

RHYL AND St ASAPH ANGLING ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. **The name of this Association** shall be the Rhyl and St Asaph Angling Association.
2. **The object of the Association** is to provide facilities for and promote participation of the whole community in the sport of angling.
 - (a) To acquire fishing rights for the benefit of the Association.
 - (b) To encourage legitimate fishing by rod and line as a sport and not for profit.
 - (c) To prevent poaching on waters owned or leased by the Association.
 - (d) To maintain and when and where possible to improve the fishing in waters owned or leased by the Association.
 - (e) To hold meetings as and when necessary. To raise money for the furtherance of the objects of the Association.

The Income and Property of the Association shall be applied solely towards promoting the Association's objects as set forth in this constitution and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, to the Members of the Association.

Membership

3. (i) Membership of the Association shall be open to all persons irrespective of ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or beliefs; or of age, sex or disability except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of angling as a particular sport. The members of the Association shall be the officers of the Association and those persons who pay the annual subscription, the amount of such subscription being decided from time to time by the committee. An entrance fee, unless suspended by the committee, shall become payable by all new members on being admitted to the Association, together with the annual subscription.
 - (ii) Members over the age of eighteen shall be admitted on a simple majority vote of the Committee following proper nomination on the appropriate application form. The Association may refuse membership or expel from membership only for good and sufficient cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Association or sport into disrepute. Anyone refused membership shall be informed of the reason for being unsuccessful. Appeal against such a decision may be made to the Association's members and decided by a majority vote.
 - (iii) The numbers allowed into membership shall be determined by the Committee and shall depend upon the amount of fishing waters available.
 - (iv) Anyone wishing to become a member who has no proposer and seconder who is a member of the Association shall be subject to interview by three members of the committee, one being the chairman.

(v) Any member who:

- (a) is convicted of any offence under the Salmon and Fresh Water Fisheries Act 1975 or any act amending the same or;
- (b) is found guilty as hereinafter mentioned of any act or thing that proves or might prove to be detrimental to the objects of the Association;

shall be liable to be expelled or suspended from membership of the Association as hereinafter mentioned.

Officers of the Association

- 4. The Association may have a president and such number of vice-presidents and members as may be decided upon from time to time at the Annual General Meeting.
- 5. The officers of the Association shall consist of chairman, vice-chairman, treasurer, secretary and honorary solicitor.
- 6. The president for the time being of the Association, being present at the annual general meeting, shall be asked to take over the chair. In the event of the president not being present at such annual general meeting then the chairman shall take the chair, and in his absence the chair shall be taken by the vice-chairman, and in his absence by a member of the committee elected at the meeting.
- 7. **The duties of the chairman** shall be as follows:
 - (a) To preside at all meetings of the committee.
 - (b) To decide on all points of order.
 - (c) To have a casting vote.
 - (d) Generally conduct all meetings with impartiality.
 - (e) No one may hold the office of Chairman or Vice Chairman for more than three consecutive years without an intervening period of at least one-year, except that a retiring Vice Chairman may stand immediately for the post of Chairman.
- 8. **The duties of the treasurer** shall be:
 - (a) To have the management of the general fund of the Association in accordance with any rules regulating the finances of the Association and to bank all monies at Midland Bank plc, Prestatyn, or such other bank as the Committee Association shall agree.
 - (b) To prepare and submit to the annual general meeting of the Association, a statement of income and expenditure of the Association.
 - (c) To pay all bills and accounts of the Association at the direction of the committee and to keep in his safe custody all receipted bills and vouchers.

9. **The duties of the secretary** shall be:

- (a) To keep the minutes of all meetings of the Association.
- (b) To convene all meetings. In this respect the secretary shall give fourteen days' clear notice of general meetings and four days' clear notice of meetings of the committee to each member entitled to attend.

10. The treasurer for the time being shall sign all cheques and such cheques shall be countersigned by the secretary or the chairman.

Trustees

11(a) All property of the Association (except cash, which shall be under the control of the treasurer) including leases and fishing leases shall be vested in trustees to be dealt with by them as the committee shall from time to time by resolution direct.

(b) There shall be not less than two nor more than four trustees of the Association, save that a corporate body may be a sole trustee. The appointment of trustees shall be by the committee.

(c) The trustees shall hold office until death or resignation or until removed from office by a resolution of the committee.

(d) The trustees shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Association against any risk and expense incurred by them in pursuance of their office.

General Meetings

12. (a) The Association shall hold an annual general meeting once in every year during the month of February.

