

EAST REGION W.F.S.A SHORE LEAGUE RULES

The event will be fished over six legs, bi-monthly throughout the year. Dates & venues will be decided at a special Shore League meeting prior to the event in the month of November.

Only Clubs/Teams present at that meeting will be allowed to put forward dates and venues, which will be voted for democratically. Rule & Venue proposals must be with the East Region WFSA secretary 2 weeks before the shore league meeting.

Voting strength will be one vote per Club/Team.

Teams will consist of five anglers, to be named prior to the start of the first leg and three reserves that do not have to be named until required to fish. In the event of a team member dying or incapacitated due to injure or illness, a substitute person other then reserves may be used.

All Teams Members must belong to a club that is affiliated to the WFSA or be a personal member of the WFSA.

Clubs may enter more than one team.

Entry fees to fish the league will be £5 cash per team, payable to the EAST REGION of the W.F.S.A. With a further £45 per team which will be fished for on the last leg of the league. See details later in the document.

If a team wishes to fish in the National Shore League Final they must state their intention at the start of the first leg. A self-financing fee of £200 plus pools (£100) per team is payable to the National Shore League Organisers prior to the final.

East Region Shore League legs will be fished to W.F.S.A rules & size limits, with the exception of the following;

1. Spotted / Cuckoo Ray 30cm wing tip to wing tip.
2. All other Ray's 45cm wing tip to wing tip.
3. Whiting 27cm.
4. Pouting 18cm.
5. Poor cod 18cm.

The Final of the National Shore League will be fished to the Organisers rules & size limits.

Booking in and leave draw time:

All clubs must be booked in by the time stated on the fixture. It is the responsibility of the Team Captains to fill out the booking in sheet, collect pool and hand to organizer.

A draw will then take place by the organiser to establish which team will leave first etc.

Reserves and visitors on the team sheet will be allowed to leave the same time as the team.

Inappropriate driving when leaving car park (wheel spins) and dangerous overtaking when travelling to fishing marks.

The above will not be tolerated and will result in a total ban from the event if found guilty!

- Note: Participating anglers are not allowed to have rod stands on the beach prior to the start of the match, or have a rod stand placed by any other person not taking part in the match. Disqualification of the whole team will result if such practices are found to have taken place.
- The minimum distance between anglers must be 5 metres, unless by mutual agreement of all interested parties to fish in closer proximity. Casting in front or directly behind a fellow competitor is strictly forbidden.
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League Points will be awarded to the heaviest bag of fish. Points start from 100 for first place down to 1. The individual points will then be added together to establish the Team positions.

Note: All team anglers, reserves and visitors will be awarded points if fish are caught up to 100th place. This will enable anyone fishing the shore league to be eligible to win the overall individual series. For which there is a prize of a top range **Anyfish Anywhere** beach caster. 2nd & 3rd place will receive lesser grade bass/beach casters

In the event of a tie on weight, number of fish will be the deciding factor. If still tied then positional points will be added together and divided equally between the numbers of anglers that have tied.

All five-team individual points will count towards team positions.

NO FISH, NO POINTS

In the event of a tie on Team points at the end of a leg. Total Team weight will be taken into account.

In the event of a tie on Team points at the end of the series, Team Individual points will be the deciding factor. If still tied, total Team weight will be taken into account.

Clubs holding competitions in-conjunction with Shore League legs must fish the same times.

Each venue will have limits suitably defined on the fixture list. Anyone found to be out of bounds will result in their Team being disqualified from the leg.

In the event of adverse weather conditions, the organising will indicate to the Team Captains that a meeting will take place, prior to the start of the leave draw procedure. A majority vote of Team Captains will decide on the course of action.

Changing of the venue will be acceptable providing a suitable venue is agreed by a majority vote by Team Captain.

In snow conditions were anglers can not travel to the venue safely. The event will be cancelled after a risk assessment has been done by the event organiser. Cancelled events will not be rescheduled.

Lines must be out of the water, fifteen minutes before the start of the competition. This includes Club Members not involved with the Shore League.

Practice casting with WEIGHT ONLY will be permitted.

Each leg will have a series of POOL systems in operation. They are as follows;

Compulsory team pool of £3 per individual including reserves and visitors. This will be split 50%,30% and 20% between the 1st 2nd and 3rd teams on the day.

Compulsory Individual (Excluding juniors), Pool of £5 per individual to be split between top 5 heaviest bags. 40%, 25%, 20%, 10% & 5% between the 1st 2nd 3rd 4th & 5th individuals on the day.

