

## COVID-19: Additional Rules Governing SDAA Ltd Fisheries

*(version 5 effective from 18 August 2020)*

The rules printed in the SDAA membership books were drafted before the Government began to issue guidelines regarding "staying alert and safe (social distancing)" to manage the COVID-19 situation. The SDAA committee have issued this additional set of rules, which all members must adhere to whilst visiting SDAA fisheries to ensure that Government guidelines are followed in order to minimise the risk of spreading SARS-COV-2 to other members. These additional rules will be regularly updated to reflect any relevant changes to the Government guidelines.

**ALL SDAA MEMBERS MUST FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THE RULES SET OUT BELOW (AND ALL OTHER CLUB RULES) BEFORE VISITING ANY SDAA FISHERY**

Please contact the SDAA Chairperson or Club Secretary if you require any clarification about any of the rules. If any SDAA member feels unable or unwilling to follow these additional rules they must not go fishing on SDAA waters. Club bailiffs will ask members to leave SDAA fisheries if any of these additional rules are broken and the incident will be immediately reported to the committee.

**The following rules apply to all SDAA Ltd fisheries in addition to those published in membership books:**

1. You must not go fishing or visit a SDAA fishery if:
  - You, or any member of your household, are displaying symptoms of COVID-19.
  - You have been contacted by the NHS Test and Trace service and are undergoing a period of self isolation.
  - You are self isolating having travelled to a non-exempt country within the last 14 days.In addition:
  - Anyone experiencing COVID-19 symptoms whilst fishing must immediately cease fishing and leave the venue.
  - Anyone visiting a SDAA water does so at their own risk, particularly those:
    - who have been informed they are clinically extremely vulnerable to COVID-19.
    - who have significant risk factors for developing the more severe COVID-19 symptoms requiring hospitalisation and an increased risk of death, which includes those aged 70 or older (regardless of medical conditions).
2. Members must follow Government guidance on what is considered a safe means of travel to and from SDAA fisheries (e.g. advice on car sharing).
3. Members must fish on their own keeping well distanced (>2 metres) from other people at all times whilst within the fishery (unless you are from the same household or 'support bubble').
  - You must fish in a swim (peg) on your own.
    - The only exception being you can share a swim if you are from the same household or 'support bubble'.
    - All items of tackle, brollies, bivvies, etc must be kept within the confines of your swim and not interfere with any path or track. Please note, some river venues have public footpaths in close proximity to the river banks.
  - No angler to fish in close proximity to any other angler.
    - Fishing from marked (numbered) pegs only at The Airman and Broom Lake.
    - No fishing within 15 metres of any other angler on all other SDAA fisheries.
  - Strictly no wandering around to talk to anglers in other swims.
  - No sharing of fishing tackle or any other items.
  - You must be capable of safely landing, handling, unhooking and safely returning fish to the water yourself.
4. All members must maintain good hygiene practices whilst at SDAA fisheries.
  - You must take particular care when touching surfaces that may have been contaminated with SARS-COV-2 after being touched by others:

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- Wash your hands thoroughly before arriving at the fishery and afterwards.
  - Carry bio-wipes to clean gates, locks or any surface likely to be touched by others before and after use.
  - If bio-wipes are not available use disposable gloves.
  - You must remove all your waste (including faeces, wipes, gloves, etc) from the fishery when you leave (see existing rule 12.5). SARS-COV-2 can be detected in the faeces of infected patients so you must ensure that you are suitably equipped to remove your own faeces.
5. Anyone fishing on a SDAA fishery must be in possession of their current SDAA membership documents and EA rod licence.
- Only SDAA members are allowed to fish SDAA waters.
    - The sale of guest tickets has been suspended.
  - Members (but not Juniors) are allowed to be accompanied by a single non-fishing guest from their household or 'support bubble', provided:
    - The member takes responsibility for ensuring their non-fishing guest strictly adheres to all SDAA rules.
    - Any non-fishing guest staying overnight is in possession of a Non-Fishing Night Guest Permit (cost £25) only available by contacting the Registrar / Chairperson.
  - Members must only visit waters to fish.
    - Strictly no visiting just to have a walk around.
  - Night fishing is permitted, provided:
    - Any overnight fishing session does not exceed 48h on any club water, after which a break of at least 24h must be taken before returning to any club water.
    - The member holds a current night permit when fishing the club's stillwaters.
    - Members can apply in writing or via email to the Registrar for permission to fish an extended session up to a maximum of 5 consecutive nights. Applications must be received >7 days in advance, stating the dates and venue of the intended trip. The Registrar will impose a strict limit on the number of extended sessions granted.
  - Juniors and Associate Juniors are not allowed to fish unless accompanied and supervised by a member from the same household or 'support bubble' aged 18 or over. Juniors can be in an adjacent swim, but Associate Juniors must be in the same swim.
    - The only exception is that Juniors aged 12 and over are allowed to fish unaccompanied during the daytime, provided a signed copy of the 'SDAA Junior Parent / Guardian Consent Form' has been received by the Registrar. Failure to abide with any of these rules (or any other club rules) will result in the Junior member having this privilege withdrawn.
6. Witnessing the weighing of fish.
- Specimen fish trophies have been suspended as verifying fish weights cannot easily be carried out whilst following social distancing guidelines.
  - Do not ask another angler to photograph your catches, unless they use their own camera and can maintain a distance of >2 metres.
  - SDAA matches will go ahead subject to a strict set of rules approved by the committee.
7. These rules may be subject to change at short notice.
- SDAA will have to conform to any changes in Government guidance.
  - Fisheries and/or swims may need to be closed at short notice to allow essential maintenance to be carried out.
  - Members must adhere to all notices posted by the SDAA committee at any fishery
8. Anyone not following these rules (or any other club rules) will face immediate disciplinary action.
- Bailiffs will continue to patrol club waters and will ask you for sight of your SDAA membership documents whilst maintaining a distance of >2 metres.
  - To assist bailiffs you are asked to leave a piece of paper on the dashboard of your vehicle with your name and membership book number clearly visible.
  - If asked to leave any of the club waters by a SDAA official you must vacate the area without objection.