

RULES AND CONSTITUTION

1. The Association shall be called the “Winsford and District Anglers Association” (Hereinafter called the Association) and the headquarters of the Association shall be at such place as the Delegates Committee shall from time to time determine.

2. The objects of this Association are to promote good fellowship amongst anglers, to encourage competition angling by the promotion of contests and to encourage young anglers by the promotion of juvenile contests. To control and stock waters owned and rented by the Association, to co-operate with the Environment Agency and other authorities concerned with the purity of rivers and other waters and to prevent the pollution thereof. Also generally to engage in such activities as are in the general interests of angling and anglers.

3. The affairs of the Association shall be conducted by a Delegates Committee which shall consist of the General Purpose Committee together with one delegate from each affiliated body. This Committee will meet quarterly.

4. The everyday running of the Association will be carried out by a General Purpose Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Juvenile Organiser, Match Secretary, Treasurer, Fishery Manager, Assistant Fishery Manager and four members (not more than two members to represent one club). The four members will serve for two years with two retiring each year. This General Purpose Committee will meet monthly, except March, and will be responsible to the Executive Committee. A quorum will be six members. Any member not attending 60% of the meetings in his first year of office will be required to stand for re-election after the first year.

5. Any bona-fide angling body may apply to the Committee for affiliation to the Association. A joining

fee of £40 is payable together with a yearly affiliation fee of £15 which is payable on acceptance. Annual subscriptions shall be fixed at the AGM and these shall be paid before September 30th. A fine of £5 per month or part month will be imposed on clubs in default. Clubs must have at least 15 members and purchase 15 permits.

6. The Association shall hold an Annual General Meeting in the first week in March of each year. All affiliated bodies must be notified of the time, place and business conducted 21 days before the meeting. The Secretary of the Association shall give 14 days notice of any Committee Meetings, and send out notices in writing to each member of the Committee stating time, place and business to be conducted.

7. An Extra General Meeting may be convened within 21 days on the requisition of 50 members of the Association. The Executive Committee shall also have the power to call an Extraordinary General Meeting. Such requisitions shall state the purpose for which such a meeting is required.

8. The Association financial year shall be from the 1st January to 31st December and an audited balance sheet must be forwarded to all affiliated bodies 21 days before the AGM.

The Association permits shall run from June 1st to May 31st. The bankers of the Association shall be Barclays Bank Limited, or any such bank as the Committee shall determine. The bank account shall be in the name of the Association and shall be operated on the joint names (signatures) of the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. Any two to sign cheques.

9. The following business shall be conducted at the AGM:
(a) Presentation and (if accepted) the passing of the accounts for the previous financial year ending December 31st prior to the AGM. Such accounts shall first have been audited by the Association auditors.

- (b) The election of the Officers.
- (c) The election of auditors or a firm of accountants.
- (d) Such other business either as shall have been communicated to the Secretary and included by him in the notice of the meeting sent to members, or that the Association shall be obliged to consider under these rules. Notice of intention to propose a resolution at the AGM shall be given in writing to the Secretary not later than the preceding January 21st and must be through an affiliated body. At the AGM, 20 shall form a quorum.
- (e) The fixing of annual subscriptions and other dues as may be necessary.

10. The General Purposes Committee shall have the following powers and duties:

- (a) Generally to administer the day to day matters of the Association and to take all proper and reasonable conduct of its affairs.
- (b) To co-opt members to fill casual vacancies on the Committee or the Officials.
- (c) By its Officers to keep accurate records of its transactions including the keeping of minutes of all meetings and the receipt and expenditure of all monies.
- (d) To call quarterly meetings of the Delegates Committee to discuss and approve the general activities of the General Purpose Committee on behalf of its members.
- (e) To generally promote the interest and objects of the Association.

11. Annual Fees and Subscriptions.

Affiliated Club Joining Fee - £40

Affiliated Club Fee - £15 annually

Affiliated Club Adult Members - £25

Individual Adult Members - £30

Veterans & Juniors - £10

Day Tickets - Controlled waters 50p

Other waters - £5

All permits are to be available by 1st May

12. The Officers of the Association shall be elected at the AGM. Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election. Nominations for office shall be forwarded in writing to the Secretary not later than January 21st each year.

