

# **THE TAVY, WALKHAM AND PLYM FISHING CLUB**

## **Rules**

### **1. The Fishing**

Beats leased to the Club by the Maristow Estate and the Walkhampton Trust on the Tavy, Walkham, Cad, Plym and Meavy.

Beats on the Tamar and other local rivers which may be leased.

Monies surplus to the required costs of running the Club, as determined annually by the Executive Committee, will be ring-fenced to further develop the Club fishing portfolio by considering any other river beats which become available for purchase or rental.

The Club's Reserved Waters and Permit Waters are available to Full Members and Associate Members as defined on the Club's website. The definition and allocation of Reserved Waters and Permit Waters may be changed at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

### **2. Full Membership**

The Club will elect a maximum of 39 Full Members, with priority given to those who live locally. There will be 13 Blue Card holders, 13 Red Card holders and 13 White Card holders. There is also one Full Member season ticket available to a serving member of the armed forces from the Plymouth area. A Full Membership card is issued as both an identity document and a receipt for payment of the annual subscription.

Full Members on each colour card may fish the Reserved Waters on the Tavy, rotating on Upper, Middle and Lower Beats according to a calendar issued by the Secretary.

Full Members may also fish the other Reserved Water and all of the permit waters at any time.

Full Members may invite a guest from outside the Club to fish the Reserved Water.

Only one guest per member per day.

Only the member or guest may fish at any one time, on the Tamar both may fish.

The guest must be accompanied by the member.

No member may invite as a guest any person who has been refused membership.

Anyone wishing to transfer to another colour card should inform the Secretary.

### **3. Associate Membership**

Associate Membership will be

Decided by the Executive Committee of the Fishing Club.

Renewable annually.

Governed by the Constitution and general Rules of the Club.

The Committee may elect a maximum of 24 Associate Members who may not necessarily reside locally. An Associate Membership card is issued as an identity document and a receipt for payment of the annual subscription.

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Associate Members can fish the following beats at any time.

The Abbey Beat on the Tavy from the top of Shingle Pool below Denham Bridge, as far as fishable down to Lopwell Dam.

The Walkham Beat 1 from Deadlake to Merrivale, Beat 3 Ward Bridge to Huckworthy, Beat 4 Huckworthy to Foxham's, Beat 5 Bedford Bridge to Grenofen Bridge and Beat 6 Grenofen Bridge Bucktor.

The river Tamar.

The Meavy Beat 1 from Burrator to Marchants Bridge and Beat 3 from Clearbrook to Shaugh Bridge.

River Cad Beat 1 from Langcombe Brook to Shaugh Bridge

River Plym Beat 1 from Shaugh Bridge to Bickleigh Bridge

Associate Members may fish the Club's Permit Waters at any time.

Priority for Associate Membership applications

Applicants on the waiting list who reside locally.

Ex-members of the Tavy Walkham and Plym Fishing Club.

Applicants who do not reside locally.

A person who has been refused Full Membership can apply to become an Associate Member.

A person on the waiting list who declines Associate Membership will be removed from the list.

An Associate Member will be given priority on the waiting list for Full Membership.

Associate Members may attend Club meetings but cannot vote or be elected to the committee.

Associate Members are not entitled to invite a guest to fish Club waters.

### **4. General Conditions of Membership**

Permission to fish with rod and line for salmon, migratory trout and brown trout in all waters as granted to the Club will be given on payment of the annual subscription and subject to the rules of the Club. It is the Member's responsibility to ensure that they hold a valid Environment Agency (EA) licence before they fish.

The annual subscriptions for all Members and for Permits will be as agreed at the Annual General Meeting prior to the season in question.

It is a condition of membership and permit holding that a full catch return, including fishing effort, is submitted to the Club.

If any Full Member leaves the district, he shall be required to advise the Secretary, in writing, within 28 days. It shall be the decision of the committee whether the member should remain a member of the Club or resign their membership.

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### **5. Permits**

The Club will issue permits online through the website and through local agents.

Upon payment of the appropriate fee, the angler will be entitled to fish the waters as described in the Club's website Beat maps.

Fishing on the Permit waters is governed by the EA seasons, their rules on fishing and the Club rules. Please refer to the EA or the Club's website [www.twpfishing.net](http://www.twpfishing.net) for more information.

The Club reserves the right to refuse to issue a permit or to forfeit the permit of any person who it may deem to have fished in an illegal or unsportsmanlike manner, or in breach of the current EA or Club Rules.

### **6. Rules of Fishing**

All of the Club rules are overarched by the rules, directives or bye-laws of the EA. It is the members responsibility to ensure that they are familiar with these, especially fishing methods relevant for salmon and sea trout and their catch and release as found on the Club's website.

Fishing shall only be with rod, line, fly and artificial lure within the seasons as specified by the EA.

For permit holders, fishing may commence from midnight of the day the permit starts and will end at midnight of the last day of the permit period, except in the case of sea trout fishing, see below.

Anglers may not stay in one place for an unreasonable time.

No fish taken in Club waters shall be sold.

Wading is not permitted in the Tavy above Double Waters, or in the River Walkham below Huckworthy Bridge.

