

OCTOBER 2021



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

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Thanksgiving	11 Thanksgiving Monday	12	13	14 General Meeting	15	16 Fall Trout Derby
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Euchre (tentative)
24 / 31 Halloween	25	26	27	28 Executive Meeting	29	30

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 General Meeting Remembrance Day	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 Fall Cleanup and Tree lot setup
21	22	23	24 Christmas Tree delivery	25 Executive Meeting	26	27 Euchre (tentative) Tree Sales begin
28	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 519-668-2609

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 Grah 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) 519-668-2609

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

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

Gone but not forgotten

Due to Covid-19, most of our events have been on hold for quite some time. The thing I miss most is our fishing derbies. I am happy to inform you that we are going to run our Fall Trout Derby this month (details within this newsletter). This event will be entirely out doors, with the exception of washroom visits.

Over the past year our club has lost 3 very important, long-time, life members: Bert Smit, George Maudsley and Herman Szielasko. These members were very instrumental in shaping our club as it is today. To commemorate their time with our Association, we have come up with a plan that will further their memory. We plan to put in 3 tagged trout with each one assigned with a number that will identify it to one of these men. A prize will be awarded in memory as the fish are caught.

The trout will be stocked on October 9th, 2021 at around 10am, if you are available come out and help. Please wear a mask as we cannot ensure proper spacing. The back dock will be closed after the stocking for the day. However, fishing is allowed and the tagged trout are fair game. Good Luck.

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 thoughts and prayers are with the Pirocchi family after the passing of Aurelio's father, Pietro, in mid-September.

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.

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 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 October 1, 2021, then your membership ran from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021. Your membership will lapse at the end of October, 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.

CANCELLED EVENTS

The province is implementing a plan for opening up again and our return to normalcy. The rules seem to change frequently so be informed of these updates by checking the news, the Ontario government and the Middlesex London Health Unit websites.

We are anticipating that all club event functions will resume although there may be modifications to the way each operates. Some of these changes might include: preregistration, different table set up to ensure 2 metre physical distancing, food and refreshment preparation and event size limits. Some events will not be held. The newsletter, club website, bulletin boards are the main sources of updated information. On occasion, Stan Gibbs **will** send an email to the membership.

At all times, wearing of masks is mandatory at all events and meetings and size limits are in place.

When in doubt, any of the Executive can assist you.



EUCHRE

The September Euchre night has been cancelled but it is our hope that the October Euchre will go ahead as planned. Masks are mandatory.

DATE: Saturday, October 23rd (tentative)
TIME: Doors open at 6:00 pm with the games starting at 7:00
COST: \$ 5.00 per player

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 snacks served and door prizes at the end of the evening. A donation of a door prize is always welcome.

If you are interested in hosting a Euchre night on the fourth Saturday of the month and would like more details, please speak with Teresa Couture. She is available by phone and at Euchre night. When you host an evening, one of the Executive will be present. Hosts are needed to host evenings throughout the season.

FALL CLEAN UP AND TREE LOT SETUP **Sat. Nov. 20 at 8:30 am**

Henry Van Eerdewijk is organizing the annual Fall Clean up before winter arrives. He has a long list. Please bring a rake if you have one. Gloves will be supplied.

At the same time, the tree lot will be set up. The trees will be delivered on Nov. 24 at 9:00 am. Lots of help is needed and many hands make light work.

CHRISTMAS TREE DELIVERY **Wed. Nov. 24** **9:00 am**

Many strong able-bodied people are needed for unloading and stacking the Christmas trees when they are delivered.

Your help with setting up the trees will be much appreciated. The Christmas tree sales is our biggest fundraiser of the year and its success keeps your membership fees as low as they are.

Gloves and refreshments are provided. Come out dressed for the weather.

BIRCH BRANCHES

Stan Gibbs is looking for birch branches to be used for decorating by the Wreath Brigade.

The branches should be about 2 feet long and 1 – 2 inches thick.

FALL TROUT DERBY **Sat., Oct. 16**

Members are not allowed to fish the pond in the morning prior to the start of the derby. Once the derby has ended, everyone is invited to fish and all regular catch limits for your membership type will apply.

Mark your calendar so you don't miss out on the first Fall Trout Derby since 2019. This derby will be held outside to accommodate physical distancing.

This year, there will be 3 tagged fish in memory of the 3 late, lifetime members: Bert Smit, George Maudsley and Hermann Szielasko. There is a cash prize associated with each tagged fish caught to the lucky angler. Please bring the tag to the attention of one of the Executive.

