

The National Anguilla Club

GUIDE.

Guide to the 1979 Session Reporting Scheme.

70
Questions

1

Guide to the Reporting Scheme, 1979/80.

At the last A.G.M. it was agreed to reintroduce rod hours into the 1979/80 reporting scheme. This was because it is felt that no significant results can be obtained if rod hours are not used as a constant.

There were some aspects of the 1978 scheme that were problematic, for example although a method may have looked to be the most effective, in reality nearly all the effort may have been put into this variable, yet a far more effective method may be virtually ignored.

Some of the obvious changes are:- all the variables in the session report form are linked to rod hours; a rod usage table is included and even for a blank session the entire form must be filled in. As in previous years, completed forms are to be sent to your designated reporting officer by the first of the month following. If your officer does not hear from you by the 10th of any month, he will assume that you did not have any eel sessions in the preceding month. Remember it is up to you. The reporting officers will not accept any session report forms after November 10th. The list of members and their reporting officers will be sent to you as soon as it is possible.

As with all schemes I do not consider this scheme to be perfect. If any member does have any constructive suggestions on how the scheme may be improved, please let me know.

Kevin Richmond.

Aims and Objectives.

Before giving details on how information from a session should be recorded, it is considered necessary to explain why we are collecting these data. Although over the years the session reporting scheme has become part and parcel of Anguilla club routine, data are not collected for the sake of collection only and they do have a function.

The first objective is the compilation of annual statistics. In many ways this is the club's "bragging book". For each year we know how much effort individual members put in, how much effort the club as a whole put in, how many eels are caught both individually and as a club, etc. For the 1977/78 scheme the measure of effort was the session itself, for 1979/80 the emphasis has changed once again towards rod hours.

The most important aim of the scheme though, is to try to answer a few of the questions which will result in our eel catches getting better. Over the years we have built a sound picture of what affects the average eel in the average water. 1977/78 saw our attentions turning towards getting to grips with individual fisheries, and the 1979/80 scheme goes further towards this aim.

Every one of us should be aiming to improve on last season by making use of last year's results. The results that we collect this season will, hopefully, help us to improve further next year.

Session form completion.

Member/code no.: Write your name clearly. Put your membership code number in the relevent space.

Water: Give the name, or code name, of the water. If code names are used, would members fishing the same fishery please agree to use the same name. It is also hoped that members using code names will provide the club analyst with a 'key' so that he will be able to determine if other members, unaware of other codes, have fished that water.

Town/county: Write in the town to which the water is nearest, and the county.

Type of water: Write in the type of water being fished. Members are requested to state whether they are fishing a brick pit, clay pit, trout stream, lowland river, etc.

Session date(s): Write in the date(s) of the session fished. If the session begins in one day and ends in another, write in both dates (eg. 29 - 30th April). If the session covers the last day of one month and the first day of the next, then it must be counted as two seperate sessions and two forms completed. A session should not cover a period of more than 24 hours.

Session number: Write in the session number for the session fished. As with 1977/78, it is not the session number for the individual water, but the total session number for the whole season.

Rod Usage

Rod	From		To		Eel Nos.	Bait Type	Full Description of Bait
	Date	Time	Date	Time			
1	15	21.45	16	06.30	1,2,	W	Double lobworms

Space is provided for up to 4 rods. If you use more, you will require two session report forms.

As each rod is cast out, enter the date (just the day of the month) and the time (to the nearest 1/4 hour, eg. 17.45) in the from column. Under 'bait type', record W if you are using worm bait, DB if you are using a dead fish/section of a dead fish for bait, or O if you are using any other form of bait. Under 'Full description of bait' give farther details, eg. "double lobworm", 3" roach, large black slug.

As each rod is reeled in in the morning, enter time and date in the boxes beneath the 'To' column. If during the session, you change the position of the rod, or change the bait to a different class, a second line should be entered for that rod.

Swim Details.

Ba	Dis	Dep	Sn	We	Bo	Wc	Sd
Bank fished	Distance cast	Depth fished	Snags near bait	Weed Growth	Type of bottom	Water clarity	Surface Dist.

Bank fished: Enter in the 'Ba' column the direction faced if you stand at the waters edge facing away from it. Use one of the following: N; ~~NE~~; E; ~~SE~~; S; ~~SW~~; W; ~~NW~~.

