



City of London Piscatorial Society

General Rules (Revised February 2026)

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1. GENERAL RULES

- 1.1 The Hon Membership Secretary shall issue annually, to all members who have paid their subscriptions, a duly dated membership book (non-transferable) bearing the name and signature of the member. Members must also hold a current Environment Agency (EA) licence and both of these should be produced upon the request of another member of the Society or other authorised bailiff. All members are reminded that they are bailiffs for the Society's waters.
- 1.2 The Close Season for rivers shall be recognised. i.e. to 15th March to 15th June inclusive. Lakes may be fished during the Close Season unless otherwise indicated in these Rules.
- 1.3 It is the responsibility of members to ensure that prior to a guest commencing fishing on any of the Society's water, a valid guest ticket is available for inspection in accordance with the current guest ticket rules detailed in Section 3.
- 1.4 All current EA regulations must be observed. Keepnets will meet EA/NFA requirements.
- 1.5 All Society matches shall be run in accordance with Angling Trust Model Match Rules, relevant extracts are reproduced as Annexe A
- 1.6 Landing nets should be of a suitable size, having regard to the species of fish likely to be caught. To minimise the risk of transferring disease, they should be completely dry on entry to the fishery.
- 1.7 Specimen fish, to be eligible for the Society's trophies, must be reported to the Honorary Curator in writing or by email within 7 days of capture and the report shall include the name and contact details of a responsible witness. Any specimen fish caught on the Society's water, during an official CLPS match (Championship, Fur & Feather,) and properly weighed, witnessed, recorded and therefore reported to the Captain of the Day, shall be regarded as having been reported to the Curator. The Curator may at any time request to check member's scales against the Society's championship scales in order to verify the accuracy of those members scales.
- 1.8 No member or guest shall knowingly commit any of the following offenses:
 - a) Leave litter of any kind or discard fishing tackle on the banks or in water.
 - b) Commit any nuisance, including noise from radios and mobile phones etc. which may cause offence or annoyance to other anglers, lawful users of the land or water, or to local residents.
 - c) Interfere with wildlife

- d) Have in his or her possession a gun of any kind.
- e) Leave a baited rod unattended, whether in the water or not.
- f) Transport fish from swim to swim in a keepnet or retain specimen or distressed fish longer than necessary.
- g) Bring live fish to any of the Society's fisheries for any reason.
- h) No live fish (including pike) to be removed from CLPS waters.
- i) No fixed leads or feeder rigs may be used on any CLPS waters.

1.9 Members shall keep to access ways, banks and edges of fields as far as reasonably practical.

1.10 Fishing is only allowed on the Society's waters from one hour before dawn to one hour after sunset inclusive, with the exception of the R.Colnebrook at Wraysbury. See also Rule 2.7, Weyside Lake and Wargrave 2.9

1.11 Fish care is paramount; hence it is a mandatory requirement to have/use unhooking mats, weighing slings and an antibacterial antifungal fish care spray when using Societies waters.

1.12 Publicity No Members shall publicise any information relating to the Societies fisheries or catches made, without prior approval of the Committee, Secretary or Curator.

1.13 Upon a member's retirement from the Society, all keys and other equipment must be returned to the Hon Treasurer or other officer.

1.14 Each qualifying member of the Society (see exemptions below) shall attend a minimum of one (1) day officially recognised working party each year, the duration of which shall be a minimum of four (4) hours. Members who cannot attend at weekends (due to work commitments etc) may be at the discretion of the Committee, to fulfil their working party obligations midweek. Attendees will receive a credit against their following year's subscription, the amount of such credit to be determined by the committee and reviewed periodically. The cost of the credit will be recovered from all members through subscriptions, excluding, Junior and Social members.

- 1.15 The husband, wife, partner or child of a member may fish on an occasional basis with that member, provided no inconvenience is caused to other members. Members are reminded that an EA licence is required for anyone over the age of twelve wishing to fish. Where a husband, wife, partner or child of a member wishes to fish on a regular basis, they must apply for membership in the usual manner.
- 1.16 Members and visitors should be aware that to fish a venue on a competition day, they should liaise with the Captain of the day, cause no inconvenience and give preference to competitors.
- 1.17 The use of bait boats is banned at all CLPS fisheries
- 1.18 Members shall not use CLPS waters to pursue any enterprise from which they derive either directly or indirectly, any financial benefit or benefit in kind. Any member found to be in breach of this rule shall have their membership terminated with immediate effect.
- 1.19 All anglers must inspect their proposed fishing area (swim or peg) and confirm that the area is safe and fit for the purpose of fishing.
- 1.20 Accidents on any of CLPS waters should be reported to the Secretary within seven (7) days.

