

## Annual General Meeting 30<sup>th</sup> November 2008 Eggleton Bird Centre Rutland Water

### Present

Baz Reece	Chairman	Denis Symonds	Peninsula & Minutes
John Ball	Treasurer	Brian Beeney	SEFF
Peter Kempton	Peninsula	Jeremy Lucas	NW
Alan Jenkins	Tyne and Wear	Alan Tonge	Southern
Craig Barr	Anglia & Loch Style manager	Stuart Wardle	Rivers Manger
John Mees	Anglia & Loch Style Sec:		
Peter Hartley	Anglian		
Chris Bobby	FMFF (A)		
Mel Parrott	FMFF (A)		
Kevin Wood	Army		
Jim Watts	EDFF		
Danny Peet	EDFF		
Wendy Patchett	ELFA		
Paul Page	Yorkshire/Tyne & Wear		

### Apologies

Richard Wood	John Horsey	Peter Godfrey	Vince Howley
Dave Newing	Len Childs		

### Chairman's Address

The chairman welcomed all of the delegates and thanked them for their attendance. He then went on to thank several individuals and sponsors for their unstinting support.

- John Ball for the time and effort he puts in raising funds for the CEFF
- Team Managers; Ian Greenwood, Paul Page, Graham Watson and Stuart Wardle
- Loch Style organiser David Morris who along with Graham Watson has stepped down this year
- Sponsors; Snowbee UK Ltd, Hardy Greys, Guide and Fulling Mill
- Peter Godfrey who organised this years Rivers final, which as a competitor the chairman felt was a great success
- Alan Tonge and Richard Wood who have expanded the popularity of the bank competition
- Sean Cutting for his development of the web site, Sean's contract has now finished and the web site will now be maintained by Lindsay Simpson

Due to unforeseen circumstances the actual minutes from the 2007 AGM were not available, but thanks to notes made by Stuart Wardle, John Ball and Paul Page we have been able to re-create the salient points of the meeting.

One of the most important issues facing the CEFF is the creation of the new body initially called **Unity** and now been renamed **The Angling Trust**, as discussed at the September EGM we are going to be invited to join after the January launch of **The Angling Trust, (AT)**. The **AT** is going to combine all of the angling disciplines under one banner and therefore able to speak on their behalf and to receive funding from government for the sport.

Fly fishing looks to have a bright future but is the responsibility of us all to become actively involved to promote the CEFF; we cannot sit back and allow a few to do all of the work.

## Minutes of the 2007 AGM and September 2008 EGM

The minutes from these were circulated to all delegates.  
These minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of both meetings and passed as such

### Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from these minutes

### CEFF Action Plan

Stuart Wardle has kindly updated the action plan, there is one error however, on page 7 under the title 'Constitutional Matters' the plan states that the 'Academy option requires major input although discussions have commenced' is shown as **still outstanding**, this item has been action.  
All other relevant points from the plan will be covered in this AGM.

### Financial Matters

The balance sheet shows an increase of £4739 for the year but this has only been made possible by the payment of our 2007 grant from Sport England.

Additional expense was incurred due to the Spring International being held in Ireland.

The Sport England grant has now ceased, but we are still owed £3375 from Sport England for 2008.

#### Achievements for 2008

- Fund raising increased
- New tackle sponsorship deal with Cortland Masterline

#### Intentions for 2009

- To continue seeking cash sponsorship
- To attend more Game Fairs & Shows

The main points from the balance sheet are as follows;

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Receipts	£99808	£80095
Payments	95069	84526
Net Surplus/deficit	4739	<b>4431</b>

#### Balance sheet as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008

##### Assets

Cash at Bank	10402	5983
Represented by:		
Fund brought forward	5983	10094
Un-presented cheques	<b>320</b>	320
Net receipts/payments for current year	4739	<b>4431</b>
<b>Fund carried Forward</b>	<b>10402</b>	<b>5983</b>

A more detailed breakdown of the accounts was circulated to delegates. Several questions were asked, particularly with reference to the costs incurred in the Spring International in Ireland. Paul Page explained that the high costs were due to the ferry fares and the Fips Mouche fees for each angler, around 1200 Euros per angler.

Continued;

Mel Parrot asked what the CEFF insurance covered, it was stated that the insurance covered competition organisers from being sued personally, also it gave public liability insurance for anglers competing in those events.

