



MEMBERS' FLY FISHING RULES

October 2023

Please note that these rules may be subject to change

General

- The use of natural baits or lures is forbidden.
- Wild trout are to be released.
- From the start of the season until 15th August, stocked trout can be either kept or released; after 15th August, any stocked trout that are caught are to be kept.
- No hooks bigger than size 10 are to be used. Barbless hooks must be used for catch and release.
- No person shall fish more than one rod and line at the same time.
- No person shall intentionally take or attempt to take any trout of 10" (11" during the mayfly season) in length or less. The fish is measured from the tip of the snout to the top of the tail when the fish is laid flat. Any such fish taken unintentionally must be returned to the river immediately and with as little injury as possible.
- This permit allows a total of 18 fish to be caught under the stocking fee. Any fish caught in excess will be charged at £4 per fish. No more than 4 stocked fish should be caught on any one day.
- At the end of each session you are required to fill in the record books. These are housed in 4 cupboards along the river as marked on the beat map; alternatively you can email details to fishing@cowdray.co.uk. This allows us to maintain stocking levels.
- A current Environment Agency rod licence must be held.
- Fishing may start at sunrise and finish at sunset.
- Fishing from the bank only, apart from along the Canal section where wading is allowed within a metre of the bank.
- All guests must pay to fish. This is charged at £10 per person, per day. Please invite no more than 2 guests per session and please limit the total number of guests per season to 4. It is the member's responsibility to vouch for the competence of any guests as well as their holding a valid Environment Agency rod licence.
- All authorised persons should exhibit the provided car badge in their vehicle when driving through or parking on Estate Land.
- Please ensure that you only park in designated spaces and that all valuables are hidden or removed from your vehicle.



MEMBERS' FLY FISHING RULES

October 2023

Please note that these rules may be subject to change

Health and Safety

All visitors to Cowdray Estate should be aware of the dangers associated with fishing.

- Please take time to familiarise yourself with the riverbank and take note of any potential dangers.
- Those with less experience should engage the services of a river guide.
- Life jackets are available on request but are not mandatory.
- Check water levels – never access the river after excessive rainfall or whilst the river is in flood. If in any doubt, contact the Cowdray Estate Office for advice.
- It is advised that fishermen and guests are able to swim.
- No under 18s unless accompanied by a responsible adult.
- Anyone accessing the river (for fishing or other) must take their own precautions to notify someone of their whereabouts before, during and after their visit.
- Fishermen are advised to check phone signal and make note of their location whilst moving along the river.
- Safety glasses must be worn at all times whilst fishing. Sunglasses are acceptable.
- Always check behind and around you for others before casting.
- Although fishing itself isn't overly strenuous, please be aware that you are responsible for your own health as access to the river can often be down steep banks.
- Walk at all times and constantly assess the terrain whilst moving around.
- Strong lace-up boots are advised (unless wearing wellies).
- It is advised that you carry a personal first aid kit.
- Be aware that some plants, such as hog weed, can be harmful. Take care around unknown plants.