2. RULES RELATING TO SOCIETY WATERS

2.1 GATES TO ALL CLPS FISHERIES MUST BE KEPT LOCKED AT ALL TIME

2.2 To minimise risk of spreading disease, any nets weighing slings and unhooking mats must be dry when entering the fishery. Please check for notification on notice board if the disinfectant bin is in operation, for use before and after fishing

2.3 Barbless hooks to be used at Weyside (Not applicable to the rivers).

2.4 Members are strongly advised to use line with a minimum breaking strain of 5lbs and are requested not to use higher than 15lb breaking strain

2.5 Weyside Lake: Entry is not permitted before 0700 and the lake must be vacated within one hour after the published sunset time or by 2300 hours, whichever is the earlier. Parking is only permitted in the designated areas. When entering and leaving please drive slowly, avoid making unnecessary noise and respect the privacy of local residents.

2.6 Wargrave: No overnight stays. Fishing is permitted from the published time of sunrise until 2hrs hours after the published time of sunset or 23.00 hrs (11.00 p.m.), whichever is the earlier time. Please respect the Loddon Drive resident's opposite and leave the fishery quietly

2.7 Keepnets can be used at Society matches and for pleasure fishing to retain fish up to 3lbs. Larger fish, primarily Carp, Barbel and Pike must be handled with care, weighed in weighing nets or slings and returned to the water with minimum delay.

3. RULES RELATING TO GUESTS/GUEST TICKETS

- 3.1 Each Full Member, Full Senior Member and Restricted Member is entitled to be accompanied on CLPS fisheries, providing the Member is in possession of the appropriate Guest Ticket.
- 3.2 Guest Tickets may be purchased from the Hon Membership Secretary at the time of subscription renewal, at a price determined from time to time by the Committee.
- 3.3 Guest Tickets come only in single form and permitting one guest only at any one time. Guest tickets will be attached to the host member's membership card on the renewal of their membership.
- 3.4 Guest tickets permit unlimited visits to CLPS waters but it is hoped that any guest who becomes a regular visitor would like to transfer to full membership.
- 3.5 Single Day tickets are not available on the bank but must be purchased in advance from the Membership Secretary.
- 3.6 All guests must comply with the CLPS Fishing Rules (and local fishing bye-laws) and must be in possession of a valid Environment Agency Fishing Licence.
- 3.7 Host members must be present at the venue at all times when a guest is fishing and the guest must be fishing in an adjacent swim to the host.
- 3.8 Guests are not permitted to night fish CLPS waters
- 3.9 All members have a right and a responsibility to check that guests are fishing within the CLPS rules and should report to the Committee any breaches of these rules.

4. CHANGE TO RULES

The Committee can make changes to these rules as and when it is deemed necessary for the benefit of the Society. The members can also raise proposals by submitting the proposal in writing to the Hon Secretary, for consideration by the Committee at the bi-monthly Committee meeting.

5. FRESHWATER MATCH RULES

(See also Annexe A-Angling Trust Model Match Rules)

- 5.1 Matches will usually be either of the following and will be detailed in the Society Fixture List:
- a) **'Championship Match'** will be fished as a pegged competition and points are allocated as: (25 for the winner, 20 points for the second and reducing by two points per place thereafter) and is based on the total weight at the finish. An Angler who does not weigh in will receive no points. There must be a minimum number of four members to be a qualifying match.
 - b) The angler who achieves the highest score from 5 of the 6 matches will be the winner. In the event of a tie the highest individual match weight from any fishery will determine the winner, who shall receive the Bently cup.
 - c) Each individual match winner is also awarded a Silver Society Spoon.
 - d) **'Spoon Matches'** where a minimum number of four members may fish for a Silver Society Spoon.
 - e) A sum of £15.00 will be deducted from the pool money, to cover the cost of the spoon for both **'Championship'** and **'Spoon'** Matches'.
 - f) Inter-club matches as arranged by the Society Freshwater Captain.
- 5.2 Swims must be vacated a minimum of one hour before a competition commences.
- 5.3 A member arriving after the commencement of a match may participate, provided he or she reports to the Captain of the Day and pays the appropriate entrance fee.
- 5.4 Pike may be fished for using normal pike methods but however caught will not count in a competitor's total weight. They may, nevertheless qualify for the Society's Pike Cup. Other species caught whilst using pike tackle will not be weighed in but may also qualify for the Society's trophies.

