

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2024

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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

2025

January 11th	Funfish event - Weymouth
January 12th	EFSA England AGM – Weymouth Angling Society Clubhouse Commencing 10:30
June 18th/22nd	EFSA European Species Championship – Netherlands
July 11th/12th	English Boat Championship - Newquay
August 4th/9 th	European Boat Championship – Norway
Sept 29 th /Oct 3 rd	European Shore Championship -- Denmark
November 28th/29th	English Species, Liverpool

Additional non-EFSA event

September 2 nd /3 rd	British Conger Club Affiliated Club Championship – Weymouth
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The British Conger Club is holding a 2-day, 4 man team event out of Weymouth for affiliated clubs and EFSA England is affiliated to the Conger Club. The planned format is to fish one day wreck and one day reef, depending on weather. If any member is interested in fishing the event, please contact either Kim Bowden or Neil Cottington for more information and entry details.

AGM Notification

The EFSA England Annual General Meeting will be held at the Weymouth Angling Society Clubhouse at 10.30am on Saturday January 12th 2025.

Any proposals for the 2025 AGM must be with the Secretary by 30th November 2024. All proposals received shall be included in the Agenda under Special Business.

AGM 2024 Agenda

- 1. Apologies for absence.**
- 2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 2024.**
- 3. Matters arising.**
- 4. Executive Officer's Reports.**
 - a) Chairman; N.Bryant.
 - b) Vice-Chairman: R.Ashby
 - c) Secretary: K.Bowden.
 - d) Treasurer: K.Scaggs
 - e) Membership Registrar: G.Galbraith.
 - f) Fish Recorder: A.Smith.
 - g) Press/Public Relations Officer: B.Senior.
 - h) Boat Festival Officer: A Selby.
 - i) Shore Festival Officer: B.Senior.
 - j) Social Secretary: M.Osborne.
 - k) Competitions Coordinator: K.Scaggs.
 - l) Standing Committee Delegate: B.Senior.
- 5. Report on Championships/Festivals during 2024.**
 - a) Fun Competition - Sheerness
 - b) English Species Festival Boat – Minehead
 - c) English Shore Championship - None
 - d) English Boat Championship - Poole
 - e) European Species Championship - Langeland
 - f) European Shore Championship – Wales
 - g) European Boat and Line Championships – Weymouth
 - h) EFSA Game Championship – South Africa

6. Presentations

Fish of the Year Awards – Andy Smith

Funfish Event – Andy Selby

7. Election of Officers. (All 3-year terms unless otherwise stated)

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|---------------------------|-----------|
| a. Chairman | N.Bryant |
| b. Fish Recorder | A.Smith |
| c. Social Secretary | M.Osborne |
| d. Shore Festival Officer | B.Senior |

8. Election of Honorary Auditor.

1 yr term - Nominee/s Mr J. Knight

9. Events for 2025.

- a) Fun Competition – Weymouth
- b) English Species Festival Boat - Liverpool
- c) English Boat Championship - Newquay
- d) English Shore Championship - TBA
- e) EFSA Species Championship – Netherlands
- f) European Boat Championships - Norway
- g) European Shore Championship - Denmark
- h) EFSA Game Championship – Biannual event – next due 2026

10. Special Business

11. Annual General Meeting 2026

Standing Committee report

Perhaps one of the first things to mention is that Joe Edward, Supplies Officer for many years who gave up his post early this year, sadly died. There was a minute's silence at the meeting to remember Joe.

The New EFSA HQ website is well under way and should be going live soon. South Africa have proposed hosting the European Boat and Line Championships in 2026 along with the Game Championship. The plan would be one after the other over a two-week period. More information will be published when available.

EFSA Netherlands are proposed to host the European Shore 2026 in Noordwijk. A proposal from EFSA Netherlands to increase Junior age to 21, to be put forward to AGM. There was talk of rising it to 23 which is the National age for Junior in some countries. If anyone has any thoughts on the above proposal, then please contact Kim Bowden who will put them to next HQ Meeting.

EFSA FISH OF THE YEAR 2024

We are getting towards the end of entries for this year, with the deadline for catches being 30th November. Any fish caught in December will be entered for the 2025 Fish of the Year. All categories have now been filled apart from boat caught Cod.

There have been some really good catches this year including Tommy Bacon's 5lb 0oz boat caught black bream, Perry Dack's 6lb 2oz boat caught ballan wrasse, Stuart Jones's 7lb 3oz shore caught thick lipped mullet and 17b 2oz shore caught smoothound, and Davina Wyatt's 5lb 2oz shore caught ballan wrasse.

