



NEWSLETTER - April 2023

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COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2023

CHAIRMAN:

Neil Bryant..... Tel: 07909 967300 Email: nbryant@neilbryant.co.uk
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VICE CHAIRMAN:

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SECRETARY:

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TREASURER:

Keith Scaggs..... Tel 01903 602912 Email: keith.scaggs@ntlworld.com
15 Haynes Road, Worthing, West Sussex. BN14 7JY

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRAR

Gary Galbraith.....Tel: 07989 666489 Email: gary.galbraithfips@outlook.com
16 Hoo Common, Chattenden, Nr Hoo, Rochester, Kent ME3 8LT

COMPETITION COORDINATOR:

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CHAIRMEN OF SELECTORS:

Boat Section: Richard Russell – Tel: 01983 882133 Email: richardrussell1w@hotmail.com
Shore Section: Barrie Senior - Tel: 07964 723615 Email: badgesenior@gmail.com
Game Section: Andy Smith Tel: 01273 880313 Email: smithad@aol.com

DIARY

2023

May 10 th /13 th	European Shore, Netherlands.
May 20 th /21 st	English Boat - Eastbourne
July 7 th /8 th	European Species, Weymouth (Bream).
September 16 th /23 rd	European Boat – Cobh, Ireland
Septemeber 29 th /30 th	English Shore – Southbourne
November 11 th /12 th	English Species, Minehead (Cod).

2024

January 13 th	AGM Abbey Hotel, Sheerness, Kent.
January 14 th	Funfish (flatfish) Sheerness
May 6 th /10 th	EFSA Game South Africa
September 9 th /13 th	European Boat – Weymouth
October 6 th /11 th	Eurooupean Species (Flatfish) – Langeland
Oct/ Nov (TBC)	Ruropean Shore - Wales

***Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
held at Weymouth Angling Society Clubhouse
Saturday 14th January 2023 at 10:30***

Present:

Mr E.Entwistle	-	President
Mr N.Bryant	-	Chairman
Mr R.Ashby	-	Vice Chairman
Mr K.Bowden	-	Secretary
Mr G.Galbraith	-	Membership Registrar
Mr K.Scaggs	-	Treasurer
		Competition Co-ordinator/S.C.Delegate
Mr A.Smith	-	Fish Recorder
Mr B.Senior	-	Shore Festival Officer/Press Officer
Mr A.Selby	-	Boat Festival Officer
Mr M.Osborne	-	Social Secretary

1. Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from the following:

Mark Smith	Jerry Knight	Tony Hudson	Martin Bobbett	Colin Searles
Tony Porritt	Paul Curtice	Billy Cann	Paul Hart	Peter Neale
Luke Allen	Richard Wheeler			

A total of 25 full members were present.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2022:

Acceptance of the Minutes was proposed by G>Galbraith, seconded by K.Scaggs and accepted unanimously. The Minutes were signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

4. Executive Officer's Reports:

President's Address: Mr Entwistle gave the following report to the meeting.

Well, another year has passed, a little better from the Covid restrictions point of view I suppose, certainly as regard to the previous couple of years. I hope none of you or your families have been to severely impacted by the pandemic The weather at times has been very unkind, causing considerable disruption to many fishing plans and competitions. This in turn has resulted in the loss of revenue to the section, let's hope for more settled conditions in the coming year. My own fishing has been limited to a handful of day trips out of Lymington and it is about as far as I wish to travel nowadays, but still enjoyable nevertheless.

I am afraid I have been finding it increasingly difficult to keep on top of what has been going on in the Section recently, I have never been comfortable with social media and I find things are passing me by at times. To this end, I am standing down as the Section's President. It has been an honour and a privilege to hold this position, but I now feel the time has come for someone that is a little less long in the tooth and more up to date with the current membership and what is going on, to take over the role.

I wish the Section all the best for the future and my 51 years in the Section has given me some wonderful opportunities for fishing all around the world for which I shall always be grateful. I shall still remain a member of course and will look forward to receiving the occasional newsletter, keeping up as best I may, but I think my days of travelling and attending events, are now over.

Please continue to support your committee in whatever way you can, they work hard for us, as do their families in the background. I'm not sure it is always appreciated how much they do on our behalf.

My warmest regards to you all and I wish you and your families all the very best for 2023.