(b) General meetings shall be held whenever it may be deemed necessary by the committee.

(c) The quorum for a general meeting shall be ten persons present entitled to vote which shall include the Chairman or vice Chairman and one of the other officers of the club.

(d) Notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained; a general meeting of the Association shall be convened by the secretary at the request of ten or more members of the Association.

13. **The following business shall be transacted at the annual general meeting** and shall be dealt with in the following order:

- (a) Reading of notice of the meeting.
- (b) Reading of the minutes of the previous annual general meeting and their confirmation.
- (c) Apologia.
- (d) Reports of committee and/or officers.
- (e) Financial statement.
- (f) Election of chairman.

- (g) Election of vice-chairman.
- (h) Election of secretary.
- (i) Election of treasurer.
- (j) Election of honorary solicitor.
- (k) Election of members to act on the committee in place of retiring members.
- (l) Election of honorary members.
- (m) Election of honorary auditor.
- (n) Any special business of which notice shall have been given.
- (o) Any other business.

In the event of failure to elect any of the above, the committee shall have power to do so and in the event of failure to elect a committee the retiring members shall be deemed to be re-elected.

If, at a general meeting after hearing a report on any matter, a member desires to move a vote of censure against any officer, officers and/or committee, the motion of censure shall be heard before the election of officers and committee members; if there are no such elections, then before the next business for discussion on the agenda.

Committee

14. The affairs of the Association shall be managed and conducted by the committee which shall consist of the officers and six other members with power to co-opt.

The committee shall meet from time to time as required, but the chairman or secretary or any three members of the committee shall requisition for a special meeting of the committee at any time, on giving at least four days' notice of their intention to hold such a meeting.

The quorum for a meeting of the committee shall be five members entitled to vote which shall include the Chairman or vice Chairman and one of the other officers of the club.

In the event of an emergency, an extraordinary committee meeting shall convene; failing a quorum, the members present shall have power to act in the interest of the Association.

15. The committee shall have power to appoint sub-committees for any purpose, but in all things such sub-committees shall be responsible to the committee, which shall have power to over-rule their decisions. The committee may however, give power to such sub-committee to act without reference to the committee.

16. Any vacancy on the committee caused by the death or resignation of a member shall not invalidate the proceedings of the committee, but the committee shall have power to fill any such casual vacancy and the new member so elected shall hold office for the unexpired portion of the term of office of the member whose death or resignation caused such vacancy.

17. Any committee member who fails to attend at any three consecutive meetings (including general meetings) shall forthwith cease to hold office as a committee member, unless he can show good and reasonable cause to the committee to account for his absence.

The committee shall then appoint another member in his place who shall serve on the committee for the unexpired portion of the term of office of the member so disqualified.

18 The Committee shall determine the amount of annual subscription and entrance fee.

19. When a member shall be convicted as mentioned in rule 3(v) (a) above or shall be reported as having done any act or thing as mentioned in rule 3 (v) (b) above, his membership shall be suspended, a notice to that effect in writing shall forthwith be sent to the offending member by the secretary and the following rules shall be complied with:
- (a) The committee shall meet within 21 days of the notice of suspension being sent to the offending member, to decide whether or not he is to be expelled or suspended from membership of the Association.
 - (b) Seven clear days' notice in writing of the meeting shall be given by the secretary to the offending member and to every member of the committee having right to attend, even if he has waived his right to attend.
 - (c) The committee shall make a full, proper and impartial inquiry into the truth of the alleged facts and, after giving the offending member a reasonable opportunity of being heard, shall decide whether or not the offending member is to be expelled or suspended from membership of the Association.

A resolution for the expulsion or suspension of an offending member shall be deemed to be carried by a two-thirds majority of those present, entitled to vote.

20. Any member expelled or suspended as above shall have the right, if dissatisfied, at the next annual general meeting of the Association after his expulsion or suspension, to apply for re-admission or for removal or reduction of the period of his suspension, but such application must be supported by five other members.

Seven clear days' notice in writing of such application shall be given to the secretary, stating the grounds of such application and the names and addresses of the five members supporting it.

Any such application shall be rejected unless, on a vote being taken there shall be a majority of not less than threefourths of the members present, in favour of the removal of the expulsion or the removal or reduction of the period of suspension.

