

Constitution of the Newton Stewart and District Angling Association (as amended at the 2010 A. G. M.)

1. Name and style

The association to be named and styled: Newton Stewart and District Angling Association, and subject to the following constitutions:-

2. Objectives

- 2.1 To promote and improve the angling amenities on all waters controlled by the Association for the benefit of all anglers.
- 2.2 To promote and encourage safe practices on association waters and be environmentally aware in all we do.
- 2.3 To insist on good manners and responsible behaviour from all association members and to take appropriate action against all offenders.
- 2.4 To prevent any and all forms of illegal fishing on association waters and to prosecute offenders
- 2.5 The association will pursue an equal opportunities policy, regardless of race, creed, gender or sexual orientation. Where in this document reference is made to he this should be taken to mean he or she where appropriate.

3. Management

- 3.1 The whole management of the affairs of the association shall be in the hands of a committee, consisting of a president, vice-president, secretaries or secretary, treasurer or treasurers, and a number of committee members, not fewer than eight and increased according to the growth and development of the association.
- 3.2 The office bearers and members of the committee shall be elected at the annual general meeting, all shall retire annually but all are eligible for re-election. Any committee member who desires to retire can do so and another shall be elected in their place.
- 3.3 The committee shall be empowered to make rules and bye-laws for the control and management of the association, to appoint sub-committees and to fill vacancies in their number caused by the death or resignation or otherwise during the year. The members or member appointed after such vacancies to hold office till the first AGM thereafter.
- 3.4 The committee shall have power to settle all disputes and their decision shall be final in all cases and binding upon all members.

- 3.5 The committee shall have the power to refuse to grant permits to fish their waters and to suspend or withdraw the same at any time. In the case of suspension or withdrawal the secretary shall advise the member in writing of a report against them and request their attendance at a committee meeting, when their case shall be considered. Failure to attend after suitable times and dates have been fixed for such a meeting will result in a decision being reached in their absence. In the case of a refusal to grant a permit to fish, no reason need be given.
- 3.6 It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep a minute book in which he shall enter all minutes of meetings, and shall submit same for approval at the next meeting. He shall conduct the correspondence of the association and his books shall be open to the committee at all meetings.
- 3.7 The treasurer shall receive and disburse monies belonging to the association and keep an account of his intromissions in a cash book. He shall deposit all monies received by him in a bank, and in his absence the president or secretary shall have power to operate thereon. The treasurer shall reserve in his own hands only such a sum as shall be required to meet current expenses. A statement of the accounts for the year ending 31st October immediately preceding, duly audited, shall be prepared for submission to the committee, and thereafter an abstract shall be submitted at the AGM.
- 3.8 At the AGM, an auditor or auditors shall be appointed for the following financial year, who shall examine all books and accounts in the hands of the treasurer and certify same for submission to the next AGM.
- 3.9 The committee shall meet from time to time as circumstances demand, seven members will form a quorum.
- 3.10 Any committee member being absent from three consecutive meetings without giving a reasonable excuse shall be struck off the committee, such vacancies to be filled in the manner provided for.
- 3.11 The committee shall have power to negotiate a lease or the purchase of additional water or waters. The committee may borrow for the purposes of the association such sums as authorised by the member at an annual general meeting or a properly convened special general meeting at such rates of interest and on such terms and conditions as they think proper.
- 3.12 They may make special arrangements with kindred associations to the mutual advantage of their members.
- 3.13 They may recommend and issue free permits to those whom they consider it to be in the interests of the association so to do.

- 3.14 They may appoint and engage a number of water bailiffs such number to be determined by the extent of water under the association's control.
- 3.15 Water bailiffs so appointed and receiving a remuneration may not be committee members but shall attend committee meetings by invitation of the committee.

4. Trustees

- 4.1 The property and effects of the association shall be vested and the leases or titles of such waters as leased or owned by the association shall be taken for an on behalf of the association in the names of the following trustees viz: - the president, vice-president, secretary or secretaries, and treasurer or treasurers, or their successors in office.
- 4.2 No individual shall profit from the assets of the association.

