



The Association of Major Flyfishing Clubs

2009 Newsletter

All the Results – All the Reports – Each Month

All the Round Five Results : Last Matches before the Autumn Association Match

Do the Rules Matter?

It seems to me there are two types of rules. One set controls the way individuals' fish. Like fly size – fishing over the front of a drifting boat etc. There are another set which may be called the 'organisational rules' which operate for the collective well being.

The other day I attended the Round Five Matches between Group One and Group Four on Rutland. I observed a number of these rules being ignored.

ONE boat was drifting with the motor on the wrong side. Not important you might say! But with nearly all the boats operating in about ten acres of water one boat drifting differently across the wind did make a difference!

Two years ago we spent a long time agreeing a policy about two anchor points for drogues. It was agreed that regardless of how the drogue was anchored it MUST be taken out of the water when the boat was motoring. One boat ignored this rule – consequently this boat could only turn one way at the end of the drift, REGARDLESS of whether it would be less disturbing to turn

left or right. The potential for another minor irritation!

The worst disregard, and one which seriously disadvantaged Group Four, was the decision to start the Group One match early. Group One had a good fifteen minutes over the VERY tightly shoaled fish before Group Four left the harbour. Anglers caught up to four fish on their first drift so by the time Group Four anglers started fishing the shoal had been seriously disturbed.

The rule is quite clear. *'Fishing shall be for eight hours, and unless otherwise agreed (and this is if a team is delayed), between the hours of 10.0am and 6.00pm'*. I did not see any consultation between the other Team Captains - and the organiser of Group Four was certainly not consulted.

I heard a number of anglers from Group Four complaining about this. A breaking of the rules which was NOT for the collective well being.

The New Trophy for Group Four.

The old group four statue was so seriously damaged that it was unrepairable and it would be embarrassing to present.

This was the Fulling Mill Trophy. We approached Fulling Mill again to see if they would assist us in providing a new trophy.



This is the new **Fulling Mill Trophy**, which Barry Unwin agree to provide. I fine silver cup, of similar design to the Lew Cass Cup (*best fish of the season in this group*).

The Association thanks Fulling Mill for this new, extremely fine, trophy.

Rutland Water in fine mood for Group One - Round Five Bewl's win makes the Autumn Match the decider!

Results

Name **No** **Weight**

Bewl Bridge F.C. 'A'

Vince Brooks	7	17lbs 4.5oz
Jeff Latter	4	9lbs 9.5oz
Keith Nicholson	7	15lbs 5.5oz
Jim McGonnigle	8	18lbs 10.5oz
Micky Dwyer	8	26lbs 7.75oz
Jim McLintic	5	10lbs 14.5oz
TOTAL		98lbs 4.25oz

Fish Hawks 'A'

Mal Bruce	6	11lbs .5oz
Al Grice-Jackson	8	21lbs 11oz
Al Gamble	8	23lbs
Dan Taylor	5	12lbs 2oz
Rick Aldred	7	14lbs 10oz
Dave Barnfather	1	3lbs 7oz
TOTAL		86lbs 14.5oz

Hanningfield F.A.

Vince Howley	4	7lbs 7.75oz
Leigh Pond	7	15lbs 3oz
Andrew Brown	4	9lbs 1.5oz
Alan Stern	7	14lbs 15oz
John Stephenson	7	17lbs 2oz
Clive Morgan	8	18lbs 7.5oz
TOTAL		82lbs 12.5oz

Rutland Water F.F.

Sean Cutting	8	20lbs 9.5oz
David Lang	8	21lbs 13.5oz
Graham Pearson	8	18lbs 3.5oz
Ron Gent	7	16lbs 7oz
Al Owen	2	3lbs 11oz
Gordon Bloodworth	0	
TOTAL		80lbs 12.5oz

Soldier Palmers 'A'

Andy Smith	7	18lbs 6oz
Andy Draper	2	5lbs 2oz
Al Hayward	8	19lbs 2.25oz
Dave Husein	8	20lbs 15.5oz
Greg Isendal	3	6lbs

TOTAL		69lbs 9.75oz

Best Fish 4lbs 1oz

Ron Gent (Rutland Water)

Best Bag 26lbs 7.75oz

Micky Dwyer (Bewl Bridge)

Average Weight 2lbs 4oz

Rod Average 5.9

Easy Early – Difficult Later

With an early start in this group, anglers were able to get to the fish quickly. They did not have far to go! There was a huge shoal of fish just outside the harbour. This shoal was very tight because after the Church the fishing became progressively more difficult.

Anglers reported three and four fish in the first drift – with many doubles (two fish on at once).

Blobs and sparklers on floating, or slow sink, lines were the choices of most anglers. Only one angler reported catching on nymphs in this area, and that was late in the day.

