

KWCA COARSE FISHING RULES ALL VENUES

BEFORE FISHING ANY KWCA FISHERIES PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL GEAR IS THOROUGHLY DRIED TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF FISH DISEASE

For additional water specific rules please refer to the individual data sheets for each venue.

1. No more than 3 rods to be used at any one time between 1st April - 31st October, with the exception of Tonford lake where only 2 rods can be used. Between 1st November - 31st March, 4 rods can be used on Westbere lake, Pan lake & Lydd syndicate lake. 3 rods can be used on Tonford lake by up to 4 members only.
2. Pan Lake Syndicate members are permitted to fish the Handle Lake from 1st November to 28th February, but priority must be given to Gold Coarse Fishing members. Lydd Lake Syndicate members may also fish Bungalow Lake and Front Lake, but priority must be given to Gold Coarse Fishing members.
3. When doubling up in a swim, members can only use two rods each.
4. Braided mainline may only be used on Pan Lake, Tonford Lake, Swan Lake, Mill Pool, Wood Pool and "Club" waters. Minimum 15lb mono line for carp fishing.
5. Only use micro barbed hooks when carp fishing.
6. All carp set ups must be able to either drop the lead or the hook length. They must come away from the set up in the event of the line parting.
7. Members are required to carry carp care treatment when carp fishing.
8. Lead free leaders to be used only with helicopter set-ups. Tubing or fluorocarbon leaders i.e. safe zone and similar to be used with lead clip systems. Leaders not to exceed 1 metre.
9. No lead shot to be used, no permanently fixed leads to be used. No lead cores. Fish safety is paramount.
10. All plastic baits are banned including zig foam.
11. No boats of any kind, with the exception of bait boats on Westbere and Handle Lakes. Bait boats to be used responsibly and must have a secondary line. Consideration must be shown to others users of the lake.
12. No wading, except when returning large fish!
13. Members must be in possession of both a landing net and an unhooking mat, fully assembled when fishing and of a suitable size for the fish you are fishing for.
14. No particle baits are to be used, sweetcorn is permitted in moderation, no nuts of any kind. We recommend the use of good quality Boilies & Carp pellet (no halibut or other high oil pellets). Ground bait to be used in moderation as excessive use can lead to poor water quality.
15. Carp sacks and carp cradles are banned and must not be brought onto any KWCA venue, carp can be retained in a landing net or recovery sling in the water for a maximum of 30 minutes in order to take photos etc., and then returned immediately to the water. Use of keep nets for other species should be kept to a minimum. Net size minimum 20" x 80" (50cm x 200cm).
16. Rods must not be left unattended at any time. You may reel in and leave your swim for a maximum of one hour; any longer and your swim must be vacated.
17. Fish must not be left unattended at any time: there are no exceptions.
18. Fish must not be transferred to any other water. This will result in an immediate ban.
19. Please report any dead or distressed fish to the Fisheries Manager.
20. Maximum length of stay is 48 hours with a 24-hour break from the water before returning. Any extra days must be approved by the Fisheries Manager at least 2 weeks in advance. No extra days are allowed during March and April.
21. On lakes where there are Signing-in sheds you must sign in as soon as you arrive and sign out when you leave. No name, no fishing!
22. Work parties are not compulsory, however there is an expectation for members to participate in these to help maintain standards and the upkeep of all venues.
23. Westbere Lake has a statutory closed season; 15th March – 15th June inclusive. A draw system for work parties completed will be operated for swim choice on the opening day. Minimum of two work parties.
24. River fishing is not permissible at Westbere Lake.
25. Possession of a valid Environmental Agency rod license is compulsory on all waters, and must to be produced on demand for inspection.

Pike fishing (1 Oct–15 Mar)

26. Maximum of 3 rods at any one time.
27. Minimum 15lb mono or 30lb braid.

28. Wire traces to be used at all times, minimum 28lb b/s
29. Minimum trace length 15 inches.
30. No live baiting on Gold lakes.
31. Crushed barbs or semi-barbed snap tackle to be used.
32. No gags, gaffs or boga grips to be used. Please carry appropriate unhooking tools i.e., long forceps, long handled wire cutters, long handled pliers, deep throat disgorgers.