Boat

Bass	Gary Galbraith	PM	9lb 2oz
Black Bream	Tommy Bacon	BCC	5lb 0oz
Cod	No entries to date		
Conger Eel	Kev Turner (Deceased)	BCC	52lb 0oz
Flounder	Alan Bird	PM	11b 6oz
Plaice	Mike Adams	Weymouth	21b 2oz
Pollack	Mark Holmes	BCC	151b 8oz
Ray – Blonde	David Lee	BCC	231b 0oz
Smoothound	Ray Barron	PM	151b 0oz
Whiting	Gavin Hunt	PM	11b 11oz
Wrasse – Ballan	Perry Dack	PM	61b 2oz
Other by %			
Greater Weever	Ray Barron	PM	11b 3oz 237.50%

Shore

Bass	Keith Diplock	Weymouth	9lb 6oz	
Black Bream	Gareth Williams	West Wight	2lb 4oz	
Cod	Keith Diplock	Weymouth	10lb 2oz	
Conger Eel	Steve Hobson	West Wight	17lb 5oz	
Flounder	Ian Burden	Portland	11b 8oz	
	Noddy Coan	Portland	11b 8oz	
Plaice	Mcauley Arnold	Weymouth	11b 9oz	
Pollack	Ivan Wellington	Portland	31b 7oz	
Mullet – all by %				
Thick Lipped	Stuart Jones	PM	7lb 3oz	179.69%
Smoothound	Stuart Jones	PM	17lb 3oz	
Whiting	Jane Johns	Weymouth	11b 8oz	
Wrasse – Ballan	Davina Wyatt	West Wight	5lb 2oz	
Other by %				
Mackerel	Stuart Jones	PM	2lb 11oz	179.17%

Junior Fish of the Year

Ballan Wrasse – Shore	Davina Wyatt Aged 12	West Wight	5lb 2oz	
Spotted Ray – Boat	Hattie Morgan Aged 8	Weymouth	4lb 7oz	
Conger Eel – Boat	Tommy Bacon Aged 13	BCC	47lb 0oz	
Black Bream – Boat	Tommy Bacon Aged 13	BCC	5lb 0oz	

Overseas Fish of the Year

Mullet Snapper	Andy Selby	PM	34lb 0oz	
Yellowfin Tuna	Kim Bowden	PM	176lb 0oz	

Norman Witt Trophy **TBA**

Reports on Events 2024

Fun Fish Sheerness 2024

The day after the AGM 21 members boarded their boats at the All-Tide Landing, Queenborough for an 8 a.m. start to fish for flatfish in the Medway. It was a cold overcast day with a light breeze and calm waters. With black lug and herring for bait the target species, dabs, were soon being caught and there was a steady stream of fish coming aboard throughout the day. Other species caught included a few whiting, 5 bearded rockling, pout and a bass.

The presentation back on shore was delayed by half an hour as one of the boats had broken down and had to be towed back to the Landing. Richard Russell was top dab catcher with 29 fish for 581cm fishing on Dentex. Second place went to Gary Geoghegan on Hurricane with 24 fish for 522cm. Coincidentally, this was the same result for him as the last time we held the Funfish at this venue in 2019. Kim Bowden on Dentex took 3rd spot with 25 fish for 500cm.

Longest dab was 29cm caught by Ray Barron on Dentex.

Congratulations to the winners. Many thanks to the skippers and to Matt Osbourne for arranging the bait.

Position	Name	No. of Fish	Total Length (cms)
1st	Richard Russell	29	581
2nd	Gary Geoghegan	24	522
3rd	Kim Bowden	25	500
4th	Ray Barron	24	495
5th	Mike Smith	24	489
6th	Andy Selby	19	401
7th	Gary Galbraith	19	392
8th	Rob Quinn	17	382
9th	Russell Latimer	17	377
10th	Nigel Hearn	18	366
11 th	Paul Roper	17	357
12th	Paul Hart	18	349
13th	Barrie Senior	17	338
14th	Graham Lewis	13	311
15th	Matt Osborne	14	304
16th	Alain Painter	14	293
17th	Andy Smith	14	280
18th	Ash Currier	13	268
19th	Martin Bobbett	11	238
20th	Gary Dennis	9	190
21 st	Neil Cottington	7	158

EFSA Game Championship South Africa

The 2024 event was fished out of Hout Bay, Cape Town, South Africa and took place between the 6th and 10th May 2024. The Championships were excellently organised by SADSAA and the Hout Bay Boat Club. Fishing was only possible on two of the four designated days due to strong winds. Only five anglers caught fish on the first day, but sixteen anglers caught on the second day, with some anglers catching two or three fish. Twenty-seven anglers from eight sections fished on nine boats. The event was won by Iceland with a South African Team second and a Barbarian team third.

