

THE DELL ANGLING SOCIETY

RULE BOOK

APRIL 2022

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1. Disclaimers

This section contains important information for members, guests, and other parties attending **The Dell Angling Society**, hereafter referred to as “the Society”, in particular, its water “**The Dell**”, hereafter referred to as “the fishery” and its associated car park.

For the purpose of these notes, the term “fishery” includes the car park.

- 1.1 Society members, guests, and other parties enter the fishery at their own risk. Caution should be observed at all times.
- 1.2 The Society accepts NO responsibility for any vehicles or personal property lost, stolen, and/or damaged whilst at the fishery.
- 1.3 The Society accepts NO responsibility for any injury to persons whilst at the fishery and advises members, guests, and other parties to be vigilant at all times.
- 1.4 Society members are responsible for the Health and Safety of themselves and guests, visitors, and other parties in their care whilst at the fishery.
- 1.5 The Society recommends the use of floatation devices at all times.
- 1.6 The Society recommends that members, guests, and other parties are adequately insured against loss and liability when at the fishery.
- 1.7 The Society carries out regular inspections at the fishery. HOWEVER, if an individual should see anything hazardous whilst visiting the fishery please report it immediately to the Fishery Manager, a bailiff, or any member of the Committee. Hazards can also be reported via the Society website.

2. General Responsibilities

- 2.1 Society members and guests (henceforth referred to as (“individuals”)) must abide by all rules and regulations set by the Society and conduct themselves in such a manner so as not cause to annoyance to other anglers. This includes, but is not restricted to, casting across adjacent occupied pegs, the playing of radios and/or loud music, shouting and excessive use of mobile telephones.
- 2.2 Individuals must collect all litter such as discarded line, broken tackle, food, hooks and unused bait from the swim they have used during the session and remove it from the fishery, even if they did not deposit it.
- 2.3 Individuals shall not be intoxicated whilst at the fishery.
- 2.4 Individuals must be in possession of a current membership card, identity card, day ticket (as appropriate) and a statutory Environment Agency Rod Licence when at the fishery and, at the request of a committee member or a bailiff, allow them to be inspected.
- 2.5 Individuals are not permitted to light barbecues or fires whilst at the fishery. A single cylinder (maximum capacity 250 g) gas stove is permissible.
- 2.6 Individuals shall only fish from marked pegs.
- 2.7 Individuals are not permitted to access the Dell Island.
- 2.8 Individuals must not leave a baited line in the water unattended.

- 2.9 Individuals are not permitted to bring glass containers to the fishery: the exceptions being vacuum flasks and vacuum food containers.
- 2.10 All gates must be securely locked on entering and leaving the fishery.
- 2.11 Members are not permitted to reveal gate codes to any person not in possession of a current membership card.
- 2.12 Members are not permitted to duplicate or share any key issued to them. Any such action of the part of the member will be deemed as gross misconduct.
- 2.13 Individuals must display a valid society parking permit.
- 2.14 Individuals are not permitted to bring dogs to the fishery.
- 2.15 Pegs 1, 32 and 33 are reserved for anglers with restricted mobility and must be vacated by any able-bodied member or guest if requested to do so by such an angler.
- 2.16 Bivvies are permitted within the defined pitching areas only and must be adjacent to the swim being used. Bivvies must be removed 1 hour prior to Society competitions.
- 2.17 Only battery powered lamps are permissible.
- 2.18 Bait boats may only be used during the hours of darkness throughout the summer; i.e., British Summer Time. During the winter months, there is no restriction on their use.
- 2.19 The use of drones is not permitted.
- 2.20 Individuals are not permitted to use Society equipment unless authorised by a committee member.

3. Tackle Restrictions

- 3.1 Individuals, at the request of a committee member or bailiff, must allow their line and terminal tackle to be inspected.
- 3.2 No more than two (2) rods to be used at any time.
- 3.3 The maximum size hook that can be used at the fishery is size 6.
- 3.4 Only barbless hooks are permitted at the fishery. Microbarb and hooks with pinched down barbs are not permitted.
- 3.5 Double and treble hooks are not permitted.
- 3.6 Single hook rigs only shall be used. Multiple hook rigs are not permitted.
- 3.7 The maximum breaking strain of line shall not exceed 12 lb, with a hook length breaking strain of not less than 1 lb lower than the main line. For example, an individual using 5 lb main line must use a hook length of 4 lb or less.
- 3.8 Braided lines, wire traces and lead core lines, are not permitted.
- 3.9 All rigs involving ledger weights and/or feeders must be free running.
- 3.10 The use of coiled wire bait retainers is not permitted.