Chairman's Report: Mr Bryant gave the following report to the meeting.

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for your attendance this morning in what is our first "attended" AGM since 2019, so welcome and it is nice to see you all here today. It is nice to also be able to have some of our fish of the year winners here today and I thank you for your support in entering and in attending, you are most welcome.

Please let me start by thanking our President, Ted for his report but more importantly for his support to EFSA England over the past fifty plus years, not only as an angler but also being part of the Section Committee for as long as I can remember (and that's a long time, as I joined in 1979) but I know he joined EFSA England in 1970.

Ted has held several posts on the committee with the last one being Chairman from 1992 to 2000; he was also served as an EFSA HQ Executive for many years being Boat Festival Office for Game. Ted has been our President since 2013 Ted so I do thank you, on behalf of all the membership of the EFSA Family, for your never-ending support, knowledge and guidance and you will always be held in high regard by everyone. We all wish you well Ted and whilst sad to see you step down today, I am sure you will now go into puppy dog training as your newfound career and know you will be great at that also but do hope we can enjoy the pleasure of your company at an event soon as I know fishing is indeed your true passion. Thank you, Ted, Mr President.

Looking back over last year it was once again difficult to comprehend that we had to cancel two of our events and this has always been the risk of Sea Angling, we rely heavily on having the right weather for our sport but because of the understanding of the Skipper, HQ Hotels and Bait Suppliers we do not get financially penalised, so we do thank them for their continued support. That said, we were able to host our Boat Species event when 20 members participated and the English Boat when 30 Anglers were able to take part, but we were unable to hold our Shore Championships once again.

On the European events, it was good to have them all back with the European Shore in Sardinia, Boat in Denmark, and the Species in Iceland and I hope you all enjoyed your time to participating in them so let us hope that this year we get to attend even more.

Looking ahead we have our home events starting with tomorrow's fun fish here in Weymouth, English Boat in Eastbourne, English Species in Minehead and we are also hosting the European Species Bream here in Weymouth. We are also still trying to locate a suitable venue for our English Shore Championships. There is always a busy calendar for both domestic and European events and hope you get to fish as many as you can considering the current change to all of our living standards and simple day to day overheads we are battling through.

We, the committee are acutely aware that the uplift in costs of hosting events and the financial burden many are going through that we must make our events more affordable than ever so as to encourage members to fish them but there are certain cost factors that we have little to no control over, especially the boat and bait costs. We are looking at ways to reduce commitment to funded prize tables, less expensive HQ Hotels (try and find one) so the list goes on, but I want to assure you all that we are seriously looking at the costs and will continue to do so. There will be the need for change we know because we want to make events more attractive in some way and to also encourage new anglers to join us because without new members we could drift.

It sounds easy to say "get sponsorship" but in these times that is hard to do as suppliers have to also cover increasing costs and margins, get younger people to fish and again that is more difficult also as there are fewer dedicated boat anglers that can afford the costs and for our shore events, we are competing with so many other, money prize events. Let me assure you that we, the committee, will be giving a lot of time to the future in the year and I do hope that you will continue to support us whilst we look to how best make EFSA England more attractive to the angling community. After all, we are a competition orientated organisation that tries to make it easy for individuals to fish organised events and to that end we will be looking at all aspects because we do need some changes.

Moving on, we are financially sound as a Section of EFSA but now we need to look at how we can invest in our future and to consider what we can do to assist anglers and market EFSA England to a wider audience so everything is now on the table. We have tried to encourage youth with financial support so maybe we have to up the age limits for that support along with other incentives that would also get more of our current membership fishing the events. We will leave no stone unturned in our endeavours.

It would be remiss of me not to mention EFSA HQ and the work that Marcus and his committee are doing to also try and encourage more membership and whilst this again is a tough ask during the current climate, we as a section will continue to support them in their endeavours and thank them for there service to all Sections.

I must thank the committee once again for all their individual work and whilst I know that past few years have been trying, they have maintained the members interest to heart, trying to accommodate everyone's needs and create enjoyable events for all to participate in. Thank you all and remember, they are volunteers who do this for you, the membership and from time to time might slip up but at the heart of this committee it is your interest they are serving. If anyone is interested in joining the committee and feels they can become an active member of the committee then please get in touch and as the old saying goes, we need you! Well, once again I have gone on so I will wish you all a great 2023 and hope you get to fish a great number of events, meet some great likeminded anglers and to enjoy your sport.