John pointed out that the CEFF insurance was due on the 1<sup>st</sup> December and the federations need to let him know of any changes to their structure, Yorkshire/Tyne & Wear, to enable him to get an accurate quote from the insurers.

The treasurer felt that the finances were such that we needed to increase the entry fee for the Loch Style and Rivers qualifiers, he proposed that it should be raised to £20 per entry.

Proposed John Ball

Seconded Paul Page

**This proposal was carried unanimously**

Jeremy Lucas asked 'if the CEFF membership fee to The Angling Trust would cover the Ladies, Youth and Disabled sections'?

The answer was yes, that the CEFF fee would cover all of these sections.

John Ball presented his expectations for income and expenditure for 2009 to the meeting, he felt that although difficult the 2009 season looked promising and with a following wind we would again be in profit.

It was proposed that the accounts presented to meeting be accepted.

Proposed Peter Kempton

Seconded Jeremy Lucas

**This proposal was carried unanimously**

## **Election of Officers**

The positions of Secretary and Public relations officer were vacant and no nominations were put forward. The chairman urged all to try and find a person willing to take on the vital roll of secretary, as the vacancy created a further burden on the other officers.

The following positions were filled;

- Web site, Lindsay Simpson
- Loch Style Organiser, John Mees
- Loch Style manager, Craig Barr
- Bank secretary, Ed Foster, plus 1 other

## **IFFA Matters**

It was reported that there were no IFFA rule changes this year.

However there may be some discussion over an incident at the Autumn International where a Welsh competitor had his fish disallowed because the paperwork had not been completed correctly.

It was also brought up that there was behaviour during that competition that was considered unsporting, namely 'taking anglers off of the fish'. It was felt that this was an unwelcome tactic but it was almost impossible to control.

The prospect of holding a Bank International had not made any progress due to the reluctance of some of the other National participants.

Jeremy Lucas felt that even if one nation was not willing to participate we should push this event forward with the support of the remaining nations and hopefully encourage the participation of all 4 countries as a result.

The position of IFFA President is due to be filled by England this year, and it was proposed that John Ball be nominated for the position.

Proposed Stuart Wardle

Seconded Denis Symonds

**This proposal was carried unanimously.**

## Summary of 2008 Events

The following reports are available on the web site:

- World Championships (New Zealand) – Ian Greenwood – World Team Manager;
- European Championships (Spain) – Paul Page – European Team Manager;
- Spring and Autumn Internationals - Graham Watson – Loch Style Boat Manager;
- River International – Stuart Wardle – Rivers Manager;
- Ladies Internationals – Sue Hunter;
- Disabled International – Danny Peet;
- Youth Internationals – Mike Childs;
- FIPS/CIPS Mouche – Ian Greenwood;
- National Finals:
  - Loch Style – Dave Morris – Loch Style Competition Secretary;
  - Rivers – Peter Godfrey – National Rivers Organiser 2008;
  - Airflo Classic/CEFF Bank Open – Richard Wood & Alan Tongue – Airflo Classic/CEFF Bank Open Organisers;
  - Friendly Competitions

Summaries from the Ladies Home International and the European Championships were circulated to members.

Both teams had mixed fortunes, the Ladies team coming 2<sup>nd</sup> to Scotland but with 2 English Ladies filling the top 2 individual positions, Wendy Patchett becoming International champion and Hilary Tomlinson taking the second position, many congratulations to both Ladies.

The European team were hampered by the late announcement of the venues for the competition, making practice difficult; this was hampered further by the extremely wet conditions causing the rivers and lake to rise significantly.

The collapse of Jeremy Lucas on the first day caused the rapid rearrangement of the team, thankfully although not fully recovered, Jeremy was able to fish the third day to help England climb up to 7<sup>th</sup>, Iain Barr was top England individual rod in 9<sup>th</sup>.

The incident with Jeremy has caused Paul Page to review team selection strategy; he will take this into account when selecting his next team. Paul also stressed the need for personal travel insurance.

Paul also reported that Fips Mouche had agreed that only one team per nation would be allowed to enter the European Championships, the only exception to this rule would be the separate entry of a Ladies team from a nation.

Stuart Wardle gave a verbal report on the Rivers International held in Scotland, he also reported on the preparations to this event and concluded that the policy of inviting up and coming anglers to join the team for practices had paid dividends, not only had it benefited the team but Scot Nellins, who had shadowed the team, had finished in reserve place in the Rivers National Final.

