



Team England Fly Fishing

www.te-ff.org



2018 World Fly Fishing Championship 17th – 23rd September Terme Comano, Trentino, Italy

This year the Team's practice accommodation was at one of the Championship Hotels which was situated adjacent to the main practice beat on the River Sarca between Competition Sectors I & III. This gave Team members continuous access for practice throughout the 8 days prior to the start of Championship Session 1.

The Team had 5 days of guided practice on all of the practice waters (with Italian guide Roberto Spiritelli); these were generally sections of rivers between the Championship Sectors and a Lake which was, unfortunately, nothing like the Championship Lake. During the 3 unguided days immediately before the start of Session 1, Team members had the opportunity to refresh their fly boxes, rest after 5 days continuous practice, prepare kit for the start of the Championship and undertake any last minute practice that they felt they needed.

Fips Mouche's new software programme for the Draw was used for the first time at a World Championship, and to all intents and purposes provided the Team with a fair draw and distribution of pegs. The peg arrangements on Lake Cornisello were disappointing due to the inaccessibility of large portions of the bank of this high altitude Alpine lake. As a result, groups of competitors were confined to isolated stretches of the bank with no peg rotation into other competition stretches.

The Team were in 9th position after session 1, improving to 8th and then falling back to 9th at the finish. The Team's overall performance was let down by their results on the lake – this included 2 blanks, which at World level is very difficult to carry on one sector. This resulted in a total of 106 placing points for the Lake Sector, accounting for a third of the Team's final total of 310 placing points for all 5 Sectors and Sessions.

Had the Team managed to perform to their potential on the lake and done as well as the 5th place team on the lake they could have had a total of 44 Lake Sector placing points and finished 7th overall (just behind France).

Final results

Team- Spain 1st 182 placings; Czech Republic 2nd 187 placings; Italy 3rd 194 placings & USA 4th 224 placings. England 9th 310 placings.

Individually- David Ferreras 1st 19 placings; Jyrji Hiltunen 2nd 21 placings & Andrea Pirone 4th 24 placings. England- Andrew Scott 20th 44 placings; Phil Dixon 31st 51 placings; Simon Robinson 46th 63 placings, Howard Croston 56th 70 placings and Scott Nellins 92nd 87 placings.

Andrew Green reported on the TEF website a session by session account which was as follows.

Session 1

Andrew Scott scored a 6th place with 16 fish in his section on the River Sarca – Tione, with Phil Dixon coming 7th on the River Noce, and Howard Croston 15th on the River Sarca – Pinzolo. On Lake Cornisello, fishing from the bank, Simon Robinson came 16th, with Scott Nellins 19th on the River Sarca – Arco. Out of 27 teams, England were currently lying in 9th place with 63 placing points. Italy were in 1st place with 13 points, followed by Spain 2nd with 25 points, France in 3rd with 26 points, Poland 4th with 31 points, and the Czech Republic 5th with 34 points. Ireland were 17th with 82 points.

Session 2

Simon Robinson came 3rd with 14 fish on the River Sarca – Pinzolo, with Howard Croston 9th on the River Noce, and Scott Nellins 10th on the River Sarca – Tione. Phil Dixon came 12th on the River Sarca – Arco, with Andrew Scott saving a blank on Lake Cornisello to finish 25th. England slipped one place to 10th with 121 placing points. Spain were currently in 1st place with 56 points, ahead of France on 59 points, with Italy 3rd on 60 points, the Czech



Team England Fly Fishing

www.te-ff.org



Republic 4th with 75 points, and the Slovak Republic moving up to 5th with 76 points, thanks to a couple of section wins. Individually, Jordi Oliveras Cortina (Spain) led the field with 4 placing points, which included a 1st place on the

lake, in front of Carlo Sciaguri (Italy) on 5 points, and Sebastien Vidal (France) and Frantisek Kouba (Czech Republic), both on 6 points.

Session 3

A better session for England saw Howard Croston winning his section on the River Sarca – Arco with 13 fish, plus a 5th place for Andrew Scott on the River Sarca – Pinzolo, and 6th for Phil Dixon on the River Sarca – Tione. Although Simon Robinson came 23rd on the River Noce and Scott Nellins was one of the 50% of the field who blanked on an increasingly difficult lake sector, England still moved up to 8th place. Spain held onto their first place with 94 points, ahead of Italy on 115 points, with France and the Czech Republic both on 123 points. The leading individuals changed, with Vojtech Ungr (Czech Republic) in 1st place with 9 points, ahead of Igor Lukasik (Slovak Republic), Jyrki Hiltunen (Finland), Carlo Sciaguri (Italy) and Jure Osolin (Slovenia) all on 12 points.

Session 4

This session saw some more good performances from England, with Andrew Scott coming 3rd on the River Noce, and Phil Dixon saving a blank on Lake Cornisello to finish 7th, where again, half the field failed to catch. Scott Nellins came 10th on the River Sarca – Ponzolo, Simon Robinson 11th on the Sarca – Arco and Howard Croston 16th on the Sarca – Tione. Even so, England slipped to 9th place overall with 230 placing points, as it got increasingly tight at the top. With one session to go, Spain and Italy both had 164 points, with the Czechs just 4 points behind on 168, ahead of Poland on 192 and France on 194. Individually, Jyrki Hiltunen (Finland) was currently 1st with 16 points, one point ahead of Igor Lukasik (Slovak Republic), David Garcia Ferreras (Spain), and Jure Osolin (Slovenia)

Session 5

The final session saw Andrew Scott get a 5th place on the River Sarca – Arco, with Simon Robinson coming 10th on the Sarca – Tione, and Phil Dixon 19th on the Sarca – Pinzolo. On the River Noce Scott Nellins came 19th, but Lake Cornisello continued to prove difficult, with Howard Croston one of the 10 who failed to catch. England finished the Championships at 9th place on 310 placing points, with Ireland 13th on 369 points. There was little to split the top three teams, but a good performance by Spain saw them become the 2018 World Champions with 182 points, with the Czech Republic taking silver with 187 points, and Italy bronze with 194 points. A good performance by the USA in this final session saw them finish 4th with 224 points, with Finland 5th on 230 points, and France 6th with 243 points. David Garcia Ferreras (Spain) is the new individual World Champion, with 19 placing points, ahead of Jyrki Hiltunen (Finland) on 21 points, with Andrea Pirone (Italy) 3rd with 24 points. England's best performer was Andrew Scott, who came 20th, Phil Dixon 31st, Simon Robinson 46th, Howard Croston 56th and Scott Nellins 92nd.

Paul Page

ATTEFF World Team Manager.

08/11/2018