

CLUB RULES

1. NAME

The name of the Club shall be THE OLNEY & CLIFTON FISHING ASSOCIATION.

2. OBJECTS

The general objects of the Club shall be to provide the facilities of an angling club for its members, including the organisation and provision of angling, and to promote the interests of angling and anglers.

3. TRUSTEES

- a) There shall be not less than two nor more than three Trustees of the Club, save that a corporate body may be a sole Trustee. Subsequent appointment of Trustees shall be by the Committee.
- b) Trustees shall hold office until death or resignation, or until removed from office by a resolution of the Committee.
- c) All property of the Club (except cash, which shall be under the control of the Hon. Treasurer) including leases and fishing leases shall be vested in the Trustees to be dealt with by them as the Committee shall from time to time by resolution direct.
- d) The Trustees shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Club against any risk and expense incurred by them in pursuance of their office.

4. MEMBERSHIP

- a) Membership of the Club shall be open to any person completing a membership application form and paying the relevant subscription/joining fee as determined by the Annual General Meeting of the Club Members.
- b) The Club shall consist of the following classes of members:
 1. Ordinary Members.
 2. Honorary Members.
 3. Life Members.
 4. Junior Members.
 5. Pensioners.
- c) Membership in any class may be limited by the Committee subject to confirmation at the next General Meeting.

5. DEFINITION OF MEMBERSHIP

- a) Ordinary Members - Annual Subscription
- b) Honorary Members may be elected at any General Meeting of the Club upon two thirds majority of voting membership present. Honorary Membership may be given to an official of the Club provided he has served for seven consecutive years as an official, and still remains as an official of the Club.
- c) At the discretion of the committee, Life Membership may be awarded to an Ordinary Member provided they fulfil the following criteria: They have reached National Retirement Age, have been a member for the previous 10 consecutive years and live within the general environs of Olney.
- d) Junior membership can be achieved between the ages of twelve and sixteen. On or after the seventeenth birthday shall be liable for adult membership unless birthday falls after first day of season and the Junior Membership has been paid.
- e) Pensioners Membership is determined by the Official State Pension Age.

6. SUBSCRIPTION

The annual subscription payable by Ordinary Members shall be such sum as the members shall determine from time to time in General Meeting.

7. EXPULSION / SUSPENSION

- a) The Committee may expel or suspend from the Club any member for conduct which in their opinion is injurious or tends to be injurious to the interests of the Club or its objects or its members or angling, but before suspending or expelling a member the Committee shall inquire into his conduct and he shall be given a reasonable opportunity to defend and justify himself either in writing or by appearing before the Committee as he shall elect, and the Committee's power to expel or suspend shall be on a majority vote of those present at the inquiry.
- b) Members shall have the right of appeal in person to the management committee with regard to any decision affecting themselves, provided that notice of such appeal be submitted to the Administrator, in writing, within seven days of notification of the decision
- c) An expelled or suspended member shall forfeit all rights and privileges of membership but shall remain liable for any dues or debts to the Club which become payable or were incurred before the date of expulsion.

8. MANAGEMENT

The Management of the Club shall be vested in the Committee (except as otherwise provided by these Rules).

9. OFFICERS

A President, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary, and Honorary Treasurer shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Club after being proposed and seconded and indicating their consent, and shall be ex officio members of the Committee.

10. COMMITTEE

- a) The Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and not less than (5) or more than (10) Ordinary Members of the Club elected at an Annual General Meeting, and shall have power to co-opt up to two members, and may in their discretion invite any persons, whether members of the Club or not, to attend any Committee meeting.
- b) At the Annual General Meeting each year one-third of the Committee (or the number nearest to one-third) being those longest on the Committee since last elected shall retire from office, but shall be eligible for re-election, when every Ordinary and Honorary Member shall be entitled to vote for as many candidates as there are vacancies to be filled, and in the case of two or more candidates for a vacancy receiving an equal number of votes the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.
- c) The Committee shall have power to fill any casual vacancy on the Committee, and any member so appointed shall retire at the next Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for re-election.
- d) The committee shall meet in at least (8) months of each year to examine the accounts and to arrange the affairs of the Club, and minutes shall be taken of every meeting.
- e) The committee shall be deemed to be quorate when half or more of the elected committee is present.

