

HODNET ANGLING CLUB (HAC)

ANGLING RULES - EFFECTIVE FROM 1/4/2017

All Members must abide by these HAC Angling Rules when attending or fishing HAC Club Waters, plus any related notices or additional rules displayed.

Members found by The Committee to be in breach of HAC Angling Rules shall be liable to disciplinary action by The Club, which for breach of rules 2.4 (Rule 24) and 2.6 (Rule 26) may result in a life ban on Membership of HAC.

Rule No.

Membership & Access Rules

- 1.1 HAC accepts no liability for loss of or damage to Member's property.
- 1.2 Membership Cards only become valid once Members have affixed a passport sized photograph of themselves to it - in the space provided.
- 1.3 For insurance reasons *Junior and Temporary Members* aged below 16 years old must be 'Directly Supervised' by an accompanying adult aged 21 years old or over when fishing Club Waters; that adult, if not a *Full Member*, being regarded as a non-fishing *Temporary Member* whilst at Club Waters.
Note. *'Directly Supervised'* shall mean that the accompanying adult is located in the same, or an adjoining, swim
- 1.4 Where named on the Membership Card at its time of issue, a *Full Member* can take **one** accompanying person, at a time, from their own 'Family' fishing on Club Waters without further charge – as a *Temporary Member*.
Note. *'Family'* shall mean the *Full Member's* married, civil or co-habiting partner or any of their children aged up to 16 years old (inclusive).
- 1.5 Access to Club Waters is available for the whole Membership Year, except as per:
- Environment Agency rules for a 'closed season' on the River Tern
- Canal and River Trust (CRT) rules on fishing parts of the Shropshire Union Canal at Market Drayton; namely no fishing permitted at any time in the small marina (between Bridges 62-63) and in the big marina (between Bridges 63-64) from 1st April until 30th Sept inclusive.
- 1.6 At some Club Waters parking is in designated areas, which must be observed.
- 1.7 At some Club Waters access is via gates secured by a combination lock, the code to which will be changed each Membership Year. Members must not divulge details of the lock codes to non-members, nor leave such gates unlocked after use.
- 1.8 Non-disabled Members fishing in designated disabled Members pegs (those provided with specially built paths/platforms at Ryley's and Preeswood Pools) must, if no other disabled Member pegs are available, vacate them at the request of a Member holding disabled Membership - and who shows their Membership Card.
- 1.9 Subject to payment of the appropriate fee, Day Tickets for persons aged at least 12 years old are available as follows:
- Shropshire Union Canal at Goldstone (Bridges 51-55 only). Available to the public, either in advance from the Membership Secretary/authorised committee members or, in advance/on the day, from the Wharf Tavern at Goldstone.
- All Club Waters excluding the Shropshire Union Canal. Available for an accompanying *Full Member's* guest. Obtainable, at least one day in advance, from the Membership Secretary.
All Day Tickets are valid only on the date shown upon the ticket.
Note. *A Day Ticket holder is regarded as a Temporary Member of HAC for the duration of the ticket, and must comply with relevant HAC Angling Rules.*

Fishing Rules

- 2.1 All Members must carry a suitable/valid Environment Agency (EA) rod licence with them when fishing Club Waters and, unless varied by HAC Angling Rules*, abide by its provisions.
Note. * Subject to holding the correct EA licence, Members may use a maximum of 3 rods on any Club Water - if all rods are under the Member's direct control and used in only one swim.

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- 2.2 All Members issued with a Membership Card or Day Ticket must be in possession of it when fishing, and show their card or ticket on request to a Club Bailiff, or other Member who produces their card. Failure to do so, and/or produce other acceptable identification, will result in you being asked to cease fishing and leave the Club Water.
- 2.3 The Committee may take whatever emergency/temporary measures they deem fit to restrict access, angling or to restrict/amend these Angling Rules at Club Waters – whether to protect the welfare* of fish, wildlife, the safety of Members or for any other reason. Members must comply with any such measures.
Note. * *It is recommended that unhooking mats are used for larger fish, and that unused bait is not thrown into Club Waters at the end of a fishing session.*
- 2.4 ('Rule 24') - No litter is to be left at any Club Water.
- 2.5 Members must show consideration to owners of Club Waters, or their tenants, and their respective land and property. Members should follow the 'country code' and in particular keep dogs under control, not light fires, stray from designated paths or damage crops, fences, hedges or gates.
- 2.6 ('Rule 26') - No bait cans are to be left open and visible on the bank when fishing.
- 2.7 Any dead, dying or distressed fish should be reported as soon as possible to a Club Bailiff or member of The Committee.
- 2.8 No live fish are to be brought to, placed in, or removed from Club Waters without the permission of The Committee.
- 2.9 No 'night' fishing – 'night' meaning 30 minutes after sunset until 30 minutes before sunrise.
- 2.10 All fish caught that weigh 3lb or more, are to be returned to the water as soon as possible after landing. On no account are they to be kept in keep nets, sacks or any other fish holding device, except in Club Matches when a '2 net rule' is being applied.
- 2.11 No fishing is allowed between areas marked with electricity warning signs/marker posts.
- 2.12 No boating.
- 2.13 Special rules for the Shropshire Union Canal:
Goldstone and Market Drayton
i/ Fishing is allowed from the towpath side only.
ii/ Use of pellets (as bait or feed), and use of fishmeal based ground bait, is banned.
Market Drayton (Between Bridges 63- 64)
i/ Lines/bait, etc, must be cast no further than the end of the mooring platforms.
ii/ Poles/rods/equipment, etc, must not be passed through/rested on garden hedges/fences, etc.
- Match Rules**
- 3.1 All matches will be fished in accordance with Angling Trust rules.
- 3.2 Dates for Club or Open Matches for the forthcoming Membership Year will be supplied with Membership Cards or displayed on The Club website.
- 3.3 Entry to Club Matches is restricted to Members.
- 3.4 Entry to Open Matches is available to Members and non-members. Non-members must pay an entry fee to the Match Secretary or other Club Officer, and after payment shall be deemed to be a *Temporary Member* of HAC for the duration of that match - and at that match water only.
- 3.5 Pools are optional in Club Matches. In Open Matches pools are compulsory, other than for those up to the age of 16 years old (inclusive).

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- 3.6 A 'golden peg' prize will only operate where there are at least 8 match entrants.
- 3.7 All fishing where a daytime Club or Open Match is due to be held must cease by 30 minutes after sunset of the day before. Where an evening Club Match is due to be held all fishing must cease by 1500 hours the same day.
- 3.8 At the organiser's discretion, special bait rules/bans may apply in certain matches.
- 3.9 At the organiser's discretion, Members not taking part in a match may fish any unallocated swims within the Club Water's match length, subject to obtaining the organiser's consent.