Individual, named species and most fish pools will be paid out on the day. Due to the time it takes to compile overall results & to avoid errors the production of the team & individual positions will be compiled the following day and published via E-mail, WFSAs web site and social media. (Facebook) Team pools will be paid out at the next leg of the shore league. The only exception will be on the last of the series where the results will be completed on the day and team super pools will be paid out.

Overall individual points prizes. Supplied by Julian Shambrook of ANYFISH ANYWHERE.

The top individual points winner prize will be funded by the East Region WFSAs. To fund the 2nd and 3rd individual points prizes, £35 will be taken from the individual pool on each leg. Remaining money will be split between top 5 anglers as follows: 40%, 25%, 20%, 10% & 5%.

Optional Pool of £1 per individual for the greatest number of fish caught by an individual. 100% pay out to one angler only. If two anglers tie the POOL, then the weight of the fish will be the deciding factor. Optional Pool of £1 per individual for the heaviest named species. 100% pay out. In the event of a tie the prize will be shared.

To keep all teams interested in the event throughout the six legs, the optional team entry of £45 per team will be fished for on the last leg. Thus giving all the teams a chance to win a respectable amount of prize money at the end of the league. Pay out will be split 50%, 30%, 20%. **Each team must have fished the five previous legs to be eligible to fish for the money on the last leg.**

Recommendation: For those teams who are genuinely interested in fishing the National Shore League final, any team prize money won during the course of the six-match league, could be used to fund the entry to the National Shore League event.

Named Species for the Shore League legs are as follows:

May	Pouting
June	Ray.
July	Smooth Hound.
September:	Conger Eel.
October	Rockling.
November	Whiting

Any in size fish caught before the start of the competition must return to the water. **Fish caught to be used as bait, (not silver eels and bass) must be de-tailed prior to the start of the match.** In size fish caught during the match with the exception of silver eels and bass may also be used as bait as long as they are de-tailed after being weighed.

All fish can be weighed on the beach using digital scales and returned to the water, provided a member of another team signs the fish card. Each fish must be recorded as a separate entry on the fish card. Note: Fish must be weighed in KILOS; if no digital/metric scales available then the fish must be brought back to the weigh in. Fish weighed in pounds & ounces will not count.

Fish Cards are to be handed to the team captains at the end of the match. Team captains will then hand all team cards to the organisers. Card will not be accepted from individual anglers.

Note: Match cards that do not have the anglers name and team on the card or are eligible to read will be disqualified.

Additional Guidelines

Team Captains to ensure all participants are aware of the rules. Ignorance of the rules will not be accepted.

Rules violation procedure.

Any objections must be lodged in writing using the rules violation form. See Appendix 2. This be will available on request from the organizer and must be submitted before the end of the weigh in, along with a £10 fee. This will be refundable if the objection is up held.

Covid 19 Pandemic.

Due to government restrictions/guidelines on the covid 19 pandemic. Normal booking in & weighing procedures are temporarily suspended. Details of these procedures will give to team captains a week prior to each event via the Shore League Team Captains WhatsApp group.

COVID 19 East Region Shore League 2021 Social Distancing whilst on the Beach.

Shore league matches are catch, weigh & release where fish must be measured, weighed by a member of another team. In keeping with the current Angling Cymru guidelines social distancing must be maintained at all times a minimum of 2 metres apart. When presenting a fish to be measured & weighed the captor must stand 2 metres away from the measure & scales then agree that the fish is in size & it's weight with the opposing team member. The captor will then record the weight on his card with the printed name of the person who has weighed the fish. At no stage of the process should anglers be handling other anglers' cards during the match. At the end of the match a line must be drawn under the last fish recorded on the card. The card must be given to the team captains or the organiser at the agreed location at the end of each match.

Scale accuracy, weighing and recording of fish. Rules for Seamaster and Shore League legs.

Introduction:

All participating anglers must carry a set of digital scales. A periodical calibration check will take place at booking in locations.

The catch and release method for the weighing in of fish for the above competitions has been in operation for the last 2 to 3years. In general this change of practice as been a resounding success and has been welcomed by most anglers.

However, there are some areas that must be tightened up on to ensure we improve the accuracy of the results.

Scales and calibration accuracy:

Like all aspects of calibration, scale accuracy is only as good as the day of calibration. To limit the amount of error between one set of scales and another, the follow rules will apply.

1. All scales used must be digital.
2. All weights must be recorded in metric.
3. When calibration checks are done prior to matches. A tolerance of 0.01 (10grams) either way of a kilo test weight will be accepted.

