

Droitwich Spa Angling Club

Match Rules

1. All members must book in prior to any Match with the Match Organiser, No later than Thursday 1930 hrs, either by text or phone call. The Match Organiser will not ring round chasing members. It is up to all members to make contact and Book In.
2. Any members that have not booked in by 1930 hrs on the Thursday will not be allowed to fish. No exceptions.
3. All pool monies to be collected 15 minutes prior to draw times. Summer 0830am and Winter 0845am.
4. Weighing in at matches. Members that are nominated on Match Days, must return scales and match boards, to the Match Organiser, at the end of all matches. **This must not be left to others.**
5. Pegging of Porters Mill may include all pounds on 'Match Days' (Pounds to be used should be notified before Match Days). Although Pound 4 is generally reserved for disabled and pleasure fishing, this rule can be amended by the committee at any time should the match dictate.
6. Bloodworm and Joker are not permitted on any club venue.
7. River pegs to be preferably 20 yards apart, or more if possible. Porters Mill Canal pegs are sufficient.
8. All Pool matches – **Fishery Rules apply**
9. All Anglers **MUST** fish to our fishery and local fishery rules.
10. To compete in the match, entrants must have paid their subscription for the current entry year. **N.B. All members must pay subscriptions before the first match.**
11. The draw for pegs will take place on the morning of the match.
12. The match officials will have the right to examine all containers carried by competitors prior to commencement of the match, at their pegs.
13. No competitor will change his or her section or peg. Any angler fishing at the wrong peg will be disqualified.

14. Any angler may bring a caddy to assist them to get themselves and their tackle to their peg.
15. No competitor will have live or dead fish in their possession before the competition.
16. The signal to commence and cease fishing will be given by the match organiser or nominated official.
17. The duration of the competition will be decided by the match organiser.
18. Before the starting signal, no competitor must on any account ground bait or loose feed the swim but will be allowed to wet a line, plumb the depth, and test the float, mix, or wet ground bait, clear his/her fishing ground of weed or obstructions and position his/her equipment.
19. A competitor may wade provided that the water does not extend above the knees, unless they can touch the bank with their fingertips, in which case the water can extend above the knees. When platforms are used the water must not come over the angler's knees when standing on river or lakebed.
20. Every competitor must fish from within one metre either side of their designated peg.
(a) On flowing water, they will fish from their position in the direction of the flow as far as the next peg. (b) On Stillwater's they may fish as far as half the distance between their peg and the pegs on either side. Where competitors are drawn on opposite banks, the limit of the swim will be the middle line between either bank and as defined in (a) and/or (b) above. The competitor will restrict their activities completely to these boundaries.
21. No competitor may leave his or her peg during the competition other than to answer the call of nature. (DSAC relaxes this rule)
22. A competitor must not cause annoyance to, seek to interfere with another competitor during the competition. They must always act in a sporting manner.
23. A competitor shall have in use one rod or pole, one line and single hook at any one time. They may have other poles or rods and tackle assembled in a position behind them, if possible, providing no such other tackle is baited.
24. Maximum length of poles is 16 metres.
25. Braid hook lengths are not permitted.
26. The use of electronic fish finders is forbidden.

27. No competitor shall present their baited hooks into their swim by any means other than the pole or rod to which the line is attached.
28. All feed may be thrown in by hand, or using one-, or two-handed catapults, throwing sticks, swim feeders, bait droppers, bait cups, but no other mechanical means of projecting feed is allowed. No bait shall be introduced with a pole or bait dropper attached to an **extra** pole or rod whilst continuing to fish.
29. Competitors must strike, play, and land their own fish from the confines of their own peg. (DSAC relaxes this rule for older club members)
30. Competitors must retain all fish in a keepnet that complies with the relevant Environment Agency bylaws. (Nets should preferably be dry when arriving to fish, as dry nets do not spread diseases.) Fish must never be handled with gloves or towels.
31. All fish caught are eligible for weighing except Game fish, Pike, Zander, and Crustaceans. The DSAC Committee, as the fishery manager, request that Zander caught at Porters Mill **should not be returned**. (Under S14 Wildlife and countryside Act 1981)
32. Competitors must cease fishing at the signal. Should a competitor still be playing a fish hooked before the finishing signal is given, they will be permitted no more than 15 minutes after time has been called to land the fish.
33. Competitors are responsible for ensuring their pegs are clear of litter and no competitor shall have their catch weighed in who has litter on the banks of their swim.
34. Both the competitor and scales steward **MUST** ensure that the correct procedure for transferring fish from keepnet to weigh net and weigh net back to the water is followed. Keepnet to weigh net: - (a) Swim the fish from the bottom of the keepnet to the top, ensuring that the top ring is out of the water, and gather the rings up from the bottom as the fish move up. Once the fish are between the top ring and the 2nd or 3rd ring (depending on the number of fish in the net), remove the keepnet from the water and gently slide the fish into the weigh net. Should the number of fish require more than one weigh, only slide sufficient fish into the weigh net for the first weigh. Whilst the weigh is taking place, hold the remaining fish back in the water until required for weighing and repeat until all fish have been weighed. (b) Remove the keepnet from the water collapsing the net down until the 2nd or 3rd from the bottom can be reached from the inside. Pull the chosen ring through the top ring and then gently slide the fish into the weigh net. Should the number of fish require more than one weigh, only slide sufficient fish into the weigh net for the first weigh. Whilst the weigh is taking place, hold the remaining fish back in the water until required for weighing and repeat until all the fish have been weighed. After each competitor is weighed in at their peg, it will be the duty of the Scales Steward after each weigh to return the fish to the water. **Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES must the keepnet be removed from the water and fish tipped down from bottom to top.**
35. The individual weight of each competitor will be recorded to the nearest four drams. (Unless Beam scales are in use)

