



**CONSTITUTIONAL**

**RULES**

**OF THE**

**GUILDFORD ANGLING**

**SOCIETY**

**ESTABLISHED 1883**

**MR A TANNER**

**CHAIRMAN**

**1883 – to 2022 -**

The Society shall be called the 'Guildford Angling Society' and shall be run between Annual General Meetings by a Committee.

1. The Chairman will be the longest serving member of the committee and Vice-Chairman the second longest serving and, when the Chairman steps down, the next longest serving member will take the Vice-Chairman and the Vice-Chairman becomes Chairman.
2. The Committee shall consist of 6 Officers' jobs and 9 other ordinary committee members. The officers jobs are:- Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Head Bailiff, Fisheries Officer and Match Secretary. Before being eligible to serve on the Committee or as an Officer the candidate must have been a member for five years except in exceptional circumstances. Not more than five members of the Committee of 15 shall reside more than ten miles from the boundary of the borough of Guildford.
3. If an Officer resigns, leaves his/her post or there is a Vote of No Confidence in him/her, they are automatically removed from the Committee and their place can be filled by a new candidate. The Officer losing his/her job can re-apply to be an ordinary Committee member if there is space at the next AGM.
4. All Committee members and Officers shall be elected for a **five**-year term and out-going Committee members can be eligible for re-election at the Annual General Meeting. These will be held on the first Week of April each year at 7.45pm at the Society Headquarters.
5. To be proposed as the Head Bailiff you must have been a bailiff for Guildford Angling society for at least one year.
6. The Committee will meet on the first Week of each month. Five members shall form a quorum. Any member of the Committee failing to attend two successive meetings will cease to be a Committee person unless a written apology is received and accepted. Vacancies occurring thus, or by resignation, to be filled by another member of the Society whose appointment will be ratified at the next Annual General Meeting.
7. At the Annual General Meeting when the Honoraria and Officers' pay is being discussed and voted on, they must leave the room whilst this is taking place.
8. At all Committee meetings the Minutes of the previous meeting shall be accepted as true and signed by the Chairman (or in his/her absence by the Vice-Chairman).
9. All monies received for and on behalf of the Society by anyone shall be paid to the Head Bailiff, Membership Secretary or Treasurer who shall issue a receipt and pay the same within a reasonable time into the Society's Bank account. All cheques paid out by the Society shall, after being sanctioned by the Committee, to be signed by the Treasurer and two nominated Committee members. The Treasurer shall produce the Pass Book to the Committee when called upon to do so, notice having been given at previous meeting

10. GAS will take every reasonable step to remove from all their published documents any details of resigned or dismissed Committee Members and Officers. The Society will not remove any details from the printed permit once they have been produced for that year. Any such details will be removed from the permit at the time of the next printing.
11. A qualified accountant shall examine the accounts and certify to their accuracy. A copy of the year end Accounts may be obtained from the Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting.
12. Committee Members or bailiffs who are issued with complimentary permits will either return or submit payment in full for their membership should they resign from their post during the season of the permit issued. In the event of pending disciplinary action, the permit will be suspended until the issue is resolved
13. All Committee members to become Trustees of the Club if they wish to be as long as insurance is in place to cover them.
14. The Committee shall have power to deal with any occurrence unprovided for in these rules during the current season
15. A procedure is set-down at the end of this Constitution regarding a 'no confidence' action re an elected Officer or Committee Member.
16. Any member of the Society wishing to appeal against a decision of the Committee, or to call a Special General Meeting for any cause whatsoever, may call a General Meeting by a requisition signed by at least 12 members besides himself/herself within 14 days of the Committee's decision concerned but, shall first pay a deposit of £100.00 as part of expenses incurred, which shall be refunded if the meeting decides in his/her favour.
17. No permanent alteration of the rules shall be made except at an Annual General meeting. Thirty five days notice of such proposed alteration of Rules shall be given to the Secretary in writing. Such proposed alterations to be first submitted to a meeting of the Committee, which shall then make their recommendation at the Annual General Meeting.
18. Members wishing to be considered for vacant committee and officers jobs have to be Proposed and Seconded. Written requests for these positions must be forwarded to the Secretary 35 days before the A.G.M.
19. The Annual Subscription, (the amount of which shall be changed only at an Annual or Special General Meeting), shall be paid before a ticket and rulebook are issued or a member becomes entitled to the privileges of the Society and must be carried by members at all times when fishing the Society's waters.
20. All members must be fully conversant with the rules of the Society.
21. If your permit is lost there will be a charge of £5.00 to replace it.
22. The Closed Season shall be in accordance with the Act of Parliament and currently Coarse Fish 15<sup>th</sup> March / 15<sup>th</sup> June, Trout 1<sup>st</sup> October/ 31<sup>st</sup> March. All fish taken out of season shall be at once returned to the water alive. During the period 1<sup>st</sup> April / 15<sup>th</sup> June (both dates inclusive) members may fish for Trout in such of the Society's water where they may be reasonably expected to occur, limited to fly fishing only.

