

PORTSMOUTH ROYAL NAVY & ROYAL MARINES
COARSE ANGLING ASSOCIATION
AGM CALLING NOTICE – OCTOBER 2016

I am writing to inform you that our Annual General Meeting will take place at 1930 on Tue 17 Jan 17. Historically we have held this in our casemate in HMS SULTAN, but this time we are using the Southwick Park Golf Club clubhouse which will make access easier, and it is more centrally located for many members. The bar will be open, and as announced in the June newsletter we receive the same discounted prices as golf club members (on production of your membership card). Please note that you must dress appropriately for the Golf Club which means “Smart Casual” (I would suggest shoes, trousers and a collared polo shirt as a minimum).

Unfortunately, there has been an altercation between an angler and golfer when a ball landed close by the peg. Can I remind you that you are advised to erect brollies on pegs where balls could land; in particular, this applies to pegs 8 to 16, 60 to 65 and 69 to 73. Put safety first. If there are incidents we expect courteous behaviour at all times, anything less could become a matter for the discipline committee.

There are five Trustee posts. The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary continue in post with 2 years of a 3-year term to run. The Membership Secretary has handed over with Paul Fegan now in the role – but this needs voting on at AGM to ratify the change (or elect someone else). **The Treasurer wants to stand down after many years on the Committee and we need a volunteer to take over.** Any member wishing to put themselves forward to fill one of these positions should forward their name with a seconder in writing or by email to the Association Secretary at least 28 days prior to the AGM.

A report on Association activities for the previous year, as well as plans for 2017, will be delivered at the meeting. There are also some changes being proposed to the Association Constitution following its use over the last year – setting out how we govern ourselves has proved most helpful not least in identifying areas where change can be made for the Association’s future benefit. There are also some amendments being proposed to the rules, including some anticipated from members. On some of these there are as many views in the Committee as across the Association, but on one point we are all united – fish welfare. Any amendments that have not been thought through to cater for that and all kinds of angling styles (from using a whip or pole for silvers, to carp tackle for the lumps, and spinning for pike) will most likely fail. Any refinements need to be done in advance and not during the AGM. Early engagement with the Committee will help.

The 2 rod trial is underway at Southwick Park and by the AGM it will still have 2½ months to run. If the use of 2 rods is forced to a vote at the AGM then it will be on the basis of an incomplete trial. The Committee would prefer to allow the trial to complete and, if successful, incorporate its continuance in to the rules for next winter. This would then be voted at the 2018 AGM. Proposed adjustments to the specific rules relating to the use of 2 rods are welcome.

Proposals from the Committee for the AGM are:

- **Mr Ian Francis to be elected as a Life Member.** This membership category can only be awarded at AGM to a member who has contributed meritorious service to the Association. It is the unanimous view of the Committee that he meets this requirement in every regard for his unwavering support to working parties and the memorial garden for some 20 years.
- **Southwick Park Season Ticket Holders to be afforded the same privileges as other classes of membership, except voting.** In addition to their current benefits, this currently grants: fishing rights to SULTAN Moat (subject to satisfying the Establishment's amenity pass requirements); applying for a Green Gate key; their children's Junior Membership being aligned with other member's children; and, use of Exchange Books. The changes proposed to the Constitution are:

10. Life, Service, Associate members and Honorary members who are working for the club as bailiffs are eligible to vote at Annual General Meetings. Other Honorary members may be granted a vote by the Committee. Other classes of membership may attend the AGM but have no right to speak and have no vote.

Becomes:

10. Life, Service, Associate members and Honorary members who are working for the club as bailiffs are eligible to vote at Annual General Meetings. Other Honorary members may be granted a vote by the Committee. Other classes of membership may attend the AGM but have no vote.

And:

e. Season Ticket holders: Southwick Park Lake season tickets are available at the discretion of the Committee. All Season Ticket holders for Southwick Park Lake must be over the age of eighteen years. Season ticket holders may also apply junior memberships for their children. These juniors may only fish when accompanied by the season ticket holder and, if there are more than 2 juniors, sufficient other adults to supervise them

Becomes:

e. Season Ticket holders: Southwick Park Lake season tickets are available at the discretion of the Committee to anyone over the age of 18.

And:

15. Life, Service, Associate and Honorary members, and Season ticket holders may obtain Guest and Weekly Guest tickets for HMS

SULTAN Fort Rowner Moat and Southwick Park Lake, for their bona-fide guests.....

Becomes:

15. Adult members may obtain Guest and Weekly Guest tickets for HMS SULTAN Fort Rowner Moat and Southwick Park Lake, for their bona-fide guests.....

And (from the Rules):

15. Exchange Tickets. The following members are eligible to apply for the issue of Exchange Tickets: Life, Service and Associate members.....