In the event of an election, ensuing ballot papers shall be prepared by the Secretary for use at the AGM. In the event of a tie, election to office shall be decided by drawing lots. Each nomination for office shall be proposed by 2 persons being themselves members of an affiliated body. Individual card holders have no voting power at Association meetings.

13. The Association GPC or Delegates Committee shall deal with all offenders and its decision shall be final. A minimum ban of three months from membership shall be applied to anyone breaking Association Rules and Regulations and the GPC or Delegates Committee shall have the power to impose a life ban on any member who, in the opinion of the Committee, is guilty of serious offences or brings the Association into ill-repute.

14. The Winsford and District Anglers Association members card is the property of the Association and the right is reserved to refuse issue or to confiscate. Persons ceasing to be members of the Association must return their membership card to the Secretary. Anyone refusing to comply with the rule may be proceeded against for the recovery of such card. Any card not marked with the name and address and photograph of the member shall be invalid.

15. The Delegates Committee shall appoint 3 persons being either officers or members of the Association to act as Trustees. The Delegates Committee shall have power for any reason to remove a Trustee from office. The Delegates Committee shall appoint members of the Association to fill any vacancies existing due to the death, retirement, or removal of the Trustees. The

Trustees shall hold any real personal estate of the Association (other than which shall be held by the Treasurer) in their names on behalf of the Association and shall deal with such or personal estate by way of sale, mortgage or otherwise as the Association from time to time determine.

16. If in the opinion of the Delegates Committee for any reason whatsoever it appears reasonable that the affairs of the Association be wound up and the Association be dissolved an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be called to pass and implement the resolution of such a meeting. In the event of dissolution of the Association then a statement of the assets and liabilities be prepared. In the event of a surplus of assets all creditors of the Association shall be satisfied and the surplus assets shall be held by the Trustees. In the event of a deficiency of assets then a meeting of the creditors shall be called and an agreement entered into with the creditors for liquidation of the Associations liabilities in a pro rata basis. The Delegates Committee shall appoint the then Chairman and not more than 2 other members of the G.P. Committee to act as a liquidation committee with full power to act on behalf of the Delegates Committee in the dissolution proceedings including the powers specifically conferred by Rule 15 (Trustees).

A majority of 75% of the members attending a General Meeting shall be needed to dissolve the Association and all members of the Association must be notified of the meeting in writing.

17. No affiliated body whose HQ are within the former Urban District of Winsford shall own or attempt to gain waters for their own use without first offering the use of waters in question to the Association. All waters within the former Urban District of Winsford must first be offered to the Winsford AA by all affiliated bodies.

18. All clubs affiliated to the Association must attend working parties. Failure to comply with this means the club will pay full fees for the following year. Any affiliated club not attending a working party as requested by the Fishery Manager will lose its right to free matches in the following season.

19. Club Secretaries must submit the names and addresses of all their members taking out Association permits together with permit numbers.

20. No member of the Association is allowed to join a private syndicate operating on former Winsford AA waters without permission of the General Purpose Committee.

21. No member of the Association shall publicise events or waters without the permission of the GPC.

22. Match Fishing

(a) Applicants must give notice to the Association Match Secretary, stating the date of the contest, the length of water required, the time of the match and estimated number of competitors.

(b) Nails or pins shall not be used for marking out purposes.

(c) The match must not exceed more than 5 hours duration.

(d) Keepnets must be at least 2 metres long by 45cm wide. Keepnets and landing nets must conform to EA bylaws and shall be of a knotless construction.

(e) All fish must be returned to the water after weighing.

(f) At least 7 days notice must be given to the Match Secretary for cancellation of any booked match.

(g) Booked matches have priority of water and any member not engaged in the match must remove to 20 yards from the match length if requested so to do by the captain or referee engaged in the match.

(h) In respect of matches of non-affiliated bodies or

open matches run by affiliated bodies, the fee charged shall be £3.00 per peg and shall be paid at the time of booking. A minimum of 10 pegs to be paid for.

(i) As respects special matches, the Committee reserve the right on behalf of the Association to take all lengths of the main River Weaver and Dane. In all open contests fished the contestant must hold a current season permit or day ticket or match permit. All tickets for “fur and feather” and “wines and spirit” matches must be paid for in advance of the match.

(j) Affiliated club bookings can be made after October 1st in any year for the following season. Outside match bookings can be made after January 1st in the year of booking.

