



# Grantham Angling Association 2026/27 (iss1)

## Association Main Rules

- 1 The Association waters are open all year, with the exception of the coarse fishing stretches of River Witham which are closed completely between March 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> June. GAAFFS waters will be closed from October 30<sup>th</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>\*. All dates inclusive. There are no day tickets on GAA waters, members only.(GAAFFS members to contact the secretary. \* GAAFFS members can fly fish only the River Witham at Marston during the coarse fishing close season.
- 2 No match, sweepstake or competition whatever to take place On Association waters, except by sanction of the Committee. No Pike Fishing (any method including spinning, whether for pike or perch) until October 1<sup>st</sup>, ending 14<sup>th</sup> March on Denton Reservoir.
- 3 a) An adult member or responsible adult member with parental consent may take children fishing on GAA waters, providing that the children are under 14 years of age. This said member being fully responsible for the children in their charge. To maintain a safe environment, no more than 2 qualifying children to be allowed to fish at any one time whilst in the charge of the parent or responsible adult. This allows them to take qualifying children fishing on GAA waters without the need for the child to be a GAA member. In the case of QE Park, children and junior anglers are only allowed to fish whilst under the instruction from an adult member. The adult member is not allowed to fish, only to observe, help and instruct the child or junior angler.  
b) Full junior membership commences at the age of 14 years, (see rules 15 & 16)  
c) The age at which adult membership commences is now set at 17 years on the day of purchasing a membership book.
- 4 The Committee reserve the right to place any GAA waters or stretch of water out of bounds at any time if found desirable.
- 5 Not more than two rods to be used on any GAA waters at any one time, and distance between rods not more than two meters, except for Denton reservoir were 3 are permitted, and QE park which is limited to 1 rod,
- 6 Any member suspecting any person or persons of illegally netting or fishing the Association waters are required to report the same to the Water Bailiffs, or any Committee member.
- 7 Camping on the banks of any GAA waters is strictly forbidden. No fires to be lighted on the banks, fishing or not fishing. No boats of any kind. No swimming.
- 8 No member (fishing or non-fishing) to carry firearms of any description, (excluding nominated environmental control officers). Failure to comply, the member will be expelled for life.  
Access shall only be gained by official access points, close all gates and use all stiles where provided.
- 9 Strictly no damage to the banks and bankside vegetation, (i.e., digging the banks and pruning trees).
- 10 No fish of any species to be taken away from GAA waters this excludes officially sanctioned GAA/EA Nettings or stockings, and members of GAAFFS whilst on officially recognized GAAFFS waters. No gaffs to be used.
- 11 No tins (i.e.) sweetcorn or luncheon meat, to be taken to GAA waters. No Dogs (except at Denton). No bad language. No Braided line.
- 12 No member to leave litter, of any description. Any angler caught leaving litter will be dealt with under Rule 27.
- 13 All fish caught must not be held in cloths wet or dry. An adequately sized unhooking mat must be used for the unhooking and safe return of all Carp and Pike. All Grayling, Carp and Barbel to be returned to the water and not retained in keep nets or carp sacks, EXCEPT IN MATCHES
- 14 If you must take a radio or music player, see that only you can hear it.
- 15 Juniors may only fish the River Witham if accompanied by an adult member.
- 16 Juniors are not allowed to fish live bait in any Grantham Waters unless accompanied by an adult member of the Association and are being taught this form of angling.