## Programme for 2009.

An outline programme of events for 2009 will be produced and published on the CEFF website, [www.ceff.org.uk](http://www.ceff.org.uk), however some dates and venues are still to be finalised.

**PLEASE NOTE: Dates for Federation Qualifiers and Events are required as soon as possible for inclusion on the website and promotional purposes.**

The teams for the 2009 season are as follows:

<b>World Team</b>	<b>European Team</b>	<b>Ladies European</b>	<b>Rivers Team</b>
Simon Robinson	Simon Robison	Susan Sissons	John Tyzack
John Horsey	John Horsey	Kate Royce	Simon Robinson
Howard Crostan	Mike Tinnion	Eileen Chatwin	Richard Cobbledick
Davey Parker	John Tyzack	Beth Louise	Alex Bobba
Iain Barr	Phil Dixon	Sheena Good	Robert Brown
Baz Reece (Reserve)	Andrew Gooding (Reserve)	Hilary Tomlinson	Scott Nellins (Reserve)
		Jayne Alecock	

### **Spring International**

Simon Gurney  
Martin Webster  
Mark Haycock  
Andrew Green  
Jeremy Lucas  
Mike Dixon  
Simon Newman  
John Horsey  
Trevor Colclough  
Phil Dixon  
Vince Brooks  
Andrew Haskins  
Gareth Headland  
Peter Appleby  
Joel Beeney (Reserve)

### **Autumn International**

Clive Collier  
Dave Hodgson  
Paul Davison  
Hugh Frew  
Clive Perkins  
Steve Collins  
Richard Slater  
Scott Nellins  
Mike Barratt  
Andy G Taylor  
*Spring Carry Over*  
*Spring Carry Over*  
*Spring Carry Over*  
*Spring Carry Over*  
Rob Honour (Reserve)

Paul Page reported that due to 'wording anomalies' in the selection criteria it was necessary to amend the criteria to read as follows;

1. *Have achieved a 15<sup>th</sup> or better place in at least 1 World or European Championship of which 1 must be in either the current or previous 4 years*
2. *Represent England in at least 2 Boat International, of which 1 must be in either the current o previous 4 years*
3. *Represent England in 1 Boat plus 1 River International, of which 1 must be in either the current o previous 4 years*
4. *Represent England in **(ADD... '2 River Internationals, of which 1 must be in either the current o previous 4 years')** or 1 River International plus 1 none related 15<sup>th</sup> or better place in National River final in either the current or previous 4 years*
5. *Have achieved a 5<sup>th</sup> or better place, twice in either the Individual Bank Open Championship or as an individual position Team Bank Open Championship of which 1 must be in either the current o previous 4 years. **(Delete... 'the qualification has to be in different years')** (note 10<sup>th</sup> or better place applies in the Bank Open Championship prior to 2000*

**These amendments were accepted.**

## **Airflo Bank Open Championship**

Discussion took place to identify ways of recognising the achievements of anglers who distinguish themselves in this competition.

It was suggested that if anglers were considered as 'Individuals' in this event the top 3 anglers who were eligible to represent England could be selected to form a team to fish the European Open.

This suggestion was accepted in principle.

Paul page is going to run a Fips Mouche competition with a format of reservoir boat, reservoir bank and river elements. The intention would be to invite 36 anglers who satisfy the eligibility criteria to enable them to gain experience at the top level. The profits from this competition would go to CEFF funds. It was agreed that this is a good idea and it would be followed with great interest.

## **Training and Development**

The full report from Jeremy was circulated to all delegates, the main points were;

Jeremy Lucas stated that there were 3 important requirements at this time;

1. An action plan for Coaching and Development, the primary aim in the first instance being that it must be 'entirely inclusive' and encourage wider participation at all levels in (competitive) fly fishing. Achievement of the Clubmark standard is seen as instrumental in achieving this goal
2. Formation of a national school or academy in competitive fly fishing.
3. The Plan for 2009, Consolidating efforts of all Federations as well as ELFA, EYFA, EDFA

Peter Godfrey stated that he believed the cost of fly fishing was a problem for young people taking up the sport, also he felt that the paperwork in achieving the Clubmark qualification was quite onerous.

Jeremy thought that the Clubmark qualification would be hard to achieve but it was both possible and desirable.

