

ANGLING TRUST

SPECIMEN AWARDS SCHEME 2020

This year the scheme received a total of 1193 entries, with 1090 for the Senior Scheme, and 97 for the new Junior Scheme, from 35 clubs and individual members of the Angling Trust. This is a drop from last of nearly 100 entries, but considering that we had no fishing for two months, we consider that that the scheme is in excellent condition after nearly 45 years.

There were 103 Gold, 261 silver and 732 Bronze certificates awarded for Senior scheme, 19 Gold, 31 Silver and 47 Bronze for the Junior scheme including 6 Special Awards which were each awarded a Bronze certificate.

The club with the most entries this year were, again, the Specimen Hunters Angling Group from Sussex, who entered a total of 231 fish, who retain the "Sea angling News" trophy for the club with the most entries. Second was Castaways SAC with 187, and third was Teignmouth SAS with 119.

The top specimen fish was a Gilthead Bream of 8lbs 7ozs caught by Martin Larkin of Castaways SAC, caught from the Shore at Plymouth, which was 241% for fish caught from Area C.

The three top Shore and Boat for the Seniors are as follows:

Shore:

1. Gilthead Bream of 8lbs 7ozs, caught by Martin Larkin of Castaways SAC, at Plymouth – 241%
2. Bass of 14lbs 5ozs caught by Simon Kay of the Specimen Hunters Angling Group, at Shoreham – 223%
3. Small Eyed Ray of 11lbs 3ozs, caught by Dan Baugh of Teignmouth SAS, at Barry, South Wales – 223%

Boat:

1. Blue Shark of 125lbs, caught by Stephen Aldrich of Roving Rods SAC, caught out Plymouth – 208%
2. Spur Dog of 23lbs 8ozs, caught by tom Worthy of the Royal Navy & Royal Marines AA, off Plymouth – 196%
3. Porbeagle Shark of 150lbs, caught by Gary Rugless, an Individual Member of the Angling Trust, at Celtic Deep, out of Dale Wales – 187%

The special awards, which were all awarded a Bronze certificate, were for the following:

1. A Common Skate of 176lbs, caught by Wayne Hand of Honiton SAC, caught from the shore in Scotland.
2. An Imperial Scald Fish of 5ozs, caught by Rob Stmmas of the Specimen Hunters Angling Group, from a boat off Mounts Bay.
3. A Streaked Gurnard of 1lb 0oz 8drms, caught by Liam Hartnell of Honiton SAC, from the shore at Chesil Beach.
4. A Corkwing Wrasse of 8ozs, caught by Steve Clements of the Royal Navy & Royal Marines AA, from a boat off Prtland.
5. A Grey Gurnard of 15ozs, caught by Stephen Butler of Honiton SAC, from a boat off West Bay.
6. A Couche's Sea Bream of 1lb 8ozs, caught by Robert Wheaton of Rodbenders SAC, caught from the shore at Plymouth.

The Junior awards were as follows:

Boat:

1. A Spur Dog of 20lbs 2ozs, caught by Logan Parry of Castaways SAC, off Salcombe – 287%
2. A Spur Dog of 18lbs 8ozs, caught by Logan Parry of Castaways SAC, off Plymouth – 264%
3. A Spur Dog of 17lbs 5ozs, caught by Logan Parry, off Salcombe – 247%

Shore:

1. A Whiting of 1lb 15ozs 8drms, caught by Freddie Mackie of Pot Black SAC, from South Hams – 197%
2. A Whiting of 1lb 15ozs, caught by Joshua Johnson of Rodbenders SAC, from Plymouth – 194%
3. A Whiting of 1lb 12ozs, caught by Joshua Johnson of Rodbenders SAC, from Plymouth – 175%

The Wild Card Award this year goes to Rob Johanson of Specimen hunters Angling Group who caught a Common Skate of 226lbs, from the shore at Loch Alline, in Scotland, which is a remarkable feat. As the Common Skate is not listed in the Specimen Awards Scheme, he could only be issued a Bronze certificate, but I believe he deserves more for this exceptional fish.

If you think that you can catch a Specimen fish from either the shore or a boat, the scheme is open to all members of a club which is affiliated to the Angling Trust, or an Individual Member of the Angling Trust. The scheme runs from the 1st December each year, and all the information concerning the running of the scheme and the weights for each fish in each area can be found on the Angling Trust website, under Sea Angling competitions.

If you require any further information, contact Eric Gerrey at ericgerrey@aol.com or by phone on 02380 490450.

Club's Top Ten:

1. Specimen Hunters Angling Group	231
2. Castaways SAC	187
3. Teignmouth SAS	119
4. Paignton SAA	93
5. Honiton SAC	74
6. Pot Black SAC	67
7. Rodbenders SAC	53
8. Roving Rods SAC	48
9. D O E SAC	36
10. Brixham SAC	35