

JANUARY 2024



NEWS JOURNAL
2024 EDITION

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held in

THE CLUBHOUSE

2a Kiln Lane, Havelock Park, Banbridge
on

MONDAY, 29th January 2024
at 7.30p.m. sharp to 10.30p.m.

The Agenda

will be as follows:

1. Apologies.
2. Minutes of the last A.G.M.
3. Secretary's Report.
4. Treasurer's Report.
5. Competition Secretary's Report.
6. Election of Officers.
7. Corbet Lough (2024 Rules and Day Tickets).
8. Corbet Lough Boating Rules (2024)
9. River Bann (2024 Rules and Day Tickets).
10. Club Fees 2025.
11. Any other business.



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This edition of the Club's News Journal was compiled and edited by Joseph Curran for and on behalf of Banbridge Angling Club Ltd.

Contributors:

S. Watt Chairman
D. Murtagh..... Comp. Sec.
W. Cochrane..... Treasurer

We would ask that our members support our sponsors throughout the forthcoming season.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN - 2024...

The 2023 season got off to a great start, the weather was kind and the fish in the Corbet had matured well over the winter and were fighting fit. The first weeks in March saw some very good brown trout being taken, some topping the 5lbs mark. Thanks to all those anglers who posted some great pictures of their catches. The Triploid rainbow have also been increasing in size. The club will continue with the stocking programme off, £19,000 Rainbow and £1,000 of small Brown trout with fish continuing to be supplied from our usual supplier Glen Oak Fishery. As the season moved toward April, May and June, it was a pleasure to see the number of local and visiting anglers enjoying their sport with great numbers of fish being recorded, both via shore and boat angling.

Sadly, as we all experienced the hot early summer weather this was to be disastrous to inland waterways which simply destroyed angling across the country for the months of June and July which lead to the unfortunate closure of the Corbet to angling. We did lose a sizeable number of trout, with some very large browns and rainbows being lost. I would like to thank everyone that assisted in the clear-up work around this time.

The club investigated numerous ways to relieve the pressure on the lough at that time. Each suggestion came with side effects that could exasperate other issues or simply give limited benefit due to the size of the lough. There is a possible light in that end of the tunnel with investigations ongoing with our with regulatory authorities for the use of phosphorus fixing chemicals for use in lakes. Trial work on some Irish loughs on the application of aluminium, or iron, salts to the lake water which causes the formation of a floc, binding Phosphorous from the water column as it settles. This treatment also reduces cycling of Phosphorous by actively capping it in the sediment, thereby controlling the internal nutrient load and potentially improving water quality for the long term. It may take several years however before we are allowed to use it.

I would like to thank our Boat Lodge Attendants Wilson Clinghan and Adrian McNearney for their work throughout the season.

I would like to thank the following, Damien Murtagh as Competition Secretary and all those who assisted him in these events.

Congratulations to those members who entered our Club Competitions and the winners. William Cochrane as our Club Treasurer and Membership Secretary for his work throughout the year. Joe Curran as Club Secretary for the work and time he gives to all the Club's activities. Joe assists with every aspect of the day by day running of the club. Sam Grant as Minutes Secretary and to everyone on the committee in keeping the Club running.

Any member wishing to assist in the running of the Club are welcome to come along to our forthcoming AGM.

On behalf of the Club, I would like to thank our Riparian owners and Farmers for their continued support allowing access along the river and Lough so that we can enjoy our sport.

A thanks also to those working on behalf of angling in the Ulster Angling Federation. They have been raising issues regarding angling across the country. One these is that DAERA, Inland Fisheries division are no longer stocking department controlled waters.

The collection of fees will resume in line with pre- Covid arrangements, dates, and time within this News Journal. Postal renewals will also be accepted.

The committee would like to offer our sincere condolences to families and friends of those deceased members who are no longer with us. On this note I am saddened to report the passing of our long-standing member and Club President Sam Vage. Sam contributed greatly to the development of the club for many years and overseen many changes. He will be sadly missed.

Equally we also lost club Vice President, Patsy McGivern who was an avid supporter of the club for many years. Again another sad loss to the community and to our sport of angling.

Happy new Year and tight lines to everyone for the 2024 season.