- 3.11 The use of keep nets, carp sacks, carp tunnels or any other form of fish retention device is not permitted,
- 3.12 The use of floating baits fished on the surface is not permitted.

4. Baiting Restrictions

- 4.1 The use of nuts whether raw or cooked, is not permitted.
- 4.2 The use of artificial bait is not permitted. This includes, but is not restricted to, spinners, spoons, plugs, lures, plastic or foam replica baits, cork balls and artificial flies.
- 4.3 Live and/or dead baiting is not permitted.
- 4.4 The use of blood worm and jokers is not permitted at the fishery.
- 4.5 Pre-Baiting at the fishery is not permitted. Any unused bait must be removed from the fishery at the end of the session.

5. Fish and Waterfowl Care

- 5.1 Individuals will not place in or remove from the fishery any form of aquatic life without the permission of the Committee.
- 5.2 To ensure that fish and other aquatic diseases are not introduced to the fishery, all nets, weigh slings and unhooking mats (other than those supplied by the Society), must be dry before use. Nets, weigh slings and unhooking mats brought to the fishery damp must be dipped in the disinfectant tanks provided.
- 5.3 All fish caught shall be returned to the water alive as soon as practicable and placed back in the same swim from which they were caught. Under no circumstances will fish be transferred between swims.
- 5.4 Individuals must be in possession of a landing net, of a size appropriate to the species being targeted, which must be set up and ready for use.
- 5.5 Individuals must be in possession of an unhooking mat or a carp cradle, which must be laid out or set up, as appropriate, and ready for use.
- 5.6 Individuals wishing to weigh fish must be in possession of a weigh sling, which must be to hand and ready for use.
- 5.7 Fish must not be held more than 45 cm (18 in.) above the ground and held over an opened unhooking mat.
- 5.8 Any dead fish or bird must be removed from the water, and reported to the Fishery Manager, stating the date, time, and peg number where found. Injured fish or birds should be reported to the Fishery Manager.
- 5.9 Sightings of cormorants must be reported to the Fishery Manager, stating the time, date, peg number where seen.

6. Work Parties

- 6.1 The Committee is authorised to close any portion of the fishery for fishing competitions, work parties, maintenance or any other reason deemed necessary.

- 6.2 The Fishery Manager will set the dates and times for work parties, and advise members accordingly in the Society Newsletter and on the web site.
- 6.3 A register will be compiled listing volunteers who have assisted work parties or general maintenance work at the fishery. Such activities will count as part of members' compulsory work parties.

7. Day Tickets

- 7.1 Members bringing Day Ticket holders to the fishery are responsible for their compliance with Society rules and regulations.
- 7.2 An allocation of 1 Day Ticket per member per day is allowed and must be purchased before taking any guest to the fishery.
- 7.3 Day Tickets are only valid during the hours of daylight on the date stated on the ticket. NIGHT FISHING FOR GUESTS IS NOT ALLOWED.

8. Freshwater Competitions

- 8.1 The decision of the Society Captain or their nominated representative shall be final in all matters. In the absence of the Society Captain, the Vice Captain or other member pre-nominated by the Society Captain as his deputy, the most senior committee member present shall act as Official Clerk of the scales, and steward as required.
- 8.2 Competition fees will be estimated by the Match Captain prior to each season and published on the fixture list. Changes to the cost of day tickets, match fees and optional pools will be notified at the General Members Meeting prior to the competition.
- 8.3 At the discretion of the Society Captain, guests holding a relevant Day Ticket may be allowed to fish in open competitions, i.e., the Fusilier Lee Rigby Memorial and Kevin Corbett Memorial competitions, provided pegs are available after the requirements of Society members have been catered for.
- 8.4 Society members who have booked out for an organised trip must give least 48 hours notice to the Society Captain if they will not be attending, otherwise they will be liable to pay a cancellation fee.
- 8.5 Society members with restricted mobility may ask the Society Captain to be allocated a peg within easy or short walking distance.
- 8.6 A minimum of 5 competitors are required for a competition to be considered valid.
- 8.7 The fishery will be closed 1 hour before the competition draw commences until 1 hour after the weigh in.
- 8.8 Competitions will be a peg down or walk off at the Society Captain's discretion. Society officials will be responsible for the drawing of pegs, and said officials wishing to compete in the competition will have their peg numbers drawn for them. When less than all the available pegs at the fishery are required for the competition then only selected pegs may be entered into the draw.
- 8.9 Individuals must fish from their drawn swims throughout the competition and will confine themselves to 1 metre each side of their peg.
- 8.10 On competition days, water may be broken for the plumbing of depth and positioning of keep nets. No bait or ground bait is to enter the water until the start whistle is sounded.

