

# Angling Trust

## Marine

### Wyvern Region



# HANDBOOK

(Updated 19/11/2021)



## ANGLING TRUST — WYVERN REGIONAL — MAP

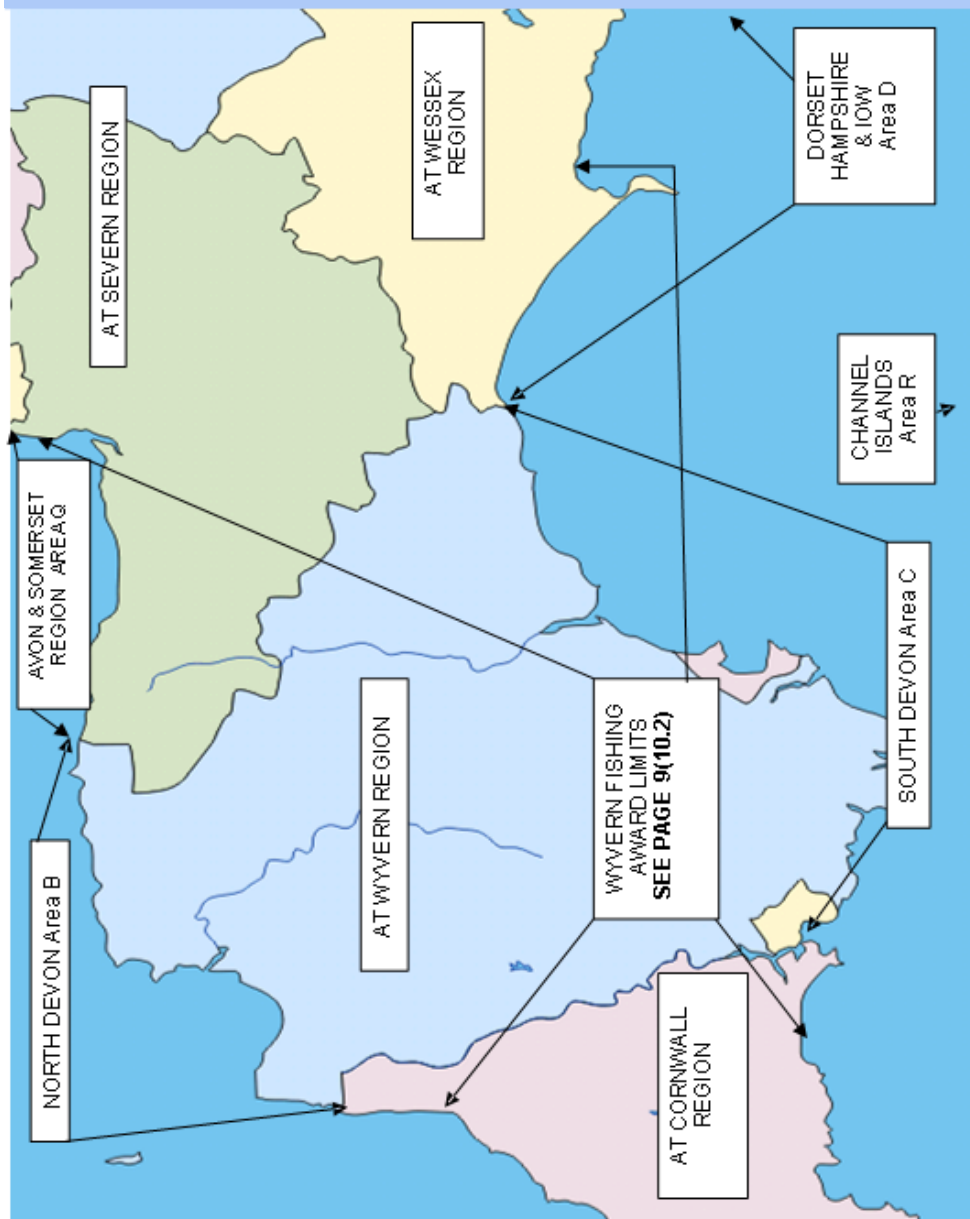
### Showing Regional Boundaries, & Wyvern Fishing Award Limits:

**North Coast:** Crackington Haven Beach – West Bank of the River Axe at Brea Down

**South Coast:** East Bank of the River Looe including Banjo Pier – West Bank of the River Wey including the Stone Pier. Boat Departure Looe & Weymouth

**Channel Islands**

**Specimen Areas:** Cornwall Area A; North Devon Area B; South Devon Area C; Avon & Somerset Area Q; Dorset, Hampshire & IOW Area E; Channel Islands Area R



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## About the Wyvern Region

The Wyvern Division was the first regional committee to be established in 1964 by the National Federation of Sea Anglers (NFSA) to promote and deal with local sea angling issues. The west-country members of the NFSA Standing Committee; Ron Marles, Brixham SAC; Derek Hales, Teignmouth Sea Angling Society, along with representatives of the clubs within the area became the first committee.

The divisional boundaries were drawn up and the name was taken from the old military area as was its neighbouring Division to the east, Wessex. Wyvern quickly became established and over the next 20 years developed into one of the top divisions, a position it holds to this day. At its heyday there were over 100 clubs in membership and the successfully run Festivals and Competitions enabled the Division to be self-financing and thus enable the division to be very effective within its area.

In 1986 following a disagreement in policy and procedures between some of the officers and committee with the NFSA Standing Committee, the division was split with some committee members leaving to form the South West Federation of Sea Anglers. The remaining committee under Ron Bradley, Plymouth SAC; chairman, John Hunt, Rodbenders SAC; secretary, Harry Bottomley, Bideford & District SAC and Torbay ASA; treasurer and its loyal members took up the challenge and the Division survived. It was about this time that the present Chairman Alex Parker and Secretary Mike Spiller joined the committee and since then it has continued to effectively carry out its work for anglers within the area.

In 2009, following the requirements of Sport England for funding, the three disciplines of angling came together and the NFSA became the marine arm of the Angling Trust (AT) which was established as the governing body of all angling in England. The name division was dropped to become a region of the AT Marine Group and its officers continue to represent its interests on competitions and fisheries matters.

The Region has always played its part by representing sea anglers interests whenever it can, and has been represented on the Devon Sea Fisheries Committee now replaced by the Devon & Severn Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) for many years.

It continues to organise annual Senior and Junior Shore Festivals along with the National two-day Small Boat Festival at Salcombe, (the Friendly Festival). The monthly Fish of the Month Competition and the annual Junior Dennis Smith Trophy and senior Castle Trophy Shield, which donates a sum each year to the charity of the winner's choice, are both awarded for the best specimen fish registered within the year.

