

Hodnet Angling Club (HAC) Angling Rules for SAAC members – Shropshire Union Canal

SAAC members fishing the HAC stretch of The Canal (Shropshire Union Canal Bridges 51 – 55) agree to abide by certain HAC Angling Rules shown below, plus any related notices or additional rules displayed. Those breaching them will be asked to leave The Canal, and should note that breach of rules 2.4 (Rule 24) and 2.6 (Rule 26) may result in a life ban on fishing The Canal and Membership of HAC.

Rule No.

Membership & Access Rules

- 1.1 HAC accepts no liability for loss of or damage to *Temporary Member's* property.

Fishing Rules

- 2.1 All SAAC 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.*
- 2.2 SAAC members must be in possession of their membership card when fishing, and show it 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 HAC 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 SAAC members must show consideration to owners of Club Waters, or their tenants, and their respective land and property. They 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 SAAC or HAC Committee.
- 2.8 No live fish are to be brought to, placed in, or removed from Club Waters without the permission of The HAC 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
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.

Match Rules

- 3.1 All matches will be fished in accordance with Angling Trust rules.
- 3.2 Entry to SAAC Open Matches is available to non SAAC members, but any such persons can only fish for the duration of that match, and at that match water only. Such persons are regarded as a *Temporary Member* of HAC for the duration of the match, and must comply with relevant SAAC and HAC Angling Rules.
- 3.6 At the organiser's discretion, special bait rules/bans may apply in certain matches.