Becomes:

15. Exchange Tickets. Adult members are eligible to apply for the issue of Exchange Tickets.....

- **To recognise all Veterans equally irrespective of which Service they were in.** Thus:

c. Associate: Associates include: any retired RN or RM personnel; serving members of the RFA; MOD Civil Servants; MOD long term industry partners within the Eastern Region; Reserves not eligible for Service membership; season ticket holders elected to Trustee positions or coopted to the Committee; and, spouses or long term partners of Service, Associate or Life members.

Becomes:

c. Associate: Associates include: any Armed Forces Veterans; serving members of the RFA; MOD Civil Servants; MOD long term industry partners within the Eastern Region; Reserves not eligible for Service membership; season ticket holders elected to Trustee positions or coopted to the Committee; and, spouses or long term partners of Service, Associate or Life members.

- **To encourage juniors, make access easier for them, and clarify the escorting requirements.** The wording of this rule change assumes that SPL Season Ticket Holders privileges are approved. Thus:

d. Junior: Any child or grandchild between the ages of seven and eighteen of a Life, Service or Associate member. Junior members on reaching the age of eighteen will be required to apply for Associate membership in their own right. All juniors under the age of sixteen are to be accompanied by an adult at all times on All Association Waters (with at least 1 adult per 2 juniors). No Juniors are allowed to night fish unless accompanied by an adult.

Becomes:

d. Junior: Any child or grandchild of a member under the age of eighteen. All Junior members must have membership cards, but under the age of 12 these will be free. All juniors under the age of 16 are to be accompanied by an adult at all times on all Association Waters (with at least 1 adult per 2 juniors). If the adult is also fishing then she/he must also be a member. No Juniors of any age are allowed to night fish unless accompanied by an adult. Junior members on reaching the age of eighteen will be required to apply for an adult membership in their own right.

- **To formalise the arrangements for trainees** by adding a membership category as follows:

14g. Temporary Memberships are available for trainees on courses of less than 6 months at HMS SULTAN or HMS COLLINGWOOD.

- **A minor adjustment to the discipline reporting.** Thus:

19. Any member observing any misbehaviour should report the details to the Secretary or any member of the Committee.....

Becomes

19. Any member observing any misbehaviour should report the details to the Secretary or any member of the Committee or Bailiff.....

- **To adjust the rules to allow for parking at the Green Gates.** Thus:

23. All cars should be parked in Southwick Park Naval Recreation Centre car park and the club notice board checked before proceeding to the lake

Becomes:

23. The club notice board in the Southwick Park Naval Recreation Centre car park or at the Green Gates should be checked before proceeding to the lake.

- **To adjust the rules to allow for the new stretch of water above Pinsley Bridge.** Thus:

21. Anglers are allowed to fish the perimeter of the Lake and Lower River stretches. No angling is permitted above Pinsley Bridge; anglers may fish the river below Pinsley Bridge before it enters the lake.

Becomes:

21. Anglers are allowed to fish the perimeter of the Lake and Lower River stretches. No angling is permitted above Pinsley Bridge except for a very short stretch of river just inside the perimeter of SPL, upstream of the lake. This area is marked with signs and access to it is strictly via Pinsley Drive, then left along the bridle track. Access is not to be across the approaches to the 9th and 4th holes. This stretch will have the standard closed season applicable to all rivers.

- **To adjust the rules for the culling of small pike.** This is being done because many anglers do not like this rule and it is unenforceable. Thus:
 - e. All fish caught on Association waters are to be returned to the water, except for Pike under ten pounds caught in Fort Rowner Moat that are to be disposed of humanely.

Becomes:

e. All fish caught on Association waters are to be returned to the water, except for Pike under ten pounds caught in Fort Rowner Moat that may be disposed of humanely.

All further proposals for changes to Association Constitution and Rules must be proposed by an eligible member, seconded and forwarded to the Association Secretary in writing or by email at least 28 days before the AGM date.

The committee has reviewed the annual membership fees, and for 2017 intends to make the following changes (subscriptions are reviewed every other year):

- Southwick Park Season Ticket Holders - £50
- Associate Members - £45
- Service Members - £35
- Juniors aged 13-17 – reduced to £10
- Juniors aged 12 and under – reduced to Free
- Day Guest Tickets - £10
- Weekly Guest Tickets - £35
- Guest Tickets for Juniors under 16 - Free

To avoid any confusion on the night you are reminded that currently only Life, Full, Associate, and Honorary members who are currently working for the club as bailiffs are eligible to propose changes to rules and procedures and vote at AGM. Other members may attend but are not eligible to vote; the extant restriction on them speaking will be waived. All members are eligible to be elected to a Trustee position

and where a Season Ticket holder is elected to one of the positions they would be granted Associate Membership during their time in post (under the terms of the Constitution this would convert to permanent Associate membership after 3 years on the Committee).

Finally, the Association's trophies will be presented on completion of the AGM. All are welcome.

S A Mardlin
Cdr RN
Chairman Ports RNRM CAA