



Gillingham and District Angling Association

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Members News Letter 1999

From Simon Hebditch, (Hon. Secretary)

Dear Members,

Please receive the 1999. Edition of the G&DAA newsletter in which I hope to inform the membership of the work of the committee, and how the association waters are fishing. The association waters have fished well this year with Turner's Paddock giving bags of Bream to 100lb, and Mappowder giving sizeable nets of Bream, Tench and Carp.

The river Stour has fished well this year (when it is fishable) with an encouraging number of small Roach showing. The E.A. spent a lot of money in the summer reinstating gravel runs in the loop at West Stour and clearing out the run from the Mill to the main river. This has been done to encourage Dace and Chub to spawn and hopefully in the next few years we should see some benefit in the fishing. We are also hoping to have the weir at the bottom of West Stour lowered so that Dace are allowed to the upper reaches of the river.

The Joint Fisheries water at Loddon Lakes has fished better this year with the big lake giving better sport than in recent years with bags of Skimmer Bream and Roach. There have also been some large Carp showing up to 25lb. in weight.

A temporary keepnet ban was put in place a couple of weeks ago at the suggestion of the E.A. and although now lifted there is still a "net dipping tank" in the car park which all members arriving there should use, prior to fishing. This is to protect the fishing for everyone, as there have been reports of problems with some fisheries around the area. It must be remembered that at this time of year fish do get slight infections and sores on their bodies, and all fish eventually get old and naturally die off, this is a fact of life, but it is always wise to be vigilant.

Again it has been a fairly quiet year on the committee front with no serious problems to contend with. We hope that we are doing a satisfactory job and serving the association members to the best of our ability. The A.G.M. is on Wednesday 5th May at 7.30pm, at The Gillingham Town Football Club. This is your chance to have your say in the way the Association is run, and to bring any proposals for rule changes, which should be sent to me 2 weeks before the A.G.M. Do make a note of the time and date for the A.G.M. and please try to come along, after all, Your Club needs You!

Before I sign off, it is with great sadness that I have to announce the retirement of Pete Trowbridge as Junior Match Secretary. Pete has served the club for many years in various roles; As Committee Member, and as Chairman, but it is for his work for the junior members

that he must be thanked most for. His instruction courses have been running for many years & have given many a junior member a good start in angling, myself included in 1984! Lets hope he can get out and catch a few himself now!

Hope to see you on the river bank,

Simon Hebditch (Hon. Sec)

Chairman's Appeal to All Members

Please make a concerted effort to attend the A.G.M.. The Committee receive many queries, complaints & comments throughout the year ; either by letter or verbally can assure you that, all correspondence ,by whatever route dealt with in a fair unbiased manner at Committee meetings

My appeal to you is that you can put any questions or views you may have in person. If you would like to stand for the Committee, for the coming year we would welcome any members willing to stand. There are a few of the existing Committee that have indicated their intention to stand down at the A.G.M. & if you can attend regular Monthly meetings, held the 1st Wednesday each Month, at the Royal British Legion Club Gillingham. Come along & get yourself elected. If you do not wish to join the Committee still come along & support those willing to do so.

John Stone (Chairman)

Junior Scene

From Pete Trowbridge

20th June 98 First Junior Championship Match at a Private venue

Top weight Daniel Yeatman 11-1-0 winning him the Merrifield Cup.

2nd David Stone 10-12-0. 3rd Jamie Genge 10-10-0.

12 juniors fished & all caught

27th June 98 Second Junior Championship Match at Turners Paddock

An all Bream bag of 26-10-0 from the lawn area gave David Stone top weight & as this proved to be the best weight of the series also won him the Springfield Trophy.

2nd Mathew Yeatman 16-11-0. 3rd Jamie Genge 10-9-0. 12 fished

11th July 98 Third Junior Championship Match at Lodden Big Lake

Top weight Matthew Yeatman 8-8-0, which included a Bream of 4-14-0

2nd David Stone 6-6-8 3rd Nick Searl 2-15-8

In conjunction with the above match we also fished the annual challenge match against Sturminster Juniors. The Gillingham team won the day with 28-0-0 to Sturminster's 15-8-0.

Winning them the Joint Fisheries Shield for the 4th year running.