- 8.11 During competitions at the fishery, 2 keep nets will be used: one for fish under 2.27 kgs. (5 lbs) and one for fish over 2.27 kgs (5 lbs). A maximum weight of 22.5 kgs (50 lbs) is permitted within one net.
- 8.12 Keep nets must be a minimum 3 metres (10 ft) in length with a rectangular top ring of 50 cm x 40 cm (20 in x 16 in) or a round top ring of 50 cm (20 in) diameter and with mesh made from fish friendly material.
- 8.13 Surface floating baits are not permitted in Society competitions.
- 8.14 The minimum distance between the water surface and the hook will be 30 cm (12 in.)
- 8.15 All competitors must cease fishing as soon as the finish signal is sounded. Exception is given to a competitor who is playing a fish when the finishing signal is given: a period of 15 minutes will be allowed to play and land the fish.
- 8.16 Competitors will play their own fish, but assistance in netting may be given.
- 8.17 Competitors leaving their peg in an untidy condition may be disqualified and their weight declared null and void.

9. Freshwater Events

- 9.1 Society competitions are scheduled for any individuals wishing to take part. At the discretion of the Society Captain part of the lake not in use for the competition may be open to members that wish to fish but not compete.
- 9.2 The Society's trophies remain the exclusive property of the Society and must be returned to the General Secretary in the event of a member being expelled, suspended or leaving the Society.
- 9.3 It is the responsibility of the member who is awarded a Society trophy to maintain its general upkeep whilst in their possession. The individual will sign a receipt for the trophy and return it to the Society Captain by the March General Members Meeting.
- 9.4 Competitions shall be decided by the weight caught on the day and subsequently converted to points for rolling competition purposes, as appropriate. The allocation of points shall be: first place 36 points, second place 35 points, reducing by 1 point for each subsequent place. An allocation of 1 point shall be awarded to competitors failing to record a weight.
- 9.5 The following competitions are for members only and are decided on points
 - **Society Championship:** Fished over a series of home and away competitions.
 - **Brian Gillespie Memorial Trophy:** Fished at a nominated venue
 - **Brian Forbes Memorial Trophy:** Carp only competition to be fished at the Dell. A nominated carp venue may be used if the Society fishery is unavailable.
 - **Charity Pairs:** Fished in aid of the Society's nominated charity.
 - **Ladies and Juniors Match:** Fished at the Society's fishery.
 - **The First Chance Cup:** Awarded to the winner of the first Society outing of the season.
 - **Last Chance Cup:** Awarded to the winner of the last Society outing of the season.

- **Pairs Championship:** Competing pairs will be drawn at the start of the season and the competition fished on nominated venues.
- **Sardine Experimental Silvers Trophy:** Awarded to the winner of the Experimental Silvers match held at the Dell.
- **Friday Night League:** Fished over a series of 8 night competitions at the Dell with the best 6 from 8 results to count. Individual and overall match winners will be awarded trophies.
- **Committee Match:** A competition for members of the Committee and bailiffs.
- **Fur and Feather:** Annual Christmas competition open to members only. Members must have fished a minimum of two matches in order to be eligible for a prize.
- **Derek Munson Millennium Memorial Trophy:** New Year day competition, held at the Dell.
- **Kenny Thomas Parr Memorial Trophy:** Fished at the Dell within the Society's Points and Knock Out competitions. A league will be run and the person with the most points will be the winner of the trophy.
- **Freshwater Junior of the Year:** Awarded to the Junior or Youth member gaining the most points at Society events.
- **Major Phil Harris RA Cup:** Awarded to the Senior Member compiling the highest aggregate points over all Society competitions.
- **New Members Shield:** One off nominated match for new members-
- **Triple Challenge Trophy:** A one off match with teams drawn on the day.
- **Knockout Competition:** Individual competitors will be drawn against each other at the start of the season, the winner progressing to the next round, the overall winner being the angler who remains unbeaten at the end of the competition. The matches will be fished on nominated venues.

9.6 The following are open competitions

- **Fusilier Lee Rigby Memorial:** Charity match held at the Dell for the Families Association of the Regiment currently resident in the Woolwich Station.
- **Kevin Corbett Memorial Shield:** Contested at a single nominated match. Usually held at the Dell.

