

FEBRUARY 2023



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	9 General Meeting	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Annual Tackle Swap
19	20 Family Day (STAT) Ice fishing derby	21	22	23 Executive Meeting	24	25
26	27	28				

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9 General Meeting & Elections	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Executive Meeting	24	25
26	27	28	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 2022 - 2023**

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

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Past President

John Manvell 519-455-3627

Committees

Entertainment

Randy Keating (Chair) 519-476-1916

Jeanette Jurasek (Co-chair) 519-685-0237

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Mary Degan 519-438-8104

Valerie Grah 519-453-0659

Julie Thursby 519-473-5506

Diane Waite 519-685-7393

House

Lawrence Lainchbury (Chair) 519-681-7199

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

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

Henry Van Eerdewijk 519-432-4239

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-709-9413

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Rod Cameron 519-685-1377

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

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 Grah 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

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Club Merchandise

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

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.



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

Enjoyable Opportunities

With the start of the new year, and mostly Covid free, your club has planned a number of different functions that might interest you.

In February, we have our Annual Tackle Swap, and our Family Day Ice fishing Derby. Hopefully soon we will be placing the SS Herman on the ice to kick off our 50/50 draw on its sinking. The last two events mentioned are reliant on good ice conditions.

In March is our Annual Elections, this is a good time to get involved in your club, whether it be on the Executive Body or on a committee.

In April we will stock fish, host our Annual Spring Trout Derby, and offer a lasagna dinner where the old executive will recognise the new elected officials.

So mark these dates and come out and enjoy all your club has to offer!

Yours in Conservation
Stan Gibbs-President

WELFARE

Many club members who are not 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.

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.

EUCHRE

Euchre nights have been cancelled due to lack of interest from the membership and the public.

If you have an idea for a function, please bring it to the attention of Randy Keating or Jeanette Jurasek.

ICE DERBIES

Ice derbies may be held but often on short notice. If you wish to be notified, please leave your name and number with Stan Gibbs.

ELECTIONS THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2023 7:30 PM

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive Elections for the 2023 - 2024 term will be held on Thursday, March 9, 2023 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

- All positions will be for a one-year period, covering March 9, 2023 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2024.
- Nomination letters may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 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 to reflect that you are a member in good standing. 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.

FAMILY DAY ICE FISHING DERBY Sat. Feb. 20, 2023

Cost: \$10.00 (open to all)
\$5.00 youth (12 and under)

*Fee includes Lunch

Registration: 7:30am
Fishing: 8:00am until noon
Lunch: 12:00pm until 12:30pm
Prizes Awarded 12:30pm

Rules: Three trout limit, no culling allowed, no minnows, or corn for bait. Combined length determines score.

Prizes for longest combined trout, and biggest non trout species. Adult and youth divisions, 1st 2nd and 3rd

NOTE: Please check www.wofgpa.org for possible cancellations.

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. General meetings are not held in July and August.

The new membership rates (effective April 1, 2021) are:

Family	\$ 160.00
Single	\$ 140.00
Senior	\$ 135.00

There seems to be confusion as to the grace period permitted to pay dues. If your renewal date on your renewal notice is Feb. 1, 2023, then your membership ran from Feb. 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023. Your membership will lapse at the end of February, 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. All membership renewal notices are sent electronically. Only members without an email on file will receive a mailed notice.

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.

17th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP

DATE:	Sat. February 18th
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

POST ELECTION DINNER

Saturday, April 1, 2023

Dinner at 6:00 pm Cost: \$ 25.00 per adult

(The cutoff date for getting your tickets is Thurs., March 9th)

It is a WOFGPA long-standing tradition that the old Executive body serves dinner to the new Executive, the club members and their guests. In previous years, this was the Jiggs Dinner. This year, the attendees can expect a delicious dinner of lasagna, salads and assorted rolls with butter. After dinner, there will be a selection of desserts to enjoy with your tea or coffee.

Along with a fantastic dinner, your ticket will include a chance to win a 4.5-hour walleye fishing charter in June, for 4 adults or 4 adults and 2 children, courtesy of Twin Bridge Charters. Use of fishing equipment is included in the charter. The normal cost of this charter would be \$525.00. No cash value will be offered to the winner.

Jeanette Jurasek, 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. Only sixty-five tickets are available.

Advance purchase of tickets is required so that appropriate supplies can be purchased.

MERCHANDISE

Black mask with embroidered "fish" logo. Cost is \$ 13.00 each or 2 for \$ 25.00. The club has pens, lanyards, T-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, toques, patch crests and key chains available in stock. Custom orders can be placed at any time. Current selection includes larger sized hoodies and T-shirts (sizes up to 3XL). Lined jackets with an embroidered club crest and your name are available as custom orders only.

Randy Keating will be available at all meetings and functions to assist you with your purchase or your custom order.

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.

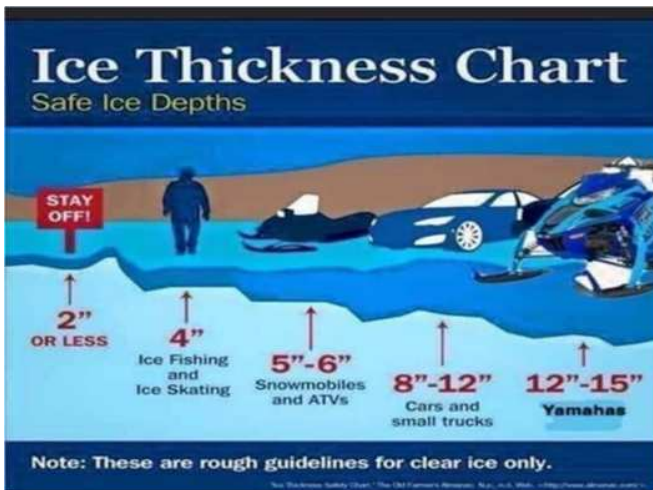
For more information and the starting date of the next course, please contact Emad by phone at 519-317-4132 or by e-mail at emadhaz@heafs.com or visit his website www.heafs.com

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.

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 and not on daytime rentals. Professional bar service is offered in the wet bar. Please contact the club caretaker, Barb at 519-681-2370 to get the low rental rates and availability of the hall.

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

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 frequently

Thurs. Feb. 9	General Meeting
Tues. Feb. 14	Valentines Day
Sat. Feb. 18	Tackle Swap
Mon. Feb. 20	Family Day (STAT)
	Family Day Ice Fishing Derby
Thurs. Feb. 23	Executive Meeting
Thurs. Mar. 9	General Meeting
Thurs. Mar. 23	Executive Meeting
Sat. April 1	Post Election Dinner
Fri. April 7	Good Friday
Sat. April 8	Easter Breakfast
Thurs. Apr. 13	General Meeting
Sat. April 15	Spring Clean up
Sun. April 16	Spring Trout Derby

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.

FOR SALE

If any members wish to sell a watercraft that they no longer use, please contact Stan Gibbs with the details.



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