However, there is a saying, "to stand still is to go backwards," and to maintain our work we always need new, fresh ideas and the committee welcome new people who have an interest in the future of sea angling. They must be prepared to give up five evenings a year to attend the committee meetings to help shape the future and deal with any issue that is identified as being a benefit or threat to recreational sea angling.

Therefore, a plea from our chairman Alex Parker, to cordially invites Angling Trust Members or Club representatives to join us at our meeting venue at the Royal British Legion in Alphington, Exeter on the second Wednesday of the months of January, April, July and October, or, at the very least the Annual General Meeting in November of each year.

Finally, sea angling is about enjoying its pleasures, we are the eyes and ears of the marine environment and it is up to us to make sure that future generations can continue to share those pleasures.



**Angling Trust Model Marine Region  
© Constitution and Rules**

**(These rules are the property of the AT and should not be reproduced)**

**1. Title**

The name of the organisation shall be the Angling Trust (AT) Wyvern Marine Region (hereinafter referred to as "the Region").

**2. Area of Operation**

The Regional boundaries will be established to coincide with the boundaries determined for the local Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority, but are at present as map on page 2

**3. Objects**

The Objects of the Region shall be: -

- 3.1 To promote and protect the interests of sea fisheries, sea angling, individual sea anglers and sea angling clubs within the Region.
- 3.2 To provide an opportunity for AT sea angling members and clubs to meet and debate issues of common interest.
- 3.3 To provide the main communication link for AT sea angling members to and from the AT Marine Committee and thereafter, the AT Board
- 3.4 To provide and maintain effective communication and representation with the regional IFCA and any other appropriate body.
- 3.5 To aim to achieve adequate representation for sea angling and marine fisheries on all appropriate bodies.
- 3.6 To promote the active participation and co-operation of all sea angling clubs and individual sea anglers in membership of Angling Trust within the region and so further the general aims of Angling Trust
- 3.7 To elect two representatives to represent the region on the Angling Trust Marine Committee.
- 3.8 To encourage representatives to participate in the development of policy and policy documents for Angling Trust through the AT Marine Advisory Group.
- 3.9 To nominate two or more representatives to serve on the local IFCA and to represent the views of anglers and clubs in the region.
- 3.10 To arrange opportunities for sea angling competitions within the region.

**4. Membership**

- 4.1 Membership is open to all Angling Trust individual sea angling members, Angling Trust sea angling member clubs, AT member charter skippers and AT members with an interest in sea angling within the Region
- 4.2 Representatives of other sea angling or sea fisheries organisations and any other appropriate organisations may be invited to join the Region as agreed by the members of the Region.
- 4.3 Serving members of the regional Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority and any similar body appointed to represent sea fisheries and sea angling interests may be invited to attend meetings of the Region.
- 4.4 Members wishing to attend regional meetings should register with the secretary to ensure communications are received.

**5. Meetings**

- 5.1 The Region shall meet at least quarterly at a time and venue as determined by the members.
- 5.2 Notices and agendas of all meetings of the Region will be published on the Wyvern Sea Angling website
- 5.3 The meeting following the end of the financial year shall be the Annual General Meeting (AGM) for which 28 days' notice will be given.
- 5.4 Each member organisation may be represented by up to two representatives but shall have one vote only.

- 5.5 In the event that any vote taken by members is tied, the Chairman shall have a second and casting vote.
- 5.6 Representation of not less than 20% (twenty per cent) of the registered membership of the Forum shall constitute a quorum.
- 5.7 An Extra-ordinary General Meeting may be called at the request of at least one third of the full membership and in which case the Secretary shall give at least twenty-eight days' notice in writing to all members. Such notice shall specify the time, date, venue and the reason for calling the meeting.

## **5.8 Annual General Meeting**

- 5.8.1 An AGM shall be held at a venue, date and time agreed by the Committee. The venue, date and agenda, together with any amendment to the rules, shall be published on the Wyvern Sea Angling website at least 28 days before the meeting date.
- 5.8.2 Chairman: The Regional Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice Chairman shall preside. If neither is present, a Chairman for the Meeting shall be elected from those present.
- 5.8.3 Who may attend and vote:
- Any Angling Trust Member may attend and speak.
  - Those entitled to vote are:
  - The Officers and Members of the Committee.
  - Representatives appointed by an AT Affiliated Club, which is not in arrears with its fees, with one vote per club. A representative may represent more than one member club and shall be entitled to vote for each club they represent.
  - Any Angling Trust registered Member
- 5.8.4 Voting:  
Voting shall be by a show of hands or ballot, as the meeting may decide. If there is equality in the voting, the Chairman of the Meeting shall have an additional and casting vote.
- 5.8.5 Quorum:  
No business shall be conducted at an AGM unless a quorum of at least 10 registered Members is present.  
Rule changes require a two-thirds majority of the Voting members who are present
- 5.8.6 Adoption of Accounts:  
The audited Accounts for previous year shall be presented for adoption at the AGM.
- 5.8.7 Business of Meeting:  
Only the business on the agenda for the AGM shall be conducted at the AGM.

## **5.9 Extraordinary General Meetings**

An Extra-Ordinary General meeting (EGM) may be called by the Committee, or by the Secretary on a requisition on behalf of not less than six AT registered Clubs. Not less than fourteen days' notice shall be given to the registered clubs, Angling Trust Members within the Region and only the business on the agenda for the Meeting shall be conducted at the EGM.  
Notice of any EGM will be published on the AT website

## **6. Officers and Committee**

- 6.1 The following officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting: -  
Chairman, Vice Chairman, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer

The following officers may be elected

Assistant/Minute Secretary, Publicity Officer, Conservation Officer, Competition Secretaries and Juniors' Representative

Committee Members: Up to twelve additional Committee Members may be elected annually at the AGM. The Auditor shall be nominated by the Committee and elected annually at the AGM.

- 6.2 Representative(s) to represent the Region on the AT Marine Committee may be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

- 6.3 Nominations for all such Officer and representative positions must be lodged, in writing, with the Secretary AT LEAST 14 days prior to the date of the AGM
- 6.4 All Officers shall retire annually but shall be eligible for re-election.
- 6.5 The Region may co-opt **without voting rights** any person/s considered appropriate. Such an appointment must be ratified at the following AGM if the incumbent is to continue in office.
- 6.6 Officers shall have full authority between meetings to pursue the objects of the Region in accordance with its Constitution.
- 6.7 The assets of the Region shall be vested in the Officers as Trustees for the members. Neither any officer or member shall at any time incur nor permit to be incurred any liability which exceeds the total assets of the Region at that time. Assets, for the purpose of this Rule are defined as being the balance standing to the credit of the Region's bank account plus the cash in hand less the known payment liabilities. Officers and Trustees shall be liable only to the extent of the assets vested in them in trust for the benefit of the association and not further or otherwise.

