

## **BEDFORD ANGLING CLUB RULES 2025-26**

### **Name of the Club**

1 The Club shall be called the Bedford Angling Club (the Club).

### **Power of Committee to Refuse Tickets**

2 The issue of a membership book by any agent of the Club does not bind the Club to accept that person as a member. The Committee shall have the power to reject any person without giving reason for so doing. When a person is not accepted, the membership fees will be refunded on the return of the membership ticket to the secretary.

### **Owners of Fishing Rights to be Hon. Members**

3 The owners of the various fishing rights of which the Club are tenants shall be de facto Honorary Members of the Club, with full privileges.

### **Subscriptions, day tickets and other related matters**

4 The annual subscription must be paid before a person fishes in Club waters and becomes a member at that point. Every member on paying his subscription shall be furnished with a book of membership including details of the waters and the Rules for the current year.

5 The cost of subscriptions and day tickets will be as follows:

#### Annual Membership

Adults £40.00

Junior (under 18) £15.00\*

\*Under 12 free if accompanied by a current adult member.

OAP £15.00

Disabled members £15.00 (on production of the discounted EA Rod Licence)

#### Day tickets £7.00

Day tickets are issued by and at the discretion of the Committee.

Day tickets can be obtained from the Committee or authorised agents.

Day ticket holders cannot fish in members only Club matches without the agreement of the Committee but can fish in open matches.

6 Only members paying an annual subscription shall be eligible to vote at a general meeting. Half year members have no voting rights.

7 No more than two rods may be used by a member at any one time and they must not be left unattended.

8 No member shall intentionally kill any fish.

9 No live baiting on Club waters.

10 Members must produce their membership book upon request, when fishing Club waters, along with evidence of their EA rod licence to any Committee Member or Club bailiff. (All members must possess a valid EA Rod Licence when fishing.) Failure to produce either may result in you being asked

to cease fishing and leave and the matter being reported to the Committee to consider possible disciplinary measures. Members or day ticket holders shall also exhibit their catch of fish to any keeper, bailiff or officer of the Club on request. Bailiffs will be in possession of an identity card confirming their authority and identity.

11 No member or ticket holder shall fish within 20 yards of a member already fishing, except with their permission.

12 No litter must be left on the bank by any member.

13 No camping, lighting of fires or picnic parties on any Club waters.

14 No fishing on any Club waters during the close season.

15 No fishing within 30 metres of overhead cables at any Club waters. This is strictly prohibited by the Club for your own safety.

16 No fishing permitted from one hour after sunset until sunrise on any Club waters.

#### **No member to trespass or cause damage**

17 No member or day ticket-holder shall trespass on any portion of the properties of British Rail, or do any damage to any crops, fences, trees or mowing grass near to or adjoining the Club waters, or be accompanied by a dog, or do any other matter or thing which may cause damage or annoyance to riparian owners or occupiers, or to the owners or tenants of sporting rights over or adjoining the Club waters. Particular care must be taken to see that all gates are shut. Livestock must not be disturbed.

#### **Conduct of members**

18 Should the conduct of any member be considered by the Committee to be injurious to the interest of the Club, the Committee shall, at a Special Meeting to be called for that purpose (at which the member whose conduct is in question shall be invited to be present) consider the same, and in the event of its being voted at such a Special Meeting by two-thirds of the members present that the name of such Member ought to be removed from the list, then he shall be invited to resign, and should he neglect or refuse to do so within seven days the Committee may remove his name from the list and the Committee may cancel his membership. On such resignation by or removal of a member his current subscription shall be forfeited, and he shall cease to be a member and shall forfeit all rights to any claim upon the Club and its property. Members guilty of breaches of the EA Bye-Laws render themselves liable to be dealt with under this rule.

#### **Management of the Club**

19 The day to day running of the Club is managed/conducted by the Committee. The Committee is made up of the Chair, the Secretary, the Treasurer and up to eight other Committee members. The following Club officers are to be elected at the Annual General Meeting: President, Vice Presidents, Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and up to eight Committee Members. Only annual members are eligible for elections to the positions of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer or a Committee Member. In the case of the death or resignation of the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer or a Committee Member, the Committee shall have the power to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the current year. In addition, in the event that there is a vacancy on the Committee, as a result of not all members being elected at the Annual General Meeting, the Committee may fill the vacancy upon such a suitable person making themselves known to the Committee for the remainder of the current year. Any

Committee Member who misses 3 consecutive meetings without acceptable apology shall relinquish his duties on the Committee.

20 The Committee shall fix their own times for meetings, but shall meet at least two times a year. At a Committee Meeting a quorum shall be 50% of the Committee in place at the time. Minutes of all Committee meetings shall be entered in a book and confirmed at the next meeting. A unanimous decision of the Committee may take the form of a resolution in writing signed by all Committee Members.

21 The property and management of the Club shall be the responsibility of the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Committee Members and they shall have the authority to purchase on behalf of the Club fishing rights and other property.

22 The Chair at the Annual General, Special General and Committee Meetings shall be taken by the Chairman. If the Chairman is not present the meeting shall appoint a Chairman for that meeting. In the event of equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

### **Annual General Meeting**

23 The Annual General Meeting shall be held in April each year with details published on the Club website and/or Facebook page and details can be obtained from the Committee. Any annual member may nominate any one or more annual members for election to the Committee. Only annual members shall be eligible to vote at an Annual General Meeting. If there are more candidates who are willing to serve than vacancies, the voting shall be by ballot.

### **Special General Meeting**

24 A Special General Meeting may be called at any time by the Committee. It shall also be called on the requisition in writing of not less than twelve annual members of the Club. The requisition shall state the object of the meeting. The meeting shall be held within fourteen days of the date of the meeting of the Committee held next after the receipt of the requisition. All propositions submitted to a Special General Meeting shall be decided by a resolution passed by two-thirds of the members present and voting. In all other respects the Rules contained in this document that make reference to the conduct of the Annual General Meeting shall apply to a Special General Meeting. Only annual members shall be eligible to vote at a Special General Meeting.

### **New Rules**

25 No new rule or alteration of any existing rule shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting called and held in the manner herein provided, and notice of all proposed new rules and alterations of existing rules to be submitted to such meeting shall be forwarded to the Secretary at least 21 days before the date of the meeting at which the same are to be considered and a copy thereof shall be obtainable from the Secretary at least 7 clear days before the meeting.

### **Rules to be Printed**

26 The Rules of the Club shall be printed and a copy of them shall be delivered to each member of the Club, and shall henceforth be binding upon him, and all new rules and alterations of rules shall become binding upon all members of the Club immediately upon the same being made.

27 All questions as to the interpretation of the rules of the Club shall be referred to the Committee, whose decision shall be final.

28 The Committee shall deal with any contingency not provided for by the above rules.

29 In the event of the dissolution of the Club, all assets of the Club may be disposed of to a charity or charities as decided upon by the Committee.

### **Matches**

30 No competition shall be held on Club waters unless under the supervision of a Committee Member or with previous permission of the Committee.

31 All Club matches are to be run in the presence of a Committee Member or their delegate who will oversee the event and appoint any officials.

32 The Club may run open, members only, charity and representative matches.

33 In the case of representative matches all matters of selection will be the responsibility of the Chair or another member of the Committee identified by the Chair. Their decision on selection will be final.

34 The Committee reserves the right to reserve sections of the Club's waters from time to time for visiting clubs or matches. Details will be made available on Facebook, in the membership book or the Club website.

### **Work Parties**

35 At various points throughout the year the Club will conduct work parties on the Club waters. Any member is welcome to attend and any support is appreciated.