Thank you once again to Ted for everything you have done for EFSA and wish you well.
Thank you.

Vice-Chairman's Report: Mr Ashby gave the following report to the meeting.

Well another disjointed year in 2022 as we immerge from the difficulties brought about by the Covid pandemic. At least EFSA have now been able to commence the organisation of events once again, albeit that the support for such events is bound to be slow to recover. The increases in the cost of living and the effect on finances for all of us will inevitably take its toll as we decide on spending priorities. In the meantime a full program of EFSA events is now ahead of us for 2023 and we look forward to enjoying meeting up once again to enjoy our sport and to meet up with friends home and abroad. It is now very much a time to reflect on the way forward, and if nothing else, the past two years has made us review how we do things to adapt to the new circumstances we find ourselves in. It could be an interesting year ahead.

Secretary's Report: Mr Bowden gave the following report to the meeting:

During 2022 I was mainly involved with taking entries and ensuring these, along with all payments, were with the relevant overseas Sections by close of entry date. These were, European Species Iceland, European Shore Sardinia and the European Boat Championship Denmark. Reports and results for all these events are on our website.

Other than that, I took responsibility for the minutes of our meetings which have been mainly held online that has save the committee a great deal of travel. In addition, I organised the engraving of the AGM awards and to those of you that are due to receive one later, well done.

For the 2023 European events, all current details and entry forms are on our website and any updates to these events will be given later at this AGM and published to the membership via our Newsletter and website.

Hopefully 2023 we will be returning to a more positive time, and I hope to see many of you taking part in the varied events for the year. As always, I urge you to get entries in sooner rather than later, especially with our boat fishing events as spaces are always limited.

To close, I would like to wish all members a healthy and fish-a-plenty year.

Treasurers Report: The accounts for the year ending on the 31st October 2022 were presented to the membership for review and Mr Scaggs gave the following report to the meeting:

I can report that this year, we have had to cancel two events.

This is the overview for the year

Membership income	£1400.00
Affiliated Club income	£220.00
Festivals Profit	£340.00
Bank Interest	£44.00

Stock profit	£0.00
Overall yearly income	£2004.00
Overall Expenditure	£1948.00
Overall Section	£56.00

The Committee is always reviewing the Section's financial situation, especially as banks are now charging banking fees. In view of this, we have reduced the number of bank accounts we hold down to just two - one is a general account and the other a savings account. The charging fees for the general account is £5.00 per month plus charges for cheques/cash paid in is £0.80p per transaction.

When members send in cheques for either membership fees or stock purchases, these costs soon mount up that the Section has to cover and these charges also apply to banking cash, but we first have to find a branch that takes in cash! At present there are no charges for the savings account. This year we had £83.00 in bank charges and if we still had all three bank accounts this would have been £203.00, but if we had no cheques or cash to pay in, the charges for the year would have only been £60.00.

In order to reduce our costs we would have to go to solely using a direct bank transfer method and so eliminate all cheque payments. It is therefore up to you to decide which way we go from now on.

Acceptance of the Accounts was proposed by K.Scaggs, seconded by N.Cottingham, and accepted unanimously.

Membership Registrar's Report: Mr Galbraith gave the following report to the meeting.

Current membership stands at 144 Members plus our affiliated clubs all as below. Membership has understandable been affected by Covid and the current economic climate, which is a shame, but a reality of the times we are currently living in. However Membership is still only £20 and the committee are looking into ways to make events cheaper where possible in the future.

Current Membership is as follows,

Annual Members	73
Active Life Members	29
Inactive Life Members	42
Total Membership	144
Affiliated Clubs	11 as below

Bexhill Sea Angling Club	Bisley & District SAC
British Conger Club	Guildford City SAC
Individual Boat Anglers Club	Portland Angling Club
Regents Brooks SAC	Sportfishing Club of the British Isles
Western Wight Angling Club	Weymouth Angling Society
Worthing Deep Sea Anglers	

Membership is due 1 January 2023, EFSA are charged a fee when cheques are paid into the bank so please could you pay by direct debit or bank transfer where possible please.

Account Name EFSA England Sort code 40-40-45 Account Number 11228633

Good luck and good fishing for all who take part in upcoming events.

