

Swallowfield Fishing Club

Club Rules and Match Rules

Revised 2010
Last Updated May 2017

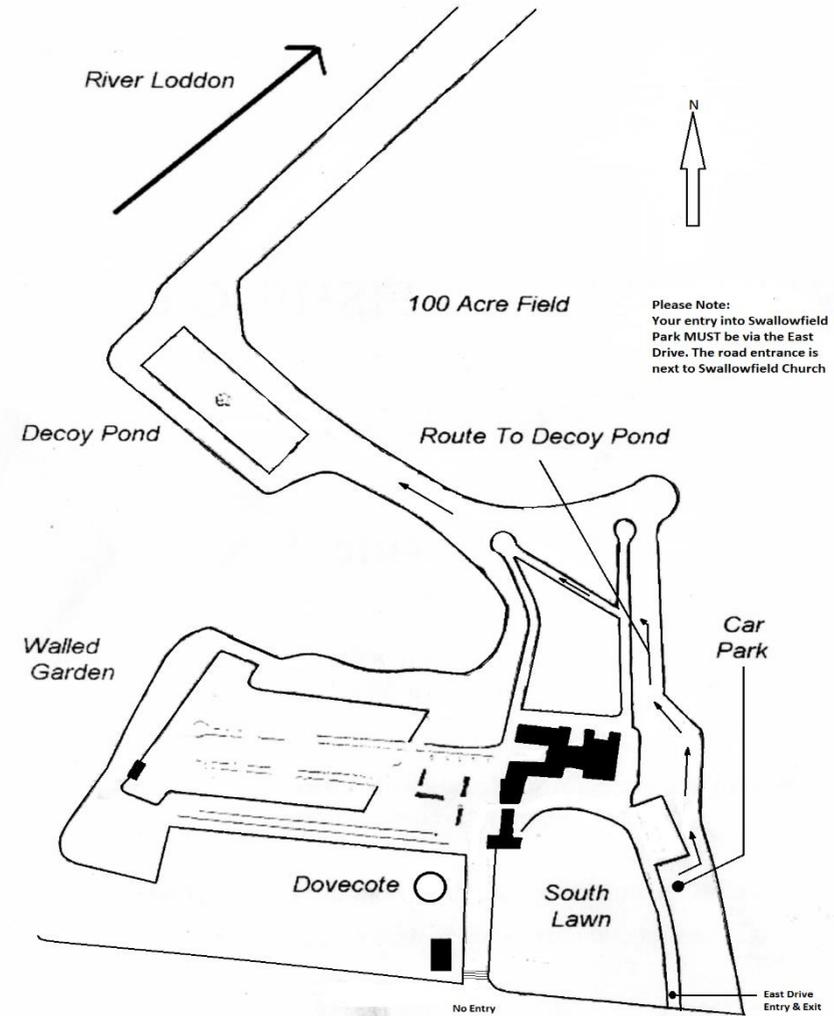
All members are Club Water Keepers. Please check other anglers' permits and be ready to present your own permit if asked to do so.

- Please use barbless hooks.
- Take special care in areas with overhead power lines.

Chairman:	Barney Fairbrother	07849834844
Secretary:	Rebecca Featherstone	07920092107
Treasurer:	Le Atkins	07711017557
Membership Sec:	David Randall	07941794154
Match Sec:	Dave Shears	07903689458

Local Environment Agency Offices: 0845 933 3111

Decoy Pond Access and Parking



Please note: The main entrance to Swallowfield Park now has an electric gate. We CANNOT give out the gate code except in exceptional circumstances. Access for cars MUST be via the East Drive next to Swallowfield Church. This will bring you to the car park on the East side of "South Lawn" in the above diagram. Do Not worry about the "No Exit" when you leave via the East Drive. If any gates are closed on your way in or out please close them behind you.

