

Dee Anglers Association Constitution 2024

INCORPORATION AND OBJECTIVES

The Association formed under these rules shall be known as Dee Anglers Association, and is to be classed as a not-for-profit organisation with any assets being used to further the aims of the Association and to the benefit of members.

The objective of Dee Anglers Association shall be to: by purchase, lease, rent or other suitable agreement with owners of fishing waters/rights; acquire, retain, maintain, improve, and provide access to a variety of freshwater venues, hereafter termed Association Waters, to suit the angling needs of Members of Dee Anglers Association, as periodically determined by The Committee and ratified at an Annual General Meeting.

Dee Anglers Association shall aim to:

- Provide facilities for, and promote participation by, all sections of the community who seek Membership.
- Offer angling coaching and competitive opportunities.
- Manage our facilities to ensure they are practical and safe to use.
- Provide our services in a way that is fair to all.

CONSTITUTION AND RULES

The Association shall be operated in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution, which becomes effective from the 2024 AGM. ***

All members of Dee Anglers Association shall abide by its rules outlined in this Constitution, plus the related Schedules of Dee Anglers Association Fees and Dee Anglers Association Angling Rules.

Changes to the Dee Anglers Association Constitution, Schedule of Fees or Angling Rules can only be made at an AGM or EGM.

**** This Constitution has been drafted for approval at the Associations 2024 AGM following misplacement / destruction of all previous constitutional documents relating to the Dee Anglers Association.*

MEMBERSHIP

Membership of Dee Anglers Association is available to all persons over 12 years of age, irrespective of ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion, or beliefs; age, sex or ability/disability and will be granted to anyone who:

- pays the appropriate Membership Fee
- agrees to abide by Dee Anglers Association Rules.
- Is in possession of a valid Environment Agency Fishing Licence.

ALL Membership is subject to a discretionary veto by The Committee in the light of breaches of Dee Anglers Association or Environment Agency Rules

Membership Duration

The Membership Year of Dee Anglers Association shall run from the 1st January each year through to the 31st December.

Membership Categories

Members of Dee Anglers Association shall belong to one of two Membership Categories:

Junior Member(s) - Those aged between 12 and 16 years old on January 1st in the year that they join or renew their Membership. Junior Members have no voting rights at The Association AGM or EGM

Full Member(s) - Those aged 17 years old or over on January 1st in the year that they join or renew their Membership. Full Members have voting rights at The Association AGM or EGM.

Membership Fees and Categories

A Schedule of Membership Fee Charges for the following Categories shall be maintained by The Committee, with any changes proposed and voted upon at the AGM – any charges to apply during the following Membership Year:

Junior Members, those aged 12 to 16 years old, inclusive (as at January 1st)

Full Members aged between 17 and 65 years of age.

Membership Cards

Possession of a valid of a Dee Anglers Association Membership Card shall confirm Membership.

Membership Cards remain the property of The Association and must be surrendered on demand to an Association Bailiff or member of The Committee. The Association also retains the right to request to inspect a secondary form of identification (such as a driving licence).

Breach of Association Rules or EA Regulations

Members found to be in breach of Dee Anglers Association Rules or Environment Agency restrictions may after a suitable hearing by The Committee have their membership terminated with immediate effect.

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

The overall management and control of Dee Anglers Association shall be performed by The Committee.

The Committee

Shall comprise as a minimum a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and 4 committee members

Nominations for election to The Committee

Full Members wishing to stand for election to The Committee must have been a Full Member of Dee Anglers Association for at least 5 continuous years and must give notice to the Secretary of The Association, seconded by another Full Member, 14 days prior to the AGM.

The Committee shall have powers to fill by co-option any vacancy arising on The Committee position

Association Officers

The day to day running of Dee Anglers Association shall be undertaken by The Committee, members of which will fulfil the following roles: -

- Chairman – To represent The Association and chair its meetings.
- Secretary – To organise meetings of The Association, and maintain written records of its proceedings
- Treasurer – To handle and record financial transactions of The Association
- Committee members – minimum of 4 eligible members

Association Bailiffs

All members of The Committee shall automatically become Association Bailiffs. In addition, The Committee may appoint, any other Full Member to act as an Association Bailiff.

The role of Association Bailiffs shall be to enforce the Dee Anglers Association Angling Rules and to ask for, inspect and if felt necessary retain Membership Cards and inspect other documents or licenses relevant to Membership of The Association.

Electing The Committee

Where the number of nominations for election to the Committee is equal to or less than the number of places available, those standing for election can be voted for en bloc. If there are more nominations than places, those standing for election are to be voted for individually, those with the most votes being deemed elected.

Term of Office

The Term of Office for The Committee and Association President shall commence at the AGM, and cease at the next AGM, or at the date of resignation or cessation of Membership whichever is the sooner.

MEETINGS

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM shall be held each year, at a time and place determined by The Committee and advised to Members on the Dee Anglers Association website.

In the event of a need to change the published AGM date, notice of the revised date shall be provided to Members in any form deemed suitable by The Committee, at least 14 days in advance of the revised AGM.

Business of the AGM

The purpose of the AGM shall be to:

- Receive and approve the minutes of last year's AGM, and deal with any matters arising from them.