## **Lunch Break 12:40 to 13:30**

## **Unity – Anglers Trust Update**

The Angling Trust Ltd. will, subject to anticipated agreement with Sport England, be the governing body for coarse, game and sea fishing in England. This will involve running, and funding, all the national and international competitions and investing in angling development and education programmes for all disciplines. The Angling Trust will also campaign and lobby government on all issues affecting anglers in freshwater and marine environments: pollution, abstraction, commercial over fishing, aggregate extraction, predator control, access by canoes to rivers, fish theft, poaching and illegal fish movements to name just a few.

## **What does this mean for CEFF?**

CEFF will be invited to become a part of the Angling Trust when it has secured governing body status from Sport England. This will mean that there will be professional, full time staff who will be able to help raise funds, organise meetings, distribute papers and generally support the many volunteers involved in fly fishing competitions.

The Federations can continue as they do now, but when they meet up to discuss national issues, as they do at present under the banner of CEFF, it will instead be as a Game Fishing Competitions Committee of the Angling Trust.

## Membership of the Angling Trust

Anyone wanting to fish in competitions will have to be a member of the Angling Trust in addition to paying a fee to fish in the competitions. Competition fees will if possible be reduced as sponsorship is secured.

As well as supporting the work of the organisation increasing participation, lobbying for better legislation and fighting pollution, members will be automatically enrolled in the Fish for Free cardless loyalty programme which will enable members to earn loyalty points at the rate of about 3p in every £1 spent, which can be converted into cashback to pay for their annual EA rod licence, fishing permits or tackle.

Collecting Fish 4 Free points couldn't be easier...

1. Sign up to the Angling Trust
2. Activate your Fish 4 Free account
3. Collect Fish 4 Free points automatically from online retailers (Amazon, Lastminute.com, Trainline etc. etc. and in-store at top high street brands e.g. Debenhams, JJB Sports, Little Chef, Halfords)
4. Claim cashback on angling purchases including the rod licence.

In addition, discounts will be available on fishing and tackle – for example Thames Water look set to offer a 10% discount on day tickets and 5% on season tickets to Angling Trust members. We expect other water companies to follow suit.

## The proposed way forward

The CEFF will continue to exist until Sport England grants governing body status. At that time, the organisation would cease to exist as a separate body, but the Federations would be represented instead on the Game Fishing Competitions Committee. This Committee will adopt the CEFF constitution and executive structure and continue to operate as it does now. The Committee will set the rules of the competitions and run the national teams as the CEFF does now. The Chairman of the Committee will also sit on the Board of the Angling Trust.

*The above text is an extract from the document supplied to the CEFF AGM.*

The chairman presented this document to the meeting and added that in his view the CEFF was in a position to influence greatly the way competition angling would be shaped.

Q. John Ball stated the proposed £20 membership fee for individuals to The Angling Trust, which will be mandatory to fish competitions, plus the entry fee to the CEFF and the cost of fishing would prove prohibitive to many anglers and therefore we would actually see a drop in numbers and not the expected rise.

A. Baz Reece replied that he believed that the benefits mentioned above would outway the financial cost and individuals would actually be better off.

Stuart Wardle suggested that the fee to the Angling Trust should be phased in.

Chris Bobby stated that having read the proposal from the Angling Trust he believed there were many unanswered questions and that the CEFF should take a firmer line and negotiate the terms beneficial to the CEFF.

Q. John Ball asked if the Angling Trust would be funding the European and World teams? If so this would relieve the CEFF of that financial burden.

A. At this moment in time it is not clear if this will happen.

Several delegates pointed out that if we do not join we would not be able to participate in competitive fly fishing or represent fly fishing.

Q. Who would organise events for 2009?

A. The CEFF would carry on organising the events for 2009

Q. How would local Federations get funds to carry on their work?

A. For 2009 it will remain the same, after that it has not been finalised how funding will be arranged.

Q. Paul Page asked if the CEFF would have to register with Fips Mouche? If not who is responsible for payment?

A. This would have to be investigated.

Mel Parrott made the point that at the moment the CEFF is not representative of all fly fishers.

The Chair pointed out that we have a responsibility to all of Fly Fishing. At the AGM other Fly Fishing interests were represented.

Q. Alan Tonge asked if that if we join the Angling Trust would that mean the end of the CEFF as it stands now?

A. Yes, the CEFF would become the Game Fishing Competitions Committee.

Stuart Wardle told the meeting that if we join then there would have to be changes to the CEFF constitution, and these would have to be acted on quickly to keep up with the Angling Trust time frame. He felt it would be better if we were able to instigate a transition period for this and other reasons stated.

