

MARCH 2017



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

March

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

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 1 st stocking (tentative)
9	10	11	12	13 General Meeting	14 Good Friday	15 Easter Breakfast
16 Easter Sunday	17	18	19	20	21	22 Spring Clean up Pot Luck & Euchre
23 Spring Trout Derby / 30	24	25	26	27 Youth Committee meeting & Executive meeting	28	29

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

**Western Ont. Fish & Game Protective Association
Executive & Committees for 2016 - 2017**

**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
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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
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
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
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

Tom & Shirley McGill	519-652-2875
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Boat Rack

Don Colborne	519-686-9559
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Membership

Valerie Grahl	519-453-0659
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Newsletter

Teresa Couture	519-668-6257
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Fundraising

Andre Koch	519-685-5725
Steve Couture	519-668-6257

Youth Committee (Adult Mentors)

Jeanette Jurasek (Chair)	519-685-0237
Brian Ernteman	519-453-3641
Autumn Ernteman	519-453-3641
Anne Jurasek	519-685-0237
Andre Koch	519-685-5725

Club Merchandise

Andre Koch	519-685-5725
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Website Administrator and Public Relations

Lawrence Lainchbury	519-681-7199
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Political & Environmental Research

Steve & Teresa Couture	519-668-6257
Stan Gibbs	519-668-2609
Lawrence Lainchbury	519-681-7199

Club Caretakers

Ray and Barb Smith	519-681-2370
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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 of all club entrances. Smokers are asked to use the containers provided for cigarette butt disposal.

**INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP DUES
EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2017**

The Executive has decided that a nominal increase in membership dues is warranted due to the rising costs of operating and maintaining WOF & GPA.

An increase of \$ 5.00 will come into effect for all membership types that come due as of March 1, 2017, (even if you pay your dues in February). The Boat Rack fee will increase by \$ 15.00 per year.

The new rates (as of March 1, 2017,) are:

Family Membership	\$ 150.00
Single Membership	\$ 130.00
Senior Membership	\$ 125.00
Boat Rack	\$ 50.00

There will not be any changes in membership dues for Youth or for a Sponsored Child.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Attention Club Youth

If you are a youth between the ages of 13 – 17 years old and would like to be an active member of WOFGPA, then this group might be for you.

The Youth Committee will be holding their first meeting on Thurs., March 23 at 6:00 pm SHARP.

Some of the benefits of being a member of WOFGPA's Youth Committee are:

- Unlimited volunteer hours which are needed as a requirement for high school graduation
- Free club hat and T-shirt
- If you are between 16 – 17 years old, your \$ 70 Youth membership fee is waived.
- If you need a recommendation letter for school or a job application, one can easily be written for you by one of the Executive board
- The groups holds one or two "pizza party" nights during the term as well as a movie night
- As a group, we will make our own activities and help out with other club events
- You gain exposure to how an Executive board operates and can add constructive input.

If you have any questions at all, do not hesitate to contact me. New members to the Youth Committee can be accepted at any time throughout the year.

At this time, I would like to remind the adult members that our annual Elections will be held on Thurs., March 9, immediately following a very short General Meeting. It is at this time, where your input in much needed in electing the Executives and Directors for the 2017 – 2018 term, who will oversee the operations of the club.

Hope to see a great turnout.

Andre Koch
1st Vice President

**ELECTIONS
THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2017 at 7:30 PM**

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive Elections for the 2017-2018 term will be held on Thursday, March 9, 2017 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

- All positions will be for a one-year period, covering March 9, 2017 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2018.
- Nomination letters may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 8, 2017, in a sealed envelope addressed to -
 - Teresa Couture
 - Secretary – WOF&GPARE: 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.

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. The committees for 2017 – 2018 will form shortly after the elections. If you are interested in joining a committee or would like more details, please contact the current committee chairperson.

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 thoughts and prayers at this difficult time are with Umberto Toso and his family after the sudden passing of Umberto's wife, Claudette in February.

Gary Carew, Terry Robinson and Mary Degan have not been having the "best of days" lately and could use some cheering up. If you have the time, reach out to them, just to say "hello".

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. The draw is held annually on Election night as one of the first duties of the new President.

The winner of the February monthly meeting draw was Marco Liberatore. Congratulations Marco.

CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

In order to remain a valid member in good standing please attend the club on the 2nd or 4th Thursday of the month to pay your membership dues, preferably at 7:00 pm (just before the scheduled meeting). Any payments that are mailed or left at the club will not be accepted and will be returned to you. If you are unable to attend the club to pay your dues on either of these dates, special arrangements for payment can be made only by contacting the Membership Chair, Val Grahl.

It is very important that you send any and all changes in mailing address, email or phone number to Val Grahl (membership committee).

WOFGPA cannot be responsible if your membership lapses due to incorrect contact information. If you choose to rejoin the club, your name will be added to the waiting list which is currently 4 to 5 year wait.

