



Trout and Salmon

Vol. 19 No 220

October 1973

THE COVER: A sea-trout angler on an attractive stretch of the River Lynher near Rilla Mill in Cornwall. Picture by E. T. Atkinson.

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Who's for England?

NOW THAT THE English International Fly Fishing Association has officially withdrawn from competition in the International Fly Fishing Association's twice-yearly international matches, the question is being asked: Who will represent England in future matches between the four home countries?

The English association did not send a team to fish either of this year's matches, held on the Lake of Menteith and Lough Corrib, and in their absence a President's team fished in competition with Scotland, Ireland and Wales. Now that the English association has intimated that it will not fish in future internationals, the International Fly Fishing Association is naturally anxious that England will not continue to be unrepresented in these attractive fixtures. As Alastair Nicoll, honorary secretary of the International Fly Fishing Association, asserts: "No match is complete without an English team."

There are now a vast number of fly-fishing clubs in England, and many of these are affiliated to area federations. Might we suggest these federations get together and take over the responsibility of raising a team representative of all English fly-fishing clubs. This could be either by the nomination of a member or members or by a system of fishing eliminating matches, as is done in Scotland. From the whole of England's fly-fishing clubs it would surely be no problem to select 12 team members, plus two reserves. The difficulty would come in knowing who to leave out!

Some responsible organisation, such as the Federation of Midland Fly Fishers, which represents many clubs, will have to take the lead if England is to fish in future international matches. One thing we can assure any such organisation that is prepared to get this thing off the ground, is the willing support and assistance of Alastair Nicoll. He can be reached at P.O. Box 84, 51 Meadows, Dundee, DD1 9PD (Tel: 0382 21081).

October 1973

With the withdrawal of the English Fly Fishing Association (EFFA) from the international matches run by the International Fly Fishing Association (IFFA), Trout & Salmon's editorial highlights the need to find a way of selecting a loch-style team "representative of all English fly fishing clubs".

As the IFFA Secretary puts it, "No match is complete without an English team".



Trout and Salmon

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THE COVER: With a brace of fish on the bank, a salmon angler on the Lleidf, in North Wales, tries for a third fly. Picture by Eric Allen, who writes on page 31.

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England will be fishing

THERE IS NOW every likelihood that England will have a fully representative team in the International Fly Fishing Association's two annual matches in 1975 and a part representative team in the two contests next year.

The Federation of Midlands Fly Fishers, which represents seven leading clubs in the Midlands, has, through its chairman, Mr. Donald E. Fulcher, taken the bait, hopefully presented in this column last month. We asked then that some such organisation should devise a system whereby England will continue to be represented in this home country international now that the English Fly Fishing Association has decided not to compete in future matches.

This, the perceptive Midlands Federation have agreed to do. England did not have a team in this year's two internationals and Mr. Fulcher feels it would be unfortunate for all concerned if England were not represented in next year's matches. Because of the time factor, he realises there is no possibility of selecting a fully representative England team before the 1975 international matches, and so envisages the setting up of a discussion group as soon as possible to consider the formation of a properly constituted body to select teams to represent England in future matches, starting with the 1975 season.

For next year's matches he is suggesting to officials of the International Fly Fishing Association that his own federation should select a team from member clubs to fish "as a team from England, accepting we are not the best." Mr. Fulcher says his federation fully recognises this would not be a properly constituted England team, but would serve to have the country represented in the internationals after a year's absence. "You will appreciate," he says, "that it is not possible between now and June 8, 1974, when the next match is due to be fished, to arrange proper selection, and while it is agreed that there may be better qualified fly anglers in other parts of England, the only possible way my federation can arrange for a representative team to be available by this time is to select one from its own members."

In the absence on holiday of Mr. Alastair Nicoll (international secretary), Mr. Fulcher has discussed his ideas with Mr. David Biggart, of Scotland, who captained this year's President's Select team in the absence of any England team, and his suggestions have received Mr. Biggart's support.

November 1973

Through the efforts of the Federation of Midlands Fly Fishers (FMFF), Trout & Salmon is able to announce that "There is now every likelihood that England will have a fully representative team in the International Fly Fishing Association's two annual matches in 1975 and a part representative team in the two contests next year".

