



Kingswood Legionnaires

Welcome to the new look newsletter, welcome to the new river fishing season and welcome to the new Kingswood Legion Angling Club. Yes, it's all change! This is an historic period for our club as we move forward into a new era, embracing opportunities never before deemed possible. For members not already aware, we have secured private fishing rights on a beautiful stretch of the Somerset Frome at Wolverton. From this year, thanks to the Bristol Post Office Angling Club, we will share the tenancy on this unspoilt water, allowing all our members to enjoy organised club matches and free pleasure fishing throughout the season. The 30 peg section of river, stretching over five fields, contains a good head of quality chub and roach, bream, large perch, pike and a few barbel and trout. There is a weir approximately half-way along the length, which has produced weights well in excess of 40lbs. Other important news, affecting our club's future, is the changing of rule 13 of our constitution. Members no longer have to be a paid up member of a Royal British Legion club in order to participate in the fishing club's activities. However, new applicants will only be allowed to join subject to committee approval. A summary of the AGM proposals are listed below.

AGM Proposals and Results

1. To accept the offer, put forward by Bristol Post Office Angling Club, to share the usage and cost of the water on the Somerset Frome at Wolverton. Passed unanimously.
2. Membership of the K&H RBL AC to open to all, irrespective of their allegiance but subject to committee approval. Passed by majority vote. 1 abstention.
3. That the golden peg 'kitty' be used to offset the cost of rent for the Somerset Frome. Votes: 6 for - 5 against - 1 abstention. Motion carried.
4. That the runner-up trophies be dropped from the list of prizes. Amendment: That the runner-up trophies be awarded only on club point matches. Votes: 8 for - 3 against. Amendment passed.
5. That the individual points system be changed to a fairer system of: 1st = 1 point, 2nd = 2 points, 3rd = 3 points etc. Amendment: That the points system be changed to points awarded to the top ten positions only. 1st = 10 points, 2nd = 9 points, 3rd = 8 points etc. 11th position = 0 points. Amendment passed unanimously.
6. That the rule of having to attend the first match to enter the aggregate pairs be changed. Passed unanimously. (The first aggregate pairs qualifying match will now start from the second match of the season).

The What's, Whys and Wherefores

It's no secret that our club membership has been locked in a downward spiral of decline. During the past 4 to 5 years, we have experienced a growing trend towards apathy, in respect of match attendances and support in general. The obvious effect of fewer members, attending competitions, is the dwindling income.

Consistently poor turn outs at our presentation socials, sadly led to its abandonment. The lack of interest in the organised coach

outings, forced the committee to pull the plug. The subsidised Christmas match is also under threat. Where will it end? Brian's decision to resign from organising the Poppy match and Pairs National will have a substantial 'knock on' effect on the club's finances. When you consider all that's been happening in the past few years, and all that will happen in the next two, the changes that have recently been proposed and accepted, can only be good for the club and its future survival. It's a case of adapt and change or die!

We as a committee, hope we can reverse the negative trend by offering our existing members a rare opportunity to experience some good private fishing. Also, by changing the rules on club membership, we hope to recruit new members from the angling fraternity as a whole. Only time will tell on this one.

Other News

- All club officers have been re-elected, with the addition of Clive Pursehouse onto the committee.
- This year's club subscriptions will remain unchanged at £5 and £3 respectfully. The cost of our club's share of the rent for the river Frome will be met from club funds.
- Our former president, Charlie Coombes was recently involved in a car accident not far from his home. Both the car and Charlie were written off. (Don't worry, Charlie was pronounced 'alive and kicking' at the scene).
- Thinking of going over to the Nether Netherlands for a spot of how's your father? If you take your fishing rod, be sure to buy a licence. As Brian can testify, the Dutch 'old bill' are pretty hot on offenders, dishing out on the spot fines of 80 Euros (just under £50) - Luckily he was in possession.
- Our first match is at Limpley Stoke. Draw in the field at 8am. **Please note** there will be a £1 parking charge per car.
- Next match Pawlett Ponds.
- Next club meeting July 4th

All for now - Have a good season