

Members Handbook. Rules and Bye-Laws.



Organisation and General Rules

Season 2024 - 2025

Safeguarding/Welfare:

All safeguarding queries and concerns should be reported to our safeguarding/welfare officer using:-
clubsec@southlakeangling.co.uk

Urgent Biosecurity Notice to ALL Members:

All fishing tackle, nets, weigh slings, unhooking mats, trolleys, barrows, clothing, and footwear **MUST** be completely dry before entering Society fisheries.

Southlake Angling Society - General Rules.

ALL Southlake Angling Society Members MUST exercise common sense and etiquette at all times.

Any member uncertain of these rules should contact a Committee Member of Bailiff, before fishing.

1. Conduct, Discipline and Grievances.

- a) The Committee has the right to refuse membership for any reason and also to suspend or expel any member who fails to comply with Society Rules, or in their opinion acts in a manner prejudicial to the good of the name of the Society or the sport of angling.
- b) Committee Members, Bailiffs and Members are empowered to ask any persons fishing on any Society water/s to provide proof of membership.
- c) Any member who, for any reason whatsoever, feels aggrieved in any way will make his grievance known to the Committee in writing and will not under any circumstances pursue his objections in any other way. The Committee will endeavour to resolve the matter to a satisfactory conclusion to all parties involved.

2. Rods, Byelaws and Close Seasons.

- a) All members must abide by Environment Agency Byelaws, Environment Agency Thames Region Byelaws and be in possession of the appropriate rod license(s).
- b) Members must only approach or leave the waters by the recognised footpaths and entrances and fishing may only take place from designated swims.
- c) Marker rods and Spod rods may be used provided that they are reeled in after baiting etc. On no account are marker floats to be 'left out' whilst fishing.
- d) No angler shall leave a baited rod(s) unattended in or out of the water.
- e) The Committee has the power to set close seasons and temporary restrictions on any Society water. Close season on rivers is subject to Environment Agency byelaws.
- f) Excessive wading is prohibited; extreme caution is to be used at all times. Swimming in Society waters is prohibited.
- g) Membership to commence 1st June and terminate on the 31st May of the following year.
- h) Membership is administered via the "Membership Secretary" by "Clubmate" on behalf of Southlake Angling Society. Refund/s of yearly membership fees paid are not possible.
- i) All junior members aged under 13yrs old **MUST** be accompanied by a senior member of the Society whilst fishing on any of the Society waters. (Junior membership starts from the age of 6 years old).
- j) All junior members aged under 16yrs **MUST** be accompanied by a senior member of the Society fishing the adjacent swim, whilst night fishing on any of the Society waters.
- k) Junior members are eligible for Senior Permits at 16 years of age, but will be on probation until 18 years of age. No junior on probation may supervise any other junior member.

3. Miscellaneous Restrictions.

- a) Members must shut/lock gates behind them to safeguard property on all Society waters.
- b) Bivvie's, umbrellas and tackle etc. must not block any access or footpaths around society fisheries.
- c) Any member may be accompanied by a non-fishing guest, who will not occupy a peg other than that of the host member. The member shall be responsible for the conduct of the guest.
- d) Members may purchase guest tickets at a cost of £25.00 each for 24 hours for non-members to fish on all Society waters. Members are restricted to one guest ticket at any one time and guests may only fish in accordance with the rules of the Society. Guest tickets must be purchased IN ADVANCE from the Woodley Tackle Box. Guest tickets may only be issued at the committee's discretion and guest must fish adjacent swims to member they are accompanying.
- e) Any member being a nuisance due to being intoxicated or under the influence of drugs will be banned immediately from Society waters.