Registration: 7:30 am (NO EARLIER PLEASE)
Derby Times: 8:00 am until Noon
Cost: Members - \$ 15.00
Non-Members - \$ 18.00
Youth (12 & under) - \$ 5.00

The rules are really quite simple.

1. The longest total length of 3 Trout caught will determine the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards in each division. Of course, there will also be the Mystery Fish.
2. Registration includes a hot lunch with refreshments. Your name will also be entered to win one of the many door prizes.
3. During the derby, only registered anglers in the derby will be allowed to fish. Trout caught during the derby will count only for the derby.

Only 4 anglers are permitted on each dock to ensure 2 metre physical distancing.

The first stocking will take place on Sat. Oct. 9 around 10:00 am.

MERCHANDISE

Black mask with embroidered "fish" logo. Cost is \$ 13.00 each or 2 for \$ 25.00. This item is in limited supply.

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.

Andre Koch can be reached at home by phone. Any of the Executive body can assist you at any time.

FISHING ETIQUETTE

Currently, the Executive have determined only 4 anglers are permitted on each dock to maintain 2 metre physical distancing.

Please do not crowd other anglers. Moving a few feet closer will not entice the fish to bite on your line instead of your neighbour's. Junior anglers find it quite intimidating to be crowded. Remember some anglers tend to need a larger area to cast. Fly-fishers are asked to cast in suitable areas and way from other anglers.

The north and the main dock have benches installed. At no time are chairs brought from home or tree stumps used on the docks. Each angler may use only one rod at a time. Culling your catch and the use of live bait is not permitted. If you are fishing on the north dock, be aware that members with boats and canoes have the right-of-way. Please stop fishing or fish elsewhere while they are taking their boat in or out of the water. All anglers in watercraft must wear properly sized PFDs.

All fish can be cleaned at the steel cleaning table by the north dock. We ask that any fish wastes be tossed into the bushes where it will be considered as the "daily delicacy" by resident wildlife. Please rinse the table thoroughly with water when you are done cleaning your catch. The water at the cleaning station is pond water and should not be used for drinking as it is not potable. When done cleaning your catch, use hand sanitizer or wash your hands thoroughly in the washroom.

Observe your daily Trout catch limits as determined by your membership type. Once your daily limit is reached, you must stop angling for the day. Record your catch in the Log book located in the small vestibule on the east side patio area. If you choose to take Black Crappie home, you are permitted to take only enough to for one meal.

HALL RENTALS

Did you know that the WOFGPA hall can be rented for your next "special" occasion for a very reasonable price? Hall rentals cover use of the hall and brick patio area but not the grounds and docks.

At this time, gathering limitations have been imposed by the Ontario government and these limits will be adhered to by WOFGPA. The hall has a maximum seating capacity of 80 persons (pre-pandemic), which makes it just the right size for a small reception, showers, meetings, Anniversary parties, Christmas parties and birthdays. The hall is available to members or their families to get together after the passing of a loved one for a "Celebration of Life". The hall offers full kitchen facilities, except dishwasher. Professional bar service is offered in the wet bar. Members receive a discount on rentals which occur on Friday or Saturday evening only. 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 Engagement and Stag and Doe parties or outdoor weddings and photoshoots.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please remember that General Meetings are not held in July and August. If you have to pay your membership dues during the summer months, make sure that you attend the club at 7:00 pm on the dates provided to you by the Membership Committee.

The Executive is anticipating that our regularly scheduled functions and events will resume starting in September. The Ontario government should release the details of changes as the province proceeds with their re-opening plan. The Executive and Committee Chairs will then finalize event details and it will be posted in the club newsletter, on bulletin boards and the club website.

Mon, Oct 11	Thanksgiving Monday
Sat. Oct. 9	Stocking
Thurs, Oct 14	General Meeting
Sat. Oct. 16	Fall Trout Derby
Thurs, Oct 24	Executive Meeting
Sat, Oct 26	Euchre (tentative)
Thurs. Oct 31	Halloween
Thurs. 11	Remembrance Day General Meeting
Sat. Nov. 20	Fall Clean up and Tree lot set up
Wed. Nov. 24	Tree delivery
Thurs. Nov. 25	Executive Meeting
Sat. Nov. 27	Euchre (tentative)

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.

The club website is www.wofgpa.org

If any members would like a copy of WOFGPA's Rules & Regulations or the Constitution, please contact the club Secretary, Teresa Couture at couture.house@hotmail.com. An electronic copy can be sent to you.



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