



## Spring International Rutland, England 29th May 2015



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Trout Fishing at Glencorse RSV



Jim Youngman Carpets



Scottish Team sponsored by Fishers, Lake of Menteith Fisheries,  
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### Spring International Rutland Water 29th May 2015

The four home countries made their way to Rutland Water for the IFFA Spring International well aware that the weather forecast was predicting winds gusting to 40+ mph at some point during the practice and match days. It was generally bright on the Wednesday and Thursday with steady winds blowing down the South Arm towards the main basin. The conditions gave the teams a good opportunity to assess the water and set out their plans for the match day and all teams were keeping their findings and the number of fish caught in practice close to their chests. The match was fished on a partial catch and release basis with the first four trout being retained and an allowance of 2lb being given for returned fish.

The competitors arrived at Rutland on the Friday to fairly calm conditions and hopes were high that the weather forecasts would be wrong. It started to rain before the four countries marched down to the boats and when the rain passed the wind gradually increased in strength and pretty quickly it was making fishing difficult.

At the off a couple of boats set up outside the harbour with one of them into a fish pretty quickly. Most of the boats turned left with some competitors setting up in East Creek while others made for the Sailing Club, New Zealand Point, Berry Butts and Gibbets. a couple of boats turned right and headed for Fantasy Island.

By noon the wind was really beginning to pick up and fishing became pretty difficult at Fantasy. Quite a few boats opted to move from the south shore to try Yellowstone and Old Hall Bays where there was some shelter to be found and late on a couple of boats moved over to May Tree Bank.

photo: Scotland's Captain Paul Garner  
receiving the Captain's Badge and winners  
trophy from IFFA President Tom MacTaggart



As the boats returned to the pier the team managers sought out their anglers to get the number of fish they had caught and at the same time they tried to get an indication of how the other countries had done. It was too close to call and the teams had to wait for the weigh-in for the result.

England were first to go to the scales and produced 61 trout for 118lbs 11ozs. Their top rod was John Hardy with 8 fish for 16lbs 2.625ozs and their Lloyd Pallet weighed-in the heaviest fish of the day at 2lbs 15oz.

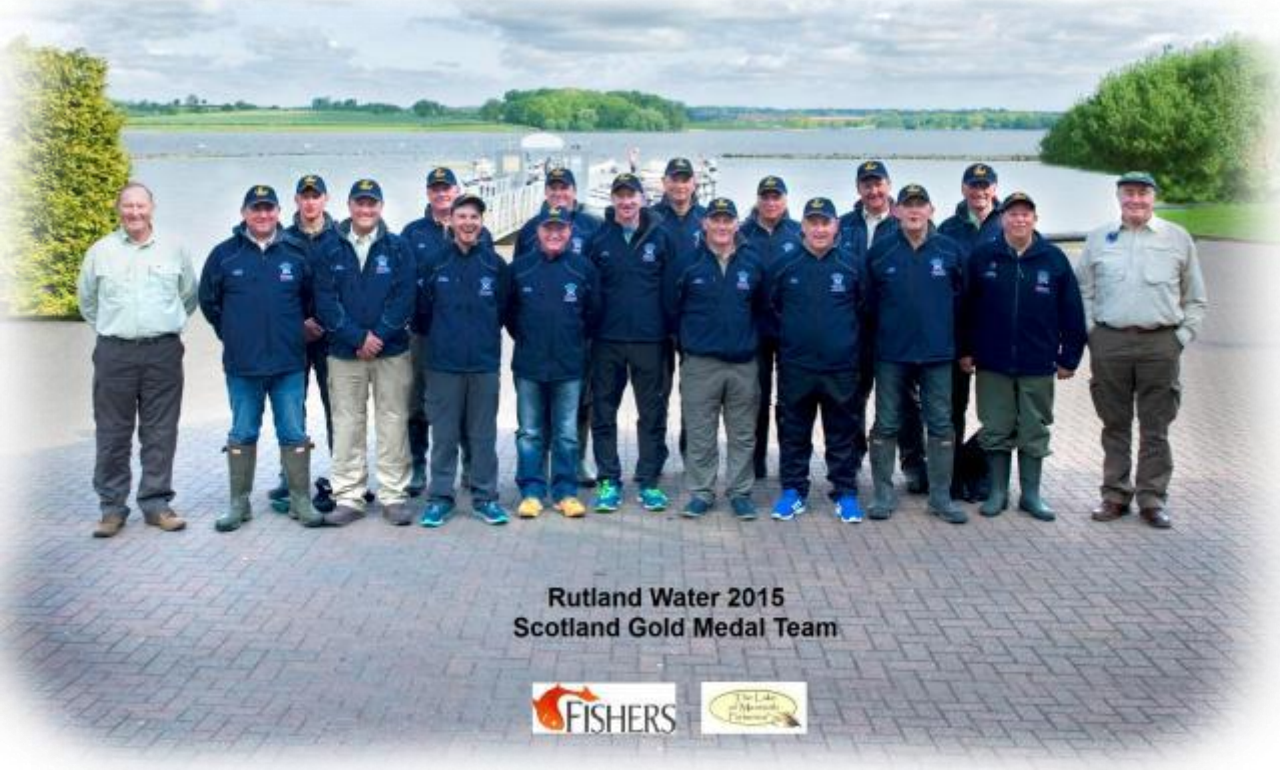
Ireland went next and their team recorded 45 trout for 87lbs 6.375ozs to take third place. Their top rod was Mike Keady with 10 trout for 20lbs 4 ozs which individually put him in third place.

