

## FEBRUARY 2022



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

### February 2022

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

### March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 General Meeting & Annual Elections	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Tackle Swap (new date)
20	21	22	23	24 Executive Meeting	25	26
27	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 2021 - 2022**

**Executive**

**President**

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

**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 Grahl 519-453-0659

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

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

**Grounds**

Henry Van Eerdewijk (Chair) 519-432-4239

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

**Ponds**

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-709-9413

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Rod Cameron 519-685-1377

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Randy Keating 519-476-1916

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

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 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)**

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 519-709-9413

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

**Wreath Brigade**

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

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

### Anticipation

It seems like such a long time ago that we held any functions at our club. Hopefully things are about to change, with the next steps of the Ontario re-opening.

One of the functions that I miss immensely is the Annual Tackle Swap. This event is a great time and place to pick up good deals on all things fishing and outdoor activities, with vendors filling both levels of our clubhouse. The vendors will offer new and used items. It is also a great place to learn about other area clubs and what they offer. This year we are going to run it on March 19th from 9am till 1 pm.

If you have any used fishing, or outdoor equipment (no guns or ammo) that you would like to sell, tables will be available for rent, or if you would like to donate it to your club, we will sell it and use the proceeds to stock our pond. For rental information, you can email me.

If all goes according to plan with the lifting of restrictions, the only control in place should be the wearing of masks. Our meetings are once again open to members with a capacity limit of 40 persons. As of Feb. 21, there will not be any capacity limits. Our Annual Election scheduled for Thurs; March 10th will go ahead as planned.

On a final note, please watch your emails for an announcement on a Family Day Ice Fishing Derby

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?" 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 wish for healthier days ahead is with Jim Ketchabow as he recuperates at home and Andre Koch.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Richard Toner and his family after Barb's passing on Jan. 20, 2022.

## GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

For each General Meeting that you attend, you will receive a ballot for the free one-year membership draw. The draw is done each March during the Elections.

A monthly meeting draw is done following the General Meeting on the 2nd Thursday of the month.

## ELECTIONS THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 2022 7:30 PM

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive Elections for the 2022 - 2023 term will be held on Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 7:30 pm.

### Note:

1. All positions will be for a one-year period, covering March 10, 2022 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2023.
2. Nomination letters may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 9, 2022, in a sealed envelope addressed to -  
Teresa Couture - Secretary – WOF&GPA  
RE: Election Nomination
3. 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.

## EUCHRE

The Euchre nights for the rest of the season have been cancelled. Although restrictions are lifting, many have expressed concerns about gathering in groups. Euchre will resume in September.

## ONTARIO HUNTER EDUCATION & BOW-HUNTING COURSES

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

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

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

You must attend either the General or Executive meeting to pay your dues. These dates are the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm, before the meeting starts at 7:30 pm. General meetings are not held in July and August.

The new membership rates (effective April 1, 2021) are:

Family	\$ 160.00
Single	\$ 140.00
Senior	\$ 135.00

There seems to be confusion as to the grace period permitted to pay dues. Hopefully this will clarify things for everyone.

If your renewal date on your notice is February 1, 2022, then your membership ran from February 1, 2021 through January 31, 2022. Your membership will lapse at the end of February, which is the one-month grace period permitted. At the end of the grace period, you are no longer a member in good standing and your name will be removed from the membership list. If you choose to rejoin the club, your name will be added to the waiting list which is currently has an estimated 4 year wait time.

It is very important that you send any and all changes in mailing address, email or phone number(s) to Val Grahl (Membership Committee). This can be done by telephone or contacting her through the club website. WOFGPA will not be responsible if your membership lapses due to incorrect contact information on our files.

All membership renewal notices are sent electronically. Only members without an email on file will receive a mailed notice.

The club will accept cheques, debit and credit card payments but not e-transfers on a scheduled meeting night starting at 7:00 pm. Mailed payments and late payments will not be accepted and will be returned to you. The caretakers, Ray and Barb will not accept membership renewals.

## FOR SALE



We are moving to apartment and don't need our Mastercraft dehumidifier any more. It works amazing at removing excess moisture from a basement. Asking \$ 75  
Call Teresa Couture at 519 668 6257 if interested.

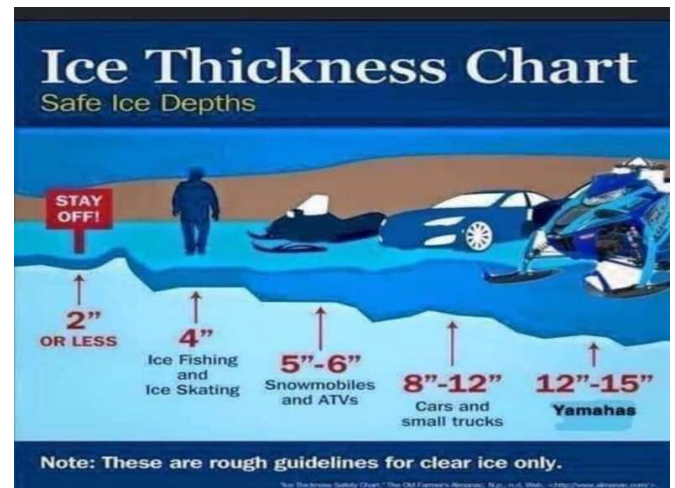
## DANGER – THIN ICE

December weather has been unseasonably warm but colder days are ahead in 2022 and the ice soon form on the pond.

