicky Moore, Willy Russell, David Grey, Brian Russell & Ian Rowand (Manager).
(Strathview Photographic)



Scotland

Jake Harvey (Captain), Grant Gibson, Derick Logan, Jim Fairgrieve, Neil Sinclair, Billy Dewar (Reserve) & Franz Grimley (Manager).
(Strathview Photographic)

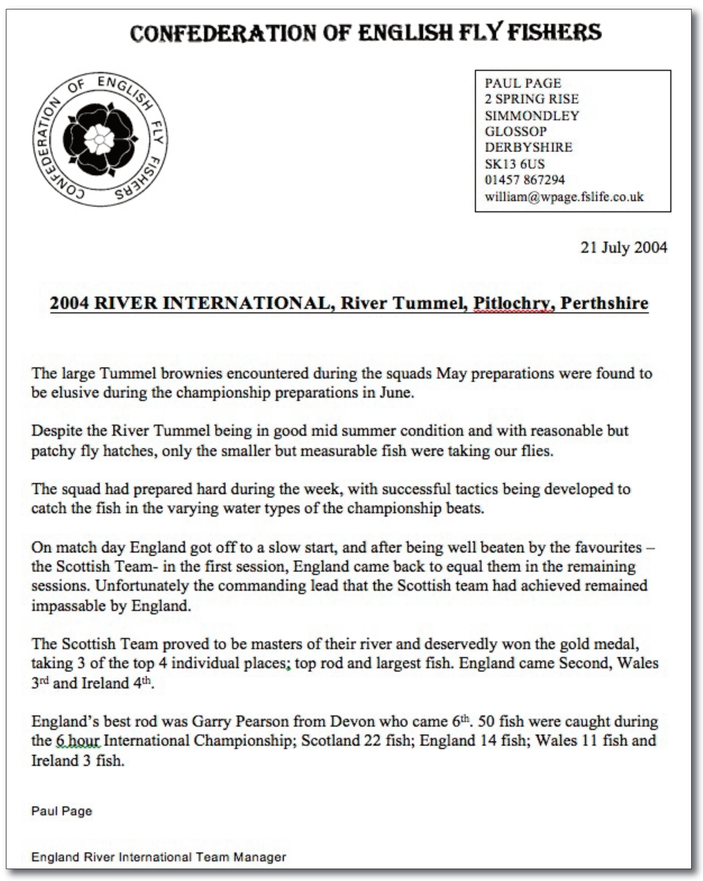


Wales

Dean Kibble (Captain), Paul Jenkins, Iwan Lewis, Geoff Thompson, Phillip Morgan & Edgar George (Manager).
(Strathview Photographic)

England

Dave Mee (Captain), Howard Croston, Stuart Minnikin, Gary Pearson, John Tyzack, Tony Curtis (Reserve) & Paul Page (Manager).



CONFEDERATION OF ENGLISH FLY FISHERS

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21 July 2004

2004 RIVER INTERNATIONAL, River Tummel, Pitlochry, Perthshire

The large Tummel brownies encountered during the squads May preparations were found to be elusive during the championship preparations in June.

Despite the River Tummel being in good mid summer condition and with reasonable but patchy fly hatches, only the smaller but measurable fish were taking our flies.

The squad had prepared hard during the week, with successful tactics being developed to catch the fish in the varying water types of the championship beats.

On match day England got off to a slow start, and after being well beaten by the favourites – the Scottish Team- in the first session, England came back to equal them in the remaining sessions. Unfortunately the commanding lead that the Scottish team had achieved remained impassable by England.

The Scottish Team proved to be masters of their river and deservedly won the gold medal, taking 3 of the top 4 individual places; top rod and largest fish. England came Second, Wales 3rd and Ireland 4th.

England's best rod was Garry Pearson from Devon who came 6th. 50 fish were caught during the 6 hour International Championship; Scotland 22 fish; England 14 fish; Wales 11 fish and Ireland 3 fish.

Paul Page

England River International Team Manager

1. Scotland	22 fish	1068 points	49 placings
2. England	14 fish	643 points	59 placings
3. Wales	11 fish	506 points	62 placings
4. Ireland	3 fish	132 points	76 placings

Full Results >>

World Fly Fishing Championships

Liptovsky, Slovakia

24th World Championships 2004, Liptov-Orava, Slovakia.
Report by Simon Kidd

This year's World Fly Fishing Championships were recently fished on the powerful rivers of Eastern Europe, in the beautiful mountain region of the High Tatras in Slovakia. The Slovaks provided a perfectly organised 3 day competition, from start to finish, with only torrential rain throughout the opening ceremony to dampen spirits. The fishing thoughout proved superb and the 115 anglers, from 23 countries across the world, provided the biggest ever field for this most prestigious of fly fishing competitions. The fish were there in numbers and with grayling, brown and rainbow trout, char, chub, dace and huchen all being target species, a whole range of methods were called for, depending on the water and fish to be found in the respective 23 beats of every section.

The Eastern Europeans, however, with 5 rivers this year and no lakes, provided a lesson to the rest of the world with only France, Champions for the last three years, able to come really close enough to challenge for the medals. The Czechs and Slovaks filled 7 of the first 11 individual placings and with the powerful rivers at their mercy, their unique downstream methods proved deadly. These rivers are stocked annually with small trout and grayling, having suffered massive persecution by cormorants in recent years, and a few rainbows, which were present in certain stretches, and there were plenty for everyone.

Fish were caught mainly on small nymphs, dries and streamers. The latter being more effective on certain waters where trout, chub and some of the few stocked rainbows were present, as on the Orava River, for example. The small nymphs, however, accounted for the majority of the fish, with a massive proliferation of Baetis species present on most of the rivers. A hatch of some description could be expected on most days and although incredibly wary of traditional dry fly methods, downstream, with small CDC and parachute patterns on light tackle, proved successful for some.

All the rivers were immensely powerful, and with flies of less than 5 grams in weight on the heaviest patterns you were "under-gunned" in terms of fishing for them with any real control in the swiftest flows. In all the rivers, wading beyond knee depth was almost impossible and just keeping ones feet on the river bottom standing upright was a challenge. Many competitors taking an unplanned dousing at some time. Yet the fish were there and in numbers too, seeking refuge in any sections where there was some shelter out of the main current, in eddies and behind the stones or boulders.

On the Bella, the smallest yet immensely powerful river, the Slovaks wiped the floor with everybody. One of their methods was to fish, again downstream, dapping a small dry, hackled pattern into the pots and flats behind every stone. Here trout were waiting for spiders which use the water as their web. These small spiders could be seen dashing out from their rock shelters whenever the mirror flat water eddies behind the stones was disturbed by a distressed insect. The trout lay in wait too and Peter, one of the top Slovaks, used this local knowledge to great effect to win the last session on a river that had already been flogged for 12 competition hours and still produced over 20 fish for him!. Fishing these spots upstream often resulted in missed fish. The fish were small in this river and any slack line produced by the current, or as they as they bolted towards the angler in the ripping fast current immediately out of the shelter of the rocks, was often a fish lost on the compulsory barbless hooks. From above, once they were hooked they tended to stay hooked!

Once again many lessons were learned and the experience gained immeasurable but England finally finished the top home team in 8th place, with Scotland Wales and Ireland in respectable but lower places.

Individually, only 3 British anglers made it into the top 30. Our own Simon Robinson (Hardy Team England) in 18th Place (73 fish), Simon Kidd (Hardy Team England) in 22nd place (87 fish) and Simon Cocker (Scotland) in 27th (75 fish).

England

Ian Greenwood (Captain & Manager), Tony Curtis, Paul Davison, Simon Kidd, Simon Robinson, John Tyzack & Stuart Crofts (Reserve).

1. Slovakia
2. Czech Republic
3. France
4. Poland
5. Belgium
6. Spain
7. Italy
8. England

13. Scotland
14. Wales
20. Ireland

Individuals:

1. Miroslav Antal *(Slovakia)*
2. Kazimierz Symala *(Poland)*
3. Dan Svrcek *(Czech Republic)*
4. Josef Canda *(Slovakia)*
5. Pavel Machan *(Czech Republic)*
6. Jaromir Sram *(Czech Republic)*
7. Peter Bienek *(Slovakia)*
8. Eric Lelouvier *(France)*
9. Yann Caleri *(France)*
10. Jarkko Suominen *(Finland)*

19. Simon Robinson *(England)*
22. Simon Kidd *(England)*
43. Tony Curtis *(England)*
57. John Tyzack *(England)*
79. Paul Davison *(England)*
120. Stuart Crofts *(England)*

E. L. Jones a'i Fab, Argraffwyr, Aberteifi ☎ (01239) 612251
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International Fly Fishing Championship

hosted by

The Welsh Salmon & Trout Angling Association

Cymru
Ireland Scotland
England

Llyn Brenig, North Wales

Friday, 10th September, 2004

MATCH BOOKLET

WELCOME

It is with pleasure that I invite all of you to the 2004 Autumn International Match at Llyn Brenig. It is a match that is destined to be another humdinger, and Llyn Brenig is a perfect venue for such an encounter.

