

Match Rules

These rules are additional to the General Rules printed in the Members Handbook

1. Rules of fisheries other than those controlled by D5JAC will take precedent over and above these rules
2. D51AC matches are only to be fished by current members of MAC,
3. The start time for matches will be displayed in the club book; this may be changed where necessary by the match organiser at the venue.
4. The duration of club matches will be 5 hours for summer Matches and 4 hours for Winter Matches unless stated in the membership book or notified at least 72hrs before the match by the Match Organiser.
5. All matches must be a Pegged down competition.
6. Each member on drawing their peg may proceed to the corresponding numbered peg on the bank which will be considered their fishing ground. The peg must remain in position until after the weigh in.
7. Each competitor must fish within ONE metre either side of their designated peg, on flowing water the competitor must fish in the direction of flow as far as up to ONE metre prior to the next peg. On still waters they may fish as far as half the distance between their peg and the next competitors peg on either side. Where competitors are drawn on opposite banks the limit of the swim is a line midway between each bank.
8. The competitor will restrict all their activities within the boundaries of their peg and must not intrude into their neighbours swim. In extreme cases where this is unavoidable, prior agreement must be sort from the match organiser,
9. A competitor must not cause annoyance to, or seek to interfere with any other competitor and must at all times act in a sporting manner_
10. Members are restricted to only one entry and must not move their peg or exchange it with another competitor without the express agreement from the match organiser,
11. Members must retain all fish in Keepnets that comply with relevant EA byelaws. Members must take every practical step to keep their fish alive, and after weighing in must ensure their careful return to the water. If for any reason fish are seen to be in distress a club official or the match organiser has the right to demand that they be weighed immediately and returned to the water during the match.
12. A competitor shall have only one rod or pole, one line and single hook in use in the water at one time, but may have other rod's or poles and tackle assembled for use in position at their peg.
13. Any bait subject to fishery rules may be used except live or dead fish, frogs, spinning baits or artificial lures, No member shall have live Or dead fish in their possession before a match, all competitors must submit to a search if requested by the match organiser or Club Official. (This rule shall not apply during organised club Pike matches)
14. Members may receive assistance for themselves and/or their tackle to and from their peg.
15. Before the starting signal no competitor shall ground bait or feed the swim, but is allowed to wet a line, plumb the depth, test the float, mix and wet ground bait, clear their peg and swims of weed or obstructions and position their equipment.
On no account must a baited feeder be used before the starting signal, anyone found doing so will be disqualified.
A weight may be cast to find depth and distance, but at no time must the line be left in the water whilst continuing to set up other tackle.
16. Bait may be thrown in by hand or by use of a catapult, throwing stick, swim feeder, bait dropper, bait cup or pot, but must only be done from the competitors peg. Anglers may feed their swim

using a separate pole or bait dropper while continuing to fish. No other mechanical means are allowed.

17. All hooks (barbed/barbless/size) will be governed by the fishery rules.
18. Braid hook lengths are not permitted
19. Maximum permitted length of Poles is 16 metres.
20. Floating Poles are not permitted,
21. A competitor must strike, play and land their own fish.
22. Fish must not be bullied by using inappropriate heavy elastic, through pole top kits or stripping excessive amounts of heavy elastic out of pulla bungs or pulla kits. Handling of elastics and or line from the top of pole kits to land fish is not permitted unless the end tackle becomes snagged.
23. Keepnets **to be laid on the bank for a minimum of 15 minutes prior to the match**, (as dry nets do not spread diseases,) nets should be dipped if dipping tanks are provided. Fish should not be handled with dry gloves or dry towels.
24. Size of fish, quantity and species kept in Keepnets will be governed by fishery rules. On DSJAC club waters the maximum allowed per net is 50lbs. At Horseshoe Lake a minimum of two nets are required, Carp and Tench may be mixed in one net and Silvers in another, the club weight limits will apply.
25. A competitor must cease fishing at the finishing signal, should they be playing a fish hooked before the signal was given, they will be allowed no more than 15 minutes extra time in which to land the fish.
26. Subject to club rules all fish caught are eligible for weighing in. Where it is suspected that a fish has been weighted or any fish considered suspicious by the Stewards/Weighers it must be presented to the Match Organiser or Club Official, the competitors weight will not be confirmed until a ruling has been obtained, in all cases where any competitor is disqualified their catch will be weighed and recorded in case of an appeal.
27. All catches will be weighed to the nearest half ounce or twenty grammes.
28. Each competitor will be responsible for ensuring the correct weight of their catch is recorded by the Stewards. In any dispute the decision of the Match organiser shall be final.
29. All fish will be weighed at the competitors peg unless the bankside terrain renders this impractical, no catch should be carried more than 10 metres to the scales.
30. Any objection to a competitors conduct for whatever reason must be notified to the competitor concerned as early as possible during the match and to the match organiser or Club Official within 30 minutes of the match finishing signal. The competitor concerned will be asked to explain their conduct. The match organiser or Club Official will then consider the complaint and make a decision accordingly_
31. Any club member who is in receipt of SPONSERSHIP from any fishing tackle, bait supplier or any other commercial company is not permitted to fish in club matches.
32. All the foregoing rules are subject to local and Environment Agency byelaws.