

Shefford and District Angling Association Ltd

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHEFFORD & DISTRICT ANGLING ASSOCIATION LTD

Company Limited by Guarantee (Company No. 05430106)

Dated 14th March 2018

To All Members of Shefford & District Angling Association Ltd

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual General Meeting of Shefford & District Angling Association Ltd will take place on Wednesday 28th March 2018 at 8.00pm in the Shefford Town Memorial Hall, 10 Hitchin Road, Shefford SG17 5JA for the purpose of dealing with the matters set out in the following Agenda.

1. To receive and approve the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Shefford & District Angling Association Ltd held on Wednesday 29th March 2017
2. To receive the Chairperson's report
3. To receive the Secretary's Report
4. To receive the Annual Accounts of Shefford & District Angling Association Ltd for the year ended 15th June 2017 together with the Treasurer's Report
5. To receive the Fishery Officer's Report
6. To elect the Officers and General Committee
7. To consider and, if thought fit, pass a resolution to amend the night fishing rules, which will be proposed by Ordinary Resolution [see Note 1]
8. To consider and, if thought fit, pass a resolution to allow night permit holders to use 3 rods whilst night fishing at Broom Lake between 1st April and 30th September, which will be proposed by Ordinary Resolution [see Note 2]
9. To consider and, if thought fit, pass a resolution to prohibit prebaiting on stillwaters, which will be proposed by Ordinary Resolution [see Note 3]

Please note doors will open at 7.30pm and voting will be by membership card only. The presentation of match and specimen trophies will follow the formal AGM, with an opportunity for informal discussion about the Club's affairs at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Proxies: A member is entitled to appoint another person (whether or not a member) to be his/her proxy to exercise all or any of his/her rights to attend and to speak and vote at the Annual General Meeting convened by this Notice. Proxies for the AGM may only be appointed by prior notice in writing to the Club Secretary

Note 1

John Winstanley has proposed changes to the night fishing rules for consideration at the AGM. His proposal is as follows:

"I propose that night fishing start times are altered to: October 8pm, November 6.15pm, December 6pm, January 6.15pm, February 7.15pm and March 8pm.

My reason for proposing this slight change is to allow people who fish for silvers to stay a little later on the water, and my request is a direct result of my experience at The Airman lake and I hope the following explanation will make it clear to the members why this rule change is important to me.

Shefford and District Angling Association Ltd

In the winter months I like to fish for roach at The Airman. I normally arrive there between 2-3pm and fish to dark. During the shortest days this allows a maximum of 3 hours to fish. I feel that being allowed to fish another hour into dark could improve my chances of the bigger roach. I do not fish for carp or catfish and therefore have no reason to stay all night.

At present to comply with the rules, I must purchase a night permit in order to fish the first hour of darkness but I do not think that the night permit was ever intended to cover the type of fishing I do. I suggest that the night permit is aimed at those anglers who fish until late at night or overnight and bring with them all the equipment necessary for an overnight or several day stay. At the time of year I wish to stay after dark, very few anglers are at the lake, so I am very unlikely to inconvenience anyone who does not wish to fish overnight.

I hope the meeting will carefully consider and agree with my proposal which will, in practice be a benefit to people like me, but at the same time will not adversely affect the sale of night permits."

Please note this proposal has been put forward by a SDAA Ltd member. The General Committee will make a strong recommendation not to support this proposal at the AGM.

Note 2

The General Committee proposes a change to the rod limit rules to allow night permit holders to use 3 rods at Broom Lake whilst night fishing between 1st April and 30th September. The General Committee believes this change would benefit those holding night permits without having any adverse impact on those members fishing Broom Lake outside of night fishing times. The proposal would amend the wording of Rule 16.3 to read:

16.3 Holders of appropriate Night Permits (but not juniors) are permitted to use three rods at The Airman and Willington Lake at all times and at Broom Lake whilst night fishing between 1st April and 30th September.

Note 3

The General Committee has received numerous complaints from members in recent years about the excessive amount of bait being introduced into our stillwaters. Too much bait entering a lake has a negative impact on both water quality and fish health. The General Committee has highlighted the issue of excessive baiting through 'News from the Bank' on several occasions. The General Committee recognises any form of bait limit would be almost impossible to enforce.

This season there was a significant increase in negative comments about the number of anglers turning up to prebait swims (often with several kilos of bait) whilst other members were actively fishing the lake. Prebaiting whilst others are fishing a water is totally unacceptable as it potentially reduces the chances of those already fishing being able to catch. Therefore, the General Committee proposes a ban on prebaiting on stillwater venues. The proposal would extend Rule 12 to make prebaiting on stillwaters a prohibited activity:

12. Prohibited Activities

Members may be banned for breaking any club rule (see 4.1) including carrying out any of the following prohibited activities (unless the activity has been authorised by the General Committee):

12.17 Prebaiting on stillwaters.