There has been a massive number of competitions on Llyn Brenig this season and it is earning the reputation of being a great competition venue. Catches are always good and whatever the weather, some fish will be found on the top. Brenig always gives a fair result and invariably it is the best team on the day that wins.

The Irish team, the current champions, will have to work hard to hold on to the gold they won on Lough Erne, especially now boobies are in favour with the trout.

Scotland tend to be odds-on favourites after their impressive win there a couple of years ago, although England are masters of reservoir fishing on calm days. The other teams will be hoping and praying for those rough winds to get those white horses galloping about on what was once heather-clad acres of land. Oh, yes! – another team hopes to prove that the three silvers won on the trot is not just a fluke!

The story of the International is a long and interesting one and I know that once we've had time to digest the results over a pint or two, the teams will get together and show that the camaraderie in fishing is a unique quality and that the brotherhood of the angler is as alive in competition angling as in any other form of the noble sport.

It is amazing how the matches have changed and developed throughout the decades, and I believe that all the changes have been for the better.

On this occasion I hope that we can recapture some of the 'hwyl' of old.

Moc.

OFFICIALS

International President
P. J. HALLINAN
Tullysleva, Ballina
Co. Mayo, Ireland

International Secretary
IAN CAMPBELL
'Cruachan', 16 Marindin Park, Glenfarg,
Perth & Kinross PH2 9NQ

National Secretaries
England
PETER GODFREY,
1 Bridge Terrace, Bedlington
Northumberland NE22 7JT

Ireland
MICHAEL CALLAGHAN
Virginia Road, Ballyjamesduff
Co. Cavan

Scotland
Dr NEIL W. McCARRY
57 Galbraith Drive, Milngavie
Glasgow G62 6LZ

Wales
MOC MORGAN, OBE
97 Maesceinion, Waunfawr,
Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 3QQ

ENGLAND
Team Manager : Dave Barker

Competitor	*Total Fish*	*Heaviest Trout*		*Total Weight*		*Position*
John Horsey *(Capt)*						
Iain Barr						
Paul Bebb						
Robbie Bell						
Martin Braund						
Stephen Collins						
Tony Curtis						
Mike Dixon						
Dave Eames						
Hugh Frew						
Jeremy Lucas						
Alan Ovenden						
Lindsay Simpson						
Graham Watson						
TOTALS						

IRELAND
Team Manager : Michael Callaghan

Competitor	*Total Fish*	*Heaviest Trout*		*Total Weight*		*Position*
Stan McCart *(Capt)*						
Andy Duncan						
Padraig Fahey						
Seamus Feeney						
James Fegan						
Pat Hoare						
Eamon Lynch						
Mick McCormack						
Gerard O'Mahoney						
Kieran O'Mahoney						
Robert Reilly						
Tom Sullivan						
Brian Uprichard						
Terry Walsh						
TOTALS						

SCOTLAND
Team Manager : John Ross

Competitor	*Total Fish*	*Heaviest Trout*		*Total Weight*		*Position*
Jim Moncur *(Capt)*						
Robert Baldi						
Caig Cowan						
David C. Downie						
William Fulton						
Jake Harvey						
Kenny Hunter						
John Kettles						
James Litster						
David F. Mateer						
Richard Ness						
Paul O'Neill						
William Simpson						
Ken Wood						
TOTALS						

WALES
Team Manager : Moc Morgan

Competitor	*Total Fish*	*Heaviest Trout*		*Total Weight*		*Position*
Paul Jenkins *(Capt)*						
Phil Thomas						
Bob Jones						
Mark Barton						
Craig Gimblett						
Dean Kibble						
Mike Pascoe						
Simon Barton						
Aled Dixon						
Hywel Morgan						
Peter Thurnall						
Paul Davies						
Allen Hughes						
Matthew Griffiths						
TOTALS						

Match Results

	Country	*Total Trout*	*Weight*
1st			
2nd			
3rd			
4th			

The Brown Bowl - Top Individual Weight

Name	*Country*	*Weight*

The H. Emyr Lewis Trophy - Best Fish

Name	*Country*	*Weight*

TROPHIES

National organisations will compete for the Association Trophies as listed hereunder and such other Trophies as listed hereunder and such other Trophies as may from time to time be accepted by the Association. No other prizes or awards will be competed for in any match arranged by the Association.

1. Graham Munro Hall Trophy – the premier award. (Held by winning team until next international match.)
2. Captain's Badge. (Held by winning captain until next international match.)
3. Brown Bowl (Best individual basket)
4. H. Emyr Lewis Memorial Trophy (Heaviest trout in match)
5. The Grafham Trophy (Best individual basket in English team)
6. Harry Lafferty Cup (Best individual basket in Irish team)
7. The Phoenix Salver (Best individual basket in Scottish team)
8. Gillie Farr Trophy (Best individual basket in Welsh team)
9. The Spoon (Held by team with the lowest score)
10. John Hedges Chalice (Best individual basket – Officials)

INTERNATIONAL DINNER

BEAUFORT PARK HOTEL
Friday, 10th September, 2004
Champagne reception at 8.15 p.m.
Dinner: 8.30 p.m.
Dress: Blazer or Lounge Suits

MATCH HISTORY

Matches were fished annually on Loch Leven from 1932 until 1970 inclusive, except during the war period 1940 to 1949. Since then, they have been fished bi-annually with all four countries normally taking their turn as hosts. However, England resigned from the Association in 1972 and rejoined in 1974 and so have fished fewer matches than the other three countries. Ireland did not fish in 2001due to Foot and Mouth restrictions.

Results to date

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
England	42	25	18½	6½	92
Ireland	11	18	25	40	94
Scotland	26	26	23½	20½	96
Wales	17	27	29	23	96

(Neither England nor Scotland caught a trout on Llyn Alaw in 1972, hence the halves.)

Recent Results

		1st	2nd	3rd	4th
1998	Lough Arrow	I	E	W	S
	Llyn Trawsfynydd	E	S	I	W
1999	Rutland Water	E	W	S	I
	Loch Leven	S	E	W	I
2000	Lough Erne	I		E	S
	Llyn Brenig	E	S	W	I
2001	Grafham Water	S	E	W	-
	Lough Leven	E	S	W	-
2002	Lough Conn	S	E	I	W
	Llyn Brenig	S	E	I	W
2003	Chew Valley	E	W	S	I
	Loch Leven	S	W	E	I
2004	Lough Erne	I	W	S	E

LOCAL RULES

1. The minimum size of fish to be taken is 12 inches and all undersized fish must be returned to the water unharmed.
2. During practice sessions all fishing will be on a 'catch and release' basis.
3. On match day there will be a limit bag of eight fish. Thereafter 'catch and release' will be in operation with each eligible fish caught and released counting as 1.5 lb. At the end of the match the boatman, the angler and the boat partner must all sign the card.
4. No boat to leave starting area (one hundred yards off pier) until the klaxon has sounded and must be back on the pier by 6.00 p.m.
5. Competitors must wear a buoyancy aid of approved standard which has been duly serviced.
6. Teams to weigh in at fishing lodge in the order printed in booklet

The boat Steward will be Nathan Midgley.

No boatman other than those appointed by Nathan Midgley will be used for match.

Acknowledgements

The International Fly Fishing Association would like to thank the following for their help and co-operation in organising this match:
Management and Staff at Brenig
Welsh Water
Environment Agency (Licences)
Garry and Terry Evans, Cardiff & Newport
The Management and Staff of Beaufort Park Hotel, Mold
Chief boat Steward and all boatmen
Members of WSTAA.

INTERNATIONAL RULES

Section A—Fishing rules.

1—Fishing shall be carried out respecting the spirit and traditions of game angling.

2—Matches shall be fished with artificial fly only. Tandem flies shall not be permitted. No flies shall be artificially weighted. Not more than four flies shall be mounted on a cast and flies must be at least 20 inches apart.

