



# Team England Fly Fishing (TEFF)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

27th November 2011

10.30am Egleton Bird Centre; Rutland Water

## Present

Clive Collier	Chairman	Iain MacKay	Southern
Baz Reece	Vice Chairman	Ivy Wilkes	Southern
John Ball	Treasurer/Southern	Alan Tonge	Southern
Andrew Green	Press Officer/South East	Bryan Hayson	Severn Trent
John Mees	Competition Secretary - Loch-style	Clive Chatwin	Severn Trent
Fred Bainbridge	Competition Secretary - Bank	Simon Elson	Army
Martin Introna		Keith Gilchrist	RAF
Mike Tinnion	River Manager/Northern	Keith Jones	RAF
Ian Greenwood	World Team Manager/FIPS-CIPS Mouche delegate/Northern	Richard Slater	Midlands
Paul Page	European Team Manager/Northern	Dave Franklin	East Anglian
Alan Jenkins	Bank Team Manager/Northern	Dave Bromley	East Anglian
Peter Hartley	Midlands/Training & Development	Pete Kempton	Peninsular
		Denis Symonds	Peninsular
		Stuart Wardle	Northern
		Len Childs	South East

## 1. Chairman's Opening Address

Clive Collier said that he had found it an interesting experience since the last AGM, during which time he had been slowly coming to terms with his new role, and responding to the many people who had contacted him regarding various issues. Although he had found working with the Angling Trust both edifying and illuminating, it had also been fairly time-consuming.

## 2. Record of Attendance and Apologies for Absence

Two apologies for absence had been received: from Paddy Mounter (RAF) and John Horsey (South West).

## 3. Ratification of TEFF Constitution

Clive Collier had circulated the new TEFF Constitution, based on the old CEFF document. This had been revised to incorporate recent changes. If those present had any issues now was the time to discuss them, so that a ratifying vote could be taken.

A query was raised about a clause in Part 3 para 2 'The Selection and Management of England teams for International Fly Fishing (IFFA) events', stating that individuals were "...expected to enter the eliminators organised by their own federation...", but this had been removed from the new Constitution. The rule in Part 3 para 1 which stated "...Anyone living within 5 miles from the English/Scottish bor-

der may be considered as eligible to be selected for either country...” was there to cover places like Berwick-on-Tweed which, although it lies within Scotland, is still considered part of England.

Clive Collier reminded delegates that they would have a chance later to vote on the proposals for multiple qualifier entries and bringing back Loch-style Home International team roll-overs.

Clarification was requested on Part 2, para 8: “All member Federations must field a minimum of 25 different individual entrants to TEFF eliminators each year...”. If the same individual entered the loch-style, river and bank qualifiers, would they count as just one entrant? It was confirmed that as long as they pay an entry fee for each event, and take part, they would be counted as an individual entrant.

The fact that some federations did not hold qualifiers in certain disciplines might not necessarily prevent them from remaining members of TEFF. It was no longer necessary for Executive Officers to be federation Delegates, so they could continue in their post even if their federation did not send a delegate to the AGM. To avoid confusion it was voted to remove the clause dealing with this matter (Part 2, para 11) from the Constitution.

To encourage participation it was voted to change the clause in Part 3, para 2, “Any Federation, which fails to pay the TEFF element of the registration fees to the Competition Secretary within 21 days of the entry closing date...” to “21 days after the event”.

There was discussion over whether it should be the duty of TEFF and the federations to check that qualifier entrants held a current Environment Agency licence. It was felt that implementing this would add an unnecessary burden on TEFF and so the proposal was withdrawn.

Attention was drawn to Part 2, para 5. Not only did this not include a requirement that all National qualifiers and England team members had to be individual AT members, but it appeared to be in the wrong place. It was voted to include this in Part 3, para 2, along the lines of “...To compete in a TEFF National Championship a competitor must be at least 18 years old during the year of the National Championship, and be an individual member of the Angling Trust.”.

Following this, the meeting unanimously ratified the new Constitution.

#### **4. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 28th November 2010**

These had been circulated by email to delegates before the meeting.

