

Angling Times Super Cup 2010 - 1st Round Match - BARDAG AC vs Laindon
Allsorts FC vs Lords FC - Slough House 27th February 2010

Posted by pblake80 at 12:00 am, March 1st 2010.

What a day – 2 days after and I am still buzzing – and I didn't even Fish. !!

This was our first foray into the Angling Times Super Cup. We were given no chance by the Pundits for our 1st round match against the BARDAG AC Blue Outfit which had been to every Final of the Competition and Lords (aka Churchgate).

Well you know when it's going to be one of those days – I had a feeling even before the draw that we were going to have a good day. I even refused the entry fee share out saying that we will sort that out after the next round as you were going to win today. That was met with some bemused faces but Deano did agree that we can all do it on any given day.

Fees paid, the Draw was made with Captains pulling the peg numbers I drew 2 so the guys were in the middle of each 3 man section). Then BARDAG team drew their Sections (as they drew no1) followed by Us as 2 then Lords as 3.

With a good hour and half to set up the match was off at 10:18 with a scheduled finish at 15:18 by watch anyhow. I had set myself on a newly installed Memorial Bench just to left of Kev Keeling – this gave a good perspective of what was going on expect for Olly Wagg's section. No sooner had we started that Kev indicated that Luke Hyde was in. I walked round and he was into a Lump – Hopefully Luke will transcribe his experience of the day and his catch in the Catch reports section, but here's my take on it.:

On arrival at his peg the top three was behind his left ear and about 4 meters of elastic running perpendicular just in front of his keep nets. Luke spoke 1st and it went some ways along the line of – “Size 22 1lb hook link Single Fluro Pinkie and elastic that I have never used before”. Mine were” just take it steady there's a section win there”

It just was not coming in – just running around his swim. About 10 mins later Luke declared that “I give it 5 more minutes then I will start bullying it “ – My retort was “ don't you dare if it takes you all day – land it there a section win there” No pressure then.

After a further 10 mins we saw its flanks at the same time as the Float popped into view – a Barney Rubble me thinks. Then a further couple of minutes as it tries for freedom we can see the Orange toned Mirror. One quick dash for the landing nets fails but a minute later it's in the net. – It tips the scales at 9lb 50zs (Picture on the match report page). Steve C turned up in SHORTS – yes SHORTS to see how it was going and relayed a message form Luke to Bro Paul that then pound was his (Side bet on biggest weight between them)

Well what a good start – Kev Keeling had just started to get a few small Roach but they were improving in size and I had him in the lead on his section at this stage Hour. I went on my 1st trip of the day to give everyone the good news about Lukes capture and see what was happening. Dean was making steady progress on small Roach Olly Wagg and Jon Buck were struggling, Mick Wagg had a Good series of

early Roach on and Gary Somerfield didn't have a bite whilst Paul Hyde reckoned he was already behind to the BARDAG in his Section who already had landed a number of good Skimmers.

I had time to settle down on the bench, sort out the trophies for the Years Club competitions, catch up on the Angling Papers, local papers and mail and a little nap – Not bad this competition fishing is it!!!

Time for another trip round I did managed to stay awake long enough to see Kev land a nice Bream of 2lb to cement his Section Lead, Dean was concentrating on his float rather than what was going on around but the time I spent it looks pretty even in that Section. Olly was getting a fish a chuck but very small Roach whilst the others in his section were getting more infrequent but better quality fish. The BARDAG guy was landing Good Skimmers, Jon was getting better Quality Roach on the tip than the Pole, this section was tight too close to call and would remain that way all day.

Mick's swim had gone quiet after that early rush and then BARDAG guy on the Point was constantly landing Fish. Mick was planning on going under the tree in his swim at around 3pm to get a Carp that must be there. Gary had tried every shotting pattern but his float would slowly go under and which ever time he chose to strike there would be nothing there Just the Pinkie Nibbled at the end. Paul still reckoned he was behind but Luke was still getting Roach despite the carp, tearing up his Swim.

This is as it stayed for the next 3 and ½ hours, but Garry had managed to increase his strike rate but the BARDAG guy in his section had already landed a 5 ½ Lb Carp and the Lords man was and Olly had sussed that trotting with the Tow ½" off the deck kept his catch rate up.

In the last 15 minutes – Mick landed a 7lb 12oz carp and Garry hung onto a 5lb 8oz 'specimen'. Mick's gamble had paid off and this would prove crucial.

At the whistle somehow I was quietly confident and I felt that if we Got to Deans weigh-in within touching distance and Dean won his Section we would be in with a chance – I was Sure that Kev and Kev had won their Sections and hoping Paul was being his usual under estimating modest self had got a 2nd – But that confidence was based on Mick winning his and Jon getting a good result on that tight Section.

Whilst waiting for the weigh-in me, Garry and Mick had a good revealing and a jovial conversation with one of the BARDAG Runners – I'm sorry to say I do not recall his name although Garry thought he'd knew him from somewhere, which led the conversation down a path about Mothers & Dads that I will not repeat here. He did reveal that we were facing the BARDAG A team and Garry's mysterious bites were probably the small perch that reside there, and that every one of the BARDAG guys knew every inch of every peg.

The weigh-in started and you can follow the graphic on the match report, needless to say it was as tight as I thought – Garry despite his late Carp finished 3rd in his section. Mick's last minute carp won his Section and Jon lost out in that very tight section finishing third. Olly did not quite manage to take 2nd in his as I had hoped by 5ozs. So it was key that Dean Win his section which he duly did and we were in with a

shout. Kev and Luke both won theirs. At this point I was predicting that we were going to miss out by a point.

However my Math has not been good of late and Paul Hyde Finished 2nd but I still reckoned it was a point, then I heard then BARDAG Guys saying we had won on section wins. There was this beautiful moment amongst all of us that perhaps we may have one but did not want to believe it – I even had them check it again – but it was as true the guy's had done it.

I didn't know quite what to do but hand shakes all round were the order of the Day. I thanked Terry Robinson (BARDAG AC) for organising and confirmed that he would file the Match report to Angling Times

I have a sneaky suspicion it might make a few lines in the Angling tomes after March 7th when the 1st round results are published.

My thanks to Dean, Kev, Paul, Luke Olly, Jon, Garry & Mick for outing the effort in, not bad for a team that no one had fished this venue for over 20 years against the others that practiced like mad. The practice was done at Lee Chapel lake – I'm a firm believer if you can Silver fish there you can anywhere !

Oh and Paul did not have to give Luke a Pound as would you believe it they both had the same weight of 15lb 15ozs.