FISHING RULES (2026 REVISED)

Preamble

These rules are laid down so that all members may enjoy angling on RADAC waters. They assume a common interest in fish welfare and the care of the waterside environments. Remember that a potentially awkward situation can nearly always be defused by using common sense and courtesy. If these fail it becomes the responsibility of your committee to intervene and you should raise the matter with them.

All of our waters are rented or leased from their owners and our continued access depends to a great extent on the behaviour of our members. Accordingly members are requested to comply with the spirit of the Rules as well as the 'letter'. By its members acting in a considerate and responsible way RADAC will maintain its good reputation and thus maintain its present fishing and secure new opportunities.

General

1. Members fishing on Club waters must be in possession of a current Environment Agency (EA) licence, a current RADAC membership booklet and, as appropriate, a parking 'disc'. The parking disc must be clearly displayed in the member's car.
2. Member's guests parking cars must display a note indicating that they are a RADAC guest and giving the name of their host.
3. Loss of a RADAC membership booklet should be reported to the Membership Secretary immediately and £5 will be charged for a duplicate
4. Membership booklets and parking discs are non-transferable and rod sharing is not allowed.
5. Members shall, immediately upon receipt of their RADAC membership booklet, permanently affix a passport sized photograph of themselves in the indicated place.
6. Members shall comply with all byelaws and EA regulations.
7. Members are required to obey the law as it relates to the closed seasons for coarse and game fish. If a bailiff believes that a member is fishing for a species to which a closed season applies, they will report that member for disciplinary process.
8. Any member must produce his membership booklet, duly signed, when requested to do so by a RADAC bailiff or another member. Members are asked to help the bailiff by checking, politely, unknown fishermen's credentials.
9. Returns of all salmon, sea trout and brown trout (river caught) must, at the end of the season, be made on the form provided in the membership booklet.
10. Members may fish using no more than two rods at any one time.
11. No member shall occupy a 'peg' or swim for more than 12 hours. At the expiration of that period the member shall leave the water completely and not return for eight hours. The practice of establishing a 'bivvy' or temporary camp is forbidden.

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12. Unaccompanied junior members, under the age of 14, wishing to fish for salmon, sea trout and brown trout may do so only from the bank and only during daylight hours.
13. Juniors may only wade if adequately supervised by a senior member.
14. a. The welfare of fish must be the first concern of every angler and the Committee expects members to act in such a way as to conform to and promote best practice in this area. As there are differing views on what constitutes best practice the Committee expects members to carefully consider the welfare of the species that they fish for and to obtain the best guidance they can. Any member considered by the Committee to have wilfully or negligently disregarded fish welfare shall be in contravention of the Club's rules.

    b. When fishing for pike (Esox Lucius) members must:

        i) Use a large unhooking mat;

        ii) Use a minimum 30 inch spoon or 36 inch triangular net;

        iii) Use a wire trace;

        iv) Have 10 inch forceps, large pliers and side cutters;

        v) Lure and fly fishing all season but bait fishing only to be undertaken between the 1st of October and the 15th March;

        vi) Use minimum 40 lb braid or 15lb mono for bait fishing;

        vii) Use barbless hooks only (any treble hook used may have, at most, one barb used to hold the bait;

        viii) All pike to be returned safely to the water after capture.
15. The use of shrimp and prawn as bait is prohibited.
16. The use of 'lead core' leaders is prohibited.
17. Barbel or carp shall not be held in keep nets.
18. No coarse fish may be killed or otherwise taken away from any RADAC water.

Rules relating to behaviour on land associated with RADAC waters.

19. Members shall not:
    a. deliberately damage any fence, bank etc;
    b. leave litter or discard line or bait;
    c. light fires;
    d. make or cause to be made any nuisance calculated to, or having the effect of, causing upset or disturbing or offending the riparian owners, other members or other anglers;
    e. take onto any land associated with a RADAC water any non-member other than as a guest (in accordance with the Club Constitution). An exception to this rule shall be made where a member suffers from a medical condition that requires that they are accompanied for their safety;
    f. take onto any land associated with a RADAC water any animal;

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g. camp on any land associated with a RADAC water;

h. behave in a way that could bring the Club into disrepute.

20. In order to avoid the risk to livestock from discarded tins all bait must be transferred to plastic containers prior to going onto any RADAC water.

21. Members shall park in accord with directions given and shall obey all signage restricting or governing vehicle access.

22. The Club's access to waters is for the purposes of angling, bailiffing and working parties only. Unless there is a designated Public Right of Way members should not access the waters, or use the car parks, for any other purpose.'

23. The Club's car parks are provided as a facility for members fishing the Club's waters. They are not to be used to facilitate the fishing of another club's waters.

Application

24. These rules shall apply to:

a. all members.

b. all guests fishing with members. It is the responsibility of the RADAC host to ensure that this is the case and any sanction imposed for failure to do so shall fall on the host.

c. any angler fishing a 'day ticket' on a RADAC water.

25. Where a RADAC member is fishing an exchange ticket they shall obey the rules of the club on whose water they are fishing.

26. These rules are made subject to the RADAC Constitution and are subject to the sanctions set out therein.

Adopted at a meeting held at the Ribchester Sports and Social Club, 30th September 2026

Signed in the original:

Tim Booth, Chairman

Witnessed in the original:

Matthew Nightingale, Secretary

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