

# RWFF AGM MINUTES 2016

1) Apologies received from Nigel Woolnough, Gary West.

Present: J.B. P.G. R.W. P.W. C.E. J.L. P de K. N.M. and 18 members.

2) Minutes of the 2015 AGM were agreed, proposed by P.G. and seconded by Taff Bailey.

3) Matters arising - none.

4) Chairmans report -**Chairmans Report 2016 AGM 10th Nov 2016 @ Empingham Cricket Club.**

A warm welcome to our 2016 AGM.

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone that has supported the club and its events over the season. We have seen good attendance at the bank and boat competitions and I have been pleased to see some of our new and less experienced members participating. Thanks to John Wadham and Peter De Kremer for making these competitions happen. Also we have seen a good number of new members this year showing that there is a lot of interest in fly fishing and being part of our great club. Many of our newer members have taken advantage of our 'Monthly Bank Meetings' to improve their knowledge of Rutland, whilst brushing up on techniques. The club has again worked hard to promote fly fishing by running open days and attending country fairs like Burghley. We are very grateful to all the volunteers who helped out and special thanks go to Dave and Josie Porter and Brian and Pat Bonner for all their time organising and attending many (nearly all!) of our events.

Many of you will have read about 'the lake' in the Big Puddle. It's always difficult to generalise about the season but some may agree that Rutland has produced the best quality of fish ever? Photographs of fish of around 6lb and into double figures are being posted regularly on the Anglian Water Fishing Lodge Facebook Page. However, Fishing has been tough for many, especially off the Bank since June, and Boat fishing seems to have been pretty good throughout the season. Whilst I mention the Big Puddle, Rob Waddington has produced another series of fantastic magazines and we are especially grateful to him. Please keep sending your photos and

stories to him. Thank you Rob.

In a while, Paul Wild, our new Club Captain, will tell us about the teams performance in the Major Clubs Competitions. Other notable competitions were; the Maitland Trophy fished in September where despite winning it 3 years on the trot, we lost to GWFFA on our home water; and the Hinckley Shield. Fished last week at Grafham where both teams did OK. The match was won by Greenwells 6 teams of 6 caught 111 fish with a rod average of 3.8. There were a lot of 6lb fish caught.

Autumn is here and with the dark nights upon us our club events move indoors with the winter programme. You will notice some of the old favourites like fly tying evenings and AW forum but also some different things this year. There are copies of the programme printed. In February we have Big Dave's Bus Trip - which he tells me he is taking money for tonight! Just a quick word about Dave.....he has , yet again this season, made a huge contribution to our club by his tireless organising and "grafting" (for want of a better word). There is no way the club could do what it does without Dave. Thank you Dave!!

A quick mention about something we are very proud of this year. Two of our RWFF Juniors have fished for England, Graham Hayward who many of you will know Captained the Team in Ireland and Elliot Fawdington, who only started fly fishing in 2014, also fished in the team and following a great performance at Loch Lein in Killarney has qualified for next years team. Well done boys.

I would like to close by thanking the committee for all their hard work over the season. There is a lot of effort and energy going into promoting our club and increasing participation in fly fishing and we believe this is essential so that we can all continue to enjoy our fly fishing at Rutland. Please continue to support your club and promote it to others whenever you can.

Thank you, Chris Evans.

5) Treasurers report. The treasurer P.W. presented a statement of accounts for the year ended 30 Sept 2016 showing the club has about £4000 in the bank. Membership income was slightly down and there was no income this year from junior events. However the club received income of £660.39 from the winding up of FMFF. One less newsletter was distributed resulting in a saving of £300. The treasurer explained in more detail each item of expenditure and recommended that subs for next year should stay the same. Gordon Alleyn was thanked for preparing the accounts.

Proposed as accepted by P.G and seconded by Steve Ottridge.

6) Competitions Report P de K.

This year we had a total of 26 individual Rutland Water Fly Fishers members take part in all our events not including major clubs matches. As usual some of the bank matches were better supported than the boat matches although in future I would please encourage more major clubs competitors to participate if possible in some of our club matches.

