



Loch Internationals 2012



Lochgilthead & District AC



Scottish Teams sponsored by Fishers, Lake of Menteith Fisheries, WFFC2009, 7plus7 Construction, OES, BVG Airflow, Flyfish Europe and Lochgilthead & District AC.

Spring International - Lough Sheelin

Ireland provided a superb venue for the 2012 Spring International which was held on Lough Sheelin on 18th May. Water clarity was excellent; the fish were plentiful and of a good size; fly life was prolific and of the course the boatmen made sure that everyone had a good time. During the week the mayfly made a very regular appearance and were attracting trout at various times on each day. Numerous trout over 4lb were caught and at least one at 6lbs was landed.

The competition was entirely catch and release with the minimum size set at 30cm. Twenty points were awarded for each fish plus one point for each centimetre of length. 106 fish were caught on match day. The day started off bright with a brisk breeze and as the day progressed the cloud cover and wind strength increased to give near perfect conditions although on the cold side. The mayfly put in an appearance and trout were moving to them in many areas.

The competition was a close run event and produced a nail biting finish. England were first to weigh-in and their 13 fish gave them 788 points. Ireland were next and recorded 34 fish for 2076 points. Scotland followed with 27 fish for 1692 points. Wales were last to report and with 32 fish the Welsh and Irish teams were on tenterhooks as they waited for the Welsh points to be announced. There had been many good sized trout taken and the result could have gone either way. The Welsh points were announced as 2004 points which gave them the Silver with Ireland taking the Gold.

Ireland had put in the hours on Sheelin during the months before the match and the Gold medal was well deserved. Wales had also put in the ground work with some of the team reported as being on Sheelin the previous week. It nearly paid off for them.

The Brown Bowl for the top individual rod went to Kieron Thomas of Wales who had 7 trout for 470 points. His trout averaged just under 47cm. Arden Pollock of Ireland was second with 6 trout for 355 points (average 38cm) and Russell Owen of Wales was third with 5 trout for 322 points (average 44cm).

The top rod for England was Mark Wytham with 4 trout for 242 points. Ireland's top rod was Arden Pollock; Scotland's top rod was Ronnie Glass with 4 fish for 265 points and the top rod for Wales was Kieron Thomas. Both Ireland and Wales had four competitors in the top 10 while England and Scotland had one.

With 27 trout, Scotland were not too far off the mark but by the time the team managers had done a quick count it was clear that we were destined for the bronze medal.

Ronnie Glass is in superb form at the moment and followed up on his success as 2011 Scottish National Champion by picking up the Phoenix Silver Salver as Scotland's top rod. His 4 fish put him in 5th place overall.

During Tuesday's practice Ronnie found that dries were working between Plunketts and Crane Island when the mayfly were on the go. On match day he was paired with Robert Reilly of Ireland and they headed to the Stoney Island/Rabbits Point area where they looked for wind slicks with mayfly in them. He had three to the dries there and after trying elsewhere they returned to that area and ended with 7 to the boat.

photo: Ronnie receiving the Silver Salver from IFFA president Michael Callaghan



Keith Logan was the second best Scottish rod with 3 trout for 184 points. He was paired with Russell Owen and on discussing where they wanted to go they agreed the areas they wanted to fish. They started off fishing Hollywell Bay down to Kilnahard Point. Russell picked up the first two fish and then Keith dropped a fly size and took three to go 3/2 up. Russell picked up another to draw level and then added another 2 in the last twenty minutes.

Dugald MacGilp was third best of the Scottish rods and was 14th overall. He finished with 3 trout for 182 points. Dugald was paired with the Welsh captain Jeff Thomas and they headed over to the Stoney Island area. Jeff took his first fish after 15 minutes followed by one for Dugald. Jeff took another one followed again by Dugald. They moved over to the Crane Island area and Dugald picked up his third fish. All of Dugald's fish were on a wet mayfly pattern fished on a fast glass.



Ray Anderson was 15th overall and was Scotland's fourth best rod. He had 3 trout for 181 points. Ray was paired with Mark Howard of England and opted to go to the Hollywell Bay to start with. He had his first fish, which was 52cm, within ten minutes pulling a wet daddy on a slime line. They moved down to Rabbit Point and he picked up 2 trout on a muddler. From there they went back to Hollywell Bay and Kilnahard Point.