- 17 No angler must walk away and leave baited tackle in the water.
- 18 No fish shall be brought to GAA waters. This does not include official netting parties.
- 19 When fishing for pike or perch, anglers are allowed to catch fish to use as live bait from the water in which they are fishing. Providing that they do not exceed 20cm in length. Anglers are not allowed to bring or take away any course fish (alive or dead) whilst fishing GAA waters. This also includes shop bought course fish.
- 20 Bailiffs have the authority to order any angler pike fishing without suitable equipment to cease fishing for pike forthwith.
- 21 ANY FISHERMAN WHO INTERFERES WITH THE SPORT OF OTHER MEMBERS WHO ARE FISHING BY CASTING CLOSE TO OR INTO THEIR SWIMS WILL BE EXPELLED FROM THE ASSOCIATION. THIS PARTICULARLY APPLIES TO SPINNING FOR PIKE AND PERCH.
- 22 The committee will not tolerate any behaviour which jeopardises any lease to any GAA waters.
- 23 GAA FISHING TIMES- "No night fishing on GAA waters, anglers are only allowed to fish during the hours of daylight". In addition to this, anglers are not to be on the landowner's property during the hours of darkness. Denton reservoir has its own fishing times as set by the Welby Estate (see Denton specific rules). GAAFFS (Grantham Angling Association Fly Fishing Section) members are allowed to fish from 1 hour before sunrise until 1 hour after sunset, on waters controlled by GAAFFS. Any angler found breaking the rules may face disciplinary action by the Association.
- 24 No line of less than 10lb breaking strain may be used when fishing for Pike.
- 25 Any infringement of these rules, the member can be Fined, Banned or Expelled; any failure to pay the fine will result in immediate expulsion.
- 26 There will be no re-instatement to membership following a life ban. Following the decision made at the AGM of 2009 a life ban is permanent.
- 27 As a condition of membership all members must always carry a valid Environment Agency Rod License when fishing, and this must be made available on request for inspection by an official GAA Bailiff. Failure to produce the license may result in the angler being asked to leave the water, and they will be banned from fishing all GAA waters until proof of a license is given to the GAA Secretary.

We cannot afford to lose the fishing on any of our waters, so please remember that **ALL Members are Bailiffs of the Association**, you are the eyes and ears of the Association please report any behavior or actions which may put our leases in jeopardy. Please take your litter home and tidy up your swim before leaving the water. **THE COMMITTEE ON BEHALF OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING INTEND TO ENFORCE THE RULES AND CONSTITUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION TO THE FULLEST EXTENT.**

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## The water specific rules below are in addition to the main rules.

### Queen Elizabeth Park

#### Additional to the main rules

This Pond is for the use of Senior and Disabled anglers, also juniors under supervision or instruction from adult members and are in addition to the General rules.

- 1 Barbless hooks only, maximum hook size 14, maximum breaking strain of line 6lbs or 2.7 kg.
- 2 Only 1 rod is allowed to be used at any one time.
- 3 Juniors must be always accompanied by a responsible adult member, when fishing and under instruction.
- 4 If a junior angler is fishing under instruction, then only the junior angler is allowed to fish with the tackle, the instructor is only allowed to demonstrate fishing 'techniques', but not allowed to fish with the tackle themselves, they may also help the junior land fish and unhook them.
- 5 Junior membership:  
<https://get-fishing-licence.service.gov.uk/buy>

## Simon's Pond Fulbeck.

### Additional to the main rules

When entering through the Memorial gate entrance.

Site Access details: If locked then always lock it behind you.

If the gate is open and locked to the side post, then drive straight through. If the gate is locked or shut with the gate not locked, then lock it behind you on entering or leaving the site. If on entering or leaving the site and the entrance gate is open but not locked to the side post, then lock it behind you. When the pallet yard is working, they will lock the gate to the side post, as will the farmer if working on site.

Please do not drive through the pallet yard on the left-hand side. Beware of forklift trucks and farm machinery.

Drive up to and over the bridge. Carry on and follow the signs.

At the runway turn left, drive up to the trees and turn left, drive towards the pallet yard and turn right to the pond, if the gate is open drive through and park. Last angler to leave the pond is to ensure that the gate is locked as you leave.

- 1 Entrance is via the memorial gate only, do not enter unless you have a key.
- 2 The rest of the airfield is out of bounds, any member found wandering around the airfield will face disciplinary action.
- 3 The main entrance gate must be left as stated in the Fulbeck access instructions, under no circumstances leave the gate unlocked for somebody following you in or out.
- 4 Do not drive through the Pallet yard.
- 5 The new gate at the pond entrance; whilst anglers are fishing the gate can remain open, if you are the last angler to leave make sure the gate is locked behind you.
- 6 Fishing is during the hours of daylight only. No night fishing. All anglers must be off the airfield before dark.
- 7 Barbless hooks only, use unhooking mat for larger fish. All net fish are to be placed into the keepnet directly from the landing net. (See rule 12).
- 8 The following baits are banned, all types of nuts.
- 9 A Maximum of 1kg of ground bait and a maximum of 2 pints of loose feed per day. Leave no litter.
- 10 All Tins containing fishing baits such as sweetcorn, meat, hemp etc, are not allowed on the bank. Leave no litter.
- 11 All juniors must be accompanied by an adult.
- 12 No Carp, barbel, chub to be retained in keepnets except during sanctioned matches.
- 13 For GAA sanctioned matches, carp and silver fish must be retained in separate keepnets.
- 14 Do not interfere with the sport of other anglers. All anglers are reminded that when fishing, you only fish your own peg and do not cast into or across other anglers' swims. Use common sense.
- 15 Rules regarding which fish can be retained in keepnets are posted on the notice board at the entrance to the water and are subject to alteration.
- 16 Check the notice board before fishing, for match updates and or closures. Also check the web site [www.granthamanglingassociation.co.uk](http://www.granthamanglingassociation.co.uk) for updates.

