

York & District Amalgamation of Anglers.

Newsheet 256 (11.08).

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING. This was attended by 26 members representing 6 clubs (including 5 named affiliated clubs, others signing in as "YDAA"). Attendance was poor, mainly due to little publicity being given to the event, however, 6 non committee members made the effort to come.

Notices of Motion were carried by majority decisions therefore the following will apply from 1st January 2009.

The Book price is to be increased by £1.00, making it £33.00, with Senior Citizens and Disabled members books being increased by 50 pence, to £16.50. All other prices to remain unaltered.

General Rule 1, will be amended to read "That this Amalgamation be called the "Yorks & District Amalgamation of Anglers", with management of the Amalgamation vested in the General Purposes Committee".

General Rule 4, will be amended to read "These Rules shall remain in force and may only be altered by resolutions passed at an A.G.M. by a two-thirds majority of *qualified members present*."

General Rule 39. Deleted. This is due to the total lack of interest, only one club sending a representative in 2008 and two clubs in 2007, other than those committeemen representing their own clubs.

Draw for priority of match allocation. This took place before the meeting and the result is shown below.

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| 1. York Amalgamation. | 7. Huntington WMC. A.C. | 13. Pudsey Royal A.C. |
| 2. York C. & I.U. | 8. York Angling Association. | 14. Sea Horse A.C. |
| 3. York & Dist. Winter League. | 9. White Rose A.C. | 15. New Earswick A.C. |
| 4. York Railway Institute A.S. | 10. Clifton Hotel A.C. | 16. Burton Stone Lane WMC A.C. |
| 5. Acomb WMC A.C. | 11. Cygnet A.C. | 17. Bishopthorpe & Acaster A.C. |
| 6. Poppleton Rovers A.C. | 12. Shepherds A. C. | 18. Local A.C. |

CLOSURE OF A WATER. DONKEY WOODS. The Environment Agency is currently improving flood defence works at this venue, resulting in the banks becoming very muddy, rutted and slippery. It is, therefore, with concern being shown for our members that we have decided that the water will be **CLOSED** until further notice, *effective immediately*. All clubs concerned have been notified by the Waters Secretary, and the situation will be kept under constant review. It is assumed that pleasure anglers will also adhere to the closure, which is has been taken with the view of our members safety in mind, reported mishaps already coming to hand.

HOWSHAM (OPPOSITE THE HALL). Advice was given on Newsheet 246 that part of this water had been sold and that York Amalgamation had lost the right to fish the "golf course field" and down to the weir. The new owner has commented on anglers fishing the stretch who have claimed that they were unaware of the loss of the water. There is no excuse for this, as the Newsheet was forwarded to over 40 outlets, including all club secretary's and the "Press". Members are therefore **NOT** to fish the Derwent from peg 1 (immediately upstream of the 'golf course field' down to the waterfall). Access is by the usual route, to the left of the hedge, after parking at the roadside.

BENINGBROUGH (PARK). It seems that some thoughtless individuals (despite very clear instructions being given on Newsheet 247), have made the access to this water very much more difficult, due to not closing the gate after use when crossing the field after leaving the water. These incidents happened prior to the weekend of 21st September, the result being that the herd of cows was able to go 'walkabout', causing the farmer much unneeded work in rounding them up again and returning them to the field. Then result of this is that the gate has now been permanently wired shut, therefore any angler with 'wheels' or 'barrows' will find that these have to be lifted over the fence. Fortunately, we have not lost the right to fish the water....

MATCH APPLICATION FORMS. These were distributed with the October Newsheet and both copies, if not already done so, should be filled in and returned to the Waters Secretary. When venues have been allocated he should return one copy to the club showing which water has been allocated. Payment should then be made, upon the receipt of which, he will issue the match permits. Don't forget to include your club "strength" for his information

MATCH RETURN CARDS. As most clubs seasons have now come to, or are nearing their close, please ensure that the match return cards have been sent to the Environment Agency. The 'triggering' of the bonus last year enabled four junior clubs in York to receive a better payment than they would normally have done.

MATCH TICKET APPLICATIONS. These should be addressed directly to Mr. T. Pinder, Match Secretary, address in the Year Book, or 01904 629126, to avoid the possibility of not 'reserving' them.

FISHING YORK WATERS. Members should note that any anglers using boats 'trolling' for Pike in waters where the Amalgamation has the fishing rights on both banks, should hold a York Amalgamation Year Book, as the right to fish extends to the middle of the river from both banks. This effectively covers all water below York (except Acaster), and challenges may be made for the production of the correct documentation.

LAYBOURNE LAKES. As a further effort to promote the preservation of fish and their spawn, (Objects of the Amalgamation No. 1), it is proposed that the complex be closed to fishing for one day per week, this being during the summer period. Details will be announced nearer the time.

"AND FINALLY". Litter.....With the river recently up and down like a yo-yo, no doubt most of the litter will have been washed away.....however, this is no excuse for any angler visiting the water not to remove any litter they find there.....remember you 'inherit' what is there when you arrive. This does not only apply to rivers, as some of our stillwaters are subject to an incredible amount of rubbish which cannot be washed away, and if we are caring anglers about our ponds, particularly the Laybourne complex which suffers a huge amount of discarded plastic bottles, cans, glass bottles, crisp and groundbait bags, even the odd broken vacuum flask, etc., we must remain vigilant. **Please leave all venues as you would like to find them.**