Colin Macdonald had two trout for 140 points and was Scotland's fifth best rod and 20th overall. Colin was paired with Marco Orsi of Wales. They went to Stoney Island where Colin picked up a 43 cm fish fairly early. From there they went to Merry Point and then returned to Stoney Island. Colin went back to a fast glass line and covered a trout which took after one draw and he reckons it was over 5lbs. They finished their day at Gull Island





Back Row: Michael Callaghan(IFFA President) Stan Headley(Manager) Shane Kelly Dugald MacGilp Steven Graham Ronnie Glass Steven Welsh
 Allan Smith George MacKenzie(International Secretary) Ian Campbell(IFFA Secretary)
 Front Row: Bob Robertson David McAllister Keith Logan Ray Anderson Jock Kettles(Captain) Colin MacDonald Steven Leask Nigel Burns

Scottish Team Results - For the full result see www.iffa.net				
Position	Competitor	Club	Fish	Points
5	Ronnie Glass	Kelso AA	4	265
12	Keith Logan	North Berwick AC	3	184
14	Dugald MacGilp	Lochgilphead AC	3	182
15	Ray Anderson	Leslie & Glenrothes AC	3	181
20	Colin MacDonald	Dunoon & District AC	2	140
21=	Jock Kettles(Captain)	Change FF AC	2	137
21=	Bob Robertson	Balfron Piscatorials	2	137
24	David McAllister	Port Glasgow AC	2	115
28	Steve Welsh	Dalbeattie AA	2	111
31	Stephen Leask	Neilston FF	2	108
32	Shane Kelly	Hawick AC	1	76
42	Nigel Burns	Crieff FF	1	56
45=	Steven Graham	Perth RASC	0	0
45=	Allan Smith	Stormontfield AC	0	0

	Country	Points	Fish	Total Length
1 st	Ireland	2076	34	1383.6
2 nd	Wales	2004	32	1354.6
3 rd	Scotland	1692	27	1144.1
4 th	England	798	13	525.8

Autumn International 2012
Llyn Brenig
7th September 2012

Match Report

Following two silver medals in 2011 and a bronze medal in the 2012 Spring International, the Scottish team put themselves back on the gold medal track by winning the 2012 Autumn International. Llyn Brenig has been a good venue for Scotland in the past having won gold medals there in 2006 and 2002 and with a wealth of experience in the team hopes were high of success again this year. The team included two previous Brown Bowl winners and seven winners of the Phoenix Silver Salver.

The team travelled to Wales on the Monday and had practice sessions on Brenig on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday which it was hoped would help the anglers form their game plan for the competition day on the Friday. As so often happens the wind and weather conspired to ensure that no two days were the same. On the Tuesday the wind was mainly from the north and there was a fair amount of cloud cover. On the Wednesday the wind turned round more to the south west and to finish off the practice sessions the wind picked up considerably on the Thursday to make fishing uncomfortable in the bright sun.

On competition day the wind dropped back and was mainly from the west and southwest. The light cloud cover quickly cleared and it was apparent from early on that the fishing would be challenging. Reports coming in during the day identified that the England team were doing well with many of their rods having caught three or four fish and it was thought that they were in front. Things changed later in the afternoon when some of the Scottish rods started to put together good baskets and when the managers did their count as their teams came off the water it looked likely that Scotland would win.

The result was confirmed when the teams went to the scales and Scotland took the Gold medal with 52 fish for 72lb 3oz. England were second with 38 trout for 52lb 2oz; Ireland were third with 32 trout for 45lb 10oz and Wales were fourth with 18 trout for 23lb 9oz. Scottish rods filled the first three individual places with the Brown Bowl for the top rod going to John Buchanan who had 9 trout for 12lb 7oz. Kevin McCabe was second with 7 trout for 11lb 3oz and Wullie Leach was third with 8 trout for 11lb. Nine of the Scottish team finished in the top twenty.

Top rod for England was Steve Cullen with 4 trout for 5lb 15oz. Niall O'Neill was the top rod for Ireland with 5 trout for 7lb 13oz and Jason Heath was the top rod for Wales with 3 trout for 3lb 15oz.

The trophy for the heaviest fish went to Kevin McCabe for his trout of 2lb 14oz.

The top five Scottish rods of John Buchanan, Kevin McCabe, Wullie Leach, Peter Auchterlonie and Kevin Porteous will be carried forward to the 2013 Internationals.