Fish Recorder's Report: Mr Smith gave the following report and details to the meeting.

Entries were fairly slow for this year but there were a few really good ones, particularly Paul Maris's 84lb 0oz boat caught conger, Gavin Hunt's 28lb 14oz boat caught blonde ray, Miles Downer's 17lb 3 oz shore caught smoothhound, Paul Dixon's 21 lb 7oz shore caught blonde ray, Ken Harding's 5lb 12oz shore caught thick lipped mullet and Michael Wyatt's 36lb 10oz shore caught conger eel. The lack of cod, flounder and pollack being caught from the boats was reflected in the lack of entries in those categories. It was good to have a junior fish of the year entry and congratulations to Mika Atwood winning with her 9lb 14oz bull huss. There were some good entries for overseas fish of the year but the Committee opted for Andy Selby's 19lb 5oz Bluefin Trevally, which represented the highest percentage against the IGFA records. Again it was a difficult decision for the Norman Witt Trophy, which represents the best overall fish of the year, but the Committee went for Paul Dixon's cracking 21lb 7oz shore caught blonde ray. Thank you for all this year's entries and please keep them coming for 2023. Tight lines.

Awards to be made later in the meeting.

Boat Festival Officer's Report: Mr Selby gave the following report to the meeting.

The 2022 events didn't start well with the cancellation of the Fun Fish Spurdog event from Weymouth due to the weather. Let's hope we can get out this year. The first major domestic event of 2022 was the English Species Festival from Gosport targeting Smoothounds. Plenty of fish were recorded with a grand total of 173 on a catch and release basis. The winner over the two days and winning his boat on both days catching 21 hounds was Matt Osborne. Well done Matt.

Our major event in 2022 was the English Boat Championship from Weymouth and with some Covid restrictions in place we ran the event slightly differently. The weather was poor with strong westerly winds, but Weymouth offers good shelter and accessible fishing grounds even in poor weather. The boats in the main went to the spoil grounds on both days where a good variety of species were caught. Over the two days only one angler won his boat both days scoring a maximum 200% and this was Gary Galbraith. Well done to Gary in winning this year's Gold Pin in a very strong field of anglers.

For 2023 we hope the weather will allow us to target the Spurdogs in our Funfish event at Weymouth and later in the year we make a welcome return to Eastbourne for our English Boat Championship. Our big one for the year is the European Species Bream

Championship event at Weymouth in July. Please get your entries in and your accommodation booked at the Crown, as this will be a very popular event. Our final event for the year will be our Species Festival from Minehead targeting Cod. As with all events, please enter early, as boat places are limited in most ports.

Have a great New Year

Shore Festival Officer's Report: Mr Senior gave the following brief report to the meeting.

The 2022 English Shore Championship scheduled for Samphire Hoe was cancelled due to lack of entries.

The 2022 European Shore Championship was held in Sardinia over 3 days in October with four of our anglers attending. There should have been five, but Covid struck me down just 36 hours before being due to fly. The event was poorly attended with only 20 anglers competing, Fishing was tough with few fish caught, but Kim Bowden was our top angler finishing in 4th place. The winner was Arjan Rynberg from the Netherlands.

The 2023 European Shore Championship will be held in the Netherlands on 10th to 13th May 2023 and entry closing date is 14th February 2023.

The venue for this year's English Shore event is still undecided.

Here's to a better 2023.

Press Officer's Report: Mr Senior informed the meeting that he had been keeping the website up to date with reports and events that have taken place over the last year as well as giving information on all forthcoming events.

Social Secretary's Report: Mr Osborne gave a brief description of his role during the past year, along with the assistance of Andy Smith, and outlined his work in coordinating travel, accommodation and general assistance to members fishing overseas events. He reported that there was an event in Denmark on August 18th/19th that we have been invited to and so if anyone is considering attending they should contact him.

Competition Co-ordinator's Report: Mr Scaggs gave the following report to the meeting.

As we start this New Year, competition entries have already started arriving for this year's events. Please continue to get your entries in early as places are in short supply and will fill up fast.

We are now using the electronic banking system to pay for competition entries, but we are having problems in identifying which event the payment is for as some events have identical entry fees. There is no need to put your name as a reference for the payment as this is already printed on the statement, but we need as reference the event for which the payment is intended. For instance; Euro Boat 23, Euro Shore 23 or Eng Boat 23 would be sufficient information to identify those particular events. This will make the processing of entries easier and eliminate payment identification problems when the events have the same entry fees.