The Scotland team knew that they had more fish than England but the result was decided on weight and they had to wait until their last man had weighed-in to find out that their 66 trout weighed 125lbs 1.125ozs which gave them the Gold medal.

Wales were last to the scales and their 43 trout for 84lbs 10.375ozs put them in fourth place. Their top rod was Gerallt Hughes with 7 fish for 13lbs 12.25ozs

This was Gus Shepherd's first international as the Scotland Team Manager and throughout the practice sessions and the team meetings he had been impressed by the volume of information that had been gleaned by all the team members on how Rutland was fishing and by the effort that had been put in by all of them to identify patterns and areas.

Scotland had three of the top four rods with outstanding performances by Derek Purves, Alan Gilbert and Andy Dunn. Derek Purves was the top individual rod with 12 fish for 23lbs 2.375ozs which won him the Brown Bowl. Alan Gilbert was close behind in second with 11 fish for 21lbs 6.375ozs and Andy Dunn was fourth with 10 fish for 20lbs 0.25ozs. Gus Shepherd was over the moon with his team's performance and when congratulating them he pointed out that it was the work put in by all the team members that was the key to their success.



2015 Gold Medal Spring Team at Rutland

Back Row: Tyler Hay Alan Brock Dererk Purves Chris McAllister Ian Wilson Gus Shepherd(manager) Allan Smith  
Front Row: Tom MacTaggart(IFFA President) Ronnie Gilbert Brian Mackenzie Brad Chalmers Kevin McCabe Paul Garner(Captain) Alan Gilbert Andy Dunn Nigel Burns George MacKenzie(International Secretary) Ian Campbell(IFFA Secretary)

2015 Spring International				
Rutland Water - 29th May 2015				
Position		Fish	Lbs	Ozs
1st	Scotland	66	125	1 1/8
2nd	England	61	118	11
3rd	Ireland	45	87	6 3/8
4th	Wales	43	84	10 3/8



Derek Purves (Bank of Scotland East AC) - Brown Bowl Winner  
12 trout for 23lbs 2.375ozs

I was drawn with England Captain Tony Baldwin. He won the toss and as he had charge of the boat he opted to go round the corner from the harbour into the bottom end of East Creek. I hadn't spent a lot of time here during the practice days but knew from others in the Scotland Team that there was fish there. I set up with a 4 fly cast of a Fab , Diawl Bach and Buzzers on a 6 foot midge tip line while Tony had a similar set up.

photo: Derek Purves receiving the Brown Bowl

On our first drift I took one on the buzzer, dropped one on the Fab and on the very next cast picked up another on the Fab. Tony hit a couple on the booby but they did not lock up. We proceeded to repeat this drift and before the wind picked up at 12 o'clock and by that time I had landed 6 and Tony had 4.

