

FEBRUARY 2025



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

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 General meeting	14 Valentine's Day	15 19 th Annual Tackle Swap
16 GBSA Hockey Day	17 Family Day Ice fishing Derby (tentative)	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Executive meeting	28	

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 General Meeting & Annual Elections	14	15
16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27 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 2024 - 2025**

Executive

President

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

1st Vice President

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

2nd Vice President

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Secretary

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Treasurer

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Directors

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Vito LoRusso 519-857-8240

Past President

John Manvell 519-455-3627

Committees

Entertainment

Jeanette Jurasek (Chair) 519-685-0237

Teresa Couture 226-224-6351

Mary Degan 519-438-8104

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Darlene Keating 519-857-8915

Julie Thursby 519-473-5506

House

Lawrence Lainchbury (Chair) 519-681-7199

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Grounds

Lou Liberatore (Chair) 519-649-1988

Steve Couture 519-668-6257

Larry Hackman 519-657-5161

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Marco Liberatore 519-680-1222

Vito Lorusso 519-471-2114

Ken Mayer 519-808-0525

Jeff Murphy 519- 870-0049

Henry Van Eerdewijk 519-432-4239

Ponds

Stan Gibbs (Chair) 519-709-9413

Brian Allen 519-668-1908

Rod Cameron 519-685-1377

Ron Dennis

Joe Isenor 519-681-4301

Murray Lane 519-681-8309

Lou Liberatore 519-649-1988

Lawrence Lainchbury 519-681-7199

Doug Springer 519-680-2599

Bob Thursby 519-473-5506

Welfare

Teresa Couture 226-224-6351

Boat Rack

Don Colborne 519-686-9559

Membership

Valerie Grahl 519-453-0659

Newsletter

Teresa Couture 226-224-6351

Merchandise

Marco & Angela Liberatore 519-680-1222

Fundraising

Stan Gibbs 519-709-9413

Youth Committee (Adult Mentor)

Jeanette Jurasek 519-685-0237

Club Merchandise

Please see the Executive at any meeting or function

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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Busy Times

With the holiday season behind us, it is time to look forward to a busy year starting with this month. We have planned our Annual Tackle Swap on the 15th, which is a great opportunity to get out and pick up some great deals on new and used tackle and fishing equipment.

On the 16th we hope to run a small hockey tournament for the George Bray Sports Association. We sponsor a junior team in this program.

On the 17th we will be hosting our Annual Ice fishing Derby, so far, the weather is saying cold and the ice is building. See details in this newsletter.

Along with these events we have our General Meeting and Executive Meeting.

At any of these events it is a good time to pick up any of our new 150th Swag and also purchase your time slots for the sinking of the SS Herman, the pot is building.

Some of these events require some volunteers, if you want to help out, please contact me.

Yours in Conservation

Stan Gibbs-President

Note: One other important function is our elections coming in March, get involved!!

Yours in Conservation
Stan Gibbs

WELFARE

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 wishes for speedy recovery are with Cora Thompson, Ken Mayer as they recuperate.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Gord and Jeanette Spotton and their family after the passing of Gord's mother.

APPLIANCE REMOVAL AND SCRAP METAL PICKUP

For those aged 55 and over, I will remove any unused appliances at no cost if the appliance is already outside. I will charge only half price of \$ 35.00 if the appliance is inside. I will also remove any scrap metal that you have. Please call me to discuss the details and pricing

Tom Carriere
519-520-0767

ELECTIONS THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2025 7:30 PM

This notice is to advise all Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association members that the Annual Executive Elections for the 2025 - 2026 term will be held on Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 7:30 pm.

Note:

- All positions will be for a one-year period, covering March 13, 2025 through until the next election, which will be held on the second Thursday in March 2026.
- Nomination letters may be delivered to the club by Wednesday, March 12, 2025, in a sealed envelope addressed to -
Jeanette Jurasek - 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 Jeanette Jurasek (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.

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.

The new membership rates (effective July 1, 2023) are:

Family	\$ 170.00
Single	\$ 150.00
Senior	\$ 145.00
Boat Rack	\$ 60.00

There seems to be confusion as to the grace period permitted to pay dues. If your renewal date on your renewal notice is February 1, 2025, then your membership period ran from February 1, 2024 through January 31, 2025. Your membership will lapse at the end of February 2025, which is the one-month grace period permitted. At the end of the grace period, 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.

If you need special consideration regarding payment of dues, contact Val Grahl before your membership lapses. If you

must pay dues, please attend prior to the General or Executive meeting each month, held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. WOFGPA will not be responsible if your membership lapses due to incorrect contact information on our files.