Sam Watt, Chairman



POINTS OF INTEREST

CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 2024

The Club Directors and outgoing Committee would encourage as many of our members to attend the forthcoming AGM.

Unfortunately, since Covid we have experienced a reduction in the size of our committee which puts a lot of pressure on those regular members who continue year on year to take up Officer and Committee positions.

We are a busy Club with an ever-growing workload. New faces would be very welcome to help secure the sport of angling within our district.

SENIOR MEMBERSHIP

To all members wishing to apply for senior membership, i.e. having reached the age of 65 years or over on or before 1st March in any given year; that it is the particular member's responsibility to make a formal written application to either the Membership Secretary or Club Secretary to attain this category of membership.

CLUB WEB SITE

For additional information in relation to Club activities please visit the Club's Web Site at www.banbridgeanglingclub.co.uk

COLLECTION OF CLUB FEES – 2024

Club Fee collections return to normal operation as detailed in this News Sheet. To help reduce Club banking charges we are again encouraging members to pay their new season subscriptions by credit or debit card.

DAY TICKET SELLING OUTLETS

The Club's Day Tickets for the coming season will be available for purchase at the Corbet Lough Booking Office and the Spar Service Station, Ballydown.

We will continue to promote all our selling outlets on our Web Site and through social media.

Word of mouth is still very much a great communication method of this information and we would ask all our members to support us in this way.

ADRIAN RAISES £570 FOR CANCER FOCUS NI

On Saturday 17 June Adrian McAnarney, Corbet Lough Boat Attendant, completed the Seven Summits 30k climb and walk in the Mourne Mountains in aid of Cancer Focus NI. Adrian raised a fantastic sum of £570. Adrian thanks all the anglers for their generous support.

PURCHASING DAERA ROD LICENCES

The purchase of required DAERA Game and Coarse Rod Licences can be purchased via one of the following methods:

1. Telephone - 028 3833 9748 Payment taken over the phone.
2. DAERA 1 Mahon Road Portadown BT62 3EE open 10am -4pm Monday – Friday closed for lunch 1pm- 2pm.
3. <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/services/buy-rod-licences-permits-and-river-bush-day-tickets> - DAERA link.
4. <https://ellicence.loughs-agency.org/registerSelect.asp> - Loughs Agency link

Hope you find this helpful.

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS – (GDPR)

It is now the law that all organisations demonstrate that they work in compliance with the current General Data Protection Regulations which in general terms means that our Club needs your permission to hold and store any information it has relating to your membership with Banbridge Angling Club.

This for most within the Club this is holding your name and address on file to allow the Club to keep in contact with you. The Club continue to maintain compliance in this respect and all new members joining the Club are requested to complete the Club's GDPR declaration to allow their contact information to be stored for future use.

Please note the Club will not share any contact or other information held on file about members with third parties.

FLY TYING CLASSES

Banbridge Angling Club is delighted to announce that the Fly Tying Classes recommenced on Wednesday 10 January 2024. The Classes' will be held in the Clubrooms, 2a Kiln Lane, Havelock Park, Lurgan Road, Banbridge on each Wednesday evening from 7pm to 9pm. The Classes will run until Wednesday 28 February 2024.

The Classes will be held under the supervision of the Club's experienced fly tyer's William Cochrane, Keith Cole and Stevie Rea. The classes will accommodate everyone from the complete novice looking to start to learn how to tie flies to the more experienced tiers who may be just looking for some good advice and tips. There is no need to pre-book. Just turn up on the evening. Everyone is welcome.

CLUB DONATIONS 2023

Donations to the club during 2023 were received from the following members:

P Wilson, W. Wilson, A. Donaldson, W. Craig, D. McClearn, I. Boyd,
D. Alexander, D. Burns, G. Vennard, B. Wilson



2023 ADULT COMPETITION REPORT

The Senior Angler's competition format was run over 21 'competitions' between Corbet Lough and River Bann plus two away days to Lough Lene in Westmeath and Lough Emy in Monaghan. During the first few early competitions Anglers caught good bags of over wintered trout. Past winner of Angler of the Year Wilson Clinghan and Kevin Conwell taking early wins and placings. The club headed to Lough Lene with high hopes of a good day's olive fishing however with no fly hatching a poor conditions only one trout was caught by Eric Graham. The Club travelled to Lough Emy for next competition for some Angler's it was their first time fishing the Lough. It was arranged to take in the Mayfly hatch and fished on a catch and release format it was a great day's fishing for

some anglers with the first 3 placings all tied on 5 fish each it went to who caught their earliest fish with Eugene Curran first of the mark to help him secure first place. Half-way through the competition program the Lough suffered with the hot weather disrupting the competition schedule and as a result it was decided to close the Lough.

