**DINGWALL AND DISTRICT ANGLING CLUB**

9**. FISHING RULES 2025**

(a) The only people allowed to fish the Club waters are members of the Club, members of another Club with whom an exchange ticket scheme is in operation, provided that person has an exchange ticket with them, or members of the public who have purchased and are in possession of a Day or Weekly ticket which is Not transferable.

(b) The ONLY method of fishing allowed is Fly Fishing with a fly rod and fly reel.

(c) No fishing is permitted on a Sunday.

(d) No salmon to be killed before the 1st April as this is now a Criminal Offence.

(e) The use of a Gaff is prohibited.

(f) The selling of any fish caught on Club waters is prohibited.

(g) Wading is generally restricted to waist depth.

(h) Fishing from Road Bridges is prohibited.

(i) No Salmon or Grilse to be taken before the 1st July and a maximum of 2 Salmon or Grilse may be taken for the Whole season from the Upper Beat from the Railway Viaduct Bridge to the Anchor Pool.

(j) Catch and Release is the preferred method, however if a Salmon is retained that angler must leave the Upper Beat but can continue fishing for Sea Trout below the Road Bridge on the A835 leading to Maryburgh roundabout.

(k) All Seatrout/ Finnock caught before 1st June must be released unharmed, thereafter no more than 4 Seatrout/Finnock can be retained in one day. All fish under 30cm/ 12” must be returned. Fishing on the Lower Estuary Beat , it is a requirement in our lease with the Cromarty Firth Fishery Board that anglers adhere to their conservation policy which is in addition to our rules for Seatrout / Finnock as stated above. A copy of this Conservation Policy is available at the Sports and Model Shop, High Street, Dingwall.

(l)The angler arriving first at any pool shall have first turn at fishing, others shall follow in order of arrival. When other anglers are present every effort should be taken to fish as far down the pool as practical before rejoining the queue thereby avoiding congestion at busy times.

(m) Anglers must take steps of at least one metre after every cast and fish down the pool, unless there are no other anglers waiting to fish, anglers must acquaint themselves where each pool starts and ends ,(see map) fishing through from the Pipe Bridge Pool under the Road Bridge into the Upper Bridge Pool should only be done with the full agreement of those present as these are separate pools in their own right.

(n) All foul hooked fish , kelts and coloured gravid fish must be returned to the water with as little damage as possible. Anglers must acquaint themselves with best practice for Catch and Release if the Salmon, Seatrout/ Finnock they return has a chance to survive .

(o) Anglers must behave with due decorum, the use of foul language is to be discouraged.

(p) Membership tickets are to be carried at all times, Club members are encouraged to request to see the tickets for any angler on the water that they do not recognise.

(q) Fishing returns including nil catches are to be sent to The Sports and Model Shop , High Street, Dingwall, no later than 23rd October as catches need to be collated and submitted to the Cromarty Firth Fishery Board timeously as this affects the river’s categorisation, failure to do this could result in a fine being added to your annual subscription.

(r) The fishing season shall be determined by the Cromarty Firth Fishery Board and shall be announced at the Annual General meeting, currently 11th February to 30th September.

RIVER LEVELS, THE CLUBS BEATS ARE BOTH TIDAL AND SUBJECT TO SUDDEN RISES DUE TO TURBINE GENERATION, DUE DILIGENCE IS REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES AND PARTICULARY WHILST FISHING THE LOWER ESTUARY BEAT.

ALL MEMBERS AND TICKET HOLDERS MAKING USE OF THE FACILITIES AFFORDED BY THE CLUB INCLUDING PATHS, STEPS, SEATS, ACCESS TRACKS, CAR PARKING etc DO SO AT THEIR OWN RISK, THE CLUB SHALL NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOSS OR INJURY SUFFERED BY ANY PERSON MAKING USE OF SUCH FACILITIES. FOR GUIDANCE ONLY A COPY OF THE CLUBS RISK ASSESSMENT IS AVAILABLE TO VIEW AT THE SPORTS AND MODEL SHOP, HIGH STREET, DINGWALL.

ANY JUNIOR MEMBER MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A PARENT/ GARDIAN OR RESPONSIBLE ADULT, IT IS NOT ENCUMBENT ON MEMBERS TO OVERSEE JUNIORS.

CROMARTY FIRTH FISHERY BOARD CONSERVATION POLICY.

The Club recommends anglers comply with the Conservation Policy issued by the Cromarty Firth Fishery Board, these rules are voluntary to our rules which currently take precedence.