#### **5. Matters Arising**

Clive Collier asked if there were any issues arising from the minutes of the previous AGM. There was discussion over whether there had been any resolution that had actually formally closed the CEFF. In any case, the meeting voted that the CEFF be hereby dissolved in accordance with Part 1, para 35, and become TEFF with immediate effect.

#### **6. Financial Matters. Treasurer’s Report etc**

John Ball circulated copies of this year’s Financial Information. With the AT now holding the majority of TEFF monies and being subject to their audit, it was considered unnecessary to pay accountants to review our accounts, as customary in previous years.

Although the Balance Sheet showed a loss of £4593 for the year, the TEFF was still sitting on the second highest amount it had ever had so, taking everything into consideration, he was not disappointed.

The World Championships had cost £6k more than expected, but included the costs of a recce trip that the Treasurer had been recommending for some years.

As expected, the Spring Loch-style International in the Orkneys had cost 'an arm and a leg', and the bill would have been even higher had it not been for a generous £1k donation and the refund of mileage money by some team members.

Both the Autumn Loch-style and Rivers Internationals had exceeded projected costs, but this is the normal trend now. The Bank International, though, was well on target.

The reduced income from the Bank qualifiers was partly due to some cash being incorrectly forwarded by normal mail and going astray. Some monies had also been received from Bank events after the closure of the books.

The income from Fund Raising had been reduced due to our exclusion from the BFFI show because apparently there wasn't the room for us.

The FIPS Mouche subscription had accidentally been paid twice, but we had not as yet received any refund; hopefully this would mean we would not have to pay next year's subs.

The withdrawal of the Hardy & Greys cash sponsorship was a major problem. Fortunately, their tackle sponsorship still continued, which was another source of income for TEFF.

It was thought that ideally TEFF should seek sponsorship from outside the tackle industry, but approaching large business sponsors would take much time and preparation.

Given this, John told the meeting that the £20 entry fee for all TEFF qualifiers, passed at the 2008 AGM but not implemented due to the uncertainties surrounding our amalgamation with the AT, would come into force in 2012. It was hoped an expanded Bank Team competition might offer income potential.

Although some federations had had difficulty persuading members why the federation should be a club member of the Angling Trust, they were reminded that the insurance was cost-effective, now covered boats up to 7m, with engines up to 10hp, and was essential for organisers to be able to hold competitions. It was recommended that a note be added to the Constitution to this effect.

Regarding the proposed training trip to Norway, which would replace our participation in the European Championships in Portugal, Clive Collier agreed that it was pointless sending a squad to a competition we had very little chance of winning, when we had the chance to thoroughly learn about a venue we would hope to do well on.

Although John Ball had been required to hand over all TEFF money to the Angling Trust by last April,

this would be ring-fenced so that it could only be used for TEFF purposes. He had retained £10k in a separate, more accessible, account which he could use as working capital for tackle sponsorship and fund-raising purposes. Clive Collier confirmed there was around £9k in this account at the moment.

Receipts and Payments. John provided a list of anticipated costs for 2012. The training trip to Norway would cost around £7k, as compared to the £11.5k it had cost us to compete in the European championships in the Czech Republic in 2011.

Projected income for 2012 was £48.4k. With the withdrawal of the Hardy & Greys cash sponsorship, personal contributions from team members would need to be increased. For 2012 these would be: £600 each for individual World team members, £300 for individual European training team members, £250 for Loch-style team members, £200 for Rivers team members and £150 for Bank team members.

Projected costs for 2012 were £41.5k, which would mean a profit of £7k, but John reminded delegates that there were numerous reasons why this might prove to be over-optimistic.

He concluded his report by itemising current stock in hand.

During the discussion that followed John admitted that to some extent he felt less in control of TEFF accounts now that he had to work with the Angling Trust (AT). He had very much been used to his own system, which he knew inside out, and inevitably the system used by the AT was somewhat different.

He also thought that the TEFF Team Member Agreements, requiring members of the World, European and River teams to turn up at events on behalf of the sponsors, had not been enforced strictly enough in a couple of cases, which undermined his own position.

Following discussion, Clive Collier agreed that such team agreements must be enforced in future, or team members shouldn't be allowed to fish for England.