As time constraints do not allow qualifiers to be run before the date of the 1974 Spring International, Donald Fulcher, of the FMFF, envisages "The setting up of a discussion group as soon as possible to consider the formation of a properly constituted body to select teams to represent England in future matches, starting with the 1975 season".

Subject to his federation agreeing at its next meeting to take on the responsibility, Mr. Fulcher hopes that a proper organisation may be constituted to select a full England team in time for the 1975 internationals.

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THE COVER: A winter grayling fisherman on Yorkshire's River Wharfe. Picture by Arthur Ogleby.

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December, 1973

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A chance to fish for England

ALL IS NOW SET FAIR for the formation of a democratically elected organisation with the special duty of selecting England's future fly-fishing teams to compete in the twice-yearly home countries' international trout-fishing matches.

The enthusiastic officials of the Federation of Midlands Fly Fishers have now received the blessing and encouragement of the International Fly Fishing Association in the plans they have made to bring this new organisation into being. At their November meeting they set up a working party with their chairman, Mr. Donald Fulcher, as convenor, and have arranged a meeting to take place in Leicester on February 23, from which it is expected the new organisation will evolve. Leicestershire Fly Fishing Association will act as hosts and an open invitation is extended to all England's fly-fishing associations and clubs and interested individual trout fly-fishers to be represented at this meeting.

A steering committee will have formulated a plan to put

Greetings

The Editor and staff of Trout and Salmon wish all their readers a happy Christmas and the best of sport in the New Year.

before the meeting for discussion. "We want all interested parties to come along and at the meeting to form a properly constituted body to select England's fly-fishing teams," says Mr. Fulcher. "The meeting will appoint its own officers and it will become their responsibility. We, as a federation, are only providing the vehicle to get it off the ground. All fly-fishing associations, clubs and individuals who have something to contribute are invited. We want the widest possible representation so that we have every point of view."

Those intending to be at this meeting — and it is essential that it shall be fully representative — are asked to get in touch with Mr. Clifford Thompson, the Midlands Federation Press Officer, at 83 Park Road, Peterborough, either by letter or telephone at Peterborough 62638 (between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday or Saturday). He will provide them with all details.

Continued overleaf

December 1973

As Trout & Salmon puts it, "All is now set fair for a democratically elected organisation with the special duty of selecting England's future fly-fishing teams to compete in the twice-yearly home countries' trout-fishing matches".

At their November meeting the Federation of Midlands Fly Fishers (FMFF) set up a working party to arrange a meeting on the 23rd February 1974 to which representatives from "all England's fly-fishing associations and clubs and interested individual trout fly-fishers" are invited to attend.

Continued from previous page

At their last meeting the Midlands Federation had before them a letter from Mr. Alastair Nicoll, honorary secretary and treasurer of the International Fly Fishing Association, in which he told them that the national fly-fishing organisations in Scotland, Wales and Ireland "are prepared to back you in your endeavours to create a viable organisation and wish you all success in this very worthwhile project."

After full consultation within his association as a result of the approach made by the Midlands Federation, Mr. Nicoll reported that the following decisions had been reached:

That an 'International President's Select' team will compete at the Lake of Menteth on June 8, 1974, and that the President will invite four representatives from the new organisation to compete in this match.

That subject to a satisfactory agreement being reached at the Leicester meeting next February, the new organisation will be invited to field an 'English Select' team to fish the match at Trawsfynydd Lake in Wales on September 14, 1974.

And that it is suggested that the new organisation, in due course, should apply (a) for recognition as the representative body in England and (b) for membership of the International Fly Fishing Association, such applications to be submitted, if possible, in time for consideration at the association's meeting in Wales on September 13, 1974.

Mr. Nicoll added: "Your Leicester meeting will be the key to your plan. We hope this will produce a measure of unity among trout fly-fishers in England resulting in a basis being established for the formation of a national organisation which, among its purposes, would have power to select an English representative team." He added that his association wanted to ensure that the new English organisation was representative of fly-fishers throughout England and that the average English angler was seen to have the opportunity to qualify for the team.

We endorse these sentiments. The way to see them realised is for all those of England's trout fly-fishermen, interested in making sure their country has a properly constituted team in these international matches from 1975, is to be present or represented at the vital Leicester meeting.

The Secretary of the International Fly Fishing Association (IFFA) had written to the FMFF, informing them that the national fly-fishing organisations in Scotland, Wales and Ireland are "prepared to back you in your endeavours to create a viable organisation and wish you all success in this very worthwhile project".

