

## FEBRUARY 2020



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

### February

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

### March

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

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

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association  
Executive & Committees for 2019 - 2020**

**Executive**

**President**

Stan Gibbs 519-668-2609

**1st Vice President**

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

**2nd Vice President**

Joe Isenor 519-691-7510

**Secretary**

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

**Treasurer**

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

**Directors**

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

**Past President**

John Manvell 519-455-3627

**Committees**

**Entertainment**

Teresa Couture (Chair) 519-668-6257

Mary Degan 519-438-8104

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Julie Thursby 519-473-5506

Diane Waite 519-685-7393

**House**

Lawrence Lainchbury (Chair ) 519-681-7199

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Bert Smit 519-472-5624

**Grounds**

Henry Van Eerdewijk (Chair) 519-432-4239

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

Tim Lindsay 519-668-2272

**Ponds**

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-668-2609

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Rod Cameron 519-685-1377

Jim Graham 519-681-0975

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

George Maudsley 519-681-6429

Doug Springer 519-680-2599

Bob Thursby 519-473-5506

Diane Waite 519-685-7393

**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**

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

**Youth Committee (Adult Mentors)**

Jeanette Jurasek (Chair) 519-685-0237

Autumn Ernteman 519-453-3641

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

**Club Merchandise**

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

**Website Administrator and Public Relations**

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

**Political & Environmental Research**

Steve & Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Stan Gibbs 519-668-2609

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

**Wreath Brigade**

Stan Gibbs 519-668-2609

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.



Cigarette smoking is not permitted within 5 metres of all club entrances. Smokers are asked to use the containers provided for cigarette butt disposal. Cannabis use and vaping is not permitted anywhere on club property.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I have a couple of announcements to help shake off those winter blues.

On Feb. 17th, which is Family Day, W.O.F.& G.P.A in partnership with Angling Sports will be hosting an ice fishing derby. There will be prizes for largest Trout, and non-Trout species. You must register and pay at Angling Sports. The maximum entries are set at 100 anglers. If the derby does not go ahead due to poor ice conditions, your money will be refunded.

On Feb. 22nd at 9:00 am, the doors will open on our 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Tackle Swap. Come out and take advantage of some great deals on new and used fishing and outdoor gear. There will be many local clubs represented at the show in case you were looking for different fishing clubs around the London area. A couple of new vendors will be showcasing their hand-crafted flies and lures.

On a final note, Angling Sports has new owners. You were all given a discount card for the store. The new owners have changed the discount from taxes paid to 10% off before taxes. I hope that you patronize this business for your angling needs.

See you on the pond, and remember to close the gates if you are the last angler leaving.

Yours in Conservation  
Stan Gibbs

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

In order to pay your membership dues, you must attend the club at 7:00 pm (just before the scheduled meeting) in order to remain a valid member in good standing. Any payments that are mailed or left at the club will not be accepted and will be returned to you. If you are unable to attend, a friend or family member should bring your annual dues to the club at the designated time. Special arrangements for payment can be made only through the Membership Chair, Val Grahl.

It is very important that you send any and all changes in mailing address, email or phone number to Val Grahl (membership committee). WOFGPA will not be responsible if your membership lapses due to incorrect contact information.

If you choose to rejoin the club, your name will be added to the waiting list which is currently has over 200 names on it and a 4-year wait.

## WELFARE

Many club members who aren't able to attend the club for meetings or fishing might welcome a quick call to say "Hello and what have you been up to?"

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.

Our best wishes for speedy recovery are with Kyla Isenor, Bert Degan and Mrs. Rick Thompson as they recover.

## ELECTIONS THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2020 7:30 PM

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive Elections for the 2020 - 2021 term will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

- All positions will be for a one-year period, covering March 12, 2020 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2021.
- Nomination letters may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 11, 2020, in a sealed envelope addressed to -  
Teresa Couture - 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 Teresa Couture (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.

## 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.

The winner of the January monthly meeting draw was Randy Keating (\$ 38.00). Congratulations Randy.

## FAMILY DAY ICE DERBY Mon. Feb. 17

What better way to spend "Family Day" than entering an Ice Fishing Derby at WOFGPA! This derby is sponsored in conjunction with Angling Sports.

Registration cost of \$ 10.00 per angler includes: ice fishing, hot lunch and prizes. Pre-registration and payment are mandatory and is limited to 100 anglers.

Pre-registration may be done at either:

- Angling Sports in London (located on Highbury Ave, just south of Dundas St) during normal business hours
- or at a WOFGPA function or prior to the start of a meeting.

Don't delay and miss out on this limited entry event.

## 14th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP

DATE: Sat. Feb. 22, 2020  
TIME: Doors open at 9:00 am until 12:00 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

#### **EUCHRE**

Thank you to Steve and Teresa Couture for hosting the Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> Euchre evening.

Euchre will resume on Sat., Feb. 22nd.

The results of the evening were:

High Lady	Darlene Dawes (78)
High Man	Detlef Von Ruczicki
Most Lone Hands	(4) Wendy, Ken Lee and Tony Dukic
Mystery Lady	Debbie Parker
Mystery Man	Don Parker
50/50	Kay Cormier (\$31.00)

Progressive euchre is a fun filled evening with good company, good cards and a lot of laughter. The games are open to both members and the public. You do not need to have a partner or a foursome to play. There is a light snack served during the break and door prizes at the end of the evening. A donation of a door prize or dessert is always welcome.

The doors open at 6:00 pm with the games starting at 7:00 pm sharp. The cost is only \$ 5.00 per player and is open to the public.

