

BCAC and UK Carp cup

This year our BCAC qualifier was held on Mid Kent Fisheries Loggies lake nr Canterbury, Kent.

Its is a local lake and one both my brother Colin and I have fished several times in the past. It's a lake of around 12 acres with a few islands and tree lined bays with a big area of reeds at one end that is always the hot swim. At the draw our luck continues to desert us as we came out 9th of 12, with a low draw we took a gamble and went in a secluded bay hoping the carp might move in away from the pressure. The fish were present whilst we set up but soon did the off once the hooter for the start. We decided on a softly softly approach just fishing solid pva bags filled my 2mm pellet, to ring the changes Colin fished with a light coloured Fin Perfect pellet whilst I used my favoured "S" pellet. Rigs were standard short braid hooklink with a size 8 curve shank hook fished KD style. We tried various hookbaits during the session including Sonubaits Carp dumbbells and Oozing boilies, 2 of these oozing boilies on a hair is a cracking method creating lots of attraction and it was this rig that got us our one and only take of the weekend in the shape of a cracking 27lb 14oz common to one of Colins rods just two hours from the end of the competition. The run away winners had 12 carp to just under 30lb from down in the reed bed swims, second place was up for graps though right up to the final whistle as two 30s for 61lb took second spot and three carp for 49lb took third. So that was the 2013 BCAC come to an end for us, now for me it was onto the UK Carp cup.



This year I entered the round at Orchard place farm. The match was on the relatively new lake 8, a square lake of around 5 acres with four equally placed islands giving everyone a feature to fish to. I came out the draw 5th out of 10 and took a corner swim that the wind was pushing into. A swim between the islands would have been ideal but I was happy with my choice as I had seen plenty of carp here during the day on my many walks around the lake.



I had planned to fish the quiet corner by catapulting 8mm fin perfects and 12mm elliptical pellets removing the need to spod but after just two hours of fishing it became clear that the fish were patrolling the islands so I moved a rod to the end of an island about 2 meters off of it in 3ft of water. The distance was around 30 meters, just about the limit I could catapult the 12mm ellipticals which was good as again I could keep the disturbance down when feeding. As in the BCAC I fished with solid bags filled with small sonubaits pellets. Within half an hour I had a take resulting in a little 8lb common. During the night I bagged a couple more, this time mirrors to 27lb. I didnt manage any bites during the day and it was 10pm the following evening before my next fish, this time a chunky mirror of exactly 30lb. I followed this at 3am with a 29lb 8oz mirror. By the finish at 10am Sunday morning I had managed 8 carp, a reasonable weekend but not enough to qualify. So that's the competition's completed for 2013 roll on 2014 for another go.

