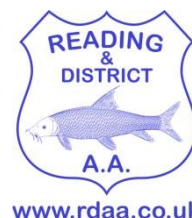


Reading & District Angling Association



Match Scene 5 December 2023- 8 January 2024

READING CIVIL SERVICE COMPLETE A MISERABLE SEASON

On what was their last match this season on RDAA waters Reading Civil Service took on the tough proposition of Salmon Cut on Sunday 10 November. Fred Gill excelled by managing two fish for 8ozs and as no one else had a bite he took the honours. This completed a nightmare season for the club on RDAA waters with many cancellations and poor conditions when they did manage to get on the bank. Hats off to their Match Secretary for keeping the faith and hope next season is much better. Salmon Cut can be good for big Perch and Bream but is not fished very much at all by match anglers and so it is hard to predict what might happen when a club go there.

ATROCIOUS WEATHER HAMPERS PRESTCOLD

One of the worst things when fishing is heavy rain and strong winds, and this is what greeted Prestcold anglers for their match at Froxfield. Nine turned out and two went home early even though they had caught some fish. Many broken umbrellas ensued through the day but the hardy souls that stayed to the end managed to put 19lbs 6ozs on the scales. The winner was Graham Walker who was pegged on the short pound one swim above the power lines. Fishing a short pole, as many did in the high winds, he managed to tempt 4lbs 13ozs of skimmers and roach feeding pinkie and caster with red maggot or worm on the hook. Match Secretary Mike Sheasby came second from the first peg below the lock on the wides. Using the same tactics as the winner, he managed to bank a Perch of 1lb 8ozs and skimmers and roach to weigh a total of 3lbs 14ozs. His winnings will go towards a new umbrella!!

FROXFIELD PROMISES NEW YEAR CHEER

On Saturday 30 December RDAA held its traditional open match at Froxfield. Always good to get out between the bank holidays and get fresh air, 29 entered with some good canal anglers among them. One thing that was certain was that they were all going to get wet during the match, but the real bad weather thankfully held off until after the match had finished. Drawn on the good peg downstream of the gate on the wides of Froxfield A section, Dave Clarke banked Skimmer Bream to 2lbs, two large Perch over 1lb along with a few Roach to weigh 12lbs 10ozs and take the honours. Dave fished the pole at 12 meters, feeding pinkie, and chopped worm and caster, with single red maggot, pinkie, or worm on the hook. Mick Denton's long trip from Oxford proved the right move as he was second overall. Fishing in the middle of the "turning bay" on Froxfield A Section and using similar tactics to the winner, Mick banked mainly Perch to 2lbs 8ozs with a few Roach to weigh 9lbs 13ozs. Another popular peg was drawn by Liam Page-Smith, and he was third overall. Fishing the first peg above the overhead power lines on Froxfield "A"(Short Pound) Section. Liam, again using the same pole tactics as first and second banked five Perch to 1lbs 8ozs along with a few Roach to weigh 5lbs 9ozs. The money winners in the sections

were Spencer Couzens with 4lbs 7ozs, Steve Palmer with 5lbs 8ozs, Alan Hughes with 3lbs 14ozs and Rob Pearson with 4lbs 15ozs. Only three anglers failed to weigh in and giving the conditions, 88lbs 10ozs is a respectable total weight.

WEATHER AFFECTS FISHING

After the good return from the open match at Froxfield, hopes were high for the first RDAA match of 2024 on Sunday 7 January, however, the cold snap took its toll. 25 anglers took part for the Kennet Trophy and Reading Angling Centre Trophy, and they were set for a difficult day with temperatures just above freezing after heavy rain had deposited cold water in the canal. And so it proved, with a disappointing total weight of 31lbs 6ozs brought to the scales. The match was won by Justin Mabere, who had great success last season at the venue. Pegged at the bottom of the straight on Froxfield "A", (Wides), Section, Justin banked a Bream of 3lbs 8ozs along with a few Roach using a combination of pole tactics and groundbait feeder tactics, feeding liquidised bread and groundbait, with bread punch or double fluoro pinkie on the hook to weigh 4lbs 9ozs. Paul Leek was second overall. Fishing the last peg on the "Short Pound" on Froxfield "A" Section, Paul banked Perch to 1lbs 8ozs along with Skimmer Bream using pole tactics, feeding pinkie, and groundbait, with double fluoro pinkie on the hook to weigh 3lbs 9ozs. Tony Roberts was pegged on the turning bay and he managed to win his section with 1lbs 8ozs and the other section winner was tied between Richard Arkel and Eddie Cichocki who both weighed 9ozs. TRBLAS still top the Club Championship with 101lbs 9ozs 8drms from YOTAC/21Club on 89lbs 2ozs 12drms. Reading Civil Service are in third with 54lbs 6ozs 8drms and Excelsior are fourth with 37lbs 9ozs 8drms. Reading Fishing Club in fifth with 21lbs 3oz 8drms, Pangbourne & Whitchurch sixth with 11lbs 11ozs 8drms, Prestcold seventh with 10lbs 15ozs, King Heron eighth with 9lbs 10ozs, and finally Newtown with 1lb 15ozs 8drms.