23. No junior under 15 years is allowed to vote at an AGM.
24. No one under the age of 16 shall be allowed to purchase a full ticket.  
Juniors between the ages of 8-15 years may fish the Society's waters.  
They can also obtain a Junior Night Fishing permit as long as they have a Disclaimer Form completed with a Parent or Legal Guardian's signature and also the Chairman's signature so that a record can be kept. Junior members, on reaching their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday, may surrender their Junior Card for an Intermediate Card, paying the difference on application to the Membership Secretary.
25. Day Tickets for the river allowing fishing in the Society's waters can be obtained on application to the Bailiffs to be issued at their discretion.  
The person to whom one is issued will be responsible in all cases for any damage by his/her acts. The rate for Day ticket will be agreed at the Annual General Meeting.
26. All tickets must be produced when demanded by an authorised person the Head Bailiff or a Bailiff and an Officer of the Club. Such authorised persons are also empowered to examine any member's catch.
27. Angling clubs or Societies wishing to fish Guildford Angling Society's waters must apply in writing to the Secretary before the 1<sup>st</sup> February in respect of the following season.
28. Where the Society is acting as host in a Competition with another Angling Society under reciprocal arrangements, all such anglers shall be allowed to fish Society's waters for the period of the competition free of charge.
29. With the agreement of the Committee, competitions involving outsiders where the Society is the host, or competitions run by other Societies using the water for free or under reciprocal arrangements, may fish on the towpath between Bowers Bridge and Triggs Lock.
30. Any member wishing to fish a competition on Society water other than those listed on the current fixture list must first notify the Committee and obtain their permission.
31. On days when parts of the Society's waters are allocated for a Guildford Angling Society competition, or a competition involving outsiders for whom the Society is the host or has another Society use the water under reciprocal arrangements, these waters will be closed to all members except those in the competition.
32. All foul-hooked fish must be returned to the water immediately.
33. All captured fish must be returned before re-casting your baits back out.
34. All anglers must fish and bait from their designated swims only.
35. The maximum number of anglers at Brittens Pond per night is 14 and 1 Bailiff apart from when the Club have an organised event or matches.  
You must book in through the night phone for a place.
36. Wading is only allowed by authorised people only.
37. All anglers must carry fish care with them at all times.
38. Exchange tickets can only be used for three days in a row, and then a break of fourteen days must be adhered to. Exchange ticket holders, must also be in possession of the relevant permits prior to fishing
39. All anglers must abide by Club rules fishing or not.