3—A fly shall comply with the following specifications. The hook shall be single or double provided that in the case of a double hook, the angle between the bends does not exceed 90 degrees, and when viewed from the side the bends lie one behind the other. Fly irons will measure not more than five-eighths of an inch overall, including the eye. The overall length of the fly shall not exceed fifteen-sixteenths of an inch. Fly Dressing may include beads, provided these beads are buoyant. Attractor chemicals and the use of light emitters to flies are debarred.

4—Lines, casts and leaders shall not be additionally weighted. Shooting heads, metal core lines and metal core braided leaders are debarred.

5—One rod, not exceeding 12 feet in length, to be used by each competitor, but each competitor will be entitled to have in the boat with him, a spare rod (length as before) – both rods, however, not to be mounted at the same time. A rod is considered to be mounted if any two sections are joined or if a reel or line is attached.

6a—Drogues, which must be uniform for all competitors, are permitted at discretion of the host country. It being the responsibility of the host country to have 32 drogues available for each match.

6b—The anchoring of boats when fishing is prohibited. Boats must be allowed to drift freely when fishing, and not be held on the oars in such a manner as to gain an unfair advantage over either angler in the boat or over any other angler.

6c—Boat seats, thwart boards and the use of tackle boxes as seats are permitted provided the height of the 'seat' is not more than 5 inches above the gunwhale.

6d—During the match, no boat may encroach within a distance of 100 yards in front of another boat from which competitors are fishing, nor disturb the water in front of or around any such boat by the indiscriminate use of the motor.

6e—Electronic aids, e.g. telephones, fish finders, echo sounders etc. are debarred during the official practice days and on match days.

7a—A competitor's rod when working flies or retrieving cast, must be hand-held and must be above water level. Competitors must not stand in the boat when casting or retrieving line. Competitors may stand when playing a fish.

7b—Trolling of flies behind the boat is not permitted whether the boat is drifting or being driven by motor or oars. Side casting is permitted, but flies must not be allowed to trail behind the boat. When drifting it is permissible to cover a rising fish behind the boat .

7c—The command of the boat will change every two hours. Competitors shall change ends every two hours or as may be mutually agreed.

Section B—Match Rules

1a—Boats and boatmen shall be allocated by ballot. Mixed pairings will apply.

1b—No boatman shall be allowed to fish during the competition nor handle a mounted rod (see Section A Rule 5) during hours of competition.

2a—Match results will be decided by weight of fish – the higher weight taking higher placing. In the event of equality in weights, the country with the greater number of trout will take precedence over the country with the fewer. In the event of a tie in weight and numbers of fish, each country will hold any trophies for an equal period.

2b—The same conditions will apply in respect of the individual awards except that in the event of a tie, by weight and numbers, the tying competitors will hold the trophy for an equal period of time. Where a replica is involved, each tying competitor will receive a replica.

3a—There shall be no trophies or prizes awarded to individual anglers apart from The Brown Bowl and The H. Emyr Lewis

Memorial Trophy. There is no objection, however, to a cup or award of a similar nature being put up for competition among the team of any member country.

3b—Sweepstakes amongst the competitors are not permitted.

4—Subject to any direction of the Association, any match shall be fished under the rules of the governing body of the water on which the match is fished, insofar as these are compatible with the rules of this Association. For every Match, the Association shall fix the hours of fishing. The minimum size and species of fish which may be weighed-in and the starting and finishing point will be decided by the host organisation. Such information will be included in the Match Booklet.

5—When the match is fished from boats, competitors shall not fish from the bank and shall return to the finishing point in the boat in which they set out, except in the event of damage to a boat or oar, failure of motor, or being overtaken by a storm, when they may return by other means, but the circumstances shall be reported on return to the Secretary who shall deal with the report as if it was a complaint made under rule 7 below.

6—All competitors shall present their fish at the weighing point immediately after the closing hour for fishing. Nil returns are required. Any competitor not reporting to the official weigher within 15 minutes of the end of the match will be deemed to be clean.

7—Any dispute or complaint on any matter in any match shall be notified to the Secretary before the weigh-in is completed and before the results are announced. A Sub-Committee consisting of the International President, who will have the casting vote, and one non-competing official from each country taking part, shall at once be convened to investigate the matter and adjudicate thereon. The International Secretary will attend the meeting but will have no vote. The decision of the sub-committee shall be final.

N.B.—Competitors are strongly advised to wear buoyancy aids and eye protectors when either travelling in or fishing from boats.

TO ALL PARTICIPANTS OF WATER SPORTS

The Brenig reservoir on which the match takes place is kept free from pollution. However, as this reservoir cannot be protected from small mammals, i.e. rats, water voles, etc., there is a risk involved albeit small, of contracting a water-borne disease.

It is, therefore, imperative that if you have a 'flu-like illness in the next few weeks, or indeed in the future, you inform your GP of your outdoor pursuits in order that proper diagnosis and treatment can be made.

E. L. Jones & Son, Printers, Cardigan (01239 612251)

International Fly Fishing Championship

hosted by

The Welsh Salmon & Trout Angling Association

Cymru
Ireland Scotland
England

Llyn Brenig, North Wales

Friday, 10th September, 2004

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

PROGRAMME FOR THE INTERNATIONAL

Tuesday, 7th September p.m. –
Arrive at Beaufort Park Hotel, Mold.

6.00 p.m. Team meetings.
Scotland King Suite
England Princess Suite 1
Ireland Princess Suite 11
Wales Palace Suite:
(Same rooms to be used for all team meetings)
7.00 p.m. Evening meal.
8.30 p.m. Members invited to join in a General Quiz held in the Lounge Bar.
9.00 p.m. IFFA Meeting in Palace Suite.

Wednesday, 8th September –

7.00 - 8.30 a.m. Breakfast
8.45 a.m. Depart for Llyn Brenig
9.45 a.m. Team photos at Lakeside
10.30 - 5.00 p.m Fishing (catch and release)
5.30 p.m. Collect photos at Lakeside
6.00 p.m. Team meetings in allocated rooms.
7.30 p.m. Evening meal.

Thursday, 9th September –

7.00 - 8.30 a.m. Breakfast
8.45 a.m. Depart for Llyn Brenig
10.30 - 5.00 p.m. Fishing (catch & release)
6.00 p.m. Team meetings
7.30 p.m. Evening meal

Friday, 10th September (Match Day) –

6.45 a.m. Breakfast
8.30 a.m. Depart for Llyn Brenig
9.30 a.m. Boatmen's briefing including Health & Safety procedures
9.40 a.m. Parade of teams
10.00 a.m. International Match commences
5.00 p.m. Official Match ends and weigh-in
6.00p.m. International Match ends – all boats attached to jetty
6.10 p.m. International Weigh-in
6.40 p.m. P. J. Hallinan (President of IFFA) announces results
8.00 p.m. Champagne reception on second floor at Beaufort Park
8.30 p.m. International Dinner
Results & Presentation of Trophies.

Saturday, 9th September –

8.00 a.m. Breakfast for those who dare!
9.00 a.m. 'Hwyl Fawr' & Goodbyes

'Brysiwch Nôl'.



Captains – Stan McCart (Ireland), Jim Moncur (Scotland), Paul Jenkins (Wales) & John Horsey (England).
(Cambrian Photography)



England

John Horsey (Captain), Iain Barr, Paul Bebb, Robbie Bell, Martin Braund, Steve Collins, Tony Curtis, Mike Dixon, Dave Eames, Hugh Frew, Jeremy Lucas, Alan Ovenden, Lindsay Simpson, Graham Watson & Dave Barker (Manager).
(Cambrian Photography)



Ireland

Stan McCart (Captain), Andy Duncan, Padraig Fahey, Seamus Feeney, James Fegan, Pat Hoare, Eamon Lynch, Mick McCormack, Gerard O'Mahoney, Kieran O'Mahoney, Robert Reilly, Tom Sullivan, Brian Upritchard, Terry Walsh & Michael Callaghan (Manager).
(Cambrian Photography)



Scotland

Jim Moncur (Captain), Robert Baldi, Craig Cowan, David C. Downie, William Fulton, Jake Harvey, Kenny Hunter, John Kettles, James Litster, David F. Mateer, Richard Ness, Paul O'Neill, William Simpson, Ken Wood & John Ross (Manager).
(Cambrian Photography)



Wales

Paul Jenkins (Captain), Phil Thomas, Bob Jones, Mark Barton, Craig Gimblett, Dean Kibble, Mike Pascoe, Simon Barton, Aled Dixon, Hywel Morgan, Peter Thurnall, Paul Davies, Allen Hughes, Matthew Griffiths & Moc Morgan (Manager).
(Cambrian Photography)

England

John Horsey (Captain), Iain Barr, Paul Bebb, Robbie Bell, Martin Braund, Steve Collins, Tony Curtis, Mike Dixon, Dave Eames, Hugh Frew, Jeremy Lucas, Alan Ovenden, Lindsay Simpson, Graham Watson & Dave Barker (Manager).

