



(Some Sponsorship and Support to be confirmed and added)

In May 2021 Holt Sea Angling club will be hosting the much delayed **8th North Norfolk Bass Festival** on the shingle ridge in North Norfolk. 2020 was an unprecedented year with the Covid-19 pandemic playing havoc with our match scene. The 8th running of this festival was not spared and this is that postponed event. Covid-19 continues to be a threat to everyone so this year's event will be run under strict Covid rules and guidelines.

The inaugural event in 2013 was an outstanding success with over 90 sizeable Bass recorded and released. The 2014 event was as successful although Bass numbers were lower but this was more than compensated by other species. In 2015 a total of 47 bass were recorded and again other species came on strong to create a highly competitive event with 100 match anglers from around the country participating.

The 2016 event saw the attendance increase to 106 with 63 Bass being recorded over the two days. In 2017 attendance increased again to 108 with 85 Bass recorded but the event was high jacked by Smooth Hounds with 344 recorded. 2018 saw a further increase in attendance to 112 with the Hounds again prominent with 353 recorded along with 122 Bass plus 185 Dogs and in total 2928 fish carded. Attendance for 2019 slightly increased to 116 and more importantly saw the number of Bass recorded leap to 364 with the Hounds and Dogs although there not taking a significant role

The 2021 Festival will again incorporate the **UK Ladies Championships** and the **North Norfolk Juniors Tournament** with both being supported by *local & countrywide businesses* and Holt SAC along with the **Shannock Quads** a "Teams of 4" competition supported by *Sheringham Carnival*. As in previous years the event will include a **Mystery Pairs** competition where all adult competitors will be paired dependent on their Zone positions after the Day 1 match. The Festival will be held over the weekend of **May 22nd/23rd 2021** slightly later than previous years due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Holt Sea Angling Club would like to again thank all the various organisations for their help in making this year's event again possible.

The **Bass Festival** event will be sponsored by *Kelling Heath Holiday Park* and supported by *Sea Angler Magazine*. The event will comprise of two separate 5 hour matches fished on Saturday 22nd May and Sunday 23rd May. The provisional venues for the event will be Cley, Salthouse and Kelling on the North Norfolk Shingle Ridge. Each competitor will fish Kelling on one day and one of the other venues the following day. In contrast to previous years, both matches will be over the bottom of an ebbing tide and currently match times will be 9:00 to 2:00 on both days but there could be an earlier 8:00 start. This will be determined closer to the date and will be identified in an *Information Pack* which will be sent to each competitor who has booked.

Both matches will be catch & release and fished to Holt SAC match rules.

As in 2017, 2018 & 2019, Holt SAC has agreed that all species will be returned and not taken for consumption for the duration of the event. This means that the Event will comply with any National Legislation regarding Bass as well as promoting the conservation of all other species. Any competitor breaking this ruling will be penalised. This ruling will apply to all the Event competitions.

The entry fee for the Bass Festival will be £20 for each day with an Optional Pools of £10 per day. Prize monies for each match will be for the heaviest bass, heaviest bass bag, heaviest flattie bag and heaviest overall bag. There will also be prizes and may be trophies donated by Kelling Heath Holiday Park for the biggest bass of the festival, day winners and overall winner. Further prize categories will be added if the prize table allows. The competition as been registered for Penn Points.

The **UK Ladies Championships** will be supported by *Tronixpro*. The event will follow the same logistical format as the Bass Festival regarding venues and rules, etc. Unlike previous years Ladies pegs will not be a separate grouping but will be incorporated with all the Bass Festival competitors. There will be provision for Ladies/Bass Festival double pegs where ladies and partners may fish together in both events. Ladies may also register to fish in both the Ladies and Bass Festival events. Both matches will be catch & release and fished to Holt SAC match rules.

The entry fee for the Ladies event will be £15 for each day but unlike previous years there will be no Ladies Optional Pools. Prize monies will be for heaviest bag of all species each day with points awarded dependent on overall Ladies' position each day. The Lady with lowest aggregate points score over the two days will be crowned Ladies Champion and will receive the *Tronixpro* perpetual shield. Other prizes may be presented dependent on further sponsorship being obtained prior to the event.

The **North Norfolk Juniors Tournament** will be supported by *Breakaway*, thanks Norman! The event will follow the same format as the Ladies event where Juniors will be fishing under real match rules and this year as for the Ladies there will be no separate grouping of Junior pegs but will be part of the main draw. Each Junior **MUST** be accompanied at all times by an adult who may or may not be fishing the Bass Festival or Ladies events. If the adult is fishing either of these events then double pegs will be assigned.