John Ball added that although he was stepping down from the role of Treasurer, he would still continue his fund-raising and tackle sponsorship activities, so there would be less for the new Treasurer to do.

Clive Collier added that he didn't expect anyone to volunteer for this role, and that it would be another job that he would have to take on as Chairman.

A vote of thanks was proposed to John Ball for his contribution as Treasurer, and after the accounts were approved, and Clive Collier added his own personal appreciation of John's contribution, a standing ovation followed.

Clive Collier added that he would also like to mention Malcom Price's effort in manning stands at shows, and reminded delegates that TEFF are always looking for extra people to help out on a stand and give the regulars a break. John Ball would still be acting as a collection point for any goods federations could obtain from their members, and pass on to him for sale.

## 7. Election of Officers:

Current Officer	Name	Up for Election	Nominated by:
Chairman	Clive Collier		
Vice Chairman	Baz Reece		
Secretary	<b>VACANT</b>		
Treasurer	<b>VACANT</b>		
Competition Secretary - Loch-style	John Mees		
Competition Secretary - River	<b>VACANT</b>	<b>Andrew Gooding</b>	<b>Peninsular</b>
Competition Secretary - Bank	Fred Bainbridge		
World Team Manager	Paul Page		<b>TEFFIC</b>
	swapped for World.		
European Team Manager	Ian Greenwood		
	leading training		
	party of 9 to Norway		
Loch-style Boat Manager	<b>VACANT</b>	<b>Martin Introna</b>	<b>TEFFIC</b>
River Manager	Mike Tinnion		
FIPS/CIPS Mouche Delegate	Ian Greenwood		
Bank International	Alan Jenkins		
Press Officer	Andrew Green		
Web Administrators	Clive Collier		
	Andrew Green		
Training and Development	Peter Hartley		
Development Pathway Liaison Officer	<b>VACANT</b>		<b>Chairman</b>

The post of Secretary, although not an onerous position, had been vacant for seven years.

Clive Collier could see that he would have to take on the work of Treasurer, but was hoping to coerce someone with better skills to do the job. As far as cheque signatories were concerned, at present both he and John Ball were entitled to sign cheques. There being no objections to Clive Collier progressing this way with the role of Treasurer, it was put to the vote and was carried unanimously.

It was confirmed that Andrew Gooding would be the new Competition Secretary - River. This was proposed by Denis Symonds, seconded by John Ball and carried unanimously.

Delegates were about to vote on the appointment of Martin Introna to the role of Loch-style Boat Manager when Stuart Wardle pointed out that this appointment had already been voted on by the TEFF International Committee (TEFFIC), and that the purpose of the AGM was simply to ratify this decision. Clive Collier then noted that this was not the procedure that was described in the new version of the Constitution (which states that the TEFFIC should recommend candidates for posts like these to the AGM, which then elects them).

In any case, Clive Collier wished to express his thanks to Martin for taking on this role, especially since Clive and John Ball had talked to around 30 likely people, who all had reasons why they could not do the job.

Clive Collier brought up point 12.7 on the agenda, the appointment of a Development Pathway

Liaison Officer (DPLO). Clive explained that he had been thinking about what TEFF was going to do to bring on people so that they got more into the sport. This would include helping both youngsters to move to higher levels of achievement, and also helping more mature competition members, and how to develop a pathway to achieve this.

He knew that Peter Hartley, as Training & Development Officer, had been working with the Angling Development Board (ADB), and that both Mike Tinnion and Stuart Wardle had achieved their Level 1 and Level 2 coaching qualifications, which would help in establishing this 'Talent Pathway'.

Clive Collier therefore proposed that he coerce Stuart Wardle to take on this DPLO role.

Peter Hartley added that on the 31st March the ADB would merge into the AT which would now be approved by Sport England as the Governing Body for the sport. A new Level 3 coaching qualification would cover the training of coaches for teams. Although the AT had been through some difficult times, they were now in a much more secure position, with a more stable individual membership, as well as 1500 team/club members.

Clive Collier replied that we needed to improve our performance in the World and European championships, which should include professionally trained coaches. It was all part of getting some proper sponsorship, being professional and getting results.