It had been decided that an 'International President's Select' team would compete at the Spring International at the Lake of Menteth on the 8th June 1974, with an 'English Select' team to fish in the Autumn International at Trawsfynydd Lake on the 14th September 1974, subject to a satisfactory agreement being reached by the new organisation in February.

Minutes of Meeting called to inaugurate an English International Fly Fishers Selection Procedure

The meeting was held at the New Soar Valley School, Gleneagles Ave., Leicester, on February 23rd, 1974.

The proceedings opened at 11.00a.m. with a welcome by John Canning, Head of Community Education at Soar Valley and Secretary of Leicester Fly Fishers. Don Fulcher, Chairman of the Federation of East Midlands Fly Fishers, outlined the history of his Federation and explained how they came to convene this meeting.

Allistair Nicholl, Secretary of the International Assoc. gave the history of the international mentioning the resignation of the England Assoc. and the need for a fully representative body to fill the vacuum.

A proposal that "This meeting forms a body to represent England in international fly fishing competitions" was put by C. Lloyd (East Midlands Fly Fishing Assoc.) and seconded by T. Broughton (Mid Northants Assoc.).

D. Gifford (Bristol Reservoir Fly Fishers) wanted to know the current status of the previous English Assoc. Mr. Nicholl replied that as they had resigned from the International Assoc. a new organisation was needed to replace them.

Bruce Jones (English Assoc.) gave the reasons for their resignation. These were differences with the International Assoc. about the latter body's constitution. Mr. Fulcher replied that if reform was needed then it must come from within so we had to join the International Assoc. first.

Mr. W. Radley Searle asked for the constitution of the International Assoc. to be read to the meeting. This was done and Mr. Jones was asked to specify his objections to it. Mr. Jones listed them as:- 1) the holding of two international matches a year instead of one 2) prize money won in qualifying matches not affecting amateur status of competitors. 3) the rules of the National Assoc. having to conform with those of the international body. Messrs. W. Milne and L. Wilson also spoke on these grievances with the International Assoc.

Peter Tomblason (Sec. of N.A.C.) pointed out that any body formed as a result of this meeting must be fully representative of all English Fly Fishers, and that although the rules of the International Assoc. were not in accordance with Olympic rules in the area of amateur status, the Olympic rules were being revised.

Mr. Fulcher on the position of amateur status observed that no one wanted fly fishing to get involved in big money match fishing. Mr. Nicholl replied that money prizes were offered for qualifying matches held in Scotland, but this money was won by the club and not the individual and was often used by the clubs to finance charitable works.

Colin Haras (Damerham Trout Lakes) suggested that in the past, selection procedures had not been ideal and that this meeting should get on with the job of organising a selection procedure on a regional basis. Mr. Broughton supported Mr. Haras' ideas.

At this point Mr. Jones proposed that the original proposition be amended to read that "this meeting forms a steering committee to decide upon the best method of choosing a representative team to fish for England, and to negotiate with the International Assoc.". The original proposition was withdrawn and its proposer seconded the amendment. This was put to the vote and carried by a large majority.

The meeting then adjourned for lunch.

Mr. Fulcher re-opened the proceedings after lunch and listed the problems facing the meeting as:- 1) communications 2) selection 3) finance.

Mr. Broughton suggested all of these problems could be overcome if each region set up a Federation of Fly Fishers and the federations formed themselves into a Con-Federation and put forward the proposal that: "This meeting accepts a resolution to form a Con-Federation of fly fishing clubs to nominate a steering committee to select an English Fly Fishing team".

This was seconded by D. Fribble (East Midlands F.F.). There was some discussion about the use of the word clubs in the motion. Mr. Gifford expressed the opinion that an individual should be a member of a club if he wished to be nominated for the team, and thought that it would be possible to form a Federation in the South West.

Mr. Tomblason suggested that a title for the steering committee be agreed upon, and when the committee had been set up, they could decide on the procedures for selection to the team. At this point, Mac Morgan the Welsh team manager outlined the selection procedure followed in Wales.

It was then proposed by Mr. Haras and seconded by Mr. Lloyd that the proposition be amended by the addition of "and that three members from each region be elected to form the committee". The amendment was carried.

