



BRITISH YOUNG CARP ANGLING CHAMPIONSHIPS - EVENT RULES:

Definitions

Organisers	-	Linear Fisheries Oxford Ltd
Officials/Marshals	-	Any person appointed as such by the organisers
Competitor	-	Any angler accepted for entry into the tournament by the organisers

1. The Organisers of the event are Linear Fisheries Oxford Ltd who have absolute control and discretion over the competition, the rules and any amendments thereto.
2. The competition will be run on an eliminator basis where anglers compete for places in a 48 hour final. There will be three qualifying rounds, with each one being staged over a 24-hour period. There will be roughly 20 anglers in each qualifier. The top six (6) placed anglers from each qualifier will advance for the final.
3. All parents/guardians must stay with their respective competitor at all times. If for example, if a visit to the shops is required, then an event organiser or marshal must be informed. Parents/guardians must set their tent/bivvy up adjacent to the competitor, but outside the area marked with tape – Only the competitor and marshals are allowed inside the swim.
4. Competitors must arrive and register themselves between 7.00 & 7:30 a.m. on the morning of their qualifier. Anyone arriving later than 7:30 may be omitted from the competition. Between 7:30 and 8:45, all competitors can walk the lake and choose which swims they prefer, in readiness for the 'watercraft' draw at 9:00 a.m. You should have all the swims listed from first choose to last, ready for the draw. (If you have any queries regarding a 'watercraft' draw, then please speak to the organisers at registration). **At this point, in accordance with fishery rules and good practise – all nets, slings and mats must be dipped into chemical net dip provided**
5. The allocation of swims will be made by means of a 'watercraft' draw, whereby anglers choose where they want to fish. The draw for swims will take place at 9.00 a.m. at the control tent. There will be one draw bag containing the name of every angler. The name of the angler drawn from the bag first will have first choice of swim; the second drawn will have second choice, and so on. It is therefore imperative that all anglers have a pen and paper with them which allows them to mark off which swims are vacant and which swims they would like to fish. (Once your decision has been made, and given to the organisers, that decision is final).
6. When the draw has finished, anglers can make their way to their swims. If an angler's name comes out first, they will have to wait until every angler has chosen their swim before they make their way around the lake. No competitor may make their way to their swim until the draw has been completed and the organisers have given the signal for competitors to make their way to their chosen area.
7. Competitors must not cast outside the limits of their swim, such limits to be marked by an imaginary line marking the middle distance between any angler fishing opposite or a neighbour's peg marker. Any disputes about competitors casting outside their designated area must be reported immediately to the marshals. Marshals have the discretion to request that competitors re-cast their rods as and when directed, and such request must be complied with. In the unlikely event that both competitors are judged to be casting out of their area, then both competitors will be asked to move their rod or rods. (The marshals/officials decision is final).
8. Each qualifying match will start at 11.00 am (no casting at all before 11am). For the Final - a horn will sound at 11am, at this point you may start to use a marker float, spod or lead around but you must not cast baited rods at this point. At 12 noon a second horn will sound, this will mark the start of the match and at this point baited rods may be cast out.
9. There will be no baiting up by any means other than hand, throwing stick, spod/Spomb or catapult. Free Baits may be attached by PVA to the rig. Wading or swimming to bait up will not be permitted. Wellies may be used at the water's edge to aid in the safe landing or returning of a fish.
10. Competitors will be permitted to use a maximum of two rods and must cast and bait their own rods, and play, land and unhook their own fish. No assistance shall be allowed from any person (parents and guardians be warned!). All fish caught must be reported as soon as possible to the marshals. At the discretion of the marshals/officials, and with angler and fish safety in mind, help may be obtained from a BYCAC official to land a fish. This however may lead to the fish being disqualified.
11. Each fish must be witnessed and signed for by one marshals/organiser, one guardian and the competitor.
12. Each fish must be weighed and photographed on the official equipment of the marshals or it will be excluded from the results. To prevent cheating please do not return fish to the water before they have been photographed.
13. A photograph of the any capture, must be taken by the side of the peg marker and include the peg number, fish and captor.
14. In the unlikely event of a marshal being unable to immediately weigh and witness a captured fish, it should be placed in a retention sling and securely rested in the margins until such a time as a marshal is available. The official weight will be that which is recorded by the marshal using the official weighing equipment.
15. Competitors are required to possess their own retention slings, as in the event of a multiple capture they will be required to hold fish until they are weighed. Retention slings will not be provided by the organisers. Please ensure that all slings have all been dipped in the net dip and that only one fish at a time is placed into a retention sling.
16. Hooked fish should be landed without interfering with another competitor's lines or they may be omitted from the final result. Any competitor who is aggrieved by another competitor's hooked fish hitting his lines, or disturbing his presentation, must make a formal complaint to the marshals as soon as is reasonably practicable, or in any case within 30 minutes. In this case the organisers/marshals decision will be final.
17. Only BYCAC/fishery staff, officials, press, competitors, parents and marshals are permitted to bivvy up on the banks or stay in the competition area after the hours of darkness unless authorised by the organisers.