Clive Collier then proposed that the meeting elect a Development Pathway Liaison Officer, which was carried unanimously. Stuart Wardle was then nominated to this position, which was carried unanimously.

## **7. IFFA Matters**

Mike Tinnion, River Manager, reported that the Rivers Home International now required all hooks to be manufactured barbless. The team reserve would receive a match medal, while the travelling reserve would receive an IFFA medal.

Ian Greenwood, World Team Manager and FIPS Mouche delegate, remarked that FIPS Mouche had considered a proposal to adopt the manufactured barbless hook rules, but it was decided not to do this because it was thought they wouldn't be able to implement this.

## **8. Summary of 2011**

Clive Collier said that information on some of these events had already been posted on the TEFF website, and they would ensure that a calendar of future events would also appear soon.

### **Reports:**

#### **\* World Championships - Ian Greenwood**

Ian described how this 'Fishing Olympics', covering every discipline, had taken place in Italy with the fly fishing events being held in the Dolomites region. He and John Horsey had gone out for a preliminary trip in April, six months before the event, because they believed this would present roughly similar conditions to those they would find the following September. Such a recce was important because the type of rivers found in Italy did not occur in the UK.

In practice the team were doing well, and after the first session were lying 2nd, 3 points behind the Czechs. Their position dropped in subsequent sessions, but until the 4th session they were still just one fish away from the medals. Unfortunately they suffered five blanks in the 4th session, and another

er two in the 5th session. They finished 10th with 275 points. Had they managed to avoid the five blanks in session four – the equivalent of 105 points - they would have beaten Italy by 10 points, or one fish.

Italy were not popular winners, finishing in front of the Czechs in 2nd place and the Poles 3rd.

England's top performer was Phil Dixon; followed by John Horsey, Iain Barr, Mike Tinnion and Simon Robinson.

While they were always confident of recovering their position, the five blanks in session four made this difficult.

They might have expected to do well on the lake sector, but this venue had been stocked with 500 fish not long before. As a result, boats concentrated on the one area the fish had been put into. In the first session anglers were catching up to 24-25, whereas the last session saw 9 blanks.

Next year Paul Page would be managing the team for the World championships in Slovenia, because he had been there before, while Ian would be leading the training trip to Norway, ahead of the World championships there in 2013.

### **\* European Championships - Paul Page**

Paul had circulated a summary of this event, and drew attention to the different scoring system employed in this event. Overall the team had come 3rd in the lake bank sector sessions, but were outclassed in the river sessions coming 9th, 12th and 13th overall, bad in view of the fact that only 16 teams took part in these championships. Their performance in the reservoir boat sessions, where they might have expected to do well, was even worse, coming only 9th.

As Ian Greenwood confirmed, whereas the lake in the World championships had been a small venue, the lake in the European championships had been a coarse fishing reservoir 2km long by 0.5km wide. Although this had been stocked with 1.5 tons of fish, they fished from small, almost square-shaped boats just 9ft in length, which meant that long drifts were out of the question, and these sessions saw a lot of blanks.

Their top performer was Scott Nellins who came 25th. The top teams were: 1st Czech Republic 98 placings 2nd France 122 placings 3rd Spain 137 placings, with England 9th with 235 placings. Even so, the squad is developing into a really good team.

### **\* Spring Home Loch-style International**

Clive Collier, captain of the England team, said that their 4th place on Harray had been disappointing, given that the team had been catching well over 100 fish on every practice session, and close to 190 on one day.

Two methods had been identified, either (a) imitative fishing with patterns like Hogs on the Floater or Slow Intermediate, either pulling or fig-of-8; and (b) fishing a team of four bright mini-lures, plus cormorants or buzzers, on the DI7, DI5 or DI3 to catch caenis-feeders. There had been a big hatch of caenis the night before the match, which probably had a bearing on the way it fished. They were surprised to only score 63 fish, and he couldn't understand why someone like John Horsey could catch 23 keepers on one day, and nothing like that on match day. He himself had landed 5 keepers the day before, but on match day all his five were too small.

Despite the result, they experienced some stunning wild fishing, the people were great and the ghillies were superb.