Swallowfield Fishing Club Rules

1. These Rules refer to all fishing on Swallowfield Fishing Club (SFC) waters. Additional Rules govern the conduct of inter and intra club fishing matches.
2. The Club Rules and Match Rules reflect the Constitution of SFC. This promotes angling, good fellowship and the preservation of a local amenity for the Parishioners of Swallowfield and surrounding areas.
3. Anglers may only fish on the Loddon and Blackwater rivers during the course-fishing season for flowing waters – 16 June to 14 March inclusive.
4. Anglers may fish with one or two rods on the rivers. Anglers fishing the Decoy Pond must only use one rod. All anglers including members, guests and visitors must have a valid Environment Agency rod licence before they start to fish.
5. Anglers must not use lead shot larger than number eight or lead weights of any form that weigh less than 57 grammes.
6. SFC waters are divided into the beats shown on the back of these Rules. Anglers must only fish within the boundaries of these beats.
Please note: there is no beat one.
7. If a fishing match is taking place, Anglers not taking part in the match should fish the other beats.
8. Anglers must not disturb other anglers or cause annoyance to local residents. Anglers must use the gates provided for access to and within Swallowfield Park and not climb over any fence. Anglers must not fish from any bridge.
9. All anglers should carry their membership card and permit at all times when on Club waters and be prepared to produce them if asked to do so.
10. SFC will provide fishing permits free of charge to persons nominated by our landlords. Anyone so nominated will be entitled to fish all SFC waters and matches and will be expected to comply with these Rules.
11. Club members may take one or more guests to fish our waters provided they purchase a guest ticket for each of them in advance. Guest tickets are available from the Club Secretary or other Club Official. Guests must have a valid Environment Agency rod licence and must comply with all Club Rules. Club members must accompany their guests at all times. Guests may not fish in Club matches.
12. Access to the rivers is through the gate from the Parish Hall car park. Anglers must not climb any fence, walk across cultivated fields or disturb any farming activities.
13. Anglers must not throw litter in the water or leave any litter anywhere on Club waters or adjoining land. Anglers should take home their own litter, including discarded fishing line, and any litter they find on the bank.

14. Anglers must not use any form of radio or audio equipment that another person could hear.
15. Anglers must not take dogs onto SFC waters.
16. Anglers must not light fires.
17. Anglers must close all gates behind them and lock those that have Club padlocks.
18. Anglers must not remove any fish of any species from Club waters except with the prior approval of the Committee.
19. The parents or guardians of Colt members must sign their membership application and take responsibility for the actions of the Colt member. This includes reimbursing the Club for any loss or damage the Colt may cause.
20. The parents or guardians of Colt members must decide whether to allow them to fish unaccompanied or at night. The committee may reject applications from Colt members who cannot swim.
21. Members who indulge in unruly behaviour or any conduct that goes against the Constitution, Rules or spirit of SFC may have their membership suspended or be expelled from the Club at the discretion of the Committee.
22. Keep nets and landing nets must be made of knot-free mesh. Keep nets must be of a minimum diameter of 45cm (18in) and a minimum length of 2.5m (8ft). All anglers must release any fish they have in keep nets **before** moving to another swim. Anglers may keep fish in nets for a **maximum** of six hours after which they **must** release them.
23. Anglers must not use hand lines or gaffs.
24. Anglers must not do anything that endangers wildlife.
25. **Parking:** Anglers fishing the Blackwater or Loddon should park in the Parish Hall car park, but please note this is locked at 11:00 pm. Anglers fishing the Decoy Pond only may park in the car park shown on the Decoy Pond map. Registered disabled anglers with a valid disabled parking badge displayed in their car may, at the discretion of our landlords, park in the lay-by next to Pitts Bridge provided there is room for them to do so. Anglers must not park in the grounds of Swallowfield Church or anywhere else in Swallowfield Park.
26. SFC members and their guests who fish the Club's waters do so entirely at their own risk.
27. Anglers must not use live fish as bait.
28. Wading or swimming is not allowed.
29. No Tents or Bivvies.