10. Sea Angling Rules

- 10.1 A Sea Section Organiser shall be co-opted by the Committee as required.
- 10.2 All members must abide the rules laid down by the National Federation of Sea Anglers (N.F.S.A.).
- 10.3 A series of outings will be arranged during the year. The individual weights for each angler will be recorded. These weights will be totalled up for each competition to decide the overall winner and runner up at the end of the season.
- 10.4 Members fishing will pay all associated fees for boat and beach outings. This includes, but is not restricted to, boat fees, pier fees, shore fees, bait costs and expenses incurred travelling to and from the venue.
- 10.5 Members who have made a booking and fail to attend will be liable to pay a cancellation fee, together with any bait costs, if ordered.
- 10.6 All undersized fish caught, must be returned to the water alive.
- 10.7 Any fish that has been foul hooked will not count for weigh in purposes and must be returned to the water immediately. A foul hooked fish is defined as one that has been hooked other than the mouth.
- 10.8 Any fish hooked by two lines by different anglers at the same time will not be counted at the weigh in.
- 10.9 Common mackerel are regarded as natural bait and will not count for weigh in purposes. However, if a member catches what is believed to be a record for the species, it may be entered for the British Rod Caught record.
- 10.10 Horse mackerel may be weighed in.
- 10.11 Rigs shall comprise of a maximum of 3 hooks at any one time: a double hook counts as 2 hooks, treble counts as 3 hooks.
- 10.12 Specimen fish can be weighed in on any organised outing (except the Crocker Cup). When weighing in specimens there must be at least two Society Members present to witness the catch and sign the requisite specimen form.
- 10.13 Only 1 rod maybe used in any sea competition at any one time: A second rod may be set up ready, placed behind each competitor, but without any terminal tackle attached.
- 10.14 During beach competitions, members will be allowed to walk off and pick their own swim, provided they are within the nominated boundary markers. Members fishing outside the boundaries set by the captain will be disqualified. Distances between each member will be at least 5 m (15 yd).
- 10.15 Society members must hook and play their own fish. Assistance may be given in gaffing, landing, and netting, if required.
- 10.16 At the discretion of the Sea Section Organiser, guests will be allowed to attend Society outings once the requirements of Society members have been catered for. Guests will be liable to a fee equal to that of the members as well as any other fees applicable. Guests are limited to one per Society member per outing and must be accompanied by their nominating member. Guests will not be entitled to hold any club trophies or replicas, but may enter the optional pools.

11. Sea Angling Events

- **Whopper Cup:** Awarded to the Society member who catches the biggest fish during an organised trip during the year. Fish caught in the Crocker Cup competition do not count for this trophy. Adjudged on weight.
- **The Crocker Cup:** A competition preferably to be fished from a beach. Awarded to the Society member who has the heaviest catch on the nominated competition day. A runner up trophy will be presented for the second heaviest catch. Fish caught during that day cannot be weighed in for any specimen trophies of the year. Adjudged on weight.
- **Pairs Trophy:** A draw for partners will take place prior to the start of the first competition. This partnership will remain throughout the series. The partnership obtaining the highest overall aggregate total weight will be deemed the winners. Adjudged on weight.

12. Society Policies

Individuals should consider this document in conjunction with the following policies.

- 12.1 **Constitution:** Full and concise information concerning the Constitution can be found on the Society website.
- 12.2 **Data Protection Policy:** Full and concise information concerning Data Protection Policy can be found on the Society website.
- 12.3 **Safeguarding Policy:** Full and concise information concerning the Safeguarding Policy can be found on the Society website.
- 12.4 **Social Media Usage Policy:** Full and concise information concerning the Social Media Usage Policy can be found on the Society website.

13. Content Disclaimer

- 13.1 This document has been compiled by the Officers, Officials, and members of the Society, assisted by third parties as required, and is revised, reviewed, and edited to ensure up to date information therein. The Society accepts no responsibility for omissions or errors and it is the responsibility of the individual to ensure that they are conversant with the current version of this document, which can be found on the website, before attending the fishery.

13.2 In Society Rule literature, where context permits, words as importing the masculine shall include the feminine, and words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.

14. Addendums, Additions and Amendments

- 14.1 This document has been compiled by the Officers, Officials and membership of the Society and is revised, reviewed and edited to ensure up to date information therein. It is the responsibility of the individual to ensure that they are conversant with the current version the document, which can be found on the web site, See Disclaimers: Content Disclaimers.
- 14.2 The following table shows addendums and amendments of the Society rules made from issue to issue.

Date	Issue	Addendum, additions and amendments
05/04/22	April 2022	Issue updated: Major document review and update, Topics grouped together, rules updated and amended, sections added and amended, wording changed, grammar corrected – approved by the Committee.