

**MKAA VETERANS**  
**CLAYDON LAKE 05 SEPT 2012**

**TO BREAM OR NOT TO BREAM – THAT IS THE QUESTION**

Claydon lake is renowned for its bream shoals but over the years numbers appear to have dwindled and significantly the number of small skimmers have been noted by their absence so when approaching this venue you have to make up your mind whether to go for the bream or not. As always, the draw plays a huge part in this and without a doubt to draw on one of the field swims is a major factor and bonus to boot!

18 members arrived today and thanks again to Barry Witteridge and John Weatherall who run this match we were all accounted for and once drawn were off to see what the day would bring. John had been out with a couple of helpers to clear a lot of the weed that had taken a liking to the hot dry conditions but everyone was on a good peg. Austin (Awesome) Maddock started off on the feeder and had a great start with a good tench first put in Hmm seems that the intended to continue his recent form and make us play catch up early doors. Opposite Austin Dave McClellan also started on the feeder but with only 2 small perch after an hour and a half switched to the waggler and boy was that the right move. As the sun came round we could then see just how clear the water was and Dave's approach was definitely the right tactic. Round the lake bites for some were few and far between except for those who went out from the start after the small fish and even then they backed off very quickly. Lucky enough to draw peg 1 I had a reasonable start with roach and rudd but after an hour they backed off into the vast weed beds and a different tactical approach was required which after a while payed off of a sorts but I was left ruing the loss of a very big tench to weed.

On the car park pegs, Dick Peerless was way ahead of those around him catching small perch on pinkie until Dave Ridgeway got his swim to work and then it was game on then Mick Reynolds and Rupert Ash also started to catch so it was going to be a very tight section. Meanwhile Dave Mac was ruing the fact that he only took half a pint of casters with him and most of those went into his initial feeder approach – ouch. On the far side Ron Hillier was catching small fish as was John Weatherall but in between them static tips were the order of the day until the last hour when Ted Salaman suddenly had a good bream and not to be outdone Austin next door replied with 2!!

At the all - out Austin was the clear winner followed by Dave Mac and as is normal on this venue we separated the match into 3 sections paying 2 in each and the end results were as follows:

SECTION A	1 <sup>ST</sup>	Dave McClellan	8lbs	waggler/caster
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	John Hewison	6lbs 9ozs	pole/ caster, worm & maggot
SECTION B	1 <sup>st</sup>	Dave Ridgeway	5lbs 6ozs	pole/ maggot & pinkie
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Dick Peerless	4lbs 14ozs	pole/ pinkie
SECTION C	1 <sup>st</sup>	Austin Maddock	14lbs	method feeder/ maggot
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ron Hillier	5lbs 7ozs	pole/ pinkie

Irrevelant, but 1<sup>st</sup> Austin Maddock 14lbs, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dave Mac 8lbs and 3<sup>rd</sup> John Hewison 6lbs 9ozs.

Next week sees us on the river at Stony Main but I will be away stewarding the International Rail match which has 10 teams of 6 from all over the EU and one even from Russia!! That will be very interesting as the competition is over 4 days on Makins and the Avon at Evesham which will test the skills of all the competitors to the full including our very own Terry Lancaster fresh from the vets world championships where he was part of the victorious England team that took GOLD.

Tight Lines

*Roachman*