Additional Rules Specific to the Decoy Pond

1. All existing and future SFC General and Match Rules apply.
2. A maximum of twelve anglers may fish the Decoy Pond at any one time.
3. A maximum of twelve cars may use the Decoy Pond car park at any one time.
4. All anglers must have their SFC membership card and permit, or guest ticket if applicable, with them at all times.
5. Anglers must only use the path to the Decoy Pond shown on the map.
6. Fishing is allowed between 08:00 and 20.00 and only then during daylight hours. Fishing before sunrise or after sunset is not allowed. Anglers must not arrive at the Decoy Pond or car park before 08:00 and must leave by 20:30 or sooner if it gets dark.
7. Anglers **must** use barbless hooks only.
8. Anglers must park their cars in the designated car park and not exceed the speed limits displayed. Please respect the residents of Swallowfield House, many of whom are elderly.

Note: Please make sure that you will not exceed the maximum number of anglers allowed before you start to fish. This is to minimise any disturbance to the residents of Swallowfield House. Please see the map for access routes and parking.

9. If you wish to photograph fish catches, please make sure that your photographic equipment is ready to hand.
10. No litter to be left anywhere.
11. No Alcohol.
12. No Fires
13. Fish from the marked pegs only.
14. 1kg groundbait (dry weight) per angler per session.
15. Feed pellets should be of the coarse or carp variety (low oil content), Trout & Halibut pellets (high oil content) may be used as hook baits only.
16. No Dog or Cat meat.
17. No cereal, seed or nut based baits, with the exception of sweetcorn, maize & hemp.
18. Any unused bait must not be thrown into the lake – Take it home !!
19. No Tackle to be left unattended.
20. No fixed leads.
21. Keepnets may be used but must be completely dry before being used. This is to minimise the transfer of disease.

22. No fish over 1lb to be put in keepnets.
23. No carp sacks
24. Unhooking mats to be used at all times.
25. No braided main line.
26. No method feeders.
27. One rod per angler.
28. No bite alarms
29. Fish must be weighed in a wetted sling or landing net.
30. Please do not fish to more than half way across the lake from your peg.

Swallowfield Fishing Club Match Rules

1. Paid up members of Swallowfield Fishing Club are entitled, and encouraged, to take part in all Club matches.
2. The organisation and conduct of fishing matches on SFC waters shall always be in keeping with the Club's Constitution – in particular the promotion of angling, good fellowship and the preservation of a Parish amenity.
3. Competitors must observe all SFC General and Match Rules. During away matches, the host Club's or other water's rules will apply.
4. All competitors wanting to fish the Golden Peg Match at the end of the current season, **must** have fished at least 10 matches throughout the current season and not be in arrears with fees related to the Golden Peg Match.
5. Until the match has ended, only competitors may fish the beats allocated for the match on that day. Beats for non-competitors will be shown on a map displayed in the Parish Hall car park.
6. Competitors found in breach of the Rules should be reported to the match stewards or directly to the Committee.
7. The Committee may disqualify any competitor who breaches the Rules. Any such case, and the sanctions applied, will be dealt with individually.
8. Points scored (see Rule 27) in the designated number of matches (currently 10) will count towards the Club Championship. In the event of a tie the competitor with the most first places, or if equal second places and so on, will gain the higher place.
9. There shall be two age-related match-fishing sections. All SFC members aged 18 or over on 16 June in any given year shall fish in the Adult section. SFC members aged 17 or younger on 16 June shall fish in the Colts section.
10. Colt members may not transfer to the Adult section during the course of a season.

