



Anglian Water – Airflo International

Competition Rules

To save time at match briefings we are issuing the rules for the competition in advance. It is the responsibility of each Team Captain to ensure that all team members are fully conversant with these rules.

It is intended that these rules should be compatible with the rules of all waters and have been developed over many years to try to ensure a fair and enjoyable competition for all involved. Competitors are expected to observe the spirit as well as the letter of the rules and are reminded of the unwritten rules and courtesies of the boat.

1. One rod, not exceeding 12 feet in length (3.65m) is to be used. Competitors may carry a spare rod, but only one rod may be mounted at any time
2. Matches shall be fished with artificial flies only. No fly shall be artificially weighted and gold heads or weighted beads are specifically banned. No more than four flies may be attached to a cast and these must be at least 20" (50.8cm) apart.
3. Hooks may be single or double. With doubles, the angle between the bends shall not exceed 90 degrees. Maximum hook size will measure not more than 5/8" (1.6cm) and the dressed length of the fly shall not exceed 15/16" (2.4cm) overall. No dressing is allowed that will artificially add weight to the fly. Modern materials are acceptable, but appendages that alter the original concept of an artificial fly (re formed plastic or rubber) are banned. A maximum of four hook points are permitted on any leader ie 2 doubles, 1 double/2singles, or 4 singles.
4. Fly lines shall be either double taper or weight forward, in full line format. Shooting heads are specifically banned including manufactured shooting heads (except 40 plus). Lines shall not exceed AFTM10. No weight attachments may be made to the line, but braided leaders are permitted provided there is no metal or weight in their construction.
5. Anchors and drift control devices are banned. A single drogue may be used at competitor's discretion with a maximum of 25 square feet, with a maximum of two anchor points
6. Flies will be cast in the conventional manner, with competitors sitting at all times, other than when netting fish. Flies will be worked in traditional loch-style manner. Any form of trailing/trolling is banned
7. The roly-poly style of retrieve is allowed in this Championship.
8. Thwart boards and boat seats are permitted, with or without back rests all at match organiser's discretion.
9. All electrical devices are banned, including fish finders. Mobile communication devices are allowed to be carried switched off onto the water, to be used only in emergencies or by prior arrangement by the organisers.
10. No boat may encroach within 50 metres of any other fishing boat.

11. No boat may land during a match other than in a medical emergency, or as specifically directed by the organiser.
12. All strike indicators must be a catchable fly.
13. Having caught your limit, please note and agree the exact time with your boat partner, who should then sign your card.
14. The winners and placings will be decided by the total weight of eligible trout caught by each team. Bag limits and size limits will be announced at the pre-match briefing. If a time bonus is given, it will be at 4oz per ¼ hour. Attendance at all briefings is compulsory for all competitors. Fish will be weighed only once, on the Championship scales.
15. At fisheries where larger fish (4lb+) are regularly stocked we may impose a 4lb maximum limit to any fish caught.
16. Limits – some heats will be fished to a 8 fish limit and some will be a lower limit plus catch & release, subject to local fishery rules.
17. All competitors are required to hold a valid Environment Agency rod licence in England and Wales.
18. All team members are required to register with the organisers at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the match. Anglers who do not register on time may forfeit their place in the match, at the organiser's discretion. Match timing will be announced at the briefing. Any angler who breaches the timings set shall be disqualified, even if this is due to engine failure.
19. Boat pairings are decided by random draw. Anglers change places every two hours, or as by mutual agreement and the angler at the Stern shall have control of the boat.
20. At the end of the match captains shall assemble their teams for the weigh in. Any problems, disputes or questions shall be raised with the organiser prior to weigh in. Any dispute over weights announced must be made immediately. No fish shall be weighed other than at the official weigh in.
21. Boat fishing can be dangerous and Anglian Water the Organisers and their representatives take no responsibility for matters of safety. The wearing of life jackets is strongly recommended at all waters and is compulsory on some. Anglers must cease fishing during a thunderstorm. If conditions are deemed too dangerous at any time before or during the match, the Organisers will arrange a recall of competitors.
22. The organisers will carry out checks during the competition to ensure that competitors comply with the rules
23. Teams may only enter once and individuals may only fish for one team.
(However, in exceptional circumstances, and with the prior permission of the organisers, a team member can have fished for another team. In this instance his total weight of catch will count as no more than that of the team 5th weight on the day).
24. Teams with more than 3 members resident within the Midlands can only fish the Midlands heats. The Midlands are defined as the counties of:- Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, Rutland, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire.
25. **The decision of the organiser is final and binding in all matters.**