



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

Summer is over . . . let's welcome the Autumn . . . Yes, the hot warm weather of August was challenging for us all as well as our fish stocks. However, if September forecasts are correct, wet and windy weather is on the way to fill our ponds and river. Ashtead pond was very low recently, and a match was cancelled because of water levels. Mole Valley have been active at Ashtead Park, tree cutting and planting in the Wildlife pond.

Welcome to all our new members . . . our membership has been boosted this season, especially in the Junior sector. Our Junior coach, **Richard Dawson**, will be looking at a tuition plan for Juniors in the coming months, and will write to them directly with details.

We now have a full complement of Bailiffs, especially at Long Copse, who patrol regularly to ensure our Fishery Rules are being upheld for the good of all members. As a reminder, here are some of the most important ones:

- ***Bread or any floating bait may not be used***
- ***Ground bait cannot be used – just a modest quantity of free offerings***
- ***Barbed hooks are not to be used nor any hook larger than size 8***
- ***Only one rod (which must not be left unattended) to be used at any one time***
- ***You must have a suitable landing net and unhooking mat in your swim***
- ***Keepnets may only be used in published matches***

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Fish of the month: PERCH

With Autumn just around the corner, switching to perch fishing is ideal for the cooler months. If you are eager to try perch fishing, this guide can give you some tips to making the most out of the session's windy weather!

1. The best time to target perch is the first hours of light and the last few hours of daylight. This is the time the perch use to hunt and are more actively on the feed. Target these feeding times and you'll be sure to catch perch from a swim that in the middle of the day feels devoid of perch.
2. Perch certainly don't like resistance and will often drop a bait they feel offers too much resistance. If your quiver tip is too heavy or you are using a big fixed lead this is often the sure fire way to not catching perch. Fish as sensitively as you can. If you are ledgering use the lightest tip or bobbin you can get away with and ensure you do the same with your ledger weight. When float fishing, shot your float correctly and strike nice and early. If you are lure fishing use fine braid and lighter rods to help detect the sometimes subtle plucks that the biggest of perch can give you.

- 3 The amino acid packed lobworm is the single greatest perch puller. There's endless occasions when lobworms have resulted in a capture when nothing else has worked. Either ledgering, float-fished or even free-lined, perch find their scent and enticing wriggle irresistible. Make sure you have a few lobworms with you on your next perch hunting session.
- 4 View this video for tips on setting up The Dropshot for Perch.
<https://youtu.be/khZMZh2Ywa8>
- 5 We have some good perch at Long Copse and Ashtead Park. Do let us know how you get on.

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SUNDAY 7TH September – Give-a-Way Morning. From 11.00am to 1.00pm. Over-time we have purchased more tackle than we need, so the committee and bailiffs, and a few members, have donated a lot of tackle; rods, reels, and all accessories. There will be a 'organised' queuing system; Juniors, Families then other members. Only one rod and reel (if available) per member, and two items of other tackle. Please do not arrive before 11.00am.

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WORK PARTY: An extra date has been added for work at Long Copse on **20th September** for path chipping and general tidying-up. Please bring a wheel-barrow if you can. From 9.00am to 12.00. Doug Simpkins will be there to meet and greet.

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Want to look smart all year round in some **LDAS garments** – all branded with the **LDAS logo**,

The range of Garments and Accessories can be found via the **Clubmate App**. The LDAS has no financial connection with the supplier or printer, so you will order via Clubmate and pay in the usual way. Please just ensure the garments ordered are the correct size against their sizing chart, to avoid returns. Happy Shopping.

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If a member would like to talk to a bailiff or a coach about the correct tackle, please ask.

If in a Family Membership please ensure other members also have access to this Newsletter.

Tight lines

David Balaam