

# AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT



From:  
The Offices of the British Crabbing Federation  
Walberswick, Suffolk IP18 6TZ

## THE BRITISH OPEN CRABBING CHAMPIONSHIP

In 1981 Walberswick Youth Club was asked to raise a few quid for the then Blythburgh Hospital and originated the idea of holding an open crabbing competition, expecting to raise a little money to support this worthwhile cause. They were not prepared for the huge popularity that this local event attracted and, as a result, they decided to hold another competition, now grandly called the Annual British Open Crabbing Championship, the following year, then the year after that, and - well - the rest they say is history.

Over thirty years the success of the Championship has escalated way beyond original expectations - tens and tens and tens of thousands of pounds have benefitted local, national and international charities or worthwhile local causes. Almost 20,000 registered entrants have endeavoured to become the "British Open Crabbing Champion", all receiving a pot of finest Shippams crab paste.

Entrants and their supporters have truly enjoyed a fun day out at very modest cost, for that has always been the primary aim of the organisers.

This escalation has however increasingly put pressures on the organisers of the Championship; the enjoyment of participants; and the stability of the local environment and infrastructure to the extent that it would be wrong for the Federation not to take the opportunity - after thirty years - to step back and undertake a major review for the staging and the future of the event.

*There will therefore NOT be a 2011 British Open Crabbing Championship.*

A decision not made lightly, for we - the organisers - are all too well aware of the disappointments that may ensue, and of the proceeds that will be lost.

The review will be undertaken by listening to people and communities.

The future will be dictated by what our many friends feel is right.

**ENDS**

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