1. Wales	121 fish	222-7-8
2. England	125 fish	217-3-0
3. Scotland	117 fish	209-14-4
4. Ireland	87 fish	159-11-0

Full Results >>

Report of Autumn Loch Style International Match, Llyn Brenig
By John Horsey – Captain, Reel Hunting Team England

Thrilled by the prospect of being appointed England captain for the 5th time, I set about trying to "rally the troops" into some serious practice sessions. After all, with 8 new Caps in the Team, we would need to get up to speed as quickly as possible.
I need not have worried – the entire squad were mustard keen to represent their country and all committed themselves to additional practice sessions prior to the match week.
And what an enthusiastic bunch they proved to be!
The friendly banter and good natured atmosphere at night, was a total contrast to the serious practice that went on during the day. Unless of course, you happened to be in Barny's boat!
Group fly tying sessions were also eagerly attended and so many new flies – and tactics, were hatched over the fly tying vices! Even I tied plenty!!
The practice sessions saw Reel Hunting Team England catch plenty of superb conditioned trout – as good quality rainbow trout as Chew Valley – and that is a genuine tribute to Dave Scutter, Alwyn and their staff.
We covered every inch of the venue, using lots of techniques, flies and fly lines. No one was expected to "fill the boat" during practice. After all, it is just as important finding out what does not work and areas that are devoid of fish, as it is finding the positives!
By the time the day of the match arrived, we had a well researched plan of attack on the Llyn Brenig rainbows.
As in previous encounters on Llyn Brenig, we knew that Boobies would play their part. If the weather improved from its changeable nature, then dry flies would also score. However, heavy rain and strong winds were forecast. Would the match even go ahead? We were nervous, but should not have worried. The day started wet, became wetter, but the winds did not arrive until after 4.00pm.
I started on a Rio Deep 7 sinker with 2 Boobies and 2 Dry Hoppers in the middle. I planned to fish slow and deep with the Boobies, but if a fish rose, I would still be able to cover it with the dries. Three times a fish rose in front of the boat and I covered all 3 and caught them all. Did they take the dries? No way! All 3 sipped down the point fly Coral Booby – right off the top!!
At the final debriefing meeting on the eve of the match, I asked each team member to try to catch 6 fish per man – they averaged 9.2 per person! What more could a team captain ask? They were magnificent.
Jeremy Lucas signaled his return to the top level with an outstanding 18 fish catch, rightfully earning him the Brown Bowl for the Top Individual Basket. Iain Barr, Mike Dixon and Graham Watson all caught double figures and earned their places in the 2005 Spring International match at Grafham Water.
Reel Hunting Team England caught the most fish in the match. We had well and truly bounced back from the dreaded Wooden Spoon in the previous Spring International on Lough Erne. We had beaten our nearest rivals and the "favourites"; host country Wales, by 4 clear fish. What a result!
Unfortunately, Wales pipped us on weight.
We fished to catch and release after the initial 8 fish limit. As we released more fish than the other countries, the weight of 1lb 8ozs per released fish counted against us. The average weight of the Brenig rainbows was in excess of 2lbs, so it was quite understandable that we all felt pretty disappointed.
However, this feeling was short lived. Ours was the moral victory – we could not have done more. We set out to catch more fish than any other country and we achieved that goal.
I send my hearty congratulations to Wales; who would deny them their success and their first Gold Medal in 14 years of International Loch Style Matches? Congratulations to Scotland who finished in Bronze Medal position and to Ireland, who although collecting the Wooden Spoon, caught so well in practice that many thought they could win the match.
Bring on the 2005 Spring International Match at Grafham Water in June – I for one cannot wait!







CEFF Rivers national final, River Wear, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham

THIRTY TWO anglers competed for the six Home International team places after qualifying in regional heats. The River Wear has seen a remarkable transformation in the last 10 years after suffering much pollution. It holds a good stock of brown trout and grayling, which made it a good choice venue for this event.

The river levels were good and the weather was fair with a breeze. In practice the odd big brown was taken along with grayling to over 40 centimetres. However it was any fish of over 15cm that mattered to the angler and they were there to be taken.

The anglers were split into four groups over six miles of river. The distance was as much as a challenge as the fishing.

The result saw 606 fish caught giving a rod average of 18.94. The largest fish was a 44cm brown trout caught by Tyne and Wear angler Paul Davison. A lot of fish were taken on dries but wets and nymphs also took many

The overall champion was North West and world team member John Tyzack who has now been champion three times. He underlined his dominance of this event by recording four section first places.

Runner up was Yorkshire s Stuart Crofts with Dave Parker (Tyne and Wear) Jeremy Lucas (North West) Tony Curtis (Anglia) and Simon Robinson (Southern) completing the team.

National Final - River Wear

I had never fished the Wear before. I did arrange to take a look at it with Jeremy Lucas about a week before I left for Slovakia but when I got there it was in a big dirty flood. I consoled myself with trying to find a few of the access points, which I managed, but there were far more that I failed to find. In conversation with Jeremy, we pretty much agreed that the competition would be won as much on tactics and orienteering as on fishing.

I made a few trips up to the river during the week prior to the comp and managed to see most of the four beats. I also managed to catch a few fish, although not very many on most days. I wondered whether the peaty tinge in the water was putting them off a bit? I caught fish on Beat D in a howling downstream wind and also on C. I didn't do that well when I had a go on A, but B was superb, not only for numbers but also for quality of fish. I had made up my mind that B then D was the ideal draw... which is obviously why I ended up with A then C!

Thursday when the river was rested, I took my customary walk down the entire length of the beats I'd be fishing the following day. On the morning beat (A) I was looking for a good place to start and then several back-up plans in case of unforeseen events (these include – but are not limited to – some other angler being there, stick throwing people with swimming dogs, etc etc). On the afternoon beat (C) I again looked for a starting place and also the get-out-of-jail places where you can pick up vital fourth session fish. Reasonably happy with my reconnaissance, I returned to the digs to tie up a few more flies.

I had young James Armstrong as my controller – nice lad and a good angler, up for the Youth World Team trials on the Wharfe the following Sunday. I fished four different methods over the course of the day, dries, wets, bugs and duo, trying to read the water and make the best choice in each pool or riffle. The first session went well with 10 fish landed and only a couple lost, but the second session started badly with about the first six hooked fish coming off inexplicably. Eventually I got one and then they started to stick. I ended up with 9 but it should have been many more.

Down to Beat C and off to the chosen starting position... Nightmare! Simon Robinson was already there! Closer inspection showed that although he was close to my preferred spot, there would be enough room for both of us, although with him fishing upstream and me downstream, I would have to move fairly soon after the off. Simon took about a dozen fish to his controller in the first five minutes of the session in the same time that I had managed only two. I was a little downbeat at this, but later found that many of these fish were undersized. We swapped places, Simon fishing up to where I'd started and me fishing down from where he had, and we both caught fish. I ended up with 11 in the third session. Having moved a little for the start of session 4 I carried on with the same method but the catch rate had slowed to a dead stop. I didn't get a fish in the first 40 minutes of session 4 and I was starting to panic. A switch of tactics brought the desired result and I was off again, missing and losing as many as I landed, but still managing 9 in the last 50 minutes of the session.

I was shattered, not from my usual coverage of many miles of river, but from the mental energy expended and the constant worrying about whether I was doing the right thing in the right place and whether another area of the beat was producing thousands more fish that where I was, etc. Competition anglers will all understand fully what this feels like...

Back at the Angling Centre everyone was gathering in the car park for tales of successes and failures, fish landed, missed and lost. I was reasonably confident of making the team with 39 fish spaced out quite well through the four sessions, but you never know, and the wait for the final results always seems far longer than it actually is.

From snatched conversations I knew I was in with a good chance but I also knew that Skippy had caught a sackful of fish on C and A and Davey Parker had done really well on B and D... But when Davey took third and Skippy was announced in second, I realised for sure that I'd got my trophy back.