### **\* Autumn Home Loch-style International**

Boat Team Manager Richard Slater read out a report he had prepared.

Having taken up the role on a 'one match only' basis, he was fortunate to have a good blend of experienced individuals and new caps in the team, for which he selected Ed Foster as captain. He was determined to take care of everything in the background, so the team only had to think about getting the gold medal.

When his initial choice of accommodation fell through, he was fortunate to find the Wyboston Lakes hotel and conference centre, which proved to be ideal. As regards the venue, Grafham Water, he was aware that Anglian Water were keen to put on a good match for all concerned. He was also able to secure the services of a great team of 28 boatmen plus reserves.

Following a squad weekend in July, plus the knowledge gained through the season, they gave themselves three full days of practice from the Tuesday onwards. The appearance of the 'Killer Shrimp' seemed to have concentrated the fish closer to the banks than previously, but also given them a good food source.

He left all fishing matters, including boat pairings and practice tactics, entirely to the captain. Although hot-spots were never hammered, it was obvious that the bulk of fish were in the north-east quarter of the lake – in an arc close to the bank from G-buoy to the Dam Tower. While not prepared to chase bright flies, they would take blobs and boobies if fished slowly with a team of nymphs. The main lines were floaters, midge-tips and slow glass lines.

By match day each member of the team not only had a card with line codes, but also an identical box of 12 different patterns, each numbered up. This was an essential part of the team's boat-to-boat communication during the match, which was key to a successful performance.

A pre-weigh-in count put the team's total at 105 fish, and Richard was soon accepting the congratulations of the other team managers, as Scotland had recorded 76 fish, Wales 62 and Ireland 34. In fact, England won by just over 60 pounds.

Richard attributed their success mostly to teamwork, professional practice sessions, information sharing, and communication during the match. He congratulated David Hoppe on his Brown Bowl and took the opportunity to thank the following: Anglian Water, in particular John Mees for his endless assistance; Wyboston Lakes and their staff; The boatmen; Cliff Waters, for photography; Gordon Slater for typesetting and printing the match booklet; Colin Faiers for piping the teams; and John Ball for making his job easier throughout the week of the event.

### **\* River International - Mike Tinnion**

Mike Tinnion reported that the 2011 Rivers International had been hosted by Ireland on the River Agivey, which held lots of fish. Because the date was close to the European championships, they did not have the option of a full team turn-out in advance of the event, although one member did go out and was able to bring back some good information.

All the team went out on the preceding Saturday, to find that the river was in flood, and in fact the river did go through spells of rising and falling while they were there. Fortunately, it tended to go up and down in a matter of hours. It was in fact a very good river and stood up to the pressure well.

The team policy was not to hammer the match water, instead they stayed clear and practised together as a team. Last year's English National had thrown up a relatively young, inexperienced team, who

were possibly not able to cope so well when the river dropped on the day of the match.

In the first two morning sessions the team performed well, and it developed into a very close competition. The Irish team are a lot better now than they used to be, while the Welsh appeared to concentrate on hammering the match water. The afternoon sessions turned into a matter of avoiding a blank, which was probably where the inexperience of the England team showed up, in that they did not have other methods to fall back on when the fishing got tough.

Ireland were 1st, Wales 2nd, England 3rd and Scotland 4th. Of the England team, two were on the same level and had fished with Paul Page previously, while the other two or three were relative novices to this level of fishing but were faces for the future and would have learnt a lot. John Ball's contribution was also invaluable and Mike couldn't imagine managing without him.

#### **\* Bank International - Alan Jenkins**

This was the first time Alan had managed the international bank team, and the second such international. The venue was Lake Barfinney in Ireland, about which information was very scarce.

As part of their preparation Alan decided to hold a squad day on Waskerley so that the team could get used to fishing for wild brown trout on a windy venue. Everything was organised and advice was freely given.

Practice days on the match venue were extremely windy, in fact conditions on the first day were silly, so on the second day the team decided a pre-dawn start would give them the best chance of fishing before the wind got up. They caught 18 fish between them and were happy with the methods used. In the afternoon captain Davey Parker allowed them to pack up as conditions became horrendous. Bank conditions were also horrendous, being boggy and difficult.

