Greys National Bank Championships 2012 Grand Final

Rules

1. General Competition Rules.

The Individual Final will be held at Westlow Mere Fishery, Congleton, Cheshire on Saturday 6th October 2012 and the Team Final on Sunday 7th October 2012.

As with any TEFF competition, fishing will be carried out in the spirit of, and with respect for, the traditions of the sport.

All competitors must be in possession of a valid Environmental Agency rod licence. It is the Competitors responsibility to ensure they have a licence as they are not available from the fishery. Competitors must also be current members of the Angling Trust. Membership Cards may be checked at sign in.

Any dispute or complaint must be reported to the Competition Secretary (Fred Bainbridge) or match official (Alan Tonge) within 30 minutes (17:30) of the end of the match. Adjudication will be made within 30 minutes of the complaint being made. Any dispute/complaint made after 17:30 will be deemed invalid. The results will be published as soon as possible after the completion of the match but will be deemed provisional until a further scrutiny has been made, this will be completed within 48 hours of the completion of the Final.

If the adjudicator(s) consider that a competitor has not complied with the rules, they may disqualify the Competitor or impose a suitable penalty of disqualifying a number of points from the Competitors total.

Mobile telephones may be taken onto the fishery, must be turned off and may only be used for emergency purposes if previously agreed with the Competition organisers. Score cards will be marked as such. Mobile telephones or any other electronic communication device may not be used to communicate with other competitors under any circumstances, either by voice message or text message. Fish finding devices are also banned from use during the day of the competition. Competitors are not permitted to engage in any form of betting, including sweepstakes, connected with their competitions.

Any amendments to the rules will be communicated at the relevant briefing.

The Sector Controllers are there to ensure that the event is run fairly within the rules, they are totally voluntary and no abuse of any form against the Controllers will be tolerated. Any such abuse, if reported by a Controller, Competitor or Match Official, will result in instant disqualification from the Competition (both Individual and Team) without the right to appeal.
Access to the Competition area, defined as the Fishing Lake and ground up (Yellow Zone below) to 25 yards perpendicular to the shore, is limited to Competitors, designated officials and designated media. All other spectators must remain in the Red areas marked below fishery at all times. Competitors should park in the designated (Purple) areas. The Green Areas are reserved for Officials, Media and Catering.
2. **Match Rules.**

**Hours of fishing**

Both finals will be fished from 09:30 to 17:00pm with a 60 minute lunch break. Sign-in will be from 08:00 and a mandatory brief will be held at 09:00.

All score cards must be handed to the Weigh-in official as soon as possible after cessation of Fishing, the latest they will be accepted is 17:30. Score cards will be handed to the Match Official and the accuracy of the score cards is the sole responsibility of the Competitor/ Team Captain. The Competitors catch should be confirmed immediately with the Match official. Score cards will be retained by the Match official and passed to the recorder. Once retained, no amendments can be made to the score cards by the Competitors.

3. **Peg Arrangements.**

There will be 48 pegs laid out for both Finals around the fishery. Each Competitor will fish 8 pegs of 45 minutes duration during the day. The Peg draw will take place in advance of the Finals at a location and time decided by the Organizers.

Competitors will move clockwise around the lake to pegs as designated on the score cards. No Competitor may leave their peg until the session end hooter. It is the Competitors sole responsibility to ensure they are fishing on the correct peg at all times.

The sessions will be:

09:30 to 10:15  10:20 to 11:05  11:10 to 11:55  12:00 to 12:45
13:45 to 14:30  14:35 to 15:20  15:25 to 16:10  16:15 to 17:00

A maximum of 5 fish may be recorded per peg.

Competitors may not receive assistance from another Competitor, Controller, Official or any other person apart from safety assistance. Competitors may only enter their peg directly from the bank at the peg marker.

*Penalty for fishing on wrong peg/ leaving peg early. Disqualification from the session in which the offence took place.*

4. **Flies.**

The sizes of hooks and fly dressings are de-restricted. Barbless or de-barbed (filed down/ not crushed) hooks must be used throughout the day, it is recommended that commercially produced barbless hooks be used. The use of buoyant flies on sinking lines is expressly prohibited. Note: A fly will be classed as buoyant if, when fully saturated and held under the surface, it rises towards the surface when released.

