

MARCH 2022



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

March 2022

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

April 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 General Meeting	15 Good Friday	16 Easter Breakfast (cancelled)
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Spring Cleanup
24 Spring Trout Derby	25	26	27	28 Executive Meeting	29	30

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

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association
Executive & Committees for 2021 - 2022**

Executive

President

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

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

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

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

Grounds

Henry Van Eerdewijk (Chair) 519-432-4239

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

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 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 519-709-9413

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

DO YOU JUST BELONG?

Are you an active member; the kind that would be missed or are you just content that your name is on the list?
Do you attend the meetings, mingle with the flock or do you stay at home and criticize and knock?
Do you take an active part to help the work along or are you just satisfied to say that you belong?
Do you ever voluntarily help to make things run so slick or leave the work to just a few and talk about their clique?
Come often to our meetings and help with hand and heart, don't just be a member. Take an active part.
Think this over member, you know right from wrong. Are you an active member or do you just belong?
With our elections being this month please be an active member, come out and exercise your democratic right!

Our Annual Elections will follow a short General Meeting on Thurs., March 10, 2022.

Yours in Conservation
Stan Gibbs

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 wish for healthier days ahead is with Kyla Isenor and Bob Smale.

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

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.

A monthly meeting draw is done following the General Meeting on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

ELECTIONS THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022 7:30 PM

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive Elections for the 2022 - 2023 term will be held on Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

1. All positions will be for a one-year period, covering March 10, 2022 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2023.
2. Nomination letters may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 9, 2022, in a sealed envelope addressed to -
Teresa Couture - Secretary – WOF&GPA
RE: Election Nomination
3. 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.

RULES/ REGULATIONS AND CONSTITUTION

If any members would like a copy of WOFGPA's Rules & Regulations or the its Constitution, please contact the club Secretary, Teresa Couture at couture.house@hotmail.com or by telephone.

The club website is www.wofgpa.org

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.

Any of the Executive can assist you at any time.

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 notice is February 1, 2022, then your membership ran from February 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022. Your membership will lapse at the end of February, 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 year wait time.

It is very important that you send any and all changes in mailing address, email or phone number(s) to Val Grahl (Membership Committee). 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.

TAGGED FISH



Ryan Sharpe accepts his prize from Angling Sports for angling a tagged Trout from President Stan Gibbs. Congratulations Ryan!

FAMILY DAY ICE DERBY

Mother Nature was looking out for the almost 70 anglers who came out in the warm sun to enjoy a morning of ice fishing. Everyone present did not mind that the event had to be held outdoors due to gathering limits.

Food and drink delivery to the individual huts was well received. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this derby a success.

The winners of the day were:

Adult Division

1 st place	Ryan Sharpe	117.5 cm
2 nd place	Bruno Pedrech	38 cm
3 rd place	Richard Boal	38 cm

Youth Division

1 st place	Owen Awcock
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<u>Largest Trout</u>	Robert Sharpe
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The Spring Trout Derby will be held on Sun., April 24. Details to follow in the April newsletter.

16th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP NEW DATE AND TIME

DATE:	Sat. March 19, 2022
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

CANCELLED EVENTS

The Jiggs dinner, scheduled for Sat. April 2 and the Easter Breakfast scheduled for Sat. April 16 have both been cancelled for 2022.

Although the provincial rules for gatherings are relaxing, WOFGPA Executive feel that these two events are labor intensive on the part of volunteers and would not be well attended to justify holding these functions.

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. 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 or engagement parties or outdoor weddings and photoshoots.

PHOTOS NEEDED

Many members have expressed concern that the club website does not have many photos or those posted seem a bit outdated.

To address this, Lawrence Lainchbury will post your photos on the club website. He can't post new photos if he doesn't receive any. He would like a variety of pictures so that he can rotate them.

We ask that the photos be of club functions, scenery or local birds and wildlife. Please do not include photos of minor children unless you are the parent or guardian and give this permission to Lawrence in your email.

Each photo must be no larger than 30mB in size.

Send your photo submissions to Lawrence Lainchbury at lw.lainchbury@bell.net

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. In the event that there is a last-minute change, the President will send an email out to the membership.

Many have expressed concerns about gathering in large groups. For this reason, the Executive has decided to forego the Annual Jiggs Dinner, the Easter Breakfast and Euchre nights for the spring.

A new event calendar for the 2022 – 2023 season will be posted once finalized.

Thurs. March 10 General Meeting and Annual Elections
Sat. March 19 Annual Tackle Swap
Thurs. March 24 Executive Meeting

Thurs. April 14 General Meeting
Fri. April 15 Good Friday
Sat. April 16 Easter Breakfast – cancelled
Sun., April 17 Easter Sunday
Sat. April 23 Spring Clean up
Sun. April 24 Spring Trout Derby
Thurs. April 28 Executive meeting

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.

If you wish to join the Executive Body, you must have served on a committee, so get involved. Please contact the Committee Chair to get more information or to join a committee at any time.



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