Ireland hosted the event very well, making it a very successful competition. 45 fish were caught during the day, with half of them coming from the same peg 12 (where Davey Parker had 5). Of these Scotland had 11 on a slow fishing method, Ireland 13, England 12 and Wales 9, so the aim was to avoid a blank session.

Conditions couldn't be helped, and although these were a little better on the day of the match, it was still very tough, and the leaderboard changed throughout the day.

Eleven controllers had been organised, from all over Ireland, and these were great guys.

The event was organised by the TAFI/Muster FF, with John Buckley, TAFI President, welcoming the teams, and Denis Cronin also helping a lot, for example when Glen Appleby's car broke down.

The winner was Ireland's Terry Kelly. Scotland was 1st with 146 points, Ireland 2nd with 179, England 3rd with 190 and Wales 4th with 203.

Next year's Bank International will be at Garnffrwd fishery in Wales.

#### **\* FIPS/CIPS Mouche - Ian Greenwood**

Ian said that although delegates had attended a meeting where they had agreed on the rules, the host country could always amend these rules, so he wasn't sure why they bothered.

There had been discussion about introducing a rule that only manufactured barbless hooks could be used but they were persuaded to stay with debarbed hooks.

Other rules included a stipulation that only one loop be used on the whole leader system, which was

often the braided loop on the end of the fly-line. The leader also had to be tapered throughout its length, so competitors had started using 150lb nylon to simulate the behaviour of a fly-line in the leader-to-hand method.

#### **\* National Final: Loch-style - John Mees**

John Mees confirmed that this year's Loch-style National had seen 99% of qualifiers take part, and 28 anglers make the two England teams, plus two reserves.

John Ball confirmed that from now on, where England was hosting a Home International, Nationals would be held on the same venue as the Home International. For example, the 2012 National would be held at Bewl, the same venue as the Spring Home International the following year.

It was asked if it was possible to hold the National on a brown trout only venue, and therefore produce England teams which were more suited to this style of fishing, and venues like Harray. Although Carsington was suggested as a possibility, suitable venues seemed a bit thin on the ground.

A weekday date had been chosen for the Bewl National in 2012 to avoid the increased boat traffic that would be experienced on the the weekend.

#### **\* National Final: Rivers - Martin Dixon**

With Martin Dixon not being present, a report on this year's Rivers National could not be presented.

#### **\* National Final: Individual Bank Open - Fred Bainbridge/Alan Tonge**

#### **\* National Final: Team Bank Open - Fred Bainbridge/Alan Tonge**

Alan Tonge reported that they had enjoyed a great weekend, with a great set of finals.

48 anglers had fished the Individual Final, a reduced field from the previous year because this was a smaller venue. This had resulted in a really good England Bank team for 2012.

60 anglers had fished the Team Final.

It was confirmed that there would be a bank heat in the South West area, in fact the organisers were hoping to introduce as many local heats as possible, followed by regional heats.

### **9. Programme for 2012**

It was confirmed that the Rivers National would be held on the R.Dart on Sunday 15th July.

Clive Collier reminded everyone that dates for all qualifiers needed to be sent to the website administrators to be put up on the website. It was hoped that these could also be publicised in Total Flyfisher.

Clive Collier thought it was important we involve as many fisheries as possible in the Bank heats.

### **10. TEFFIC England Squads for 2012**

A list of the England teams as selected by the TEFF International Committee (TEFFIC) was circulated.

Teams had been chosen for the Spring and Autumn Home Internationals, accommodating individual angler's venue preference where possible. The captain for the Spring International team would be Bill Rankin, with Rob Sosbe captain of the Autumn International team.

### **11. Angling Trust**

Clive Collier said that the last year had been a very interesting experience, during which time he had to attend eight board meetings, along with other appointments. Much of these had been taken up dealing with the paperwork generated by Sport England.

(a) Firstly, the Angling Trust (AT) were looking to increase individual membership, which would create a real power base. The AT would be in a much stronger position if they could go to government saying that they represented one million individual members.

In his own business life Clive had a strong interest in sales and marketing, and was trying to persuade the AT and the Environment Agency to include a mailer in with the licence renewal correspondence.