## 7 Finances

Regions are expected to be self-financing and should expect to run competitions, provide local services or charge a small annual fee to cover costs.

- 7.1 Any regional subscriptions for clubs and individuals will be determined by the committee and subject to the approval of the members at an AGM.
- 7.2 Regional funds will be managed by a Treasurer in a bank account in the name of the Region.
- 7.3 All cheques will require the signature of any two of the Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer.
- 7.4 The Regional accounts shall be audited each year by a responsible person nominated at an AGM and approved by the members. The Auditor shall not be a committee member.

## 8 Committee

The management of the Region shall be vested in a Committee as detailed above.

- 8.1 A Quorum shall consist of Six Members.
- 8.2 The committee shall have the power to appoint Officers and co-opt additional members to the committee for special purposes and to fill any vacancies which may occur or which were unfilled at the AGM.
- 8.3 The Committee shall meet monthly unless otherwise called by the Secretary and each member shall receive fourteen days' notice of a meeting.
- 8.4 Any AT Club may send representatives to attend a Committee Meeting to discuss a particular matter by arrangement with the Secretary. The business to be discussed will be on the Agenda and the representative shall be present during this business only and shall have no voting rights.
- 8.5 Committee Members attending fewer than 50% of Committee meetings shall not be eligible to stand for re-election the following year, except under circumstances to be agreed by the Committee.
- 8.6 All members of the Management Committee shall be required to abide by the 'Code of Conduct' as laid down by Angling Trust

## 9. Sub-Committees

The Committee may form Sub-Committees as necessary to deal with specific topics. However, the following sub-committees, elected annually from the Management Committee, are suggested:

**Executive Committee (EC):** consisting of the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Vice-Chairman, and such others as the committee may determine will meet as and when required, to handle the administrative matters of the Region. It will act as an Executive Committee, but must obtain authority from the Committee for all executive decisions.

**Competitions and Festivals Committee:** The C&FC shall meet to arrange the competitions held by the Region, with the approval of the Committee.

**Handbook Committee:** The Handbook Sub-Committee will meet to arrange the publication and selling of a Regional Handbook, which will be produced yearly, and will include such items as deemed necessary by the Committee.



### Changing of Region by clubs and members.

A change of club's affiliation to another Division near its boundaries can be automatic only by consent of both regions

### Additional Wyvern Rules:

The following are historic Wyvern rules as an addition to the AT constitution. In the event there is conflict between AT Rules and these rules or guidelines the AT Rules will prevail

### Emergency Rules:

The Committee may amend or introduce emergency rules to the competition rules or byelaws in order to address any specific situation, providing the changes then become a proposal for the next AGM for ratification.

### 10 Byelaws

- 10.1 Service awards:** may be awarded for outstanding services to angling. Any club may nominate in writing through their club secretary, or a member may nominate providing that they have the written support of another member or club, for the award by 30th June in each year. Each year the proposer shall send details of the service, and it should be submitted to the Hon. Secretary so that it may be placed before the July Committee Meeting when a proxy of the clubs shall be taken. A two thirds majority vote will be necessary to obtain the award.
- 10.2 Wyvern Regional Boundaries for (Fishing Awards).**  
 North Coast: Crackington Haven Beach – West Bank of the River Axe at Brean Down  
 South Coast: East Bank of the River Looe including Banjo Pier – West Bank of the River Wey including the Stone Pier. Boat Departure Looe & Weymouth  
 Channel Islands.  
 NOTE: a map indicating the boundaries is situated on page 2 of this handbook.
- 10.3 Trophies:** All trophies are the property of the Region and may be insured by the same. The Trophies are the responsibility of the holder and must be returned to the cup custodian within seven days of receiving a written or verbal request.
- 11.1 Rules Governing the Castle Inter Club Trophy (Presented by Mr & Mrs J, Eathorne)**
- 11.1.1 To be fished annually by all members of paid-up affiliated clubs or AT Individual Members residing or registered within the Wyvern Region from 1st October to 30th September inclusive.
- 11.1.2 The Trophy, suitably engraved, to be awarded to the club member or AT member that registers the best specimen fish based on the AT Specimen Weights, as published at the end of the preceding year, caught from boat or shore. Channel Islands Clubs will enter fish under Area R for Boat and Shore only. All fish must be caught within the Wyvern and Channel Islands Boundaries. Only listed fish count, A suitable miniature will be presented to the winning member.
- 11.1.3 To qualify: each club or full AT member must send a fee of £10 to be paid each year at least 7 days before the registration of any fish. Cheques must be paid to the Wyvern Region of the AT. All fees collected, together with a list of every club and AT members that participated, shall be given to the club, whose member wins the trophy, or to a member, if a member wins the Trophy, for them to donate to the charity of their choice, the receipt of which to be forwarded to the Hon Fish Recorder of the Region. In this context the donors of the Trophy expressed the wish that, where possible, this should be given to the Local RNLI Secretary for the comforts of the crew.
- 11.1.4 Any fish equal to or above the existing British record that is not submitted to, or is refused by the British Record (rod-Caught) Committee, will not be accepted as an entry.
- 11.1.5 The entry to the Castle Trophy must have been previously been made into the Region's Fish of the month Competition.
- 11.1.6 All fish to be weighed on certified scales. It has been found that the practice of soaking of some species of sea fish in freshwater results in osmosis taking place which increases the weight. Therefore, all sea fish must be weighed as soon as possible after capture and any fish subjected to any treatment that enhances its weight or length cannot be entered in any competition organised under Angling Trust / Wyvern Marine Region Rules. In addition, any unnatural treatment to the length of fish to enable it to conform to a Retention size listed in the AT or Wyvern Rules or as dictated by local byelaws is forbidden.

