

PORTSMOUTH ROYAL NAVY & ROYAL MARINES

COARSE ANGLING ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2017

Rulebook Corrections & Clarifications

The contact phone number for the SPL Water Manager should be 07856 702689. The number in the rulebook is for the Secretary.

The rulebook states that dogs are to be kept under control at all times. This is correct but, additionally, HMS SULTAN does not allow dogs on site.

Following a question about the use of BBQs at SPL, we can confirm that they are permitted so as long as they are not huge, consider the other users of the Lake and Golf course and are disposed of responsibly.

Match Date Changes

The inaugural Carp Match is being postponed. Once a new date is decided it will be promulgated. This match will be fished in pairs and 2 rods in the water per angler will be permitted so long as the 2-rod rules are being complied with. Anglers may also choose to use a single rod.

The match on Wed 26 Jul is being moved to SPL with the all-in at 1600. Throughout the day there will be trainees from HMS COLLINGWOOD at the lake having an introduction to fishing as part of the Service's work in promoting sport for all.

Access to SULTAN

A new XTM has been published by HMS SULTAN for Non-MOD staff access. Association members including SPL Season Ticket Holders, that require regular access to HMS SULTAN, are permitted (subject to SULTAN approval) a permanent pass to enter unescorted, in order to access the Moat. Requests for a permanent site pass will be considered on a case-by-case basis. For Association members the forms have to be signed by the Chairman (me) and should be sent to me at: Cdr Mardlin, PCap Prog Mgr, MP3-1, Leach Building, Whale Island, Portsmouth.

Bailiffs

I am pleased to announce that both Chris Brown and Steve Osborne have joined the team of bailiffs.

Members are reminded that the instructions of Water Managers and Bailiffs are to be complied with. Any disagreements can be brought to the committee for resolution.

Southwick Park Lake 2-rod trial

In Jun 16 the Association announced a 2 rod trial. In the Jan 17 AGM the membership was updated and advised that once the trial completed there would be a review of its success, and consideration of a further trial so that at the AGM in 2018 we can vote on a rule change should it be considered appropriate. The Committee unanimously considers the trial to have been a success, and all feedback supplied by members supports this. There will therefore be another trial period with fewer restrictions to help inform decisions and voting at the next AGM.

For a trial period, on payment of an additional £5 administration fee, 2 rods may be used on all pegs at SPL. If the AGM cancels the trial then the additional £5 payments will be returned. The trial is limited to members and current SPL Season Ticket Holders (at date of this announcement), and is from 1 Oct 17 to 31 Mar 18 (end of the membership year) following specific rules. As with all rules, the Trustees have the authority to alter or repeal it at any time.

The Committee wishes to safeguard the interests of all anglers and keep SPL as a general coarse fishery. There are concerns that without session time limits, that prime pegs could be occupied by a limited number of carp anglers in bivvies for extended periods. Whilst there are no specific Association rules for Bait Limits, should the water quality be threatened then bans and limits will be introduced. Anglers should also only use bivvies or umbrellas, and are not to use tents.

The prime concerns of the Water Manager and Committee are the welfare of the fish (all species), maintenance of the water, and pleasure of the anglers. It is impossible to write rules that make angling completely safe for all fish species and sizes because it largely comes down to the experience and care of anglers on the bank that makes any particular method safe or otherwise. Members are asked to be considerate of other angling styles; however, any deliberate infringement of rules and safe practices should be reported to be dealt with by the Discipline Committee. Where in doubt less experienced anglers are encouraged to take advice from those with more expertise or one of the bailiffs.

All anglers are reminded that, whether using one rod or 2, the peg limit is half way towards the next peg, and half way across the lake. When the adjacent pegs are not occupied then fishing beyond these limits is perfectly acceptable. If someone sets up on one of the adjacent pegs then the standard peg limit immediately applies.

The Committee hopes that all members will give this second trial a fair hearing so that at the next AGM it can be properly discussed and either rejected, or (modified and) incorporated into the rules.

The new rule for the trial is detailed here and, if voted in at AGM, it will be incorporated into the rule book for next year.

1. Members and SPL Season Ticket Holders who have paid the additional administration fee may use 2 rods at SPL, from 1 Oct 17 to 31 Mar 18, under the following specific rules:

- a. Both rods are to be securely anchored such as on bank sticks or rod pods, with free spooling reels (such as bait-runners) set to run, and with audible alarms on at all times.
- b. Anglers are permitted to fish for a maximum of 48 hours in any one session, may not return for 48 hours, and the 'passing' of specific swims by prior arrangement between individuals is forbidden.
- c. Anglers are forbidden to leave their peg while rigs are in the water.
- d. A landing net of at least 42 inches is to be used so that, if necessary, 2 carp can be netted before unhooking and releasing.
- e. A large unhooking mat or carp cradle is to be used; this must be of sufficient size to hold 2 carp.

The application form is attached.

Specimen Fish

Facebook is frequently showing pictures of Specimen fish caught by our members, yet there is very limited use of the Specimen Fish form being submitted for Association records. Submission of these forms is encouraged.

Closing Words

The Association is managed by volunteers and there is always a lot to do, both in Committee and also in managing the waters. If anyone (including Southwick Park Season Ticket Holders) is interested in being involved please let one of the Committee Members know.

S A Mardlin
Cdr RN
Chairman Ports RNRM CAA

Enclosures:

- 1. XTM 25/17 Access to SULTAN.
- 2. SPL 2 rod application form.