(b) Secondly, Clive was also the organiser of the AT Competition Committee, which covered all branches of angling – Game, Sea and Coarse – at all levels – Junior, Senior, Disabled and Ladies.

The aim was to market Team England as a ‘brand’, which required a proper sponsor. The real position was that all branches – Sea and Coarse, as well as Game – were facing the same challenges when it came to attracting sponsors. And without sponsorship money they would not be able to provide coaches.

What the AT Competitions Committee needed was a thoroughly professional proposal they could take to the market, but such proposals take months of preparation. They needed to be fully aware of the numbers of anglers they were representing, which in the UK was somewhere between 2.8m and 3.5m. The kind of sponsorship package they would be looking for would be in neighbourhood of £200-£500k, which would be for all branches of Team England.

Above all, it was important to realise that the AT was here to stay, and that everyone should be encouraged to join.

Clive estimated they had between three to six months to get a very cohesive story together, which would enable them to show potential sponsors what they’d get from contributing to Team England.

He had some business skills in this area, but everyone needed to be champions of the Angling Trust (AT), and exert some peer pressure.

At present the Ladies and Youth would be part of the AT Competitions Committee, but it appeared that the Disabled section were not, possibly because of their charitable status.

Much of the AT staff were unpaid volunteers, and that although executives like Mark Lloyd received a salary, it was not huge compared to general market rates, and for that they did an awful lot of work. Mark Lloyd himself did about 80 hours a week, with Sandra Drew also putting in a huge amount of effort.

## **12. Motions received from Federations/TEFFIC Officers/Committees**

### **1. TEFFIC Proposal; to correct 2010 drafting error in agreed Eligibility Criteria for selection to World & European Teams**

Paul Page explained that when it came to Eligibility Criteria for Selection into World and European teams, the Bank competition was now to be treated like the Loch-style and Rivers. He wanted to correct an error that had appeared in the note above the TEFF 2011 Analysis of Eligibility for Selection

chart.

This had read “10th or better in the Individual Bank Final (prior to 2010 5th or better as an Individual in either the Individual or Team Bank Final)”. This should read “10th or better in the Individual Bank Final (prior to 2011 5th or better as an Individual in either the Individual or Team Bank Final)”.

The amendment was carried unanimously.

## **2. Northern Federation Proposal; that John Ball be appointed the Honorary position of President of the TEFF**

For reasons already outlined at this meeting, the motion was carried unanimously.

John Ball replied that he felt a little as though he was being ‘put out to grass’ but would not rule out coming back and being more involved in the future.

## **3. South East Federation Proposal; to revert back to the roll-over system for Loch-style International teams**

Clive Collier observed that this had been the most common topic in his correspondence, especially since the Autumn International team had contained 11 new caps.

Out of 16 internationals since 2004, when roll-overs were removed, England had won 4 golds. On some other occasions they had caught the most fish, but still not finished in 1st place.

The discussion that followed revealed that some delegates thought that since roll-overs were removed, a new team spirit had emerged, with no-one holding information back. Some people hadn’t been aware of any ‘holding back’, whereas others cited examples.

Some federations had surveyed their members, finding the majority in favour of the present system, which was believed to encourage participation.

Others pointed out that only the Loch-style had ever had it. Other countries that kept with it, in Rivers and Loch-style, weren’t necessarily the most successful.

The motion was put to the vote and defeated with 6 voting for the motion and 21 against.

## **4. TEFFIC Proposal; reflecting upon the previously agreed proposals of CEFF AGMs, that anglers be allowed to enter as many qualifiers as they want, provided that their 1st qualifier is in their own region and that they forfeit any monies paid in entry fees if they subsequently cancel any of their entries for whatever reason**

Delegates were reminded that previous AGMs had agreed to introduce this for 2012, with the stipulation that before entering other federation’s qualifiers, anglers must first enter the qualifier ‘in their own region’.

Debate followed over exactly what was ‘their own region’, and the problems which could arise if ‘their own region’ held its qualifiers later in the season than other federations. A solution might be that while this ‘home region’ qualifier should be one of those entered, it need not necessarily be the first. Another system would be to make the first qualifier entered the ‘home federation’.