Wendy Patchett reiterated that she felt that the CEFF should be strong and guide the Angling Trust to the way we do things.

Stuart Wardle suggested that between now and 5<sup>th</sup> January the CEFF should identify short, medium and long term risks and benefits of joining the Trust.

After a long discussion it was proposed that; 'The CEFF join the Angling Trust, but with our concerns addressed and acted on'

Proposed Peter Hartley

Seconded Paul Page

**This proposal was carried**

It was agreed that a sub committee comprising of Wendy Patchett, Danny Peet, Peter Hartley, Stuart Wardle, Baz Reece and a representative from the Youth section would negotiate our entry to the Angling Trust.

#### **Notices of Motion Items Received from Federations / CEFF Officers / Committees.**

**Tyne and Wear** – *That the Confederation drops the 4 man carry over from Home International Loch Style.*

Alan Jenkins spoke for the proposal, saying that Tyne and Wear felt it would benefit competitors to have 8 more places available to represent England.

There was general agreement with this point but there were concerns it may affect the team performances with so many new caps being introduced.

It was also pointed out that with fewer roll over's it would ultimately affect the eligibility criteria to the European and World teams.

It was proposed; That the Confederation drops the 4 man carry over from Home International Loch Style.

Proposed Alan Jenkins

Seconded Mel Parrott

At this point a second resolution was proposed; That we reduce the roll over places to 2, this resolution was not seconded.

**The original proposal was carried** and would start at the 2009 National Loch Style Final.

**Chairman –** *To consider double entries in Loch Style and River qualifiers.*

Baz briefly outlined his thoughts on this subject, saying that he believed it would be good for competitors to have a second chance and it would be another source of revenue for the CEFF. There were several questions on how this second chance would actually work in practice, with a general feeling it may be impossible to organize along those lines. There was however a suggestion to organize a 'Reparcharge' event received more support. The proposal was to allow anglers who had entered a qualifier to enter a Reparcharge to gain their second chance.

This would be done by offering next anglers who had not qualified the chance to fish in the Reparcharge. The exact proportions would have to be worked out in line with available venues and boats.

It was felt that any places made available in the National Final through this route should be extra to those already on offer via the regional qualifiers

It was decided to agree this in principle and to introduce it for the 2010 season if required.

**Rivers Manager –** *In accord with Clause 16 of the CEFF Constitution, the AGM agree to the appointment of a President and Vice Presidents of CEFF and to consider the nominations of Bob Church (President), Brian Leadbetter (Vice President) and Jeremy Hermann (Vice President);* Stuart proposed that we should elect prominent former members who have served the CEFF in order to recognize their contribution.

Some delegates felt that some of the nominees were inappropriate as they had actively spoken out against the CEFF. Several other nominees were suggested.

It was felt that as we may be changing our formation with the proposal to join the Angling Trust it would not be a good time to elect these positions as they may not exist in a few months time. The original proposal was put to the meeting.

In accord with Clause 16 of the CEFF Constitution, the AGM agree to the appointment of a President and Vice Presidents of CEFF and to consider the nominations of Bob Church (President), Brian Leadbetter (Vice President) and Jeremy Hermann (Vice President);  
Proposed Stuart Wardle

Seconded Paul Page

**This proposal was defeated.**

The Chair stated that in the light of Joining the Anglers Trust this could be held to see if it fitted with the Trusts objectives.

**Chairman -** *Data Protection statement*

The chairman informed the meeting that since the September EGM it was realized that the CEFF did not have a Data Protection policy, this had now been rectified and had been circulated to the delegates and should be available on the web site.

**Chairman -** *"That the CEFF AGM be authorised to resolve to make such amendments to the CEFF Constitution as is necessary and appropriate to enable the functions, activities and business of the CEFF to continue and to enable such action to be taken that may be necessary arising from the Unity/Anglers Trust issue"*

**This proposal was carried.**

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

There were concerns from some anglers on the fringe of European qualification that they were not being considered for places. To help alleviate these concerns agreement had been reached with the Commonwealth Team manager, Dave Grove, that these anglers would be considered for Commonwealth events.

John Mees, the Loch Style Coordinator asked that dates and numbers for regional qualifiers be forwarded him as soon as possible to enable him to allocate National Final Places.

**The chairman adjourned the meeting at 15:30**

