**CBYC ANGLING SECTION**

**CHAIRMANS REPORT for 2024**

**12th February 2025**

Membership of the section for 2024 was 62. We staged 21 competitions between April-December, with the wrap around species hunt running through the same time period. The focus of the committee is to offer a wide and varied program of fishing events, primarily targeting ‘catch & release’ competitions and to encourage involvement in the sport. We paid out £6000 in prize money, with £2500 going to our program of club competitions and £3,500 in support of our Open competitions. 2024 saw our funds increase over 2023 by c.£500 to maintain adequate funding for 2025.

**Competitions**

In total we ran **21** competitions in our shortened 9-month program alongside the popular Species Hunt. These competitions comprised of **16 club competitions** (April-Dec 2024), **3 inter-club competitions** with CYC and CBYC, and **2 Open Competitions:**  the 47th Open Cod Competition and our 1st Summer Open Competition.

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|  | **Competitions April ‘24 - Dec ‘24 (9-months)** | | | | |
|  | **Section Members** | **Visitors** | **Total Anglers** | **Boats** |  |
| 14th April | **18** | **8** | **26** | **11** |  |
| 21st April | **9** | **4** | **13** | **6** |  |
| 3rd May | **14** | **8** | **22** | **9** |  |
| 19th May | **13** | **2** | **15** | **8** |  |
| 2nd June | **15** | **8** | **23** | **10** |  |
| 23rd June | **22** | **10** | **32** | **13** |  |
| 7th July | **5** | **1** | **6** | **3** |  |
| 14th July | **11** | **6** | **17** | **7** |  |
| 21/22 July | **7** | **3** | **10** | **5** | 2 day Species Hunt |
| 28th July | **`14** | **3** | **17** | **9** |  |
| 1st Sept | **14** | **5** | **19** | **6** |  |
| 15th Sept | **14** | **6** | **20** | **9** |  |
| 27thOctober | **15** | **5** | **20** | **10** |  |
| 3rd November | **4** | **2** | **6** | **3** | Chicken Run |
| 27th December | **40** | **14** | **54** | **14** | Boxing Day +1/ Triad |
| 2024 | **215** | **85** | **300** |  |  |
| 2023 Statistics | **272** | **46** | **318** |  |  |

Participation rates in our competitions were similar to 2023, with 300 competition angling days completed. Visitor numbers were up well on prior year at 85, providing £255 of visitor income during the year.

**2024 club results**

Club competition fishing completed with the last staged competition held on the 3rd November aa we had poor weather through November up until the presentation evening on the 8th December.

**Best Angler**

* **1st Umer Choham** **53 points** on the best boat **Pembroke Explorer**
* **2nd Steve Critcher – 33 points**
* **3rd Paul McCarthy – 30 points**

**Best Female angler**

* **Ceri Lane**

**Club Trophies**

* **Simon Leeke Trophy**  **-** **Steve Critcher**
* **Bunny Cup** **-** **Paul McCarthy**
* **Best fish of the year**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Thornback Ray** | Paul McCarthy | 63cm |
| **Bass** | Steve Denning | 68cm |
| **Cod** | Steve Lane | 84cm |
| **Bull Huss** | Harvey Preston | 112cm |
| **Specimin Fish** | Steve Denning | Leopard Goby |

**OPEN Competitions**

**Summer Open Competition 17th August** – we staged the 1st Summer Open Competition based on ‘catch&release’ of 3 defined species and a 4th ‘Wildcard’ fish. The competition had 104 anglers with 36 boats take part. Prize fund of £2400 and a 2.5hp Honda outboard engine. Sponsors for the competition were Honda Marine, Tardis Removals, TJ Services, Baits2Go and Garry Evans. The competition ran at a loss of £1,050 – however, £800 of measure-mats in stock for the 2025 running. The committee set a budget of £2,000 to get this competition running. Overall it was concluded that the format was successful and looks likely to replace the Open Cod Competition (if Cod stocks do not improve). We raised £500 for Breast Cancer Charity. 2025 Competition marketing has commenced with a date of 28th June 2025.

**Open Cod Competition 47th** – was run with 291 anglers and 81 boats participating. A lot of work behind the scenes continued throughout the year to build a fantastic offering and some great sponsors helped our section put together a prize table of >£8,500. We attracted anglers from the IoW, Kent, and Liverpool, helped by our social media contacts via Rob Cole (SWFA) and Small Boats Sea Fishing on Facebook networks. It was concerning that only 8 cod to the scales with the winning fish achieving 15.9lbs. Mark Woodgate on Catchalottie secured 1st prize. In the thick of the prizes, it was great to see Bob Gregg and Ian Jenkins on the leader board, and we were also delighted to see a Junior Jacob Grant celebrating his win with a prize rod provided by Luke & Emma Evans from Odyssey Sea Adventures. Post event we can celebrate some great write-ups from Rob Cole SWFA.In summary, a successful competition which delivered over £3k profit and £750 raised for the RNLI from a raffle.

**Species Hunt Local & Away - 3**2 active anglers took part in this year's 2 competitions, which were designed to be attractive to as many members as possible, through recognising the achievement of people wanting to fish locally from Cardiff and those who wished to do away trips in other parts of the UK. The competition has seen active engagement with several people challenging for each of the competition titles. 459 fish were logged on the WhatsApp site with **45 species** caught locallyfrom Cardiff**.**

In the **Local** competition, **Simon Watts** came 1st with 33 fish and won a Diawa Rod&Reel, **Rob Ward** came 2nd (for the 2nd year running) with 27 species and **Steve Lane** was 3rd with 24 species. Prizes were also awarded to 7 other members who came in the top 10.

In the **Away** competition we have **Steve Denning took 1st prize.**

In the ladies section **Ceri Lane** came 1st with 13 locally caught fish.

The 2025 Species Hunt competition started on the 1st January with only a LOCAL format competition being run to provide for a ‘fairer playing field’.

**Other activities**

The Angling section raised **£1,657 for charity.**

**Open Cod Competition**   **£750**  **RNLI**

**Open Summer Competition**  **£500** **Breast Cancer**

**Bunny Cup**   **£82** **Velindre**

**Simon Leeke Trophy** **£345** **Marie Curie / Holme Tower**

**Finance**

Alan has reported on the financial status for 2024, and we are pleased to report prudent management has seen the account maintained. It is important to remember that it typically costs £8,000 to run the club p.a. and the importance of a good Open Cod Competition and membership engagement is essential to ensure we maintain the Angling Section.

**Committee**

The Committee continued to meet monthly throughout the year.

A big thank you is more than justified to the Angling Section Committee who have volunteered many hours, and dedication to run the club.

**Finally**

We hope to see you at the AGM on the 16th April, which is your opportunity to have input into the Angling Section and help mould our direction. If you have an interest in joining the committee, please put in a nomination form to the section before the AGM. Thank you to those members who have helped behind the scenes such as those who assisted on the weekend of the Open Cod Competition. This is your section and your support for the events is important to ensure we have a section going forward.

We are hoping for an improvement in fish catches in 2025 and are looking to stage 35 competitions, alongside the newly launched Species Hunt. We hope to continue to see the section thrive and will be looking to increase our offering to attract youngsters to our sport.

Tight Lines

Harvey Preston

Chairman CBYC Angling Section