

FEBRUARY 2024



790 Southdale Rd E., LONDON, ON. N6E 1A8
 (519) 681-2370 www.wofgpa.org

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 General meeting	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Tackle Swap
18	19 Family Day Ice Fishing Derby	20	21	22 Executive meeting	23 Bolo fishing seminar	24
25	26	27	28	29 Leap Year		

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 General meeting & Annual Elections	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 / 31	25	26	27	28 Executive Meeting	29 Good Friday	30 Easter Breakfast

REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP VALID TO AVOID BEING ON A WAITING LIST TO REJOIN

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective
Association
Executive & Committees for 2023 - 2024**

Executive

President

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

1st Vice President

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

2nd Vice President

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Secretary

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Treasurer

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Directors

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Past President

John Manvell 519-455-3627

Committees

Entertainment

Jeanette Jurasek (Chair) 519-685-0237

Teresa Couture 226 224 6351

Mary Degan 519-438-8104

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Julie Thursby 519-473-5506

House

Lawrence Lainchbury (Chair) 519-681-7199

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Grounds

Lou Liberatore (Chair) 519-649-1988

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

Vito Lorusso 519-471-2114

Henry Van Eerdewijk 519-432-4239

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-709-9413

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Rod Cameron 519-685-1377

Ron Dennis

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Doug Springer 519-680-2599

Bob Thursby 519-473-5506

Welfare

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Boat Rack

Don Colborne 519-686-9559

Membership

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Newsletter

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Fundraising

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

Youth Committee (Adult Mentor)

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Club Merchandise

Please see the Executive at any meeting or function

Website Administrator and Public Relations

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Political & Environmental Research

Steve & Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Wreath Brigade

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

Angela Liberatore 519-680-1222

Club Caretakers

Ray and Barb Smith 519-681-2370

Our Conservation Pledge

I give my pledge as a Canadian to save and faithfully defend from waste the natural resources of my country, its soils and minerals, its waters, forests, air, and wildlife, and to obey all Fish & Game laws.

Our Purpose

- To promote true sportsmanship by the protection, breeding, propagation and conservation of fish and game.
- To obey the Fish and Game Laws of Ontario.
- To promote reforestation and conservation.
- To maintain a club and pond for the accommodation and enjoyment of the members and friends.

Meetings

General meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30pm, except for the months of July and August. The Executive meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month. Remember that you, as a member, are welcome to attend all club meetings. Your input is highly valued and appreciated.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report is presented at the Executive meeting and questions and comments are always welcome. If you wish to receive a copy of the full report, please attend this meeting.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well according to the weather man and the calendar, we are halfway through this winter. I know it seems that there is not much to do at this time of year except shovel snow and hibernate, but at your club, there will be numerous activities to shake off those winter blues.

We have launched the S.S Herman for our winter fundraiser and time slots can be purchased at any club meeting or function. In mid-February we will be hosting our annual Tackle Swap, and on that same weekend, we will be having our Family Day Ice Fishing Derby. Once again, this year we have a great day planned for all family members and their friends. Ice conditions will determine whether this event is a go.

If you prefer to stay indoors and relax, we still have about 20 cases of Craft Beer that needs to be sold.

Yours in Conservation
Stan Gibbs

WELFARE

If you know of a club member or their immediate family who could use some cheering up or has reached one of life's many milestones, please contact Teresa Couture who will gladly make contact on behalf of the club.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

For each General Meeting that you attend, you will receive a ballot for the free one-year membership draw. The draw is done each March during the Elections.

There is also a monthly General Meeting draw. Your chances of winning increase with each meeting that you attend.

APPLIANCE REMOVAL AND SCRAP METAL PICKUP

For those aged 55 and over, I will remove any unused appliances at no cost if the appliance is already outside. I will charge only half price of \$ 35.00 if the appliance is inside.

I will also remove any scrap metal that you have. Please call me to discuss the details and pricing

Tom Carriere
519-520-0767

**PLEASE PATRONIZE THE
BUSINESSSES THAT
ADVERTISE WITH WOF&GPA**

ELECTIONS THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2024 7:30 PM

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive Elections for the 2024 - 2025 term will be held on Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

- All positions will be for a one-year period, covering March 14, 2024 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2025.
- Nomination letters may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 13, 2024, in a sealed envelope addressed to -
Jeanette Jurasek - Secretary – WOF&GPA
RE: Election Nomination
- All nominated members must be present on election night to accept their nomination OR provide a written acceptance delivered to Jeanette Jurasek (Secretary) on or before election night.