Please stay on the docks to fish until the ice has completely formed and is at least 10 cm. thick. Use caution when walking on the docks.

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. When in doubt, stay off the ice. Always use the "Buddy" system and never venture out alone. It is a good idea to have safety measures in place, carry a whistle and have ice picks on your person.

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 always be open water or 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 the ice. It is the club policy that all dogs be leashed at all times and in control of their owners. It is best to leave your pet at home.

Do not break the ice away from the docks, use an auger or punch small holes. At no time should anyone use club brooms or shovels to break the ice for fishing. If the ice is continually broken away from the docks, this creates a hazard of thinner ice and makes it hazardous for anglers and skaters stepping off the docks.

Mark all holes with a small branch or flag.

If there is a skating rink located near the main dock, please keep your fishing holes at least 15 metres away.

## ICE DERBIES

Traditionally, there has been an Ice derby on Family Day, which is Mon., Feb. 21. If conditions are favourable, the derby will go ahead.

Ice derbies may be held but on short notice. If you wish to be notified, please leave your name and number with Stan Gibbs.

### 16th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP NEW DATE AND TIME

DATE: Sat. March 19, 2022  
TIME: Doors open at 9:00 am until 1:00 pm  
LOCATION: WOFGPA club hall and basement  
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 of \$ 15.00 for a table and reservations can be made by contacting Stan Gibbs. Tables will be assigned.

If you have anything to donate, please contact Stan as soon as possible.

**GUNS AND AMMUNITION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE**

### MERCHANDISE

Black mask with embroidered "fish" logo. Cost is \$ 13.00 each or 2 for \$ 25.00. This item is in limited supply.

The club has pens, lanyards, T-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, toques, patch crests and key chains available in stock. Custom orders can be placed at any time. Current selection includes larger sized hoodies and T-shirts (sizes up to 3XL).

Lined jackets with an embroidered club crest and your name are available as custom orders only.

Andre Koch can be reached at home by phone. Any of the Executive body can assist you at any time.

### RULES/ REGULATIONS AND CONSTITUTION

If any members would like a copy of WOFGPA's Rules & Regulations or the its Constitution, please contact the club Secretary, Teresa Couture at couture.house@hotmail.com or by telephone.

**The club website is [www.wofgpa.org](http://www.wofgpa.org)**

## HALL RENTALS

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.

The hall is available to members or their families to get together after the passing of a loved one. In certain circumstances, a special reduced rate may apply. Members receive a discount on rentals which occur on Friday or on a Saturday evening. Professional bar service is offered in the wet bar.

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

**The club hall is not available for Stag and Doe or engagement parties or outdoor weddings and photoshoots.**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

The Executive is evaluating each function to determine if it can be safely held. Details of these functions will be posted on the club website, the bulletin boards and in the newsletter. Please check these frequently. In the event that there is a last-minute change, the President will send an email out to the membership.

Many have expressed concerns about gathering in large groups. For this reason, the Executive has decided to forego the Annual Jiggs Dinner, the Easter Breakfast and Euchre nights for the spring. A new event calendar for the 2022 – 2023 season will be posted once finalized.

Thurs. Feb. 10 General Meeting  
Mon. Feb. 21 Family Day holiday  
Thurs. Feb. 24 Executive Meeting

Thurs. March 10 General Meeting and Annual Elections  
Sat. March 19 Annual Tackle Swap  
Thurs. March 24 Executive Meeting

Thurs. April 14 General Meeting  
Fri. April 15 Good Friday  
Sun., April 17 Easter Sunday  
Sat. April 23 Spring Clean up  
Sun. April 24 Spring Trout Derby  
Thurs. April 28 Executive meeting

Helping out is also a great way for the new members to meet others in a relaxed and friendly setting when they aren't fishing. Be an active member of WOF & GPA and reap the all the benefits this club has to offer and not be just a "name" on a committee. If you wish to join the Executive Body, you must have served on a committee, so get involved. Please contact the Committee Chair to get more information or to join a committee at any time.



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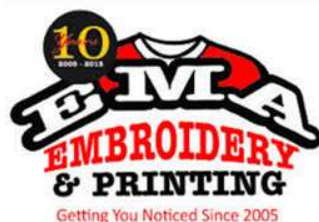
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