Four Members of the Winning Bewl Bridge 'A' Team

Someone must have told Jeff Latter
something good between photo 1 and 2



There was an expectation that most anglers would have caught their limits quickly. Fortunately there was so much disturbance over the shoal in the early drifts that it became more and more difficult as the day wore on.

By mid-day, even though many boats remained in this area, *bending rods* were only seen intermittently.

Most anglers stayed over these fish. One angler who did not was Vince Brooks of Bewl. In the afternoon he went into the North Arm at the Finches and caught four fish on dries.

Everything, both top and bottom of the Group, will be decided at the Autumn Match on Chew.

This is particularly so at the top. If Bewl 'A' beat Fish Hawks by one place they will be the Champions. They already have a greater seasonal weight of fish (385lbs 7.25oz) than Fish Hawks 'A' (383lbs 13.5oz) so that an equal number of points will result in them winning by a count back to total weight over the season.



**Micky Dwyer (Bewl)
Best Bag**

Chew Reservoir 'Switches On' for Group Two Round Five Home Team may have done enough to guarantee the title

Results

Name No Weight

Bristol Reservoirs F.A.

Tony George	8	17lbs 4oz
Glen Holmes	8	15lbs 8oz
Alan Williams	8	19lbs 2oz
John Humphries	8	14lbs 14oz
John Welman	3	4lbs 13oz
Gary Hoskins	8	15lbs 10oz
TOTAL	87lbs	3oz

Grafham Water F.F.A.'A'

Peter Hartley	8	16lbs 12oz
Norman Rushton	8	15lbs 4oz
John Batter	8	15lbs 12oz
Tony Starling	8	14lbs 4oz
John Weaver	8	18lbs 8oz
Gordon Alleyene	4	6lbs 4oz
TOTAL	86lbs	12oz

Iver F.C.

Eddie Gray	8	14lbs 14oz
Ray Simpson	6	10lbs
Ron Lusardi	6	9lbs 12oz
Ken Williams	6	1lbs 7oz
Simon Newman	7	1lbs 12oz
Roy Palmer	8	13lbs 12oz
TOTAL	71lbs	9oz

Queen Mother F..F.

Phil Hall	8	18lbs 4oz
Dave Kidby	8	17lbs 8oz
Martin Conroy	8	13lbs 1oz
Steve Radcliffe	8	13lbs 3oz
Danny Peat	8	14lbs 4oz
Paul Wiez	1	2lbs 12oz
TOTAL	79lbs	

Royal Navy/Marines

Ron Tutt	8	14lbs 10oz
Mark Glass	8	15lbs 6oz
Jan Minall	8	16lbs 2oz
Damien Shells	8	16lbs b 8oz
Nick Tomkins	4	6lbs 8oz
Tony Wilkinson	1	1lb 12oz
TOTAL	70lbs	14oz

Best Bag 19lbs 2oz

Allan Williams
(Bristol Reservoirs. F.A.)

Best Fish 3lbs 6oz

Jan Minall (RNRMAA)

Average Weight 1lb 10oz

Average Bag 6.9 fish each

My information is that Chew Reservoir had been having a torrid time for the few weeks previous to the Group Two Match there, on 6th September.

If that was correct it had all changed for this match. An average of 6.9 was the best of the season. The only disappointment was the average size of the fish at 11bs 10oz. These fish were probably an earlier stocking, but were in fine condition, silver and very active.

As usual, when the fishing was so good and nearly everyone was catching their limit, time bonus was critical. Grafham Water F.F.A. caught more fish than Bristol Reservoirs F.A. and their fish weighed in just over 4lbs more. However Bristol's time bonus was well over 4lbs more and they managed to win by 7oz.

Bristol's Alan Williams was top rod. He fished between the Dam and the aerators and caught all his fish on nymphs. This was the first time he had fished in an Association Match.

As well as the best rod average of the season, Phil Hall of Queen Mother F..F. had the largest time bonus of the season. He finished before midday, but his largest fish was weighed in at only 1lb 8oz. (actually his average weight was 1lb 8.5oz so he must have had a slightly larger fish).

Martin Cottis reports that fish were generally spread out at the deeper end of Chew. Both corners of the Dam – the area in front of the Picnic Area –

The Walley Bank all holding good number of fish.

Methods were varied, but as usual on Chew the fish were high in the water. The washing line on a floater was particularly effective. Both the boobies and the nymphs caught well. A number of anglers, particularly from the Bristol Team, caught on dries.

In theory, any one of four teams could still win the group. With a three point lead over Grafham, Bristol must be favourites to gain promotion to Group One.

