

CHICHESTER & DISTRICT ANGLING SOCIETY

CHAIRMAN

Mr D Carver
CDAS
PO Box 3231
Littlehampton
07719 816977

VICE CHAIRMAN

Mrs C Luffman
28 Wellington Road
Bognor Regis
West Sussex
07793358876

SECRETARY

Mrs C Baker
8 Fraser Close
Selsey
West Sussex
07921 819379

MEMB.SEC

Mrs L Carver
CDAS
P O Box 3231
Littlehampton
07719 816977



Newsletter for December 2019

Dear Members,

As 2019 draws swiftly towards a close I would initially like to wish you all a really enjoyable Christmas break and a Happy and Healthy 2020.

This year has seen some exceptional catches for many members and I hope each and every one of you has enjoyed the season to date and will continue to enjoy good sport over the Winter months and on into next Spring.

It is that time again to notify you of the details of the forthcoming **AGM** which is scheduled for **Thursday 27th February 2020**. This time we are once again at the Fishbourne Social Club, Blackboy Lane, Fishbourne. The meeting will commence at 7.30pm and the doors will open at 7.15pm. As the hall is being used by others until 6.30 again this year, please be punctual but allow us time to set up the room and please bring your membership book with you in accordance with Rule 17 of the Society. Admission to the AGM is open to all Full Members but Associate Members are not allowed to attend the meeting. Any member is very welcome to write to the Committee to bring to their attention any subject they feel strongly about and wish the Committee to discuss at any time of the year. Such correspondence should, in the first instance, be sent to myself at the above address or by email to secretary@chichester-as.co.uk and I will take it along to the next meeting of the committee to be fully discussed, after which, I will notify you of any decisions that have been made.

If you wish to put forward a proposal at the 2020 AGM, this must arrive, in writing to me, Carole Baker, at the above address, no later than **Thursday 30th January 2020** and you must attend the AGM for the matter to be discussed. You can also submit your proposals by email using the address above but again, these must be received by the same date and are subject to attendance at the AGM itself if the proposal is to be discussed. I will be sending a full agenda to you all in late January/early February and as usual, the reverse of this will contain the renewal application form which you may wish to complete and bring along with you to hand over to the Membership Secretary as an alternative to utilizing the postal system. A further reminder will still be sent nearer the time that all renewals have to be returned so it is not mandatory to renew at the AGM, but rather just gives you the choice.

Now to other matters for your attention at this time: -

Maintenance – Many of you will be aware of the extensive amount of maintenance work which has been undertaken around the complex over recent months and particularly addressing some of the swims in Little Long and Long Lakes which are now looking much improved and for which the Society has received a lot of positive feedback. On occasion it has been necessary to close specific swims or indeed entire stretches of water but the Society will only ever implement these restrictions when deemed absolutely necessary and as members, your understanding and acceptance of these situations is necessary to ensure maintenance works can be carried out safely.

Pike Fishing – The pike teach-in which took place for the second consecutive year back in September was, despite again experiencing terrible weather conditions for the morning session, very well received by members who attended. Mark Luffman again gave up his time to organize this event and even seasoned pike anglers reported that they had learned new things by attending. There will be another pike teach-in in 2020 and as these events are proving very popular it is advisable to register your interest by emailing pike.teachincdas@gmail.com with your membership number well in advance so that numbers can be recorded and a morning or afternoon timeslot allocated once a confirmed date has been agreed.

Carp social days – Some of you will be aware that we undertook a couple of Carp Social Days in early October this year with the assistance of Kevin and Rob White who many of you will know. These days were well received by our members as an opportunity to have their equipment checked over and to see first-hand how to implement best practices, especially when fishing for specimen carp.

The Society is keen to establish other “teach-in” sessions which members might find useful to either enhance or improve their angling and if anyone has any thoughts or ideas in this respect, please do let me know so that I can notify the Committee for a full discussion and if there is sufficient interest in any particular areas, can look to arrange something.

And now to the “usual suspects” which really should not need to be included every year but regrettably still cause constant concern to the Committee.

Dip Tanks – While the majority of our members have now grasped the absolute necessity to fully immerse all of their equipment, there still remain a few who feel a cursory dip into the Virkon is all that is required. This year has again seen relatively local fisheries in trouble with KHV and other waterborne diseases and it is only by asking each and every one of you to embrace the complete dipping of your equipment that we can hope to keep the complex disease free. PLEASE utilize the dip tanks correctly on each and every visit to the complex regardless of whether your equipment has been used on other waters or not. It really is a simple requirement which ensures you all continue to enjoy quality angling for years to come.

Fish Welfare – Despite their best efforts, the Bailiffs are still regularly finding members using incorrect equipment which does not conform to good practices. Low grade or aged line and poor rig set ups mean that fish are still being caught with old line and rigs in them which should not be happening. Fish welfare is the number 1 priority on the complex and each of you is required to show due diligence when using the facilities to try to address this situation. Our lakes contain some of the best specimen fish to be had but each and every fish from the smallest Rudd to the largest carp and everything in between must be treated with respect and this includes administering to sores on the bank and returning fish to the water in a safe and considered manner.

Spawning and Water Quality – Again this year it has been a struggle to keep the water quality in the lakes at good levels even utilizing the borehole and aerators. Warmer Summers continue to contribute to unexpected changes to the way the fish behave and it seems highly likely that spawning may again start after the current close season and necessitate swift decisions on closing area of the complex with bait restrictions needing to be put in place if water quality becomes critically poor. It is always disappointing for members to find any unexpected restrictions being imposed during the course of the season but again, such decisions are never taken lightly and your co-operation and adherence to any such short term adaptations is sometimes necessary and always greatly appreciated to keep the complex and the fish themselves in the very best condition possible throughout the entire year.

Holding Fish -It has been reported that some members are still holding fish out of the water for period of time well in excess of 10 minutes to get their “trophy” shots and fish are not in a good state when they do eventually get back into the water. The rule book is quite clear on this matter and strong sanctions will be served on members who place more importance on a good photograph with a quiet fish over the welfare of the fish itself. Best practice is always to have everything ready to take your pictures as soon as the fish is in the cradle and then return it to the water with the minimum delay and you are all asked to please observe this rule as per the directive in your membership books and re-familiarize yourselves with what is acceptable if you are in any way unsure.

Finally, as is the case every year, we invite anyone who feels that they would like to join the existing Committee to submit their interest to me in writing by the AGM proposals deadline date of 30th January 2020, for full discussion by the Committee and if you are one of those people, I urge you to consider a more active role in the Society by applying to become a Committee Member as and when spaces become available.

On behalf of the committee I extend our hope to see many of you at the AGM in February and please do submit any proposals by the due date specified above, to ensure I am able to include them in the agenda.

Kind Regards
Carole Baker
Secretary