We tried a few more drifts there but in the high winds it was impossible to control our flies properly so we decided to try Yellowstone which had some protection. The Scotland team had found fish at Yellowstone on our practice days so I thought it worth a try. After an absolute soaking in the rollers motoring over it turned out to be a good move. Tony picked up a fish on virtually his first cast and then missed another. We had Yellowstone to ourselves for a time in which I picked up another 5 fish before 14:30. Four of them fell to the Diawl Bach.

As boats started to arrive more Blue caps started to show as well two of which were Alan Gilbert & Andy Dunn both of whom were fishing the bung and picking up fish.

I decided that for the last 40mins I would try this as I had not had a take for a while. After changing I picked up my 12th and last fish.

Alan Gilbert (SPRA West AC) - 2nd Place  
11 fish for 21lbs 6.375ozs

I was drawn with Pete Kempton of England with boatman Paul Angel (manager of the English autumn team at Lake of Menteith).

I won the toss and knowing the weather forecast was for high winds to pick up by 1200hrs I opted to get fishing as quickly as possible. I turned right outside the jetty and set up a drift immediately off the jetty wall drifting towards the church. Fishing with a bung and buzzers which had worked well on all practice days I picked up 5 fish in three drifts. Pete picked up one fish.

When Pete took control of the engine he headed for East Creek where I picked up one more fish. The wind had now got up and there was a big wave making fishing unpleasant.

Pete opted for Yellowstone Bay and some shelter and we headed over there. Yellowstone had already drawn a few boats and I immediately started to pick up the odd fish. I took another 5 in Yellowstone before facing the waves back to the jetty. I Finished 11 - 2 up on Pete and finished the day with the same line, cast and buzzers that I started with.







**Andy Dunn (Change FF AC) - 4th Place  
10 fish for 20lbs 0.25ozs**

After the previous practice days I had set in my mind that if most of the boats turned left towards the East Creek/ New Zealand point I would gamble and head down to Fantasy. 1hr 45 mins later and only one fish in the bag( on a blob pulling a di7) so I decided to leave the two other Scottish boats and head back up to the Berry Butts where I had caught steadily on "the bung" the day before.

By this time it was 13.15 and with the wind picking up the bung and three buzzers went on again and in the first long drift three fish came to the net. This long drift up and down from Gibbets to New Zealand point continued with me picking up another two fish until the wind picked up too much and coloured the inside drift so I suggested one more move.

Yellowstone had three boats moving up and down a drift and with the wind around 20mph some shelter would be found to my 'preferred'method. Short drifts from the corner of Hambleton Point across Yellowstone Bay saw me pick up another six fish but I dropped two at the net trying to bully them in quick. Before I knew it the clock struck 17.40 so that was time. After passing a few fellow and other nations boats on the way in they had mostly all struggled with the wind so my bag of 10 fish seemed a good day. The Boss ( big gus) was counting us all in and with the totals that were being talked about it sounded promising..... The weigh in confirmed it GOLD.

**Alan Brock (Crieff AC) 9th Place  
7 fish for 13lbs 3.75ozs**

I was drawn with England's Steve Cullen who won the toss and after we discussed options he opted to go to East Creek which I was happy with.

I set up with a Di3 with a fab, two buzzers and a diawl bach and used a steady fig 8 retrieve. I picked up a fish here and a fish there and in that area I had 4 to Steve's 1.

As the wind picked up we tried the Sailing Club and New Zealand Point without success.

From there we moved over to Yellowstone and tucked ourselves in at the corner and tried to hold near the weed bed.

