



**SHARK ANGLING CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN
COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 26th July 2021 AT 7pm
At Looe Social Club and Via Zoom**

Present: B Woodman - Chairman, C Kelly - Secretary, P Davis, K Tapper, S Ward, S Thomas, A McKay,

Member: Steve Chivers

Special Guest: Dr Georgia Jones

Via Zoom: P Martin

Apologies: M Collings, D Stone

Minutes of Last Meeting – Proposed as an accurate record by Pete Davis, seconded by Alex McKay.

Matters Arising

1. Festival Review – A review of the following points raised regarding the Festival:
 - i. The secretary advised that a complaint had been received regarding Sea Watch, skippered by Nigel Hodge, which on the final day of the festival had dropped off the anglers in Falmouth and ferried them back to Looe by car. The Committee agreed that it was a fair comment, and that Nigel would have to be told that it couldn't happen again. It had also been mentioned that Nigel had not measured the girth of one fish that had been caught, which needed to be done. Pete Davis suggested that the Festival anglers should be asked for their comments about the Festival, good or bad in confidence, so that any issues could be ironed out. Alex McKay made a suggestion, regarding the festival, which was that the AGM should be moved to the Tuesday night, after the draw. This would be more of an informative meeting than a huge discussion by a few members of the Festival who attend. The Committee agreed that it was a good idea.
 - ii. Prize money increase – it was agreed that a break down was needed with the total spend for the Festival to be able to make any decisions regarding prize money.
 - iii. Boat Charges – some boats have let the Secretary know that they are increasing their charges for next year. This to be discussed next month along with the prize money.
 - iv. Fishing Parameters – after a discussion it was agreed that parameters would not be put into the rules for next year's Festival.
 - v. Supply of Hooks – it was suggested that it may be better to suggest to the anglers what equipment the club recommended for use. Pete Davis went on to suggest that the skippers be supplied with some equipment and if the skipper thought it was necessary, they could provide the angler with suitable equipment. Kevin Tapper stated *'We specify the weight of line, why can't we specify the equipment we recommend? Put it on the entry form'*. The Chairman stated *'I think it is a good idea to supply the skippers with a selection and state that we advise the use of circle hooks. But I don't think we can say if you don't use a circle hook you can't fish the Festival'*. Kevin Tapper suggested a list of recommendations stating that this was all in the Sharks interest. For example: minimum 50lb line, ensure the line is in good condition, recommend the use of circle hooks. Pete Davis *'I think we should get the*



skipper to take a bit more responsibility. If they don't like the gear the angler is working with then they should take over and suggest better equipment'. A specification for hook lengths etc to be added to the rules for next year.

- vi. Supply of Go Pros – it was agreed that the secretary would ask the skippers if any of them would be interested in using a 'Go Pro' for the club. Paul Martin suggested that, as he was talking to someone who was making a prototype camera which faced the boat and the fish at the same time, he would see if he could obtain one to test.
2. Subs Increase? – The secretary reminded the Committee of the suggestion of an extra £12 per annum for the subs, which would include an entry into the Lucky Run Club each month. After a discussion it was agreed that the subs would not increase and the Lucky Run Club would, once again, be promoted with the forms being sent out with the Newsletter at the end of the Month.
3. Keith Armishaw – The secretary read a thank you email from Keith, who was very happy with his gift.
4. Chris Flower Line Test Result – Chris Flower has tested his first line for the club. This was for a 12lb line provided by Steve Chivers which tested within the parameters required.

Trophy Claims

- **Emma Wilkinson – R C Roberts – Qualifying claim.** Largest claim already given to 400lb Porbeagle.
- **Bill Whistance – Pearl Trophy** – Blue with 97 points. This was more than the points for his Porbeagle which he had already claimed the Pearl for.
- **Gary Avery – Derek Denne, Mickey Wonnal and Norman Lorraine** – Blue Shark 105.5 points. This was a qualifier for all trophies.
- **Spencer Wright** – 125lb Thresher catch on the Isle of Wight but he hasn't specified a trophy. Simon Thomas to find out what trophy he wants to claim.

Lucky Run Club

- The Winner of the July draw was Terry Field winning £75.00

New Business

1. You Tube account – the secretary advised that some videos were needed for the new channel along with subscribers!

Any Other Business

1. Kevin Tapper – returned the new Mitchel Hedges Base. The Committee thanked Kevin for his work.
2. Bob Woodman read a letter which had been received from John McMaster regarding 'Release in the Water' which had been brought to the fore front of discussions recently. Kevin Tapper stated that we have now issued a statement which covers the issue but that the club hadn't dealt with the Angling Trust apart from the fact that Simon Thomas was in touch with Ali Hood on a regular basis.
Bob stated that 'Whilst at the end of the day I respect all that John Mac did for the club while he was here, he is not a member of the club, or a member of anything really, he is an independent guy with his views but he doesn't represent the club. We have already dealt with this matter'.
3. Simon Thomas stated that Ali Hood was meeting with the Angling Trust and he would be involved in that. Ali Hood is expressing a desire to ban fishing for Porbeagles. Simon suggested that the Committee talk to her. Bob suggested inviting her to the next meeting, which was agreed.



4. Pete Davis stated that Chippy, skipper of Bite Adventures from Penzance, won an award presented by the club for breaking the 250lb Blue Shark barrier. At the time it was agreed to make the next barrier for a Blue 350lbs but asked if the club should bring the target down to 300lbs. The Committee agreed.

There were no further matters to discuss.

Guest Speaker:

Dr Georgia Jones spoke to the Committee regarding her work which involved taking samples from Sharks. She stated that she had been out on Swallow that day with Murray Collings and had witnessed a Thresher being caught, which was very exciting.

She is currently collecting small muscle biopsies, collected with a needle, which she is licenced to do under the Home Office, and collecting mucus samples with small toothbrushes from their skin.

This can tell her what the sharks have been feeding on and where. Muscle samples can give an average over a year and mucus samples can show where they have been feeding over the last few weeks.

She is hoping to be able to collect mucus from Tuna in the future.

The Committee thanked Georgia for a very interesting insight into her work.

The meeting closed at pm.

Date of Next Meeting – 23rd August 2021 at 7pm Lower Bar, Social Club, West Looe and via Zoom with guest – Ali Hood.