Gillingham team members, who will all receive a trophy were David Stone, (Capt) Nick Searle, Gemma Genge, Jamie Genge, Tammy Martin, Gary Searle, Whilliam Bohne, Daniel Yeatman, Sam Chinn, Adam Trevis & Matthew Yeatman who also wins the Joint Fishery Cup for the best Individual weight.

25th July 98 Fourth Junior Championship Match at a Private Venue

Top weight Daniel Yeatman 19-12-0 2nd Jamie Genge 15-4-0 3rd Gemma Genge 13-2-0, 9 Juniors fished.

8th August 98 Fifth Junior Championship Match at Todber Manor

Top weight Nick Searle 6-12-0 2nd Adam Trevis 6-8-0 3rd Daniel Yeatman 5-5-0

10 Juniors fished.

22nd August 98 Sixth Junior Championship Match at Turners Paddock

Winning the Phil White Trophy with top weight Jamie Genge 15-9-0. 2nd Nick Searle 11-13-0.

3rd David Stone 11-2-0 . A slightly disappointing day with the water very clear & the fish very lazy. 3rd place was good enough to secure the Championship for David Stone, with 486 points. Jamie Genge being runner up with 484 points & winning the South West Packaging Trophy. Daniel Yeatman was 3rd with 478 points which wins him the Genge Shield. Best under 14 years of age, winning the Jack Algar Cup was David Stone. The Junior Specimen Trophy was won by Tammy Martin with a Crucian Carp of 1-10-0. The winner of the Timepiece Trophy for the most improved Junior will be announced on the Presentation night

5th September 98 Junior Pairs Match Private Venue

A top weight of 12-10-0 for Gemma Genge with brother Jamie's 6th place with 7-6-0 won them the Junior Pairs Trophy with 7 points followed by Russel Smith & partner Gary Searle with 9 points. 6 pairs fished.

18th October 98 First Winter Series Match Private Venue

Top weight went to Jamie Genge with 20-8-0 which was unbeaten during the series & won him the new Heaviest bag Trophy which was donated by Haxnicks Ltd. Daniel Yeatman was 2nd with 17-9-0 followed by Richard Drewitt with 14-1-0 , 11 fished.

24th January 99 Second Winter Series Match Private Venue

Top spot again for Jamie Genge with 10-3-0. 2nd Liam Day with 5-14-0 & 3rd Russell Smith with 4-11-0 , 7 fished.

31st January 99 Third Winter Series Match Private Venue

Top weight Gary Searle 16-3-0, 2nd Russell Smith 5-1-0 & 3rd Chris Drewitt with 3-11-0, 7 fished

14th February 99 Fourth & Final Winter Series Match

A changed venue at the last minute due to the lake being frozen over to Chantry stretch of the river saw all of the Juniors really struggle. Richard Drewitt managed to find a couple of Dace for a top weight of just 0-5-0 which won him the new last match winners trophy which was kindly donated by Newton Braid. With Jamie Genge 2nd with 0-4-8 3rd Gary Searle with 0-2-8, 8 fished.

Winner of the series with 298 points winning the Chester Jeffries Shield was Jamie Genge followed by Gary Searle with 290 points & winning the Twins Shield & third Richard Drewitt also with 290 points winning the Micky Martin Shield .

The winter series is of course intended to be fished on the river but somewhat in different & at times dangerous conditions did not allow this to happen. Although as expected numbers were down this year it was really pleasing to see some new faces during the Winter Series matches & overall all the Junior Matches were again very enjoyable.

After many years of being involved with running Junior events for the club & a great deal of thought I have decided to stand down from this post. I would of course like to thank everyone who has supported & helped me over the years with a special thank-you to Jerry Martin who has always been available & totally committed at all Junior the events. I would also like to thank all of the youngsters who have both attended the instruction course & taken part in the matches over the years as I cannot recall any of them giving me cause for concern & I wish them all every success with their fishing in the future.

Pete Trowbridge

From Jerry Martin

First Junior Match for the Summer Championship Series 1999 is on the 12th of June please ring Jerry on 01747 824210 for details before the 11th of June. Thanks to Tommy Miles & helpers for running the draws before the winter matches while I was unable to. They raised £130.10p for club funds (well done).