

# THE GORMANSTON AND DISTRICT ANGLERS

## Club Constitution

1. The club shall be called the Gormanston and District Anglers. The club waters consist of the eastern section of the Delvin river from Stamullen to the sea and the Wavin lake (formerly known as the Knock lake ).
2. The aim of the club shall be the protection, preservation and improvement of trout fishing in the Delvin River and the Wavin lake.
3. The club season shall run from 1 February each year to 31 January the following year. The lake shall be closed on Christmas day each year. Fishing on the Delvin river is limited to the statutory trout fishing season (currently the first Sunday in March to the last day in September).
4. Membership
  - (I) The membership of the club shall be at the discretion of the committee in office, and shall be limited to 300 members, excluding Honorary Life members.
  - (II) All new members must be nominated for membership by at least two club members.
  - (III) In the event of an application being made after the quota for members has been reached, the Secretary shall maintain their names on a waiting list.
  - (IV) If the membership falls below the quota permitted in rule 4 (I), membership shall be offered to persons named on the waiting list on a first come first served basis.
5. There shall be the six categories of membership of the club
  - Senior Member
  - Disabled Member
  - Old Aged Pensioner (OAP) Member
  - Life Member
  - Honorary Life Member
6. The above categories of membership are outlined below

(I) Senior Members shall consist of all members aged between 18 and 65, who do not qualify for one of the other membership categories of the club. (II) Disabled Members shall be members in possession of a European Disabled car parking permit or medical certificate. (III) Old Aged Pensioner Members shall be members aged more than 65 years on the opening day of the club's year (1 February) (IV) Life Members shall be members who have paid for such privileges (as offered by the club from time to time). (V) Honorary Life Members shall as nominated and approved by the Annual General Meeting of the Club. Persons eligible for honorary life membership must be aged 65 years or over, be retired and have at least 10 consecutive years of full membership.

## **Discipline**

7. By accepting membership to the club, the members agrees to abide by constitution of the club, and all rules as set out in article 32 below.

8. The committee are empowered to investigate any complaints against a member concerning any alleged breach of club rules, or conduct, which, in the view of the committee, did or is likely to, bring the club into disrepute and to take disciplinary action if necessary.

9. In the event of the complainant being a member of the committee, he/she may not take part in any disciplinary sessions, except as a witness.

10. The committee are empowered to:

(I) Suspend a member for a specific period (II) Fine a member (III) Expel a member

11. A member may appeal any of the above disciplinary actions by writing to the President, within 7 days of the committee judgement, setting out the basis of the appeal. On receipt of such a letter, the President shall convene, within 30 days, a special appeals sub- committee made up from 4 ordinary members with the President acting as Chairperson. No committee member may act on this sub-committee. The findings of this sub- committee are to be binding on the member concerned, and on the committee.

12. On lodging an appeal, the status of a member reverts to what it was before

disciplinary action was taken.

## **Subscriptions**

13. The fees for the following season for example senior membership/day tickets will be decided at the AGM. The Club season runs from 1<sup>st</sup> of Feb - 31<sup>st</sup> Jan.

14. All new Senior Members will be required to pay a joining fee when joining the club for the first time. 15. Any additional fees or levies must be approved by the membership at the Annual General Meeting, or other extraordinary general meeting during the year.

16. Membership will be deemed to have lapsed if a member does not pay their annual subscription by the end of the following season. Lapsed members must re-apply for membership, and shall have to pay all related joining fees (unless specifically excepted by the club committee).

## **General**

17. Only fully paid up members and life members are allowed to fish the club waters.

18. All members should be notified, where possible, 14 days in advance of all annual general meetings and emergency general meetings (if any). This will be done by at least one of the following methods:

- Standard mail
- Electronic mail
- Telephone Texting
- Posting of notice on the club website/Facebook page
- Posting of notice on the club notice board
- Through notices in local papers.