Booby’s (flies with 2 distinct buoyant eyes) are forbidden at all times. Sight Indicators must be capable of catching fish, i.e. they must contain a hook attached to the leader via a dropper and the indicator must be securely attached/tied to the hook. Neither the flies nor their droppers should move or slide along the leader material or hook. All other forms of sight indicators are forbidden.

All flies will have single points and a maximum of 3 files (including Indicators) is permissible on the cast. Each fly must be at least 50 cm (measured knot to knot/ knot to point fly eye) apart and each fly must be securely tied to the leader (either directly or via a single, securely tied (non-sliding) dropper. The Fly must contain a single hook which is rigid and continuous from Eye to Hook Point, Articulated flies and Snake fly/Snake Fly derivatives are strictly forbidden

*The Penalty for breaking this rule:*

*First Offence*  -  Disqualification from all sessions up to and including the current session.

*Second Offence*  -  Disqualification from Event.
5. **Rods Nets & Lines.**

**Competitors may carry a maximum of three made up rods, none exceeding 12’ feet in length.** Competitors may only use one Rod one at a time. Competitors are responsible for providing their own knotless mesh landing nets. Irrespective of fishery rules, competitors are not permitted to use shooting heads, joined or lead-core lines.

6. **Fishing.**

Both Finals are totally C&R. All fish are to be returned very carefully to the water after confirmation of capture by the sector controller. Any dead or damaged fish that cannot be returned to the water are to be surrendered to the Sector Controller.

It is the Competitor’s responsibility to ensure the fish is recorded correctly by the Controller. The Fish must be lifted from the water in the net by the Competitor and the Controller must acknowledge the capture if he/she is unable to get to the Competitor. The Controller must not help in the landing of a Fish and fishing must not recommence until the fish has been safely returned to the water. **No fish will be recorded unless confirmed by the Controller as having been seen in the net and identified as a Brown/Rainbow Trout.** If the Controller is too far away then the confirmation of a neighbouring Angler will be required.

**Penalty, disqualification of fish.**

If a fish is being played at the end of the session the Competitor must land it before the next session starts, if the fish is not landed before the commencement of the next session it will be disqualified. The Competitor must vacate the peg before the start of the next session.

**Fishing after session end hooter.**

**Disqualification of any points accrued after the Hooter and any session points for that session,**

Foul hooked fish are not permissible in the Finals, only fish hooked in the mouth area, i.e. in front of the rear edge of the gill cover, will be counted.

If a Competitor hooks more than one fish on a cast all fish up to the session limit will count if landed.

7. **Results.**

The number of fish points will decide the winning team or individual. **Competitors will receive one point for each recorded fish plus 1 point for each session where a fish has been recorded (maximum 8 points).** A tie on number of Points will be resolved as follows:

1. Number of Fish caught.
2. Number of 5 fish session.
3. Count back of session counts.

Each Competitor will be provided with a Score Card. It is the Competitors responsibility to ensure each fish caught is signed for by the Sector Controller or designated Match Official. All fish must be signed for.

8. **Wading.**

Wading is strictly prohibited due to the steep drop off’s of the fishery. Any form of waders other than calf length Wellingtons are strictly forbidden as is any form of dry/wet suit. The tops of the footwear must be visible at all times and the wearing of over trousers that cover the footwear is expressly prohibited. When casting/retrieving the Angler must not enter the water.
9. **Cancellation.**

If the Final is prematurely ended then the results will be calculated at the point of cancellation.

10. **Horn Signals.**

The commencement of each session will be signalled by a long continuous horn blast.

The cessation of each session will be signalled by 2 continuous blasts.

If fishing is to be stopped at any other time due to an emergency (e.g. Thunderstorm) this will be signalled by 4 blasts of the horn. Fishing will not commence until another 4 blasts has been sounded. If a session ends between these signals then the normal end of session and commencement of session signals will be made and the Competitors should move carefully to their next peg and await the 4 blast signal. No Competitor is permitted to fish until the 4 blast recommencement signal is made.

The end of the competition will be signalled by 6 blasts on the horn.

There will be 1 signaller paced at the centre of the Fishery. If a horn is accidentally set off then it will be followed by 3 short blasts to instruct the Anglers to ignore the accidental blast!

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