There seemed to be a bit of an organisational crisis. The Organiser from the Navy was called on duty at the very last minute and Ron Tutt found himself 'elected' when he arrived for the match. Between themselves, he and Bob Handford found spare score sheets etc. I believe that photos were taken, but if so they have not been sent to me. So no photos! However I was amused by this

Notice seen on the back of a lorry when I drove home from Rutland.

**Your ABS
Stops Working
Here**

**Garry Cullen (Soldier Palmers 'B') catches his FIRST Limit
In a competition – and – the best fish of the Day on Draycote
An average of 6.3 and NO Blanks**

Results

Name No Weight

Bewl Bridge F.C. 'B'

Adrian Bennet	3	6lbs 2oz
Ralph Painter	8	27lbs 4oz
Tim Williams	4	13lbs 2oz
Ken Holmes	6	20lbs 12oz
John Dunmall	7	14lbs 4oz

TOTAL 51lbs 8oz

Crawley F.C.

Bob Sanger	5	10lbs 12oz
Billy King	6	14lbs
Bob Birchall	3	8lbs 12oz
Alan Hall	5	14lbs 8oz
Peter Wyles	4	8lbs

TOTAL 56lbs

Fish Hawks 'B'

David Eames	8	17lbs 14oz
Si Gaines	8	24lbs
Mark O'Neil	8	25lbs 6oz
Ian Lishman	5	13lbs 8oz
Jason White	2	4lbs 14oz

TOTAL 85lbs 10oz

Invicta F.C. 'A'

Andy Newman	8	22lbs 8oz
John Caldwell	5	13lbs 2oz
Bob Ayres	7	16lbs 6oz
Chris McLeod	8	21lbs
Mark Searle	8	23lbs 14oz
John Mees	8	23lbs 10oz

TOTAL 120lbs 8oz

Soldier Palmers 'B'

Jamie Thomas	8	23lbs 1oz
Garry Cullen	8	22lbs 1oz
Alex Caldwell	8	18lbs 12oz
Rob Jackson	7	15lbs 12oz
Rob Wilson	8	22lbs 8oz

TOTAL 102lbs 2oz

Best Fish 5lbs 13oz

Garry Cullen (Soldier Palm)

Best Bag 27lbs 4oz

Ralph Painter (Bewl 'B')

Average vWeight 2lbs 8oz

Average Bag 6.3 Fish Each

**Bewl Bridge F.C. 'A' and
Invivts F.C. 'A' Head to
Head going into the final
Round.**

Only Invicta F.C.'A' Team (Picture below) turned up with all six anglers. This guaranteed them first place and all five points. Bewl Bridge struggled into next to last place and only two points. With equal points 'weigh back' is irrelevant. Whoever wins between these two teams will be Group Three Champions.



Conditions were perfect at Draycote! Overcast with a gentle breeze from the West or South West.

Draycote fished brilliantly on the day. An average of 6.3 fish per angler and an average weight of two and a half pounds was one of, if not the best, statistics of the season. Four fish over 5 lbs were caught and at least another five over 4lbs were recorded as best fish.

The fish seemed to be slightly deeper than on the previous

day when those who practiced found them high in the water.

However a slow sink line and slow retrieve was all that was necessary.

Draycote has a reputation for providing good dry fly fishing. Sadly fish that were spooned were full of daphnia. Consequently tequila and bright pink blobs and boobies scored particularly well.

Most anglers used a bright fly at the top and bottom of the cast, with more traditional nymphs in the middle. Daiwl Bach's and Crunchers, being the favourites. As is usual most anglers reported that their best fish came to the nymphs.

I know that in the past the Association has had difficulty booking Draycote as early in the season as we need to for publishing our Handbook. After this result we should, perhaps, try to overcome this problem.

Rutland comes Good for Group Four - Round Five

Equal at the Top with Only One Round to Go

Results

Name **No** **Weight**

East Midlands T.F.A.

Graham Bodsworth	6	12lbs 5oz
Mick Facey	8	20lbs 5.5oz
John Duffield	5	11lbs 10.5oz
Allan Sefton	8	17lbs 13oz
Daren Sumner	6	12lbs 1.75oz
Rob Edmunds	8	23lbs 5oz
TOTAL		97lbs 8.75oz

Grafham Water F.F.A. 'B'

Chris Bobby	3	5lbs 14.75oz
Derek Bravington	8	19lbs 8.75oz
Kevin Appleton	5	10lbs 15.5oz
Sheena Goode	7	17lbs 7.5oz
Nick Preston	6	14lbs 12.25oz
John Vincent	3	6lbs 11.5oz
Total		74lbs 14.75oz

Invicta F.C. 'B'

Kieran Cauldfield	4	8lbs 7.75oz
John Brown	4	7lbs 13oz
Gary How	5	9lbs 8.5oz
Ryan Worker	5	11lbs 9.5oz
Adam Worker	6	11lbs 1.5oz
Paul Stevens	5	11lbs 10.75oz
TOTAL		60lbs 3oz

Tunbridge Wells F.F.S.