- 5.5 Only one move is allowed during the course of an un-pegged match. When a member moves, all fish previously caught shall be returned un-weighed to the water and will not count towards that members final weight. No moves are allowed in Championship matches without the Captains consent.
- 5.6 Only one rod may be used at any one time unless the Captain has announced otherwise at the commencement of the outing. Other rods may, however be made up ready for use provided they are not baited.
- 5.7 Fish seen to be distressed should be weighed on the official scales, witnessed and returned to the water during the course of the competition.

6.1 CLPS WATERS

Weyside Lake, Ripley, Surrey

The fishery is reached from Ripley High Street (B2215) across Ripley Green via a small road situated opposite The Curry Garden Restaurant. The exit from the A3 to the B2215 is approximately 1 mile west of Junction 10 of the M25.

The track from Dunsborough Cottage to the CLPS boundary is shared with the tenants of the stables. The gate at the start of this track should be closed and the gate at the CLPS boundary should be locked at all times.

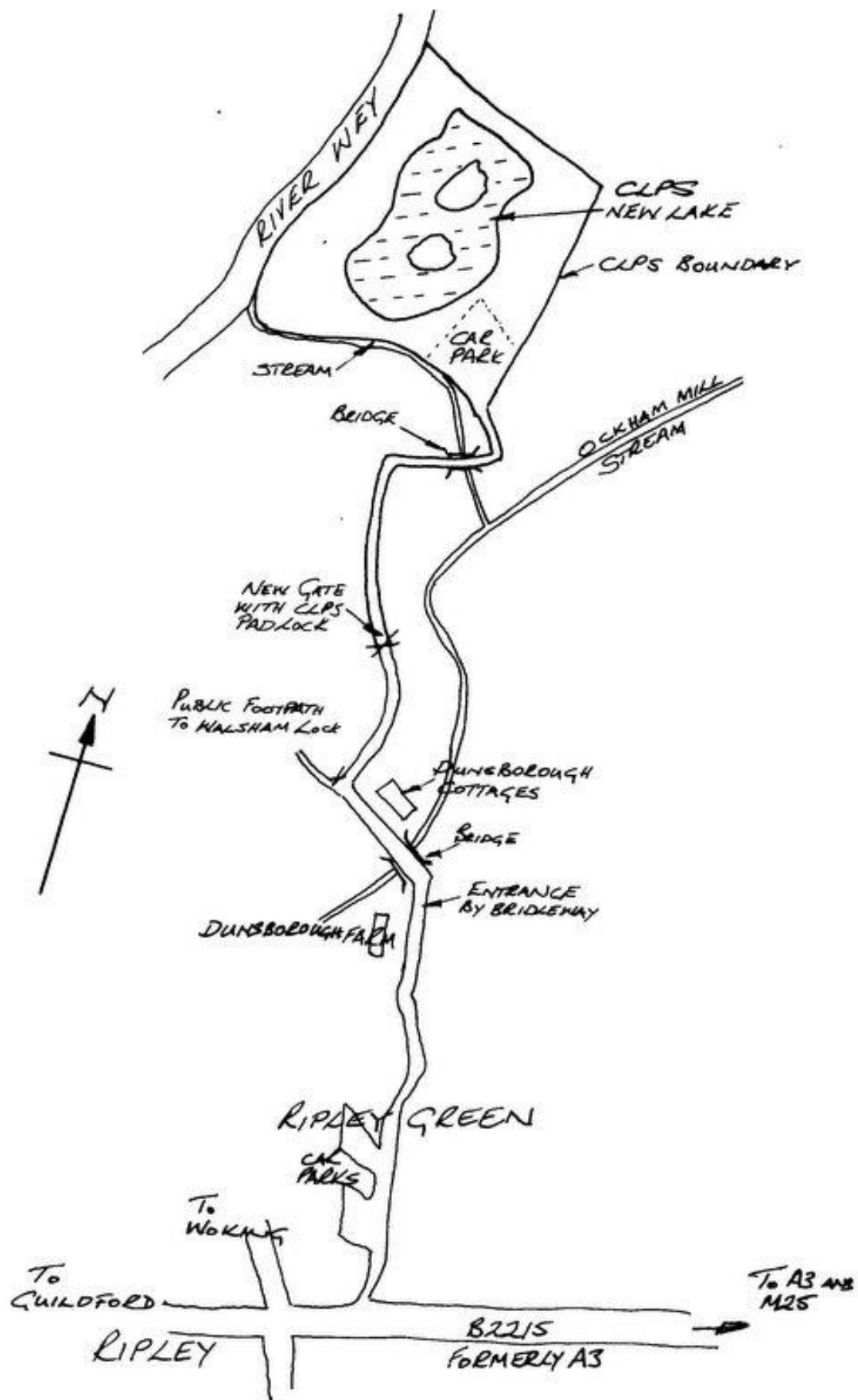
Parking: The car park comprises the hard standing from the entrance gate to the area between the garage and notice board. There is a second grass surfaced parking area at the northern corner of the Weyside complex with space for about 6 vehicles. This area will not be available during the winter or after periods of inclement weather. During these periods there will be a locked chain across the access track