J. Leach (Kettering and Dist. F.F.A.) proposed that the committee be called The Con-Federation of English Fly Fishers. This was seconded by Mr. R. Belcher and was put to the vote and carried.

Mr. Lloyd then proposed that Mr. Fulcher be elected Chairman of the Con-Federation and this was carried unanimously.

There then followed some discussion on the number of regions into which the country should be divided and it was agreed that four regions would be appropriate for a start to be made, but it was also recognised that as the regional organisation improved, some of the regions may feel the need for further sub-division. The regions agreed upon were the North, Midlands, South and South West.

The Chairman then asked for representatives from these areas who were present at the meeting to identify themselves, and the following delegates were asked to initiate the necessary organisation in their respective areas.

Mr. Derek Gifford, 239 Radminton Rd., Downend, Bristol BS16 6NR
Tel: Bristol 562974 (South West)

Mr. Roy Buckland, Boldenbrook, Jordans Lane, Sway, Hants.
Tel: Sway 2651

together with Mr. Dave Dickenson and Mr. Colin Haras (South)

Mr. Alan Mathews, 16 Manorfield Close, Capenhurst, Nr. Chester
Tel: 051 339 4181

together with Messrs. A. T. Sandiford and B. Stapleton (North)

It was then proposed by Mr. Searle and seconded by Mr. Allard that the Chairman be an ex-officio member of the committee. This was carried.

Mr. Fulcher then said that although selection and finance would be a matter for the committee to decide upon, it would be useful if the meeting discussed the alternatives which might be available. Various selection methods were discussed and the meeting then moved on to consider the matter of finance. The meeting was given some idea of the costs involved by the representatives from Scotland and Wales and by Mr. Jones for the English Assoc.

Mr. Tomblason pointed out that grants for such activities were available from the Sports Council. Mr. Leach suggested that the Angling Foundation might also look favourably upon a request for money with which to get the organisation off the ground. It was left to the committee to explore all avenues of finance.

Mr. Fulcher then thanked everyone for their attendance and proposed a vote of thanks to John Canning and the Leicester Fly Fishers for being hosts to the meeting.

Mr. Thorndyke proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Fulcher for setting up the meeting.

The meeting closed at 3.45p.m. after a brief address by Col. Inglis on behalf of the Salmon and Trout Assoc.

February 1974

The Inaugural Meeting was held in Leicester on the 23rd February 1974, attended by representatives of the regional fly fishing associations, the International Fly Fishing Association (IFFA), and the National Anglers Council (NAC).

It was agreed to form a Confederation of English Fly Fishers, initially to be operated through delegates from four regional federations, from the South West, South, Midlands and North West.

A draft constitution (see below left) was presented, which was approved at a following meeting in early September.

PREAMBLE

The Confederation of English Fly Fishers was formed by resolution at a public meeting held at the New Soar Valley school, Leicester on Saturday, February 23rd, 1974.

DRAFT CONSTITUTION

- The organisation shall be called the Confederation of English Fly Fishers and shall consist of regional Federations. There shall be at least 3 Federations and as many more as from time to time shall be deemed necessary for the proper representation of trout fishers in England.
- The objects of the Confederation shall be:-
 - To promote and preserve trout fishing and to take any steps necessary for the betterment of angling.
 - To select teams to represent England in the International Fly Fishing Association's competitions and for any other competition as may be deemed proper.
 - To promote friendship and understanding between anglers.
- The affairs of the Confederation shall be managed by a committee which shall consist of three delegates elected annually from each member federation or such other number of delegates as may be deemed necessary from time to time.
- At least one delegate from each federation will be re-elected each year to ensure continuity.
- A quorum shall consist of seven delegates who shall be from not less than three Federations.
- The committee shall elect a chairman who shall be a delegate. The chairman shall have a casting vote when necessary.
- The committee shall appoint a secretary and a treasurer who need not be delegates and a deputy chairman who shall be a delegate. These officials shall hold office for one year.
- The first meeting in each year shall be the A.G.M. which shall take place not earlier than the 1st of November and not later than the 31st December in each year.
- Member federations shall normally be given six weeks notice of a meeting.
- The constitution of this Confederation can only be amended at an A.G.M. and by a two-thirds majority of the delegates present.
- A simple majority of delegates shall be sufficient for all ordinary business of the Confederation and shall be binding on all member federations.
- All competitions fished under the auspices of the International Fly Fishing Association shall be fished strictly within any rules as shall be from time to time laid down by that body. Competitions fished under any other rules shall be fished to the rules in force for the particular competition.