No dogs are permitted on the Tamar Beat, or on the Plym between Shaugh Bridge and Bickleigh Bridge.

The various bridges, stiles, ladders and rails on the banks of the rivers, most of which were furnished at the request of landowners, must, if used by fishermen, be used at their own risk. The Club disclaims any responsibility for accidents to fishermen which may arise from the negotiation of such bridges, stiles, fences, ladders and rails. Under no circumstances is fishing allowed from bridges.

All anglers when fishing, must immediately produce their EA licence and permit or membership card when requested by a Water Bailiff, Member or Permit holder. They should also allow scrutiny of their catch and the lures they are using. Any angler found fishing Club waters without an EA licence and in the case of Permit Holders, their permit, or fishing in a way that breaches current allowable fishing methods, runs the risk of prosecution or being banned from fishing Club waters in the future.

Should any angler see any illegal or unsportsmanlike fishing, or a breach of these rules, they should report these to the Secretary. Any Member or Permit holder who does not comply with

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the EA and Club Rules, or whom the Club may deem to have fished in an illegal or unsportsmanlike manner, shall, on receiving notice in writing from the Club, forfeit their right to fish.

All permissions to fish are issued subject to the current rules of fishing but the Club reserves the right to alter and amend its own rules during any part of the season.

### **7. Conservation**

Please refer to the club website for the Conservation Policy and the Rules and Conservation Practice Flow Charts for both salmon and sea trout.

In setting out these rules, certain criteria have been applied to recognise that salmon fishing is different from that of sea trout. Salmon are a highly threatened species and fished for by day. Sea trout are largely fished for by night and currently not at risk, but warning signs indicate we must conserve these enigmatic travelers. These differences have resulted in rules that are common to both salmon and sea trout day fishing and those that apply specifically to sea trout, as night fishing is a specialist sport.

A sustainable Club fishery is highly dependent on agencies external to the Club doing their job. Our contribution must be to fish with conservation at the heart of our fishing effort. These Rules, the Conservation Policy and Rules and Conservation Practice Flow Charts, give anglers overarching rules and advice on best angling practice for the quick and safe catch and release of salmon and sea trout and allow us all to continue to enjoy this wonderful sport. The rules have been compiled from the results of a Members Survey, taking into account best angling practice of local and national angling clubs, associations and the Environment Agency.

The Flow Charts on the website contain the same rules as in this document and are presented in a PDF format. They are standalone documents produced as a directive for permit holders and an aide-memoire for members. The rules are contained in the yellow boxes and are mandatory, the conservation practice in the blue boxes is recommended.

### **8. Rules for salmon and sea trout**

When fly fishing or spinning by day, one single or double de-barbed or barbless hook is permissible.

No treble hooks are allowed.

Fly fishing or spinning is allowed on all Club waters except The Run, Big Pool and the Flats on Tavy Upper Beat and Ludbrook Run and Pool on Tavy Lower beat which are fly only.

Bait fishing is prohibited on all Club waters.

Rods, reels and line should be appropriate enough to reduce playing time and fatigue of hooked fish selected for release i.e. powerful rod, adequate reel clutch and line strength.

Nets must be knotless and carried while fishing. A rubberized net is ideal, as it further reduces damage to the fish. Any fish to be released should not be beached.

Tailers, gaffs and knotted nets are illegal.

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Anglers must carry a tool suitable for the swift and clean unhooking of a fish for release, such as forceps, long-nosed pliers or a disgorger.

### **Salmon rules**

On each of our river systems, the first two salmon caught must be released before considering whether to retain the third fish. The first two of any three fish caught thereafter, must be released.

Local bye-laws state that all salmon caught before 16<sup>th</sup> June must be released. In addition, any salmon caught on the Tamar after 31st August must also be released as required under the Tamar and Tributaries Fishing Association code. In addition, any out of condition, coloured, gravid or hen fish must be released, along with any salmon over 10lb / 30".

### **Sea trout rules**

Flies for night fishing may have two de-barbed or barbless hooks, but with no more than three hook points on tandem lures.

No more than two fish to be retained in a day, with a personal low limit for fish retained in the season.

All fish under 12 oz / 11" or over 3lb / 19" must be released as should any coloured or dark fish.

Bye-laws for the Plym and Tamar catchments require fish under 7oz / 8" to be released.

An angler who starts night-fishing for sea trout on one day, may continue until sunrise the next day but must give way to an angler wishing to start fishing early on their day.

### **Brown trout rules**

Fishing with artificial flies only, on barbless or de-barbed single hooks, until one hour after sunset.

Any fish caught of less than 8 inches (20cm) in length should be released immediately.

### **Grayling rules**

Grayling fishing is only available on the River Tamar, the season starts on 16<sup>th</sup> June and ends on 14<sup>th</sup> March.

Fishing with artificial flies only, on barbless or de-barbed single hooks, until one hour after sunset.

All grayling must be released.

### **Invasive fish species**

Any rainbow trout must be removed, as these escapees are regarded as invasive and could upset the balance of native brown, sea trout and salmon populations.