River competitions however were still fished with Colin Crothers winning the Dessie Smyth Cup. Brendan Downey winning the Linda Clinghan shield fished on Spelga Dam where Geoff Hylands took 2nd place. It was looking like we would be unable to finish the program because of conditions on the Corbet but when the decision was made by Committee to open the Lough for fishing, we

were able to finish the whole program. The last few competitions were starting to like a three-horse race between Kevin Conwell Wilson Clinghan and Colin Crothers it was down to the last competition to finally decide the Senior Angler of the Year. Winning Angler of the Year for the first time was Kevin Conwell on 16 pts Wilson Clinghan 15pts Colin Crothers 15pts. Kevin fished all the competition's hard maybe fishing around the lake 3 times till he caught his bag of fish.

As Competition Secretary I would like to thank all the Anglers who took part in the 2023 competitions. I hope to see you all back for a competitive 2024 season.

Tightlines for 2024

Bobby Blakley Cup Corbet Lough

1st Wilson Clinghan 3.190kg
2nd Kevin Conwell 2.356kg
3rd Daniel McBurney 2.336kg

Angela Murtagh Cup Corbet Lough

1st Paul McKinsty 2.850kg
2nd Noel Burns 2.270kg
3rd Kevin Conwell 2.230kg

Bruce Carson Trophy Corbet Lough

1st Dessie Graham 2.104kg
2nd Sam Grant 1.835kg
3rd Paul McKinsty 1.834kg

Linda Mc Candless Cup River Bann

1st Wilson Clinghan 0.392kg
2nd Keith Gibson 0.364kg
3rd Dessie Graham 0.322kg

AIB Cup Lough Lene

1st Eric Graham 1.136kg

Dominic Downey Cup Corbet Lough

1st Kevin Conwell 3.142kg
2nd Darrell Alexander 3.070kg
3rd Sam Grant 2.486kg

Jo's Willis Cup/May Day Corbet Lough

1st Frank Kearney 2.926kg
2nd Roger McClements 2.890kg
3rd Kevin Conwell 1.974kg

Straghan Cup Lough Emy

1st Eugene Curran 5 Fish 10.01am
2nd Andrew Holden 5 Fish 11.10am
3rd Wilson Clinghan 5 Fish 11.50am

Patsy mc Givern Shield Corbet Lough

1st Desie Graham 1.672kg
2nd Roger McClements 1.034kg
3rd Joe Curran 1.022kg

Jim Ledlie Cup Corbet Lough

1st Noel Burns 1.946kg
2nd Roger McClements 1.882kg
3rd Frank Kearney 1.176kg

Otterburn Trophy River Bann

1st Trevor Jones 0.460kg
2nd Geoff Hylands 0.440kg
3rd Roger McClements 0.350kg

Boat Anglers Cup Corbet Lough

1st Keith Cole – 6 Fish
2nd Kevin Conwell 5 Fish 3.02pm
3rd Stevie Clarke 5 Fish 3.40pm

Dessie Smyth Cup River Bann

1st Colin Crothers 0.410kg
2nd Geoff Hylands 0.362kg
3rd Wilson Clinghan 0.304kg

Woods/Mc Clory Cup Corbet Lough

1st Sam Grant 2.292kg
1st Noel Burns 2.292kg
2nd Colin Crothers 2.150kg
3rd Geoff Hylands 2.022kg