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. The caretakers, Ray and Barb will not accept membership renewals.

FAMILY DAY ICE FISHING DERBY

Mon. Feb. 17, 2025

NOTE: At the time of this January Executive meeting, the ice was about 16.5 cm (6.5 inches) thick. Conditions are favorable for ice fishing but could change if the weather warms. Please check the club website and bulletin boards for updates.

As with all derbies, fishing is not permitted prior to the start of the derby. Normal daily catch limits will apply to members following the derby.

Derby:	runs 8:00 am till noon
Registration:	starts at 7:30 am
Cost:	\$ 15.00 Adults
	\$ 10.00 Childre, aged 12 and under

POST ELECTION DINNER

Sat. April 5

It is a WOFGPA tradition, that the new Executive body serves dinner to club members and their guests.

The ticket cost is \$ 30.00 each and are available in limited supply. Don't delay as tickets often sell out quickly.

For more information and to purchase your tickets, please speak with Jeanette Jurasek or Stan Gibbs.

CLUB MERCHANDISE

The club is now loaded with plenty of new swag for its members, family and friends.

Blue zippered hoodies	\$ 55
Blue sweaters	\$ 30
Blue, long sleeved T-shirts	\$ 30
Blue, short sleeved t-shirts	\$ 20
Blue Hoodies	\$ 40
Ball caps	\$ 15 - \$ 35
Winter Toques	\$ 15

Some items can be custom ordered such as jackets with name for an additional cost.

Please see Marco or Angela Liberatore at any meeting or function.

19th ANNUAL TACKLE SWAP

DATE:	Sat. Feb. 15 th , 2025
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.

GUNS AND AMMUNITION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE

TORONTO SPORTSMAN SHOW

Fri., March 14, 2025

Kudos to Lou Liberatore for trying to arrange a charter bus trip to the Toronto Sportsman Show in Toronto. He spent a few hours trying to make this a success and memorable trip for club members and their friends.

Unfortunately, due to lack of response he had no choice but to cancel this trip.

GBSA HOCKEY DAY

Sat. Feb. 16

WOFGPA has sponsored this organization for many years. This year, the junior teams will come to the club to experience a Canadian tradition or playing hockey on the pond.

If you are able to assist for the morning, please come out.

SAVE THE DATE

Our club, the Western Ontario Fish & Game Protective Association is celebrating 150 years this year.

We have some exciting events coming. Our Friends and Family Day is Sat., June 28th as well as our Adult only event will be Sat., Aug. 23rd. More information to follow so look in your upcoming newsletters for further details.

ICE FISHING

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.

If ice derbies are planned, it will be last minute notice and dependant on ice conditions. If you wish to be informed of these derbies, please contact Stan Gibbs.

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. Professional bar service is offered in the wet bar.

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

Please contact Barb Smith to discuss hall availability and rates. 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 get discounted rates on Friday and Saturday evening rentals and not on hourly rate rentals.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Details of these functions will be posted on the club website, the bulletin boards and in the newsletter. Please check these locations frequently.

Thurs Feb 13	General Meeting
Fri Feb 14	Valentines Day
Sat Feb 15	Tackle Swap
Mon Feb 17	Family Day Ice Derby
Thurs Feb 27	Executive Meeting

Thurs Mar 13	General meeting
Thurs Mar 27	Executive Meeting

Sat Apr 5	Post Election Dinner
Thurs Apr 10	General Meeting
Sat Apr 12	Spring Clean up
Sun Apr 13	Spring Trout Derby
Fri Apr 18	Good Friday
Sat Apr 19	Easter Breakfast
Sun Apr 20	Easter Sunday
Thurs Apr 24	Executive Meeting

Thurs. May 8	General Meeting
Sat May 10	Ladies Only Derby
Sun May 11	Mothers Day
Mon May 19	Victoria Day
Thurs May 22	Executive Meeting

Be an active member of WOF & GPA and reap the all the benefits this club has to offer and be not just a "name" on a committee list. Volunteers with a common purpose are the core reason why the club has existed for nearly 150 years.

Watch for details of upcoming 150th Anniversary events in your newsletter, check the bulletin boards and the club website.



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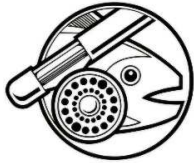
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Dan Colig

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1125 WELLINGTON ROAD SOUTH, LONDON, ON N6E 1M1

GIANT TIGER



TIGRE GÉANT

JOEL ST. ARNAUD
Store Owner

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Established in 1961 - Établie en 1961