For general usage of the fishery these two areas are the ONLY permitted general parking areas. An exception to the above will apply to registered "Blue Badge" holders who can park adjacent to the areas on the north (river side) bank which are indicated by the appropriate signage. These areas may also be used by members who have mobility issues because of either an accident resulting in injury or medical procedure

For matches or other occasions as indicated in the list of CLPS matches etc, participants should use the car parking areas indicated above. In addition, with the knowledge and approval of the designated match captain or committee member, vehicles may be permitted to park within those areas with "Blue Badge" signage.

The lake covers approximately 3.5 acres and varies in depth between 6 and 8 feet. It is stocked to be a general fishery but natural trends may cause variations from season to season. Fish to be caught include Carp, Tench, Bream, as well as Roach, Rudd, Perch, Gudgeon and Eels.

Weyside is owned by CLPS, who purchased the land in 1997 with assistance from the Lottery Fund. The fishery is available, on application, to charitable organisations as a funding requirement. The lake was opened as a fishery in early 1999, with the first competition being held in July.



6.2 River Loddon, Wargrave, Berkshire

The fishery is situated off the A321, ½ mile south west of Wargrave and is accessed via the A4 Reading Road. From London exit the M4 at Junction 8/9 and take the A423M, turning left at the A4 exit.

From the roundabout at the A321 junction with the A4 take the Henley/Wargrave Road for approximately half a mile, turning left after a large hedge (Signposted Thames Water Authority, Lambourne Division, Sewage Works 1 mile). Post code RG10 8DJ which is the office for the farm.

Follow this single track road over a railway bridge and either approach the river by turning sharp right after the bridge (U turn), where limited parking is available next to the railway track or down between the fields at the river bank or continue down to the Sewage Works and take the track right down to the river.

Caution should be exercised during the winter months and during inclement weather, particularly rain, when cars may become bogged down on the soft ground. Members whose cars have low slung sumps should also proceed with caution. Cars should not be parked where they may obstruct the farm activities.

The river is classed as a mixed fishery, with Pike, Barbel, Bream, Chub, Eels, Roach, Perch, Dace to 10oz, Plus Gudgeon, Bleak and river Carp.

For Matches meet at the hard standing just over the Railway bridge.

