

Match Rules

1. The match will start and finish on the blow of a whistle or the call of the Match Secretary.
2. The Match venue will be pegged out prior to the start of the match.
3. Each competitor upon drawing their number shall proceed to the corresponding peg. This will be considered as their fishing position until the end of the match.
4. No competitor may move or exchange their peg once the draw has taken place, without the Match Secretary's permission. A competitor may object to their peg prior to the start of the match, via the Match Secretary. If just cause is found, they may redraw.
5. Each competitor must not fish over the line of halfway between each adjacent and opposite pegs. The exception being on a river when the ruling is one metre above the peg to one metre before the next peg down river.
6. A competitor must not cause annoyance or seek to interfere with any other competitor's swim during the match.
7. No competitor may buy or draw more than one peg.
8. Keepnets must not be less than 8 feet long by 18 inches diameter. Carp must be kept only in carp mesh nets of suitable size for the fish caught. All competitors must take every care of their fish caught, so that they may be returned alive, after the weigh-in.
9. A competitor may only fish with two rods and line at any time, but they may have others set up, provided they are not baited or in the water. Only one hook may be used on each fishing line.
10. Any bait may be used with the exception of live or dead fish, spinning lures or nuts of any description. No competitor may have live or dead fish in their possession prior to the start of the match.
11. No competitor may ground bait or loose feed their swim or disturb the water in any way other than to wet ground bait, place a keepnet or bankstick or plumb the depth prior to the start of the match.
12. A competitor must strike, play and land their own fish.

13. Any competitor who abandons their peg
(having decided to cease taking part in the match)
but decides to continue fishing, must not weigh their catch in.
14. All competitors must cease fishing on the final signal from the
Match Secretary. Should they be playing a fish, an extra fifteen minutes
will be permitted to the angler.
15. All fish are eligible for the weigh-in, with the exception of Minnows,
Sticklebacks and Pike. All live fish must be safely returned to the water
after the weigh-in takes place.
16. The Scales Person's decision on the weigh-in is final. It is up to the angler
to protest (if needed) at the time of the weigh-in and not after it.
17. Any competitor weighing-in may ask for a fish to be weighed separately
if they think it may be a specimen size.
18. No competitor will be weighed-in if litter is found in their peg.
19. All competitors must carry an unhooking mat and use it when unhooking
large fish on the bank.
20. These rules may only partially apply for the Pike Match.

Please note:

Our club has a zero tolerance rule against Alcohol and Drugs on our waters.
Do not bring them (opened/unopened, consumed or not consumed) in any
form onto our waters.

The Bailiffs are under strict instructions to report all offenders to the
committee.

Essex Police have permission to enter any of our waters at any times to deal
with any un-lawful activities