

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2021

SHIRLEY SEA ANGLING CLUB

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 SOUTHAMPTON

 www.shirleysac.co.uk

Welcome to another unusual year, but hopefully with vaccinations overcoming virus, life will continue to find its way back to normal. Fishing has been reasonably lucky that we were able to resume in April, fishing to Angling Trust Guidelines, it still meant that we couldn’t have gatherings at the start and end of competitions, but thanks to the hard work of the shore, boat and record officers, fish have been entered onto a card by the angler measuring the length, then after the competition conversion to weight has taken place

**SHORE REPORT**

Due to Covid restrictions we had to wait until April to start this year's Championship but have been able to plan a full schedule of 13 matches. At the time of writing 5 matches fished so far have been well attended averaging over 20 members so thank you for supporting the Club. There has been an influx of new members which is great to see and if you have any queries, please don’t hesitate to contact us.

The first match at West Bexington saw the Grey Gurnard record broken twice with Dan Panter edging out Rob Cooke with one of 312 grams. We also fished Aldwick for the first time in the hope of Stingray and were not disappointed with Club Chairman Dave Neil landing a beauty and new record at 17.006kg.

The 1st Shore Knockout was won by Gavin Priday who seems to have a happy knack of finding Rays at the moment.

We still have plenty of promising venues to fish and don’t forget only the best 10 scores are counted towards the Championship so positions can change very quickly. The 2nd Shore Knockout will start shortly together with the continuation of the Team Championship and Summer Shore Pairs. We also have many more trophies being fished for this year including Species Cup, Numbers Cup, Weight Cup to name just a few.

We haven’t had any juniors fish yet this year apart from Riley Panter who opted to fish in the Senior League and more than holds his own there. Juniors can fish in their own league for a small match fee and we offer a small cash prize to the winner each match. Its free membership so if you know someone under 16 who wants to fish, please feel free to bring them along.

The Facebook page will only be used for Club business. Please keep an eye on it as all news, match results and forthcoming match details are posted regularly. However, please continue to let us have pictures of your better fish caught in matches. These will still be posted and your positive comments are very welcome. Don’t forget the Club Website which offers much more information.

Covid forced us to change the way we weighed in and it has been good in the sense that no fish have been returned to the scales. We feel that this is the way forward to help preserve fish stocks and enhance fish welfare. We are in the process of designing a chart so that all fish have a weight converted from length. This can then be used by each member to calculate their own weight during a match. Once Covid restrictions are all lifted this will allow us to have a formal weigh in with no need to bring back any fish and winners can be announced that day. Members wishing to retain sizeable fish for their own use can obviously do so but without the need to bring them to scales. We hope to restart raffles as well at the end of matches and look forward to being able to be more sociable.

Thanks for your support and see you on the beach

Rob & Gav

Shore Reps

PS If you can bring the correct money for match fees and even include some coins that would be great and helps out with distributing prize money.

**SHALLOW BOATS**

Shallow Boat matches have taken place since April, with a significant increase in members taking to the water. Members sign on and receive a card to record their catches , we now only record length of fish, with the prizes being awarded to the top anglers on length and not weight, and optional pool for the longest fish. Any angler catching a fish for new record will have the length converted to weight using Shirley Sea Angling Club charts. Fish being caught at present are Smoothound, Conger, Thornback Rays, Dogfish, Bream, Flounders, awaiting the mackerel.

For new members all of our competitions start and finish under the Itchen Bridge, signing on is at Crosshouse at least half an hour before competition starts. £5 entry, see Barry or John to sign on.

Positions after 3 competitions up until end of June

1st Adey Groves – 73 points

2nd DaveBeale – 72 points

3rd Richard Knight – 66 points

4th Barry Instrell – 62 points

A Shallow Boat knockout competition is also running with Dave Beale, Gary Thomas and Adey Groves through to the next round, due to take place on July competition.

**Slipway Clean-up**  Members that have boats in the compound are asked to help with the slipway cleaning, which we share with Southampton and the Rowing Club. We have 2 dates scheduled for this year Sun 18th July at 11.00 and Sun 17th Oct at 15.00, so hope to see as many as possible there.

**DEEP BOATS**

With restrictions lifting Richard Knight has managed to book Offshore Rebel with Jamie Pullen on 7th November with 10 places at a cost of £65 per head. Places are going fast so contact Richard Knight on 07773054774 if interested.

**BBQ MATCH**  Sunday 15th August 13.30 – 17.30. We aim to organize a local fishing competition with fishing from the surrounding area of the boat compound at Crosshouse, with provision being made if anyone wants to fish Town Quay.

Followed by the BBQ at Crosshouse Hard at 18.00. This is open to all members, but we will have to restrict the BBQ numbers to 30members/family. Bring own chairs and drink, food will be provided by the club. To order tickets contact Adey Groves on 02380 692786 or email cagroves@btinternet.com

**BINGO**

We hope to resume the Bingo evenings starting in October. We will need more help from those interested, Richard Knight has offered to do the calling, but we do need 2 more people, 1 to do the Bingo prizes and 1 to take on doing the raffle. We know this was always a popular evening, so would like to resume, back in the Merryoak Hall. Please let Adey or any committee member know if you can help

If you have an email address could you let the secretary know on cagroves@btinternet.com. Thanks

Stay safe, Tight Lines, and let’s see all your catches in club or out of club - Your Shirley SAC Committee