There might also be problems in drawing someone who had already qualified, but had control of the boat.

The possibility of fishing a repechage was also discussed.

As well as being a revenue generator, multiple entries might allow entrants to gain more match-fishing experience. It had been shown to work in the Bank format, where several anglers had used it to their advantage.

This was set against the possibility of new people being discouraged against entering by the thought of having to compete up against a set of travelling multi-entry anglers.

Again, some federations which had surveyed their members found them as much as 3:1 against the motion.

In the past, some qualifiers had had to be abandoned through bad weather. The result had stood, even if some competitors thought they hadn't been given a fair chance.

Clive Collier proposed that the meeting vote on this proposal but without the section dealing with the matter of the 1st qualifier and forfeiting entry fees. It might be possible to go away and return with a workable proposal, but this might drag on, as it had in the past. In the end those behind the motion decided instead to withdraw it.

## **5. TEFFIC Proposal; two day National Loch-style Final**

Paul Page explained that the TEFF International Committee (TEFFIC) had been concerned about recent performances in the Loch-style Home Internationals. A two day National might be a better test of consistency, ensuring that the better anglers came through. Overall positions would be decided on the combined points score from the two days.

While it was agreed that England teams needed to do better, there were concerns that potential entrants may be put off by the extra time and cost required.

The possibilities of a repechage were again discussed.

The need for competitors to gain match experience was balanced against the financial constraints which affect everyone these days.

The motion was put to the vote. 6 voted in favour, 20 against, with 1 abstention, so the motion was not carried.

## **6. Chairman's Proposal; rationalization of federations into fewer but larger federations**

Clive Collier explained that this motion had been initiated by communications he had received from people complaining about the federations. Typical issues were: the small size of some of the qualifiers run by some federations; the fact that these were often fished to different rules; and that some qualifiers were regarded as closed shops. He asked the meeting why there was a need to have as many as 11 federations, when large qualifiers run under a simple North, South, East and West basis would be adequate.

The possibility of restricting loch-style qualifiers to one on each of the the commonly used venues, (such as Stocks, Kielder, Rutland, Grafham, Chew, Hanningfield, Bewl and Blagdon) was also discussed.

Without the need to run qualifiers it was feared some federations might lose their reason for existence. Others, like the Army and RAF for instance, might be difficult to merge.

It was decided to have a working party look at this and report back. In the meantime, Clive Collier agreed to withdraw the motion.

## **7. Chairman's Proposal; creation of a new position for a Development Pathway Liaison Officer**

This point had already been dealt with under Section 7 Election of Officers.

## **8. Chairman's Proposal; expansion of the Bank competition**

Clive Collier wanted to extend this competition to more small water anglers, which would take much publicity, but was something they needed to start on soon.

Many fisheries were willing to promote this event for TEFF, and there was a risk that if TEFF didn't do this type of event someone else would.

As regards sponsorship, Hardy & Greys had originally been contracted to support the event for three years. TEFF expected to hear from MD Ken Brewster about this in the next six weeks.

The trend would be that the individual Bank qualifiers would be handed over to the federations to run but, as Clive Collier realised, this would require more manpower. There would be further discussion of this, following which Clive would report back.

## **9. Anglia Proposal; explanation of delegate entitlement**

This point had been covered in discussion during the meeting.

## **13. Any Additional Business Considered by the Chairman and the AGM to be Urgent**

There was nothing on which we needed to report to FIPS Mouche about.

It was confirmed that the date of the Rivers Qualifier would be the 15th July. The originally suggested cut-off date for rivers qualifiers had been the end of May, however this would need to be reviewed given the late date of the Northern rivers qualifier.

Following discussion on the role of the federation, it was proposed to hold an executive meeting in the New Year to consider this further.

## **14. Date and Time of next meeting.**

Clive Collier said they would most likely adopt the same date and time for next year's AGM, as this had proved to be successful.

## **15. Chairman's Closing Remarks**

Clive Collier concluded that this had been a very worthwhile meeting, and that it was good that we had discussed certain issues, even if we had not made a decision on some of them. At least we had had a dialogue, and stimulated discussion.

He thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 4.00pm.