## **General Meetings, and Committee**

19. The annual general meeting shall be held not later than the 31st of January each year, when the committee consisting of not more than fifteen (which includes officers) members in addition to the honorary officers shall be appointed and the accounts for

the preceding year placed before the meeting.

20. Any vacancies arising on the committee during the year shall be filled by co-opting new members selected from the club's membership.

21. The former committee will be retired at each AGM, however individual members may become eligible for re-election if otherwise qualified. The election of committee will be by a show of hands, unless a ballot is requested by one of the members. If the outgoing chairman is not seeking re-election as chairman, he/she must serve on as a committee member for the purpose of continuity for at least one year.

22. The committee, which shall meet periodically during the year shall manage and control the property of the fishing club, the rights belonging to the club and plant & equipment in the ownership of the club. Five members of the committee including two officers form a quorum. An elected committee member who does not attend three consecutive meetings can be removed by vote of the other committee members.

23. Club Officers, Other club officials and their Duties.

(a) President – The president will be elected at the AGM from the club membership. The president must be an ex-officer of the club, and will be responsible for the general conduct of the club, and ensuring that it is in line with the club's objectives. (b) Chairperson – will chair the AGM and the monthly committee meetings. In the event of a tied vote at the monthly committee meeting he will have a casting (deciding) vote. The vice-chairman shall chair meetings in the absence of the chairman. The right of preside shall then pass to the secretary and then to the treasurer. The chairperson shall be responsible to the members for the proper conduct of all committee activities.

(c) The secretary will keep records of all meetings of the club. He will make available at all regular meetings of the club one copy of the immediately previous meeting for the information of all attending members. He will keep a record of the members of the club together with their full name and address, (ii) the date they joined or paid their annual fee, (iii) whether the member is a life, honorary life, ordinary, OAP, disabled or junior member. In addition he will have such powers and duties as pertain generally to his office.

(d) The treasurer will collect and have custody of all monies due to the club and will pay all bills of the club. He will present a full statement of the financial

affairs of the club to the members at the AGM. In addition he will have the powers and duties pertaining generally to his office.

(e) The Lake Development and Health and Safety Officer shall be responsible for the promotion and development of activities at the lake and for the health and safety of members and the public at the club fisheries.

24. The chairperson shall be responsible for convening committee meetings, and the secretary shall provide at least 7 days notice of same in advance. This will be done by at least one of the following methods:

- Standard mail
- Electronic mail
- Telephone texting
- Posting of notice on the club website/Facebook page
- Posting of notice on the club notice board
- Through notices in local papers.

25. No member shall have power to give leave to fish. However a member may bring with him angling friends/guests/visitors provided they shall have purchased from the club secretary or appointed officer daily or tourist tickets for each guest. No member shall bring more than one angling friend on any day. The member must be in attendance with the guest angler at all times.

26. There is no fishing allowed in the annex lake. Trespassing on surrounding lands of both fisheries is prohibited

27. The club will not accept liability in the event of any accident, loss or mishap sustained by any angler or persons accompanying him/her at the lake or river or property of the club. Likewise, the club will accept no liability for any accident or loss to any angler or persons accompanying him when using boats on the afore-mentioned lake.

28. There are no dogs allowed into the environs of the Wavin lake. This is a wildlife sanctuary with many nesting birds and rare species. Hunting is also

absolutely prohibited.

29. Only fully paid senior members, honorary life members and life members can vote at AGM.

30. The rules of the club, as approved by the membership of the club at the Annual General Meeting (or other General Meeting) shall be posted on the notice board of the club fishery.

31. The committee as voted into office by the life members and senior members of the club, shall be empowered to make rules during the season (provided such rules do not contravene any existing rule). These rules, in every case, shall be brought before the next general meeting or annual general meeting for ratification. All members of the club will be notified of these rules through club notices at the lake.

32. Proposals to alter these rules must be submitted in writing to, and have reached the secretary of the club in at least 10 days before the date of the AGM.