

HOLT SEA ANGLING CLUB

NEWSLETTER

WWW.HOLTSAC.COM

April 2016

“ Holt SAC ... 63rd Year & Still going Strong! ... ”

Hello Club Members ...

The final part of the 2015-2016 season saw the Club's membership increase slightly to 58 which is almost identical to last season at this time. During the year we have lost a few members but we have also gained new members which demonstrates how transient our membership has become. I would like to welcome all new members aboard.

After a warmer than average mid-winter temperatures began to dip in late January which was encouraged by the prevailing southerlies being replaced by some stiff northerlies. This change in weather certainly hit catches with the high double figures in December, January and even mid-February being replaced by single figures and many blank cards by mid-March. This change also resulted in cancellation of two matches where even fishing the shingle was impossible. The shingle fared better at the start of the year with the whiting being complemented by the reliable dabs but there was also a distinct lack of flounders and of course no codling. As the matches switched to the sand in late February and March catches got worse with loads of undersize (18cm) whiting but at least the flounders started to appear, not many but a few good ones amongst them. Bacton also threw up the first real bass of the year with one of 45cm to Jake Cooper and a few smaller versions to give us optimistic thoughts for the summer.

The Winter Accumulator based on cumulative weight over the last 10 matches of the season did produce some reasonable weights more than double last season. The trophy was taken by Mike Watts with 46lb followed by John Carter on 44lb 9oz and Tony Thomas with 43lb. The Overall League Champion was again decided at the last match at Bacton with Mike Watts taking the prestigious metalware with 832 points from Tony Thomas on 821 points and John Carter 774 points. The Ladies Overall League winner was Pam Carter 105 points from Becky Bulch 87 and Adele Smith 59 points. The Juniors Overall League was very close with Luke Brierley on 360 points edging out Danny Brown on 340 with Jack Topping on 100.

Only one Open match, the New Year Open was ran during this period which attracted 25 match anglers where John Smith repeated his end of year victory from an almost identical peg with over 16lb from 59 fish, ironically almost identical to his previous victory score.

The final 3 rounds of the North Norfolk National Sea League were played out during this period with good turn outs for all 3 rounds. The January match at Salthouse fished extremely well with many recording well into double figure catches predominantly dabs with the odd whiting. The February match saw the weather take charge, fished in atrocious conditions with members recording the odd or just a few fishing with rockling being the predominant species. The northerlies still prevailed for the final round at Bacton in March where a few flounders started to appear but all bags were well short of double figures. The champion team was Avenue Angling Norwich by a convincing margin with Avenue Angling Beccles & North Norfolk Lads sharing the runners up spot. All eight teams in the league have qualified for the National Sea League 2016 Final in North Norfolk at the end of November to be organized by the Club which will include the first Youth team to fish the Finals.

Club Committee

Chairman:	Tony Thomas	Committee	Ivan Allison	Bill Beeton	Shane Brown
Vice Chairman:	John Neave	Members:	Tom Gibbs	Paul Kendrick	Henry Randell
Secretary:	Mike Watts				
Treasurer:	Peter Morse	Phone Number:	07899032984		

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Two members of the Club have been selected for England International duty to fish the Homes in North Norfolk in early July. These are Henry Randell for the Youths and Andy Gallacher for the Mens, well done Henry and Andy! With the Homes being in North Norfolk it is most disappointing that the club has been excluded from any involvement in the organization of this event on the club's home patch. The club has demonstrated on numerous occasions its professionalism in organising and running major events which has been blatantly ignored by our National body and associate individuals. Undeterred the club will continue to do a good job in our two major events in 2016 and hopefully common sense will eventually prevail.

The club's season closed with the AGM and Presentation Evening at Kelling Heath Holiday Park in mid-March. The AGM was attended by 16 members where a very active and constructive meeting prepared the club for the up and coming season. The committee for the coming year was elected and this is detailed at the bottom of this newsletter. In brief, the main points from the meeting were ...

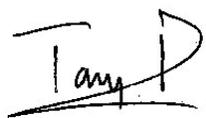
- A healthy £440 balance for the 2015-2016 season.
- Maximum league points per match to remain at 50 with 5 points for attendance with no fish BUT heaviest Flat & Round points reduced from 10 to 5 POINTS..
- Mackerel can now be recorded when caught on baited traces in Club matches but not in Opens. Conversion points will be as for *unclassified*.
- Winning Junior at Club matches will be awarded £10 if numbers allow.
- There will be two Club trips to Orford this season provisionally on 18th May and 26th October 2016.

The presentation evening was again well supported where members feasted on another good Kelling Heath meal. This was followed by the presentation of all the match winnings for the year and the 28 club trophies in the usual jovial atmosphere which concluded the Club's 2015-2016 season.

The coming season promises to be as hectic as ever with more involvement from members. We have the usual series of weekly matches throughout the year which will be either pure Club matches (weekend & mid-week), Opens or a combination of both which Club members will be able to attend as they see fit. The first major Club event will be the West Norfolk Challenge Series at Kings Lynn during the summer comprising of 4 monthly matches from April onwards. This will be closely followed by the 4th Annual Bass Festival in May and as last year will have the UK Ladies Championships and the North Norfolk Juniors Tournament as supporting competitions plus a new 'Teams of 4' competition in the "Shannock" Quads. The club's first match kicks off at Kelling on Sunday 10th April which will be the first match of the John Hardingham Summer Accumulator.

As in previous years, look forward to your support in the coming season and see you on the shingle or sand or in the estuary at your earliest opportunity.

Regards,



Tony Thomas
Club, Chairman