4. Dogs, Wildlife and Property.

- a) Members are allowed to have 1 dog only with them when fishing. The dog must be leashed to prevent them leaving the swim and free roaming the fishery. A member is totally responsible for the behaviour of their dog brought on to Society waters or of that by their guest. Any member is responsible for picking up any dog foul left by their dog. Failure to do so will result in the immediate withdrawal of the member's right/s to bring a dog onto society waters.
- b) Members must keep disturbance & noise to a minimum at all times, especially with regard to local residents living near Society waters.
- c) No member shall alter, damage or in any way change the swims on Society waters.
- d) Under no circumstances shall members light fires, (except using cooking stoves) unless engaged on official Society business. Barbeques are permitted on Society waters however they must be raised off the ground.
- e) No member is allowed to introduce/remove any fish, spawn or fauna to or from Society waters, except when carried out for fishery management purposes.
- f) Members accept that vehicles and their contents are parked at Southlake Angling Society venues entirely at the owners own risk.

5. Baits and Application.

a) The use of "Bait Boat's" is prohibited, as is the use of all nuts on Society waters.

6. Noise, Disturbance and Litter.

a) The playing of radios, TV's, and all other media devices may only be used so as not to cause disturbance to others.

b) No member shall leave any form of litter, plastic bags or fishing line, etc on Society waters. Any member fishing is responsible for all litter at that peg and if proved that this rule has been disregarded the member will be expelled.

7. Safety.

a) No boats or radio-controlled equipment of any type are to be used on Society waters other than those used by official working parties, or with permission from a club official for fish safety.

b) The use of open fires, log burning stoves or gas heaters intended to heat bivvies is prohibited on all society venues. (Carbon monoxide given off by these devices is poisonous in a confined space. It is a tasteless, odorless gas that can cause death).

c) The use of gas stoves intended for the heating of water and foodstuff's is permitted on society venues provided adequate ventilation is afforded during its use.

8. Fish Handling, Retention and Welfare.

a) All anglers unhooking or handling a specimen fish on the ground must use an unhooking mat with a minimum foam depth of 40mm and must be able to safely support fish over 40lb in weight. An unhooking mat must also be used under any weigh nets/slings etc. to place specimen fish on before, during and after the weighing.

b) Carp maybe retained in retaining slings in sufficient depth of water for up to 30 minutes and then released (Strictly One fish per Sling).

c) Fish must not be retained or weighed in polythene bags.

d) Sacking of fish is banned.

e) Keep nets must conform to Environment Agency rules and be perfectly dry before being deployed on society waters.

f) All Society bailiffs are empowered to inspect and insist that members remove fish from their retainer sling should the enclosed fish show signs of distress.

g) All Carp anglers must be in possession of a suitable landing net at a minimum size of 42".

h) The use of long shank bent hooks and injurious terminal tackle (such as fixed rigs where the lead / feeder cannot be ejected on the main line breakage) is prohibited. (Bailiff's decision is final).

i) All fish must be returned to the water alive after capture. Fish must not be killed, or taken away from the fishery, to do so may give rise to a civil prosecution under schedule 1 section 2 of the theft act.

j) When fishing for pike, barbless trebles and wire traces must be used. Live baits may only be used if caught on society waters on the day of fishing. All other live baits from other waters are prohibited.

k) All carp anglers must be in possession of and use carp care kits. Bonjella is a suitable treatment for those not in possession of a branded kit.

REDLANDS is subject to the following additional rules.

a) Members may fish with 3 rods all year round when fishing at Redlands.

b) Fishing is permitted at Redlands all year round, with the exception of the river Loddon which is subject to the normal close season March 15th until June 16th inclusive.

c) Members fishing Redlands may only be permitted to fish for a maximum of 72 hours on any one session and must vacate the water 24 hours before returning to fish.

SOUTHLAKE is subject to the following additional rules.

a) Members fishing Southlake may only be permitted to fish for a maximum of 72 hours on any one session and must vacate the water for 24 hours before returning to fish.

b) Members may fish 3 rods from October 1st to March 31st inclusive on Southlake; only 2 rods at all other times.

c) Entry to the bird sanctuary or duck pond area, for any reason, is prohibited as is casting behind the island from the "Bay" or "Cut-Out" swims. All roped-off areas are "out of bounds".

d) "The Bay" is the only 2 man swim on Southlake.