- The rules governing selection and eligibility are laid down in appendix one to the Constitution and shall be binding on all members.
- The Confederation shall seek affiliation to and membership of any other bodies as shall be deemed necessary by the committee.
- The headquarters of the Confederation shall be the private address of the secretary until such time as a permanent headquarters is found.

APPENDIX ONE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CONFEDERATION OF ENGLISH FLY FISHERS.

- An English team shall consist of twelve members and two reserves, or such other number as may be required.
- The Committee shall appoint an English team Captain for each year who may or may not be a delegate or officer of the Confederation.
- The English team captain and either the chairman or secretary shall automatically have a place in the reserves unless they have properly qualified for the team.
- Each individual wishing to seek selection shall notify his own federation before the commencement of the selection process and shall pay a fee of £2 to the Confederation before being considered.
- It shall be the responsibility of federation treasurers to collect these dues.
- No person shall be eligible for selection to any team if that person is not an amateur. Amateur status shall be defined as in the Olympic Rules in force at the time. Any dispute shall be decided by the Committee.
- The number of team places allowed to each federation in the first year shall be directly proportional to the number of individuals seeking selection from that federation in relation to the number of individuals seeking selection countrywide. Thereafter a national championship shall be held and team places competed for.
- The Committee's decision in all matters regarding selection shall be final.
- Each federation shall carry out its own selection process in accordance with the rules in being for the competition for which the selection is being made.
- The Confederation will raise funds both by the fee as defined in 4 above and by any other legitimate means possible, and will defray the expenses of England team members and Confederation members as far as is possible.
- The four England team members having the best baskets in any competition (including the reserves) shall automatically qualify for the corresponding competition in the ensuing year.
- Any team member behaving in any manner deemed detrimental to the good-standing of the team shall be suspended from that team at the absolute discretion of the team captain.
- NO individual shall seek selection in any one year through more than one federation.

Minutes of a Meeting called "To Inaugurate an English International Fly Fishers Selection Procedure", together with a Draft Constitution. "The Confederation of English Fly Fishers was formed by resolution at a public meeting held at the New Soar Valley school, Leicester, on Saturday February 23rd, 1974."

England will fish next year

AFTER AN ABSENCE of two seasons, England is likely to have a representative team in the twice-yearly international trout-fly-fishing competition between the home countries when they are fished in 1975.

At a meeting in Leicester on February 23, attended by fly-fishermen from many parts of England, the Confederation of English Fly Fishers was formed, and such was the enthusiasm at the meeting that it is expected this new organisation will be in a position to select the two teams of 12 to fish for England next year.

The confederation will begin to operate with delegates from four regions of England, the south, the south-west, the Midlands, and the north-west, who, at the outset, will also represent the north-east, but it is expected that the number of regions will be enlarged to embrace areas not already covered.

Some of the delegates from the four regions were elected at the meeting and they have undertaken to organise area committees to nominate further delegates and, in due course, candidates from their regions for the English team. They were given two months to get their area organisations working, and they will then report back to the confederation.

Mr. Donald Fulcher, chairman of the Federation of Midland Fly Fishers, who were the convenors, ably chaired the meeting, and was later unanimously elected chairman of the new confederation. He said that as a result of the meeting "we have now got the framework of an organisation able to select an England team".

At his side he had this year's president and the honorary secretary and treasurer of the International Fly Fishing Association, Mr. William Lamb and Mr. Alastair Nicoll,

both of whom had travelled from Scotland to attend the meeting. They were both able to advise on the constitution of the international body and answer questions on match procedure. Mr. Lamb complimented the Midlands federation for arranging the meeting and Mr. Fulcher for his efforts to get the new body "off the ground".

After Mr. Nicoll had explained the Scottish methods of team selection, Mr. Emyr Lewis, secretary of the Welsh Fly Fishing Association, and Mr. Moc Morgan (Welsh team manager) explained how their association operated, and both answered questions.

Once the new English confederation is properly constituted, it will have to apply for membership of the International Fly Fishing Association. Its acceptance will mean that England will once again be fishing these attractive twice-yearly contests, which are fished on big stillwaters in rotation in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales.