I picked up another 3 and Steve picked up 1 there. The last of my fish there was about 3pm. More boats came to Yellowstone with the result that we had to continue drifting further down the bay as we couldn't get back in to where we started.



**Kevin McCabe (Change FF AC) 12th Place  
6 fish for 11lbs 5.125ozs**

I was drawn with Pete Thurnall of Wales and we agreed to start just outside the harbour.

I set up with buzzers and a fab on a midge tip line and we drifted back and forward from the pier area to the church. I picked up 2 on the buzzers and 1 on the fab there while Pete picked up 1.

Pete later called for us to move to New Zealand Point and it seemed to take about an hour to get there. We only stayed for about 15 minutes as it was busy with boats and nothing was doing.

We returned to our drift from the pier to the church and I picked up another 2. About 4pm we moved to Yellowstone where I dropped a fish and picked up my last one. By then we couldn't get back into the drift and that was end of our day.

Spring International - Rutland 29th May 2015				
Scotland Team Individual Placings				
(The full result can be seen at <a href="http://www.iffa.net">www.iffa.net</a> )				
Position		Fish	Lbs	Ozs
1	Derek Purves	12	23	2.375
2	Alan Gilbert	11	21	6.375
4	Andy Dunn	10	20	0.25
9	Alan Brock	7	13	3.375
12	Kevin McCabe	6	11	5.125
16	Allan Smith	5	9	9.5
20	Ronnie Gilbert	5	9	0.5
31	Chris McAllister	3	4	11.25
42	Brian Mackenzie	2	3	10.625
43	Paul Garner (captain)	2	3	7.250
48	Bradley Chalmers	1	1	15.5
49	Ian Wilson	1	1	13.125
51	Nigel Burns	1	1	11.875
54	Tyler Hay	0	0	0



Autumn International 2015  
Lake of Menteith, Scotland  
18th September 2015

Autumn International				
Lake of Menteith - 18th September 2015				
Position	Country	Fish	Lbs	Ozs
1st	Scotland	91	207	9.0
2nd	England	92	201	0.6
3rd	Ireland	84	182	10.0
4th	Wales	63	139	8.2

Autumn International  
Lake of Menteith - 18th September 2015

England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales travelled to the Lake of the Menteith for the 2015 Autumn International which was held on 18th September and having won the gold medal on the last two occasions that the International had been held there Scotland were hopeful of being successful once again. However it was not until their last two anglers reached the scales that they knew that their weight of trout was enough to clinch the gold medal over England who had caught one more fish than them.

All four countries had been on Menteith on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday with some also having boats out on the Sunday and Monday. During the official practice days the weather had been mainly bright with the wind varying from a light breeze down to none at all. For a change the weather held the same through to competition day on the Friday when it was sunny for most of the day with the occasional light cloud encouraging the trout to be higher in the water. There was a mix of flat calm and light ripple throughout the match.

As piper Stuart Marshall played the competitors off for the 10am start it was apparent that a few areas of Menteith were going to be busy with boats. Most of the boats turned left and headed straight for Lochend with a couple of them stopping along the Road Shore while another made for the Butts area. The rest of the boats made a bee line for Cages Bay with a couple continuing on to the Malling Shore.



It was a mixed day's fishing and while a few of the competitors found the methods required to be successful in the conditions fairly quickly there were others who struggled throughout the day. The top 10 individual competitors each managed to net nine or more trout with the top rod taking 14 followed by a 13, 12 and 11. Four managed to net 10 trout and a further two had 9. Other competitors struggled in the conditions with fourteen rods taking three or fewer fish.

photo:  
Scottish Captain Campbell Morgan receiving the team trophy and the captains trophy.

The competitors returned to the beach at 6pm and once the managers had spoken to their teams to find out how they had done the competitors made their way to the scales.



The teams knew that England had caught 92 fish which was one more than Scotland who had 91. Ireland had 84 trout and Wales had 63. The competition was fished on a partial catch and release basis with each competitor retaining the first three trout that they caught and thereafter being awarded 2lb for each trout that they returned. The weight of an individual trout was not capped.