Members Responsibilities

21. Any member of the Association committing any willful trespass or damage to fences, standing crops, etc shall be held personally responsible for any damage done.
22. Every member of the Association shall be supplied with a membership card and it shall be a condition upon his being admitted as a member of the Association that he shall return the card to the secretary on request. It shall be the duty of every member to use his best endeavours to prevent poaching or trespassing of Association waters and it shall be the duty of each member to report every incident of poaching and trespassing to the Committee.
23. A young person under the age of 18 years may be admitted to the Association as a junior member subject to the approval of the committee. Young persons under the age of 12 years who are family members and are accompanied by a member may fish non-bookable waters at no charge.

- (b) Junior members aged twelve years and over shall pay an annual subscription as may be agreed by the committee.
- (c) Upon reaching the age of 18 years of age, a junior member may be accepted as a senior member for the remainder of the season at no extra charge or entrance fee at the discretion of the committee.
- (d) Junior members may fish all waters controlled by the Association but must be accompanied by a senior member at all times.
- (e) On each beat of the Association's bookable waters, only one junior member will be allowed to fish on any one day and a junior member shall not count as a booking.
- (f) Parents of junior members must complete an application form for each junior member before admission to the Association and accept full and unconditional responsibility for all aspects of adherence to the Association constitution and rules.
- (g) Junior members do not have the right to hold office or to vote at general meetings.
- (h) Temporary membership shall include those persons purchasing a day ticket and such other persons as the committee at its discretion shall allow.
- (i) Honorary life membership shall be at the discretion of the committee
- (j) Family membership shall be as from time to time decided by the committee.

Dissolution

24 If at any General Meeting a resolution for the dissolution of the Association shall be passed by a majority of the members present and entitled to a vote, and if such resolution shall be confirmed by a resolution passed by a majority of two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote at a special general meeting held not less than one month after that meeting at which not less than one-half of the members entitled to vote shall be present, the Committee shall immediately or at such future date as shall be specified in such resolution proceed to realise the property of the Association, and after the discharge of all liabilities, there remains any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the club, but shall be given or applied for approved sporting or charitable purposes. The term "approved sporting or charitable purposes" shall mean any of the following as may be approved by members of the club in general meeting or by members of the club's governing body:

- The purpose of the sport's governing body for use in related community sports,
- The purposes of another community amateur sports club,
- The purpose of a charity.

25 The committee shall under this section be granted powers to make and amend the rules and standing orders from time to time as may be required but shall not under this section have the power to amend the constitution. Any rules made or amended under this section shall be notified to members in writing within twenty-eight days of being made or amended.

26 This constitution shall not be amended or suspended except by a majority of at least three-fourths of the members present at a general meeting.

RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION

The following rules shall be strictly observed by all members of the Association when fishing:

- (a) A member upon request shall produce his membership card and licence for inspection by another member who produces his own card, or to a bailiff, riparian owner or duly authorised person when fishing Association waters.
- (b) Membership cards are not transferable under any circumstances.
- (c) No person shall be permitted to fish club waters until such time as his subscription has been paid, or a day ticket purchased, and he is in possession of a membership card together with the appropriate National Rivers Authority licence.
- (d) A member shall produce his bag or fish receptacle to any of the persons referred to in rule (a) above upon request when fishing Association waters.
- (e) A member shall observe all restrictions and regulations governing the Association waters.
- (f) No more than one rod may be used for fishing at any one time and no type of hand-line or night-line shall be allowed.
- (g) Each member shall take great care not to damage any walls or fences over which he might climb. If he finds any wall or fence so damaged he shall repair it to the best of his ability on the spot and inform the secretary of the damage.
- (h) Each member shall take great care to close each gate, which he opens.
- (i) No member shall walk through any ploughed field or a field containing growing crops or hay but shall keep strictly to the fisherman's path running along the bank.
- (j) A member shall not fish longer than 20 minutes at any one spot when another member wishes to fish over it. Members are asked to note that **spinning takes preference over bait and fly takes preference over spinning.**
- (k) No member shall be accompanied by a dog.
- (l) No member shall sell for profit any salmon, sea trout or trout caught in waters where the Association shall have had fishing rights or licence to fish granted to it.
- (m) No member, unless he holds a salmon licence, shall use a bait or lure (other than worms) exceeding 1¼ (one and one quarter) inches (32mm) in length. In the case of a spinning bait the hook shall not be counted in these measurements, but neither should the hooks be out of proportion to the bait or lure.
- (n) No member shall be allowed to take more than two brace of migratory fish or trout in any one day from any of the waters owned or leased by the Association.
- (o) Members must strictly observe the rule “*no wading*” on Association waters where this is objected to by the owners.