The English International Fly Fishing Association which up to 1972 had selected from its membership the team to represent England, resigned from the international association last year, and as a result England did not have a team in the 1973 matches.

As in 1973 the President's select team will fish in place of England this year, but Mr. Lamb told the meeting that he expected four English anglers to be in his team. He said he had already invited Mr. Fulcher to be one of them.

Any fly-fishing clubs or individuals who were unable to get to the meeting but are interested in contacting the new regional bodies can do so through Mr. Donald Fulcher at Barclays Bank Chambers, College Street, Rushden, Northamptonshire.

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Trout and Salmon

April 1974

Trout & Salmon reports on the Inaugural Meeting on the 23rd February 1974 (see Minutes above). The mood is positive, "After an absence of two seasons, England is likely to have a representative team in the twice-yearly international trout-fly-fishing competition between the home-countries when they are fished in 1975".

"At a meeting in Leicester on February 23, attended by fly-fishermen from many parts of England, the Confederation of English Fly Fishers was formed, and such was the enthusiasm at the meeting that it is expected this new organisation will be in a position to select the two teams of 12 to fish for England next year."

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"As in 1973 the President's select team will fish in place of England this year, but Mr Lamb [Secretary of the International Fly Fishing Association] told the meeting that he expected four English anglers to be in his team."

NATIONAL ANGLERS' COUNCIL

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9th September, 1974.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO
THE SECRETARY

PH/DT/E.C.

A.S. Nicoll, Esq.,
Hon. Secretary,
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P.O. Box 84,
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Dundee,
DD1 9PQ

Dear Mr. Nicoll,

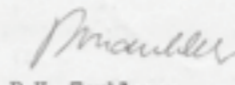
In reply to your letter dated 27th August referring to the application for affiliation by the Confederation of English Fly Fishers, I have communicated with the Salmon and Trout Association which is the national body representing game fishing on the National Anglers' Council.

As the Executive Committee of the Council does not meet until 25th September I have been unable to place your letter before them prior to your meeting.

We are advised by the Association that they have no objections to the Confederation as the appropriate representative Association for the selection of the English team.

I hope this information is helpful to you in your deliberations.

Yours sincerely,

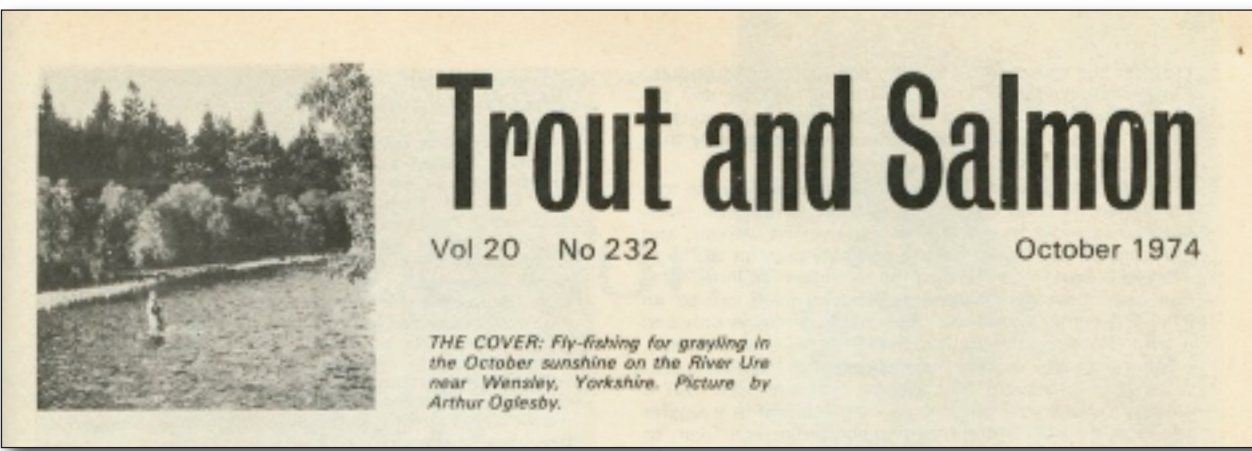

P.H. Tombleson,
Secretary.