Linda Clinghan Shield Spelga Dam

1st Brendan Downey 0.378kg
2nd Geoff Hylands 0.320kg
3rd Trevor Jones 0.196kg

Jordan cup Corbet Lough

1st Sam Grant 1.842kg
2nd Colin Crothers 1.610kg
3rd Noel Burns 1.474kg

Shooter Cup Corbet Lough

1st Wilson Clinghan 1.892kg
2nd Colin Crothers 1.152kg
3rd Geoff Hylands 1.032kg

Gowdy Cup Corbet Lough

1st Colin Crothers 0.808kg

Toasty Jardine shield Corbet Lough

1st Kevin Conwell 3.066kg
2nd Dessie Graham 3.022kg
3rd Roger McClements 2.944kg

Hanlon Cup Corbet Lough

1st Wilson Clinghan 3.074kg
2nd Sam Grant 2.650kg
3rd Dessie Graham 2.452kg

Hugh Savage Cup Corbet Lough

1st Colin Crothers 3.162kg
2nd Trevor Jones 3.030kg
3rd Kevin Conwell 2.924kg

Kerr Cup

1st Kevin Conwell 2.502kg
2nd Roger McClements 2.242kg
3rd Wilson Clinghan 2.092kg

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the anglers who attended and supported the 2023 competition programme. Wishing you good luck, health and tight lines for the 2024 competition season.

Damien Murtagh Competition Secretary



The competition programme in 2023 attracted all the usual competition anglers and every now and again a few newcomers. The competitions were extremely competitive and as enjoyable as ever. There was a good spread of individual competition winners with several anglers in the running for Angler of the Year right up to the end of the season. Indeed, at the end of the season there were two new Anglers of the Year. Kevin Conwell won the adult Angler of the Year and Xavier Mackle won the junior Angler of the Year. Kevin finished just ahead of the vastly experienced Wilson Clinghan who was a very close second. Kevin is relatively new to the Club's competition scene, but he has always fished the competitions with a lot of skill and determination. It is not unusual for Kevin to do a couple of laps of the Corbet as he searches out the bigger fish that can win the competitions. He has great faith in the nomad flies, and they attract the big fish. In 2023 Kevin won the Dominic Downey Cup, the Toasty Jardine Shield and the Kerr Cup. He was also in the top three in a number of other competitions.

Unfortunately, in the Juvenile Angler of the Year competition there was no winner in 2023. A number of the juveniles have now moved on to the adult category and there is a bit of a gap to the Junior anglers. Hopefully there will be some new juvenile anglers fishing the competitions in 2024.

The Club's junior competitions were primarily fished over the summer months and there was a good turnout of juniors in 2023. Xavier Mackle took the accolade of Junior Angler of the Year 2023 for the first time. In 2023 he won the Martin Dynes Trophy and was second in the Bill Gault Glazing Cup. Xavier is just 6 years old, and he will be fishing hard to win the Junior Angler of the Year title again in the coming years.

Congratulations to Kevin and Xavier on their great success in 2023.

ANGLER OF THE YEAR - SENIOR 2023

Kevin Conwell	16pts
Wilson Clinghan	15pts
Colin Crothers	15pts
Sam Grant	11pts
Dessie Graham	10pts
Roger mc Clements	10 pts
Noel Burns	9 pts
Geoff Hylands	8pts
Paul mc Kinstry	4pts
Frank Kearney	4pts
Brendan Downey	3pts
Eric Graham	3pts
Eugene Curran	3pts
Trevor Jones	3pts
Keith Cole	3pts
Keith Gibson	2pts
Darrel Alexander	2pts
Andy Holden	2pts
Joe Curran	1pt
Stevie Clarke	1pt
Dan mc Burney	1pt



Banbridge Angling Club Members who enjoyed a trip to Lough Lene, Co. West Meath



Kevin Conwell, (centre) adult Angler of the Year 2023 with Sam Grant (Left) and Darrel Alexander (Right).

Saturday 20th May 2023 saw the return of the Friendship cup between Armagh Angling Club and Banbridge Angling Club after a 3 year absence.

The match took place at Lowrys lake, Armagh. Fishing was hard for both team's with the odd big fish being caught and some anglers blanking. After the match it was time to tally up the over all weight's for both team's. It turned out to be very close at the end with only gram's separating the 2 team's.

After the match both teams enjoyed a BBQ. Banbridge Angling Club would like to thank our hosts Armagh Angling Club and Maggie and Aidan Donnelly for the BBQ enjoyed by all after the event.