The Wear fished really well and consistently though the day and proved to be an admirable choice of venue for the National Final. The digger which had been colouring the water throughout the practice days was obviously not as active on match day and the water clarity had improved immeasurably. I'm fairly sure that in part this contributed to the improved catches.

Anyway, I'm off to get the trophy engraved again and looking forward to the North West eliminator next month, where I hope to qualify for next year's National and return to the Wear once more...

JT
30 September 2004

1.	John Tyzack	39 fish	4 placing points
2.	Stuart Crofts	56 fish	7 pts
3.	Davey Parker	41 fish	10 pts
4.	Jeremy Lucas	27 fish	11 pts
5.	Tony Curtis	25 fish	11 pts
6.	Simon Robinson	24 fish	11 pts
7.	Howard Croston	24 fish	11 pts
8.	Alex Bobba	30 fish	12 pts
9.	Andrew Dixon	27 fish	12 pts
10.	Iain Barr	23 fish	13 pts
11.	Paul Davison	21 fish	15 pts
12.	Ian Greenwood	17 fish	15 pts
13.	Stuart Minnikin	22 fish	16 pts
14.	Nick Halstead	27 fish	17 pts
15.	Peri Karageorgopoulos	21 fish	17 pts
16.	Bernie Maher	19 fish	17 pts
17.	Andrew Green	15 fish	18 pts
18.	Gary Pearson	14 fish	20 pts
19.	Trevor Colclough	13 fish	21 pts
20.	Richard Cobbledick	12 fish	21 pts
21.	Baz Reece	12 fish	21 pts
22.	Bob Preston	11 fish	21 pts
23.	Mike Heritage	8 fish	21 pts
24.	Frank Sumnall	13 fish	22 pts
25.	Alan Jenkins	16 fish	24 pts
26.	John Ball	9 fish	24 pts
27.	Jonathan Barnes	11 fish	26 pts
28.	Len Childs	5 fish	26 pts
29.	Nick Hart	9 fish	27 pts
30.	Dave Mee	9 fish	28 pts
31.	Matt Grady	3 fish	31 pts
32.	Angus Stevenson	3 fish	32 pts

Loch-style National

Bewl Water - 25th September 2004



MATCHES - National Championship

Out&About

Bewl Water, 25 September 2004

Winner's story

Bernie makes the winning catch

BERNIE MAHER, the ex professional Derby wicket keeper and owner of stillwater Press Manor has achieved a lifelong ambition to represent his country at sport by winning the English National Flyfishing Championships at Bewl Water Kent.

"I can't tell you how happy I am," said Bernie directly after his impressive win. "I never made it into the England team in my cricketing career but now I've realised my dream through fly fishing."

The Bewl stockies were well on the fin and taking a variety of lures and nymphs, so the result on the day was nail-bitingly close with time bonuses proving vital.

Bernie practised with Rutland regulars Graham Pearson, Paul Shaw and Rob Sosbee. And the group found the fish high in the water but very finicky. "You could catch them on Blobs, but then they would go straight off them," said Bernie. "So you would then have to switch to nymphs and fry patterns.

"We would find little pods of fish in the centre of the reservoir but, unlike other anglers, we didn't hammer them. The best line was the SA slow intermediate which I had to buy from the Bewl tackle shop. It was also important to find out whether the trout wanted the flies moved fast, slowly, just twitched or fished purely static."

On the day of the match, Bernie rigged up with a "washing line" approach chartreuse Booby on the point; Hare's Ear in the middle and a Silver Invicta on the top dropper virtually the same flies as recommended for Bewl by warden Bob Barden in last month's magazine.

Bernie and his boat partner Richard Houghton drifted in open water towards the dam but stayed well away from the pack of boats. Bernie's game plan was to pull Blobs for the first 45 minutes, and then switch to the "washing line" set-up. "Dick just couldn't believe it when I caught a trout on an orange Blob after three quarters of an hour and then switched tactics. But I was determined to keep to my game plan," said Bernie.

The new cast worked well with five fish taking the Booby, three the Silver Invicta and one the Hare's Ear. "The secret was not to move the flies at all," said Bernie. "The trout wanted the flies fished totally static."

Bernie's 10-fish limit weighed 18lb which, with a time bonus of 3lb, gave Bernie top weight on the day of 21lb with a best fish of 3lb 7oz 8dr "To say I was undelighted is an understatement," said Bernie. "I was lucky that I lost only one fish on the day when other good anglers lost several. In the Rivers National on the Wear the previous weekend I lost 15 fish in play.

"I would also like to give credit to Paul, Rob and Graham. Without their help in practise, I would never have won the match."

Results

1. Bernie Maher 21lb, **2.** Mark Miles 19lb 14oz, **3.** Nick Halstead 19lb 19oz 8dr, **4.** Phil Dixon 19lb 14oz, **5.** John Horsey 19lb 1oz 6dr, **6.** Vince Brooks 18lb 1oz 8dr, **7.** Garry Edmunds 17lb 15oz, **8.** Frank Sumnall 17lb 11oz 8dr, **9.** Jeremy Lucas 17lb 8dr, **10.** Simon Robinson 17lb, **11.** Bill Rankin 16lb 9oz, **12.** Dick Turpin 16lb 7oz, **13.** Jeff Latter 15lb 8oz, **14.** Mark Roony 14lb 15oz, **15.** Andy Cotto 14lb 15oz, **16.** Nick Dunn 14lb 12oz 8dr, **17.** Martin Dixon 14lb 10oz, **18.** Julie Emerson 14lb 9oz, **19.** Dave Newing 14lb 6oz, **20.** Nick Hart 14lb 6oz.
Rod average 4.87 fish for 100 anglers.

Confederation of English Flyfishers National Loch style final
Bewl Water Kent September 25th 2004

In the Southern Water sponsored event 100 qualifying anglers from the federation eliminators competed for a Home International place.
Bewl Water is impressively full for the time of year and the fishing during practice was demanding for some and easy for others. However it has to be said that Bewl can fool many as the fishing can change from day to day. The fish had been feeding on the fry but there were those with terrestrials and buzzer inside. One terrestrial was a bright green shield beetle which is not often seen in the water or in the fish.
The competition day saw a reasonable breeze from the north and a high cloud which threatened rain.
At the start anglers headed into two distinct areas. The cages and the main bowl to the dam were the most popular areas. After the first couple of hours boats began to spread out as it became apparent that yesterday's hotspots weren't so hot on the day.
The dam remained popular as did the cages but there were a good few boats out from Ferry Point. One thing was clear that the fish were cruising near the surface and most anglers opted for glass lines or floaters.
By about two p.m. the first of the ten fish limits was taken and only a couple followed. There were nines and eights to follow so there were a few frowned faces as it was unclear as to how many fish would see you through as there were areas that produced smaller fish.
At the end Bernie Maher triumphed with ten fish by 3:00pm and is the Confederation of English Fly Fishers National Loch Style Champion 2004.
Runner up was Mark Miles with 9 fish and Nick Halstead in third place.
It was a delight to see that Julie Emerson was in the top twenty which means that she will be in a Home International next year. Thus proving that this competition is open to all to compete on an equal basis.
Other notables were Simon Robinson and Jeremy Lucas who qualified in this event after also qualifying for the River Home International, and also in the frame was European team and Individual bronze medallist John Horsey.
Thanks has to go to Howard McKenzie and his team at Bewl for their part in making this event a success and to Sean Cutting for frayed nerves and cuffs in his organising the anglers and stewards to ensure that it was held in the best spirit of the sport.

1.	Bernie Maher	21-0-0
2.	Mark Miles	19-14-0
3.	Nick Halstead	19-9-8
4.	Phil Dixon	19-4-0
5.	John Horsey	19-1-0
6.	Vince Brooks	18-1-8
7.	Garry Edmunds	17-15-0
8.	Frank Sumnall	17-11-8
9.	Jeremy Lucas	17-8-0
10.	Simon Robinson	17-0-0
11.	Bill Rankin	16-9-0
12.	Dick Turpin	16-7-0
13.	Jeff Latter	15-8-0
14.	Mark Rooney	14-15-0
15.	Andy Cottam	14-15-0
16.	Nick Dunn	14-12-8
17.	Martin Dixon	14-10-0
18.	Julie Emerson	14-9-0
19.	Dave Newing	14-6-0
20.	Nick Hart	14-6-0

European Fly Fishing Championships

Saxanas, Swedish Lapland







England

Ian Greenwood (Captain), Iain Barr, Andrew Dixon, John Horsey, Baz Reece, Mike Tinnion & Dave Mee (Reserve).