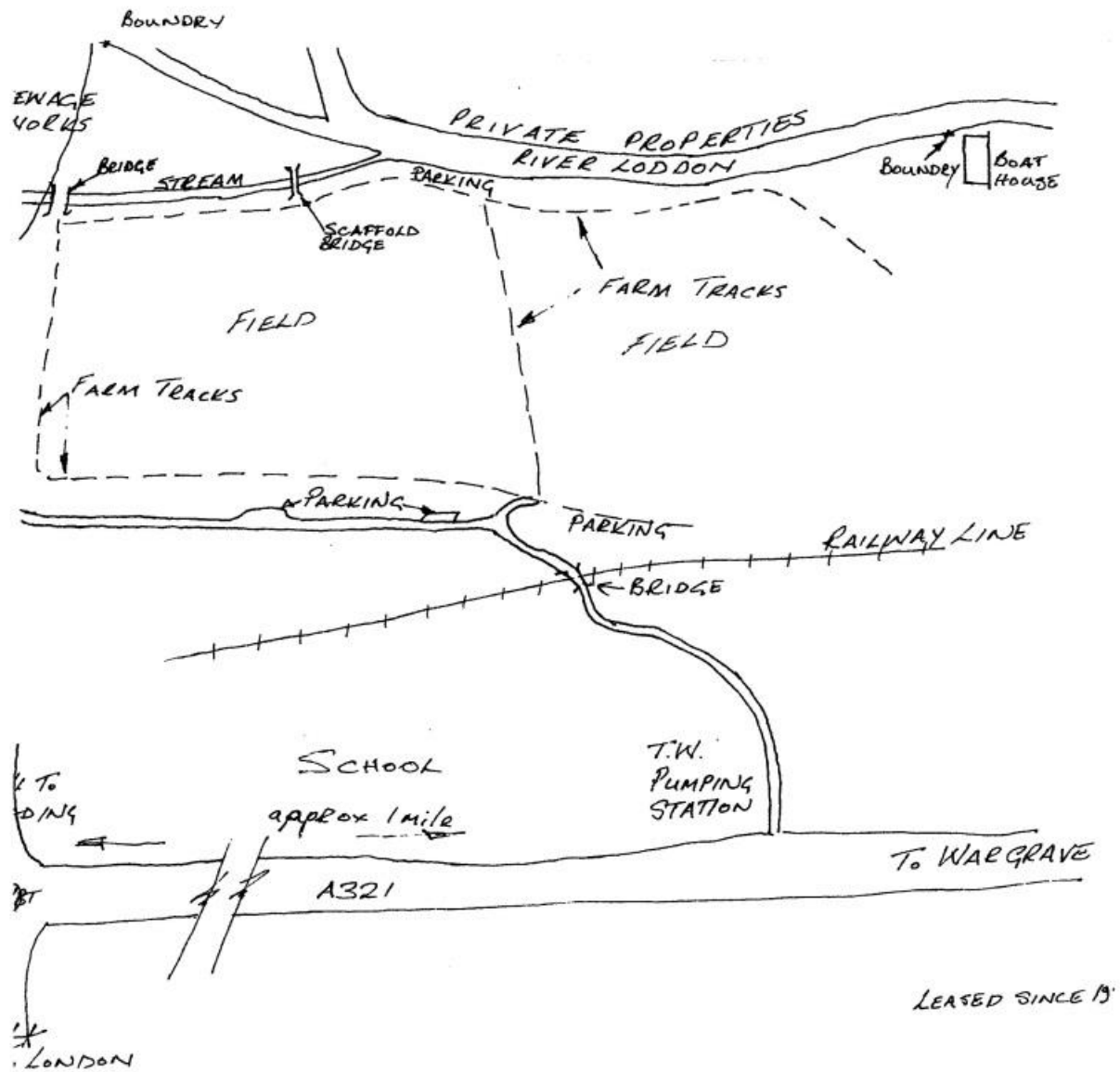
Code of Conduct for Barbel:

Please use suitable tackle when fishing for Barbell. A minimum 1.5lb test curve and 8lb line is recommended, in order to land the fish quickly, causing minimum stress to the fish.

A suitable landing net should be used and the hook removed from the fish on an unhooking mat must be used for weighing, use a dampened sling or polythene bag, supporting the whole of the fish.

Barbel must not be retained in keep nets.

Return the fish with care making sure that it can remain upright before released.



6.3 River Colnebrook, Wraysbury, Surrey

The fishery can easily be accessed from either Junction 13 or 14 of the M25. Access is off the Stanwell Road, Horton SL3 9PA almost immediately after the Horton Bridge over the river (coming from the M25 direction). Turn left after the bridge into the CEMEX complex and then bear left to a five-bar gate which has a CLPS notice boards and padlock, *(The code will be the same for both locks)*.

The fishery is approximately three quarters of a mile in length and extends along the west bank southwards to the automatic weir near Wraysbury Station. It has two flood relief channels (lagoons).

Entrance is gained from either end, although parking at the southern end is restricted to Wraysbury Station car park only. Members are advised that caution should be exercised when using this car park as cars have been vandalised in the past. Parking is then available through practically the whole length of the fishery but cars must not be left on the track itself. The gates should be kept locked at all times unless indicated otherwise on a particular day. Members should be aware that the track may become difficult after heavy rainfall.

NB: Beware of overhead cables. Within a certain distance of these cables, members fish at the own risk. Members should also warn their guests about the cables

The fishery is classed as a mixed fishery with Carp, Pike, Barbel, Chub, Eels, Roach, plus Perch, Dace, Gudgeon, Bleak and Minnows.

NB: Please be aware there are new gates / barrier at the Cemex Kingsmead site. The opening hours for the site are:

*Monday to Friday **7.00** until **17.00** and Saturday **7.00** until **12.00**.*

Access is still available to the fishery outside these hours by using the Society combination lock on the gate and the number provided in the handbook.

