



**SHARK ANGLING CLUB OF GREAT BRITAIN
COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON 27th September 2021 AT 7pm
At Looe Social Club and Via Zoom**

Present: - Bob Woodman - Chairman, C Kelly - Secretary, P Davis, M Collings, P Martin, S Ward

Via Zoom: K Tapper, S Thomas,

Apologies: A McKay, D Stone

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

Matters Arising

1. Festival Review

- i. Andre Theoret – The secretary asked if the Committee wished her to write to Mr. Theoret to tell him that he would not be used at the next Festival as per the discussions at the last meeting. It was felt that Mr. Theoret may be retiring anyway this year, so there was no need to write to him. The secretary stated that only 44 people had entered for the festival so far, which meant that another skipper did not need to be found at this stage.
- ii. Financials – The secretary stated that next year's Festival should make a profit of £1314.50. Due to the anglers having to book for the festival by the end of August as usual, the price of next year's Festival had had to remain the same. It was agreed that the prize money would also remain the same, as this would leave a buffer of money for any fuel related increases.
- iii. List of Recommendations – The Secretary had compiled the following list:

SACGB Festival Rules and Guidelines

Conservation

1. Wherever possible, all sharks must be released **unharm**ed.
2. Wherever possible, sharks brought aboard a boat should be returned to the water within two minutes.
3. Whilst on deck, the shark should be continuously doused with water to assist with controlling its temperature and protect its skin from drying out.
4. **The use of a body gaff is prohibited.**
5. The use of a **knife, lance or spear and the shooting of a shark is forbidden, unless to help with tagging.**
6. Shooting, either by rifle, harpoon, or harpoon gun, or other means of projecting a missile whether or not it is attached to a rod and line is forbidden.
7. Do not lift the shark out of the water by its head, gills or tail. It is acceptable to use a small chin gaff (taking care avoid the eyes and gills) to help slide the fish aboard. Bring the shark aboard horizontally so not to tear any ligaments, tendons, or damage organs. Small sharks (circa 30lbs) are best handled with both hands, one on the dorsal fin, pectoral fin or neck (i.e. between the gills and the dorsal fin) and the other holding the tail or supporting the body.
8. Medium to large sharks should be handled by two persons. One person holds the head, dorsal fin and/or pectoral fin while the other holds the tail and supports the body. The belly and teeth should always face away from the handlers.
9. Use a de-hooking tool to remove the hook. If the shark has been deep hooked, then cut the trace as close to the hook as possible. Do not hold the shark by the gills as this can lead to serious injury and even death.

General

1. All boats must leave from and return to the port of Looe, every day of the Festival.
2. Your tackle will be inspected by the Skipper prior to the Festival commencing and if it is not acceptable, the skipper has the right to provide alternative equipment.
3. Rubby-dubby can be used as an attractant and may only consist of fish derivatives. Bran may be added.
4. Offering a bait to a shark whilst any part of the leader is held in the hand is prohibited.
5. A broken rod, including the butt, nullifies the catch.
6. Foul-hooking or the use of entangling devises nullifies the catch.