EUROPEAN FLY FISHING CHAMPIONSHIPS, SWEDISH LAPLAND

Singing in the rain!

England win bronze despite a wash-out

HAVING won two medals in the last three years, the England team was optimistic as they headed to Saxnas in Lapland. The team consisted of Iain Barr, John Horsey, Andrew Dixon, Baz Reece, Mike Tinnion and Dave Mee. Stuart Wardle, the Confederation of English Fly Fishers Chairman and team manager Ian Greenwood set off with high hopes.

An unusually cold summer meant snow still capped the mountains, which lead to river temperatures below the seasonal norm. So, many rivers didn't have the head of fish expected, as they hadn't yet made the migration from the lakes.

In one practice session the entire England team failed to bring a fish to the net. But a trip to a non-mountain stream the next day saw a confidence boosting 300 fish taken. Dries proved effective with small black patterns like F Flies, Beetles and Ants very consistent. With wild brown trout in the river, Taddies were sure to play a part. Taddies also caught some very big grayling.

One lake session was included in the championships and the team caught plenty of Arctic char in practice – their orange bellies glinting in the rare Swedish sunshine.

Match day soon approached and the team were buoyant. The rivers looked almost perfect with sunshine and showers forecast.

Iain Barr managed just five fish on his beat, but realised that it wasn't too bad as many others managed only ones and twos.

John Horsey won his lake session with a magnificent 14 wild brown trout taken on the team tactic – a Tadpole and Hurrungus on a slime line. Andrew Dixon picked up a blank on his first session, just proving how one of our country's top river anglers can struggle if the beat drawn is a tough stretch of water.

Iain then hooked 15 fish on his lake session but landed only four. The fish were now starting to come short to Tadpoles and an Irishman won the session with that old classic; the Olive Bumble!

England filled 9th place after the first session, clawing their way up to 6th by the end of the second.

Day two saw heavy rains making many river beats unfishable. Indeed, it became dangerous with some anglers actually being washed downstream by the torrents, then pulling themselves out again! England still recorded two firsts in the morning – Andrew Dixon won his lake session and John Horsey's river skills won him a session with just two fish. Baz Reece and Mike Tinnion picked up a fish each moving England up to fourth – just one point behind the Swedes. The Czech Republic led the way with Poland in second. Their lead was unassailable, but the race for third was definitely on.

There was a steward's inquiry into the next river session as most beats were unfishable as rivers raged through surrounding footpaths and fields.

Andrew Dixon caught five fish on dry fly to win his last lake session and John Horsey caught again, his one fish placed him up in the top handful of individuals.

Results were posted for the session and England had won bronze, just pipping Sweden by three points. The Czechs won with Poland in second. John Horsey took third individual; proving his true ability among the best in Europe and probably the world as most teams boasted their strongest anglers.

The team lacked a main sponsor, but England would like to thank a substantial financial contribution from Norwich and Peterborough Building Society, which contributed to the team's success.



Although these rapids are a tourist attraction, they provide some idea of how swollen the rivers became in the European Championships in Sweden.



The England team (left) pipped host nation Sweden into third place.

2004

Saxnas is within the Arctic Circle and is encompassed by many natural lakes and rivers. It is in truly wild and stunning terrain with much wildlife, including ospreys and reindeer which the local Sami people herd.
The lakes and rivers are populated by brown trout, grayling and Arctic char.
The competition was held at the beginning of July when there is 24 hours of daylight. Snow was still seen on the mountains which is said to be unusual by the locals and this with the warm sun experienced would affect the fishing later on. Although the rivers were mainly freestone the fly life was in abundance with many upwings and huge sedge being the main diet of the fish. The competition was to be held on three rivers and one lake. 16 teams took part, including the England and Swedish Ladies. It would have been difficult to make any predictions. Sweden would have to be considered but last year's champions, Poland, are very strong but with the two Czech teams, French, Italians, Belgians, England, Ireland, Romania, Slovakia, Wales, England Ladies, Swedish Ladies and two Finnish teams, there could be no foregone conclusions.
The practice days were used to develop the methods and flies needed. Varied rivers and lakes were chosen by Ian Greenwood to test the anglers. On one particular river over three hundred fish were returned in a day which included grayling to over 40cms and large browns. Yet on another river fringed with snow and running high with snow melt not a take was had. An official practice lake yielded some beautiful Artic char but no browns. It was known that the main fish in the competition lake were brown trout which may not be caught on the methods that took the char. These loved Sparklers and Black Taddies but would the browns on the lakes like the same?
After each practice day the team would sit and discuss flies and methods used. At the start there were flies bought by each angler and some from the previous World Championship in Sweden. As each day went by the fly tying became frenzied and a competition box evolved. There were many dry patterns, such as Black F-fly, Beetles, Olives, Stimulators and Sedges. Partridge and Orange, Waterhen Bloa spiders. Goldhead nymphs from 18 to 10s. Sparklers and Taddies were also there.
At the start the box was like an artist's blank canvas. By the time the competition started there was a huge picture which contained over fifty patterns. Each angler had his own favourite but could not go without the other proven patterns. As said earlier, the melting snow began to take an effect on the rivers. Each day they rose and pools seen before disappeared and glides became rapids. The fishing became harder but fish were still caught. The day before the competition the weather turned and rain came in, compounding the problem of snow melt. The lake was also rising as it is part of a river system, but unlike the river a practice session was allowed. Iain Barr and John Horsey were chosen to fish. They did well and it proved a good decision as the draw put them both on the lake the very next day. It would be an interesting competition.
On Day One the first anglers were on a coach at 5.30am for a one and a half hour journey to a river, with the second grouping away an hour later. The final group left at 7.30am for a trip across the road to the lake boat session. All groups left in torrential rain which would continue throughout the day.
Each session is fished over three hours and the winning angler would get one place point running down to a 16 maximum for a last place or blank.
The rivers were definitely rising throughout the day and there were blanks. After the first session England were in ninth place with the Poles, Czechs and Irish at the top.
The lake was consistent and John Horsey scored England's first win there. Andrew Dixon blanked from a dour beat.
In the afternoon the team pulled up to a sixth place even with another blank and the rivers were still coming up and all teams were scoring blanks. The Poles and Czech 2 were still pulling away with a clutch of teams below within five points of each other.
Day Two saw the rain persist and some of the river beats were beginning to be unfishable and it needed great persistence to avoid the blank. In the morning Andrew Dixon won the lake heat with John Horsey his river. But things were becoming risky as a Swedish competitor fell whilst wading and managed to swim out as did Mike Tinnion at the base of a rapid. Although soaked Mike went on to catch and avoid the blank. It was a war of attrition against the rivers. After the third session England was fourth, one point behind the Swedish team with the Czech 2 team overtaking the Poles for first spot but both some 38 points ahead.
The last session saw some of the rivers breaching the banks and definitely unfishable. Iain's morning beat was bad but the afternoons were a raging torrent. Iain fished hard and stuck at it whilst others gave up; he was not rewarded for his labours that day.
Baz stuck at it and avoided the blanks. But Andrew and John both scored wins in their rivers sessions against all the odds the weather could throw at them! Mick couldn't avoid a blank. There were many teams that had blanks including the two front runners. It was gripping stuff.
It was nail biting at the finish as the anglers returned. It was clear that the Swedes had done well but had England done enough? Much mental arithmetic was tried but no one could arrive at a decision until some hours later when the results had been posted. Indeed the Czech 2 team had won with Polish second. The third place and Bronze medal went to England, three points ahead of the Swedish and closed the gap on the higher placed teams.
Whilst this is predominately a team event the individual positions weren't really being looked at as they changed session by session. But John Horsey's wins put him in third place, winning a Bronze individual medal. John and Baz were the only two of the team to avoid the dreaded blank. Dave Mee, who was the reserve, was an integral part of the team's effort and worked equally with the team. He caught well in practice and shared his great knowledge. On the match days he tied flies and raced around the venues giving updates and encouragement to the team.
It was a great team performance. To get a fish out of a beat where you would never had wanted to fish showed the skill and dedication to England. It was physically and mentally demanding, not only over the twelve hours of competition in the pouring rain, but in the practice as well. John Horsey has underlined his great international pedigree with his individual Bronze. Iain Barr, who many would see as a reservoir angler, proving he can cut it with the best on the rivers. Andrew Dixon winning his lake session when considered a river specialist. Mike Tinnion although soaked and frozen, grinding out fish. Baz Reece who now has four international medals, fishes as he does. Nobody knows why or how, least of all he.
Ian Greenwood was as inspiring as ever. He had worked hard before the event arranging the practice venues and accommodation so that all the team did was concentrate on the job in hand. This Bronze follows the one in Islay last year, fifth in Belgium and Silver in France previously. He is also the manager of the World team this year so he is under no pressure! Like last year England faltered at the start and Ian Greenwood said," You are always giving me heart attacks but I'm proud of the team".
This was a very hard competition and it is thought that to get in the top half is an achievement. There are many teams that could win medals but England are now very strong in this event. The Confederation has worked hard on the selection process and with this kind of result it bodes well in the future.