I would like to remind members yet again that we still need a completed entry form for all competitions. These can be emailed or posted to me, but please do not send them as a phone picture because they rarely appear clearly. Finally, if we have to cancel any future competitions we will refund entry fees less any expenses occurred within the event.

Standing Committee Delegate's Report:

Please see relevant reports as published on the EFSA England website.

5. Reports on Championships & Festivals in 2022:

Brief reports on each event were given by Mr Selby and Mr Senior with their annual Officer Reports earlier in the meeting. All full reports of those events that took place are available on the EFSA England website.

- a) *Fun Fish (Fatfish) Competition – Weymouth* Cancelled.
- b) *English Shore Championship – Samphire Hoe* Cancelled
- c) *English Species Festival – Gosport* Full report on website
- d) *EFSA Game Championship – Cape Verde* Full report on website
- e) *European Species Championship – Iceland* Full report on website
- f) *English Boat Championship – Weymouth* Full report on website
- g) *European Shore Championship – Sardinia* Full report on website
- h) *European Boat Championship – Denmark* Full report on website

6. Presentation of Fish of the Year Awards.

EFSA England President Ted Entwistle, assisted by Andy Smith, made the following awards.

Boat

Bass	Matt Osborne	PM	8lb 0oz	
Black Bream	Rod Whitewood	West Wight	4lb 3oz	
Cod	No entries			
Conger Eel	Paul Maris	BCC	84lb 0oz	
Flounder	No entries			
Plaice	Paul Styles	Portland	2lb 8oz	
Pollack	No entries			
Ray – Blonde	Gavin Hunt	Weymouth	28lb 14oz	
Smoothound	Barrie Senior	PM	16lb 8oz	
Whiting	Rod Whitewood	West Wight	3lb 6oz	
Wrasse – Ballan	Dave McCune	PM	4lb 8oz	
Other by %				
Greater Weever	John Bellamy	PM	1lb 3oz	237.5%
Greater Weever	Colin Searles	PM	1lb 3oz	237.5%
Greater Weever	Andy Smith	PM	1lb 3oz	237.5%

Shore

Bass	Nick Casford	West Wight	7lb 2oz
Black Bream	Paul Dixon	Portland	2lb 14oz
Cod	Paul Dixon	Portland	5lb 10oz
Conger Eel	Michael Wyatt	West Wight	36lb 10oz
Flounder	Luke Allen	PM	0lb 12oz
Plaice	Keith Diplock	Weymouth	1lb 3oz
Pollack	Ray Goodwin	Portland	2lb 9oz
Mullet – all by % (Thick lipped)	Ken Harding	Weymouth	5lb 12oz 143.75%
Smoothound	Miles Downer	West Wight	17lb 3oz
Whiting	Steve Goodwin	Portland	1lb 3oz
Wrasse – Ballan	Steve Goodwin	Portland	5lb 2oz
Other by %			
Blonde Ray	Paul Dixon	Portland	21lb 7oz 178.65%

Junior Fish of the Year

Bull Huss	Mika Attwood	Weymouth	9lb 14oz Aged 13
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Overseas Fish of the Year

Bluefin Trevally	Andy Selby	PM	19lb 5oz
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Norman Witt Trophy

Shore Caught			
Blonde Ray	Paul Dixon	Portland	21lb 7oz

Short Adjournment

7. *Election of Officers:*

Position	Nominee
Treasurer	K.Scaggs
Press Officer	B.Senior
Competition Coordinator	K.Scaggs
Membership Registrar	G.Galbraith

Acceptance of all the above were proposed by N.Cottingham, seconded by R.Russell and accepted unanimously. The nominees were elected for a three year term of office.

8. *Election of Hon. Auditor:*

Mr J.Knight was proposed as Hon Auditor by R.Barron and seconded by M.Osborne. As there were no other nominees, Mr Knight was duly elected for a one-year term of office.

9. Reports on Championships & Festivals for 2023:

Those present were reminded that all details and entry forms for forthcoming events were published on the EFSA England website.

