

Draft Sandwell Angling Code of Conduct

1. There are national regulations and governing rules relating to where, when and how an angler can carry out their pursuit, and these regulations carry heavy penalties if broken.
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-rod-fishing-byelaws-for-england-freshwater-fishing-with-a-rod-and-line>
2. Prior to fishing any water whether private or public, an angler must be in possession of a National Rod Licence from the age of 12 years. This can be purchased via the following link:
<https://www.gov.uk/fishing-licences>
3. Fishing is only permitted during daylight hours.
4. Anglers must not hold fish with a cloth or stand up and walk whilst holding a fish.
5. Anglers must not abandon line and other fishing equipment.
6. All equipment and litter should be removed when anglers leave. If a line has become entangled in trees or other, and cannot be safely removed, it should be reported immediately to 0121 569 3069 (9am till 4pm all week).
7. Injuries to wildlife or signs of disease in fish should be reported immediately to the relevant agency and via www.sandwell.gov.uk
8. A maximum of two rods can be used to fish at any one time, other rods may be set and not baited or in the water.
9. Fishing is only permitted in the designated areas. Anyone fishing in non-designated areas will be removed from the site.
10. The use of remote controlled boats or bait boats is not allowed.
11. No dinghies or other boats in conjunction with fishing activities shall be allowed onto the water.

12. The use of surface baits or “live” baits (e.g. small fish) is not permitted.
13. Rods shall be attended at all times, and no rods left unattended. Persons leaving rods unattended will be required to leave the water.
14. All anglers must remove litter and discarded line from the peg - failure to co-operate will result in offenders being removed from the site.
15. Only barbless or micro barb hooks may be used. Failure to observe this rule will result in removal from the site.
16. Fires and barbeques are not allowed.
17. Anyone who appears to be under the influence of drink and or drugs shall, at the discretion of Sandwell Council will be removed from the site.
18. All anglers must be in possession of a current permit or day ticket and must show his/her permit when asked by the Council representatives.
19. Fish care is paramount. Unhooking mats, landing nets and keep nets must be of regulated Environment Agency recommendations.
20. Leads of any description is not allowed.
21. Tin cans that provide bait for fishing is not allowed.
22. All fish must, without exception, be returned to the water. The unauthorised removal of fish will be regarded as theft.
23. No poly ball inserts to be used in pop up baits, cork ball only.
24. No uncooked nut or seed baits will be permitted.
25. Anglers are requested not to obstruct footpaths or restrict access to other park users, poles must be broken down.
26. No bivvys, tents or shelters are to be used at any site unless prior written permission has been granted.

27. When fishing for pike 12lb minimum line and 20lb trace must be used.
28. Night fishing is not allowed on any Council water
29. Anglers over 14 years of age can fish unaccompanied from dawn to dusk.
30. Anglers under the age of 14 years must be accompanied by an authorised adult. The Council cannot accept responsibility for the safety and conduct of anglers under 18. Children remain the responsibility of their parent/guardians at all times.
31. The Council reserves the right to remove any person for inappropriate behaviour, for example, causing a nuisance or annoyance to other anglers or behaving in such a way which may endanger themselves or others.