

ANGLING CYMRU SEA ANGLERS/EAST REGION (ACSAER) SHORE LEAGUE STRUCTURE 2023.

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 ACSA East Region 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 injury or illness, a substitute person other than reserves may be used.

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

Clubs may enter more than one team.

Entry fees to fish the league will be £5 cash per team, payable to ACSA EAST REGION, 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 SEA ANGLING MATCH FEDERATION (SAMF) 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 ACSA rules & size limits, with the exception of the following;

1. Whiting 27cm.
2. Pouting 18cm.
5. Poor cod 18cm.
6. Bull huss 45cm.

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.
- 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 cannot 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 (including juniors with permission from their parent or guardian.) 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.

Due to the time it takes to compile overall results & to avoid errors the production of the team & individual positions may be compiled the following day dependant on fish caught volumes. Results will then be published via E-mail, ACSAER web site and social media. (Facebook/Team Captains WhatsApp group) In the event of this happening, 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 WFSA. 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 SAMF National Shore League event.

Named Species for the Shore League legs are as follows:

January Rockling, March Pouting, May Ray, July Smooth Hound, September Conger Eel, 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 will be weighed on the beach using digital scales and returned to the water, provided a member of an opposing team signs the fish card. Each fish must be recorded a signed for as a separate entry on the fish card, no dittos.

Note: As this is catch & release event no fish to be brought back for weighing at the end of the match. Fish must be weighed in KILOS. Fish weighed in pounds & ounces will not count.

Fish Cards are to be handed to the organisers at the end of the match.

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 will be given to the team captains in the form of a QR code which can be scanned by team members to keep on their mobile phones.

Rules violation 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. **Complainants name will remain anonymous to everyone other than the organisers dealing with the complaint.**

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.

Name & Club (if any) to be inserted

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 has 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 following 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 to 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 where an angler is not fishing within 100 yards of another angler, the fish must be weighed and returned 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, no dittos.
3. Record weight & get signed of each fish individually by an opposing team member, no dittos.
4. Accumulative totals of fish weight are not mandatory as each card will be checked by event organisers.
5. Failure to comply with the above will result in disqualification

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 REVIEWED BY THE ACSA EAST REGION AGM HELD ON THE 1ST OF MARCH 2023 AT THE MONKSTONE INN. NEXT REVIEW & SHORE LEAGUE DATES FOR 2024 WILL BE CHOSEN AT THE REGIONAL MEETING ON THE 1ST OF NOVEMBER 2023 AT THE MONKSTONE INN NEWORT ROAD RUMNEY CARDIFF CF3 4LL.

ACSAER GARRY EVANS SEAMASTER & SHORE LEAGUE COMPETITION RULE.

- Acceptance of the rules is compulsory on entry.
All events run by the ACSAER will be fished to ACSA size limits with the exception of the flowing: 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 ACSA.
- 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 HEATH & SAFTEY 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 5oz's, 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 will mean disqualification.**
- **Wading out to cast or retrieve a fish above mid-thigh is not allowed. This also includes gaining access to fishing locations such as Sully Island, Sand Spit, Stout Point & St Donats Point.**
- 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.
- In shore league legs no stands are allowed to be put on the beach in advance of the booking in procedure.
- **Foul hooked Fish - Any fish, which is deemed to be caught fairly, can be registered providing that it has been hooked by only one angler. Fish brought in with a second rig attached is allowed but must be hooked on the anglers own rig, and that the second rig is not attached to another anglers rod.**
- 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. No casting behind an adjacent angler.
- 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.

- A maximum of 3 in size fish may be recorded & weighed in at any one time with the nearest angler or opposing team member in shore league matches, at the earliest practicable time. Where the species & approximate length will be recorded on the competitors fish 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 ACSA & 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 banned from matches for a year.