"2.79 million people 12 years old and older in England and Wales are anglers" — National Angling Survey, 1971

September 1974

Following communication with the Salmon and Trout Association (SATA), the national body representing game fishing on the National Anglers' Council (NAC), the Secretary is able to confirm that the SATA has no objection to the Confederation of English Fly Fishers (CEFF) being the "appropriate representative Association for the selection of the English team".

A letter from Peter Tombleson,
Secretary of the National Anglers' Council (NAC),
regarding affiliation by the
Confederation of English Fly Fishers (CEFF).

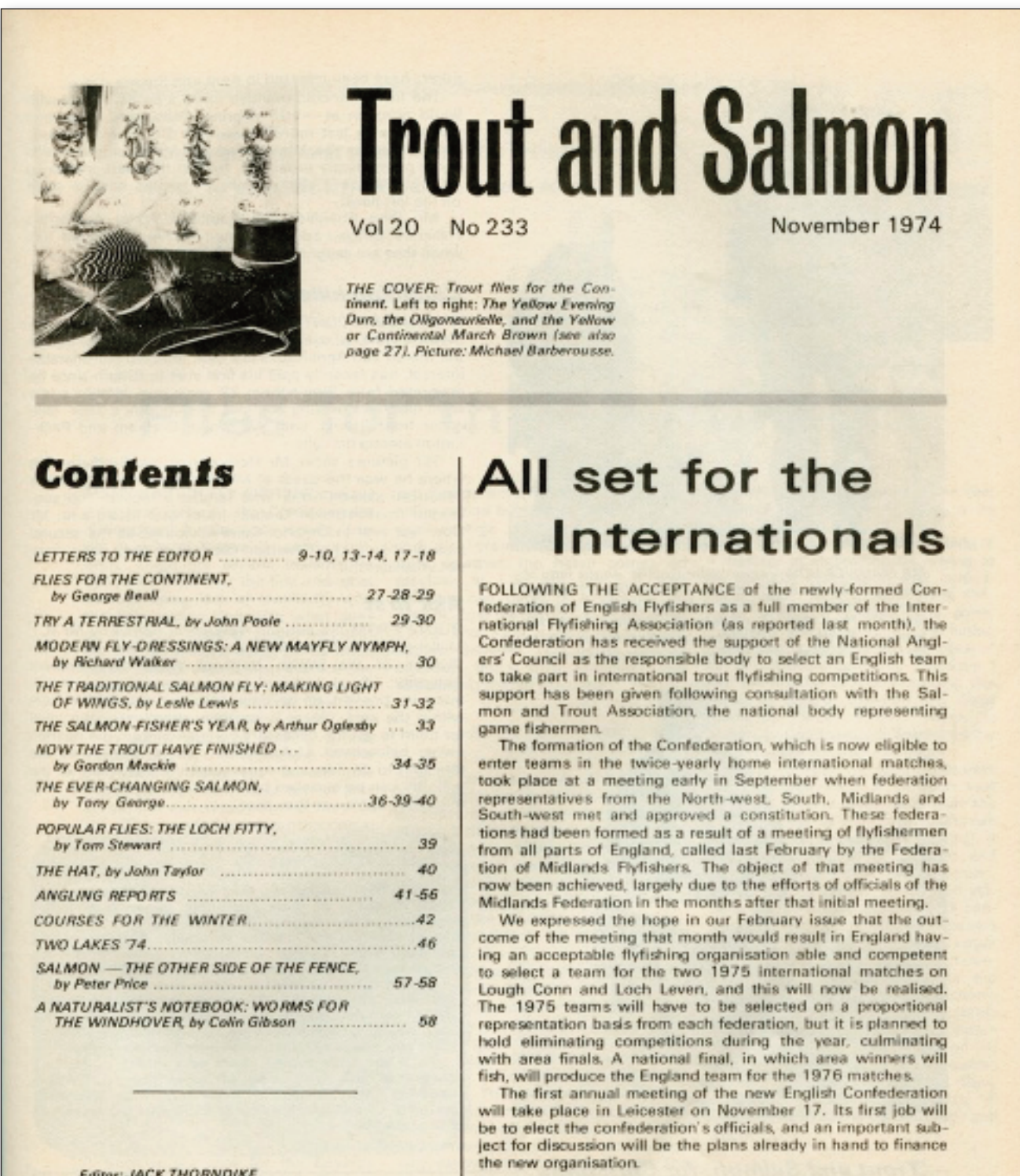


'International' status for Federation

At the annual meeting of the International Flyfishing Association early in September, the recently-formed Federation of English Flyfishers was accepted as a full member. It is hoped that an English team will fish in the international match on Lough Conn next spring.