- Receive the outgoing Chairman's report
- Receive and approve the outgoing Treasurers report and Association Accounts
- Conduct the election/re-election of The Committee
- To agree any changes to this constitution.
- To agree any changes to the Schedule of Fees for the forthcoming Membership Year
- To agree any changes to the Schedule of Dee Anglers Association Angling Rules for the forthcoming Membership Year
- To agree any changes to the Schedule of Association Waters for the forthcoming Membership Year
- To consider / debate any valid proposals or motions received from members
- To conduct any other business of The Association

Resolutions

Any changes to Dee Anglers Association Rules can only be made after a suitable Resolution is proposed and voted for at an AGM or EGM. The tabled Resolution must outline the proposals for change in a form that can be voted upon by those present. Resolutions for consideration at the AGM may be proposed by The Committee or a Full Member who has provided a written copy of a proposed Resolution to The Committee, seconded by two other Full Members, at least 14 days prior to the meeting.

Extraordinary General Meetings

An Extraordinary General Meetings may be called by The Committee, or following the request of a Full Member sent to The Committee in writing and seconded by at least 10 other Full Members and a member of the Committee.

Notice of the EGM shall be provided to Members in any form deemed suitable by The Committee, at least 14 days in advance of the EGM, and clearly stating the proposals to be considered at that meeting.

Committee Meetings

At least 4 meetings of The Committee shall be held each Membership Year to discuss and resolve the routine business of The Association.

Quorum

At all meetings of Dee Anglers Association a quorum shall exist when there are at least five members of The Committee present.

ASSOCIATION FINANCES

The Association Financial Year shall run from 1st January to 31st December.

Association Accounts

The Association Accounts for the preceding Association Financial Year shall be prepared annually by the Treasurer and presented to Members at each AGM.

The Association Accounts shall take the form of a summary balance sheet, showing income received and expenditure incurred for the Association Financial Year. The Association Accounts shall be signed by the

Treasurer, and countersigned by the Association Auditor, to indicate that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, they are a true representation of the financial affairs of The Association.

Bank Accounts

The Association shall maintain a suitable UK bank account. Two signatures of members of The Committee shall be required for the issue of cheques, one of the signatories being the Treasurer or Chairman.

Insurances

The Committee shall affect and maintain suitable insurance(s) to protect the legal liabilities of The Association and its Members. The Committee may also arrange any other insurance(s) deemed necessary to protect the further interests of The Association or its Members.

ASSOCIATION WATERS

- A Schedule of Association Waters shall be maintained by The Committee and available on the Association website. <http://www.deeanglers.co.uk>
- Details of Association Waters – A list of Association Waters shall be shown on the Dee Anglers Association website.
- Addition of Association Waters – New Association Water(s) may be obtained at The Committee's discretion.
- Removal of Association Waters – Association Water(s) may be de-registered at The Committee's discretion.
- Association Affiliations – The Association will endeavour to maintain affiliated relationships with other local clubs where access to additional water will be beneficial to members. This arrangement may or may not result in a reciprocal agreement for members of affiliated clubs' access to Association waters. Such decisions will be made by the Committee.

TERMINATION AND MERGER

Dissolution

Unless The Association ceases to exist by virtue of an agreed merger/transfer Dee Anglers Association will continue to exist unless there are insufficient Full Members prepared to act as The Committee following the AGM or an EGM.

In such circumstances the outgoing members of The Committee shall have their terms of office extended for 60 days, during which time they must arrange and notify in writing all Members of the date of an EGM, at which meeting they will either attempt to form a new Committee or propose a suitable resolution for dissolution of The Association.

Should it be resolved at the EGM that Dee Anglers Association be dissolved, an emergency Dissolution Committee of at least 3 Full Members shall be voted into temporary office by those Full Members present. From within their number the Dissolution Committee shall elect a Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer whose tasks shall be to trace, realise and account for all the due or held monies, assets, and effects of The Association and, after settlement of any debts and charges, donate any balance to a charity that exists to protect or promote freshwater angling. The intended recipient charity shall be voted for at

the EGM at which the Dissolution Committee is formed, after nominations made by those Members present are proposed and voted upon.

Merger/Transfer of The Association or Association Waters

Any proposal to merge The Association with another angling organisation/Association, or transfer any of the Association Waters, assets or effects to another angling organisation/Association shall only proceed if agreed by The Committee and a suitable Resolution being proposed and voted for at an AGM or EGM.

Resolutions on dissolution, merger or transfer will only be valid if proposed and then voted for by at least 75% of those Full Members present and voting at an AGM or EGM, including any recorded abstentions.

ANGLING RULES

- A Schedule of Dee Anglers Association Angling Rules shall be maintained by The Committee in accordance with this section.
- At each AGM The Committee shall propose, and Full Members be asked to approve, any changes to Dee Anglers Association Angling Rules for the forthcoming Membership Year.
- The Dee Anglers Association Angling Rules shall be shown on the Dee Anglers Association website.
- All Members must abide by Dee Anglers Association Angling Rules when attending or fishing Association waters.
- Dee Anglers Association will adopt Angling Trust Match rules in all competitions organised by the Association.