(k) Affiliated Clubs are limited to eight free matches per season, each at different venues. Clubs are allowed one additional match per venue to be paid for. The two matches on the same venue to be fished before October and after October 1st.

(l) No match fishing will be allowed on any water between 14th March and 15th June each year.

(m) At all Trophy and Winter League matches the team captains will be held responsible for their team members to be in possession of an Environment Agency Rod Licence. Any individual who is found not to be in possession of the relevant licence will be disqualified.

23. General

(a) All members shall observe the proper closed season on rivers Weaver and Dane, The Ocean, Top Flash, Ways Green and Wyvern House Pool. See rule 23t for other waters. viz: coarse fishing midnight 14th March to 6 am 16th June.

(b) No person shall be admitted to membership or his membership continued if he shall be found guilty of poaching.

(c) Fishing in the Association waters with a line not connected to a rod or with the use of more than two rods is prohibited.

(d) Unless mutually agreed anglers must allow at least 15 yards space on the river bank or pool side between themselves and the next adjoining angler. Where permanent pegs are in position on waters these are to be used. No angling is allowed between pegs. The creating of new pegs is strictly forbidden, as is the cutting of branches and damaging of trees.

(e) Members are requested to co-operate with the water bailiffs, keepers and officials and to comply with their reasonable requests and if so requested to produce for inspection a membership permit. Any member on production of his own membership permit may request members to produce theirs for inspection

(f) Dogs must not accompany anglers fishing in the Association waters.

(g) All fish caught in the Association waters whether in match fishing or otherwise must be returned to the water at the end of the angling session. Specimen fish may be weighed in if they are above the following weights, but these must be returned to the water from which they were caught immediately after weighing.

Roach	2 lbs	Tench	4 lb 8 oz
Rudd	1 lb 8 oz	Bream	4 lb 8 oz
Chub	4 lbs	Crucian Carp	2 lb 4 oz
Gudgeon	1.5 oz	Eel	2 lbs
Perch	2 lbs	Common Carp	20 lbs
Dace	8 oz	Grayling	1 lb
Barbel	7 lbs	Trout	10 oz
Pike	18 lbs		

(h) The use of gorge tackle on Association waters is prohibited.

(i) Camping on the land adjoining the Association's

waters is prohibited except with the express consent of the riparian owner.

(j) Portable radios are banned on all Association waters unless used with personal earphones.

(k) No club match will be allowed on the same day as any Association match.

(l) Times of fishing are as shown on the inside front cover of this permit unless special times apply to individual waters (see Rule 4).

(m) Bookings for controlled waters (New Pool and The Ocean), shall be made in person on the day before or the day of fishing (see page 55).

(n) All carp caught in Association waters to be returned to the water immediately after weighing and not kept in a keep net.

(o) No barbel are to be retained in keepnets, except for in bona fide matches.

(p) No day tickets are sold on the river Weaver above Bottom Flash.

(q) "Live Baiting" is banned on **all waters**.

(r) No tins or bottles are allowed to be taken to Association waters. Anglers found in possession of tins or bottles will be banned from Association waters for a period to be determined by the General Purpose Committee.

(s) Alcohol and the consumption of such is banned from all Association waters, .

(t) Working Party members are allowed to fish on Association water on the 1st weekend of the season. Venue to be decided by GPC.

(u) Between the dates of 1st May and 15th June inclusive Rilshaw Lane & New Pool will only be open to members who have a working party stamp. Except for WDAA concessionary card holders and juveniles. No other members will be allowed to fish and no day tickets will be sold.

(v) Bait boats are banned on all Association waters.

(w) If any Affiliated Club do not attend a working party, their 8 free matches shall become 4 and the other four matches shall be paid for at a cost of £15 per match. Additionally, any further matches booked after January 1st are to be paid for at a cost of £20 per match

(x) Members must not leave baited rods and lines unattended and must be in control of angling equipment at all times. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action and could lead to a ban.

(y) Members fishing for carp, pike or barbel must use an adequate un-hooking mat.

(z) The use of lead core line and tungsten leaders is now banned on all Association Waters.

24. Association Cups and Trophies (Special Matches)

(a) John Blackburn, Hallmark, Ledwards & Jack Swift Trophies

To be fished for as a team event. Each affiliated body to enter teams of five. The matches will also be open matches but trophies for Association clubs only.