Measuring of Fish:

Only ridged-calibrated measures should be used & where possible laid on a flat surface. The fish must be laid **on the measure** with mouth closed/snout touching the end stop of the

measure. Holding the fish firmly with one hand straighten the fish with the other hand along the measure. The length should then be recorded when appropriate with the tail closed. In length matches measurement should be round down to the nearest centimetre.

Note: Fish must not be measured using paper or cloth tapes, as these are prone to stretching & shrinkage. On no account should a fish be measured with the measure on the top of the fish this results in inaccurate measurement due the measure following the contours of the fish.

Weighing of the fish:

Remembering the reason why we have introduced catch and lease policy, all fish should be treated with as much respect as possible and the following rules will apply.

1. All fish must be brought to the scales in a bucket of water.
2. All fish must be measured prior to being weighed to ensure they comply with WFSA/Match size limits.
3. A maximum of 3 fish can be brought for weigh in at any one time but must be weighted and recorded separately.
4. Small fish should be weighted in a bucket or plastic bag remembering to calibrate the scales with the receptacle attached before weighing the fish. Scales be set to zero before weighing the next fish.
5. Larger fish should be weighed by attaching to scales via the mouth.
6. In windy conditions, steadying of the fish being weighed must be done to eliminate scale-reading variations until a steady reading is obtained. If a constant weigh can still not be achieved, then the lowest weight should be recorded.
7. Prior to weighing, all fish must be checked and emptied of seawater ensuring the water does not enter the bucket or plastic bag.
8. In cases were an angler is not fishing within 100 yards of another angler, the fish must be weight and return on the beach at the earliest opportunity.

Recording of fish on the fish card:

This is one area where the standard of the fish recording leaves a lot to be desired and can be a nightmare to sort out for organisers of matches.

It is recognised that genuine mistakes can be made when dealing with numerical aspects of fish recording, however the standard of information on a number of fish cards is unacceptable. E.G. No names and club information, no fish species, and no tallying of fish at the end of the match without card signed off by adjacent anglers.

The following rules will apply:

1. Ensure your name and club are clearly written on the card.
2. Species of fish are written in the appropriate column.
3. Record weight of each fish individually in the first recording column, then complete the running total in the next column to the right.
4. At the end of the match the accumulative total should be marked on the card and signed off as correct by the adjacent angler.

Leaving of litter on the beach:

Any angler reported via the rules violation procedure for leaving litter on the beach will be fined £20 and issued a yellow card. A second offence during the series will result in a one match ban. The leaving of plastic of any description, glass bottles and tin cans etc on the beach is now banned in all shore league matches. Any left-over bait which is not likely to be engulfed by the incoming tide should be thrown into the sea.

Note:

Organisers have the right to disqualify persistent offenders, may be a yellow/red card system should be in place!!!!

**THE ABOVE RULES & GUIDELINES ARE A CONTROLLED DOCUMENT
COMPILED BY STEVE CHADWICK. THE DOCUMENT WAS RATIFIED
BY THE REGIONAL MEETING HELD ON THE 12TH OF NOVEMBER 2020
AT THE MONKSSTONE INN. SHORE LEAGUE DATES FOR 2022 WILL BE
CHOSEN AT THE REGIONAL MEETING ON THE 3RD OF NOVEMBER
2022 AT THE MONKSTONE INN NEWORT ROAD RUMNEY CARDIFF.**

Appendix 1 Rules Summary.

EAST REGION WFSA GARRY EVANS SEAMASTER & SHORE LEAGUE COMPETITION RULE.

- Acceptance of the rules is compulsory on entry.
All events run by the East Region WFSA will be fished to WFSA size limits with the exception of the following: Spotted/Cuckoo Ray 30cm /All other Ray's 45cm wing tip to wing tip. Whiting 27cm. Pouting/Poor Cod 18cm. Bull Huss 45cm. Other Club open competitions may fish to other sizes limits but not if they use the Garry Evans Fish cards supplied by the East region WFSA.
- The organising officials reserve the right to inspect all tackle boxes & containers of participants. Refusal of the inspection will result in automatic disqualification from the competition.
- All fishing lines will be out of the water 15 minutes prior to the start of the competition.
- Any in size fish caught before the start of the competition must return to the water. Unless intended to be used as bait (not silver eels and bass) & must be de-tailed prior to the start of the match. In size fish caught during the match with the exception of silver eels and bass may also be used as bait as long as they are de-tailed after being weighed.
- The minimum distance between two anglers rod stands must be 5 metres, unless by mutual agreement of all interested parties to fish in closer proximity. Fishing/casting in front or directly behind a fellow competitor is strictly forbidden.
- **IN THE INTEREST OF SAFETY, it is recommended that casting styles of all competitors be undertaken in a manner, which respects the HEALTH & SAFETY of fellow anglers in close proximity. The use of shock leader is COMPLUSORY where the breaking strain of which should be more than adequate to handle the size of the lead weight being cast. As a guide, it is generally accepted that the shock leader used should be ten times the strength of the weight use. E.g. if the lead used is 5 ozs, and then the shock leader should be a minimum of 50lb breaking strain. All competitors have the right to question the style of casting of another competitor with the nearest available steward. If the style being used is considered to be dangerous, then that competitor will be warned. A second warning could mean disqualification.**
- Wading out to cast or to retrieve a fish above mid-thigh is not allowed. This also includes gaining access to Sully Island.
- Except in roving competitions, once a competitor has started to fish, the only movement permitted is up or down the beach, unless it is necessary to move along the beach to land a fish or un-tangle crossed lines. Any movement along the beach to cast is not allowed if by doing so another competitor is passed. Putting a spare rod stand by a competitor for him/her self to reserve what would be a considered to be legitimate available fishing space is strictly forbidden. Should a competitor be found guilty of these practise, disqualification from the event along with forfeit of entry fee will be automatic. Provision can be made to reserve a space for an organising official of the event.

