2023 World Koi Carp Classic report

Dave Gousmett

Entries were down this year because of boat movement restrictions put in place by MPI to stop the spread of the newly discovered freshwater gold clams (contestants had to hunt the same area each day). However there were still over 2000 koi weighed in with a total weight of almost 4 tonnes.

The leading team of Andrew Cottle and Sam Walter broke all records weighing in over 400 koi carp just on the Saturday and they ended up with 1092.9 kg for the weekend to win the Department of Conservation Cup. That's over a tonne of koi from a single team! Katie Cassaidy landed a 5.9 kg koi from the Waikato River and that held on to take out the Waikato River Authority Trophy for the heaviest koi carp and Mitchell Hansen was second with a 5.7 kg koi which also won the Junior Cup.

Thanks go to mana whenua and the Ngamuka Development Trust for working with us to provide continued access to the areas we hunt, and for their welcome to the area.

We appreciate the great support of our major sponsor this year, the Koi Management Program and the Waikato Regional Council. Further thanks go Advanced Archery and to the Waikato River Authority and the Department of Conservation for their sponsorship. Thanks also to Tawera Nikau and Te Rui o Waikato (TROW) for providing the food caravan and for taking away the koi carp.

Note that there will be a change of date next year to avoid a clash with the Sika Show. The 2024 carp classic will be held at Ohinewai on the $9^{\text{th}} \& 10^{\text{th}}$ November.

Full Results:

Waikato River Authority Trophy (for heaviest koi carp):

1^{st}	Katie Cassaidy	5.80 kg
2^{nd}	Mitchell Hansen	5.70 kg
3 rd	John Gow	5.10 kg

Department of Conservation Cup (for heaviest weight of koi carp by a team):

1^{st}	Sharfted (Andrew Cottle & Sam Walter)	1092.9 kg
2^{nd}	Monster Bass (John Blair & Gary Johnson)	400.8
3 rd	Koi Killers (Bob Gow & Daniel Hodgson)	395.2
4 th	River Raiders (Graeme Warrender & John Gow)	239.0
5^{th}	Fish Slayers (Steven Sherborne & Angus McMillan)	230.2
6^{th}	Brother in Arms (Carl Saunders & Kevin Watson)	185.2
7 th	Team Timmy (Ruben Hastings & Jamie Mcbey)	181.4
8^{th}	Bitch & Mitch (Jenny Bullivant & Mitchell Hansen)	166.2
9^{th}	Bad to the Bone (Reuben Mills & Paul Wilson)	160.4
10^{th}	Hit 'n' Miss (Scott Pickering & Tony McClay)	117.9

Junior Trophy:

1st Mitchell Hansen	5.70 kg
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Other Results:

Heaviest Koi Saturday	Katie Cassaidy	5.80 kg
Heaviest Koi Sunday	John Gow	5.10 kg
Most Koi Carp	Andrew Cottle	275
Most Koi Carp by a Woman	Katie Cassaidy	29
Most Koi Carp by a Junior	Mitchell Hansen	99
Heaviest White Carp	Andrew Cottle	4.45 kg
Smallest Koi Carp	Scott Pickering	200 grams
Heaviest Other Fish	Katie Cassaidy	1.10 kg mullet

Statistics:

Hunting area	<u>Number of</u> <u>Koi Carp</u>	<u>Average</u> <u>Weight</u>
Whangamarino	1398	1.94 kg
Lake Whangape	256	1.54
Waikato River	218	1.89
Lake Waikare	138	1.44
Mangawara Stream	100	1.66
Total	2110	1.84 kg

The prizes for the year-long Carpbusters competition were also presented at this time, representing the effort put into shooting this pest fish in every month of the preceding year.

Carpbusters Trophy:

1 st	Kelby Stewart	56 pts
2^{nd}	Bryce Weck	50 pts
3 rd	Dave Gousmett	47 pts

Carpbusters Polo Shirt:

There is a new incentive for members to continue to shoot koi carp. Anyone who shoots 100 koi in a year will win a carpbusters polo shirt. This is for all koi carp shot between carp classics so does not include those shot during the event itself, limited to one shirt per member. Just claim your koi as usual and you will be notified when you reach 100 koi and asked for your shirt size.