The Match Secretary requests that all current trophy holders return the club trophies to him as soon as possible.

Once again it will be good to see old and new anglers at the next RDAA matches. These are on Sunday 28 January at Wallingford (conditions permitting - book in direct with Mike Sheasby), and the next regular points match is on Sunday 11 February on the canal at Froxfield, book through your affiliated club or Mike Sheasby. A belated Happy New Year from the EC.

See next page for individual tables

INDIVIDUAL AGGREGATE WEIGHT TROPHY

Phil Allen	Reading Civil Service	29	15	8
Martin Hutchins	Excelsior	27	2	8
Alan Hughes	YOTAC/21 Club	23	3	8
Gordon McGee	Reading Civil Service	20	6	0
Tony Tibble	TRBLAS	17	14	0
Justin Mabere	Individual	16	13	0
Andy Chapman	TRBLAS	14	12	0
Mick Donohoe	YOTAC/21 Club	14	6	8
Duncan Bales	YOTAC/21 Club	13	11	0
Fred Jones	TRBLAS	13	3	8
Richard Rosinski	Reading F C	12	11	8
Steve O'Keefe	TRBLAS	12	6	0
George Callaghan	YOTAC/21 Club	12	5	0
Rob Stephens	YOTAC/21 Club	11	10	4
Paul Leek	Pang & Whitchurch	10	12	0
Dave Clarke	Excelsior	10	7	0
John Monaighan	TRBLAS	10	0	0
Tony Franklin	King Heron	9	10	0
Terry Stretton	TRBLAS	8	3	0
Tony Roberts	Reading F C	7	14	0
Peter Godfrey	TRBLAS	7	8	8
Geoff Eley	Prestcold	7	8	0
Spencer Couzens	TRBLAS	6	3	0
Stephen Church	TRBLAS	5	8	0
Paul Mason	YOTAC/21 Club	4	15	0
Dave Finn	TRBLAS	4	4	8

INDIVIDUAL AGGREGATE PTS TROPHY

Phil Allen	Reading Civil Service	46 Pts
Martin Hutchins	Excelsior	42 Pts
Tony Tibble	TRBLAS	40 Pts
Alan Hughes	YOTAC/21 Club	38 Pts
Justin Mabere	Individual	30 Pts
Gordon Mc'Gee	Reading Civil Service	30 Pts
Steve O'Keefe	TRBLAS	30 Pts
Richard Rosinski	Reading F C	28 Pts
Mick Donohoe	YOTAC/21 Club	26 Pts
Fred Jones	TRBLAS	26 Pts
George Callaghan	YOTAC/21 Club	24 Pts
Rob Stephens	YOTAC/21 Club	24 Pts
Tony Franklin	King Heron	22 Pts
Paul Leek	Pang & Whitchurch	20 Pts
Tony Roberts	Reading F C	20 Pts
Duncan Bales	YOTAC/21 Club	18 Pts
Andy Chapman	TRBLAS	18 Pts
Dave Clarke	Excelsior	18 Pts
Spencer Couzens	TRBLAS	18 Pts
Geoff Eley	Prestcold	18 Pts
Peter Godfrey	TRBLAS	18 Pts
Graham Hawkins	Prestcold	18 Pts
John Monaighan	TRBLAS	18 Pts
Terry Stretton	TRBLAS	14 Pts
Stephen Church	TRBLAS	12 Pts
Paul Mason	YOTAC/21 Club	12 Pts