Armagh Angling Club 5.824kg
Banbridge Angling Club 5.968kg
Top Rod for Armagh Will Smith 1.538kg
Top Rod for Banbridge Wilson Clinghan 2.250kg

FRIENDSHIP CUP - BANBRIDGE & ARMAGH ANGLING CLUBS



Banbridge and Armagh Anglers enjoying the day out at Lowrys Lake, Armagh for the Friendship Cup Competition



2023 JUVENILE & JUNIOR COMPETITION REPORT

Good to see the same junior anglers turning up to fish the 2023 Competition program.

The first Competition being the Bill Gault Glazing Cup in April a wet cold day where Pearse Downey took 1st prize with Xavier Mackle in 2nd place.

It was down to the Corbet Lough junior cup, the last competition of the program to see who was going to come out on top for Angler of the Year. After the count up of points over the program Xavier Mackle winning his first Junior Angler of the Year, Pearse Downey taking second place from Elijah Parks on count back of weights. It is great to see these young Anglers turning up to fish these competitions.

Banbridge Angling Club would like to give a mention to young Louis Clarke. Louis fished the Corbet this year where he showed great determination and wasn't afraid to ask some of the senior anglers for help in how to set-up and help him net the fish he caught.

As Competition Secretary I hope to see these young anglers back again for the 2024 season.

JUNIOR ANGLER OF THE YEAR LEAGUE TABLE 2023

Xavier Mackle	5pts
Pearse Downey	3pts
Elijah Parks	3pts
Pearse Downey wins 2nd place on countback weight of fish.	

Bill Gault Glazing Cup

1st Pearse Downey 2.450kg
2nd Xavier Mackle 1.374kg

Martin Dynes Junior Trophy

1st Xavier Mackle 1.654kg

Corbet Junior Cup

1st Elijah Parks 0.706kg

Coburn Cup

This has been awarded to Louis Clarke as the most improved Junior Angler



Xavier Mackle Junior Angler of the Year 2023



Bill Gault Glazing Cup winners Pearse Downey & Xavier Mackle



Martin Dynes Junior Trophy Winner Xavier Mackle with Elijah Parks

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CLUB MEMBER BEREAVEMENTS

Unfortunately, the closing months of 2023 saw the sad passing of two prominent members of Banbridge Angling Club, Club President Sam Vage and Vice President Patsy McGivern.



In September 2023, Sam after a period of ill health passed away peacefully in Craigavon Area Hospital, late of 13 Mountcharles, Banbridge. Devoted husband of Pearl, cherished father of Samuel and Sandra.

Sam was a passionate and lifelong supporter of Banbridge Angling Club and always strived through many of the Officer posts that he held to keep the Club on a strong and steady footing. Never afraid to make and argue his point, was a particular talent and should that not have one the day, no grudges were ever brought to bear. Business as usual continued and always, friendships were maintained.

Sam was a stickler for detail and protocol and took great delight in seeing youth members coming forward to Committee and decision-making positions and would have been the first to offer his support in this respect.

Sam will be sadly missed and lovingly remembered by his wife, son, daughter, the entire Vage family circle and very much within Banbridge Angling Club.



In December 2023, Patsy after a period of ill health passed away peacefully at home.

Beloved husband of Margaret and much-loved father of daughter Deirdre and son Andrew.

Patsy in his role as Landlord at the famous 'Anglers Rest' was known to many from all walks of life. One of life's true characters, a man who had time for everyone and very much enjoyed the craic and banter, making many lifelong friendships along the way.

Like many of his angling visitors, stopping of for a refreshment and catchup, Patsy would sure to have been wading thigh deep in the stories and devilment of his callers and of course always stirring the pot and poking fun. All in a day's work as a Publican.

Patsy was a long time Vice President of Banbridge Angling Club and through the Anglers Rest supported the Club in many ways with the sale of Day Tickets, social functions and in particular hosting the Club's annual Dinner Dances up to these ceasing during the Covid Pandemic.

Patsy will be very much missed by his wife, daughter, son, the wider family circle and within the angling community locally.

