

JANUARY 2016 NEWSLETTER



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

January

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

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					

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**

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.

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wow, what a month. December is almost over and it is time to take a big breath and relax and enjoy the festive season with all your loved ones.

If you happen to stop in at the club during this past month, you will have noticed a flurry of activity. All month, we were busy selling, trimming and wrapping Christmas trees for over 1,000 customers. This feat was accomplished in just over two weeks. Many thanks to Don Colborne, Brian Ernteman and all their helpers for a job well done. Honorable mention should go to Cora Thompson for all the baked goods she made for us during the tree sales and for our meetings. At the same time, Hermann Szielasko and his crew were busy making and decorating wreaths, swags and a new creation, the "Charlie Brown" mini trees, these were greatly received by our customers. For the entertainment side of things, we hosted a Christmas Breakfast with Santa for over 80 hungry friends and family, with Santa "Tony" as the main attraction. At the same time, the Youth Committee hosted a Christmas Bake Sale. To top it all off, we held our Annual Turkey Roll after our General meeting.

Man, I'm getting tired just talking about it all. It is amazing how many volunteer hours that are spent doing these things for our members, and I am very proud to say that in respect to the size of our club, the volunteer base is phenomenal. Please don't be offended if I did not mention you personally in this message, since there were so many people doing so many things, to list them all would fill the next few newsletters.

I would like to thank all those who contributed food, gifts and monetarily to the two families that the club sponsored this Christmas. Your donations helped make Christmas much brighter for these families.

On behalf of the Executive and all the members in this club, I would like to thank all persons that helped in any way over the last year; it is why this club is so great!

I hope you had a very Merry Christmas and will have a happy, healthy New Year.

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 Tom and Shirley McGill who will gladly make contact on behalf of the club.

Archie Graham, one of the regulars at Euchre, is at home recovering from a heart attack.

CHRISTMAS TREE AND WREATH SALES 2015 THE BEST EVER

This year, by my best records, we had 23 volunteers help with the lot set up, 54 put their efforts into unloading the first transport load of 818 trees. A smaller crew unloaded and set up an additional 213 trees a week later.

The sales started on Nov. 28th with 85 volunteers covering the 3 shifts each day for the next 16 days. By Steve's (Treasurer) records, some 995 trees, 143 wreaths and 6 swags went out the driveway by vehicle while one big wreath left by private transportation as seen on our security video monitors at about 11:00 pm on night.

The last tree sold on Sun. Dec. 13th, 16 days from start to end. Mon. Dec. 17th, a small crew finished the clean-up, lights down, signs gone, trailer parked. By mid-afternoon, nothing was left but our tracks and the odd disappointed late customer.

Thee Wreath Brigade has also had the best year ever. I don't have the figures on how many were involved but the product has been nothing short of excellent. Even to the point where our tree supplier agent purchased one of the new "mini" trees to take back to their head office in Everett, Ont. Although she has sold millions of Christmas trees, she said this was the first time in 28 years she had ever purchase a Christmas tree. Congratulations Hermann and crew. You all did good!

Many thanks to all our volunteers that helped to make this another record breaking year.

Special thanks to all those who so willingly help out on short notice for emergency shift coverage.

Again this year my special thanks to Brian Ernteman for the tremendous help he gave on the phone calls and scheduling. It sure does make the job easier Brian. Thank you.

Finally, a big THANK YOU to all the partners who support our volunteers from the home front and a special thanks for those that supplied treats to the trailer. Cookies, muffins, candies, tarts, oranges, chocolates and more cookies were so much appreciated by everyone.

Happy New Year and all the best for you and yours in 2016.

Don Colborne

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

ANNUAL TURKEY ROLL

On Thurs. Dec. 10th, following a shortened General meeting, we commenced our Annual Turkey Roll.

The winners of the evening were:

Turkeys: Larry Holtzman, Wanda Sanders, Howard Pearcey,
Henry Van Eerdewijk (x2), Marcus Hahn,
Terry Robinson

Hams: Cora Thompson, Harold Baker, Janice Colborne

Door Prizes: Dan Efford, Judy Sanders, Hermann Szielasko,
Bert Smit, Teresa Couture, Lawrence Lainchbury

It was good to see so many faces at the tables waiting to get their draw ticket.

A special thank you to those who generously donated their winnings to the two families that the club is sponsoring this Christmas.

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 50th year of Superbowl celebrations.

HOCKEY DAY IN CANADA
Sat. February 6, 2016

Hopefully soon, the weather will turn cold enough to make the pond ice thick enough to make a safe ice rink for the junior teams from George Bray Sports Association to hold pond hockey games at the club early in the afternoon on Sat., Feb. 6th.

