

# FEBRUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER



790 Southdale Road  
London, Ontario N6E 1A8  
681-2370

## February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6 Hockey Day in Canada with GBSA
7 Superbowl "L" party	8	9	10	11 General meeting	12	13
14 Valentine's Day	15 Family Day Ice Derby (hosted by Angling Sports)	16	17	18	19	20 Tackle Swap
21	22	23	24 Youth Committee meeting	25 Executive meeting	26	27 Euchre
28	29 Leap Year					

## March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 General meeting & Elections	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Youth Committee meeting 7.00 PM	24 Executive meeting 7:30 PM	25 Good Friday	26 Easter Breakfast Euchre
27 Easter Sunday	28	29	30	31		

REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR MEMBERSHIP VALID TO AVOID BEING ON A WAITING LIST TO REJOIN

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association  
Executive & Committees for 2015 – 2016**

**Executive**

**President**

Stan Gibbs 519-668-2609

**1st Vice President**

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

**2nd Vice President**

Brian Ernteman 519-453-3641

**Secretary**

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

**Treasurer**

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

**Directors**

Mary Degan 519-438-8104

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

**Past President**

John Manvell 519-455-3627

**Committees**

**Entertainment**

Teresa Couture (Chair) 519-668-6257

Mary Degan 519-438-8104

Brian Ernteman 519-453-3641

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Cora Thompson 519-455-6461

Diane Waite 519-685-7393

**House**

Lawrence Lainchbury (Chair) 519-681-7199

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Bert Smit 519-472-5624

**Grounds**

Henry Van Eerdewijk (Chair) 519-432-4239

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Dan Efford 519-474-6488

Brian Ernteman 519-453-3641

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Howard Pearcey 226-224-6605

Bert Smit 519-472-5624

Gord Spotton 519-439-9450

**Ponds**

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-668-2609

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Rod Cameron 519-685-1377

Brian Ernteman 519-453-3641

Jim Graham 519-681-0975

Scott Howe 519-858-8183

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Dave Jeffries 519-681-3693

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Luigi Libertore 519-649-1988

Howard Pearcey 226-224-6605

Gord Spotton 519-439-9450

Doug Springer 519-680-2599

Diane Waite 519-685-7393

**Welfare**

Tom & Shirley McGill 519-652-2875

**Boat Rack**

Don Colborne 519-686-9559

**Membership**

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

**Newsletter**

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

**Fundraising**

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

**Youth Committee (Adult Mentors)**

Andre Koch (Chair) 519-685-5725

Jeanette Jurasek (Co-Chair) 519-685-0237

Brian Ernteman 519-453-3641

Anne Jurasek 519-685-0237

Sue Ann Moyer 226-926-3992

**Club Merchandise**

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

**Website Administrator and Public Relations**

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

**Political & Environmental Research**

Steve & Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

Stan Gibbs 519-668-2609

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

**Firearms Certification / Safe Hunter**

Emad Hazboun 519-317-4132

**Hall Rentals**

519-681-2370

**Our Conservation Pledge**

I give my pledge as a Canadian to save and faithfully defend from waste the natural resources of my country, its soils & minerals, its waters, forests, air & wildlife, & to obey all Fish & Game laws.

**Our Purpose**

- To promote true sportsmanship by the protection, breeding, propagation and conservation of fish and game.
- To obey the Fish and Game Laws of Ontario.
- To promote reforestation and conservation.
- To maintain a club and pond for the accommodation and enjoyment of the members and friends.

**Meetings**

General meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30pm, except for the months of July and August. The Executive meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month. Remember that you, as a member, are welcome to attend all club meetings. Your input is highly valued and appreciated.

**Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report is presented at the Executive meeting and questions and comments are always welcome. If you wish to receive a copy of the full report, please attend this meeting.



**Smoking is not permitted within  
5 metres (about 15 feet) of all club entrances**

## INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP DUES

After many years of no changes to membership fees, the Executive has decided that a nominal increase in membership dues is warranted.

An increase of \$ 10.00 will come into effect for all membership types that come due as of March 1, 2016 (even if you pay your dues in February).

The new rates are:

Family Membership	\$ 145.00
Single Membership	\$ 125.00
Senior Membership	\$ 120.00

Boat Rack	\$ 35.00
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There will not be any changes in membership dues for Youth or for a Sponsored Child.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

February, being right in the middle of the cold season is usually associated with the winter blues.

This year things do not seem so bad. The weather has been fairly gentle so far and we don't have much snow to shovel. In addition to the bearable weather, February also has a few club events to look forward to.