11. Inter and intra club matches may be pegged or roving.
12. All competitors shall draw a number to determine the peg they shall fish or, in the case of 'rover' matches, the order they walk off.
13. If a Colt thinks that their peg is un-fishable they should tell a steward. If the steward agrees the Colt may draw another peg. An Adult competitor will only be allowed to draw another peg in exceptional circumstances and at the steward's discretion.
14. A list of stewards will be drawn up at the start of the season. At least two stewards will be identified at each match.
15. Match stewards will be responsible for the draw, distribution of scales, collection of results and arbitration of any complaints.
16. Competitors must fish within 2m (6ft) of their peg and must not disturb any other competitor. Stewards who are fishing the match may visit other pegs if necessary.
17. Competitors must use only one rod, line and hook at any one time. Other rods and tackles may be assembled and ready for use but the hooks must not be baited.
18. Any hook or ground bait may be used except live or dead fish, spinning baits or artificial lures unless these are specifically permitted for the match in question.
19. Pike fishing matches may be organised from time to time and specific rules for these matches will be announced on the day.
20. Without contravention of any other Rules, particularly those pertaining to fish retained in nets, the weight of all course fish, except pike, caught and retained at the end of the match will count: any pike, trout, grayling or salmon must be returned to the water immediately.
21. Adult competitors must play and land their own fish. Colts may have assistance landing a fish from another person.
22. Fish may only be retained in a keep net made from knot-free mesh with a minimum diameter of 45cm (18in) and a minimum length of 2.5m (8ft). Some venues will require the use of two keepnets, one for carp and the other for silver fish.
23. Before the start of any match, the water surface may only be broken to wet ground bait, position a keepnet, plumb the depth and to shot floats. Competitors must not bait their hooks until the starting signal.
24. Wading is not allowed in matches or at any other time on SFC waters.
25. Catches shall be weighed at the end of the match. Any competitor who has litter lying in their swim will not have their catch weighed and may be

disqualified. Competitors are responsible for ensuring that the match steward records their catch weight correctly.

26. Competitors must not move any individual fish or any fish in nets from the peg where they are caught.
27. In exceptional circumstances (for instance, flooding) the match stewards may decide to relocate the match or abandon it entirely.
28. Points will be awarded as follows.

	Points	Total
For drawing a peg	1	1
For weighing in	1	2
Plus for:		
10 th place	1	3
9 th place	2	4
8 th place	3	5
7 th place	4	6
6 th place	5	7
5 th place	6	8
4 th place	7	9
3 rd place	8	10
2 nd place	9	11
1 st place	10	12

- Note:** If competitors tie for any position in the top ten, then all subsequent places will increase by the numbers involved in the tie or ties. The best 10 places for each competitor will decide the Club Championship for that year.
29. The Club's match fishing policy, the programme of matches and the Rules governing them shall be presented to the appropriate Annual General Meeting.
 30. Notwithstanding Rule 28 and in keeping with the SFC Constitution (item 11b) the Committee, acting in the interests of all SFC members, may in exceptional circumstances revise the programme of matches and the Rules which govern those matches.

Useful Details:

Environment Agency Hotline – 0800 80 70 60

Club Website - <http://www.swallowfieldfishingclub.co.uk>

Fish Legal - Eastwood House, 6 Rainbow Street, Leominster, HR6 8DQ, Tel: 01568 620447

Angling Trust - Eastwood House, 6 Rainbow Street, Leominster, Herefordshire HR6 8DQ
Tel: 0844 7700616

Woodley Tackle Box
181 Wokingham Road, Reading RG6 1LT

Tel No: 0118 926 9183

Thames Valley Angling
258, Kentwood Hill, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire. RG31 6DR

Tel No: 0118 942 8249

Tadley Angling
Padworth Road, Padworth Common, Berkshire. RG7 4QG

Tel No: 01189701533

Steve's Fishing Cabin
12 Great Hollands Square, Bracknell, Berkshire. RG12 8UX

Tel No: 01344 311777

Maidenhead Bait & Tackle
11 Station Parade, Station Hill, Cookham, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 9BR.