1.	Czech Republic 2	134 place pts
2.	Poland	138 place pts
3.	England	160 place pts
4.	Sweden	163 place pts
5.	Czech Republic 1	177 place pts
6.	Italy	178 place pts
7.	Ireland	182 place pts
8.	Romania	183 place pts
9.	France	189 place pts
10.	Finland 1	193 place pts
11.	Belgium	199 place pts
12.	Finland 2	206 place pts
13.	Slovakia	209 place pts
14.	Wales	246 place pts
15.	Sweden - Ladies	266 place pts
16.	England - Ladies	267 place pts

Individuals:

1. Lukas Pazdernick *(Czech Republic)*
2. Francis Lambinet *(Belgium)*
3. John Horsey *(England)*

17. Andrew Dixon *(England)*
22. Baz Reece *(England)*
44. Mike Tinnion *(England)*
62. Iain Barr *(England)*

Airflo Classic - Individuals

Elinor - 10th October 2004

CEFF LAUNCHES NEW BANK COMPETITION

THE CONFEDERATION of English Fly Fishers has teamed up with Airflo to launch a new bank fishing competition that anglers can enter at their local Stillwater either as an individual or team of three.

This new open aims to become the biggest 'bank only' fishing competition in Europe with great prizes, and an emphasis on bringing the fun back into competitive fly fishing.

Organised by the Confederation of English Fly Fishers, each region will hold a series of heats to decide the qualifiers for the regional final there will be no restriction on the number of heats any team or individual can enter.

All heats will be held to the fishery rules, and as well as a high value goody bag for each competitor, there will be a vast array of prizes for the winners at every stage of the competition including fly rods, reels and lines.

All qualifiers from the preliminary round will be invited to a final in their region, this will include a 'Wild card qualification to a regional final for the individual with the heaviest fish at each of the heats. Qualifiers from the subsequent regional finals will be entered into the Grand Final that will be held at Elinor Trout Fishery on October 10, 2004.

Heats will be taking place throughout the spring on local waters nationwide over the next few months.

For further information, contact: Keith McAdam, Airflo/CEFF "Bank Open" Competition Secretary "Threeways" Braithwaite, Keswick, Cumbria, CA12 5ST Tel. 01768 778481 e-mail. cowpushermac@aol.com

The 'All New' Airflo/ CEFF Bank Open 2004

At last a high profile bank fishing competition that you can enter at your local Stillwater either as an individual or with a few of your friends as a team of three. This exciting new open competition is set to become the biggest 'bank only' fishing competition in Europe with great prizes, exceptional goody bags and an emphasis on bringing the fun back into competitive flyfishing.

THE ORGANISORS

Organised by the Confederation of English Fly Fishers, each region will hold a series of heats to decide the qualifiers for the regional final – there will be no restriction on the number of heats any team or individual can enter

All heats will be held to the fishery rules, with a vast array of prizes for the winners at every stage of the competition including fly rods, reels and lines - Not to mention that each individual competitor will receive a goody bag valued over £25.99 which is far greater than the £12 entry fee!!

QUALIFICATION

All qualifiers from the preliminary round will be invited to a final in their region, this will include a 'Wild card' qualification to regional final for the individual with the heaviest fish at each of the heats.

Qualifiers from the subsequent regional finals will be entered into the Grand final which will be held at Elinor lake on October 10th.

Places allocated to National & Regional finals pro-rata entries

HOW TO ENTER

Heats will be taking place throughout the spring on a water close to you, please contact the organisor in the region you would like to fish for further details.

In case of difficulty or if you are a fishery who would like to hold an event, then please contact:-

Registration/Entry fee Only £10 each or £30 for teams of three (fishing fees to be paid on the day of the eliminator)

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MATCHES - Airflo English Bank Open

Out&About

Elinor Trout Fishery, Northamptonshire, 10 October 2004

North-South battle at Elinor



AFTER a close finish, Maran Lakes Kingfishers are the new small water champions and will represent England against European counterparts.

In bright sunshine and strong winds the three-man team of Peter Appleby, Chris Miscallef and Fred Bainbridge put their victory down to good communication and sheer determination.

Having narrowly missed out on qualifying for England in the reservoir national, Peter Appleby was suitably pleased. "I'm very proud to be part of this team and to finally represent my country at the sport I'm passionate about."

The north-east anglers travelled down to Northamptonshire's Elinor Trout Fishery, which at around 50-acres makes an ideal venue to host the final, and set about their task in a true workmanlike fashion.

Split into three zones, the areas of the lake fished very differently throughout the day and anglers had to move pegs every 40 minutes to make the match fair Zone 1 required an imitative approach, as did the even harder zone 2 where anglers had to use purely natural patterns such as Daddies to catch. But the wind blew onto the banks of zone 3 attracting stockies making hook-ups much easier Here Blobs and lures did the damage.

At lunch the team were 5 fish off the pace and had to really focus to be in contention in the afternoon session often more difficult due to increased angling pressure. But Maran shared what they'd leaned from the various zones and that was the secret of their success.

Victory certainly wasn't clear-cut. After a tense weigh-in Maran had the same number of fish as Rib Valley 'A' 24 apiece. So, with each angler killing their first two fish and catch and release thereafter it came down to the heaviest total weight for each team's first six fish. Maran edged it with 10lb 15oz 6 fish compared to Rib Valley's 9lb 6oz.

In all, Peter Appleby had 11 fish, also winning third individual with team-mates Chris Miscallef seven fish and Fred Bainbridge six.

Winning flies were the Apps' Bloodworm, Blobs, Daddies and Peter's Deadly Perfect fly. And after only one fish in the easier morning session, Chris developed a cunning tactic for the more difficult afternoon. He used a Daddy on the top dropper with an Apps' Bloodworm behind. Stripping the Daddy to create a wake, he noticed bow waves in pursuit, but they didn't take the Daddy, they fell to the worm. This tactic earned him six fish in the afternoon, and ultimately team victory.

Results

INDIVIDUAL: 1. Leigh Pond, Rib Valley A, (17 fish), **2.** Mike Connorton, individual, (11 fish), **3.** Peter Appleby, Maran Kingfishers, (11 fish), **4.** Mick Symons. Team Snowbee, (11 fish), **5.** Nigel Haigh, Masterline Stocks, (10 fish), **6.** Roy Burgess, Nomad (8 fish), **7.** Derick Grabham, Fish Hawks, (7 fish), **8.** Andrew Green, individual (7 fish), **9.** Terry Sharp, Fish Hawks (7 fish), **10.** Chris Micollef (7 fish).

TEAM: 1. Maran Kingfishers, 24 fish (1st six 10lb 15oz); **2.** Rib Valley 'A' 24 fish (9lb 6oz); **3.** Fish Hawks 21 fish (12lb 14oz); **4.** Team Snowbee 19 fish (10lb 10oz); **5.** Masterline Stocks 17 fish (23lb 10oz); **6.** Nomads 16 fish (13lb 6oz); **7.** Sev/Trent 12 fish (11lb 16oz); **8.** Feds Too 11 fish (8lb 4oz); **9.** Price Albert AS Falcon 9 fish (13lb 12oz); **10.** Anglia 9 fish (10lb 9oz)



The winning Maran Kingfishers. L-R Chris Miscallef Fred Bainbridge and Peter Appleby.

LEIGH WINS INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE AGAIN

ON the individual front Ware, Hertfordshire, angler Leigh Pond, a member of TF's Tackle Team and captain of Rib Valley, continued his remarkable run of success in the Airflo-sponsored Championship by once again finishing top individual.