YOUTH COMMITTEE

The Youth Committee would like to thank everyone for their continuous support over the past 5 years.

We are thankful to the membership for allowing us to become such an important part of the club.

Thank you for believing that we would succeed.

on behalf on the Youth Committee
Emily Jurasek
President

FAMILY DAY ICE FISHING DERBY Mon. Feb. 20, 2017

The Family Day Ice Fishing derby, which was co-sponsored by Angling Sports and WOFGPA, was a great success. The day was warm for the anglers who came out to try their luck.

Thank you to all the volunteers who came out to assist with making this a successful derby.

SPRING CLEAN UP Sat. April 22

The Grounds Chair, Henry Van Eerdewijk will oversee cleaning up the grounds after a very long cold winter.

Many projects are planned for the day. The main project will be removing invasive buckthorn. Please bring your own rake, shovel or pruning shears as the club has a limited number.

It would be greatly appreciated if anyone can take some time now to rake away the straw from the front lawn before the grass starts to grow.

An unlimited supply of coffee and hot chocolate will be available throughout the day. Lunch will be provided for the volunteers.

FISHING LEAGUE

The Fishing League meets each Tuesday night from 5:00 pm til dusk. The list of target fish changes each week. The cost is \$ 2.00 per week with half of the proceeds going to the winner. You can join at any time as the scoring is cumulative and ends after the Fall Trout Derby.

A NIGHT OF EUCHRE

Thank you to Steve and Teresa Couture for hosting the February 25, Euchre evening for the 31 players in attendance.

The winners of the evening were:

High Man – Andre Koch (77)
High Lady – Ruth (66)
Most Lone Hands – Darlene and Tammy (4)
Mystery Man – Kevin
Mystery Lady – Eleonore and Cathy
50 / 50 – Andre Koch

The next Euchre will be on Saturday, March 25. The games are open to both members and non-members. The games start at 7:00 pm SHARP and the doors open at 6:00 pm to allow the card players to socialize before the games begin. The cost is only \$ 5.00 per player and you do not need to have a partner when you arrive. There is a light snack served during the break and door prizes at the end of the evening. A donation of a door prize or dessert is always welcome.



JIGG'S DINNER

Date: Saturday, March 18, 2017

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

Cost: \$ 15.00 per adult

ADVANCE PURCHASE ONLY BY MARCH 9TH
(General meeting and Election night)

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 appropriate supplies can be purchased.

Don't delay and miss out on getting your tickets for this often sold out evening.

NEW DOCKS

If you have been to the club lately, I am sure that you would have noticed that both the south and main docks have been removed.

Thank you to all those involved with removing the wooden docks.

The new, interlocking floating docks should arrive at the club. As they will most likely be installed on a week day, lots of help is needed. If you are physically able to assist, please let Stan Gibbs know by phone so he can contact you when the installation dates are finalized.

Many hands make light work.

SPRING TROUT DERBY

DATE: Sun., April 23
TIME: Register at 7:30
DERBY: 8:00 till noon
COST: Members \$ 15.00
Non-Members \$ 18.00
Youth \$ 5.00 (12 and under)

The derby rules will be provided at registration.

Only those anglers participating in the derby will be allowed to fish during the derby.

After the derby ends, members may fish with their daily catch limit determined by your membership type.

All fish caught during a derby do not count towards the member's daily limit.

With your registration, you will receive a light lunch and will be eligible to win one of many door prizes available. Prizes are awarded to the winners in both the Adult and Youth divisions.

1st STOCKING

Sat. April 8 has been set aside to stock the pond with Trout. The date is still tentative.

Once arrangements are finalized, the stocking details will be posted on the club bulletin boards and the website.

Please check them frequently for updates.

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.

CLUB MERCHANDISE

NEW ITEMS – “Camouflaged” ball cap, embroidered with orange “WOFGPA” for only \$ 20.

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

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. Custom orders can be placed at any time.

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

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.

Be an active member and not just a “name” on a committee.

The event calendar for 2017 – 2018 will soon be available on the club website www.wofgpa.org

Thurs. Mar. 9	General meeting & Elections
Sat. Mar. 18	Jigg's Dinner
Thurs. Mar. 23	Youth Committee meeting Executive meeting
Sat. Mar. 25	Euchre
Sat. Apr. 8	1 st stocking – To be confirmed
Thurs. Apr. 13	General meeting
Sat. Apr. 15	Eater Breakfast
Sun. Apr. 16	Easter Sunday
Sat. Apr. 22	Spring Clean up Pot luck dinner and Euchre
Sun. Apr. 23	Spring Trout derby
Sat. May 6	2 nd stocking- to be confirmed
Thurs. May 11	General meeting
Sat. May 13	Ladies Only Derby
Sun. May 14	Mother's Day
Thurs. May 25	Youth Committee meeting and 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.

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 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 caretakers, 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 party, “Engagement parties” and outdoor weddings.



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