

Victory in the Sun

by Mike Flynn

Wales World Champions in Portugal, pinch me was the thought was I dreaming, No, the commitment of Franco Attanassio and the team was fantastic.

Our practice week was honed to perfection were each individual tried different tactics this enabled the team to build a detailed picture of what fish we were to expect.



The main event is over five days of fishing with the first day being the official practice, most teams believe they have their tactics sorted by this day and really do not put any effort in to the fishing as to not let any effort into the day, on this particular day we continued to practice our skills ensuring our preparation was complete.

Our main aim at the event was to hold our heads up high in the angling world, and if a medal was possible then this would be a bonus.

Day 1 Saw 2003 World Champions England clinch the day with ourselves second.

Day 2 Can only be described as one of the best days of the event with hordes of golden grey mullet making an appearance and must say the practice days came into play, however the sleeping giants of Spain turned on the skill button in the final minutes

of the match, prizing away our first possible day win.

Day 3 Was one of the toughest days fishing following a rough spell of weather the fine yes fine weed was to play havoc with the terminal tackle resulting in many lost lines, this was a turning point of the event were many teams suffered with the lack of fish

Wales along with Belgium were not in that pot and managed 5 with fish, Our man Gerald John was the star here with only 5 minutes to go up went his arm as a fish was bought to the bucket, our run of 2nds continued

Day 4 A fairly healthy lead was a comfort but in fishing anything can happen and as the saying goes "it's not over until the fat lady sings"

Fortunately not many fish were about and after a nerve wrecking start our man Corker who was in gold position individually landed his first fish, followed by Cyril Cross, then a wait developed, our nerves were on edge suddenly the Radio crackled to life and Joe Arch was amongst the fish, We then had to wait for the fourth person and Gerald john followed his previous days result with a sole with minutes to go.

England, were extremely unlucky not to be in the medals and ended up a credible fourth

Italy had secured the Bronze Medal position with 23 points

Holland secured the Silver Medal position with 21 Points

Wales Gold with 17 points

Individually Gold was snatched from Pete Corkers grasp at the last minute by David Lunas of Spain

Thanks go to Ultima once again for their unwavering support with some remarkable lines that give us the best possible performance in the fishing line department.

