

Federation of Severn Trent Fly Fishers

Organiser
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Dear Fellow Fly-fisher,

REGIONAL LOCH STYLE ELIMINATOR – 2010

Firstly, I am sorry to start on a sad note. Many of you will know that Trevor Colclough passed away in August last year. Trev won this eliminator on several occasions and went on to represent and captain England in the loch style team. He has fished in both the European and World Teams and the England rivers team. He was a long-standing member of Blithfield and also the S/T Federation. I'm sure we shall all miss him at this years event. Having known Trev for more years than I care to remember, he will always be in my thoughts whenever I have a fly rod in my hand.

To honour his passing I shall be providing a trophy for the winner of this years competition – a trophy that we can fish for year after year in memory of this great local angler.

Secondly, you will also have heard that our usual venue for this annual competition, Draycote Water, is to be closed for the 2010 season by the water authority, so is not available to us. I thought it would seem fitting, therefore, that we hold this years competition at Trevor's home water, Blithfield. I realise that many of you do not know the water as well as Draycote or some of the Anglian Water reservoirs, but I feel strongly, as do some others, that it is important to hold the S/T Federation event at a S/T located water.

After discussion with the estate manager at Blithfield, I have been able to obtain favourable terms for us to include savings on boat charges, the number of fish allowed and a free buffet after the match. Please therefore give it your full support.

As you will also be aware, Brian Pargeter will not be organising this years event. That dubious honour now falls to me again! Those of you who have known Brian over the years will realise just what a fantastic job he did – all for no reward. Thank you Brian. I shall try to emulate his achievement, but please bear with me if there are a few glitches!

The date for the competition will be **Sunday 13th June**. Please find enclosed an entry form and details of costs.

Closing date for entries is 13th May.

Please let me have your cheque with the attached entry form.

PTO

Enclosed is a basic map of Blithfield showing restricted areas. For those that do not know the reservoir, it is approximately 780 acres and roughly divided in two by a causeway carrying the B5013. It's a shallow lake with an average depth of only 18 feet and is river fed. Known for its 'top of the water' sport it's not unlike Chew and the fish respond well to dry flies and traditional wets. June is probably the best month for the boat angler.

I am hopeful that I can persuade the yacht club not to sail on the match day, but if they do, the sailing area is restricted for their use exclusively, so there will be no conflicts.

There is no problem practising on the water – just ring up and book boats yourselves. The contact number for the office is 01283 840284. The ticket / estates office is on your right soon after entering the site. Permits are £21 for 6 fish then C&R and £16 for a boat (£8 each angler).

Last year we had a very good entry giving us 12 places in the National Final. Lets try to beat that this year!

Directions: From Burton upon Trent – at T junction in Abbots Bromley turn left towards Lichfield. Take 2nd right signposted Sailing Club. On sharp right hand bend turn left into site. Continue across the dam – lodge is on the right.

From Uttoxeter – enter Abbots Bromley and turn right into Goose Lane. At fork keep left. At sharp left hand bend turn right. Continue across the dam – lodge is on the right.

From Lichfield – about half a mile before Abbots Bromley turn left signposted Sailing Club. On sharp right hand bend turn left into site. Continue across the dam – lodge is on the right.

A briefing will take place at 9.30am. Fishing from 10 till 6pm. Tea and coffee available. Buffet at 6pm onwards.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to meeting you all on the day.

Yours sincerely,

Ian

Ian Colclough - Event Organiser.

May the holes in your net be no larger than the fish in it. Irish Blessing