All membership fees must be up to date on election night. Please have your valid membership card with you. (The one-month grace period for membership renewal will not apply). One vote shall apply per membership, regardless of the membership type.

The Election each year is a very important part of this organization. Our members' input and participation into the election process is necessary to keep this organization viable and accountable to its members.

All members are encouraged to get involved and strive to make Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association in London, Ontario the very best that it can be.

LONDON PUBLIC LIBRARY LECTURE SERIES "NATURE IN THE CITY"

Nature London in conjunction with the London Public Library is presenting a lecture series for Londoners.

All lectures are to be held in the WOLF Performance Hall, 251 Dundas St. (Main library) from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. There is no cost to attend but seating is limited so arrive early. Family friendly. 2hr validated parking will be offered.

Further details can be obtained:
Nature London www.naturelondon.ca
London Public Library 519-661-4600

Feb. 6 London's Naturals
Feb. 13 London's Secretive Wildlife: Challenges Faced by Reptiles and Amphibians
Feb. 20 Naturally Western

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

You must attend either the General or Executive meeting to pay your dues. These dates are the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm, before the meeting starts at 7:30 pm.

The new membership rates (effective July 1, 2023) are:

Family	\$ 170.00
Single	\$ 150.00
Senior	\$ 145.00
Boat Rack	\$ 60.00

There seems to be confusion as to the grace period permitted to pay dues. If your renewal date on your renewal notice is February 1, 2024, then your membership period ran from February 1, 2023 through January 31. Your membership will lapse at the end of February 2024, which is the one-month grace period permitted. At the end of the grace period, your name will be removed from the membership list. If you choose to rejoin the club, your name will be added to the waiting list.

If you need special consideration regarding payment of dues, contact Val Grahl before your membership lapses. WOFGPA will not be responsible if your membership lapses due to incorrect contact information on our files. The club will accept cheques, debit, and credit card payments but not e-transfers. Mailed payments and late payments will not be accepted and will be returned to you. The caretakers, Ray and Barb will not accept membership renewals.

ANNUAL POST ELECTION DINNER

Sat., April 6

It is a WOFGPA annual tradition that the new Executive and Directors serve dinner to the members present.

Ticket Cost: \$ 30.00 each

- 65 tickets are available
- Contact for tickets: Jeanette Jurasek, Secretary

Cutoff date for ticket purchase is Thurs. March 14. Advance ticket purchase is needed so that the caterer can have an accurate head count to purchase supplies.

The meal this year is: stuffed roast pork, lemon chicken, tossed salad, Greek pasta salad, bread / rolls with butter. Dessert, tea and coffee. Wine will be served with your meal.

Arrive by 5:30 pm
Dinner served 6:00 pm

Door prize: Twin Bridge Charter has donated a June fishing charter for 4 adults or 4 adults and 2 children. The draw will be done from purchased tickets. There is no monetary / cash value if the winner chooses not to take the charter.

Don't delay in getting your advanced tickets from Jeanette Jurasek at any event or function before March 14th.

18th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP

DATE: Sat. February 17th
TIME: Doors open at 9:00 am until 1:00 pm
LOCATION: WOFGPA club hall and basement
COST: No entrance fee

The annual Tackle Swap allows us to shake off those winter blues. You may also want to sell some of that old equipment you have lying around. Previous years have been a great success with many different clubs promoting their club's activities and selling different fishing/hunting related wares to the visitors.

Preregistration for a reserved table is mandatory. There is a nominal registration fee of \$ 15.00 for a table and reservations can be made by contacting Stan Gibbs. Tables will be assigned.

If you have anything to donate, please contact Stan as soon as possible.

GUNS AND AMMUNITION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE

FAMILY DAY ICE FISHING DERBY

Mon. Feb. 19

As usual, regular fishing is not permitted on the pond until the derby is over. At that time, anglers may fish and regular catch limits apply.

Derby: 8:00 am till noon
Registrations: starting ½ hour prior to derby start time

Cost:
Adults \$ 15.00
Children (12 and under) \$ 10.00

Your paid entrance fee includes lunch and prizes in both the Adult and Youth Divisions and for largest non-Trout species and door prizes.