- 12. Dennis Smith Trophy:** This Trophy is awarded to the Junior member of an affiliated club or AT Junior Member who catches the best shore caught fish. All rules of the Senior Castle Trophy apply.
- 13. Dawlish Trophy:** This trophy is awarded to the Junior member of an affiliated club or AT Junior member who catches the best boat caught fish. All rules of the Senior Castle Trophy apply.
- 14. Regional Record Fish:** Clubs and AT members should claim Regional Records on the yellow form (available from the Fish Recorder) as soon as possible. Participating Clubs and AT Members should forward particulars of their best specimen as registered by the club or AT Member together with the name of the captor to the Regions Fish Recorder.
- 15. Rules Governing the Fish of the Month Award**
- 15.1 To qualify: each club or full AT member must have entered the Castle Trophy and paid the fee of **£10**
- 15.2 The Best Fish, will be judged against the Specimen Weights for either the Boat or Shore sections, from the AT Specimen List. (see: <https://www.getfishing.org.uk/specimen-sea-fish-awards-scheme/>).
- Note: fish "Weighed at Sea" are only valid for the AT weighed at sea certificates and are not accepted by the Wyvern Region. However, the weight in lbs of the species Tope and Shark, may (as per AT Specimen Rules <https://www.getfishing.org.uk/specimen-sea-fish-awards-scheme/>). be calculated using the following formula - Girth x Girth x Length divided by 800. All measurements should be taken in inches. The girth is measured at widest part of the fish, and the length, for the purposes of these formulae only, from tip of nose to the fork in the tail. Tables of the formula are available on request from the Angling Trust, as is a formula for calculating the weight of the common skate. (As per AT Specimen Rules).
- 15.3 All Fish entered for this award must be caught under the AT Rules and within the Wyvern and Channel Islands Boundaries. Channel Island clubs will enter under Area R weights
- 15.4 All entries to be made on the entry form provided and are to be forwarded to the fish recorder by 10th day of the month following the date of capture.
- 15.5 Four engraved medals will be awarded each month for the Best Senior Boat and Shore caught fish and the Best Junior Boat and Shore caught fish. In the event of a tie, a second medal may be awarded. Presentation of the medals will be made after the close of the angling year when the results are calculated.
- 15.6 Clubs should enter their best TWO specimens Senior Boat and Shore and for Juniors the best THREE Specimens Boat and Shore caught fish. (i.e., A maximum of TEN entries per month)
- 15.7 Any fish caught may be entered through one club only, or as an AT member.
- 15.8 The Fish of the Month Award is judged on the best fish of any species on the AT Specimen List
- 15.9 Clubs and AT Members must not be in arrears with the AT Affiliation or Member fees.

**Ends: -**

**Angling Trust Marine Committee**  
**© Festival and Competition Rules and Guidelines. Revised 9/3/13**

**A1 Angling Trust Festivals and Open Competitions.**

**A1.1 Angling Trust Festivals.**

The Angling Trust Marine Competitions Committee will normally arrange, each year; a National Boat Festival, National Pier/Shore Festivals, a National Junior Pier/Shore Festival and any other National Festivals it may consider appropriate. These National Festivals may be held in conjunction with a Festival operated by an Angling Trust member club. Dispensation to hold the Boat and Pier/Shore events on the same date can be given by the Competitions Committee.

**A1.1.1 Dates & Venues.**

The Competitions Committee shall fix the dates and venues for Angling Trust Festivals each year and all members, clubs and regions shall be informed by the publication of this information on the Angling Trust website. No member club or Region should fix a festival date that coincides with an Angling Trust Festival date with the exception that a Pier/Shore Festival may be held on the same day as the Angling Trust Boat Festival or vice versa.

**A1.2 Other Festivals & Open Competitions.**

Angling Trust recognises the following other Festivals and Open Competitions:

(a) **AT Member Clubs & Regions.** Those held by member clubs, groups of member clubs and Regions.

(b) **Non-AT Clubs.** Those held by other bona fide organisations, who are not affiliated to Angling Trust, with the proviso that the Angling Trust Festival Rules are observed.

**A1.3 Festival Planning.**

Each Region should hold a Festival Delegates Meeting in early September every year. Each Angling Trust member club in the Region, or connected to it by request, shall inform the Regional Secretary of the proposed date, venue and address of the Festival Secretary for any Festival or Open Competition they intend to organise.

The Regional Secretary should forward to the Competitions Committee, not later than the 30<sup>th</sup> September, a complete list of Festivals and Open Competitions registered with that Region. Each AT member club not resident in a fully operational Region or connected to one by request, and intending to hold a Festival or Open Competition, should inform the Competitions Committee in writing by the 30<sup>th</sup> September. (Shore competitions need to be provided one year prior to the date of staging the competition where possible), and (Boat competitions two years prior to the date of staging the event where possible), with the proposed date, venue and address of the Festival Secretary. The regions and National Competition Group need to provide their calendar of events, and any open matches to the AT Competitions Department HQ (Herefordshire office).

**A1.3.1** The Competitions Committee will consider the Festival and Open Competition fixture list at the first Competitions Committee meeting after 30<sup>th</sup> September.

**A1.4 Delegation of Powers.**

The organising committee may, at its discretion, delegate all or any of its powers to Judges, Stewards and Other Officials.

**A1.5 Accidents.**

Under no circumstances shall a Competitor hold the organising Committee, any of its members, or officials, responsible for any accident or loss that they may sustain during any event.

**A1.6 Results.**

Every AT member club and Region shall forward to the Competitions committee, and the AT Competitions Department HQ (Herefordshire office) the results, reports and photos within 5 working days of any AT competitions held. (Preferred within 24 hours, but 5 days will be the maximum).

**A1.7 Festival Heaviest Fish/Specimen Medal.**

AT member club's and regional Festivals and Open Competitions registered, and subsequently published in the Angling Trust Fixture List, will be entitled to receive one Bronze Medal. If an AT member club or Region is organising more than one event in any one year, application may be made to the Competitions Committee for a second medal, the award of which will be at the discretion of the Competitions Committee.

## **A2 TROPHIES AND AWARDS.**

A list of Angling Trust Trophies is available from the Competitions Committee Secretary, (The word 'trophy' also implies cups, medals, shields etc.)

### **A2.1 Awards of Prizes.**

The decision of the Organisers on the award/presentation of trophies and prizes, shall be final. In the event of bad weather, the Organisers have the power to make awards on the results of one- or two-days' fishing only.

### **A2.2 Challenge Trophies.**

The winner of any challenge trophy shall be presented and photographed with the trophy by the Organisers. The trophy will then be returned to safe custody with the Angling Trust. A small memento shield may be awarded to the winner to be kept in perpetuity.

### **A2.3 Team Trophy.**

If a team trophy is offered, all team members and reserves shall be nominated before the commencement of the event.

### **A2.4 Cash Prizes.**

Cash prizes may be awarded where the rules of the organising club permit.

### **A2.5 Ties.**

In Angling Trust Festivals, competitors who tie for any trophy shall hold it for an equal period, and duplicate medals or replicas shall be awarded. This may also apply in AT member club competitions or other Festivals, unless an alternative method is specified.