We are hosting another Pond Hockey Classic on Hockey Day in Canada. On February 6<sup>th</sup>. George Bray Sports Association will bring out 6 of their Junior Division teams to play outdoors.

On Sunday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>, our club will host our Annual Superbowl Party. This event is always a great time.

On Family Day, Monday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, along with Angling Sports, we are hosting a Family Day ice fishing derby. Since this is a holiday, it is a great time to bring the whole family out, if fishing gets slow we have a large rink to skate on. Remember you must pay and pre-register at Angling Sports prior to the derby day. Let's not forget the day before is Valentine's Day.

On Sat. Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>, we are hosting our Annual Tackle Swap, where deals are plentiful and friends are abundant.

To complete the month, we have our Euchre night on the fourth Saturday.

If you are currently contemplating hibernation, hold on for a few weeks as the club can help shake those winter blues!

Yours in Conservation,  
Stan Gibbs

## ELECTIONS THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2016 7:30 PM (Following a short General Meeting)

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive Elections for the 2016-2017 term will be held on Thursday, March 12, 2015 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

- All positions will be for a one-year period, covering March 10, 2016 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2017.
- Nomination forms may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 9, 2016, in a sealed envelope addressed to -  
Teresa Couture  
Secretary – WOF&GPA  
RE: Election Nomination
- All nominated members must be present on election night to accept their nomination OR provide a written acceptance delivered to Teresa Couture (Club Secretary) on or before election night.
- All membership fees must be up to date on election night. Please have your valid membership card **with you**. (The one-month grace period for membership renewal will not apply).
- One vote shall apply per membership, regardless of the membership type.

An updated membership list will be available for viewing after February 29, 2016.

The Election each year is a very important part of this organization. Our members' input and participation into the election process is necessary to keep this organization viable and accountable to its members.

All members are encouraged to get involved and strive to make Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association in London, Ontario the very best that it can be.

## HOCKEY DAY IN CANADA Sat. February 6, 2016

Hopefully, the weather will stay cold enough to make the pond ice thick enough to make a safe ice rink for the 6 junior teams from George Bray Sports Association to hold pond hockey games starting at 1:00 pm on Sat., Feb. 6th.

It would be appreciated if you can come to help out on this date. After each team finishes their game, they will move inside to enjoy hot chocolate, hot dogs and soup.

Stan Gibbs and Joe Isenor, along with others, are working hard to maintain the ice rink in good condition for this day. They ask that all anglers keep their ice fishing holes a minimum of 50 feet from the ice rink and that they mark their holes with a flag or small branch for safety.

After the GBSA teams are finished their pond hockey games, the rink will be open for skating. Shovels are available at the side of the club house for clearing the rink of snow.

## WELFARE

Many club members, who aren't able to attend the club for meetings or fishing, might welcome a quick call to say "Hello and what have you been up to?"

If you know of a club member or their immediate family who could use some cheering up or has reached one of life's many milestones, please contact Tom and Shirley McGill who will gladly make contact on behalf of the club.

Our heartfelt condolences to the Richard and Sherry Harding and their family after the sudden passing of Sherry's mother in December.

## ATTENTION CLUB YOUTH MEMBERS

On Wed., March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm at WOFGPA, we will be starting the Youth Committee for the 2016 – 2017 term.

This Youth Committee comes up with their own ideas and activities that are of interest to the youth club members.

The benefit of being a member of the Youth Committee are:

- If you are aged 16 – 18, your Youth fee of \$ 70.00 is waived with your involvement in the committee
- You will receive a hat and t-shirt and an ID tag
- You will be chosen first for your community school hours
- When you turn 18 years old, you will automatically become a paying member of the club and do not have to be placed on the long waiting list for membership

If you are interested and want to learn more about this group, you only need to be 13 to 17 years old and show up at 7:00 pm on March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

This group meets on the third Wednesday of each month in the main hall of the club.

If you have any questions, please call Andre at 519-685-5725 in the evenings.

Andre Koch  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President & Youth Committee Mentor

## SUPERBOWL "L" PARTY Sun. February 7, 2016

The Superbowl "L" festivities will start at 4:00 pm, although game kickoff is at 6:00 pm.

There will be lots of food, raffled items and door prizes throughout the evening.

Please speak with Andre Koch to obtain your advance ticket for only \$ 25.00 each.

Tickets are on sale now so don't delay and miss out on the 50<sup>th</sup> year of Superbowl celebrations.