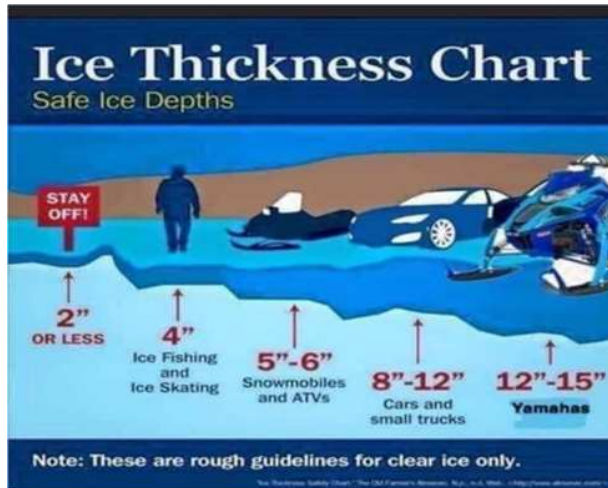
The event is subject to weather and ice conditions.

DANGER – THIN ICE

Please stay on the docks to fish until the ice has completely formed and is at least 10 cm. thick. Use caution when walking on the docks.

The ice conditions will be monitored regularly but not posted. Please stay off any unsafe ice and remember that ice conditions vary from day to day. When in doubt, stay off the ice. Always use the "Buddy" system and never venture out alone. It is a good idea to have safety measures in place, carry a whistle and have ice picks on your person.

A minimum of four inches (10 cm.) of CLEAR ICE is necessary to support the weight of one person. If you are fishing with a partner or a group, additional ice thickness is required.



A windmill has been installed to aerate the water with 2 buoys marking the location of the aeration stones which will always be open water or have a thin ice covering. Please keep well away from these areas, as they will never be deemed safe to support any weight, including your pet's weight. Do not let your pet run loose on the property, including the ice. It is the club policy that all dogs be leashed at all times and in control of their owners. It is best to leave your pet at home.

Do not break the ice away from the docks, use an auger or punch small holes. At no time should anyone use club brooms or shovels to break the ice for fishing. If the ice is continually broken away from the docks, this creates a hazard of thinner ice and makes it hazardous for anglers and skaters stepping off the docks.

Mark all holes with a small branch or flag.

If there is a skating rink located near the main dock, please keep your fishing holes at least 15 metres away.

If ice derbies are planned, it will be last minute notice and dependant on ice conditions. If you wish to be informed of these derbies, please contact Stan Gibbs.

HALL RENTALS

Did you know that the WOFGPA hall can be rented for your next "special" occasion for a very reasonable price? The hall has a maximum seating capacity of 80 persons, which makes it just the right size for a small wedding reception, bridal and baby showers, your next meeting, anniversary party, family reunions and get-togethers, Christmas party and birthdays.

The hall is available to members or their families to get together after the passing of a loved one. In certain circumstances, a special reduced rate may apply. Members receive a discount on rentals which occur on Friday or on a Saturday night only. Professional bar service is offered in the wet bar.

The club hall is not available for Stag and Doe parties, engagement parties or outdoor wedding photoshoots.

Please contact Barb Smith to discuss hall availability and rates.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Executive is evaluating each function to determine if it can be safely held. Details of these functions will be posted on the club website, the bulletin boards and in the newsletter. Please check these locations frequently.

Thurs. Feb. 8	General Meeting
Wed. Feb. 14	Valentines Day
Sat. Feb 17	Tackle Swap
Mon. Feb 19	Family Day – Ice Derby
Thurs. Feb 22	Executive Meeting

Thurs. Mar 14	General Meeting & Annual Elections
Thurs. Mar. 28	Executive Meeting
Fri. Mar. 29	Good Friday
Sat. Mar. 30	Easter Breakfast
Sun. Mar 31	Easter Sunday

Be an active member of WOF & GPA and reap the all the benefits this club has to offer and not be just a "name" on a committee list.

Watch for details of upcoming event in your newsletter, check the bulletin boards and the club website.

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Please find me on Facebook
or drop me a line at
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Nick Robertson - owner



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Murray Howard, President
Email: murrayhoward@execulink.com

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