



Howzit ladies and gents,

The Fury Ford UKFC Fishing Festival took place last weekend (6-7 May 2017).

It was a huge success thanks to the entrants, sponsors and dedicated members. We have already started planning for next year and we are hoping to make it bigger and better!

Chairmans report

"Relief!... That's the feeling I am sure I share with most of the committee on Sunday afternoon over a beer after the prize giving of the Fury Ford UKFC kayak fishing festival 2017. Many of you won't realise the work that goes into putting an event like this together and the stress associated with having it run smoothly and safely.

This year we were blessed with an awesome day for fishing on the Saturday and most of the anglers that entered made it count and put the hours in on the water. Those that did were definitely rewarded. I am sure you guys can agree that one of the reasons this event was such a success was because of the venue and on that note a big thank you to Umhlanga Rock Ski Boat Club for taking us under their wing at the beginning of this year and giving our club a home. This years event will be remembered for the shear numbers of big couta caught by the competitors, it's not often you catch a 20kg couta and are disappointed that it isn't big enough, but well done to the guys that managed to

achieve this and to those that broke their previous PBs.

An event like this isn't possible without a lot of co-ordination and support from a lot of people and I would just like to take this opportunity to thank the following people.

To my committee for their time, effort and willingness to support me and UKFC. It is a completely voluntary and thankless task with no reward other than a few laughs and the relationships that are built as a result of being actively involved in the club, thanks guys you were truly awesome this year and tucked in from the word go.

To Kelly that has been an absolute star and has made our lives on the committee much easier with her organization and willingness to help.

To our sponsors who despite the financial pressure in the current times come back year after year and support our little club and its events. You guys are truly amazing and your support and the relationships we have are truly awesome.

Lastly to you, our UKFC members and entrants to the event. Thank you for being a part of this event and for coming along for the ride. The reason I enjoy being involved with the UKFC is because I get to meet guys like you and build relationships with like minded individuals. I hope the event was everything you expected and that you all had a great weekend of fun and camaraderie.

Well done to Scott Hunter for taking home the bacon and showing us how it's done!"

-Julian Dalton







Words from the WINNER

"Wow, what a weekend it was! The support was unbelievably humbling. So where do I start? I guess the question on everyone's lips is 'How did you do it?' and the answer is quite simple- Lucky!!! Hahahaha just kidding, we all know you make your own luck, you just have to make sure you are in the right place to cash in on it. The comp for me started about 2 weeks ago. I went to my freezer and was horrified to see how kak my bait stocks were, so I started finding whatever decent bait I could get my hands on. (Big thanks to Mike Wilson and Jamie Wardell who spared me a spare bait). To catch a big couta you need 4 things: good quality bigger bait, slightly green warm water, time and a lucky "Wardell Insurance" fishing hat. The bait that did the trick for me was huge Mackerel I managed to find at Hook Line and Sinker in Ballito. I just had a feeling they would do the trick. Bait: Check!!!

Now where to fish and how? Before the comp, based on what was happening at the time, I figured there were 3 options to realistically target a big couta ,as I

just didn't think a big tuna would quiet cut it from the previous comp stats. The 1st was Selection off Umdloti due to all the decent fish it produced during the Durban Ski boat comp, the 2nd was The Tinley Manor Area, but after being taxed flat out there by a huge Zambzi recently, I didn't think it was the best option (Rich Langford can now confirm). The 3rd option was somewhere between Blythdale and Zinkwazi, but my biggest concern was the crowd, as everyone else had the same idea...until the green water chased them away.

I opted for somewhere between Blythdale and Zinkwazi, as I figured if it was too crowded I could just keep going north. So I printed out a map from Goggle Earth which I had 1 or 2 marks on from a previous trip to this area and planned where I would fish and how. Anyone who has been to Mozam with me will know how much time I spend researching the area and putting an overview plan together. The weather usually complicates these plans, but not this time. This time everything went almost exactly as planned. The only difference was that the fish were a little bit deeper than I expected them to be. All I had to do was put in the time, work the area and change my bait configuration until I came right. So after taking off my dead bonnie and opting for a big Mack with a pink skirt, I finally got one to bite at about 10:00 and well everyone knows the rest of the story. The finer details I'd be more than happy to discuss over a beer or two

;))

Besides catching a winning fish, I also had one of the best days on the water I have had in years, just because of the guys I had the privilege of fishing with that day, any of which could have easily taken the win too and can you believe there were only 10 of us there. Sometimes it's just your day!

Thank you all for your support, it has been amazing and a big up to the UKFC committee for all the hard work you guys put in. This truly is one of the top kayak fishing comps around today and if we keep it going, maybe one day a big sponsor overseas might just take note. Who knows what could happen then."

- Scott Hunter

Until next time,

Keep your lines tight and your hatches full!



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