## 11th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP

**DATE:** Sat. Feb. 20, 2016  
**TIME:** Doors open at 9:00 am until 1:00 pm  
**LOCATION:** WOFGPA Club hall  
**COST:** No entrance fee

The annual Tackle Swap allows us to shake off those winter blues. You may also want to sell some of that old equipment you have lying around. Previous years have been a great success with many different clubs promoting their club's activities and selling different fishing/hunting related wares to the visitors.

Preregistration for a reserved table is mandatory. There is a nominal registration fee for a table and reservations can be made by contacting Stan Gibbs. Tables will be assigned. To help attract the public as the host club, we are asking all participants donate a prize to be used as one of our door prizes.

Stan is asking members for donations of their unwanted items for the WOFGPA table. If you have anything to donate, please contact Stan as soon as possible.

## GUNS AND AMMUNITION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE

## FAMILY DAY ICE FISHING DERBY Mon. Feb. 15, 2016 (dependant on ice conditions)

The derby is hosted by Angling Sports in London. Angling Sports is one of the generous sponsors of many of the derbies held at WOFGPA. Everyone is welcome although there is a limit of 100 persons. Mandatory pre-registration for this derby can be done at Angling Sports which is located on Highbury Ave, just south of Dundas St.

**COST:** \$ 10.00 per angler (under 5 is free) which includes a hot lunch and prizes.

1st place - \$ 100.00 gift certificate from Angling Sports  
2nd place - \$ 50.00 gift certificate from Angling Sports  
3rd place - \$ 25.00 gift certificate from Angling Sports

Prizes will be awarded to the longest trout species as well as the longest non-trout species although there is a limit of 3 trout maximum per angler.

**Rules:**

The full rules will be posted on the day of the derby.

Live or dead bait fish and fish eggs are **NOT** allowed. Worms, wax worms and spikes are permitted along with artificial bait. No chumming.

Anglers are allowed two rods and two holes each. No more than 3 hooks per line. Treble hooks count as one hook.

Volunteers will start serving hot lunch at 12 noon so that we can spread out the flow of participants in the hall. You will need a voucher to get lunch (children under 5 excluded).

Award ceremonies will start around 1:30 pm.

REMEMBER TO PRE-REGISTER EARLY DUE TO THE LIMITED NUMBER OF ANGLERS ALLOWED FOR THIS DERBY.

## EUCHRE

Steve & Teresa Couture hosted the Euchre night on Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The results of the evening were:

High Man – Andre Koch (70)

High Lady – Gina Tolsma (68)

Mystery Man – Detlef Von Ruczicki

Mystery Lady – Diane

Most Lone Hands – (4) Bill Lewis & Cora Thompson

50/50 – Bill Lewis

The next Euchre will be held on Sat. Feb. 27, 2016.

Progressive Euchre is held on the 4th Saturday in each month and is a fun filled, social evening with good company, good cards and a lot of laughter. The games are open to everyone. Arriving at the games with a partner is not mandatory. There is The door will open at 6:00 pm to allow for socializing before the games begin. All games start at 7:00 pm sharp so arrive early enough to socialize. A light snack served and door prizes are drawn at the end of the evening. A donation of a door prize or dessert is always welcome.



## JIGG'S DINNER

**Date:** Sat., March April 9, 2016

**Time:** Cocktails at 5:00 pm (cash bar)  
Dinner at 6:00 pm

**Cost:** \$ 15.00 per adult

**ADVANCE PURCHASE ONLY BY MARCH 28TH  
NO RESERVED TICKETS**

It is a WOFGPA long-standing tradition that the old Executive body serves dinner to the new Executive, the club members and their guests.

This year, the attendees can expect a hearty dinner of corned beef and cabbage, roast beef, potato and veggies and roll with butter. There will also be assorted salads, relish and cheese trays. After dinner, there will be a selection of desserts to enjoy with your tea or coffee. Door prizes will also be available.

Teresa Couture, club secretary, will be at each meeting and function for you to obtain your tickets. Advance purchase of tickets is required so that supplies can be purchased accordingly.

Do not delay as this function is often sold out and you will miss out on a great dinner with good company, lots of laughter and door prizes.

## ONTARIO HUNTER EDUCATION & BOW-HUNTING COURSES

Emad Hazboun teaches these courses for a very reasonable cost. He offers a discount if you are a WOFGPA club member.

For more information and the starting date of the next course, please contact Emad by phone at 519-317-4132 or by email at [emadhaz@heafs.com](mailto:emadhaz@heafs.com) or visit his website: [www.heafs.com](http://www.heafs.com)

## SPRINGBANK DAM

Should it be decommissioned or repaired? As a citizen of London, it will affect you no matter which decision is made. Please become an informed citizen about all the issues regarding the Springbank Dam.