If you are interested in hosting a Euchre night on the fourth Saturday of the month, please speak with Teresa Couture for details. When you host and evening, one of the Executive will be present. Hosts are desperately needed to host an evening throughout the season.

### **ONTARIO HUNTER EDUCATION & BOW-HUNTING COURSES**

Emad Hazboun teaches these courses for a very reasonable cost. He offers a discount if you are a WOFGPA club member.

For more information and the starting date of the next course, please contact Emad by phone at 519-317-4132 or by e-mail at emadhaz@heafs.com or visit his website www.heafs.com

## JIGG'S DINNER

Sat. April 4

Time: Cocktails at 5:00 pm (cash bar) Dinner at 6:00 pm

Cost: \$ 25.00 per adult

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE NOW FOR ADVANCE PURCHASE ONLY UNTIL THURS. MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup> – EXECUTIVE MEETING.

It is a WOFGPA long-standing tradition that the old Executive body serves dinner to the new Executive, the club members and their guests.

This year, the attendees can expect a hearty dinner of corned beef and cabbage, roast beef, potato and veggies and roll with butter. There will also be assorted salads, relish and cheese trays. After dinner, there will be a selection of desserts to enjoy with your tea or coffee. Door prizes will also be available. Entertainment will be provided following your meal.

Teresa Couture, club Secretary, will be at each meeting and function for you to obtain your advance tickets.

Tickets are available now for purchase and will sell out quickly. Advance purchase of tickets is required so that appropriate supplies can be purchased.

### **POND HOCKEY DAY**

George Bray Sports Association (GBSA) is a hockey organization that WOFGPA has sponsored for many years.

It was planned for the junior teams to come to the club on Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>, to experience the thrill of playing a game on pond ice. Unfortunately, this year, the event has been cancelled as the ice is not thick enough.

### **DANGER – THIN ICE**

Ice has formed on the pond and is of uneven thicknesses. Please stay on the docks to fish until the clear ice is at least 10 cm. thick. 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. The ice conditions are 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.

Please close the gates to all docks to keep the geese from venturing onto the property.

The ice around the windmill will always be unsafe due to aeration stones which are marked with buoys. Keep will away from the windmill area.

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 often best to leave your pet at home.

Mark your fishing holes with a flag or small branch – for safety and consideration of others.

Ice derbies will be held throughout the winter months and often on very short notice. If you want telephone notification of scheduled derbies, please leave your name and number with Stan Gibbs. The derby dates will be posted on the website and the Bulletin Boards at the club.

**SPRING FLING**  
**Sat. March 16**

This event has been cancelled for this year due to a family matter. Look for this dinner, dance and silent auction next spring.

**SPRING CLEANUP**  
**Sat. April 18**  
**8:30 am**

Henry Van Eerdewijk will host the annual Spring Clean-up. After the long winter there is much to do about the club to get it ready for spring and warmer temperatures.

Please bring a rake if you have one. More details will follow in the next newsletter.

Lunch and refreshments will be supplied.

**SPRING TROUT DERBY**  
**Sun. April 18**

Members are NOT allowed to fish on the morning of a derby, including before the derby starts. After the derby ends, members may fish with their daily catch limit determined by your membership type.

DATE:	Sun., April 18
TIME:	Register at 7:30
DERBY:	8:00 till noon
COST:	Members                 \$ 15.00
Non-Members	\$ 18.00
Youth	\$ 5.00 (12 and under)

The derby rules will be provided at registration.

Only those anglers participating in the derby will be allowed to fish during the derby.

All fish caught during a derby do not count towards the member's daily limit.

With your registration, you will receive a light lunch and will be eligible to win one of many door prizes available. Prizes are awarded to the winners in both the Adult and Youth divisions.

**EASTER BREAKFAST**  
**Sat. April 11**  
**9:00 till 11:00 am**

Come out to enjoy a great club cooked breakfast. The breakfast is open to members and guests.

The menu for the club breakfast has been changed this year. Your hot and fresh breakfast will consist of sausages, pancakes, scrambled eggs, baked beans, juice and coffee or tea.

The cost is very reasonable at:  
\$ 6.00 Adults  
\$ 5.00 Children (2 to 5 years)  
No charge for children (under 2 years)

There will be colouring pages for the little ones (or the young at heart). The Easter Bunny should arrive around 10:30 am.

**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 evening only.

Please contact the club caretaker, Barb at 519-681-2370 to discuss the amenities and low rental rates and availability of the hall.

The club hall is **not** available for Stag and Doe or "engagement" parties or outdoor weddings.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Following the Annual Election in March the Entertainment group will meet with the Executive to set out the new event calendar for the upcoming year.

Thurs. Jan. 9	General Meeting
Thurs. Jan. 23	Executive Meeting
Sat., Jan. 25	Euchre
Thurs. Feb. 13	General Meeting
Mon. Feb 17	Family Day Ice derby – ice permitting
Sat. Feb. 22	Tackle Swap
	Euchre
Thurs. Feb. 27	Executive Meeting
Sat. Feb 29	Leap Year
Thurs. March 12	General Meeting and Elections
Thurs, March 26	Executive Meeting
Sat. March 28	Euchre
Sat. Apr. 4	Jigg's Dinner
Thurs. Apr. 9	General Meeting
Fri. Apr. 10	Good Friday
Sat. Apr. 11	Easter Breakfast
Sun. Apr. 12	Easter Sunday
Sat. Apr. 18	Spring Clean-up
Sun. Apr. 18	Spring Trout Derby
Thurs. Apr. 23	Executive Meeting
Sat. Apr. 25	Pot Luck Dinner and Euchre

Helping out is also a great way for the new members to meet others in a relaxed and friendly setting when they aren't fishing.

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.



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Murray Howard, President  
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