We had 14 members turn out for our John Maitland trophy at the end of August in our annual match versus Grafham Water Fly Fishers Association which this year was held at Rutland. Unfortunately, we lost the match with Grafham catching 66 fish and Rutland 51 fish with a rod average of 4 1/2, the best bag being caught by Richard Cooper at 21 lbs 7 oz and the largest fish caught by Roy Taylor at 3 lbs 3 oz. Next year's match will take place at Grafham - it is always an excellent friendly event with a meal after the match so please do come and take part. This year the two respective chairmen, Chris Evans and Mark Brinkman managed to take third place in the best boat pairS section of the competition.

Last week on Sunday, 6 November the Hinckley shield took place at Grafham for which we entered two teams. Out of the five teams taking part unfortunately the Rutland Water Fly Fishers South Arm team came last with the Rutland Water Fly Fishers North arm team coming third - no one caught the 6 fish limit but congratulations to John Lee, Graham Measures, Graham Wright and Peter de Kremer (biggest fish of the match 3lb 12oz) who all managed five fish each. 30 competitors took part with a rod average of 3.7 in very cold and windy conditions, a testament to how well Grafham is fishing off the banks at the moment.

Winners and details of our Rutland Water Fly Fishers club trophies for this year are as follows (these are to be presented at the annual dinner in March).

John Wadham bank trophy – 20/5/2016 14 rods caught 19 fish. Winner – Richard Cooper. Biggest fish Roy Taylor 3lbs 9oz

Cutting Trophy (bank) 3/6/2016 10 rods caught 15 fish

Winner – Neil Squires (new member this year). Biggest fish Peter Gover 3lbs 3oz.

Loch Style pairs trophy (boat) 12/6/2015 12 rods caught 34 fish not including catch and release.

Winners - Roy Taylor and Peter de Kremer. Biggest fish Bill Rolph 3lbs 10oz.

Hanby Cup pairs (boat) 14/9/2016 8 rods caught 8 fish

Winners – Peter Gover and Peter de Kremer. Biggest fish Peter de Kremer 3lbs 9oz.

These four club competitions have a cumulative running total of points for each event i.e. 10 points for a win, nine points for second, eight points for third et cetera down to 1point for participating but not actually catching. The John Maitland shield (first presentation) will be presented at the annual dinner, and this year's placings are as follows.

4<sup>th</sup> equal place Richard Cooper, Dan Perks and Roy Taylor all with 19 points

3<sup>rd</sup> place Neil Squires 24pts (win, third, 5<sup>th</sup>)

2<sup>nd</sup> place Peter de Kremer 26pts (two wins, 6<sup>th</sup> and a blank)

1<sup>st</sup> place Lyn Walters 27pts (two 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>rd</sup> and a blank)

N.B. A.W. lately have allowed several bank competitions to be fished to a 6 fish limit even for bronze season ticket holders now the season is ending.

Your thoughts on this will be appreciated especially given RWFF comps have been fished to a 5 fish limit with catch and release allowed.

Thanks very much to all who took part in any competition this year and let's hope for ever increasing turnouts next year.

Major Clubs report by P.W.

P.W. ran through the participation through the year. 16 members took part in the series of matches resulting in third place in division one.

1st match at Rutland - 1st place

2nd match at Bewl - 2nd place

3rd match at Grafham - 5th place

4th match at Draycote - 4th place

5th match at Pitsford - 3rd place

6th match at Chew - last place.

7) Officers for re-election.

Retiring from the committee - after many years of valued service - was Nigel Milner although he will still be helping with bookings and catering at Empingham CC. HE WAS THANKED BY ALL FOR HIS VERY SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE CLUB.

Pde K. John Lee, Dave Porter and Peter Gover were all due for re-election and were duly voted back on to the committee. Taff Bailey proposed and Roy Taylor seconded.

In addition Mick Connor, Geoff Wanless and Gordon Alleyn were voted on to the committee and the chairman welcomed them.

8) A.O.B.

Mick Facey wished to see more juniors involved and suggested that a junior season ticket below £90 be suggested to AW. The chairman talked about the Sunday bank meetings encouraging juniors.

Roy Taylor asked for RWFF to talk to AW regarding ticket structures.

R.W. talked about an improved boat loyalty scheme (half day boats to be included).

These points and many others to be brought up at the meeting with AW on 30/11/2016.

The president updated the meeting regarding the dam works and stoning for access points.

All RWFF members are welcome to attend GWFFA meetings.

Meeting ended at 9.15pm.