There is much controversy about this topic and many groups and individuals have publicly spoken up and expressed their concerns about the Springbank Dam. As well, many individuals have already signed a petition opposing the Springbank Dam repair.

The club is hoping that members will to send their concerns about the Springbank Dam, in writing to their Ward councilor or to Mayor Matt Brown.

The future decisions made about decommissioning or repairing Springbank Dam will, in part, be based on the feedback received from the public.

## NEW ITEMS - CLUB MERCHANDISE

NEW ITEMS – “Wick-away” golf shirts in navy with “WOFGPA” embroidered on it. What a deal at only \$ 28.00 each.

Some merchandise is in stock and custom orders can be easily placed. Current selection includes larger sized hoodies and T-shirts (sizes XL to XXXL).

The embroidered bucket hats can be purchased for only \$ 15.00 each. Lined jackets with an embroidered club crest and your name are available as custom orders only.

The club has pens, lanyards, T-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, toques, patch crests and key chains available in stock.

Andre Koch can be reached at home by phone and is present at club meetings and functions.

## POACHING

Poaching is a serious problem. Only club members wearing their valid membership cards, and their guests, are allowed to fish on the pond.

If you see anyone fishing with no visible membership card, ask to see proof of valid membership. Club members who do not display their valid membership card should expect to be told by the caretaker or any member to immediately stop fishing.

Non-members caught fishing on club property could be charged with trespassing and poaching.

## ANNUAL FREE MEMBERSHIP DRAW

Remember that at each General Meeting you attend, with the exception of the meeting in the month you renew your membership, you will get one ballot per membership for the free one-year membership draw. There are 10 General meetings per year giving each member, up to 9 ballots for the free membership draw. The draw is held annually on Election night as one of the first duties of the new President.

The winner of the January monthly meeting draw was Wes Finch. Congratulations Wes!

## RESIDENT CARETAKER(S) NEEDED

The resident caretaker position is well suited to an experienced, retired or semi-retired person, or couple, as one person will be required to be on site 5 days per week. Excellent customer skills are needed for hall rentals and addressing issues with club members. Other duties include set up and cleaning for functions, minor building maintenance and basic grounds keeping. The Club's committees take care of the rest of the work. Compensation includes a one-bedroom apartment with additional storage, paid heat and hydro, on site laundry facilities, basic telephone, basic cable and internet service plus a commission on hall rentals

For additional details and resume submission, contact the club Secretary, Teresa Couture at: [couture.house@hotmail.com](mailto:couture.house@hotmail.com)

Resumes which highlight relevant experience will be accepted from the general public.

### DANGER – THIN ICE

Although this winter has been unseasonable mild, the temperatures have been cold enough for ice to form on the pond. Although the thickness of the ice is checked on a fairly regular basis, all members should know that a minimum of 4 inches of clear ice is needed to support the weight of an adult. If you are fishing with a partner or a group, additional ice thickness is required.

Here are just a few reminders about pond ice safety:

No ice fishing is permitted within 50 feet of the rink once the rink has been cleared for skating.

A windmill has been installed to aerate the water. There are buoys marking the location of the aeration stones. These two areas may stay as open water or will have a thin ice covering. Please keep well away from these areas, as they will never be deemed safe to support any weight, including your pet's weight.

Do not let your pet run loose on the property, including on the ice. It is the club policy that all dogs must be leashed at all times and under the control of their owners.

The ice conditions will be posted and monitored regularly. Please stay off any unsafe ice and remember that ice conditions vary from day to day. Obey the thin ice signs and exercise caution at all times on pond ice. When in doubt, stay off the ice.

Always use the "Buddy" system and never venture out alone.

Mark your fishing holes with a flag or small branch – for safety and consideration of others.

Ice derbies will be held throughout the winter months and often on very short notice. Unfortunately, this short notice often does not allow for the members to be notified by newsletter. If you want telephone notification of scheduled derbies, please leave your name and number with Stan Gibbs. The derby dates will be posted on the website and the Bulletin Boards at the club.

## HALL RENTALS

### THE CLUB HALL IS NOT AVAILABLE FOR STAG AND DOE PARTY RENTAL

Did you know that the WOFGPA hall can be rented for your next "special" occasion for a very reasonable price?

