

PORTSMOUTH ROYAL NAVY & ROYAL MARINES

COARSE ANGLING ASSOCIATION

2018 AGM CALLING NOTICE (REVISED 8 DEC 17)

Changes

This revision includes the addition of a Life Membership nomination, a change to the date by when match bookings need to be requested; and some counter proposals from a member.

Introduction

I am writing to inform you that our Annual General Meeting will take place at 1930 on Mon 15 Jan 18 (this is a change to the programme). Doors open at 1900. Historically we have held this in our casemate in HMS SULTAN, but following the popularity of the 2017 venue we are again returning to the Southwick Park Golf Club clubhouse. The bar will be open, on production of your membership card you receive the same discounted prices as golf club members.

A report on Association activities for the previous year, as well as plans for 2018, will be delivered at the meeting. There are also some minor changes being proposed to the Association Constitution following its use over the last year. There are also some amendments being proposed to the rules, in particular the formalisation of 2 rod usage at SPL and some matters relating to fish safety. Any amendments that members wish should be put forward to the Committee at the earliest opportunity. Any 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 ideally need to be done in advance and not during the AGM. Early engagement with the Committee will help.

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. 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).

Trustee Elections

There are five Trustee posts. The Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary continue in post with 1 year of a 3-year term to run; the Membership Secretary has 2 years left to run. With Vic Woods departure, Lee Rigby has been co-opted as the Vice Chairman and is standing for election at this AGM. **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 the Vice Chairman or Treasurer positions should forward their name with a seconder in writing or by email to the Association Secretary by 31 Dec 17.

Proposals from the Committee for the AGM are:

Election of Mr Ken Law to Life Membership

Life Membership can only be awarded at AGM to a member who has contributed meritorious service to the Association. It is the view of the Committee that Mr Law meets the requirement for Life Membership in every regard. He has dedicated incredible hours to deliver the improvements made to Southwick Park Lake over the last decade. A visiting Angling Trust bailiff remarked that it was the best maintained water he had ever seen which was thanks to Ken's leadership of the volunteers who all work so hard at SPL. The Committee asks the membership to support the award of Life Membership.

Constitution Changes (new wording highlighted)

- **An adjustment to the Juniors category to manage the transition from junior to adult membership:**

d. **Junior:** Any child or grandchild of a member under the age of 18 **on 1 Apr.** All Junior members must have membership cards, but 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 Junior **Member** of any age is allowed to night fish unless accompanied by an adult. **When a junior reaches the age of 18 after the 1 Apr he/she may either retain junior status (and its restrictions) for the whole membership year or pay for adult membership with its rights and privileges (such as unaccompanied over-night angling). The adult membership is based on his/her own status, and not his/her parent's.**

- **A minor change to the Guest Tickets so that they can be booked by phone**

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. Guest tickets are available from committee members as published on the Web site. The name of both the guest and the host member must appear on the guest ticket, together with the date for which it is valid (tickets are valid from a specified time as requested by the member and expire 24 Hrs later). It is emphasised that any guest must be accompanied by the host, who will be responsible that the guest understands and abides by the rules of the Association. No more than two guests may be sponsored on one day. All guests must hold a current EA rod licence. **Members applying by post should enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Guest tickets can also be issued via a smart phone photo to avoid unnecessary travel**

- **Formalising the membership discount for working parties:**

18. Member ship fees are discounted for those that do working parties. The discount is £5 per working party, but anyone who does 8 or more receives 100% discount.

- **Adding in the details of the Green Gate access.**

19. Pedestrian access through the gates on the layby on the B2177 is available through application for a key by completing the appropriate form and forwarding it with the deposit. The padlocks are high grade with individually serial numbered keys that can only be cut by the manufacturer on instructions from the Committee. Any member obtaining a key is to take care of it, never allow others to use it, and always lock the gates behind him/herself. Any infringement of these requirements will lead to the privilege being removed from that member – there will be no second chances.