All ice fishing holes must be kept well away (50 feet) from the ice rink and should be marked with a flag or small branch for safety.

Assistance is needed maintaining the ice on a regular basis and also is in need of volunteers to assist throughout the day. Please contact Stan if you can help. If you are able to assist with refreshments on this day, please contact Steve or Teresa Couture.

After the GBSA teams are finished their pond hockey games, the rink will be open for skating.

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

2nd place - \$ 50.00 gift certificate

3rd place - \$ 25.00 gift certificate

Prizes will be awarded to the longest trout species and 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.

TRAVEL FLY ROD
Draw Date: Thurs. Dec. 10, 2015



(during the annual Turkey Roll)

**Rod Cameron proudly displays his new Christmas present
– the Travel Fly Rod.
Congratulations Rod!**

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 and enjoy a few hours indoor exploring interesting information on fishing, hunting, and conservation efforts. 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

EUCHRE

The next Euchre will be held on Sat. Jan. 23rd, 2016.

Progressive Euchre is held on the 4th Saturday in each month from September through April (excluding December) and is a fun filled, social evening with good company, good cards and a lot of laughter. The games are open to both members and non-members. Arriving at the games with a partner is not mandatory. There is 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.

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.

If you are interested in hosting a Euchre evening in 2016 and would like more details as to what is involved, please contact Teresa Couture. Hosts are needed for all Euchre evenings for the balance of the season.

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.

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 or visit his website www.heafs.com

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 winners of the December monthly meeting draw were: Jeff Jurasek (50/50) and Bob Smale (multi-tool). Congratulations Jeff and Bob!

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.

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.

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

DANGER – THIN ICE

Only at the end of December did the daily temperature start to drop and soon the ice will form on the pond. Please stay on the docks to fish until the ice has completely formed and has a minimum of 4 inches of clear ice thickness.

Here are just a few reminders about pond ice safety:

No ice fishing is permitted within 50 feet of the docks once the ice has formed. This will permit us to build a decent ice rink for Hockey Day in Canada on Feb.6.

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 the ice. It is the club policy that all dogs be leashed at all times and in control of their owners.

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.

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.

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


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

Thurs. Jan. 14	General meeting
Sat. Jan. 23	Euchre
Wed. Jan. 27	Youth Committee meeting
Thurs. Jan. 28	Executive meeting
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
Sat. Mar 26	Easter Breakfast Euchre

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>George Bray Sports Association Inc.</p> <p><i>A Hockey Program for Children with Special Learning Needs A Parent Participating Non-Profit Organization</i></p> <p>Murray Howard, President Email: murrayhoward@execulink.com</p> <p>Serving the Community since 1968</p>	<p>My Handyman Bo</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>YOUR AD PLACED HERE COULD REACH OVER 225 WOFGPA MEMBERS AND FAMILIES EACH MONTH</p>
<p>THE CLUB HALL IS AVAILABLE FOR REASONABLY PRICED AFTERNOON OR EVENING RENTALS. FOR DETAILS, CALL THE CLUB AT 519-681-2370</p>	<p>DRUM LESSONS</p> <p>Learn to play drums in a family friendly atmosphere.</p> <p>For details contact Nick at 226-289-3082</p> <p>Nicholaswalker88@gamil.com</p> <p>www.facebook.com/NW_percussion</p>	<p>Foster Automotive Repair Ltd.</p> <p>All Major & Minor Repairs Class "A" Mechanic</p>  <p>Rick Foster 519-452-3511</p>
<p>THIS SPACE IS WAITING FOR YOUR BUSINESS AD</p>	<p>JOHN'S FLY MATERIALS London</p> <p>Phone John at 519-645-0932</p> <p>Fly tying materials Fly Fish tackle & Rod building supplies</p> <p>www.johnsflymaterials.com</p>	<p>ANGLING SPORTS</p> <p>681 Highbury Ave North @ Dundas Street</p> <p>519-649-7429</p> <p>Pat DeVincenzo Owner</p> <p><i>"Your full service tackle shop"</i></p>
<p>Custom furniture making and refinishing</p> <p>Mark Steckle 519-474-6848</p> <p>Visit the on-line gallery at www.custom-wood.net</p>	<p>YOUR AD COULD BE HERE</p>	<p>Lambeth Rod & Tackle Ltd.</p> <p>2404 Main Street London, ON N6P 1R2</p> <p>Steve Plaskett 519-652-5598</p> <p>For your license and all other fishing needs</p>

Club WEB Site: www.wofgpa.org