The hall has a maximum seating capacity of 80 persons, which makes it just the right size for a small wedding reception, bridal and baby showers, your next meeting, anniversary party, family reunions and get-togethers, Christmas party and birthdays.

It offers full kitchen facilities, except dishwasher.

Professional bar service is offered in the wet bar.

Members receive a discount on rentals which occur on Friday or Saturday evenings.

Please contact the club 519-681-2370 to get the low rental rates and availability of the hall.

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT WOFGPA

As the date of each event gets closer, the details of the function, including the contact person, will be printed in the newsletter and posted on the Bulletin Boards at the club and on the club website, [www.wofgpa.org](http://www.wofgpa.org)

Giving some time to help is a great way for both new and old members to get together while they aren't fishing.

Sat. Feb. 6	Hockey Day in Canada
Sun. Feb. 7	Superbowl "L" party
Thurs. Feb. 11	General meeting
Sun. Feb. 14	Valentine's Day
Mon. Feb. 15	Family Day – Statutory holiday Ice Derby (hosted by Angling Sports) with mandatory pre-registration
Sat. Feb. 20	Annual Tackle Swap
Wed. Feb. 24	Youth Committee meeting
Thurs. Feb. 25	Executive meeting
Sat. Feb. 27	Euchre
Mon. Feb. 29	Leap Year
Thurs. Mar 10	General Meeting and Elections
Wed. Mar. 23	Youth Committee meeting
Thurs. Mar 24	Executive meeting
Fri., Mar. 25	Good Friday
Sat. Mar 26	Easter Breakfast Euchre
Sun. Mar. 27	Easter Sunday

We hope to see you at one of the many functions that have been planned.

Giving some time to better the club is what each WOFGPA member pledged during their initiation. It is also a great way for new members to meet others in a relaxed and friendly setting when they aren't fishing.

Hope to see many new faces at some of our many functions.

<p><b>George Bray Sports Association Inc.</b></p> <p><i>A Hockey Program for Children with Special Learning Needs A Parent Participating Non-Profit Organization</i></p> <p><b>Murray Howard, President</b> Email: <a href="mailto:murrayhoward@execulink.com">murrayhoward@execulink.com</a></p> <p><b>Serving the Community since 1968</b></p>	<p><b>My Handyman Bo</b></p> <p>No job is too small, Call for a free estimate</p> <p>Bo Grahl 519-453-0659</p> <p>Bo can do many tasks in and around your home. Did I mention computer repairs too?</p>	<p><b>YOUR AD PLACED HERE COULD REACH OVER 225 WOFGPA MEMBERS AND FAMILIES EACH MONTH</b></p>
<p><b>THE CLUB HALL IS AVAILABLE FOR REASONABLY PRICED AFTERNOON OR EVENING RENTALS. FOR DETAILS, CALL THE CLUB AT 519-681-2370</b></p>	<p><b>DRUM LESSONS</b></p> <p>Learn to play drums in a family friendly atmosphere.</p> <p>For details contact Nick at 226-289-3082</p> <p><a href="mailto:Nicholaswalker88@gamil.com">Nicholaswalker88@gamil.com</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.facebook.com/NW_percussion">www.facebook.com/NW_percussion</a></p>	<p><b>Foster Automotive Repair Ltd.</b></p> <p><b>All Major &amp; Minor Repairs Class "A" Mechanic</b></p>  <p><b>Rick Foster 519-452-3511</b></p>
<p><b>THIS SPACE IS WAITING FOR YOUR BUSINESS AD</b></p>	<p><b>JOHN'S FLY MATERIALS London</b></p> <p>Phone John at 519-645-0932</p> <p>Fly tying materials Fly Fish tackle &amp; Rod building supplies</p> <p><a href="http://www.johnsflymaterials.com">www.johnsflymaterials.com</a></p>	<p><b>ANGLING SPORTS</b></p> <p><b>681 Highbury Ave North @ Dundas Street</b></p> <p><b>519-649-7429</b></p> <p><b>Pat DeVincenzo Owner</b></p> <p><i>"Your full service tackle shop"</i></p>
<p>Custom furniture making and refinishing</p> <p><b>Mark Steckle 519-474-6848</b></p> <p>Visit the on-line gallery at <a href="http://www.custom-wood.net">www.custom-wood.net</a></p>	<p><b>YOUR AD COULD BE HERE</b></p>	<p><b>Lambeth Rod &amp; Tackle Ltd.</b></p> <p>2404 Main Street London, ON N6P 1R2</p> <p><b>Steve Plaskett 519-652-5598</b></p> <p>For your license and all other fishing needs</p>