

CBYC ANGLING SECTION

CHAIRMANS REPORT for 2025

Membership of the section for 2025 was 58 plus 4 juniors. (same as 2024). We staged 14 competitions between January-December* (including Open Cod Comp 18/1/2026)*, 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 **£4,900** in prize money, with **£1,400** going to our program of club competitions and **£3,500** in support of our Open competitions, these open competitions are essential in driving revenue to underpin the sections activities. 2025 saw our funds decrease over prior year by c.**(£1,500)**, however we have maintained a healthy balance of c.£7k and a good prize inventory to support our 2026 needs.

Competitions

In total we ran 16 competitions throughout 2025 alongside the popular Species Hunt. These competitions comprised of **14 club competitions**, of which the Bunny Cup and Simon Leek Trophy was an **inter-club competition** with CYC and CBYC.

Date	Competition Weekend	Boats	Anglers	Visitors
12/1/2025	Comp 1	14	32	6
19/2/2025	Comp 2	9	24	5
9/2/2025	Comp 3	3	7	3
23/3/2025	Comp 4	11	24	3
13/4/2025	Bunny Cup	4	11	
27/4/2025	Comp 6	7	17	3
11/5/2025	Comp 7	8	17	4
27/7/2025	Comp 8	3	5	
10/8/2025	Comp 9	9	24	7
24/8/2025	Comp 10	5	12	3
28/9/2025	Comp 11	14	30	4
12/10/2025	Simon Leek Trophy	11	23	6
2/11/2025	Comp 13	4	7	1
16/11/2025	Chicken Run	6	10	1
2025	14 Competitions	<u>108</u>	<u>243</u>	<u>46</u>

2024	15 Competitions	<u>215</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>85</u>
2023	15 Competitions	<u>272</u>	<u>318</u>	<u>46</u>

We managed to stage 16 (Club & Open Competitions) of the planned 24 competitions in the 2025 diary. Engagement in the competitions was lower than in prior years, angler participation was **down by 19%**, with 243 angler days compared to 2024 's 300 days. Visitor numbers were similar to 2023 at 46, providing £138 of visitor income during the year.

2025 club results

Club competition fishing completed with the last staged competition held on the 16th November.

Best Angler

- **1st Harvey Preston - 43 points**
- **2nd Tony Walsh - 25 points**
- **3rd Umer Chohan – 29 points**
- **4th Steve Lane – 18 points**
- **5th Rhys Phillips – 17 points**
- **6th Simon Watts – 16 points**
- **7th Paul Akerman – 15 points**
- **8th Bobby Smith – 10 points**
- **8th= Richard Goldby – 10 points**
- **10th= Andrew Dugdale – 9 points**
- **10th= Colin McCann - 9 points**

Best Female angler

- **Ceri Lane**

Best Junior (<16years)

- **Jacob Grant**

Club Trophies

- **Simon Leeke Trophy - Steve Lane (68cm Blonde Ray)**
- **Bunny Cup - Paul Akerman (56cm Thornback Ray)**
- **Gareth Davies Cup - Steve Critcher & Rhys Phillips (106cm Smoothound)**

Best fish of the year

Thornback Ray	Phil Evans	62cm
Bass	Steve Denning	68cm
Smoothound	Simon Watts/ Rhys Phillips/Steve Critcher	106cm
Bull Huss	Harvey Preston	112cm
Specimin Fish	Jack Beecher	Trigger Fish

OPEN Competitions

Summer Open Competition 17th August – we staged the 2nd 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 On Water, Honda Marine, Tardis Removals, White Water Charters, TJ Services, Baits2Go and Garry Evans. The competition ran at a small loss We raised £306 for the British Heart Foundation Charity. 2026 Competition marketing has commenced with a date of 13th June 2026 and we have Angling Cymru support for marketing this boat competition.

Open Cod Competition 48th – was run with 247 anglers and 68 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 >£6,500. We attracted anglers predominately from South Wales this year and had great support helped by our social media contacts via Rob Cole (SWFA) and Small Boats Sea Fishing on Facebook networks. It was concerning that only 7 cod to the scales with the winning fish achieving 13.7lbs. Dale Carvana on Prowler secured 1st prize. In the thick of the prizes, it was great to see Jack Beecher and Umer Chohan on the leader board.

Post event we can celebrate some great write-ups from Rob Cole SWFA. In summary, a successful competition which delivered over £2k profit and £830 raised for the RNLI from a raffle.

Species Hunt Local & Away - 34 active anglers took part in this year's competitions, which was designed to be attractive to as many members as possible, through recognising the achievement of people wanting to fish locally from Cardiff. The competition has seen active engagement with several people challenging for the title position, with the leader board changing frequently throughout the 11 months. 508 fish were logged on the WhatsApp site with **46 species** caught locally from Cardiff.

In the **Local** competition, **Steve Critcher** came 1st with 35 fish and won a Diawa Rod & Reel, **Paul McCarthy** came 2nd with 32 species and **Simon Watts** was 3rd with 31 species. Prizes were also awarded to 7 other members who came in the top 10.

In the ladies' section **Ceri Lane** came 1st with 16 locally caught fish.

The 2026 Species Hunt competition started on the 1st January with 7 hidden prizes and a longest combined length of 10 nominated species to provide added competition.

Other activities

The Angling section raised over **£1,700 for charity.**

Open Cod Competition	£830	RNLI
Presentation Evening	£125	RNLI (Simon Watts 'hidden Xmas Santa tackle prizes)
Open Summer Competition	£306	Breast Cancer
Bunny Cup	£232	Velindre
Simon Leeke Trophy	£202	Marie Curie / Holme Tower

We have also had a collection for a local group called **Reel Minds**, who are refurbishing old fishing rods and reels in support of mental health.

Finance

Alan has reported on the financial status for 2025, 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.

ANGLING 'WINTER' TALKS

With the help of Rob Cole we have also held 2 winter talks by Dave Lewis and Terry Theobald which were well attended with over 40 people attending both informative talks.

Freezers

The section continues to provide freezers for members in the portacabin for a nominal £10 p.a. fee per drawer, to cover the costs of freezer depreciation and replacement.

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. The committee consists of Paul Akerman, Tony Walsh, Alan Thorne, Joseph Thorne, Phil Evans, Paul McCarthy & Scott McCarthy.

Thanks also goes to Steve Lane who stepped down from the committee for his hard work over the past few years in the role of weighmaster. Thanks Steve.

Finally

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 2026 and are looking to stage 26 competitions, alongside the 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