October 1974

Trout & Salmon reports on the September meeting of the International Fly Fishing Association (IFFA). As it says, "The recently-formed Federation of English Flyfishers was accepted as a full member. It is hoped that an English team will fish in the International match on Lough Conn next spring".



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All set for the Internationals

FOLLOWING THE ACCEPTANCE of the newly-formed Confederation of English Flyfishers as a full member of the International Flyfishing Association (as reported last month), the Confederation has received the support of the National Anglers' Council as the responsible body to select an English team to take part in international trout flyfishing competitions. This support has been given following consultation with the Salmon and Trout Association, the national body representing game fishermen.

The formation of the Confederation, which is now eligible to enter teams in the twice-yearly home international matches, took place at a meeting early in September when federation representatives from the North-west, South, Midlands and South-west met and approved a constitution. These federations had been formed as a result of a meeting of flyfishermen from all parts of England, called last February by the Federation of Midlands Flyfishers. The object of that meeting has now been achieved, largely due to the efforts of officials of the Midlands Federation in the months after that initial meeting.

We expressed the hope in our February issue that the outcome of the meeting that month would result in England having an acceptable flyfishing organisation able and competent to select a team for the two 1975 international matches on Lough Conn and Loch Leven, and this will now be realised. The 1975 teams will have to be selected on a proportional representation basis from each federation, but it is planned to hold eliminating competitions during the year, culminating with area finals. A national final, in which area winners will fish, will produce the England team for the 1976 matches.

The first annual meeting of the new English Confederation will take place in Leicester on November 17. Its first job will be to elect the confederation's officials, and an important subject for discussion will be the plans already in hand to finance the new organisation.

November 1974

Trout & Salmon reports that, as the letter from Secretary Peter Tombleson above confirmed, "The newly-formed Confederation of English Flyfishers... ..has received the support of the National Angling Council as the responsible body to select an English team to take part in international trout flyfishing competitions. This support has been given following consultation with the Salmon and Trout Association, the national body representing game fishermen".

It continues, "The formation of the Confederation, which is now eligible to enter teams in the twice-yearly home international matches, took place at a meeting early in September when federation representatives from the North-west, South, Midlands and South-west met and approved a constitution. These federations had been formed as a result of a meeting of flyfishermen from all parts of England, called last February by the Federation of Midlands Flyfishers. The object of that meeting has now been achieved, largely due to the efforts of officials of the Midlands Federation in the months after that initial meeting".

They note, "The 1975 teams will have to be selected on a proportional representative basis from each federation, but it is planned to hold eliminating competitions during the year, culminating with area finals. A national final, in which area winners will fish, will produce the England team for the 1976 matches".

"The first annual meeting of the new English Confederation will take place in Leicester on November 17. Its first job will be to elect the confederation's officials, and an important subject for discussion will be the plans already in hand to finance the new organisation."

No 242/AUGUST 1975

TROUT
AND
SALMON

August 1975

As Trout & Salmon reports, National Eliminators are held for first time in 1975, with the top 15 anglers from four regions going through to a National Final with a field of 60. Out of this, the top 16 would form the teams for the Spring and Autumn Home Internationals in 1976.

The first 8 would form the team for the 1976 Spring International, together with the top 4 from the previous 1975 Autumn International who would 'roll over'. The second 8 would form the team for the 1976 Autumn International, plus the top 4 from the 1976 Spring International.

Trophy for the winner

IT HAS BEEN announced that the John Player tobacco company will support the first national championship of the Confederation of English Fly Fishers, to be fished at Grafham Water on September 13. They have agreed to present to the winner an Imperial Panatella trophy in the form of a Zaglo glass decanter engraved with a fishing scene. They will also underwrite the cost of certificates and give a reception for competitors and officials. Mr Trevor King, John Player's cigar marketing manager and a keen fly-fisherman himself, says he believes that the formation of the confederation in 1974 was beneficial to fly-fishing interests in Britain.

It is expected that 60 competitors will take part in the

national championship, made up of the top 15 anglers from each of England's four areas. The top 16 in the championship will be invited to fish for England in the two international matches in 1976, the first four in the first match also fishing in the team in the second match.