

JANUARY 2023



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

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Years Day	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 General Meeting	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Executive Meeting	27	28 Euchre
29	30	31				

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 Euchre
26	27	28				

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

Sinking of the SS Herman Fundraiser

In our never-ending search to find unique and fun ways to raise money for our club, we think that the following will be quite interesting.

The objective of this fundraiser is to guess when a canoe that is on the ice will fully sink as a result of natural causes. The canoe will be under 24-hour surveillance by camera. The canoe was formerly owned by the late Hermann Szielasko.

How to participate:

You will be able to purchase one hour time slots for the months of February, March and April. Each day of each month will have 24 x one-hour time slots. All the money collected at time of canoe sinking will be split between the winner and your club. If the winning time slot has not been purchased at the time of the sinking, a winner will be awarded the money by a draw. All contestants that purchase a group of 10 x one-hour slots for \$5.00 will be entered in the draw. For every \$5.00 spent your name will be added once for the draw.

We are going to try and put up a daily pick of the canoe on our web site so that all can observe the status of the craft.

I hope your holidays were enjoyable, and your New Year is a happy, healthy one.

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.

Our wish for healthier days in 2023 for Andre Koch and Mary Degan.

Our heartfelt condolences to Geoff Bradley and his family after the passing of his son Geoff on Dec. 7th.

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.

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. Hopefully this will clarify things for everyone. If your renewal date on your renewal notice is Jan. 1, 2023, then your membership ran from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. Your membership will lapse at the end of January, which is the one-month grace period permitted. At the end of the grace period, you are no longer a member in good standing and 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 which is currently has an estimated 4-5 year wait time.

If you need special consideration regarding payment of dues, contact Val Grahl before your membership lapses. This can be done by telephone or contacting her through the club website. 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 on a scheduled meeting night starting at 7:00 pm. 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 TURKEY ROLL Thurs. Dec. 8th

Our Annual Turkey Roll was successful again this year. Thank you to all the volunteers who assisted throughout the night.

The winners of the turkeys were: Herb Lukings, Rob Orchard, Geoff Bradley, Lawrence Voykin, Tracy McCaw, Brian Allen, Steven Robertson.

The winners of a ham were: Ted Henderson, Jim Ketchabow and Jeff Jurasek.

Door prize winners were: Brian Allen, Gary Carew, Richard Carielo and Steve Gaebel.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Sat., December 10th

Thank you to all the volunteers who assisted with the Annual Breakfast with Santa.

CHRISTMAS TREE SALES

Wow! The club experienced yet another year of lightning speed to sell the 885 Christmas trees that were available in less than 2 weeks. Thank you to Don Colborne and Lou Liberatore for organizing all the tree lot volunteers.

While tree sales were going on outside, Stan Gibbs had a crew to assist him making wreaths and crosses from the live branches. In the basement. No sooner would the wreaths be assembled, Angela Liberatore had volunteers to assist with decorating them.

Kudos to all involved. The Christmas tree lot is the largest fundraiser of the year for WOFGPA and it also keeps membership dues so low.

A special thank you to all the spouses who were left alone at home while their significant other was off to the tree lot.

As you pack up your Christmas decorations for another year, please set aside no longer used decorations (no glass), garland and ribbons. These items can be brought to the club at any time. These trinkets will be used by the wreath brigade in 2023.

TOY DRIVE

This club just keeps astounding its members and the public. Through the generosity of club members of toys and monetary donations, Christmas was merrier for many young children in London.

EUCHRE

Saturday, January 28th

TIME: Doors open at 6:00 pm with the games starting at 7:00 pm

COST: \$ 5.00 per player

Progressive euchre is a fun filled evening with good company, good cards and a lot of laughter. 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.

If you are interested in hosting a Euchre night on the fourth Saturday of the month, please speak with Randy Keating for details. One of the Executive will be always present at Euchre.

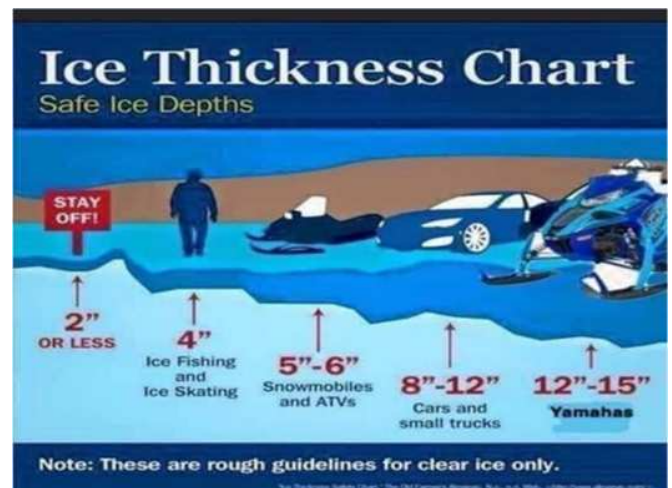
DANGER – THIN ICE

Our winter started out cold and then warmed. Hopefully the weather turns cold and ice forms on the pond.

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.

ICE DERBIES

Traditionally, there has been an Ice derby on Family Day, which is Mon., Feb. 20th this year. If ice conditions are favourable, the derby will go ahead.

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.

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

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

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 but 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. Jan. 12	General Meeting
Thurs. Jan 26	Executive Meeting
Sat. Jan. 28	Euchre

Thurs. Feb. 9	General Meeting
Tues. Feb. 14	Valentines Day
Sat. Feb. 18	Tackle Swap
Mon. Feb. 20	Family Day (STAT)
	possible ice derby depending on conditions
Thurs. Feb. 23	Executive Meeting
Sat. Feb. 25	Euchre

Thurs. Mar. 9	General Meeting
Thurs. Mar. 23	Executive Meeting
Sat. Mar. 25	Euchre

Sat. April 1	Jiggs 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
Sat. April 22	Pot Luck and Euchre

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.



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