Complaints Procedure: See appendix 1. 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. **Complainants name will remain anonymous to everyone other than the organisers dealing with the complaint.**

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. **Accumulative totals of fish weight are not mandatory as each card will be checked by event organisers.**
5. Failure to comply with the above will result in disqualification.

PEGGED MATCH RULES FOR THE ACSAER GARRY EVANS SEAMASTER LEG / PENN POINTS QUALIFIER AT ABERAVON

MATCH TYPE: PEGGED, 4 ZONES, 25 PEGS PER ZONE. CATCH MEASURE & RELEASE MATCH. PRIZES & POINTS WILL BE AWARDED ON THE CONTINENTAL SYSTEM.

FISH SIZE LIMITS: ALL FISH 20 CM & OVER ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE MEASURED ROUNDED DOWN TO THE NEAREST CM.

**DOGFISH/BULL HUSS COUNT AS 45CM
RAYS MEASURED TAIL TO SNOUT.**

ONLY SOLID MEASURES TO BE USED FOR MEASURING OF FISH NO TAPE OR DIY MEASURES.

ALL FISH CAUGHT ON A CAST MUST BE BROUGHT TO AN ADJACENT ANGLER IN A BUCKET OF WATER FOR MEASUREMENT & RECORDING. THE FISH MUST BE RETURNED TO THE WATER IN FRONT OF THE ANGLER SIGNING THE FISH CARD BEFORE THE NEXT CAST IS RETRIEVED.

ANY FISH CAUGHT TO BE KEPT FOR THE TABLE OR BAIT MUST HAVE THE TAIL REMOVED INFRONT OF AN ADJACENT ANGLER.

CARD MANAGEMENT: ANGLERS NAME MUST BE ON THE CARD. ALL FISH TO BE DOCUMENTED INDIVIDUALLY WITH SPECIES NAME, ALONG WITH RECORDED LENGTH. EACH FISH MUST BE SIGNED OFF INDIVIDUALLY BY AN ADJACENT ANGLER. NO DITTOS.

SAFTEY: MINIMUM OF 50LB SHOCK LEADER REQUIRED. NO CASTING BEHIND ADJACENT ANGLERS LEFT OR RIGHT OF THE ALLOCATED PEG.

PEG BOUNDARIES: ANGLING ACTIVITIES MUST TO RESTRICTED TO UP & DOWN THE BEACH DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE ALLOCATED PEG, UNLESS RETRIEVING FISH OR SORTING OUT ADJACENT ANGLERS TANGLED RIGS.

NO WADING OVER MID THIGH HEIGHT.

COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE: SEE APPENDIX 1. ANY ANGLERS WISHING TO MAKE A COMPLAINT AGAINST ANOTHER PARTICIPATING ANGLER MUST DO SO IN WRITING THE END OF THE MATCH. A COMPLAINTS PRO FORMA WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE RESULTS LOCATION ON REQUEST. THE COMPLAINT WILL BE DEALT WITH BY TWO MATCH OFFICIALS PLUS ONE OTHER INDEPENDENT PARTICIPATING ANGLER.

COMPLIANTANTS NAME WILL REMAIN ANONYMOUS TO EVERYONE OTHER THEN THE ORGANISERS DEALING WITH THE COMPLAINT.

APPENDIX 1

ACSAER SEAMASTER / SHORE LEAGUE LEG COMPLAINTS PROFORMA

NAME OF COMPLAINANT.....

BRIEF PRECIS OF COMPLAINT INCLUDING ANY CLEAR PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE & WITNESS STATEMENTS.

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BY INDIVIDUAL/S/TEAM/S.....

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SIGNATURE.....

Penalties:

Litter violation: 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 series will result in a ban from the remaining legs in the series.

Rule Violation: Will result in disqualification from the match and a yellow card. Second offence, ban from all remaining legs in the series.

Cheating: Any competitor found guilty of cheating may be subject to a life ban from all events held under the auspices of the ACSA & may face exposure to associated angling organisations & media.