

Falkirk Municipal Angling Club Water Fishing Rules

Club Water Rules (rev 2025)

1. Arrival at the Water & General Facility Use:

- Close and lock the gate behind you upon arrival and departure.
- Park your vehicle with consideration for other members.
- All members and guests must sign in the "**Fishing Returns**" book prior to commencing fishing. This entry must include the date, your name, membership number, and your selection of either boat or bank fishing.
- It is every member's responsibility to maintain the facility. This includes bailing the boats out to prevent sinking. If you are physically unable to bail the boats and the boats need bailing, report it to the dam convenor or a committee member as soon as possible.
- The storage container must be closed and locked before commencing angling.
- No fires allowed.
- Do not discard tippet material in the water.
- Take your litter home with you

2. Fishing Methods Permitted:

- **Fly fishing** is the **only** method permitted on the club water.
- **Prohibited methods:** No set lines, groundbaiting, spinning, bait fishing, or the use of modern synthetic attractors (such as PowerBait).

3. Catch Limits & Boat/Bank Fishing Rules:

Limits inclusive of the member and one guest maximum per visit.

Fishing Type

Rota Day Limit

Non-Rota Day Limit

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Boat Fishing

6 Fish Total

3 Fish Total

Bank Fishing

6 Fish Total

3 Fish Total

Boat Specifics:

- **Life preservers must be worn at all times** while in a boat.
- Single boat occupancy is permitted for members throughout the season, but for personal safety, please give due consideration to weather conditions and your ability to handle a boat safely.
- Inform someone of your visit and expected return. (phone reception is not great)
- If you select a boat, you must ensure that the second boat (if not already in use) is available at the jetty for other anglers. If it is not, you are required to fetch it before leaving the jetty.
- **Rota Days have priority for boats.** Do not be offended or obstructive if a rota day member asks you to vacate a boat you are using on a non-rota day.

Bank Specifics:

- Guests are permitted to bank fish with a member on both rota and non-rota days; both individuals must fish from the bank.

4. Catch & Release (C&R) Rules

Catch and release is permitted on both rota and non-rota days, subject to the following conditions:

- **C&R is not permitted once your fish total limit is reached.** Changing to C&R after reaching your bag limit is not allowed; fishing must cease entirely once the limit for the day (3 or 6 fish) is reached.
- **Barbless or de-barbed hooks must be used at all times** when practicing C&R.
- Fish must be handled carefully with wet hands.

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- Continued
 - Releasing fish in the water is the preferred method.
 - Use landing nets specifically designed for catch and release.
 - **Do not beach fish to unhook them**, as this damages the fish.
- Any injured or lethargic fish must be humanely dispatched and will count toward your total fish limit.
- **Temporary Suspension:** In warm summer months, the Dam Convenor may temporarily suspend all catch and release activity. This is due to the significantly reduced survival rate of trout in warm water/low oxygen conditions. Signs will be posted in the cabin when this is required .
- **Damage Reporting:** Any breakages, damage, or issues concerning club assets or the facility must be reported to the Dam Convenor or a committee member as soon as possible.

Departure:

Before leaving the water, please ensure you complete the following steps:

1. **Complete the Returns Book:** Accurately record all fish taken and release their estimated weight, for both the member and any guest. This information is critical for managing the club's stocking policy.
2. **Secure Facilities:** Ensure all boats and the cabin are properly secured.
3. **Remove Litter:** You must take all your litter with you when you leave.
4. **Lock the Gate:** The main gate must be locked after you exit the premises.