Distance cast: Enter in the 'Dis' column the distance, in yards, that your bait lies away from your rod. Use one of the following: ~~0-5, 5-10, 10-20, 20-50, 50+~~. NEAR 0-25 MEDIUM 25-30 FAR 30+

Depth fished: Enter in the 'Dep' column the depth, in feet, that your bait is lying in. Use one of the following: ~~0-2, 2-5, 5-10, 10-20, 20-40, 40+ plus.~~ SHALLOW 0-5' MEDIUM 5-20' DEEP 20+

Snags near bait: Enter in the 'Sn' column if there are any snags near your bait. Specify either 'Yes' or 'No'.

Weed growth: Enter in the 'We' column the quantity of weed present near your bait. Use one of the following: N (Nil), Sp (Sparse), D (Dense).

Type of bottom: Enter in the 'Bo' column the type of bottom where your bait is lying. Use one of the following: M/S (Mud/Silt), S/G (Shingle or gravel), ~~S/Sand~~, R/B (Rocks or boulders).

Water clarity: Enter in the 'Wc' column the colour of the water where the bait lies. Use one of the following: clc (cloudy), cle (clear), Vc (very clear).

Surface disturbance: Enter in the 'Sd' column the amount of surface disturbance in the swim. Use one of the following: N (Nil), S (Slight), H (Heavy), ~~R (Intense)~~.

Tackle Details.

H	TrT	Tbs	Tle	Line	Weight	Indicat.
Hook Size used	Trace Type used	Trace breaking strain	Trace length used	Line breaking strain	casting weight used	type of indicat. used

Hook size used: Enter in the 'H' column the size of the hook being used, eg: 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2, 1, 1/0, 2/0, etc. SMALL 16-12 MEDIUM 10-4 LARGE 2-

Trace type used: Enter in the 'TrT' column the type of trace used eg; No (No trace), Nyl (Nylon trace), SSW (Stainless steel wire), MSW (Multi strand wire), NCMSW (Nylon coated multi strand wire).

Trace breaking strain: Enter in the 'Tbs' column the breaking strain of the trace used, eg: ~~0-5, 5-10, 10-15, 15-20, 20-25, 25 plus.~~ LIGHT 0-5 MEDIUM 5-15 HEAVY 15+

Trace length: Enter in the 'Tle' column the length of the trace used, eg: ~~0-6", 6-12", 12-18", 18-24", 24" plus.~~ SMALL 0-6" MED 6-12" LONG 12"+

Line breaking strain: Enter in the 'Line' column the breaking strain of the line used, eg: ~~0-5, 5-10, 10-15, 15-20, 20 plus.~~ light med heavy

Weight used: Enter in the 'Weight' column the casting weight used. If one is used specify the weight, eg: ~~1oz, 2oz, 3oz, etc.~~ Nil, light heavy

Indicator used: Enter in the 'Indicator used' column the method of bite detection, eg: Heron Antenna, AJS Antenna, Betalight Grips.

Bait Details (cont.)

Position of bait: Enter in the 'Position' column the position of the bait fished, eg: Bottom, Midwater, Surface.

Additive used: Enter in the 'A' column whether an additive has been used. Specify 'Yes' or 'No'. Details of the additive should be entered in the 'General comments' section of the report form, eg: Emulsified pilchard oil, 1ppm Glycine.

Swim Details (cont.)

Groundbait used: Enter in the 'GB' column whether the swim has been groundbaited. Specify 'Yes' or 'No'.

Prebaiting used: Enter in the 'PB' column whether the swim has been prebaited or not. Specify 'Yes' or 'No'. Additional information can be entered in the 'General comments' section.

Rod Usage Table.

	Day RH	Eels		Night RH	Eels		Total RH	Eels
Deadbait			Deadbait			Deadbait		
Worm			Worm			Worm		
Other			Other			Other		

Rod usage tables are straightforward for the older members in the club, as this was a factor used in great detail during 1967-76. However, for our newer members it would be appropriate to explain how to complete this table.

Let us assume that the month is July, for which night is defined as 21.30 - 04.30 hours. The following table does in fact define the hours of darkness.

