

The Current Sandwell Code for Anglers Agreed in 1998

Rules and Regulations

There are national regulations and governing rules relating to where, when and how an angler can carry out his or her pursuit, and these regulations carry heavy penalties if broken.

Prior to fishing any water whether private or public, an angler must be in possession of a National Rod Licence from the age of 12 years.

Legislation to regulate the misuse of lead shot was introduced in 1987 to be replaced by none toxic alternatives.

In order to extend the legislation to a local level, so that anglers fishing Sandwell's pools can follow a code of practice, there is a Code for Anglers that is set out below.

- I. All anglers must be in Possession of a current, valid Environment Agency Rod Licence.
- II. A maximum of two rods can be used to fish at any one time, other rods may be set and not baited or in the water.
- III. Fishing is only permitted in the designated areas. Anyone fishing in non-designated areas will be removed from the site.
- IV. The use of remote controlled boats or bait boats is not allowed.
- V. No dinghies or other boats in conjunction with fishing activities shall be allowed onto the water.
- VI. The use of surface baits or "live" baits (e.g. small fish is not permitted).
- VII. Rods shall be attended at all times, and no rods left unattended. Persons leaving rods unattended will be required to leave the water.
- VIII. All anglers must remove litter and discarded line from the peg - failure to co-operate will result in offenders being removed from the site.
- IX. Only barbless or micro barb hooks may be used. Failure to observe this rule will result in removal from the site.

- X. Fires and barbeques are not allowed.
- XI. Anyone who appears to be under the influence of drink and or drugs shall, at the discretion of Sandwell MBC or a club representative, be removed from the site.
- XII. All anglers must be in possession of a current permit or day ticket and must show his/her permit when asked by the Council or club's representative.
- XIII. Fish care is paramount. Unhooking mats, landing nets and keep nets must be of regulated Environment Agency recommendations.
- XIV. Lead of any description is not allowed.
- XV. Tin cans that provide bait for fishing is not allowed.
- XVI. All fish must, without exception, be returned to the water. The unauthorised removal of fish will be regarded as theft.
- XVII. No poly ball inserts to be used in pop up baits, cork ball only.
- XVIII. No uncooked nut or seed baits will be permitted.
- XIX. Anglers are requested not to obstruct footpaths or restrict access to other park users, poles must be broken down.
- XX. No tents or shelters to be allowed at any site unless prior written permission has been granted.
- XXI. When fishing for pike 12lb minimum line and 20lb trace must be used.
- XXII. Night fishing is not allowed on any Council water, unless prior written permission has been granted.
- XXIII. Anglers over 8 years of age can fish unaccompanied from dawn to dusk.
- XXIV. Anglers under the age of 8 years must be accompanied by an authorised adult. The Council cannot accept responsibility for the safety and conduct of anglers under 18. Children remain the responsibility of their parent/guardians at all times.

- XXV. The Council reserves the right to remove any person for inappropriate behaviour, for example, causing a nuisance or annoyance to other anglers or behaving in such a way which may endanger themselves or others.
- XXVI. These rules have been produced to ensure the protection of fish and wildlife is paramount.

All information contained in these rules is subject to revision and occasional update.