The international competitions are decided on the weight of fish caught and over the last 10 years the country with the most fish has not always taken the gold medal. In 2009 at Chew, Wales took the Gold medal by just over 1lb despite having three fish fewer than England. In 2008 at Melvin, Wales had one fish less than Ireland but took the Gold medal by just under 1lb and in 2005 at Menteith, Scotland won the Gold medal by just under 5lbs despite having two trout less than England. It was a nail biting end to the day.

photo:  
Craig Smith of England receiving the Brown Bowl

England were first to go to the scales and the 14 trout for 30lbs 0.2ozs caught by their Craig Smith proved to be the best individual bag of the match.





With seven of their anglers having bags of three retained fish averaging over 2lbs 8ozs they were setting a hard target of 201lbs 0.6ozs for Scotland.

Ireland were next to the scales and with two of their first three competitors coming forward with fish over 3lbs and their Robert Crichton having 11 fish for 24lbs 5.2ozs, which earned him an individual fourth place, the weight of their fish climbed steadily but they couldn't overhaul England. Their total weight of 182lbs 10ozs put them in third place.



Robert Crichton receiving the trophy as top rod for Ireland



Allan Smith being presented with the Silver Salver as top rod for Scotland

Scotland's Captain, Campbell Morgan, lead his team to the weigh-in and with his heaviest fish hitting the scales at 3lbs 10oz Scottish hopes were raised that they might be able to do it. Campbell had 12 trout for 26lbs 0.8ozs which put him third in the individual lists. Andy Dunn was fourth to weigh-in and when the weight of his biggest fish was called as being the heaviest trout of the day at 5lbs 7.8ozs the atmosphere was electric. Allan Smith was 10th to the scales and his bag of 13 trout for 27lbs 8.2ozs proved to be the top bag for Scotland and earned him second individual position overall. Mick Tait was second last to weigh-in and when the weight of his three trout was called at 10lbs 7.2ozs the writing was on the wall. With only George Whyte to weigh-in Scotland needed 2lbs 4ozs to win and when he was called as having 4 trout for 8lbs 12.2ozs it put Scotland 6lb 8oz clear of England and the Gold medal was theirs.



Andy Dunn being presented with the trophy for the heaviest fish

This was Gus Shepherd's second international as the Scotland team manager and having taken the Gold medal at the Spring International at Rutland the Gold medal at Menteith is some beginning.



Captain Campbell Morgan celebrates with Manager Gus Shepherd

Wales followed Scotland to the scales and their Tim Llewellyn proved to be their top rod with 10 trout for 23lbs 3.4ozs which included a fish of 5lb 1.2oz. Their total of 63 trout for 139lbs 8.2ozs put them in fourth.



Tim Llewellyn being presented with the trophy as the top rod for Wales

**Allan Smith (Kinross AC) Phoenix Silver Salver - 2nd Overall**

I was drawn with Denis Goulding of Ireland and although he won the toss he opted to give me the first two hours. I chose to go to the Lochend/Kates Brae/Gravel Pits area and set up with a snowbee buzzer line with 2 pearly cormorants and a fab on the tail. Fish were moving everywhere in the flat calm and Denis was into a fish straight away and I got my first shortly after that.

I moved over to the Crannog and was steadily picking up fish. It slowed down a fair bit and as I saw a boat picking up fish inside the Crannog I moved over there and kept picking up fish until about 1pm when I had 8. By 2pm I had 10 but it had slowed right down. We followed moving fish and I picked up another 2 and then got my last one about 4pm. I stuck to the same set up all day and finished with 13 fish.