## **A3 MISCELLANEOUS RULES.**

### **A3.1 Insurance.**

Angling Trust insists that all competition organisers must ensure that they are insured against any third-party public liability risks. All Competition organisers must carry out a risk assessment and where applicable an Environment Assessment must be completed. The assessments must be logged with the organiser and a copy sent to the AT Competitions Department HQ (Nottingham office).

### **A3.2 Charter Boats.**

Angling Trust insists that all competition organisers should ensure that all boats that they charter are registered with the Marine Charter Association (MCA), and insured.

### **A3.3 Change of Registered Addresses.**

*All members of the Marine Committee, Regional Secretaries, individual Members and Secretaries of member clubs must inform the CE of a change of address within four weeks.*

### **A3.4 Privileges.**

All Angling Trust members are entitled to the privileges of Angling Trust, including competitions for trophies and prizes offered by Angling Trust. Angling Trust **Members** may enter any AT Member Club Festival or open competition on an equal basis with all competitors.

**A3.5 Overseas Residents.** Anglers not resident in the UK may not take Angling Trust trophies out of the country and, in consequence, overseas members winning competitions will be presented with a suitable memento.

## **Rule A4 FESTIVAL AND COMPETITION RULES.**

These Angling Trust Festival and Competition rules set guidance for competitions and organisers, and they are in four sections: General (G); Shore (S); Boat (B); and Minimum Sizes (M). Please note that sections (S) and (B) are designed as a set of rules which can stand alone and be used as Competition Sheets by Organisers. Therefore, there will be a majority of items that are common to both, although it does not necessarily mean that the same wording has been used. The wording considered to be most appropriate to each application has been used.

### **GENERAL (G)**

#### **G 1 DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS.**

G 1.1 The name of the organisation is Angling Trust.

G 1.2 A club is a properly constituted sea angling organisation having not less than ten fully paid-up members.

G 1.3 An Angling Trust Member Club means a club whose current subscriptions have been paid to Angling Trust.

G 1.4 A Region means a regular Marine Model Rules recognised by Angling Trust and using the AT Model Region Rules.

G 1.5 A Festival is the major competition of the year at which anglers compete for a Club's or Region's major trophies. Within these rules, for simplicity, the term Competition also implies Festival or Championship.

G 1.6 The Committee means: in the case of the Angling Trust, the Marine Committee; in the case of member clubs, the Committee of the member club; and in other cases, the Committee in charge of the Festival.

G 1.7 For the purposes of the Rules, events held on piers, harbour walls, breakwaters (including pontoons and marina pontoons) and shore, are all termed shore competitions. If a boat is moored to a pontoon it is still classed as a boat competition.

G 1.8 Throughout the Rules, where the context so admits the singular includes the plural and vice-versa and the masculine includes the feminine.

G 1.9 Chief Executive Officer (CEO) The Chief Executive Officer of Angling Trust.

G.1.10 The Organisers means the Competition Organisers which should be a Committee.

## **G 2 APPLICATION.**

These Rules came into force on the 9<sup>th</sup> March 2013. These rules supersede all previous Festival and Model Competition Rules.

## **G 3 FESTIVALS, COMPETITIONS, INFORMATION, OBLIGATIONS & GUIDANCE.**

G 3.1 **Festivals.** The dates of all AT member clubs, and Regional Festivals and Open Competitions shall be fixed in accordance with Rule A1. When such dates are fixed, no other AT member club or Region shall hold its own event at the same venue on the same date excepting:

- a. Shore events may be staged on the same day and venue as a boat event and vice versa.
- b. A 'lesser' club event may take place at the same time and venue providing that those taking part are also taking part in the main Festival or Open competition.

### **G 3.2 Competitions.**

AT member clubs and Regions are encouraged to arrange their own Competitions and attempt to avoid fixture clashes. Refer to the Angling Trust website.

### **G 3.3 Designated Matches.**

Angling Trust is dedicated to the development of performance and excellence in competition angling. In conjunction with all member clubs and other sea angling organisations, Angling Trust is committed to the provision of 'Designated Matches', at which a competitor will compete within an approved match format of an approved Organisation. The results of the 'Designated Matches' will be made available to the Competitions Committee by the Organisers. Match organisers from such member clubs and other sea angling organisations can apply to host such events that will require formal approval from the Competitions Committee. Designated matches will be official Angling Trust Festivals.

### **G 3.4 Festival & Open Match List.**

Festivals and other National Competitions should be notified to the Competitions Committee, if possible, 12 months prior to such an event, and also notified to the AT Competitions Department (Nottingham office) for inclusion on the AT website and calendar of events. If during the year extra events are arranged the Competitions Committee, and the AT Competitions Department HQ (Nottingham office) should be notified in order that the date and other information can be included on the AT website.

### **G 3.5 Competition Match Pack.**

If any member club or Region requires further information about running a competition, or requires advice on recommended match formats, they should contact the Competitions Committee which can provide guidance and further information, including the following:

- (a) Master Zone Sheets size A3 and an A4 sized copy of these Rules and Size Limits for photocopying purposes. The size limits as recommended by Angling Trust, or as appropriate to accommodate geographical area (i.e., dispensation taken up), should be provided at all matches with rule sheets.
- (b) Advice sheets on measuring fish, weigh-in procedures, measure and return matches and organising competitions.
- (c) Explanation of results sheets and simple points systems.
- (d) Copies, as required, on codes of safety for organisers of small dinghy competitions, Do's and Don'ts at Sea, and the current match list.

## **G 4 COMPETITIONS GENERAL.**

### **G 4.1 Entry Conditions.**

When competition entries are pre-booked, entry forms, together with applicable entry fees, shall be submitted by the specified date to the Organisers. After the acceptance of the entrant, the Organisers have no obligation to return the entry fee or in the event of a bait-supplied match, bait money, should the entrant wish to withdraw from the competition. If entry cannot be accepted because of lack of space the entrant shall be notified and the entry fee returned.

### **G 4.2 Right to Refuse Entry.**

The Organisers reserve the right to refuse entry without explanation and shall in such a case return all entry fees.

### **G 4.3 Late Entries.**

Late entries may be accepted; however, this will be at the discretion of the Organisers and may incur extra fees.

### **G 4.4 Abandonment.**

In the event of bad weather and/or in the interests of safety, the Organisers shall have the power to abandon the competition. In such a case, entry fees, less any legitimate competition expenses such as boat or other hire charges and printing costs etc. which may have been incurred, will be returned to the Competitors.

### **G 4.5 Duration.**

The duration of each competition will be notified by the Organisers.

