

OLD WINDSOR ANGLING CLUB

MATCH RULES

Revised February 2021

- 1.** All matches held on OWAC club waters shall be pegged down and shall not exceed five hours in duration.
- 2.** The Match Steward and his nominated Stewards shall conduct the draw for pegs. Further, they shall also signal the start and finish of a match by the sound of a whistle.
- 3.** The water may be broken prior to the commencement of the match only for the purpose of plumbing the depth, wetting ground bait and the positioning of rod rests and keep nets. Cutting the bank weed only is permitted. Dragging of swims is not permitted, except on lakes and gravel pits where there is no flow and then only in the first 30 minutes of the match.
- 4.** Should, in the opinion of the Steward or any Committee member, a member's peg be unfishable he may be permitted to redraw. A competitor must lodge his appeal prior to the start of the match.
- 5.** Any competitor leaving his swim must remove any bait from the hook and all tackle from the water.
- 6.** All fish in season to count.
- 7.** Scales Stewards will be appointed at the draw by reference to their drawn peg number. The angler drawn in the direction that the scales will take will give every assistance to the Scales Steward.
- 8.** The weigh-in will be made at individual pegs on Club matches.
- 9.** Any litter at the members peg on arrival of the scales will result in the member being disqualified.
- 10.** Any member not at his peg on arrival of the scales will not be weighed in.
- 11.** Only one rod, single line and hook shall be in use at any one time.
- 12.** The use of live fish, frogs and artificial lures is not permitted in matches.
- 13.** The Match Steward's decision on all disputes shall be final. However, the competitor may appeal to the committee who will withhold the result of the match until their decision is made public.
- 14.** Assistance may be given to a junior or disabled angler for the netting of a hooked fish.
- 15.** A 'SWIM' commences one yard upstream of the peg and terminates one yard above the downstream peg. On still waters and canals the swim shall be deemed to be midway between the anglers peg and the peg or pegs on each side.
- 16.** When a club match is held on waters other than our own, the rules governing that water shall take precedence.
- 17.** Any breach of these rules may result in the offender being disqualified.
- 18.** Members who have completed at least two working parties will take preference over all other members on limit matches.
- 19.** Pools monies will be distributed at the end of the match unless there is a dispute, which involves match placing.
- 20.** Any changes to pools and sweepstakes will be decided by the committee and announced before the start of the season.
- 21.** To deal fairly with pools money, when a whole match, or section of a match, blanks.
 - i. If no angler in a section weighs in, the section pools money is returned to each angler.
 - ii. If no angler in a whole match weighs in, both main and section pools are returned.All this on condition that anglers that blank are still at their pegs when the scalesman comes along, and register a nil weight on the result sheet. Money may be returned at a club meeting, if inconvenient due to lack of change, etc. Visiting clubs may be given a lump sum for their own distribution. Excess pools money collected, i.e., if anglers are not at their pegs at the weigh in, will go to club funds.
- 22.** For members to fish the Working Party Match, the following rules apply.
 - i. Each member must complete at least two working parties, of which one must be manual, i.e. attending a Sunday morning working party.
 - ii. Evening bailiffing plus one Sunday morning will also count.
 - iii. If the member does other duties for the Club, i.e. attending external meetings 2 of these will also qualify.
- 23.** In club matches the maximum weight of fish to be kept in a keep net must not exceed 60 lb. If there proves to be over 60 lb in a net the excess over that weight will not count. Silver fish and carp to be kept in separate nets. Any fish of 10 lb or over to be weighed and returned immediately, and not kept in a keepnet. If we visit a fishery which has rules concerning the safe keeping of fish those rules take precedence over our rules.