(b) Specimen Awards

The Association will award a £5 prize for the heaviest fish caught in each of the species listed in Rule 23g. Specimens may be weighed by club or Association weighers. Photographic evidence to be submitted wherever possible.

25. Match Rules

(a) Anglers are allowed to plumb the depth of the water before the start of the match.

(b) No recognised bait should be banned with the exception of lures, live bait, dopes, bloodworm or joker.

(c) Up to two hooks may be used.

(d) Peg placing in minimum of 15 yards apart.

(e) Any number of rods may be set up, only one to be

baited and used at any one time.

(f) Association Permits must be shown when making the draw for Association matches.

(g) Any angler may leave his/her peg provided they do not interfere with or annoy any other angler. All lines must be removed from the water if the angler leaves his/her peg.

(h) Catapults and throwing sticks to be allowed.

(i) Team or club to be nominated by the angler at the draw, any angler failing to do so will fish as an individual.

(j) Pools must be entered before the draw.

(k) If a steward considers a peg to be unfishable, the angler may draw another peg.

(l) Any complaint must be referred to the steward immediately. No action can be taken if left until after the match.

(m) Any angler reported as breaking a rule, shall be automatically disqualified from the match except if ruled otherwise by at least three match committee members at the match. The angler to be given the right of appeal to the GPC.

(n) Fish will only be weighed in if kept in keep nets (No buckets or plastic bags or carp sacks allowed).

(o) Any angler with litter on his/her peg will not be weighed in.

SPECIAL RULES FOR NIGHT FISHING ON NEWPOOL, NEWBRIDGE POOL AND BOTTOM FLASH

- (1) Booking on these waters **must** be done between 11am and 6pm. Any calls received outside these times will not be accepted.
- (2) Bookings can be made up to two days in advance of the date required.
- (3) The telephone number for bookings is:

07926 474 809

- (4) Day tickets, where relevant, will still be required.
- (5) Members must be in possession of their WDAA permit with a valid night permit glued inside.
- (6) Members must vacate the water by 10am (that is packed up and gone from the fishery)
- (7) **No alcohol** is permitted on any WDAA waters. Anglers caught breaking this rule could face a lifetime ban.
- (8) No spectators allowed on the water at any time.
- (9) No fish to be retained for any reason.
- (10) No bright lights. Headtorches to be used for baiting etc.
- (11) No fires on any WDAA waters.
- (12) Designated night pegs may be moved from time to time.
- (13) Members must remain in their allocated peg throughout the duration of their stay.
- (14) All other WDAA rules still apply.

SPECIAL RULES FOR NIGHT FISHING ON TOP FLASH

- (1) Booking on these waters **must** be done between 11am and 6pm. Any calls received outside these times will not be accepted.
- (2) Bookings can be made up to two days in advance of the date required.
- (3) The telephone number for bookings is:

07738 556 938

- (4) Members night fishing are not allowed on the water before 12pm and must have vacated the fishery by 12pm the following day.
- (5) Members must be in possession of their WDAA permit with a valid **Top Flash Night Permit** glued inside.
- (6) Members **must not** vacate the water between the hours of 10pm and 6.30am, unless in the event of a serious emergency.
- (7) The landowner has requested that night anglers leave their vehicles in the current top car park. Although it is permitted to drive down to the flash to drop off and pick up fishing tackle.
- (8) **No alcohol** is permitted on any WDAA waters. Anglers caught breaking this rule could face a lifetime ban.
- (9) No spectators allowed on the water at any time.
- (10) No fish to be retained for any reason.
- (11) No bright lights. Headtorches to be used for baiting etc.
- (12) No fires on any WDAA waters.

(13) Designated night pegs may be moved from time to time.

(13) Members must remain in their allocated peg throughout the duration of their stay.

(14) All other WDAA rules still apply.

BAILIFFS RESPONSIBILITIES

(1) The daytoday running of the water. This includes such duties as removal of litter, a bailiff should ask all members to clear their pegs of any litter before fishing or when they leave.

(2) Check all permits and day tickets were applicable and enforce all WDAA rules.

(3) Report any member breaking association rules.

(4) Report to the Assistant Fishery Manager any work required or problems with the water quality or fish stocks. In the event of the Assistant Fishery Manager being unavailable report to Fishery Manager.

(5) Any work carried out by bailiffs to be cleared with the Assistant Fishery Manager. This is to comply with current health and safety recommendations.

Risk assessments must be in place before work commences