5. Annual general meeting

- 5.1 The AGM shall be held annual in December for the purposes of the committee's annual report and the treasurer's statement, to elect office bearers and members of the committee and for the transaction of any competent business.
- 5.2 The president, vice-president or any members of the committee may convene special general meetings or the association at any time, or upon the requisition of thirty members; each such requisition to state the purpose of the meeting. No other business shall be discussed at the meeting.
- 5.3 The president, or in his absence, the vice-president, shall preside at all meetings, and in the absence of both the meeting shall appoint a chairman. The committee may at their discretion elect a committee member to be chairman at the AGM or SGM otherwise the meeting will be chaired by the president or vice-president. The chairman at all such meetings shall have the casting vote as well as a deliberative vote.
- 5.4 The annual subscriptions and entry fees, if any, shall be fixed at the AGM.
- 5.5 Copies of the constitution are to be available on application to the treasurer or secretary.
- 5.6 Motions from individual members for consideration at the AGM must be in writing and signed by a proposer and seconder. Such motions must be in the hands of the secretary 30 days prior to the AGM. Copies of the motion will be circulated at the AGM.

- 5.7 Amendments to the constitution from individual members shall be submitted in the same manner as motions.
- 5.8 The committee shall submit motions and/or amendments to the constitution in the name of the committee. They shall be moved and seconded by members of the committee. Copies of the motion(s) and or amendment(s) will be circulated at the AGMs.

6. Admission of members

- 6.1 Those entitled to become members of the association, with the sole exception of associate members, must be domiciled within the bounds of the Machars of Wigtownshire or the western part of Kirkcudbrightshire, Gatehouse-of-Fleet being the extreme limit to the east and Glentroll to the north. Generally anyone permanently residing within the postcode boundary of DG8 is entitled to apply for membership. Borderline cases are to be left to the discretion of the committee.
- 6.2 Application for admission to membership shall be made through the president or secretary and every applicant must be recommended by two current members of the association. Membership shall not commence until the current fee has been paid, and the committee shall have the power to refuse membership to any applicant without stating a reason.
- 6.3 Election of membership is by simple majority vote at committee meetings
- 6.4 In the case of a member of five years standing leaving the district, he may, providing he makes written application to the secretary, retain a full membership although residing outwith the district, such membership to be taken out annually. If the membership is allowed to lapse for one year, such privilege shall cease.
- 6.5 Any member proven to have brought the name of Newton Stewart and District Angling Association into disrepute will be expelled from the association forthwith.

7. Membership

- 7.1 Full members shall be 16 years of age or over at 1st March on year of application. (Full members are on occasion referred to as adult members.)
- 7.2 Application for OAP membership of the association shall mean that the applicants are at or over the current national retirement ages for men and women as at 1st March of that year. OAP concessionary membership will only be given after five years as a full member.

- 7.3 Juvenile members shall be between the ages of 12 years and 15 years on 1st March on the year of application. Juvenile members who remain in full time education beyond the age of 16 years may, upon proof of this and subject to the discretion of the committee who will consider each case on its merits, be eligible to continue membership at the appropriate juvenile fee.
- 7.4 Junior members shall be between the ages of 5 and 11 years on 1st March on the year of application.
- 7.5 Associate members shall be 16 years of age or over on 1st March on the year of application, being individuals who stay outwith the area of the association as previously defined. Associate members who have full fishing rights on all association waters. Associate members do not have voting rights at meetings or annual general meetings and they are not eligible to hold any office in the association.
- 7.6 Juvenile associate members shall be under the age of 16 years on 1st March on the year of application. He or she shall be subject to the same conditions governing adult associate members.
- 7.7 The number of associate members shall be set at the annual general meeting. The office bearers and committee shall consider all applications to ensure a rational geographical distribution of the associate membership. The fees, and entrance fees, if any, for associate membership will be agreed at the AGM.

8. Visitors' permits

- 8.1 Visitors shall be allowed permits to fish the association's waters. Permits may be issued on a daily, weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis, at a cost as agreed at the annual general meeting.
- 8.2 The committee shall be empowered to issue an annual visitor permit to fish at Clatteringshaws Loch for pike and other coarse fish only at a time and cost to be decided by them in the future. The committee shall draw up appropriate rules to cover the pike and coarse fishing permit. This annual permit does not confer membership of the association on the holder, nor does it confer the right to fish at other association waters.

9. Fishing rules

- 9.1 The fishing rules shall be those rules as printed on the current annual membership cards and on current visitors' permits and/or on association official publications.