

HORSESHOE LAKE RULES



Before you fish:

1. Only Carp Society members and authorised visitors may enter the property and produce their permit and/or membership card to a Carp Society official on request. If such documents cannot be produced the person may be asked to leave the property by a Carp Society official. Non-fishing visitors must report to the office or bailiff.
All non-fishing guests must hold valid Carp Society memberships and are not permitted to be given the access card to the lake. Access/Exit must be carried out by the permit holder
2. **Permit holders are entitled to fish the water for the period for which their permit applies except for:-**
 - Special events – notified on our Events page
 - Spawning – notified on Facebook and our website
 - Environmental incidents – notified on Facebook and our websiteSuch closures are limited as much as possible however *The Directors reserve the right to close the lake without prior notice at their discretion with no liability of compensation.*
3. **The permit holders' gate to the property must be closed and locked immediately after entry or exit. The roundabout gate must be locked outside of office hours and the code must not, under any circumstances be given out.**
4. Whilst on the property vehicles must be driven carefully and quietly, and must be parked in the car parks provided. Loading or unloading of vehicles is permitted on the roadways, but vehicles must not be parked on the grass.
5. Fishing is only permitted from authorised numbered swims. Red post swims (double peg) permit two anglers to fish together to a maximum of four rods from the swim (i.e. two each). White post swims are for single angler occupancy to a maximum of two rods. Blue post swims are for single angler, single rod, daylight only use. No bivvying is permitted in blue post swims. Anglers using blue post swims are not permitted to leave tackle in other swims whilst fishing.
6. Note: From 01 November until **01 March** a *single* angler fishing a red or white post swim may fish with three rods provided that he/she is in possession of the appropriate E.A. licences. Please note the exception is that two anglers sharing a red post swim are limited to two rods each at all times.
7. **Season permit holders ONLY** are permitted to fish 3 rods in all double (red peg) swims fishing alone and any swim in the Winter Bay from swims 9 – 45 only. **THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO DAY TICKETS**
8. No swims may be altered without the consent of a bailiff or Carp Society Official. Climbing of trees is not permitted
9. No boats of any description are allowed on the water other than the authorised use of a boat by the bailiffs in the course of their duties.
10. **No Drones may be used Horseshoe Lake without written permission from the Carp Society office.**
11. No wading permitted except for landing and returning fish over shallow water.
12. Anglers fishing for carp or pike must use a minimum of 15lb breaking strain monofilament line. Float fishing for other species must be carried out with a minimum of 5.5lb line. When feeder fishing for tench, anglers must use a minimum mainline strength of 10lb mono.
13. Dogs must not be brought onto the property.
14. It is the responsibility of any angler occupying a swim to ensure that the swim and surrounding area is kept free of litter. **Take all litter home, this includes teabags and cigarette ends.**
15. **The use of all lead core, braided mainlines and shock/carp leaders (i.e. where there is any knot above the hook link) on any baited rods is not permitted. (i.e. the mainline and hooklink can only be joined by one continuous swivel)**
16. **All anglers must be in possession of a suitable UNHOOKING MAT. The mat must be well padded, have walled sides (no metal) and be suitable for holding a 40lb+ fish. *updated Jan 2022**
17. All anglers must be in possession of a DRY landing net of adequate size (at least 90cm arms or Specialist Pan 88 x 65 cm), sacking of fish is strictly prohibited.
18. Barbless hooks must be used at all times; crushed barbed hooks and the use of long shank hooks are not permitted.
19. The use of nuts as hook baits or in loose feed are **not** permitted.
20. No guns, crossbows or weapons of any kind are allowed on the property unless authorized by the lake management.
21. No open fires to be lit on the property.
22. Anglers must not introduce into the lake from any other water any live or dead freshwater fish, spawn or pond plants.
23. The minimum age for holding an unaccompanied permit is 17 years old.
24. Juniors aged 10-15 years can only fish if accompanied by an adult (who must at no time be more than one swim away). The junior must purchase a day ticket before commencing fishing. Children under the age of 5 are not permitted on the property except in the Lodge area under parental supervision.
25. Any person fishing the waters must hold the relevant E.A. licence.
26. Permit holders may be accompanied by non-fishing partner/related child companion who holds a valid CS membership.
27. **A vacant swim may be reserved by placing a substantial item of tackle (eg a bivvy/rods not a bucket) in the swim and immediately return to their vehicle (ie don't carry on walking around the lake in search for another swim) with the intention of immediately occupying the reserved swim. Anglers considered to be reserving swims, by making arrangements with the current swim occupier will risk being banned from the fishery. YOU CANNOT reserve a swim that is already occupied by any method.**

While you're fishing:

28. **Any Carp caught 30lb and above you must call Karl 07814 258897 who will come to take a photo which will enable us to keep an up to date record of the lake stock.**
29. Unruly and abusive behaviour (verbal or physical) between individuals or groups of anglers, or towards Carp Society property or personnel will be deemed to be a rule infringement. All anglers must (at the discretion of the bailiff) conduct themselves in a sportsman-like manner and observe good angling etiquette.
30. An angler may be absent from his/her swim for a maximum of 4 hours and off site for a maximum of 2 hours in any 24hr period. Please note: stalking whilst occupying a permanent swim is allowed with one rod only but only when space permits. This must not interfere with another anglers fishing and is allowed at the bailiff's discretion.
31. No angler's baited rods must be left unattended. This includes 'walking out' of lines to clip up, if other lines remain in the water. It is not acceptable to leave rods under the control of another angler who is already fishing.
32. Wound in rods must not be left unattended without the hook bait being removed.
33. Fishing in areas which are out of bounds or in swims which are closed is prohibited.
34. The Carp Society shall have the right to inquire into, and take the appropriate action in the event of an alleged infringement of the rules in accordance with the current bailiff guidelines, which are published on the Carp Society website. A paper copy is available from the office.
35. Rule infringements. All permits holders warned for rule breaking could have their permit punched; a second infringement will result in your permit being withdrawn without compensation.
36. Hourly ticket holders infringing a rule will be warned and on the second occasion will be requested to leave the lake immediately. All rule infringements will be recorded. Return of any permit or options to purchase further tickets are entirely at the discretion of the Society management team.
37. All bailiffs and Carp Society Officials have the right to examine any vehicle on, entering or leaving the property to ensure that fish are not being removed, transported illegally or stolen. This right may only be exercised in the presence of the person using the vehicle, but refusal to cooperate may result in the termination of the vehicle user's rights to fish and/or be on the property. Any person found attempting to remove fish from any Carp Society water shall automatically lose their permit(s) and membership. Subject to the seriousness of the incident the Carp Society can suspend permission to fish whilst investigating an alleged infringement.
38. Random checks will be made with regard to permits, memberships, licences, rigs and bait.
39. The toilets provided must be used at all times.
40. An angler may spend a maximum of 96 hours (4 days) in a swim before having to vacate it. This is deemed to commence from 10am on the first day of occupancy irrespective of the time of arrival. The same angler cannot reoccupy that swim for a further 120 hours from 10am on the day of his/her departure. For anglers doubling up in red post swims the time limit is set from the first occupying angler. Except designated green post swims (see #39)
41. Anglers may spend a maximum of 7 nights or 168 hours in a green post swim as indicated on the map. As above the same angler cannot reoccupy that swim for a further 120 hours from the day of departure.
42. Your permit/hourly ticket remains the property of The Carp Society and is non-transferable and non-refundable
43. Should you lose your permit or membership card a replacement will be supplied following payment of an administrative fee.
44. When Surface fishing only one rod per angler may be used, ie not one floater rod and one bottom rod. The use of "Beachcaster" style rigs is not permitted.
45. **All fish landed must be returned back to the lake in the shortest possible time. A period of ten minutes from the fish going into the landing net to being released is the bench mark, if for whatsoever reason you anticipate it taking longer you must contact the duty bailiff and seek permission.**
 - Permission will never be granted for the simple reason that you are waiting for better conditions for a photo.
 - You must under no circumstances land a fish in darkness and keep it in a retainer until daylight for the reason of getting a better photo.
 - The only time a fish may be kept in a retainer is to allow you to sort out your unhooking and photographing procedures out; this time is included in the 10 minutes.
 - The fish must be out of the water for no longer than 5 minutes at a maximum. If for whatever reason you do not think you can meet this criteria (it maybe you think the fish will benefit from a rest before release) you must contact the duty bailiff and explain why before proceeding.

As a general rule of thumb if you are making a continuous effort to photograph, look after the fish, apply carp care and return the fish safely, should it take slightly longer than 10 minutes there shouldn't be a problem.
46. **Under no circumstances once you have landed a fish should that rod or any other be recast into the water until the fish has been safely returned.**
47. **Under no circumstances should a landed fish be taken out of the swim (e.g for photographing)**

Additional T&C

48. Memberships, permits and fishing tickets are non-refundable, non-transferrable at any time.
49. Lake closures – The directors reserve the right to close the lake without prior notice at their discretion, with no liability for compensation, refunds or extensions.
50. Rules are subject to change and will be notified on the website.

Any rule infringement will be noted and tickets/cards will be marked accordingly. A second rule infringement will result in the angler/s being asked to leave the lake immediately. Future access to the lake will then be subject to the consideration of the Society Management, who will notify the angler/s in writing.

The Bailiffs carry the full support of the management team and their decisions are final.

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Pike Angling Rules and Guidelines:

- 1** ALL OTHER RULES APPLY
- 2** Pike fishing is only permitted between 1 November and 1 March
- 3** Pike fishing is limited to two rods only. (**Please note:** When pike fishing a third rod is not permitted to fish for carp. Similarly when carp fishing a third rod is not permitted to fish for pike).
- 4** Barbless hooks must always be used on all spinners / lures, and all trebles (except for one barbed hook permitted for holding on dead bait).
- 5** All pike anglers must carry adequate forceps, pliers, side cutters and antiseptic treatment at all times.
- 6** Braid is permitted for spinning and lure fishing only. This must be 25lb breaking strain or over.
- 7** Only sea fish are permitted to be used as dead baits.

Pike are very fragile and delicate creatures, and despite their predatory looks and images require extra care and attention. Any angler who appears to be lacking the necessary knowledge and experience in fishing for and handling pike may be asked to stop fishing.

Please note: these rules and guidelines are only in place for the future welfare of our fish stocks.

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Future access to the lake will then be subject to the consideration of the Society Management, who will notify the angler/s in writing.**

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