18. The organisers retain the right to search competitors' tackle or vehicles to combat any form of cheating/rule breaking. Anglers found cheating will be banned for life from the BYCAC and Linear Fisheries, and will be reported to the promoters and the national angling press.
19. The competition shall be decided on total weight. In the event of a tie for a placing, the angler with the most fish will be declared the winner. If the result is still tied the angler catching the biggest fish will be declared the winner. If there is still a tied position then the "fastest fish" rule applies and the angler who landed the first fish will be declared the winner.
20. In the event that an insufficient number of fish are caught during a qualifier, to fill the places in the final, or that the fish caught still causes a tie-breaker situation, the competitors shall take part in a "cast off" which shall involve a test of accurate casting. The angler/anglers adjudged as being the most accurate shall be awarded the remaining places in the final.
21. In the unlikely event of no fish being caught in the final, the competition will be decided by a contest of casting as with the eliminators.
22. Only Leather, Common, and Mirror Carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) will count in the competition. This includes all forms of Koi and ghost carp (*Cyprinus carpio*)
23. Swimming and wading for any reason whatsoever is prohibited. Where safe to do so - wellies may be used at the water's edge to aid in the safe landing or returning of a fish.
24. Boats and remote control bait boats are prohibited.
25. All lines must be cast into the water from the bank using a fishing rod and reel, or pole. No other equipment will be permitted to assist the angler to cast.
26. Each line may only have one hook attached. You can use barbed or barbless hooks, although micro-barbs are recommended.
27. For a fish to count in the competition it must have been hooked squarely in the mouth. Foul hooked fish will be excluded and shall be returned to the water unregistered.
28. Each angler shall be permitted to use up to two rods and baited hooks in the water at any time, further rods may be set up in reserve, ready to be used.
29. A plumbing and a spod rod are allowed in addition to the baited rods.
30. Any angler using more than the authorised number of baited rods will be immediately disqualified from the competition.
31. Fish must be landed within 3 metres of the peg marker. Competitors are not permitted to wade or walk down the bank to land fish unless authorised to do so by an official. At the discretion of the marshals/officials, and with angler and fish safety in mind, help may be obtained from a BYCAC official to land a fish. This however may lead to the fish being disqualified.
32. Competitors must comply with requests from authorised media members at all times regarding media coverage.
33. The sounding of a horn will signify the end of each competition, whereupon competitors must immediately withdraw their lines from the water.
34. Any fish hooked before the final horn sounds must be landed within 20 minutes of the end of the competition or it will be excluded from the final results. In this case, a BYCAC marshal or organiser must be contacted ASAP. (We recommend that in this instance, the parent/guardian takes a photo of the competitor playing the fish, so a time can be proved).
35. The awards ceremony will take place at the event HQ when all of the winners have arrived.
36. Prizes will be allocated by the BYCAC Organisers and Linear Fisheries Staff.
37. In the unlikely event that the final or a qualifier has to be cancelled, for any reason, the BYCAC organisers will make every effort to reschedule the event. In the event of a cancelled qualifier, a full refund will be issued.
38. No live bait of any description will be allowed, this includes but is not limited to maggots, casters, squats, pinkies or any type of worm. Further to this no dead variations of the above are allowed. If you are unsure of whether a particular bait is permitted, please check with the BYCAC team. The BYCAC has final say on whether a particular bait is allowed.
38. Further to all the rules listed above, all Linear Fisheries site rules must be observed. Please see attached copy or visit the Linear website at www.linear-fisheries.co.uk

CONFIRMATION OF RULES

I have read the rules for the event and agree to abide by them. I also accept my place of entry into the competition.

NAME:

NAME:

Signed:

Signed:

Young Carper (Competitor)

Parent/Guardian

Date:

Date:

A signed copy of the 'Rules Confirmation Slip' must be returned to: BYCAC, Linear Fisheries, Off the B4449, Near Hardwick Village, Witney, Oxon, OX29 7QF. OR Email it back to chris@linear-fisheries.co.uk