Peter Thomason	8	24lbs 9.5oz
Micky Heasman	2	4lbs 2oz
Ron Lewis	2	6lbs 4oz
Alex Nicholson	2	3lbs 12.5oz
Mick Priest	2	4lbs 7.5oz
Sean Brooks	8	19lbs 1.5oz
TOTAL		62lbs 15oz

Best Fish 3lbs 10oz

Mick Facey
(East Mid.T.F.A.)

Best Bag

Peter Thomason
(Tunbridge Wells F.F.S.)

Average Weight 2lbs 3oz

Average Bag

5.2 fish per angler

No Blanks for Group Four

**With an easy win for
East Midlands T.F.A.**

Group Four overcame their late start compared with Group One. For the second time this season everyone caught fish (the other occasion was in Round Two at Bewl in May)

The only area where fishing was not difficult was in front of the Harbour. Considering this area had been disturbed before Group Four anglers got there, this was an excellent achievement.

East Midlands T.F.A. (pictured below) with nine more fish than any other team had a comfortable win. The basis of their win were limits and consequent time bonus', by Mick Facey, Alan Sefton and Rob Edmunds.

However, at least one angler from the Invicta F.C. 'B' Team starting his first drift beyond these fish, (by the three trees) caught his first fish on the first cast. Sadly, as everywhere else, this was his last for a long time.

Pictured below, Peter Thomason of Tunbridge Wells F.F.S. finished at 12.50 pm and had the best bag in the group.

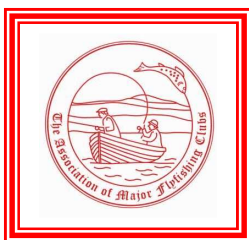


This result means that they, and Grafham Water F.F.A. have seventeen points each going into the final round at Chew on Saturday 3rd. October.

Pulling something bright through the top three feet, over the fish in front of the Harbour, was the most successful method.

Conditions were good at the start of the match. Light winds, warm and cloud. Things deteriorated as the day progressed. Strengthening winds and more sun made the last two hours very testing.

Reports indicate that this has been a very friendly group throughout the season. Long may it continue!



Challenge Table 2009 – Running Scores

Points scored for:

Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Rd6	Totals	Position
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Group One

<i>Bewl Bridge F.C. 'A'</i>	3	4	4	4	5		20	2
<i>Fish Hawks 'A'</i>	2	5	5	5	4		21	1
<i>Hanningfield F.A.</i>	4	3	2	2	3		14	3
<i>Rutland Water F.F.</i>	1	2	3	3	2		11	4
<i>Soldier Palmers 'A'</i>	5	1	1	1	1		9	5

Group Two

<i>Bristol Reservoirs F.A.</i>	3	3	3	4	5		18	1
<i>Grafham Water F.A. 'A'</i>	4	4	1	2	4		15	2
<i>Iver F.C.</i>	0	1	5	3	2		11	5
<i>Queen Mother F.C.</i>	0	2	4	5	3		14	4=
<i>Royal Navy/Marines</i>	5	5	2	1	1		14	4=

Group Three

<i>Bewl Bridge F.C. 'B'</i>	3	5	5	5	2		20	1=
<i>Crawley F.C.</i>	1	1	1	2	1		6	5
<i>Fish Hawks 'B'</i>	4	2	2	3	3		14	4
<i>Invicta F.C. 'A'</i>	5	3	3	4	5		20	1=
<i>Soldier Palmers 'B'</i>	2	4	4	1	4		15	3

Group Four

<i>East Midlands .T.F.A</i>	4	4	3	2	4		17	1=
<i>Grafham Water F.A. 'B'</i>	3	3	4	4	3		17	1=
<i>Invicta F.C. 'B'</i>	1	2	1	1	1		6	4
<i>Tunbridge Wells F.C.</i>	2	1	2	3	2		10	3

This the closest season the Association has ever had! Two Groups – three and four – will be decided by whichever of two teams beats the other. In Group Three between Bewl Bridge F.C.'B' and Invicta F.C. 'A'. In Group Four between East Midlands T.F.A. and Grafham Water F.F.A.'B'.

In Group One Bewl Bridge F.C.'A' must beat Fish Hawks 'A' by at least one place.

Only in Group Two does it look as though Bristol Reservoirs F.A. has a winning advantage. They would have to come in last and Grafham Water FFA 'A' come in first for any change. Not impossible, but unlikely!