



Wantage and Grove Aggregate Trophy Race for the title – Match 5

After 5 matches there is a distinct pattern emerging, Nathan Steele is looking very strong for the title, he's only dropped 11 points.

In round 1 Nathan started with a second place on the pond, weighing in 12lb 3oz, a long way behind Jim Routledge with an impressive 38lb 6oz.

Round 2, also on the pond, saw Stuart Harrop bring a creditable 31lb 8oz to the scales, Vicky Knowlson was second with 22lb 12oz. A visit to Buscot for the 3rd round was capped by Bob Steele with 19lb 13oz, Nathan weighed 14lb 13oz for second.

Back to the pond for rounds 4, Bob Steele emerged victorious for the second match in a row, weighing 27lb 14oz, he was pushed to the last by Steve Ferris with 26lb 7oz.

Match 5, and following all the gloriously fine weather we've had for the last goodness-knows how many weeks, this was fished in torrential rain. Oh! How we laughed, well your dedicated correspondent did, tucked up in bed with a nice cup of tea, listening to the rain hammering down.

This match at the pond was clearly won by Stuart Harrop with 42lb 3oz, we can only assume Stuart picks his matches very carefully, 2 aggregate matches fished and 2 won! For consistency he should stop there and retire unbeaten this year – but will he be back to mount a challenge to Nathan?

Bob Steele was second giving him a nice run over the last 3 matches dropping just one point, Nathan came third to ensure he stayed at the top of the leader board.

The next match in the series is scheduled for the pond on 9 September. Now that the closure order on the pond has been lifted this should go ahead without any problems but watch the news page for more information.

Unfortunately, for all those who view matches as much as a social opportunity as a competition the absence of Pascal Hogan since his unfortunate accident is noted with great regret. Pascal can light up any fishing occasion and we all wish him a speedy recovery and return to the lake and river bank.

The top 5 anglers in the aggregate trophy race include Danny Dance and John Blackwell, neither has performed as well as we know they can but have put in a steady set of results to ensure they remain in contention. See the results sheets for the leader board.

I can only apologise for the photograph of the cup, Bob did a great job polishing it up, we only wish he hadn't taken the photograph with his naked torso reflected in it!