33. Non-KWCA members are not allowed on any KWCA venue.
 - a) Children under the age of 12 may join as a Child Coarse Fishing member. A nominal fee is charged to cover insurance and membership card.
 - b) Children under 5 years old will only be accepted for membership at the discretion of the Committee.
 - c) 12 to under 16-year-olds may join as Junior Gold Coarse Fishing members.
 - d) All fishing members under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult member who is over the age of 21 and either their Parent, Guardian or other Adult who meets the criteria required under legislation by persons dealing with minors, and they must fish from the same swim.
 - e) Child members may only use one float rod, only one child per adult member.
 - f) Where Junior members and adult members are fishing together a maximum of two rods each may be used.
 - g) Spouses and friends accompanying members must join the Association at a minimum level of Associate Coarse Fishing membership, but Associate Coarse Fishing members must not fish.
 - h) Associate Coarse Fishing members are permitted to visit Gold venues unaccompanied, but must not disturb fishing members or spoil the peace and tranquillity of the countryside.
 - i) Associate Coarse Fishing members are permitted on Syndicate lakes only to visit or accompany a member who is fishing.
 - j) Associate Coarse Fishing members on a syndicate waiting list that wish to look around the Syndicate lakes can do so by appointment with the fisheries manager.
 - k) Gold Coarse Fishing members are permitted on Syndicate lakes only to visit or accompany a syndicate member who is fishing.
 - l) Couples Gold Coarse Fishing members must fish from the same swim and use a maximum of two rods each.
34. At the absolute discretion of the Committee, each Syndicate Coarse Fishing member, Gold Coarse Fishing member and Club Coarse Fishing member shall be entitled to four 24-hour Guest Permits per membership year.
 - a) The fee for a 24-hour Guest Permit payable on application shall be as determined from time to time by the Committee.
 - b) The Guest Permit will only be issued for the same class as the member's membership class. i.e. Syndicate members may only purchase guest permits for their syndicate lake, Gold Coarse Fishing members for "Gold" waters, and Club Coarse Fishing members for "Club" waters.
 - c) The guest's name, postal address and date of visit must be registered with the respective Fisheries Manager prior to the visit.
 - d) Guest permits for Syndicate and Gold lakes will not be available from 1 March until 30 June inclusive, or until the carp have spawned, whichever is the later.
 - e) The guest must be accompanied by the member who applied for the Guest Permit and the same member shall be responsible for their Guest whilst on KWCA land.
 - f) No person may fish as a Guest on KWCA land on more than two occasions during any one membership year.
35. Dogs are permitted on most Gold and Syndicate waters, but must be kept under control either on a lead or retention chord, check individual venue rules because some waters have more strict rules on dogs. You must clean up after your dog.
36. No litter to be left at any time. Members are responsible for all litter in their swim. Please check before you leave. Any left litter will result in disciplinary action.
37. No bright lights/lasers to be used at night except hand/head torches. Please keep their use to a minimum. Please also keep noise to a minimum. No fires on any lakeside, barbecues are allowed as long as they are raised off the ground so they do not burn the grass. Hot coals should be doused and taken home.
38. The consumption of alcohol is permitted but excessive drinking will not be tolerated. Any member deemed incapable of handling fish in a safe manner will be asked to reel in and leave the following morning.

39. KWCA does not condone the use of illegal substances. Any member found in possession or under the influence of drugs will be reported immediately to the police.
40. Toilet facilities, where available, should be used and cleaned after use, please leave all other venues clean, as you would like to find them.
41. Parking permits must be displayed on your dashboard. Parking permits may be downloaded via the KWCA website's top menu – Members – My KWCA. We recommend that you provide your vehicle registration on your application form. You can add it or change it by visiting <https://membermojo.co.uk/kwca>
42. No trees to be cut or damaged.
43. No climbing of trees is allowed on any venue.
44. Cars must not be taken around any venue without express permission from the Fisheries Manager.
45. Any members being abusive to other members or the public will be subject to disciplinary action. Unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated.
46. Any member leaving unfounded negative or derogatory comments on social media sites may face disciplinary action. If you are unhappy or have any problems, please tell us so that we may help you.
47. Membership cards must be carried at all times and must be shown to any Warden or Bailiff upon request. Only original plastic cards, a print of the downloadable version and electronic versions held on smart phones are acceptable.
48. No drones to be used at any venues.
49. Keys must be returned within 4 months of your membership expiry date.
50. Any person found breaking any of the rules may face disciplinary action.

We want all members of the Association to enjoy fishing their venues, so please use common sense and be respectful of your fellow members, surroundings, and other people at all times.

All members should remain vigilant and ensure that no unauthorised fishing or illegal removal of fish takes place.

The KWCA operates a Disciplinary Subcommittee which deals with all major indiscretions. However, members are expected to obey all instructions given by the Association's Bailiffs and Wardens.

All members must also acquaint themselves with the general Rules of the Association which can be found at https://www.kentwildfowlers.co.uk/members/members_rules.php