Night is defined as follows:

March.	19.30 - 07.00
April.	20.30 - 05.30
May.	21.30 - 04.30
June.	22.00 - 04.00
July.	21.30 - 04.30
August.	20.30 - 05.30
September	19.30 - 06.00
October.	18.30 - 07.00

Taking worm baits first our member fished one rod on worm, from 21.45 - 01.30; a total of $3\frac{3}{4}$ rod hours. According to our definition of night, all these rod hours were put in after dark; therefore we have an entry of Worm Day: 0 RH; Worm Night: $3\frac{3}{4}$ RH. Two eels are taken on worm, obviously at night, so in the 'eel' column alongside Worm (Night RH) we write '2'. Our member decided at 01.30 to change to using a deadbait, fishing through to 06.30. Of these, 3 RH were put in during the night, (01.30 - 04.30), and 2 RH during daylight (04.30 - 06.30). Rod 2 he fished with deadbait during the entire session, a total of $8\frac{3}{4}$ RH were put in; of these $6\frac{3}{4}$ RH were at night (21.45 - 06.30) and 2 RH during the day (04.30 - 06.30).

Thus adding these figures up, we find a total of: $9\frac{3}{4}$ RH (DB Night) 4 RH (Deadbit Day), and $3\frac{3}{4}$ RH (Worm Night). No effort was put in with other baits, so no entries are made in the other columns.

Thus the Rod Usage Table looks as follows:

	Day RH	Eels		Night RH	Eel		Tot RH	Eel
Deadbait	4	0	Deadbait	$9\frac{3}{4}$	0	Deadbait	$13\frac{3}{4}$	0
Worm			Worm	$3\frac{3}{4}$	2	Worm	$3\frac{3}{4}$	2
Other			Other			Other		

Eels Taken.

Weight: Write in the actual weight of the eel(s) taken to the nearest 1/2 oz. eg: 1:01, 0:13, 4:04 1/2, 11:03, etc.

Length/Girth: Write in the length and girth of the eel(s) taken in the relevent columns. Please use inches. Measure to the nearest 1/2", eg: 24", 36 1/2", 49 3/4".

Date/Time: Enter in the 'Date' column the date (day of month only) that the eel was taken, and the time caught in the 'Time' column. Please work to the nearest 1/4 hour, eg: 21.45.

colouration: Enter in the relevent column the colour nearest to that of the eel taken, eg: Dark Brown, Light Brown, Black/Silver, 'Other'.

Shape of head: Enter in the 'Head' column the shape of the head nearest to that of the eel taken, eg: Broad, Pointed, Other.

condition: Enter in the 'condition' column the approximate condition of the eel, eg. an eel of 4:00 measuring 30" would be 'Short' while an eel of 2:00 measuring 40" would be 'Long'.

Weather Details.

This is an important part of the scheme. It would be appreciated if all weather readings were taken at the same time and new measurements being entered as conditions change - assuming of course that they do. For water temperature readings, aim to get readings from the bottom where you are actually fishing - surface temperatures can be quite different, especially in stillwater. For air temperature readings, make sure that the bulb of the thermometer is dry, and if recorded during daylight, always take readings in the shade.

below
50-50°F
Temp. Cold
50 - Warm
60°F
Hot.
above
60°F

If you do not have one of the thermometers designed to be cast into the water to record water temperatures, a good tip is to push the bulb of the thermometer down the fish's throat on retrieval. Provided the bait has been out for at least a hour you can get an accurate reading of the water temperature.

In the Barometric pressure column a simple High/Medium/Low is all that is required. The 'Ris/Fal' column needs no explaining either a rising/falling/steady barometric pressure should be entered.

Wind Strength: Enter in the wind strength column the approximate strength of the wind, eg: Nil, Light, Fresh, Strong. (Light is a gentle breeze and Strong is when it becomes uncomfortable).

Wind direction: Enter in the 'Direct' column the direction from which the wind is blowing, eg: N, ~~NE~~, E, ~~SE~~, S, ~~SW~~, W, ~~NW~~.

cloud cover: Enter in the cloud % column the average cloud cover, eg: Nil%, 0 - 50%, 50 - 100%.

Rain: Enter in the 'Rain' column the rainfall that occurred during the session, eg: Nil, Showers, continuous.

Water Details.

Size of water: cross out the section specifying the size of the water that you are fishing.

Water surrounds: cross out the section specifying the environment in which the water is located.

% of bankside cover: cross out the section specifying the amount of trees/bushes around the water.

Average Depth: cross out the section specifying the overall depth of the water.

Source of access: cross out the section by which an eel gains access to the water.

Shape of bottom: cross out the section specifying the type of bottom shape that the water has.