European Boat and Line Championships – Weymouth

EFSA England hosted the 2024 Championships at Weymouth with the welcome and opening ceremony being held at the Rembrandt Hotel on Sunday 8th September. A chance to catch up with old friends and get the latest information on the event. It was announced that due to forecasted weather conditions the 2-day Line Class event would take place on Thursday and Friday not Monday and Tuesday as originally planned.

Monday 9th September saw eight boats with 57 anglers aboard head off into the wind and staying inshore. Several boats stopped for mackerel, but they were hard to come by and anchor fishing was difficult as the boats were yawing back and forth in the wind, with some anglers spending a lot of time fishing under the boat. Drifting for wrasse and pollack was easier. At the end of the day there were ten anglers on 100% as on two boats there was a tie for first place. On count back Martin Hubert took the lead with 99 points, Matt Osbourne 2nd with 95 points and Mark Smith 3rd with 79 points.

Tuesday 10th September was again windy with similar fishing to Monday. At the end of the day, it had all changed at the top with only two anglers managing another boat win and 200%. On count back Didier Marest took top spot with 158 points from Petter Skudal, last year's champion, on 151 points. In third place was Francis Couzinet with 198.68 %

Wednesday 11th September saw the wind easing becoming more off the land, so a more comfortable fish but boats did not venture too far out. So again, similar fishing, bream wrasse, pout, gurnards, dogfish, conger and rays made up most of the catches. Didier held on to his top place with another boat win so a total of 300%. Francis Couzinet had a boat win to put him on 296% for second place and Torrun Handeland moved up into third spot with 291.46%.

Thursday 12th September was Day 1 of the 2-Day Light Line event with each competitor having to use the 30lb braid supplied for the event. The results for this event would also be added into the main Boat Championship. The wind had eased, and the boats were able to get out to the 3 Mile Bank where anglers would be targeting larger fish; conger eel, tope, rays and any other fish over 5lbs. Although the fishing was easier, we had rain showers, some heavy and squally with a waterspout being spotted at one point. With nine anglers on 100% it was down to count back to decide positions.

Leading with 270 points was Nico Opdebeek, second was Heiko Dreier with 190 points and 3rd Jason Williams also with 190 points, but two less fish. Meanwhile in the Boat Championship it was all change, with the leaders all having a bad day. Heiko Dreier moved up into first place with 389.61%. In second place was Mark Smith with 367% and third was Ray Barron with 326%.

Friday 13th September saw the final day of the Championships with all to play for in both the Light Line and the Boat Championships. It was a nice sunny day and lighter winds so back to the 3 Mile Bank for more big fish. In the Evening, the Gala Dinner and presentation were held at the Rembrandt Hotel. Andy Selby announced the results and the prizes were presented by the Mayor of Weymouth Councilor Jon Orrell and Marcus Wuest

First the Line Class awards were presented with the gold pin going to Mark Smith, Carl Julien the silver and Michael Lorenzen the bronze.

Top lady in the Line Class was Jacqueline Luef from South Africa with Torunn Handeland second.

After the Line Class results had been added to the previous three days it was a re-run of the Light Line event with Mark Smtih the overall winner of the Boat Championship taking his second gold pin of the evening, Carl Julien the silver and Michael Lorenzen the bronze.

Top Lady was Torunn Handeland with Jacqueline Luef second.

Top Senior was Paul Hart with Torunn Handeland second and Barrie Senior third. The National Teams event was won by England A, with France second and Denmark third.

England Placings

1 st	Mark Smith
9 th	Jason Williams
11 th	Matt Osbourne
12 th	Ray Barron
14 th	Cliff Newbold
16 th	Paul Hart

20 th	Paul Milkins
26 th	Colin Searles
30 th	Gary Galbraith
34 th	Barrie Senior
36 th	Andy Selby
38 th	Joe Holland
41 st	Richard Russell
50 th	Andy Smith
53 rd	Jim Pressley

European Species Championship – Langeland - Denmark

The event was hosted by EFSA Germany and started with the opening ceremony on Sunday evening 6th October 2024 at Hotel Rudkøbing Skudehavn. This event was the first competition where competitors would be fishing from self-drive boats and not from charter boats with the target species flatfish. As this was a first for EFSA, Marcus Wuest gave a detailed explanation of how it would work. He then answered questions from the competitors and clarified procedures. Following this there was a buffet for the anglers to enjoy.