- a. Fun Competition Weymouth Mr Selby informed the meeting that the event has had to be cancelled due to high winds.
- b. English Shore Championship Mr Senior reported that there was not a date and venue as yet but there were 2 or 3 venues possible and as soon as there is more detail it will be put on the website and effort made to directly contact the people likely to fish it.
- c. English Species Festival Boat – Minehead Mr Selby reported that will be targeting the Bristol Channel cod again in this event with some big fish being caught in recent years. Perfect tides with quality lugworm being provided for the event . For all entry forms and update information please refer to our website <https://www.efsa-england.com>
- d. EFSA Game – None
- e. EFSA European Species Champonship – Weymouth Mr Selby reported that this was big one for the English Section this year targeting black bream from Weymouth as they show in big numbers at this time of year. The HQ hotel is the Crown Hotel and we have held a certain number of rooms on exceptional rates for EFSA members. Please get you entry in ASAP because, as with all events, places are limited and book your hotel.
- f. English Boat Championship – Eastbourne Mr Selby reported that we make a welcome return to Eastbourne which in recent years has become very popular with species events. Under the guidance of our commodore skipper John Little, this should be a very exciting event with many varied species being caught.
- g. European Boat Championship – Ireland Mr Bowden reported that we return to Cobh for this year's event. The brochure and entry form are on our website with payment due by mid April made payable to EFSA England. The Commodore Hotel is again HQ, but they are not releasing prices until early 2023 due to the rapidly changing times, although there are many other options for accommodation. Many of you have visited Cobh before, but for those that haven't, the town is very close to the harbour. Travel is easy with frequent ferry crossings, or as some have done, fly over and hire a car when there. Fishing can be varied, drifting the rocks for pollack and wrasse, or the sand for whiting, gurnard, and codling. To see how it has fished before, please take a look at the report from last time we were there on our website. So, if you have a mind to fish it and would like more information, then get in contact with Kim Bowden. Close of entries is 14th April 2023.

h. European Shore Championship - Netherlands Mr Bowden reported that we have fished the shores of the Netherlands before and there can be many fish caught, but unfortunately many are undersize and score nothing! Next year's venue is further north and is supposed to produce some reasonable sized flounder along with many other species, but the only way to see for yourself is to fish the event. There are many options for accommodation and most with close access to the beach. Assistance to get to your peg will be via a tractor and trailer. Fishing is from 0900 to 1400, so there will be plenty of time to return to accommodation, clean and prepare for the following day before socialising. With regards to travel, the drive is about 250 miles once you have crossed the channel. For more information, please look at the brochure on our website or contact Kim Bowden. Entries have to be with him by 14th February 2023

10. Special Business

A proposal has been received from the Treasurer, seconded by N.Bryant, to make all payments by Bank Transfer.

Proposal is as follows:

Due to the new banking systems, banks now charge for paying in cheques and cash and we have to cover these costs. So we are asking members who pay their annual membership fees by cheque to please set up a standing order with their bank as this will save the Section money. If this is not possible, members are asked to add an additional £1.00 to cover bank fees.

A discussion followed and a vote was taken with the result as follows;

For the motion - 25. Against the motion – none.

The motion was approved unanimously

11. Annual General Meeting 2024. A date and venue will be confirmed later in the year.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 12:15 hrs.

Secretary's Report – April 2023

At the recent Standing Committee meeting, EFSA HQ informed us that the current officer in charge of stock is having to stand down from the post this year. So, if any of you feel able to take on this role, or would like more information on the position then please get in contact with Kim Bowden.

European Boat and Line Championships, 18th/23rd September 2023, Cobh, Ireland.

We return to Cobh for this year's event and both brochure and entry form are on the EFSA England website with entry payment due by 15th April to EFSA England.

The Commodore Hotel is again HQ, but they are not releasing prices till start of 2023 due to these rapid changing times. However, there are many other accommodation options for us. Many of you have visited Cobh before and will be aware that the town is very close to the harbour. Travel if easy with frequent ferry crossings, or as some have done, fly over and hire a car when there.

Fishing can be varied, drifting the rock for pollack and wrasse, or the sand for whiting, gurnard, and codling. If you was to know how it has fished before, have a read of the report from last time there on our website. So, if you have a mind to fish it and would like more information than get in contact with me (Kim). Close of entries is 14th April 2023.

Two of the five days will be Line Class with the proposed line being Tronix 20lb braid. The remaining three days will be normal fishing with the results from all five days determining the Boat Champion.