Leigh's record in this match is remarkable two firsts, a second, a third and a fourth in six years. And he puts his success down to long casting with Airflo's Forty Plus fly line.

On a practise day, Leigh found that an orange Blob pulled fast worked as good as any fly. So when he drew opposite the pylon for his first peg, Leigh rigged up with a black Fritz Tinhead on the point and a high-viz Blob on a dropper

The first peg produced four fish followed by another five fish from his second peg in the bay. "The wind had been blowing into the bay for days," said Leigh. "It was crammed with fish but you needed that 30 yard plus cast that the line is able to give you coupled with a roly-poly retrieve."

Four fish from the next two pegs gave Leigh a total of 13 fish for the morning, which would have been sufficient to have won the match individually. But another four trout in the afternoon just confirmed the result.

"To win this match you need to be able to cast long distances from every peg, whatever the wind direction. And if that means fishing with your back to the water and casting over your left shoulder then that is what you have to do."



1. Leigh Pond	17 fish		
2. Mike Connerton	11 fish	33. R Froud	3 fish
3. Peter Appleby	11 fish	34. Vince Brooks	3 fish
4. Mick Symons	11 fish	35. Blythe Palmer	3 fish
5. Nigel Haigh	10 fish	36. John Calvert	2 fish
6. Roy Burgess	8 fish	37. Tony Morton	2 fish
7. Derrick Grabham	7 fish	38. A Hallatt	2 fish
8. Andrew Green	7 fish	39. Dave Franklin	2 fish
9. Terry Sharp	7 fish	40. Andy Cottam	2 fish
10. Chris MicAllef	7 fish	41. Neil Thomas	
11. Darren Grabham	6 fish	42. Dave Barker	
12. Fred Bainbridge	6 fish	43. T Cosens	
13. Malcom Randle	6 fish	44. Vince Howley	
14. Keith Gollop	6 fish	45. C Worgan	
15. Tom Clayton	6 fish	46. John McCallum	
16. Ian Thompson	5 fish	47. Norman Sketchley	
17. John Pearn	5 fish	48. Bob Ring	
18. Richard Wood	5 fish	49. Iain Mackay	
19. Nick Halstead	5 fish	50=Steven Fish	
20. Mick Phipps	5 fish	50=Rob Jackson	
21. Lloyd Pallet	5 fish	52. Colin Lynas	
22. Andrew G Taylor	5 fish	53=Ray Cramp	
23. David Wortley	5 fish	53=Larry Swatton	
24. S Leho	4 fish	53=Jeff Wilkinson	
25. John Stevenson	4 fish	56. Mike Chapman	
26. Paul Maslin	4 fish	57=Peter Cornwell	
27. Darren Booth	3 fish	57=Chris Coulson	
28. Richard Lynas	3 fish	57=Michael Loy	
29. Richard Shaw	3 fish	57=B Moore	
30. G Bradbury	3 fish	57=Tom Sanderson	
31. Alan Seddon	3 fish	57=Roger Taylor	
32. Dave Saunders	3 fish		

2004 Airflo / CEFF Bank Stillwater Open
Elinor Lakes - 10th October

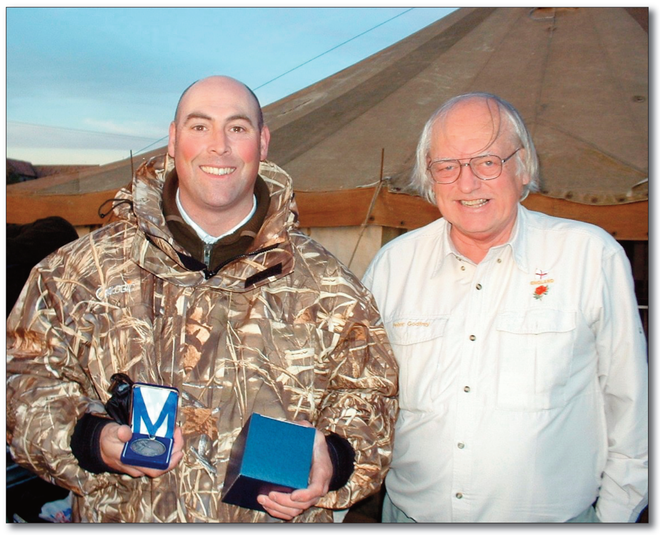
1st Place - "Maran Kingfishers"
2nd Place - "Rib Valley A"
3rd Place - "Fish Hawks"

1st Place Individual - Leigh Pond
2nd Place Individual - Michael Connorton
3rd Place Individual - Peter Appleby

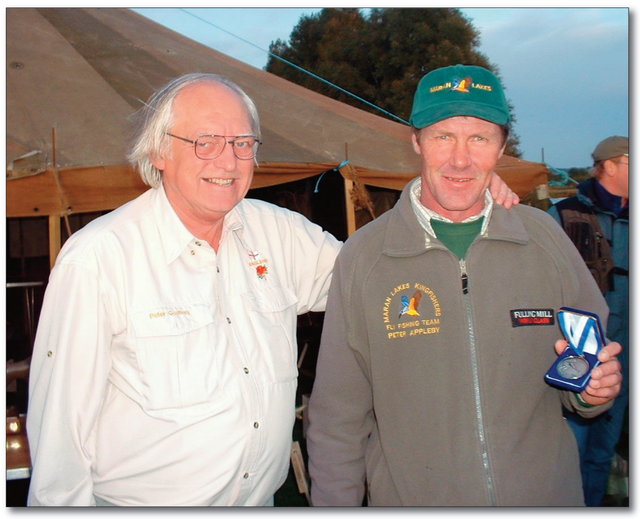
Biggest Fish of the Final - John Calvert - 10lb 15oz
Biggest Fish of the Competition - Dave Barker - 13lb 4oz

Clear skies and a strong Easterly blowing the length of 50-acre Elinor meant tricky conditions for the 62 qualifiers from across the country. Rules for this event, however, stipulated a 9-peg move every 40 minutes, ensuring that everyone got their share of positions comfortable or otherwise. And with fish apparently equally distributed around the pegged banks, all the field were in with a chance of catching.
Not long into the first session and many already had the obligatory two fish in the bag. (After that the rule was catch & release, but in the event of a tie in numbers, the weight of these two retained fish would be used to determine placings.)
Word of a big fish quickly spread early in the second session after John Calvert of Masterline Stocks landed a real lunker in the corner of the Dam. Weighing an ounce short of 11lbs, this was to prove the heaviest fish of the match.
In addition to John's big rainbow, all the talk at lunchtime was of the early lead that Leigh Pond of Rib Valley A had stormed into. Using a 40+ Clear Intermediate to put his team of Orange Blob and Black Dog Nobbler an impressive distance, he already had 13 fish and looked to be in an unassailable position. However, there were still another 4 sessions to go and plenty of scope for an upset.
Of the three pegged banks, only the Dam gave ideal conditions of a left-right following wind. The Boats bank had a left-right wind but coming in at a sharp angle, while on the opposite bank it was calmer but blowing right-left. The eventual winner would be someone who could master all conditions, and catch at every peg.
With the barbless hook rule, lost fish were common. The consensus seemed to be to get them in quickly, so that any trailing dropper flies had less chance of catching in the heavy weed growth. Lures may have got the biggest totals, but there were some late fish to nymphs as the afternoon brought some welcome cloud cover.
The final weigh-in revealed that Leigh Pond had consolidated his outstanding record in this event with a total of 17 fish, some distance ahead of the field, to become the English Bank Open Champion The next three places were a lot closer, with Michael Connorton second, followed by Peter Appleby (Maram Kingfishers) and Mick Symons (Team Snowbee), all with 11 fish. Team Champions were Maram Kingfishers with 24 fish, second were Rib Valley A, with the Fish Hawks third.
Our thanks to sponsor Airflo for providing prizes and a generous goody bag; fishery boss Edward Foster for the use of such a prolific venue as Elinor; and CEFF Bank Open Competition Secretary Keith McAdam, plus Secretary Peter Godfrey, for ensuring the smooth running of this event.
The CEFF/Airflo Bank Open remains the premier event for the everyday angler. One you can enter at your local fishery, without the need for specialised equipment or long-distance travel. Here's to 2005!


MARAM LAKES KINGFISHERS
FLY FISHING TEAM
FRED BARBRIDGE
PETER APPLEBY






MARAM LAKES KINGFISHERS
FLY FISHING TEAM
PETER APPLEBY