Campbell Morgan (Strathleven FF) - 3rd Overall

I was drawn with Robert Crichton, Ireland's top rod on the day, and lost the shout. We went to the Cages and set up with a Di3 and 2 boobies. I hit four fish and got one of them but it wasn't really working for us there so we moved to try open water. I changed to a floater with 2 cormorants and a fab and we fished the area between the Butts and International Bay. We stayed there for the rest of the day trying to stay on moving fish. I had a go with dries and by the end of the day I had taken 5 on the fab, 5 on dries, 1 on a cormorant and 1 on a booby. We were the best boat on the day with 23 fish.

Stuart McLean (East Kilbride AC) - 7th Overall

I was drawn with Paul Sharman, captain of Wales. We started at Arnmach and I was into a fish on my first cast. I had set up with a floater with a buscuit and 2 cormorants but after such a good start nothing else happened and we moved to the Cages.

I switched to a bung with buzzers and dropped a fish. I picked up a fish at the Cages but it was slow and we moved to Lochend. At Lochend I went back to my original set up but changed to a 6ft slow tip. We were fishing just off the sluice and I started picking up fish. We never moved from there after that and I finished with 10 fish.

Grant Sutherland (Perth RASC) - 11th Overall

I was drawn with Mark Glass from England. I won the toss so it was my two hours first so I opted to start at the Bogle Knowe / Tods Hole area. My set up was fab , buzzer and Cormorant on a midge tip.

We both picked up a fish in the first ten minutes and we continued to drift this area till around lunch time. My boat partner picked up consistently over this period to my few I think by lunch it was his 7 fish to my 3. After lunch saw me take the boat over to Kate's Brae / Gravel pits area where there were fish moving in the shallows. It paid off as in one drift I picked up four fish to the buzzer and fab.

We spent the rest of the day in this area and we both picked up another fish each and ended up finishing at eight fish each. I Stuck to the same tactic all day and all my fisher came to the buzzer and the fab.

Ray Anderson (Leslie & Glenrothes AC) - 16th Overall

I was drawn with Joe Quinn of Ireland. I won the toss and headed for Cages Bat at the lily pads where I set up with a bung and buzzers. I picked up a fish pretty quick then Joe got one and then he got another. We moved round to Portend Bay where I got 1 on a buzzer and 1 on a dry.

Back to the Cages and on with the bung and buzzers. I picked up four there on the buzzers and Joe got another. We finished our day at the Road Shore and I picked up my last fish there on a black booby on a fast glass line.

Andy Dunn (Change FF AC) - Heaviest Fish of the Day.

I was drawn with Geoff Thomson of Wales and we chose to go to Cages Bay. I started with the bung but it wasn't working. I changed to a fab and diawl bachs and dropped 2. I picked up my fish on the black diawl bachs. I took a fish of 5lb 7.8oz in Cages on a black diawl back on a floating line fished static.

Autumn International Lake of Menteith - 18th September 2015 Individual Scottish Team Placings (the full result cab be seen at <a href="http://www.iffa.net">www.iffa.net</a> )				
Position		Fish	Lbs	Ozs
2nd	Allan Smith	13	27	8.2
3rd	Campbell Morgan	12	26	8.2
7th	Stuart McLean	10	20	5.8
11th	Grant Sutherland	8	18	1.4
16th	Ray Anderson	8	16	1.4
17th	David Mateer	7	15	15.2
24th	Alan Steven	6	13	15
25th	Alan Porteous	6	13	14.8
31st	Andrew Dunn	4	11	12.4
33rd	Peter Auchterlonie	5	10	10
34th	Mick Tait	3	10	7.2
41st	George Whyte	4	8	12.2
43rd	Jimmy McBride	3	8	10
53rd	Jim Mckinlay	2	5	6.6



back row: Tom MacTaggart(IFFA President) George MacKenzie(International Secretary) Allan Smith Gus Shepherd(Manager) George Whyte  
Ray Anderson Stuart McLean Alan Steven Mick Tait Jimmy McBride Ian Campbell(IFFA Secretary)  
front row: Grant Sutherland Alan Porteous Andy Dunn Campbell Morgan(Captain) David Mateer Jim Mckinlay Peter Auchterlonie