### **G 4.6 Weigh-in.**

If a competitor is disqualified for fishing, or arriving ashore after time, they shall, if practicable, be notified before their catch is weighed-in/recorded. Every competitor who has not been previously disqualified must weigh-in/record their catch when required or, if they have caught nothing, report accordingly. Failure to comply without adequate cause on any occasion may, at the discretion of the Organisers, lead to disqualification for the whole event.

### **G 4.7 Eligible Species.**

Skate are classified scientifically as "round" fish and therefore they are barred from any class for "flat" fish. Octopus, Crustacea, Squid and Cuttlefish are ineligible. However, the competition organisers may also bar the catching of other species of fish. The Mako, Porbeagle, Thresher, Hammerhead and Blue Sharks are ineligible except in a Shark Festival; but if there is a special class for them, they can be recorded for that class only. Refer to the document 'Recommended Retention sizes for sea Angling Matches and Competitions' on the AT website.

### **G 4.8 Licensed Angling Boats.**

Marine Charter Association (MCA) Licensed angling boats must not have more persons on board than the boat's licence dictates.

## **G 5 ENCOURAGEMENT AND DISPENSATION FOR THE DISABLED.**

### **G 5.1 Use of Electric Reels and Winches.**

Electric reels and winches are not permitted in competitions unless dispensation is given by the Organisers to accommodate a disabled angler who otherwise would not be able to compete.

### **G 5.2 Close/Easy Access Pegs.**

The Organisers have the right to provide close or easily accessible pegs to accommodate disabled anglers who otherwise would not be able to compete.

### **G 5.3 Casting Assistance.**

A competitor may cast for another angler who is deemed incapable of casting due to physical disability provided that such an arrangement is requested from the Organisers, and agreed, prior to the commencement of the competition.

## **G 6 CONSERVATION AND SCOPE FOR COMPETITION ORGANISERS.**

These Rules set guidance for competitions and minimum size limits. Organisers may vary the Rules by raising size limits, or indeed seek dispensation for reduction, provided that they are equal to, or above minimum legal limits. Organisers may introduce a points system for catch and return competitions; however, notification shall be given to the competitors and Competitions Committee.

## **SHORE COMPETITION RULES (S)**

### **S 1 Duration.**

The start and finish of a competition will be signalled by the Organisers. Anglers are permitted to wet their line with a plain lead up to 20 minutes prior to the commencement of the match.

### **S 2 Equipment.**

An angler is permitted to have up to three rods set up with reels, lines and traces attached but can only have one line in the water at one time. Reels must be operated by hand (Subject to Rule G 5.1, Electric Reels); and reels designed to be cranked by both hands at the same time are prohibited. The use of fishing poles is permitted.

### **S 3 Terminal Tackle.**

Spare baited traces are allowed and no more than three hooks may be attached to any trace. A treble hook counts as one hook but no more than one treble hook and two single hooks may be used in a rig, with the exception of plug type spinning lures which are permissible when used alone.

### **S 4 Baits.**

All baits, feathers and/or lures may be used, unless notified otherwise by the Organisers.

### **S 5 Restrictions.**

Organisers may draft rules prohibiting the use of any tackle or method that is likely to cause danger, damage or discomfort to any competitor or other persons. Such rules must be submitted to the SC for approval after which they must be notified to all participants.

### **S 6 Casting.**

Anglers wishing to use 'power casting' styles must use a minimum of 50lb breaking strain shock leader. Furthermore, it is recommended that the breaking strain of shock leader should be a minimum shock leader of 10lbs per oz of weight being used. In the interests of safety competitors are advised that any form of dangerous casting is prohibited. Anglers are permitted to cast immediately after landing a fish. However, in pegged matches, the retrieval of this cast is not permitted until the angler's catch is recorded by the steward or adjacent angler on the official bag label if issued.

### **S 7 Assistance.**

Assistance may be given to land a fish but no-one other than the competitor may handle the rod. In pier competitions, assistance to land fish with a drop net is permitted, as is hand-lining the fish up the pier or promenade wall, provided that it can be lifted clear of the surface and not pulled through the water towards the competitor.

### **S 8 Hooked Fish.**

The deliberate foul hooking of fish is not permitted; however, accidental foul hooked fish are allowed at the discretion of the Organisers, if specified before the start of the competition. In the event of fish being hooked by two or more competitors or caught on lost traces, they shall not be eligible for recording.

### **S 9 Undersized Fish.**

It is each angler's responsibility to ensure all undersized fish are returned immediately to the water. A competitor's fish may be kept in water but any physical attempt to extend their length will lead to disqualification.

### **S 10 Minimum Sizes.**

The Marine Committee shall fix the Recommended Retention Size Limits (or weights) of fish eligible to be included in the competitors catch; however, these need not be applicable in 'measure and return' or 'points-calculated' competitions. Organisers may fix sizes and weights different than those fixed by the Marine Committee, in which case all competitors will be notified. Fish below the minimum sizes shall not be brought to the scales. It is each angler's responsibility to ensure all fish brought to the scales are sizeable. The Organiser may provide a Master Measure and adjudicator for anglers to have their catch checked, at the angler's request, by the Organisers prior to presenting the fish to the scales; however, the onus of responsibility is on the angler. Undersized fish brought to the scales/measure may result in disqualification. Any undersized fish submitted will not count for submission. Refer to the document 'Recommended Retention sizes for sea Angling Matches and Competitions' on the AT website.

**S 11 Compulsory Weigh In.**

At the end of the competition competitors have one hour, or a period specified by the organisers, for bringing their own catch, peg, and completed bag label (if applicable) to the weigh in. The bags, if used, must be identified by a number or competitor's name. The Organisers may retain all fish until after the weigh-in.

**S 12 Protests.**

Any complaints must be submitted to the Organisers in writing within one hour of the end of the competition. A Protest Fee of £50 must accompany the complaint and be payable to the AT, and is returnable if the objection is upheld. The decision of the Organisers will be final in the event of any dispute not covered by these rules.

**S 13 Entry & Disqualification.**

The Organisers reserve the right to refuse entry without explanation and shall in such a case return the entry fees. Any angler found breaking the rules will be disqualified.

**S 14 Loss and Damage.**

The Organisers shall not be held responsible for any loss, accident or damage occasioned to any competitor, official or member of the public.

**S 15 Litter.**

Any angler found leaving litter or throwing litter into the sea during or after the competition will be disqualified.