Fish Recorder's Report

We have seen some good quality entries so far this year, but particular mention should be made of Paul Roper's 28lb boat caught spurdog in the 'Other' category. This would probably have been a British record if weighed on shore but congratulations to Paul for returning it to live another day. Andy Alcock of Weymouth should also be congratulated on his 7lb 0oz boat caught Ballan Wrasse. Obviously it is early in the season but entries for boat caught black bream, conger eel, flounder, plaice and smoothound would be appreciated, together with shore caught black bream, conger eel, plaice, mullet and smoothound. Please keep your entries coming in. Thanks once again to Bisley, Portland, West Wight and Weymouth for their continued support.

BOAT

Bass	Steve Goodwin	Portland	10lb 9oz
Black Bream			
Cod	Matt Osborne	PM	3lb 0oz
Conger Eel			
Flounder			
Plaice			
Pollack	Ian Lambert	Bisley	14lb 6oz
Ray – Blonde	Ray Barron	PM	17lb 8oz
Smoothound			
Whiting	Alan Bird	PM	3lb 9oz
Wrasse – Ballan	Andy Alcock	Weymouth	7lb 0oz
Other by %			
Spurdog	Paul Roper	PM	28lb 0oz 280.00%

SHORE

Bass	Rodney Whitewood	West Wight	5lb 7oz
Black Bream			
Cod	Gareth Turner	West Wight	4lb 5oz
Conger Eel			
Flounder	Ray Barron	PM	1lb 12oz
Plaice			
Pollack	Gavin Hunt	PM	1lb 14oz
Mullet – all by %			
Smoothound			
Whiting	Dave McCune	PM	1lb 14oz
	Paul Dixon	Portland	1lb 14oz
Wrasse – Ballan	Dave Lane	Weymouth	4lb 3oz
Other by %			
Pouting	Rodney Whitewood	West Wight	2lb 5.5oz 156.25%

European Shore Championship 2022, Valledoria, Sardinia

The first day of the European Shore 2022 Championship was on 12th October 2022 with Registration and the opening ceremony at 1400 hours. The Zone draw was completed and a chance for any questions. Unfortunately, there were only 20 entries due to various factors, including late notification of the date, fishing times of 8 in the evening till midnight and Italian politics, which meant only one Italian fished the event. The fishing beaches were to the North and South of north western shoreline of Sardinia aside the town of Castelsardo.

There were a couple of hours before bait distribution that consisted of two types of worm and a wrap of razor clam and then it was time to get on the bus at 1800 hrs to head to the venue for the first day's fishing. I say on the bus, but that was for half the anglers as those who had driven to Sardinia drove themselves to the venue. On arrival at the beach there was time to set up in daylight, as it got dark just before the start of fishing at 2000 hrs. However, there was a road along the top of the beach with street lighting, so there was some background light.

A few fish showed early on, though it soon became clear that the size of fish was going to be an issue, even with the minimum length to count of 12cm. The fish caught were almost all Bream with 14cm being a big one! As the score cards came in it became apparent that many anglers had failed to catch a scoring fish and when the results were entered, 10 of the anglers, (half the field) did not score. Top was one of the ladies Ilonka Rynberg from Holland with 7 fish, Steve Lewis, Wales with 4 fish. The other 8 anglers got just 1 or 2 fish each. One zone was won with just 1 fish caught. So not a great evening's fishing.

Day 2 and a different beach with a few more fish showing, again mainly bream, Again there was a bit of background light from the street lighting, except for my peg, There was a restaurant on the shore behind me, which looked closed, that is until just before the start of the fishing and the lights came on and 4 very large flood lights pointing out to sea were switched on, so I had no need of a head torch, as it was like fishing in daylight! On this beach the waves were breaking quite a way offshore, so it was an advantage to be able to cast beyond that bank, but I believe some managed to find fish closer in, though size to score was tough. Despite this I managed 2 fish, one of which was a whole 32 cm long and one of the best fish over the 3 days, though not the longest as on day. One angler had a stingray of 34cm - and that was measured nose to tail! After day 2 I (Kim Bowden) was laying 4th on 6 points while there were 2 anglers on a perfect score of 8, so realistically there was a possibility of Bronze for me

Day 3 and the beach was like the day before with breaking surf a long way out and fishing in the dark. So dark in fact that stargazing was something to do between casts. The fish again were slow to show and I didn't get my first fish until after two hours which was a double shot of one 12cm (just in size), but the other one was a whole 14cm! Not such a good night for me and with 3 fish to count I was only 3rd in the zone

giving me just 2 points for 9 in total. So down the list I went to 7th. Paull Curtice caught a lot of fish, but almost all undersize.