- Foul hooked Fish - Any fish, which is deemed to be caught fairly, will register, and provided that it has been hooked by only one angler and is not landed on previously lost tackle.
- Except in roving competitions, once a competitor has started to fish, the only movement permitted is up or down the beach, unless it is necessary to move along the beach to land a fish or un-tangle crossed lines. Any movement along the beach to cast is not allowed if by doing so another competitor is passed.
- The practise of two competitors sharing one rod stand is not permitted under any circumstances. Including when fishing with a junior.
- When measuring fish, only ridged-calibrated measures should be used & where possible laid on a flat surface. The fish must be laid **on the measure** with mouth closed/snout touching the end stop of the measure. Holding the fish firmly with one hand straighten the fish with the other hand along the measure. The length should then be recorded when appropriate with the tail closed. In all matches, measurement should be round down to the nearest centimetre. with the tail closed.

Note: Fish must not be measured using paper or cloth tapes, as these are prone to stretching & shrinkage. On no account should a fish be measured with the measure on the top of the fish, this results in inaccurate measurement due the measure following the contour of the fish.

- All “in size” fish caught will be reported to & booked in individually to the nearest angler or opposing team member at the earliest practicable time, where the species & approximate length will be recorded on the competitors match card.
 - Fish when landed, must be kept completely separate from those caught by other competitors or companions. This includes rock pools or any form of holding apparatus.
 - Any competitor found guilty of cheating may be subject to a life ban from all events held under the auspices of the WFSA & may face exposure to fellow angling organisations & the media.
 - Cars will be parked only in the areas designated for that purpose; this applies in particular to competitions fished at Cardiff Foreshore & Rhoose point.
 - For competitions held on Cardiff Foreshore. Any competitor gaining access by car to Port Authority property before the agreed access time will be disqualified. Entrance fees to the Competition will be forfeited. *
- **Leaving of litter on the beach:** The leaving of plastic of any description, glass bottles and tin cans etc on the beach is now banned in all Garry Evans Seamaster & Shore League matches left over bait that is not likely to be engulfed by the incoming tide should be thrown into the sea. Any angler reported via the rules violation procedure for leaving litter on the beach will be fined £20 and issued a yellow card. A second offence in the year will be banned from matches for a year.

Complaints Procedure: Should any competitor feel justified to make a complaint against any one or more fellow competitors regarding contravention of the rules, cheating or leaving of litter. This must be submitted in writing & handed to any official prior to the closing of the scales at the official weigh in. There is a complaints form available at Shore League & Open matches run by the East Region on request.

Fish card completion. Note: It is the sole responsibility of the angler to as to the safety of the card & to ensure the card is handed in at the weight in.

1. Name & Club (if any) to be inserted on the card.
2. Fish Species section must be completed (no dittos) & legible weight recorded.
3. All fish must be individually signed by an adjacent angler but not from the same team in shore league matches.
4. Failure to comply with the above may result in disqualification.

Appendix 2.

EAST REGION WFSA SHORE LEAGUE RULE VILALATION PERFORMA

TEAM NAME.....

TEAM CAPTAIN.....

BRIEF PRECIS OF VILALATION.....

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BY TEAM OR INDIVIDAU/S.....

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FISHING FOR WHICH TEAM.....

TEAM CAPTAIN SIGNATURE.....

£10 deposit to be attached to Performa. (Refundable if objection is up held by a committee of 2 organisers plus an independent team captain.)