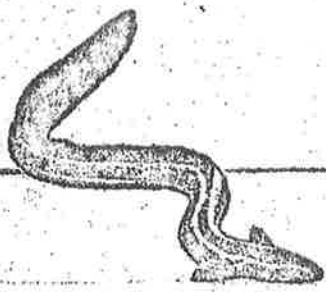
Water Details. (cont.)

Anyone else fishing. Specify whether or not anyone else was fishing the water at the same time as you. Also state approx. how many other anglers were present. These data should include anguilla club members.

General comments.

In this space provided please put any other relevant details or comments that may assist in building up trends concerning the capture of eels. In particular, when an eel is over four pounds as much additional information should be inserted. A diagram of the swim fished should be also entered here in order to enable a much more detailed picture of the fishery in question to be built up.

With any new scheme, the first few sessions will take a little longer to record and frequent reference to the guide may be needed, but as the season progresses and eel captures are regularly reported, their completion will become much simpler.



The National Anguilla Club

Session Report Form
(use one form per eels caught or blank session)

Member	KEVIN RICHMOND		code number	070
Water	RIVER TAW	Town	BARNSTAPLE	
Type of water	LOWLAND RIVER	county	DEVON	
Session date(s)	21/22.7.79 21.30 - 06.30		Session number	15

Rod	From		To		Eel Nos	Bait Type	Full description of bait used	Swim Details							
	D	Time	D	Time				Ba	Dis	Dep	Sh	We	Bo	Wc	Sd
1	21	21.30	22	01.30	1/2	W	2x lobs	N	5/10	5/10	Y	Nil	M/s	Clo	Nil
	22	01.30	22	06.30	-	DB	3" Roach	N	10/20	5/10	Y	Sp	M/s	Clo	Nil
2	21	21.30	22	06.30	-	DB	3" PERCH	N	10/20	5/10	Y	Sp	M/s	Clo	Nil
3															
4															

Rod	Tackle Details							Bait De			Swim De		
	H	TrT	Tbs	Tle	Line	Weight	Indicator used	Position	A	GB	PB		
1	8	No	-	12/18	5/10	1/2oz bomb	A.J.S. Antenna	Bottom	N	Y	Y		
	4	Nyl	10/15	12/18	5/10	3/4oz bomb	Betalight Grips	Bottom	N	Y	Y		
2	4	MSW	10/15	18/24	5/10	3/4oz bomb	Betalight Grips	Bottom	Y	Y	Y		
3													
4													

Rod Usage Table	Bait	DayRH	Eel	Bait	NightRH	Eel	Bait	TotalRH	Eel
	DB	4	0	DB	9 3/4	0	DB	13 3/4	0
	W			W	3 3/4	2	W	3 3/4	2
	O			O			O		

Eels taken.

	weig.	Leng.	Girth	Date	time	colour	Head Shape	condition	Fate
1	4:02	4 1/2	9 3/4	21	23:30	Light Brown	Broad	Long	Returned
2	3:11	37	9	22	00:15	Dark Brown	Pointed	Normal	Returned.
3	:								
4	:								
5	:								
6	:								
7	:								
8	:								
9	:								
10	:								
11	:								
12	:								

Weather Details.

Date	21	22	22	22	Date	21	22	22	22
Time	2145	0000	0300	0630	Time	2145	0000	0300	0630
W.Temp.	64	64	64	64	Wind Str.	Nil	Nil	Fre	Str
Air Temp.	55	50	50	49	Direction	-	-	NE	NE
B.Press.	H	H	H	H	cloud%	50/100	50/100	50%	0%
Ris/Fall	St	St	St	St	Rain	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Water Details

Size of water (acres)	N/Apl.	0 - 1	1 - 5	5-10	10-20	20-50	50 plus
Water surrounds	woodlnd	frmlnd	moorlnd	indust	resident	other	
% of bankside covered with trees/shrubs	0 - 24%		25 - 75%		75-100%		
Average overall depth (feet)	0 - 5		5 - 20		20 plus		
Source of access (yards)	Direct		0 - 25		25 - 1000		1000 plus
Shape of bottom	Flat		Irregular		Very Irr.		
Anyone else fishing the water	No	Yes	Specify number:- 2				

General comments :- Map of swim etc.

GROUND BAITED WITH 200 LOBS AND 20 CHOPPED ROACH. PREBAITED FOR 10 DAYS WITH 100 LOBS AND 10 CHOPPED ROACH EACH DAY. ADDITIVE USED. EMULSIFIED PILCHARD OIL.