Tel No: 01628 530500

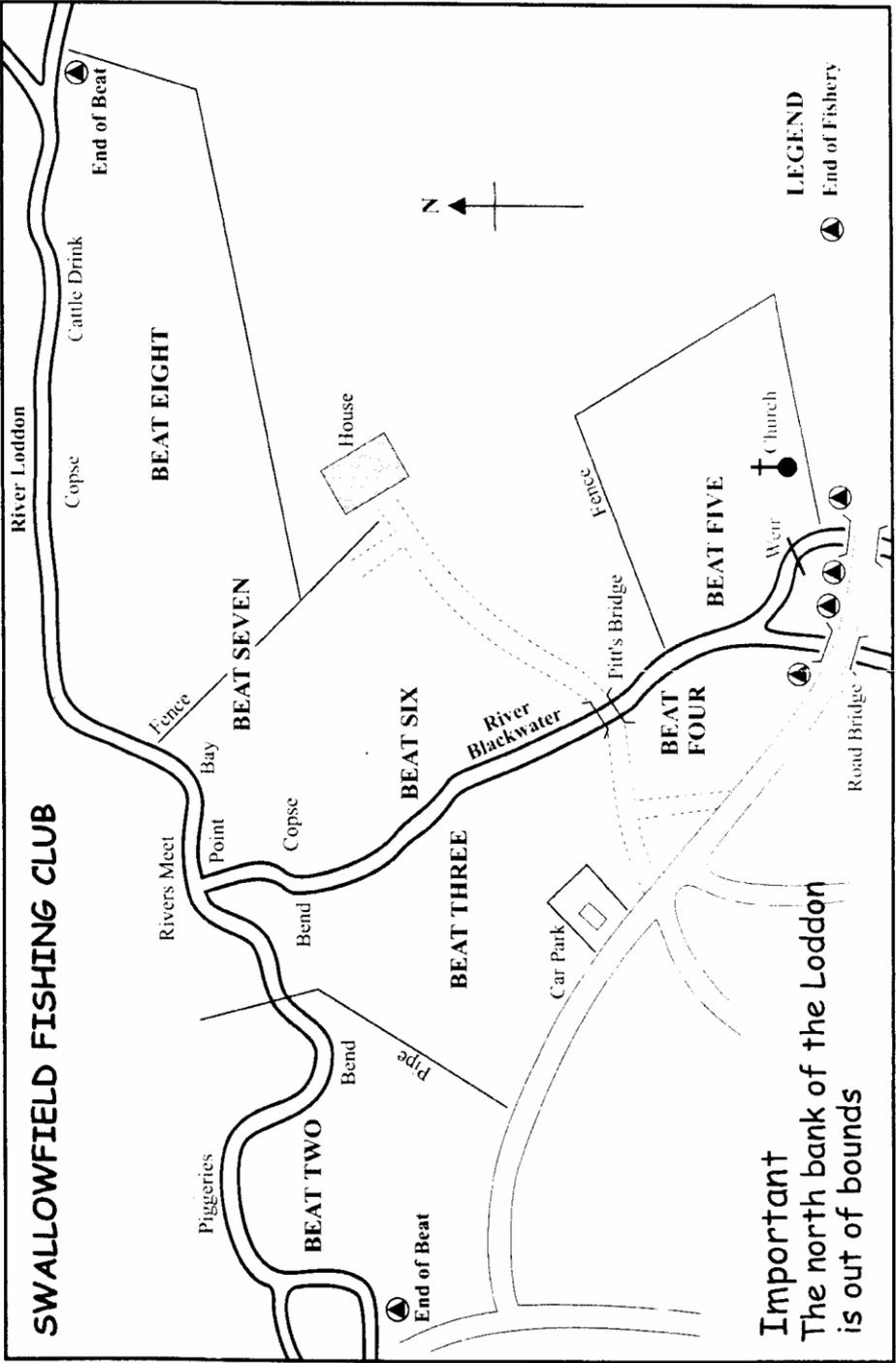
Angling Direct
Unit 9, The Io Trade Centre, 8 Deacon Way, Reading RG30 6AZ

Tel No. 0118 941 2896

Crowthorne Angling
91-95 Church Street, Crowthorne, Berkshire. RG45 7AW

Tel No: 01344 777411

SWALLOWFIELD FISHING CLUB



Important
The north bank of the Loddon
is out of bounds