**Competitions Qualifier Saturday 26th April 2014**

At last, winter was over and the first brownie competition of 2014 had arrived. So there we were, 10, intrepid heroes lined up on Meig on a cold drizzly morning with a cold east wind that carried that horrible chill that no amount of clothes could keep you warm. The rules were the same as last year, any angler could put their name forward for a maximum of two competitions from the three available. The available venues were the charity competition on Watten, the all nighter on Skye and the wild trout challenge on Shin.

Five boats were off at 09:30 with the weigh in scheduled for 16:00. Straight away Davie MacGregor was into fish and had an unbelievable 8 trout in the first drift. Davie kept on picking up fish during the morning and it was soon clear that he was likely to go through to his chosen venues of Watten and Shin. The fishing was steady throughout the day but the weather failed to improve. At the weigh in myself, Neil MacRitchie and Davie MacGregor had good bags but the rest had struggled, either blanking or returning a single fish. Spare a thought for Derek Ritchie and Steve Dowds who were pipped for a trip to Shin by a mere 0.03 of an ounce. All the results are set out in the table below.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | No Trout | Wt lbs. | Watten | Skye | Shin |
| Lewis Ross | 7 | 6.06 | \* |  |  |
| Neil MacRitchie | 4 | 2.66 |  | \* |  |
| Derek Williamson | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| Davie MacGregor | 17 | 10.62 | \* |  | \* |
| Brian Scobie | 1 | 0.77 |  |  | \* |
| Derek Ritchie | 1 | 0.74 |  |  |  |
| Johnston Swinton | 0 |  |  |  |  |
| Steve Dowds | 1 | 0.74 |  |  |  |
| George Eccleson | 1 | 0.92 |  | \* |  |
| Kenny MacIntosh | 0 |  |  |  |  |

Lewis Ross Competitions Secretary