**S 16 Position.**

Fishing should be from a peg and / or zone, allocated by means of a draw. Anglers must fish from no other peg number or zone. The redrawing of pegs is not allowed. It is recommended that there is 20 metres minimum spacing between pegs and that peg 1 is always to the left looking seawards of the stretch to be pegged. In zones, it is recommended that there are a maximum of 45 competitors. This rule is not applicable to roving matches.

**S 17 Fair Play.**

As well as the aforementioned rules, the rules of fair play will apply. Competitors must conduct themselves in a manner within the spirit of the sport.

**BOAT COMPETITION RULES (B)****B 1 Duration.**

The duration of fishing will be fixed by the Organisers. To cover differences in boat speeds, times to start 'lines in' and times to stop 'lines out' may be used; competitors are expected to adhere to those times honestly.

**B 2 Equipment.**

An angler may use only one rod, unless notified in advance that two rods, at the same time, may be used, with reel and running line. A maximum of two rods may be assembled with a reel attached, line through the rings/rollers, attached to a line swivel equivalent. Reels must be operated by hand (subject to Rule G 5.1, Electric Reels); and reels designed to be cranked by both hands at the same time are prohibited. The use of fishing poles is permitted.

**B 3 Terminal Tackle.**

Spare baited traces are allowed and no more than three hooks may be attached to any trace. A treble hook counts as one hook but no more than one treble hook and two single hooks may be used in a rig, with the exception of plug type spinning lures which are permissible when used alone. If allowed in the particular competition's rules, two rods are used at the same time, a maximum of three hooks between the two rods can be used. Subject to the above, only one set of terminal tackle will be in use at any one time.

**B 4 Baits.**

All baits, feathers and / or lures may be used, unless notified otherwise by the Organisers.

**B 5 Restrictions.**

Organisers may draft rules prohibiting the use of any tackle or method that is likely to cause danger, damage or discomfort to any competitor or other persons. Such rules must be submitted to the Competitions Committee for approval after which they must be notified to all participants.



**B 6 Casting uptide**

Unless prohibited by the Organisers or Boat Skippers, casting is permissible. Anglers on charter boats wishing to cast must use a shock leader of a minimum of 35lbs (15kgs) and a maximum of 60 lbs (27.25kgs) breaking strain, and all casts should be made with the terminal tackle outside the boat.

**B 7 Assistance.**

No other person may touch an angler's rod, reel or line after his fish is hooked or give any assistance to an angler which would be to the detriment of the fish except that another person(s) may gaff or net fish when it is brought within range. Anglers may not rest their rods on the gunwales of the boats or other such structure whilst winding fish in. Crew may unhook fish.

**B 8 Hooked Fish.**

The deliberate foul hooking of fish is not permitted; however, accidental foul hooked fish are allowed at the discretion of the Organisers, if specified before the start of the competition. In the event of fish being hooked by two or more competitors or caught on lost traces, they shall not be eligible for weighing in.

**B 9 Undersized Fish.**

It is each angler's responsibility to ensure all undersized fish are returned to the water. Competitor's fish may be kept in water but any physical attempt to extend their length will lead to disqualification.

**B 10 Minimum Sizes.** The Marine Committee shall fix the Recommended Retention Size Limits (or weights) of fish eligible to be included in the competitors catch; however, these need not be applicable in 'measure and return' or 'points-calculated' competitions. Organisers may fix sizes and weights different than those fixed by the Marine Committee, in which case all competitors will be notified. Fish below the minimum sizes shall not be recorded. It is each angler's responsibility to ensure all fish brought to the scales are sizeable. The Organiser may provide a Master Measure and adjudicator for anglers to have their catch checked, at the angler's request, by the Organisers prior to presenting the fish for recording however, the onus of responsibility is on the angler. Undersized fish brought for recording may result in disqualification.

**B 11 Compulsory Weigh-In.**

Every competitor must record their daily catch, or if they have caught nothing, shall report to the weigh-master accordingly. Failure to comply with this rule on any occasion may at the discretion of the Organisers lead to disqualification. Bags of fish must be delivered to the weighing/recording station by the time specified by the organisers. No bags of fish will be returned to competitors until the expiration of that time. The bags must be identified by a number or competitor's name. Organisers may retain all fish until after the weigh-in.

**B 12 Protests.**

Any complaints must be submitted to the organisers in writing within one hour of the end of the competition. A protest fee of £50 must accompany the complaint payable to the AT, and is returnable if the objection is upheld. The decision of the Organisers will be final in the event of any dispute not covered by these rules.

**B 13 Entry & Disqualification.**

The Organisers reserve the right to refuse entry without explanation and shall in such a case return the entry fees. Any angler found breaking the rules will be disqualified.

**B 14 Loss or Damage.**

The Organisers shall not be held responsible for any loss, accident or damage occasioned to any competitor, official or member of the public.

**B 15 Litter**

Any angler caught leaving litter or throwing litter into the sea during or after the competition will be disqualified.

**B 16 Boats.**

All boats used in the competition shall be adequate in size and carry safety equipment for all persons on board as specified in the Seaway Code. In addition to boat crew and any stewards, only competitors shall be allowed on the boat and there should be at least two competitors on board. If flags are issued to each boat they shall be kept flying from the start of the event until the return to the landing place.

**B 17 Boat Positions.**

Prior to the start of fishing, unbiased draws for positions shall be made. The drawer of number one shall fish as near the bow of the boat on the starboard side, and the numbers shall be from the starboard to, and across the stern or transom, with the highest number drawn fishing as near the bow of the boat on the port side.

**B 18 Fair Play.**

As well as the above rules, the rules of fair play will apply. Competitors must conduct themselves in a manner within the spirit of the sport.

In the event there is conflict between AT Rules and these rules and guidelines the AT Rules will prevail.

**Amendments.**

Amendments to the Competition Rules, Specimen Fish and Festival guidelines will be proposed and provisionally approved by the Angling Trust Competition Committee and ratified by the Marine Committee.

In the event of concerns being raised the Competition Committee must review those concerns and seek to overcome them.

Revised 09.03.13

**The selling fish by Sea Anglers.** *The following is a précis of a Press Statement laying out guidelines by the Marine Committee of the Angling Trust.*

In June 2009 the Marine Committee agreed that they would only represent recreational sea anglers and that the EAA definition of Recreational Sea Angling formulated in 2004 should be their criteria:

***“Recreational sea angling is the activity of catching or attempting to catch fish, by rod and line, pole for non-commercial purposes; recreational anglers do not sell the fish they catch.”***

Whilst it was agreed that angling can be both commercial and non-commercial, recreational sea angling can only be non-commercial, as recreational sea anglers do not sell, barter or trade their catch. Recreational sea anglers may return or retain their catch, providing it is above legal minimum size, and consume it within the family. It was discussed that recreational sea angling is pursued for many purposes and a multitude of highly diverse motivations. These include challenge, sport, recreation, achievement, relaxation, etc.