Social Media.

We expect of members to conduct themselves appropriately when using electronic communication to share information with other members or posting material on public websites connected to the club.

Electronic Communication:-

a) Should be restricted to club matters only.

b) Must not, offend, intimidate, humiliate, or bully another person.

c) Must not be misleading, false or injure the reputation of another person or the society.

d) Should respect and maintain the privacy of members.

e) Must not bring the club into disrepute in any way.

f) Members may face disciplinary action for sending inappropriate electronic communication or posting online content or comments that harass, offend, intimidate, or humiliate another member or Society, as outlined.

Southlake Angling Society Ltd – Organisation.

- 1) Southlake Angling Society Ltd is a company limited by guarantee. The liability of each member is limited to £1.00 being the amount that each member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while he/she is a member or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member.
- 2) The Directors of Southlake Angling Society Ltd form the Committee of Southlake Angling Society. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Permit Secretary are the Executive Directors. All Executive Directors plus other Society Directors shall be elected at the AGM to form the Committee.
- 3) The Directors of Southlake Angling Society Ltd shall here in be referred to as the Committee.
- 4) The business of the Society to be conducted by the elected Committee who will have the power to fill any vacancy or co-opt as necessary.
- 5) The Committee shall be the sole authority for the interpretation of the Society Organisation and Rules, and their interpretation shall be final and binding upon the members. Any matters arising not covered by the organisation and rules shall be the responsibility of the Committee, their findings to be final.
- 6) Discipline: The Committee shall expel from the Society any member for conduct which, in their opinion, is injurious or **tends to be injurious** to the interest of the Society or its members or angling. Members found violating Society Rules will be issued with a written warning signed and dated and where necessary, have their permits impounded by a bailiff or Committee member and a receipt given to him/her signed and dated and informing him/her to attend the next Committee meeting. Failure to attend without adequate reason may lead to expulsion from the Society. An expelled member shall forfeit all claims including monetary on the Society and forfeit all rights and privileges of membership but shall remain liable for any dues or debts to the Society. All members have the right to defend themselves at a disciplinary hearing but the Committee decision is final and binding. Where permits have been impounded, the written receipt will act as a permit until the day of the next Committee meeting.
- 7) Subscriptions: The annual subscription shall be such a sum as the Committee shall determine and will become due on the 1st March each year for existing members and from 1st April each year for prospective members. Existing members must renew their membership by 31st March each year. Failure to do so will result in the cessation of their membership.
- 8) Any Committee Member resigning shall not be eligible for re-election for a period of 2 years from the following A.G.M. after resignation.
- 9) Any member holding an active official position in any other Angling Society shall not be eligible for election to the Committee.
- 10) The Annual General Meeting shall be held each year. Notice of the A.G.M. will be sent to members 14 days prior to the meeting. Statement of accounts shall be made available at the A.G.M. Any business to be discussed is to be notified to the Secretary in writing 14 days prior.
- 11) Extraordinary General Meeting may be held at any time that the Committee shall determine, and the Committee shall call an Extraordinary 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 21 days of receipt, by the Secretary, of the requisition.
- 12) Committee meetings will be held once a month at a time and venue notified to the Committee in May each year.
- 13) Concession Memberships can only be obtained by "Current Blue Badge Holders" at the sole discretion of the committee.

Committee Contacts:-

Chairman: Tim Athey (07877392696)
Secretary: Jim Morris
Treasurer: Jason Hewitt
Safeguarding Officer: Jason Pincham

Committee:

**Jon Nice, Jason Pincham, Dan Walker, Chris Overton,
Ian Foley.**

Head Bailiff – Ian Foley

Gary Holloway
Jim King
Sam Holloway
Garry Burrows
Aaron Poole
Paul Hathaway
Eddie Kiff

Contact Number: 07877392696

The society website can be found at southlakeangling.co.uk

Registered Office:

57, Jupiter Way, Woosehill, Wokingham. RG41 3GE
Registered in England

Company Number: 07270927