Tackle

1. Not less than 50lbs breaking strain line to be used



2. The angler shall only employ rod, reel and line and must bring the shark to the boat unaided.
3. The use of any mechanical or electrical driven device for the purposes of automatically winding line onto the reel, or any such device that eliminates the manual operation of the reel in whole, or in part, is strictly prohibited in competitions and also if the shark caught and released is intended to be used to qualify for membership or if to be used to make a trophy claim.
4. The use of a double-handed reel is prohibited.
5. Neither the reel, nor the line nor any part of the equipment may be secured to the boat or any part of it; the rod may be attached to a butt socket by means of a pin or other device. This rule does not disqualify the use of safety lines attached to rod or reel or to the angler or his or her equipment, providing such safety lines are slack and do not provide the angler with an unsporting advantage.
6. Changing a rod or reel, splicing the line or removal or addition thereto when playing the shark is prohibited.
7. The use of floats that are capable of exerting an appreciable effect on the fighting power of the shark are prohibited.
8. No more than one single hook may be attached to the leader or trace at any one time. The use of a dangling or swinging hook is prohibited. The use of a double or triple gang, or a cluster of hooks, being two or more fastened together, is prohibited.
9. The use of artificial lures is permissible only if not more than one single hook is attached to the lure. In this case, a photograph of the fish, lure and rod and reel must accompany the claim. The use of lures carrying ganger hooks is not permitted.
10. Metal lines, including metal core lines, are prohibited.
11. The use of a leader or trace is not required. If one is used, it must meet the following specifications. The length of the leader is the overall length, including any lure, hook arrangement, or other device. The leader must be connected to the line with a snap, knot, splice, swivel or other device. Holding devices are prohibited. There are no regulations regarding the material strength of the leader.
12. In all classes up to and including 10kg (20lb), the leader shall be limited to 4.57 metres (15 feet). The combined length of double line and leader shall not exceed 6.1 metres (20 feet).
13. The leader in all classes of tackle over 10kg (20lb) shall be limited to 9.14metres (30 feet). The combined length of double line and leader shall be limited to 12.19metres (40 feet).
14. Stainless hooks must never be used. A rapidly corrodible hook will eventually fall away and if gut hooked the shark's stomach digestive acids will dissolve a non-stainless hook in around 3 to 4 days.
15. Barbless or filed down barbed hooks are much easier to remove and are the preferred choice.
16. Regardless whether a circle hook (preferred), Japanese ringed hook or a J hook is used, it should be set as quickly as possible to increase the probability of the shark being hooked in the corner of the mouth and not in the gut.
17. Circle hooks are designed to hook the shark in the corner of the mouth, so they are easier to remove. They also remove the need to strike. Overly large circles do however tend to pull through the eyes of small sharks.
18. It is preferable not to use balloons for floats as they mimic jelly fish and are eaten by other marine species. We encourage the use of biodegradable balloons.

Playing the Shark

1. No person shall hand-line the shark at any time. The exception to this is where another person may take hold of the trace or leader once it is within reach to assist with bringing the shark on board or to the side of the boat if being unhooked in the water.
2. Resting the rod on the gunwale or any part of the boat while playing a fish is prohibited.
3. The skipper may assist the movement of the rod and line past fixed gantries on the boat where appropriate.
4. Beaching or driving into shallow water in order to deprive the shark of its ability to swim is prohibited.
5. When a shark is being played it will be the skippers decision if other lines need retrieved or repositioned.
6. Shark magnets are allowed, and the skippers will assign fishing positions by drawing lots

Please acknowledge receipt of the SACGB Rules and Guidelines for the Festival by signing below:

Skipper: Date:

A copy to be kept for your records.

Dave Stone had also provided the secretary with some amendments, highlighted in green in the above document, which were approved by the Committee.

- iv. Supply of Go Pros – Simon Thomas had forwarded an email to the Committee for consideration at the next Committee Meeting.



Trophy Claims

The final winners for the current season were decided by the Committee. Pete Davis provided the winners of the Skippers cups.

Lucky Run Club

- The Winner of the August draw was Kevin Tapper winning £80.00

New Business

None

Any Other Business

1. Murray Collings – stated that he had had a phone call from Robin Fisher who was aiming to get out on the boat with Murray this week, but the weather was not looking good.
2. Pete Davis – was supposed to be having Francesco from Exeter University aboard last week but there were no sharks, this week they couldn't make it and next week there is bad weather.
3. Pete Davis – Skipper Members – Pete stated that skipper membership was previously taken away as 'anyone' could call themselves a Skipper Member. He felt that some skippers, who had been loyal and proved a 'track record' for the club, could be invited to be Skipper Members. Ie: Phil Curtis and Dave Bond. This was agreed by the Committee.
4. Paul Martin – asked if a decision had been made on holding the AGM on the Tuesday night of the festival. It was agreed that this would happen.
5. Kevin Tapper – had completed the new display pieces for the Mitchel Hedges past winners. The Committee thanked him for his work.
6. Simon Thomas – had presented the Porbeagle and Blue Shark papers to ICAAT last week and these were due to be formally been accepted.
7. The secretary advised that the Presentation Evening was being held in the Restaurant and Ballroom of the Hannafore Point Hotel from 7pm with guests of honour Simon and Tracy Thomas. Music to be played after the presentation.

There were no further matters to discuss.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

Date of Next Meeting – 18th October 2021 at 7pm Lower Bar, Social Club, West Looe and via Zoom.