To help clarify they're its position, the Marine Committee explained that if a boat sets out and any part of the catch from that trip is sold, then it is a commercial trip and not recreational sea angling. It was agreed that a charter boat derives its income from offering a service to take anglers out to catch fish for an agreed fee and that the income for a trip does not depend upon the amount of fish caught that trip. There is no problem with commercial fishermen using their boats for recreational sea angling, providing they comply with the points outlined above.

**Comment** “This has been a thorny problem for some time, but with the advent of proposed regulations for recreational angling, it is imperative that the Angling Trust Marine Committee decides precisely who they represent, and that Government and other marine stakeholders are aware of this when we are in discussions and negotiations.” It is hoped that it will help clubs, competition organisers and fish recorders decide which fish they can accept and which they cannot for competitions and specimen fish awards.”

### **SAVE IT AND CONSERVE IT.**

- Always abide by the minimum landing sizes as recommended by the Angling Trust.  
<https://anglingtrust.net/minimum-conservation-reference-sizes-mcrss/>
- Try only taking fish well above the size limit.
- Never fish within designated Nursery Areas – It is illegal, so ensure you know the boundaries.
- Conservation works, so do return undersize fish of fish you do not want whatever the size may be.
- Try and encourage the use of a points system within competitions.

### Bait Gatherers Code

- Local Bye Laws and Regulations must be observed, except where they conflict with our rights under Magna Carta.
- Gather only what you need, to ensure future supplies of bait.
- Back-fill all holes, for safety, and to maintain the Inter-tidal habitat.
- Replace all turned rocks and stones; this will preserve the food chain.
- Do not dig around mooring, slipways, sea walls etc.
- Beware of local hazards and conditions, i.e., soft mud, quicksand, tidal flows, fog and adverse weather conditions.
- Do not disturb nesting birds.
- Take your litter home
- Tell someone where you intend to dig.

### Useful Links

Wyvern Sea Angling Website: <http://wyvernseaangling.org/>

British Record Fish: <https://anglingtrust.net/get-involved/record-fish/>

Minimum Fish Sizes: <https://anglingtrust.net/minimum-conservation-reference-sizes-mcrss/>

Specimen Fish Award Scheme: <https://www.getfishing.org.uk/specimen-sea-fish-awards-scheme/>

Devon & Severn IFCA: <https://www.devonandsevernifca.gov.uk/>

## Privacy Statement

### **Who to contact about concerns on exercising any of your data rights**

We are the data controller of the personal data collected and held about you.

Our address 6 Charles Road, Honiton, Devon EX14 1QG

Our telephone number is 01404 43397

Our email address is [mike@spillsberg.co.uk](mailto:mike@spillsberg.co.uk)

### **Why do we collect your data?**

We process personal data for the following purposes: –

- a. To provide our services to you
- b. Administering our membership records;
- c. Maintaining our staff and volunteer records;
- d. Publicising the work that we do.

### **Whose data do we process?**

We process the data of our own staff and volunteers, our members, individuals who make enquiries with us, as well as individuals from organisations with whom we work, or need to interact with, in pursuit of our core objectives. we collect personal data from our members.

We also process the personal data of individuals who are not our members, but who have participated in one of our events or subscribed to receive information from us.

The most applicable criteria of the GDPR which are met in processing this data are that is it done:

- In pursuit of performing a contract between us;
- In pursuit of legitimate interests, taking into account the individual's civil rights and freedoms;
- With the data subject's consent.

### **How we hold your data**

We hold information in electronic form and occasionally in hard copy. In the case of data held electronically this is subject to good standards of IT security on whatever device it is held. Our hard copy information is stored subject to physical and procedural security measures.

### **How long do we keep your data?**

We collect data for a specified purpose and we will retain it for as long as we need it in order to pursue that purpose. We retain information in observation of statutory limitation periods. We also retain information for archiving, historic and statistical purposes.

### **Who do we share data with?**

We will never sell your personal data to third party organisations, nor share it with them for their benefit. We will only share your personal data with organisations who carry out data processor duties on our behalf or anyone in pursuit of the original purpose for which it was obtained.

### **Your rights in respect of the data we hold about you**

You have several rights you may exercise in respect of your data. You have:

- The right to know what we do with your data. We hope this statement satisfies this, but if there is anything that is not clear, please get in touch and we will seek to address any concerns you have.
- The right to a copy of the data we hold about you, subject to some limitations, free of charge in the first instance.
- The right to have incomplete data about you completed and the right to correct any errors in your data.
- The right, in some circumstances, which applies to erasure of the data we hold about you. This is sometimes known as the “right to be forgotten”, which applies especially where there is no longer a necessity to keep your information.
- The right, in some circumstances to restrict the processing of your personal data. The definition of “processing” is very wide.
- The right to have your personal data supplied to another data controller, particularly where the data is held electronically.
- The right to object to the processing of your data in certain circumstances.
- The right to object to any automated decisions made about you (please note that Wyvern Sea Angling does not currently – or foreseeably – process decisions about you automatically).

### **Children’s personal data**

Decisions regarding the personal data of anyone under 13 years of age must be taken by the child’s parent, guardian or anyone appointed in law to fulfil that role. If you are over 13, but under 18 and are unclear about anything we have said in this statement, please get in touch with us (as shown at the start of this document) and we can try and make things clearer.

### **Do we send data outside the EU?**

Wyvern Sea Angling or anyone processing data on our behalf does not routinely send personal data outside the EU. If we did, for some reason, feel it necessary to do so we would satisfy ourselves thoroughly about the information security aspects of what is proposed and would seek your consent before doing so.

### **Further concerns?**

If you have concerns about any aspect of our data protection practices please raise it with us in the first instance.

# JUST TAKE

## Help Stop Litter Spoiling Our Beaches And Coastline

As anglers we know we have a responsibility to protect wildlife and our sport's reputation by leaving the coast free of angling-related litter – but let's not stop there...

Next time you are fishing **just take 5** minutes to pick up someone else's litter or pick up **5 items** of litter to dispose of. Never forget, the public's opinion of us as sportsmen and women depends on us leaving only footprints behind.



**ANGLING  
TRUST**

**THE VOICE OF ANGLING**

**Join Us Today: 0844 770 0616**

**[www.anglingtrust.net](http://www.anglingtrust.net)**

The Just Take 5 initiative was created by the Angling Trust's Wyvern Marine Region and is supported by the Marine Conservation Society