

# **ISLE OF WIGHT FRESHWATER ANGLING COMPANY**

## **NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2020**

**PLEASE TAKE TIME TO READ THIS NEWSLETTER IT CONTAINS  
IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND AMENDMENTS TO RULES**

### **Hello Members**

**As you are all aware, we have been unable to hold our AGM this year due to the ongoing Covid 19 limitations.**

**It is currently unknown when we will be able to hold an AGM, and therefore the Board felt that it should get the information out to you that it believes you need to know, and also to amend some rules that need to be updated.**

### **Membership**

**This year has seen a large increase in membership applications. Due to this increase the Board made the decision to stop selling Day Tickets on all our lakes, as it was more beneficial to the club to encourage membership rather than sell day tickets. Our membership this year is 623 - The Board feel that we cannot take any more members and that any new member next year would be subject to a current member not renewing in MAY 2021 - Therefore membership renewal closing date next year will be 24th May 2021. Any renewal not received by that date will require application as a new member and join the waiting list.**

### **Guest Tickets**

**Some of you will be aware that guest tickets have also been withheld this season, in order to relieve some of the unprecedented demand for swims, particularly at the Merstone complex. It is the Boards intention to reinstate them with immediate effect, however they will only be permitted at Holliers at this present time. If you require a guest ticket please read rule 23 in your Membership Information booklet.**

### **Merstone**

**Please take care on Merstone Lane - Not only are there children and Horses on the lane but also large agricultural vehicles. Unfortunately one of our members has had a tractor pull out on him and badly damaged his car. We are very concerned that lack of awareness and excess speed down these tiny narrow lanes could result in the injury of**

**road users, so we would request that you keep your speed down and be aware.**

**It is intended to repair at least 5 swim this year on Kingfisher at a cost of appx £230 per swim - This work will be continued next year. The intention is to try to support the banks underneath each swim to prevent the carp burrowing into the bank and undermining the bank side.**

**To prevent casting to the island opposite a neighbouring peg, numbered pegs are to be placed around the island on Kingfisher. They will be placed opposite its corresponding peg number on the bank to indicate where anglers should be casting, should they wish to fish to the island. Hopefully this will prevent frayed tempers and encourage anglers to respect the space in front of other members.**

**Heron lake island needs to be trimmed again.**

**The owner of the house in front of Merstone is going to have a fence erected just inside the boundary line, and has agreed to meet all the costs.**

### **Holliers**

**The site still seems to receive very few anglers, despite it being a very pretty fishery with abundant wildlife.**

**There have been concerns about the lack of fish stocks due to cormorant predation, however if more anglers fished there, there would possibly be less cormorants.**

**The Board intend to remove half of the lily pads in both New and Old lakes as it believes that there might be more stock in there than anticipated, and there is a need to balance the need for cover for fish, with too much cover that could potentially tether them.**

**The Board are currently looking at the stocking possibilities - this may be moving fish from other sites, purchasing larger silvers, however larger "silvers" are much harder to obtain, and also more expensive.**

**The Board are also looking into the possibility of securely netting the stock ponds at Holliers and farming our own - however the costing of this project has yet to be determined.**

**Work has begun on “Hunters Pool”. Members will be aware that the Angling Trust gave us a grant of £2500.00 towards this work. It is anticipated that the cost of these works will be in the region of £6000. Once this pond has been completed it will be left to mature for apx 2 years prior to stocking with fish.**

**It is intended that all the lakes will be connected together with 4” pipe to assist with oxygen levels, with water running from top spring to new lake.**

**The purchase of the new mower has assisted the maintenance of Holliers greatly !**

### **Gunville**

**It is intended to cut back some overgrowing branches from above the swims to enable easier casting.**

**Planting of “whips” fencing is planned in October /November between the lake and the housing estate.**

**The Board have agreed to purchase a Boat for the site and are currently looking into this. If you are aware of a boat available please contact a Board member to advise.**

**Plans for a hardstanding for the Portaloo are also being considered.**

### **Rule Changes /Clarification**

**7. All members shall use a suitable landing net and unhooking mat on all sites, and be responsible for the safe handling and return of all fish. All fish over 10cms/4ins must be landed using a landing net.**

**8. The use of Keep nets are not permitted except for use during a Company Competition, the use of Carp Sacks/Slings is forbidden on all Company waters.**

**Kingfisher      No more than two rods may be used**

**Gunville          The Board advises a Minimum line strength of 12lb**

**17 Clarification :- You must not leave your rods in the lake whilst you visit another swim - you must be by your rods at all times - If you wish**

**to go to the next swim for “a chat” your lines MUST be reeled in. If you are caught you will receive a Ban this is for the protection of our fish stocks**

### **Work Parties**

**We still need as much help as possible at our work parties (these are shown on the back of the match fixture list) - Please come along and help us maintain the lakes - Your Board members are mostly in late 60/70 - come along there is always a job that needs doing. Would you be able to assist on a different day/evening that fits in with family, working commitments? Please let us know via e mail we really need more input from our younger members.**

### **Subscriptions**

**The cost of running the company increases year on year and this Board has made the decision to run the company on its yearly subscriptions and only use any residual monies for emergencies to ensure the continued future/success of the Company.**

**The decision regarding membership increase is normally made at the AGM however as this is not possible this year the Board feel that the membership cost should increase by £20 next season for both Full and Concessionary members - there will be no increase to Juniors in FTE or to Associate Membership.**

**Rubbish**

**Once again our litter louts are about!! BUT we now know that unfortunately it is members and not Day Tickets/Guests as these have not been allowed on our lakes over the past few months.**

**It is time for members to step up and keep our lakes free from litter. To blow the whistle on members who they see leaving their rubbish ! - To pick up and take home any rubbish they may find on our sites - The cost of commercial bins is something that the Board have looked into previously but they do not believe they would be used by the lazy few members that we have, who seem to be content to just throw their rubbish all around the site - the message is very clear**

**TAKE YOUR RUBBISH HOME WITH YOU !!!**

**If any member is found/reported to be leaving rubbish then they will be subject to a BAN.**

**Gates**

***All of our sites are “members only” It is your responsibility to close and lock the gate as you go in and out of each site. We have had several incidents of the gates being left open again this year and as in the past Day Tickets have been blamed. However once again we now know that it is not day ticket holders, but a lazy few Members - The cost of potential legal actions to remove trespassers from our sites could be huge, and membership fees spent on litigation doesn't allow the improvements we want on our fisheries. These are your lakes protect them. Once again any person caught/reported for not closing and locking the gates will be subject to a BAN***

***If you have any comments/concerns regarding this newsletter please don't hesitate to contact the Board via e mail [iowfacmembers@gmail.com](mailto:iowfacmembers@gmail.com)***

***Tight Lines - Stay Safe  
The Board***