Monday was a designated practice day to enable the skippers of each boat plus the anglers to familiarise themselves with fishing in the small boats, but unfortunately, the weather had other ideas and the practice was postponed to Tuesday. Fortunately, there was a spare day in the program to enable the event to be fished over two days.

Tuesday. The weather was better, but not great, and practice went ahead with some showers and a strong wind. The strong winds meant that the drift was too fast and also the direction of it kept pushing the boats off of the preferred grounds so there was a lot of moving around. Fish were caught but not in any numbers.

Day One Wednesday

The wind had decreased and we had a fair amount of sunshine with only a couple of very light showers. The fishing was good with the top anglers catching over one hundred flatfish. Lars Hellum finished the day in top place with 122 points. In second place was Gary Geoghegan with 115 points and third was Charlie Lara with 111 points.

Day Two - Thursday

The weather deteriorated slightly, but with an offshore wind we were able to fish. The fishing was harder and the results reflected this.

The presentation took place that evening at Hotel Rudkøbing Skudehavn followed by the Gala Dinner.

Lars Hellum remained in the top spot, having again been the top angler on the second day. He took first place and the gold pin with a total of 210 points. In second place with 189 points and winning the silver pin was Charlie Lara. Third place and bronze pin went to Andre Martinsen with 186 points.

In the national team event Norway A were first with 637 points, England A second with 560 points and Gibraltar A third with 518 points.

The top Senior was Gary Geoghan with 182 points.

The best fish prize was shared between Matt Osborne, Andy Smith and Mark van Wanrooy all having a 43cm fish.

European Shore Championship - Wales

At the time of Newsletter compilation, no report was available for this event.

Forthcoming events in 2025

Funfish and AGM Weymouth 11/12th January

The Funfish will be held on Saturday 11th January for big fish and we currently have two boats booked. The presentation for the Funfish will be at the AGM the following day and prizes will be vouchers and Glass Fish trophies

The AGM will be at Weymouth Angling Society Clubhouse on Sunday 12th January at 10.30am. Teas/Coffees are organised for arrival.

English Boat Newquay Friday 11th & Saturday 12th July

There are three boats booked for this event with more available if required, with Matt Robbins as Commodore. We will be using the Rowing Club for our HQ, Registration and Presentation.

English Species Mersey Liverpool Friday 28th & Saturday 29th November 2025 (Cod & Rays)

Three boats are booked for this competition with more available if required, Our Commodore skipper is Tony Parry.

Tony will be confirming HQ soon and hopefully it will be the Marina Clubhouse that we used last time we were there.

EFSA European Species 2025 , Netherlands, 18th/22nd July

The target species is Smoothound and anglers will move boat positions 3 times during the fishing. At present, not much information is available at this time.

The brochure will be on our website as soon as available.

EFSA European Boat 2025, Norway, 4th/9th August

This will be a deep-water fishing so not a place for the long whippy rods! Accommodation on the island has all been booked by EFSA Norway who are hosting the event with the intention of allocating once they get the entries. I did email them to say I think many would be reluctant to enter without knowing the accommodation they are likely to get. So the way forward is to email Kim Bowden if you are looking to fish this event and the sort of accommodation you prefer, such as shared house with group of friends or hotel, etc.

Full brochure and entry form are on our website.

EFSA European Shore 2025, Langeland, Denmark, 29th September/3rd October

This will be hosted by EFSA Germany and to be fished at Langeland, which is a place many of us know well. There is plenty of good accommodation and it could be good fishing if the numbers of flatfish that were caught from the boats in this year's Species Boat.Championship.

The brochure and entry form are on our website and entry information

For more information and entry forms on all events, please go to our website:-

<https://www.efsa-england.com/>,

In event that you cannot access website please contact Secretary or Boat Festival Officer for assistance

AGM AttendanceNotification.

Please delete whichever statement does not apply.

- a.) This is to confirm I shall be attending the AGM and request that seating is made available.
- b.) This is to confirm that I shall not be attending the AGM and request that my apologies for absence are given to the meeting.

Name (Please print): _____

Date _____

Completed forms should be returned by 15th December 2024 to:
Kim Bowden, 12 Padnell Road, Cowplain, Waterlooville Hants, PO8
8DZ.

Alternatively Email me at kimbowden@ntlworld.com