

PERFORMANCE OF THE MONTH

Our very own Lee Kerry wins this month's accolade after powering his way to a second Sensas Challenge Final win!

The Sensas Challenge is one of the most prestigious events on the match fishing calendar. It is an event that every top team wants to win and it is sold out every year. The match is unique in that it is fished to international CIPS rules and is also an opportunity for several teams from France to come and fish against our top

Quality skimmers played a part in Lee's success!



outfits. Even the famous Jean Desque and his team come and fish the event.

As you can imagine, the standard of angling is very high so when Lee Kerry lifted the individual crown last year he thought it would be a one-off. Amazingly, though, after two more stunning performances, he has lifted the crown again! We just had to find out how he went about winning the Sensas Challenge!

"The Sensas Challenge Final has and will always be a team event; when I sit down for my team I know the best I can do is win my section and this competition rewards individuals by their points score over the two days of competition.

"Last year my team were unlucky to finish fifth; we made some attacking decisions that did not pay off for everyone, but I managed to bag two section wins and take home the individual crown. I was absolutely over the moon to win, but the fact that the team had not qualified for the big final in France left me feeling a little empty.

"This year we were hoping to book a place in France by finishing in the top three of the competition, and after last year's event on the Gloucester Canal, it was Barston Lakes and Packington Somers' turn to host this prestigious event.

"The team went for a practice on the Friday, after a Thursday session had proved incredibly difficult. Friday saw a change in the conditions and the fish began to feed. We had figured out that fishmeal groundbait was an important part of the plan, definitely attracting the resident skimmers and big roach.

"Day One saw me draw a recognised good area of a lake at Packington called Molands; I was confident I could catch some big fish from the area, but being a team match I covered all bases with lighter rigs as well.

"I started off with two pole lines. One was fed aggressively with 250ml of joker, the other with small amounts of maggots and fishmeal groundbait. Match Fishing's Joe Carass had caught some big roach on Friday fishing like this, so I fancied it for a good start.

"The match couldn't have gone more smoothly; I caught some roach and tench early, before moving onto the waggler and catching a run of 10 F1s. In the last hour I came back on

the pole for some more big roach and skimmers, to complete a fantastic day's fishing on light tackle. Regular feeding definitely seemed to keep the fish in the peg and my 28lb was enough to win the section and the lake, so it was a great start.

"The team had done okay with 31 points, but we had some very poor pegs and I knew the lads were capable of a low score on Day Two, so all was not lost.

"On the second day I drew Peg 96 at Barston. The first day had seen the lake fish exceptionally well, with bream caught everywhere, but an overnight frost and lack of wind made me feel the bream would be a lot harder to come by, so I set up rigs for fishing the pole. More importantly, I fancied the waggler!

"I knew those around me would fish around 30 metres, so decided to try and fish at 40 metres to give myself a bit of space. It paid off as three early skimmers found the net before it slowed up. The lake was flat calm and most in the section had one or two skimmers. I knew I was doing well, but needed a late run of fish to secure maximum team points.

"I unclipped my waggler and went five metres further, feeding three small balls right on the float (which doesn't happen very often!).

"The move worked, with two bream in the last hour to take me to 11lb 15oz and another section win. The team had done brilliantly to win the day with a great 19-point score, James Dent winning the match with 36lb of F1s.

"That meant we had finished third and booked a place in the final in the south of France in October! My two

Product Of The Month



Matrix Ultron Reel

A robust no-nonsense reel that is a superb performer. Ideal for both feeder and waggler fishing, this front-drag reel will outperform many others on the market. Available in two sizes - 3000 and 4000.



Comment Of The Month

Matrix Boss Ricky Teale Says:

Lee has been unbelievably consistent in recent years and this win tops that off. He has quite rightly been called up to the England squad and the future is very bright for this extremely talented angler.



wins meant I had retained my individual title, and after being selected for the England team for the European Championship on the Monday, I have certainly had worse weeks!

"A final congratulations to Starlets for winning the team event, that too is worthy of Performance Of The Month!"

The top three: Oliver Scotthorne (2nd), Lee, and Sean Ashby (3rd) - amazingly it is the second time Lee has lifted the title!



Over each of the next 10 months we will be choosing a single match as the 'Matrix Performance Of The Month'. Selected anglers will then fish a final in 2014.

The Finalists

#1: Michael Buchwalder

#2: Tommy Pickering

#3: Lee Kerry