



PRESS RELEASE

AYRSTRIKE – BURNS FISHING COMPETITION 2008

Scottish Internationalist through to final on peg draw after entire field fail to catch!

George Glen (47) from Edinburgh, is the third individual through to the Ayrstrike Final after five hours during which not a single angler even managed to get a bite on the Forth & Clyde Canal near Kirkintilloch. At the end of the match organiser Gus Brindle ran a peg draw and George was the lucky angler to go through to the final. George is the longest serving and most capped Scottish angler having represented the country over 70 times, including 19 World Championships, a competition in which he came 5th back in 1993. He has also been Scottish League Champion a record 10 times.

After the match George said; {QUOTE} “No one likes to go through on a bye, it’s a bit like penalties at the end of a football match, but someone has to qualify and I’m delighted that on this occasion its me!”{END QUOTE}.

George now joins fellow Scottish Internationalist David Corcoran and Magiscroft Club member Stewart Rae in the big money Ayrstrike final which will be held at Spring Water Fisheries, Ayr on Sunday 25th May. For your chance to join them simply visit www.fishscotland.co.uk, or www.sfca.co.uk and follow the Ayrstrike links, or contact SFCA Chairman Gus Brindle at gus@gbmsscotland.fsnet.co.uk.

After the match organiser Gus Brindle said that the lack of fish caught was very concerning. “Whilst we all knew it was going to be difficult, we could never have

predicted it fishing as badly as it did. While the canal's roach population will often congregate in the warmer town centre stretches during the winter, the perch are more territorial and are always resident throughout the canal's length. The field contained some excellent canal anglers using Bloodworm and Joker, which is the most natural and effective winter bait, and the fact that not a single fish was seen or caught should set alarm bells ringing. A lot of dredging and bank restoration work has been carried out on the canal over the past 12 months and this may have had an impact on the fish population. We would like to see British Waterways conduct a survey of fish stocks and habitat to ensure that nothing is awry and if necessary instigate a restocking program as soon as possible.

The next three qualifiers are:

QUALIFIER	QUALIFIER 4	QUALIFIER 5	QUALIFIER 6
DATE	22 nd March	29 nd March	5 th April
VENUE	Spring Water	Orchil Fishery, Nr Auchterarder	Loch Ken (Boulders)
FEES:			
Peg	£6.00	£6.00	£3.00
Optional Pools ⁽¹⁾	£10.00	£10.00	£10.00
TIMINGS:			
Draw	0930 hrs	0930 hrs	0900 hrs
Fish	1100 – 1600 hrs	1100 – 1600 hrs	1030 – 1530 hrs
Results	1630 hrs	1630 hrs	1630 hrs

Notes:

(1) Pools payouts will be: 1st = 50%, 2nd = 30%, 3rd = 20%

Note to Editors:

CONTACT INFORMATION

Issued on behalf of the Burns an' a' that! Festival. For further information please contact Jo Spry from Liz Hobbs Group on 08700 702 702 or Gus Brindle from SFCA on 0131 310 4767.

Burns an' a' that! Festival was established in 2002. In 2007 it attracted over 50,000 visitors to the range of events and activities and generated over £1m for the local economy.

The festival is managed by the Burns Festival Company, with the board of directors representing the principle funding partners, South Ayrshire Council, Scottish Enterprise Ayrshire, Visit Scotland and Event Scotland and including the Robert Burns World Federation who sit on the board in an advisory capacity.

Website address: www.burnsfestival.com