11. CLUB BYELAWS

- a) The Byelaws set out in the Appendix to these Rules and any byelaws made under para (b) of this Rule shall be binding upon the members until repealed by the Committee or by a resolution of a General Meeting, subject to any amendment made under para (b) of this Rule.
- b) The Committee shall from time to time make, repeal or amend all such byelaws as they deem expedient (provided that they shall not be inconsistent with these rules) to take effect unless set aside at a General Meeting.

12. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS

The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held on the First Wednesday of May in each year to receive and consider the audited accounts and annual balance sheet prepared by the Hon. Treasurer; to appoint officers and auditors; to fill vacancies on the Committee; and to decide on any resolution submitted by the Committee or under Rule 15.

13. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

A Special General Meeting may be held at any time that the Committee shall determine, and the Committee shall call a Special General Meeting upon the requisition in writing of any (20) members for a purpose stated in the requisition, and upon receipt of such a requisition, unless they shall determine the purpose to be frivolous, the Committee shall call the meeting within 40 days of the receipt by the Hon. Secretary of the requisition.

14. OFFICIALS

All Officials must be resident in Olney or Clifton Reynes or within their environs.

15. RESOLUTIONS

- a) Any proposed alterations to the Club Constitution may only be considered at an Annual or Special General Meeting, convened with the required written notice of the proposal. Any alteration or amendment must be proposed by a Full Member of the Club and seconded by another Full Member. Such alterations shall be passed if supported by not less than two-thirds of those Full Members present at the meeting, assuming that a quorum has been achieved
- b) Propositions to be made in writing proposed and seconded, 21 days prior to meeting, and be displayed in Club H.Q. for at least 7 days.
- c) Nominations for Committee 14 days prior to meeting in writing proposed and seconded.

16. PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

- a) Fifteen members shall form a quorum at any General Meeting.
- b) At every General Meeting the President, or in his absence, the Vice-President, or in the absence of both, a member elected by the members present, shall take the Chair. The Chairman and all Ordinary and Honorary Members present shall be entitled to vote and in the event of an equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
- c) Except as otherwise provided by these Rules, a majority vote of the Ordinary and Honorary Members present and voting shall carry any motion or resolution, save that no Rule of the Club may be made, repealed or amended on a vote of less than two-thirds of the members present and voting.

17. INTERPRETATION

- a) The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the Club Rules and Byelaws, and the decision of the Committee upon any question of interpretation or any matter affecting the Club not provided for by the Rules or Byelaws shall be final and binding upon the members.
- b) In the Club Rules and Byelaws, where the context permits, words importing the masculine shall include the feminine, and words importing the singular shall include the plural, and vice versa

18. DISSOLUTION

- a) If at any General Meeting of the Club, a resolution be passed calling for the dissolution of the Club, the Secretary shall immediately convene a Special General Meeting of the Club to be held not less than one month thereafter to discuss and vote on the resolution.
- b) If at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the Full Members present at the meeting, the General Committee shall thereupon, or at such date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the Club and discharge all debts and liabilities of the Club.
- c) After discharging all debts and liabilities of the Club, the remaining assets shall not be paid or distributed amongst the Full Members of the Club, but shall be given or transferred to some other voluntary organisation having objects similar to those of the Club.

APPENDIX / BYELAWS

- a) Anglers must produce their tickets when requested to do so by the Water Bailiff or any other member.
- b) Night fishing is restricted to members only and is not allowed for anglers on a day ticket.
- c) Members are requested to act as bailiffs as the case arises
- d) Members must fish with due consideration for the Health & Safety of others
- e) Anglers are required to fish in a fair and lawful manner and are required to comply with the byelaws of the Environment Agency.
- f) All ticket holders must be particularly careful not to damage crops and close all gates etc. Anglers must not trespass, dig for bait, cut or damage trees, vegetation or other property.
- g) Anglers must not leave litter, particularly monofil line, and polythene scrap. The committee reserves the right to revoke membership for serious contravention of this byelaw. Day ticket anglers may be barred from future fishing if they contravene this byelaw. It would be greatly appreciated if members would clear litter left by others before commencing fishing themselves.
- h) Members must not undertake any work on platforms or other work except with Committee approval. Members should report defective structures etc. to a member of the committee immediately.
- i) No dogs or guns allowed by the river (unless sanctioned by the committee).
- j) The committee shall;
 - Specify size limits and numbers of fish that may be retained from each Club water.
 - Specify the number of rods that may be used and tackled up at any time.
 - Specify means of access, parking places etc. for each Club water.
 - Regulate use of boats.