Back Row: Michael Callaghan(IFFA President) Graeme Connelly John Buchanan Gus Shepherd Allan Gamble Jim McBride Peter Auchterlonie Ewan Clark George MacKenzie(International Secretary) Ian Campbell(IFFA Secretary)

Front Row: Wullie Leach John Simpson Kevin Porteous Jock Kettles Kevin McCabe Nigel Burns(Captain) Derek Pozzi Stan Headley(Manager)

John Buchanan

John, who was the Brown Bowl winner at Brenig in 2000, was drawn with Christopher Micallef of England and lost the toss. After discussing the areas they wanted to cover they headed over to Hafod Lom Woods and started their drift from about half way along. John was into a fish fairly quickly on a booby being fished on 5 sweep line but lost it at the net and didn't pick up his first fish until they reached the coves. They moved from there over to the Yacht Club Bay and with nothing doing there they moved on to Watersports Bay where John got his second fish. From Watersports Bay they moved on to the Brenig Arm where they both picked up a fish. They were getting pulls but couldn't make them stick and when they were joined there by another six boats it went quiet.

Late in the afternoon John moved down to the Centre Shore at the Dam and spent the remaining two hours drifting between the Dam and the jetty. Between 3.45pm and 5pm John picked up six fish there to take his total to 9 with his boat partner on 3. John's 9 trout was the best basket of the day and earned him his second Brown Bowl.



Wullie Leach

Wullie, who had 4 previous caps, was drawn with Niall O'Neill of Ireland and after winning the toss opted to go to Hafod Lom Woods where he took a fish on a blob fished on a five sweep. After being broken he changed to two boobies and they drifted all the way to the Ring of Stones. They came back down to the woods and drifted into the coves and late on the day they moved over to the Brenig Arm.

They finished their day at the jetty where Wullie took one in front of the lodge and another on the far side of the jetty. Wullie finished with 8 fish which put him in third spot while Niall finished with 5 and was the top Irish rod.



Kevin McCabe

Kevin, who won the Phoenix Silver Salver at Grafham in 2011, was drawn with Andrew Duncan of Ireland and also lost the toss. They started at the lodge and after spending some time there without doing anything they moved on to Yacht Club Bay. Kevin picked up one on dries there. From there they went to the North Arm where Kevin got one on dries and one on a diawl bach at the far side of Barrow Island.

From the North Arm they moved to Hafod Lom Woods where Kevin changed to a DI 5 and took one on a cat and one on a buzzer and they stayed there until the last hour. Kevin took 7 trout to the 5 by his boat partner and had the heaviest fish of the day at 2lb 14oz.



Peter Auchterlonie

Peter, who had 9 previous caps, was drawn with Alistair Beaumont of England and after discussing where they wanted go they agreed to start at Tower Bay. Peter started with a five sweep line and 2 boobies and took his first fish at 10.30am. They had a long drift along Hafod Lom Woods where he picked up another one.

Following a long blank spell they went back to Tower Bay and up to the Woods only this time they drifted further out. Peter picked one up straight away and when he repeated the drift he picked up another two. By 6pm Peter had 5 fish and his boat partner had 2.

Kevin Porteous

This was Kevin's second cap and he was drawn with Peter Appleby of England. Kevin won the toss and opted to go Hafod Lom Woods where he fished a booby and two hoppers on a three sweep line. He took his first fish within ten minutes on the booby and followed that ten minutes later with one on a hopper. Peter picked up one there as well.

They moved from the woods to Watersports Bay where Kevin picked up his third fish. They moved back to the woods and after a while there with nothing doing they went back to Watersports Bay where Peter picked up 2 and Kevin got his last fish. Kevin finished with 4 and Peter had 3.



(For the full result see the IFFA website at www.iffa.net)

Position		Club	Fish	lbs	ozs
1	John Buchanan	Newton Mearns FF	9	12	7.25
2	Kevin McCabe	Change FF AC	7	11	3.75
3	Wullie Leach	Falkirk Municipal AC	8	11	0.75
5	Peter Auchterlonie	St Fillans & Lochearn AA	5	6	12.50
8	Kevin Porteous	Dounreay AC	4	5	8.625
9	Nigel Burns (captain)	Crieff FF	4	5	7.875
12	Ewan Clark	Strathtyrum AC	4	5	6.875
16	Allan Gamble	RAF Fish Hawks	4	4	14.25
18eq	Jock Kettles	Change FF AC	3	4	1.00
34	John Simpson	Ardrossan Eglinton AC	2	2	11.25
39	Graeme Connelly	Kahts Whiskers	1	1	7.25
44	Gus Shepherd	IBM Freshwater AC	1	1	1.625
49eq	Jimmy McBride	Lothian & Borders Police AC	0	0	0
49eq	Derek Pozzi	Rainbow AC	0	0	0

	Country	Fish	Lbs	Ozs
1 st	Scotland	52	72	3.000
2 nd	England	38	52	2.125
3 rd	Ireland	32	45	10.250
4th	Wales	18	23	9.625