The presentation of medals was on the Saturday afternoon and the top two anglers both winning their zone every day and gaining 12 points. After count back it was Arjan Rynberg of Holland taking the gold pin, with Steve Lewis of Wales taking the silver. On 10 points was Derek Gregory of Wales with the bronze pin. This is the 4th time Arjan has won the European Shore event. There was then a short break before the Gala luncheon, and what a fine meal it was, in true Italian style. To start with were platters of pasta with sauce and sea food. Followed by platters of meat and fish, potatoes and vegetables all washed down with carafes of house wine. Sweet treats finished off the meal. It was a splendid meal to finish the Championship with. All in all, a lovely venue but poor fishing.

Report by Kim Bowden with assistance from Andy Smith

Full Results

Pos	Name	Day 1	Points			Fish No
			Day 2	Day 3	Points	
1	Arjan Rynberg	4	4	4	12	33
2	Steve Lewis	4	4	4	12	16
3	Derek Gregory	4	3	3	10	12
4	Helgi Bergsson	2	3	4	9	8
5	Ilonka Rynberg	4	1	3	8	12
6	Warren Doyle	0	4	4	8	11
7	Kim Bowden	3	3	2	8	7
7	Giuseppe Gianberduca	1	3	4	8	7
9	Thorir Sveinsson	4	2	2	8	5
10	Tony Porrit	3	1	3	7	8
11	Miranda Koop	0	4	3	7	6
12	Mark Shortt	0	3	3	6	11
13	Wilco Keur	0	4	0	4	8
14	Paull Curtice	0	2	2	4	4
14	Pat Shortt	2	2	0	4	4
16	Connie O'Sullivan	0	2	2	4	2
17	George McCullough	0	2	1	3	4
18	Marcus Wuerst	0	0	2	2	1
19	Andy Smith	0	0	2	2	1
20	Ria van Ranst	0	0	1	1	1

Reports on Forthcoming Events

English Shore 2023

The English Shore Championship will be held on the 29th and 30th of September 2023. Further details will be put on the EFSA England website as soon as they become available.

AGM and Funfish 2024

The 2024 AGM will take place on Saturday 13th January 2024 with the Funfish the following day. The AGM will be held at the Abbey Hotel and Conference Centre in Sheerness with the FunFish from Sheerness the following day targeting flatfish. This is a very popular venue for dabs with flounder and plaice being caught as well. Entry form and details will be on the Efsa England website in due course.

European Species (Flatfish) October 6th-11th 2024 – Langeland

This event will be a flatfish only and in the waters many of us have fished before. The difference this time we will be fishing on small self-drive angling boats with 4 to a boat, and with one of the competing anglers in charge of the boat. All boats will fish the same area. More details will be available later this year and will be put on the website as soon as they become available.

European Boat – Weymouth 9th to 13th September 2024

We are pleased to be holding the European Championship from Weymouth once again. The format will be fishing for nominated larger species for the first two days and then for the final three days it will be an all-fish species hunt with a minimum size limit of 20cm. The HQ hotel will be the Royal Hotel situated on the Esplanade and about 500m from the boat departure point. All meetings, Registration and the Prize giving ceremony will be held there. Brochure and Entry form will be available at the 2023 Championship in Ireland or online at the EFSA England Website.

EFSA Game Championship 2024

This will be a 4 day competition held at Simon's Town, Cape Town, South Africa on 13th to 18th May 2024 with teams of 3 anglers per boat. Fish expected to be caught will be Yellowfin and Longfin Tuna. The entry cost will include fishing, food and drink on the boats, welcome ceremony and Gala dinner.

The organisers have asked for an *Expression of Interest Form* to be filled in to give them an idea of numbers attending. So if this sounds like something you would like to do, then please look at the information and brochure on our website. Please contact either Kim Bowden or Andy Smith as soon as you can as the intention is to give South Africa an idea of number looking to attend from England by next month.