

UK Carp Cup Qualifier 2012

For this years qualifier I went to Robinsons carp lake near Brightlingsea in Essex. It's a cracking 6 acre lake, full of islands and snaggy corners with lots of quality scaley mirrors to catch.

I had been up for a practise a month before to get a feel for the place and have a good look around with a lead rod. I was hoping to come out of the draw early as a couple of areas looked very fishey and I knew they would be the first swims to go. Thankfully my wish came true as my name came out of the bag first.

The swim I chose meant a short cast of no more than 30 yards to an overgrown snaggy gap between an island and the bank, it's a tricky spot to fish as you have to fish locked up with the sensitivity on the bite alarm turned right up high, often one bleep is enough to know a fish is on. Its not my favourite way of fishing but sometimes needs must and I knew it would get me bites.



As soon as the hooter for the match to start sounded I had my first bait in the water, five minutes later all three baits were in position. I turned to sit down and the first rod I cast was away, after a short tussle a pretty 17lb mirror lay in the net. Its always great to get that first fish on the scoresheet, but to get one after just five minutes was especially pleasing.

That turned out to be the first of twenty carp to 19lb that I managed to catch over the 40 hour qualifier to give me a comfortable first place with 263lb.

The successful method this weekend was to fish solid pva bags filled with 2mm Sonu S pellet tight to the snags, over the top of the bags I fed Sonu 8mm Fin perfect feed pellets by catapult with a pouchful every hour or every fish.



So now its off to Brasnose one for the semi final in July