40. Fish except for carp, pike and barbel, may be retained for a reasonable while in a Keepnet of a size sufficient to avoid damage to fish kept therein. Minimum size under Thames Conservancy Bye-Laws: length 6 feet. Rings 12-inch diameter or 12 inches by 9 inches if rectangular.
41. All fish taken from Society's waters must be carefully returned thereto except for dead, badly diseased or badly injured fish, which should be humanely destroyed.
42. No member of the Society shall fish within 50 metres either side of the electricity cable that crosses Stoke canal and also No fishing 50 metres of either side of every lock. The Society Accepts No Responsibility for any Damage or Injury Suffered as a result of a breach of this rule.
43. No live baiting permitted on any of the Society's Waters
44. No firearms whatsoever allowed on the Society waters.
45. All braided main lines banned on all lakes
46. No cutting of trees or bank side vegetation on any Society waters.
47. No bait boats allowed.
48. All hooks to be barbless on all Society waters.
49. The 'Method' and ground bait around leads and Spodding and Spombing is banned on all Society waters. Plus 1kg of ground Bait per Angler per Session .with the Exception of Boilies
50. No fixed leads to be used on any Society waters.
51. No Carp, Pike or Barbel to be retained in keepnets or sacks.
52. All Anglers must have their **own** un-hooking mat of not less than 24" x 48" in size and a landing net of at least 40" on **BRITTENS POND** set up at all times
53. Alcohol is not permitted on any Guildford Angling Society waters. Any member or guest of a member found in possession of Alcohol will result in the member being expelled from the club
54. Any member breaking any part of these rules, or by his/her actions elsewhere bringing the Society into disrepute, will be called before the Committee and be liable to expulsion from the Society, his/her membership card being withdrawn.
55. No complaints from members shall be considered unless put in writing and signed and sent to the Secretary within 7 days of the occurrence.
56. No member shall
  - A leave any litter
  - B does or permits any damage whatsoever, especially to grass, crops and banks
  - C take any dog onto any of the Society's waters whilst they are fishing.
  - D fish with more than two rods at any time
  - E use bank runner or dead line
  - F use any tackle that does not allow hooks to be extracted and the fish returned alive to the water.
  - G sell, or expose for sale, any fish caught in Society's waters without prior permission from the Secretary.
  - H molest the eggs or nests of waterfowl or other birds
  - I cause annoyance to other anglers or members of the public by excessive noise, etc.

- J Park in front of the gate to the track leading to Triggs lock, obstruct free passage of lorries along Runtley Wood Lane or impede any other access to towpaths, etc.
- K fish in river Wey or the Navigation canal during the hours of darkness
- L obtain access to the banks other than by the authorised way.
- M fish in the immediate vicinity of any lock, or from any lock approach, landing stage or bridge.
- N light any fires  
obstructs the free passage of boats and craft along the Navigation Canal.
- P break any rule or bye-law of the Environment Agency, the National Trust, Surrey Wildlife Trust or Local councils while at or in the neighbourhood of the Society's waters where such Rule or Bye-laws apply.
- Q no radios or TVs to be used (condition of Leases)
- R not to obstruct or impede access at any time to footpaths used by walkers, pushchairs and wheelchairs.
- S no angler must impinge upon another's swim.

57. Anglers are to be no more than two swims away from their swims on the bank they are fishing the banks are:-

**FRONT, WALL, BACK, RAILWAY SIDE**

58. All Anglers to be off the pond by **7am** on the day of any match

59. Anglers entering into any competition will not be permitted to fish the night prior to the match

# **GUILDFORD ANGLING SOCIETY**

## **PROCEDURE**

### **FOR A NO CONFIDENCE**

#### **IN A**

#### **ELECTED OFFICER, COMMITTEE MEMBER**

1. A written account detailing the nature of the officer's shortcomings must be submitted to the Committee, signed and dated by a committee member and any other supporting members.
2. The officer concerned will be notified in writing that a motion of no confidence has been moved against him/her and will be tabled at the next normal Committee meeting.
3. The matter will be discussed during this Committee meeting with the officer present, at which time the officer can defend himself/herself.
4. A secret ballot will be taken by the Committee members present and the majority vote will stand.
5. Failure by the officer to attend this meeting will result in the process being followed in his/her absence regardless.
6. The officer concerned will be informed at the meeting of the Committee's decision. This will be formalised in writing within 7 days of the decision.
7. The officer will have the right to appeal; this appeal must be submitted in writing with 7 days of the Committee's decision.
8. The appeal must be supported by a written defence and submitted 14 days in advance of any appeal hearing.
9. The appeal hearing which will take place at the next normal Committee meeting.
10. A final decision will be made.