

# **HASSOCKS ANGLING**

## **MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

### **FRIDAY 21 OCTOBER 2022**

**30 Members on the signing in book so sufficient for a Quorum**

**1) Opening Address by the Club President John Sach.**

Thanked all for attending and gave a brief History of the club. Confirmed that we are still looking for land/new waters.

**2) Period of silence**

**3) Apologies for Absence**

Tony Smith, Rob Beattie, Nigel Jackson, Hugh Netherway, Mick Burkett, Allan Butcher, James Martin, Richard King, Mike Twinn.

**4) Matters Arising from 2021 Minutes**

Note As there was not a quorum at the 2021 AGM no decisions were possible

Approval of 2021 minutes

**Proposed by Kevin Tree**

**Seconded by Dave Harper**

**Approved by Majority vote**

**5) Proposed rule changes.**

Two proposals via the Committee

1) Amend Angling Rule 4(17) to allow Korda/Guru safe rigs.

Lengthy discussion as to what constituted a running rig with specific reference to helicopter rigs. Final proposal was to amend to include "safe rigs" with more specific wording to be considered prior to the 2023 AGM. **Proposed via the Committee so put to the floor and approved by Majority vote**

2) New Rule "No Braided hook links" Once again a lengthy discussion with comments from Dave Harper that this should be considered on fish welfare grounds. **Proposed via the Committee so put to the floor and approved by Majority vote.**

General discussion. Dave Harper mentioned the type of terminal tackle which has been picked up on work parties and it is clear that members are not abiding by club rules particularly with regard to barbed hooks – not permitted. Stewart Morton suggested some sort of regular educational page on the website. It was agreed that this was a good idea and it was put to Stewart that he should take it up with our Internet Officer, Rob Beattie. We will also mention it to Rob at the next Monthly Committee meeting.

## **6)Election of Board Members (Directors and Non- Executive Officers) etc**

a)Election of Officers. To be voted in "en bloc"

Steve Pead CEO

John Sach President

Greg Brown Treasurer \* see (b) below

Tony Elkins Admin Officer and Maintenance

Jean Fisher Membership Secretary

Roy Fisher Head Bailiff \*\*

Nigel Jackson Junior Liaison Officer, Steve Pead Assistant

Tony Smith Members representative

Amendments to Officers

Steve Pead to replace Colin Skeal as Match Secretary, Assistant Dave Harper

**Proposed by Tony Morris, Seconded by Kevin Tree**

**Approved by Majority vote**

b)Any suggestions for new committee members including any nominations for Treasurer \*

As per the Treasurers Report Greg Brown will be standing down and it was put to the floor for any volunteers. Greg confirmed that he is happy to mentor his successor until he leaves. Interest was expressed. Greg will take forward with the interested party.

c) Formally vote in 2021 new committee members/Officers. Dave Harper as a Committee member and Malcolm York as Assistant Bailiff \*\*.

**Proposed by Tony Morris, Seconded by Kevin Tree**

**Approved by Majority vote**

## **7)Financial Matters**

a)Pegging fees

No increase

**Proposed by Greg Brown, Seconded by Roland Smith**

**Approved by Majority vote**

b)Honoraria/Expenses.

10% increase across the board.

**Proposed by Greg Brown, Seconded by John Sach**

**Approved by Majority vote**

c)2023 Membership fees

No increase

**Proposed by Greg Brown, Seconded by Mick Newman**

**Approved by Majority vote**

Break for refreshments to enable members to read reports

## **8)Any Other Business and Open forum**

100 Club draw for October. Won by Malcolm York

a)Approval of Accounts

Lengthy discussion with regard to the "filleted" accounts which accompanied the Officers Reports.

Tony Morris. The Accounts do not show income and expenditure/turnover figures and members should be able to see what money has gone in and out over the year. It was explained that under the Company rules members do not have a specific right to see accounts – rule 26 but we were happy to provide any information. Greg Brown provided a detailed breakdown of income and expenditure to the floor (from the full set of accounts). In addition it was agreed that a full set of accounts, or at least a breakdown of income and expenditure, would be included at the 2023 AGM.

### **Approval of the Accounts for the Year ending 31 March 2022**

**Proposed by Kevin Tree, Seconded by Stewart Morton**

**Approved by Majority vote**

b) Questions from the floor.

**(i) Greg Brown.** Yearbooks have been discontinued in view of the amount of information that is available through the website. Particular concern was raised with regard to anglers turning up on match days. It was repeated that waters are not closed to members on match days and pleasure anglers can fish a venue after the match pegs have been allocated. Rule 6(5). The Match Calendar can now be downloaded via the Club Website

Jean Fisher will continue to send out Members handbooks to new members until the existing supply runs out.\*

**(ii) Mick Newman.** Could the club provide digital scales as those at Morehouse farm are poor quality. Steve Pead responded. The owner insists that we use his scales and we do have a number of our own digital scales which are used at matches.

**(iii) Kevin Tee and Les Hickman.** As we have not been able to secure land or waters should we not focus on improving the existing waters that we own, Decoy, George Cragg and Badgers Wood. Tony Elkins advised that following the introduction of more bream, roach and barbel, Badgers Wood is now at full capacity with regard to fish stocking and there are no immediate plans to add more fish this winter. We recently added more tench, roach and crucian carp to George Cragg.

There was a general view that winter fishing was very difficult on our still waters and it was suggested that in order to improve winter fishing at Decoy a number of ide should be introduced. There was a general conception that, as we own the water, we should be able to do what we want. Unfortunately this is not the case as there is a set procedure for fish stocking. Each water has a site permit which is registered with the Environment Agency and if a species is not listed on the "Site permit" any reputable fish farmer would not agree to release fish for stocking. Ide are not currently on the Decoy site permit.

As it has been some time since fish were stocked at Decoy (150lb of carp in 2018) it would seem a good time to consider additional fish so Tony Elkins will submit the necessary paperwork to seek an amendment to the existing site permit. If successful we will approach local fish farms for ide and possibly other fish to improve/replace existing stocks.

**(iii) Stewart Morton.**

(a) Pike fishing at Oldmans. There is nothing on the website to say that pike fishing is banned. Confusingly although the website does not refer to pike (removed at the owners request) the old Handbooks still mention pike.\*

We will ask Rob Beattie (Internet Officer) to add a suitable note to the "Waters" section of the website.

(b) Issue with regard to casting across fellow match anglers at Oldmans. Steve Pead advised that the club does not intend holding any more matches at Oldmans.

There are Match Rules which cover Fishing area limits but it was suggested that as those involved are all adults any issues should be dealt with on the day.

(c) How can we encourage junior members. Response from Steve Pead. He met with Graham Mabey (Angling Trust) recently who suggested a number of initiatives to consider as follow ups to our Training days.

(d) Is there scope for a used equipment page on the club website. We will check with Rob Beattie to see if this is feasible.

#### **(iv) John Sach**

(a) Did Steve Pead meet with the owner of Little Decoy with regard to the possible sale of land. Yes he did. John offered his services to attend any future meetings.

(b) Have we heard any more from the Electricity Board with regard to the Electricity Pond. Tony Elkins responded. No

**(v) Tony Elkins.** Reminded all present of the tidy up at Badgers Wood on Saturday 5 November start at 9 o'clock.

Steve Pead closed the meeting with thanks to Burgess Hill Football Club (and Sharon) for the food.

Meeting closed at 10.35

Note for the Committee to consider

\*If we are still sending out the handbooks we may have to consider manual updates to cover any rule changes since the books were last printed in 2021.....And remove reference to pike at Oldmans.