Entry will be FREE to all Juniors and is open to all Juniors across the country. There will be a perpetual shield donated by *Country Cars* for the overall Junior winner of the two days and other prizes. The overall winners will be determined as for the Ladies Competition.

The **Shannock Quads** is a "Teams of 4" competition supported by *Sheringham Carnival*. This competition will be based on the total weight recorded by the four team members of each nominated team over the two days and the team with the highest aggregate weight will be declared the winners. In the unlikely result of a tie then total number of fish recorded will be taken into consideration. If numbers allow separate day prizes will be awarded. All Team members must participate in at least one of the other three Festival competitions. Entry will be £20 per team for the full competition. Apart from the monetary pay out the winning team will receive a perpetual shield donated by *Sheringham Carnival*.

As in the past three events there will be a **Mystery Pairs** competition where adult competitors will be paired dependent on their Zone positions after the Day1 match. The selection process will randomly pair those in the top half positions with those in the bottom half which will make for a fair an interesting final day result. The winners will be determined by the accumulation of the pairs Zone positions over the two days with the lowest scores taking the honours. The fee for this competition is embedded in the Overall fees for the competition. Number of winners will depend on the number of competitors competing.

The **Head Quarters** for the event will be **Kelling Heath Holiday Park** and they will be offering accommodation at 2021 prices with 15% discount for those participating. A short break booking will commence on Friday 21st May and finish on Monday 24th May with rates still extremely competitive for this time of year. Accommodation comprises of Lodges and a large number of Holiday homes which can accommodate up to 6 adults. There are plenty of restaurant facilities at the complex which should be open but under Covid-19 rules. There is also plenty of activity in the surrounding woodland and Kelling Heath is renowned for the amenities it provides. Holt SAC has hosted the last seven Festivals and five National Sea League Finals from this location and all have been impressed with the facilities and the general atmosphere.

This is an ideal place to bring your family, partner, etc. for a short break at the start of the summer. They can enjoy the surrounding facilities whilst you can enjoy your sport or alternatively they can join you on the beach which is just 2 to 3 miles away. Check out their website at www.kellingheath.co.uk .

The cost of accommodation **with** 15% discount for this weekend will be as follows with the discount...

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|---------------|---|----------------|---|---------------|
| • Heron | - | £287.30 |) | |
| • Nightjar | - | £337.45 |) | Holiday Homes |
| • Bittern | - | £331.50 |) | |
| • 2 Bed Lodge | - | £453.05 | | |
| • 3 Bed Lodge | - | £495.55 | | |

Book early to ensure you obtain your preferred accommodation. Visit www.kellingheath.co.uk for information about accommodation. Call **01263 588181** for bookings.

With this event becoming very popular the above assigned accommodation is snapped up very quickly particularly the Holiday Homes. However, Kelling Heath has a sister site on the coast 6 miles away at **East Runton** called **Woodhill Park** which also has a number of Holiday Homes at a slightly lower rate than above and they can also be booked through Kelling Heath. In addition, for the more open air and hardy competitors Kelling Heath also has a large number of pitches for **tourers** and **tents**. They are offering 3 nights for the price of 2 and these can also be booked as detailed above. If Kelling Heath and sister accommodation is fully booked then there is plenty of accommodation in the area and www.visitsheringham.co.uk/webcam/ is a useful site to find some as well as giving a live webcam view of the sea.

If you require Kelling Heath accommodation for the weekend please contact **Kelling Heath Holiday Park** on **01263 588181**. Please note you require to book by phone and not on-line to obtain the discount.

If you require more information please contact Tony Thomas at Holt Sea Angling Club on **07780793141** or thomasamt@btinternet.com. All of this information is also available on Holt SAC's website, www.holtsac.com under the *Open Events* option and also on the Holt SAC Facebook page . .

If you and/or your friends are interested in participating in either the Bass Festival, Ladies Championships, Juniors or Shannock Quads competitions then please use the attached booking form. Please note that booking for just one of the matches will be allowed and there will be close Pegs available for those with disabilities. The final itinerary will be included in an *Information Pack* which will be mailed to each competitor prior to the event

Booking is required to be made on the Event Booking Form and received along with the identified entry fee(s) by **Friday 30th April 2021**. Bookings after this date cannot be accepted.

... Holt SAC look forward to seeing you in North Norfolk in May ...