36. Each competitor will be responsible for ensuring that the weight of his or her catch is correctly recorded on the weigh sheet. It is the responsibility of the angler to ensure his keepnet is empty and all fish placed in the weighing sack.
37. After being weighed any dead fish are to be suitably disposed of by the scales steward.
38. Any fish about which the stewards have any doubt must be brought before the match organiser and the competitor's weight will not be confirmed until a ruling has been obtained. Even if a steward recommends the disqualification of a competitor, they **MUST** weigh the fish in case the stewards ruling is not upheld.
39. Any objections must be made with the match organiser or weigh steward, no later than one hour after the end of the competition.
40. All competitions must conform to Environment Agency bylaws. Any competitor reported to the match organiser for being unable to produce a valid licence shall be deemed to be in contravention of the rules and shall be disqualified. All pools, entry fees etc in respect of the said competitor shall be forfeited. Local fishery rules will also apply.
41. The use of lead, including any alloy or compound of lead, in the form of split shot or any other suitable items for weighting fishing lines is prohibited. The prohibition does not apply to weights of lead, alloy, or compound of lead, of 0.06g or less or of more than 28.35g. The prohibition also does not apply to weights of lead, alloy, or compound less than 28.35g if the said lead, alloy, or compound is incorporated in the construction of swim feeders or self-cocking floats.
42. Any competitor proved to be in contravention of these rules will be disqualified.
43. Any individual angler deemed to be bringing the club into disrepute will be severely dealt with by the Committee.

CLUB RULES

1. All members must complete a new membership form and include their Environment Agency Licence Number
2. Guests can fish Club Waters, with a Club Member present. All Guest Day Tickets must be paid for in advance of fishing – contact a member of the Club's Committee . (see committee members below)
3. No Bloodworm or Joker allowed.

4. Micro Barb or barbless hooks on all Droitwich Spa waters.

RIVER AVON, TWYNING

5. Guests will be allowed to fish twice in club contests per year.
6. No litter to be left behind - the field is a nature reserve and failure to allow to follow this simple rule will result in the club being removed from the fishery.
7. No Day Tickets (see rule 2 under Club Rules re guests)
8. Night Fishing is **NOT PERMITTED**.
9. All gates should be kept closed unless the farmer has removed the lock.
10. When fishing, please park close to the river, and try not to drive over the long growing grass in the field. (This is cut and sold off by the farmer)

DROITWICH CANAL, PORTERS MILL

11. Disabled Anglers have priority on the platforms. They must be made available if a disabled angler requires a platform. (This rule is relaxed on match days)
12. The Canal **MUST ALWAYS** be kept litter free, and **respect** for other canal users must be always upheld by **ALL CLUB MEMBERS**.
13. No Night fishing is permitted on the canal.
14. Parking. Park your vehicle tidily and with consideration for other canal users. Please note you are using the canal at your own risk and the club is not responsible for any theft, loss, or damage to your vehicle. The gate must be closed upon leaving the fishery.

DISSOLUTION

- A. If at any General Meeting 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 resolution.
- B. If at that Special General Meeting, the resolution is carried by at least two-thirds of the Full members present, the General Committee shall thereupon, or at such a date as shall have been specified in the resolution, proceed to realise the assets of the Club, and discharge all debt 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.

OFFICERS

President	Mr John Swain	07977914232
Chairperson	Mr John Walker	
Match Secretary	Mr Mick Watson	07938902408
Treasurer	Mr John Swain	
Club Secretary	Mr John Walker	07584019224
River Post	Mr Ken Smith	07763987759
Canal Post	Mr Kevin Downton	07549173360
Committee Member	Mr Jerry Bartlett	07812950892

Committee Members are up for change following members handing over their posts. New members willing to join the committee please contact any committee member.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

All officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Club, and by, the members of the Club.