CONFIRMED COMPETITION ENTRY FEE & WEIGH-IN PROCEDURES

- Entry Fee Seniors – Increased to £5.00 from 01 March 2024.
- Entry Fee Juveniles/Juniors – No change to remain at 50p.
- Monetary prize allocation Seniors – 1st £20, 2nd £15 & 3rd £10.
- Monetary prize allocation Juveniles/Juniors – No change to remain at 1st £15, 2nd £10 & 3rd £5.
- At each Competition a Captain of the Day is to be appointed. This can be a competing angler with no fish to weigh-in or a person not in the Competition.
- Upon the Competition Secretary's signal, the Captain of the Day to commence by

calling for all fish to be presented for the weigh-in. Once presented the Captain of the Day will close, by an announcement, the opportunity for any further fish to be presented. All fish presented to be weighed. Juvenile/Junior anglers' fish to be weighted first, followed by the Senior anglers.

- All Competitions on Corbet Lough will be on the basis of the heaviest bag (up to 2 fish) presented by a competing angler. For River Bann and Competitions on non-club waters refer to current Competition Sheet.
- In the event of a tie in weights for the first three places, the deciding factor in establishing 1st, 2nd and 3rd place

rankings will be the weight of the heaviest fish. Should a further tie take place at the second stage the ranking will be decided by the measured length of the largest fish presented by each Angler. Should a further tie take place at the third stage the ranking will be decided by the toss of a coin by the Captain of the Day.

- Only the Club's official Weighing scales and measure will be used in determining competition results.
- The Competition Secretary will record all results and verify with the Captain of the Day before announcing the rankings.
- The Captain of the Day's decision on all matters relating to the Competition weigh-in and rankings will be final.



Banbridge Angling Club Ltd.

Accountants' Report on the Unaudited
Financial Statements to the Directors of
BANBRIDGE ANGLING CLUB

As described on the balance sheet you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements for the year ended 31st October 2023 and you consider that the company is exempt from an audit. In accordance with your instructions we have compiled these unaudited financial statements, in order to assist you to fulfil your statutory responsibilities, from the accounting records and information supplied to us.

SM Vint & Company:
Chartered Certified Accountants
and Registered Auditors.

8 Newry Road, Banbridge, Co. Down BT32 3HN

3rd January 2024

CLUB FEES 2024

CLUB FEE RENEWALS

Payment of Club fees for the 2024 season will be collected in the Clubhouse located at 2a Kiln Lane, Havelock Park, Lurgan Road, Banbridge, BT32 4PD.

Collection will commence from Monday 19th February 2024. Opening times 7.30 p.m. – 8.30 p.m. on weekday evenings and Saturday's 10.00 a.m. – 12.00 noon. Last payment date will be Thursday 29th February 2024

All POSTAL FEE PAYERS are asked to forward their Cheque / Postal order payment, Club Card and recent photo enclosing a stamped addressed envelope to the Clubhouse:

**BANBRIDGE ANGLING CLUB LTD. 2a Kiln Lane,
Havelock Park, Lurgan Road, Banbridge, BT32 4PD.**

PLEASE NOTE: Members are responsible for their fees arriving on time, third party failures are not acceptable excuses. All honorary members must have their cards stamped for record purposes.

ALL FEES TO THE CLUB ROOMS ONLY.

**FEES NOT PAID BY 29TH FEBRUARY 2024,
WILL INCUR A £10.00 FINE AND ALL FEES
MUST BE PAID BY 31st MARCH TO RETAIN
MEMBERSHIP.**

**LATE PAYMENT OF FEES WILL ONLY BE
ACCEPTED BY CARD, CHEQUE OR POSTAL
ORDER PAYMENTS.**

CLUB FEES 2024

Ordinary Members	£110.00
Associate Members	£110.00
Juvenile Members	£33.00
Ordinary Senior Members	£99.00
Senior Associate Members	£99.00
Junior Associate Members	£33.00

CLOSING NOTES

On behalf of the members, I wish to thank our Club Officers, Committee and Bailiffs who have given so much of their time and services for the good of the Club and Angling.

Our thanks go to our Riparian owners whose lands we use, those members who have helped the Club physically and financially over the past season, and everyone who has contributed to the good of the Club.

For the 2024 season I wish our members health and tight lines.

J. R. Curran
Honorary Secretary



*The outgoing Officers and Committee of Banbridge Angling Club Ltd. Wish all Club Members a
Happy New Year, health and tight lines for the forthcoming season...*