

MARCH 2021



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	10	11 General Meeting & Annual Elections (delayed til April 8)	12	13
14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Executive Meeting	26	27 Euchre (cancelled)
28	29	30	31			

April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Membership dues increase effective today	2 Good Friday	3 Easter Breakfast (cancelled)
4 Easter Sunday	5	6	7	8 General Meeting & Annual Elections	9	10 Jigg's Dinner (cancelled)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Spring Cleanup
18 Spring Trout derby	19	20	21	22 Executive meeting	23	24 Euchre (cancelled)
25	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.

Wearing a mask is mandatory inside the club building, without exception. For your convenience, the washrooms are open and hand soap and/or sanitizer is available for use.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Executive has reviewed the operating costs which include the upkeep of building for rentals and members' use, grounds and equipment maintenance, the cost of running events and stocking among other items.

The Executive and Committee members have worked hard to keep the expenses as low as possible while still providing all the perks that the club members are accustomed to.

In order to continue operating WOFGPA in such a manner, the Executive have determined it has been many years since there has been an increase to membership rates and such an increase is now warranted.

Beginning Thurs., April 1st, there will be a \$ 10.00 increase in membership dues. This is NOT an April Fool's Day prank.

The new rates are:

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

There is no increase to Youth and Sponsor Child memberships or Boat Rack spot.

We hope that you continue to enjoy all the club offers its members and help polish this jewel that we have.

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 the Stephenson family after the sudden passing of Joanne of Rainbow Springs Trout Farm.

ELECTIONS (NEW DATE) THURSDAY, APRIL 8 at 7:30 PM

Due to the current Ontario COVID-19 Response Framework and gathering limits, the Executive of WOFGPA has decided to delay our Annual Elections one month at a time. They realize the importance of club members' input and welcome it.

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, April 8, 2021 at 7:30 pm.

- All positions will be for a one-year period, covering April 8, 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, April 7, 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. If you would like to be on a committee for the upcoming year, please speak with the current committee chairperson.

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. Stan Gibbs is present at meetings.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AND CHANGE OF CONTACT INFORMATION

Those members whose membership is due should come to the club on a scheduled meeting night (2nd or 4th Thursday) between 6:30 and 7:30 pm to pay your dues.

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 on file.

All membership renewal notices are 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 but not e-transfers.

Mailed payments and late payments will not be accepted and will be returned to you.

If payment is not made by the end of your 30-day grace period, your membership will lapse and your name 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 to 5-year wait time.

SPRING TROUT DERBY Sunday, April 18

Have you had enough of this Covid-19 yet, I have? We have decided to run our Spring Trout Derby this year with COVID-19 restrictions adhered to. This is how it will work:

Pre-registration and pay: March 25th and April 8th, from 6:30 to 7:30pm before our scheduled meeting.

Derby Time: 8am till 12pm
Cost: Due to increases in fish stocking, our prices have change to cover this:

Member	\$17.00
Non-Members	\$20.00
Children 12 and under	\$10.00

Pre-Packaged Light Lunch will be offered

This will be an outdoor event; however, the washrooms will be open. We will be limited to 100 persons on site, with volunteers in mind, anglers will be maxed at 90. Anglers on the docks will be limited to one per bench unless from the same family, then max is two. Docks and bench allocation will be done at pre-registration by a draw system. There are only 12 spots available on the docks. There are no boat number restrictions. (please keep in mind that 6ft spacing is still required in boats)

There will be cash prizes only and dependent on the number of registered anglers. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in both Adult and Child divisions. Prize for the Mystery Length of Fish.

SPRING CLEANUP Sat. April 17 starting at 8:30 am

On Sat, April 14, a crew of volunteers will meet at 8:30 am to clean up the club grounds after the winter. A number of tasks are planned. Please bring your own rake and work gloves. Refreshments will be provided. Please contact Henry Van Eerdewijk if needed.

TROUT STOCKING

Tentatively, there will be 2 Trout stockings in April. One will be early in the month and the other will be closer to the end of the month. Dates will be posted when finalized.

If you can assist, please let Stan Gibbs know.

15th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP

The Annual Tackle Swap has been postponed until late spring when it can be held outside. Watch for details.

DANGER – THIN ICE

10 cm. (4 inches) 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.

With the temperatures warming during the daytime, the ice is starting to melt and its thickness will not be even across the pond. Always fish with a buddy. Exercise caution at all times or just stay off the ice when conditions are not ideal.

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.

Thurs. Mar. 11	General Meeting & Elections (delayed until Thurs. Apr. 8)
Wed. Mar. 17	St. Patrick's Day
Thurs. Mar. 25	Executive Meeting
Sat. Apr. 3	Easter Breakfast (cancelled)
Thurs. Apr. 8	General meeting and Annual Elections (new date)
Sat. Apr. 10	Jigg's Dinner (cancelled)
Sat. Apr. 17	Spring Clean up
Sun. Apr. 18	Spring Trout Derby
Thurs. Apr. 22	Executive Meeting
Sat. Apr. 24	Pot Luck and Euchre (cancelled)

The Event Calendar for 2021 through 2022 will soon be posted on the website.



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