- **Formalising the process for booking Association Waters**

28. Anyone, whether a club or otherwise, wishing to book a match at Southwick Park Lake or Fort Rowner moat is to put the request to the Portsmouth RNRMCAA Secretary for consideration of the Committee. Requests should be made by the end of September for matches for the following year so that, if agreed, they are included in the match programme that is published with the rule book on completion of the AGM in January.

29. Late requests will generally be declined because the Association is membership based and does not routinely hire out the water.

30. Where bookings are accepted then the standard rate is £10 per peg. Where the whole of Southwick Park Lake is requested then Friday to Sunday is £250 per 24 hour period, and Monday to Thursday is £200 per 24 hour period. Official Military associations will normally be granted a 50% concession.

Rules Changes (excludes changes covered above - new wording highlighted)

- **Explicit authority to inspect rod licences**

Membership & Day Ticket Inspection. The Water Managers may inspect club membership, exchange tickets and rod licences. For this they may also request that the Committee appoints bailiffs who, in carrying out their duties, act with the full authority of the Water Managers

- **At HMS SULTAN, explicit limit on number of rods:**

22. Up to 3 rods may be used.

- **The adoption of 2 rod rules at SPL following successful trials:**

26. One rod may be fished using any method, and spod and marker rods may also be used. Additional rods may be set up, but must remain banked. The exception is where an angler wishes to fish with 2 rods (which is limited to the period from 1 Oct to 31 Mar inclusive), then:

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. 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.

d. A large unhooking mat or carp cradle is to be used; this must be of sufficient size to hold 2 carp.

- **Clarification of the ban on barbed hooks following members using crimped barbed hooks.**

a. Barbed hooks (including micro-barbs) are banned on all Association waters; this includes the use of crushed barbed hooks.

- **A removal of the ban of braided hooklengths reflecting modern materials**

b. Braided hooklengths (coated and uncoated) are permitted. These should be dedicated hooklength materials only and not braided mainline materials (which are generally thinner in diameter).

Mr Chris Brown, seconded by Mr Mike John, wishes the rule to remain in place which is technically not a counter proposal. They will however be given opportunity to speak first in opposition to this rule change.

- **A change to the rules on feeder set ups to reflect the advance in angling practices**

c. On Association waters, fixed weights or feeders are not to be used. Semi-fixed arrangements are permitted but all feeders or weights must fall free from the fish if the line breaks at any point, and must not be hindered such as by clips, swivels, leader knots and float stops.

Mr Chris Brown, seconded by Mr Mike John, has made a counter proposal "I would ask that all weights or feeders can be easily dropped off. And also I would like to ask that the semi fixed lead clips where the hooklength swivel is pinned inside the lead clip are banned"

- **Clarifying the use of BBQs**

g. No fires are to be started (small BBQs are permitted so long as they are disposed of responsibly and consideration is shown to other users), or damage caused to trees, banks or equipment.

- **Leaving a peg. A rule that most in the Committee thought was already in the rule book, but was not. Introduced for fish safety.**

j. Anglers are forbidden to leave their peg (defined as half way to the next peg) while rigs are in the water.

- **Adoption of a rule to reduce the risk of rods being pulled in to the waters**

Any rod or pole with the line in the water must either be held in your hand:

- i. or appropriately secured on bank sticks or similar; and,
- ii. with a clutch or baitrunner set to allow line to run freely on the take; and,
- iii. with no clip set in such a manner which forms a physical stop to line being allowed to run free continuously on the take.

- **Addition of an explicit outcome should members use dangerous rigs.**

29. Anyone caught with rigs that do not comply with the rules can expect to be investigated, and lose their memberships. We do not want members who use dangerous rigs on our waters; there is simply no reasonable excuse for it.

Proposals from Members

All further proposals for changes to Association Constitution and Rules must normally 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. This year they will be accepted up to 31 Dec 17.

Annual Trophy Presentation

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