- (p) No member shall remove trout measuring less than 9 inches (23mm) from snout to fork of tail.
- (q) Every member shall endeavour to do everything he/she can to enhance the reputation of the Association and to maintain the good opinion of riparian owners and farmers.
- (r) No ground or feeder bait may be used.
- (s) No maggots or other non-aquatic larvae or pupae may be used.
- (t) No lead shot may be used at any time; only non-toxic substitute may be used in accordance with the River Authority bylaws.
- (u) Members must at all times observe Environment Agency Bylaws as to seasons and restrictions on fishing.
- (v) There is to be no spinning or bait fishing between sunset and sunrise.
- (w) Catch returns must be made at the end of each season. These will be requested of those renewing in the February of the following season. Those resigning should send their return with their letter of resignation.
- (x) The membership fee must be paid annually on or before the 1st March. Members will be deemed to have resigned if they do not renew their membership before the 14th March in any year.
- (y) Members are permitted a maximum of two guests in any one year on non-bookable waters only and shall be responsible for their conduct while on Association waters.

Non-observance of these rules shall be grounds for the expulsion or suspension of an offending member from membership of the Association.

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## STANDING ORDERS

1. The chairman shall regulate all discussion and his ruling shall be final on all matters.
2. Whenever the chairman rises to speak, he shall be heard in silence and any member who is speaking shall at once sit down.
3. If two or more members rise to speak at the same time, precedence shall be given to him who first meets the eye of the chairman.
4. Speakers shall rise and address themselves to the chair.
5. Any member desiring to bring forward a motion at a general meeting shall give, in writing, 48 hours notice of such motion to the secretary. All such motions with the name of the mover shall then be included in the agenda of the business to be discussed at such meeting as special business of which notice shall have been given.
6. Should any member in whose name a motion appears on the agenda be absent or undesirous of pressing it, it shall not be competent for any other member to move such motion without the permission of the meeting.
7. No motion or amendment to a motion shall be open for discussion by a meeting until it has been seconded. A motion or amendment once seconded can only be withdrawn by permission of the meeting.
8. The proposer of a motion shall have the right of reply immediately before the voting is taken.  

The seconder shall have the right to reserve his remarks until later in the discussion.

Other speakers, except when rising to a point of order, shall confine their remarks to one speech on any motion.
9. Only one amendment may be moved to a motion at a time. If any amendment is carried, the motion as amended, shall become the substantive motion; to which a further amendment may then be moved. Should the first amendment be rejected it shall be competent to move a second amendment to the original motion and so on as before.
10. No member shall move a negative amendment.
11. It shall be competent at any time during the discussion of a motion for any member to move 'That the motion now be put'. This motion shall not require a seconder and shall, at the discretion of the chairman, be put to the meeting without discussion. If it be carried, the motion shall be put accordingly provided always that the mover of the motion shall first be given an opportunity of exercising his right of reply.
12. Voting on any motion shall be by show of hands unless it is the wish of the meeting to vote by a ballot.
13. The chairman shall have a casting vote.

14. No motion once rejected can again be entertained until two meetings of the executive committee have elapsed.
15. It shall be competent for the chairman in the absence of discussion to ask whether there is any discussion, opposition or amendment and if there is no response to declare the motion carried.
16. The chairman may if he thinks fit, allow any member to ask a question arising out of the business before the meeting but he shall have absolute and final discretion as to the time when such questions may be put and as to their competence when put.
17. Any member asking a question on a motion that is before the meeting shall not be deprived of his right to make a speech on that motion by reason of his asking such question.
18. If on request to the chairman that the house be counted he finds that there is not a quorum, the meeting shall be dissolved. It shall rest with the chairman as to what time can elapse before the meeting be dissolved if such quorum is not present.
19. In the event of disorder, the chairman shall have the right of summarily dissolving the meeting or of naming the member guilty of disturbance or insubordination or contravention of any of these orders. It shall then be competent for any member to move that the member so named be suspended during the pleasure of the meeting.
20. These orders may be suspended by a majority of not less than three-fourths of members present at a meeting entitled to vote. Such suspension shall be of effect only until the question at issue has been decided and the meeting proceeds to other business.
21. Orders numbered 5 and 6 shall apply to general meetings only, and order numbered 20 to meetings of the committee only.
22. The election of officers at the annual general meeting of the Association shall be by show of hands.

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