## Denton Reservoir.

### Additional to the main rules

Please note these times are set by Welby Estate, not GAA and must be strictly adhered to failure to comply will lead to a ban from the association.

#### DENTON RESERVOIR FISHING TIMES AS DETERMINED BY THE WELBY ESTATE

Starting Times	Month	Finishing Times
5.30 AM	APRIL	8.30 PM
4.30 AM	MAY	10.00 PM
4.30 AM	JUNE	10.15 PM
4.30 AM	JULY	10.00 PM
4.30 AM	AUGUST	9.15 PM
6.00 AM	SEPTEMBER	8.00 PM
6.00 AM	UPTO OCTOBER CLOCK CHANGE	7.00 PM
7.00 AM	AFTER OCTOBER CLOCK CHANGE AND UNTIL MARCH CLOCK CHANGE	6.00 PM
6.00 AM	AFTER MARCH CLOCK CHANGE	8.00 PM

**Members are allowed on Welby estate land 15 minutes before the start time, and must be off Welby estate land within 15 minutes of finishing time.**

- 1 ANY ANGLER WHO INTERFERES WITH THE SPORT OF OTHER MEMBERS WHO ARE FISHING BY CASTING CLOSE TO OR INTO THEIR SWIMS WILL BE EXPELLED FROM THE ASSOCIATION. THIS PARTICULARLY APPLIES TO SPINNING FOR PIKE AND PERCH.**
- 2 Camping on the banks of any GAA waters is forbidden. No fires to be lighted on the banks, fishing or not fishing. No boats of any kind, including bait boats. No swimming. After a resolution was passed at the 2022 AGM, and in consultation with the Welby Estate, the use of all drones of any type are banned at Denton reservoir by members at any time, whether fishing or not, including any use by friends and family who may be with you.
- 3 A minimum of 10lb (4.5kg) breaking strain line to be used when fishing for carp and pike. No Braided line.
- 4 Ensure no litter is left in your swim, especially rigs, hooks and line, failure to comply will lead to disciplinary action being taken.
- 5 Junior anglers are not allowed to fish on or near exposed weed beds in Denton Reservoir by wading unless accompanied by an adult who will be responsible for their safety.
- 6 Spinning for pike or perch is banned from 15<sup>th</sup> March until 1<sup>st</sup> October.
- 7 Maximum three rods, anglers are reminded that when fishing three rods, care should be taken at all times not to interfere with the sport of other anglers; the situation will be monitored closely. Remember that when using 3 rods you must be in possession of the appropriate rod licences. If after a Bailiff's inspection an angler is fishing three rods with a two-rod licence, his book will be endorsed and he will only be allowed to fish with two rods, until proof of an additional or a valid three rod licence is presented to the GAA Secretary.
- 8 The entrance gate must be kept closed and always LOCKED, if it is open when you enter or leave, please close and lock it behind you.
- 9 All carp must only be removed from the water using a landing net, not a retention / weigh sling.
- 10 All anglers must have an adequately sized unhooking mat, retention / weigh sling and landing net always.
- 11 All anglers must have a carp care kit on them at all times to treat any wounds or damage from hook holds.
- 12 Denton Reservoir is strictly non publicity. The venue and water must not be mentioned in catch reports via magazine print or social media.

We cannot afford to lose the fishing at Denton Reservoir, please remember that **ALL Members are Bailiffs of the Association**, you are the eyes and ears of the Association please report any behavior or actions which may put our lease of Denton Reservoir in jeopardy. Please take your litter home, and tidy up your swim before leaving the water.