

## FEBRUARY 2021



790 Southdale Rd E., LONDON, ON. N6E 1A8  
(519) 681-2370 [www.wofgpa.org](http://www.wofgpa.org)

### February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 General Meeting	12	13
14 Valentine's Day	15 Family Day	16	17	18	19	20 Tackle Swap (postponed)
21	22	23	24	25 Executive Meeting	26	27 euchre (cancelled)
28						

### March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 General Meeting & Annual Elections	12	13
14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Executive Meeting	26	27
28	29	30				

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

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association  
Executive & Committees for 2020- 2021**

**Executive**

**President**

Stan Gibbs 519-668-2609

**1st Vice President**

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

**2nd Vice President**

Joe Isenor 519-691-7510

**Secretary**

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

**Treasurer**

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

**Directors**

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

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

Valerie Grahil 519-453-0659

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Julie Thursby 519-473-5506

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

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

**Ponds**

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-668-2609

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Rod Cameron 519-685-1377

Jim Graham 519-681-0975

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

George Maudsley 519-681-6429

Doug Springer 519-680-2599

Bob Thursby 519-473-5506

Diane Waite 519-685-7393

**Welfare**

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

**Boat Rack**

Don Colborne 519-686-9559

**Membership**

Valerie Grahil 519-453-0659

**Newsletter**

Teresa Couture 519-668-6257

**Fundraising**

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

**Youth Committee (Adult Mentors)**

Jeanette Jurasek (Chair) 519-685-0237

Autumn Ernteman 519-453-3641

Andre Koch 519-685-5725

**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

**Wreath Brigade**

Stan Gibbs 519-668-2609

Angela Liberatore 519-680-1222

**Club Caretakers**

Ray and Barb Smith 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 and minerals, its waters, forests, air and wildlife, and 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.



Cigarette smoking is not permitted within 5 metres of all club entrances. Smokers are asked to use the containers provided for cigarette butt disposal. Cannabis use and vaping is not permitted anywhere on club property.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With March just around the corner, we are near the end of another fiscal year which means that Annual Elections are coming up.

As I have said many times before, our club is blessed with an excellent group of people whose main objective is to bring you, the members the best possible club around. I think it is safe to say that this has been achieved.

Looking ahead it would be nice to have some new people exposed to the operation of our great club so that in the future we can all rest easy knowing there is dedicated members to carry on our club and its endeavors. All the existing Executive members have been in office in one capacity or another for many years, and their knowledge is priceless. Someone wishing to help out and learn the ropes could greatly benefit from their expertise.

In short what I am trying to say is, to prepare our club for the future; we need some new people to get involved. So, come out on Election night and run for a position, get on a committee or at the very least cast your vote.

Yours in Conservation  
Stan Gibbs

## 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?" This is especially important during the pandemic as many of our members venture outside or visit friends and family infrequently and would likely welcome a call.

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 Teresa Couture who will gladly make contact on behalf of the club.

Our heartfelt thoughts and prayers are with Mary Degan and her family after the passing of Bert, her husband of 58 years on Jan. 14, 2021.

## 15th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP Sat. Feb. 20, 2021

The Annual Tackle Swap has been postponed due to the current lockdown orders. Stan Gibbs is considering holding this event later in the spring as an outdoor event.

Please watch your newsletter and check the website for details, once they are finalized. If you have any questions, please speak with Stan Gibbs.

## ELECTIONS THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 2021 7:30 PM

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive Elections for the 2021 - 2022 term will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 7:30 pm.

- All positions will be for a one-year period, covering March 11, 2021 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2022.
- Nomination letters may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 10, 2021, 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 (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.

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.

## MERCHANDISE

Black mask with embroidered "fish" logo.  
Cost is \$ 13.00 each or 2 for \$ 25.00. This item is in limited supply. Please contact Stan Gibbs about mask purchases.



The club has pens, lanyards, T-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, toques, patch crests and key chains available in stock. Lined jackets with an embroidered club crest and your name are available as custom orders only. Custom orders can be placed at any time. Current selection includes larger sized hoodies and T-shirts (sizes up to 3XL).

Andre Koch can be reached at home by phone.

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION**

It is very important that you send any and all changes in mailing address, email or phone number(s) to Val Grahl (Membership Committee). WOFGPA will not be responsible if your membership lapses due to incorrect contact information.

All membership renewal notices will be sent electronically, and mailed only to those persons without an email on file. Please bring your notice with you when paying your membership dues. The club will accept cheques, debit and credit card payments for dues, but not e-transfers. Mailed payments and late payments will not be accepted. Any late payment will not be accepted and your membership will lapse at the end of the grace period. If you choose to rejoin the club, your name will be added to the waiting list which is currently has an estimated 4 to 5-year wait time.

**THE PROVINCE IS CURRENTLY IN GREY - STAY AT HOME STATUS. THE CLUB IS CLOSED AS IT IS A NON-ESSENTIAL BUSINESS. THE WASHROOMS WILL BE OPEN FOR ANY ANGLERS WHO COME TO THE CLUB. THOSE MEMBERS WHOSE MEMBERSHIP IS DUE, PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE CLUB ON A SCHEDULED MEETING NIGHT. YOUR NAME HAS BEEN NOTED AND YOU WILL BE INFORMED BY EMAIL WHEN NORMAL BUSINESS RESUMES TO PAY YOUR DUES. AT THIS TIME, THE GRACE PERIOD IS GRANTED ONLY TO MEMBERSHIPS WHO RENEW IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY**

### **DANGER – THIN ICE**

The ice will soon form on the pond. A minimum of four inches (10 cm.) of CLEAR ICE is necessary to support the weight of one person. If you are fishing with a partner or a group, additional ice thickness is required.

A windmill has been installed to aerate the water with 2 buoys marking the location of the aeration stones which will be open water or have a thin ice covering. Please keep well away from these areas.

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

The ice conditions will be monitored regularly but not posted. Please stay off any unsafe ice and remember that ice conditions vary from day to day. 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.

Do not break the ice away from the docks, use an auger or punch small holes. If the ice is continually broken away from the docks, this creates a hazard of thinner ice and makes it dangerous for anglers and skaters stepping off. Always mark your holes with a small branch.

Please keep your fishing holes at least 15 metres away from the skating rinks.

It is a good idea to have safety measures in place, carry a whistle and have ice picks on your person.

Ice derbies will be held throughout the winter months and often on very short notice. 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.

### **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 membership badge should expect to be told to immediately stop fishing. Non-members caught fishing on club property could be charged with trespassing and poaching.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

The event calendar for 2020 – 2021 is also available on the club website. Please be advised that all functions listed in this newsletter may be cancelled due to the government regulations. If an event is cancelled, the President, Stan Gibbs will notify members by email. The cancellation will also be posted on the bulletin board at the club.

Thurs. Feb. 11	General Meeting
Sun. Feb. 14	Valentine’s Day
Mon. Feb. 15	Family Day
Sat. Feb. 20	Tackle Swap (postponed)
Thurs. Feb. 25	Executive Meeting
Thurs. Mar. 11	General Meeting & Elections
Wed. Mar. 17	St. Patrick’s Day
Thurs. Mar. 25	Executive Meeting



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