

Specimen Angling Group of Plymouth - Rules

- 1.** The Club shall be known as the SPECIMEN ANGLING GROUP OF PLYMOUTH. The aims of the Group are to promote the sport of Sea Angling for specimen fish, improve on the techniques used for different species and to discourage the taking of immature fish.
- 2.** A management committee not exceeding ten shall conduct the business of the Group. The Chairman and four members including the Secretary or Treasurer shall form a quorum.
- 3.** Vice Presidents and Members elected to the Committee at the Annual General Meeting shall serve for a period of three years after which time the members shall retire and the office made available for nominations and re-elections. Retiring members shall be eligible for re-election. The Secretary must receive nominations to the Committee accompanied by the names of the Proposer and Secunder at least ten days prior to the Annual General Meeting. The Committee shall be empowered to co-opt any member it deems necessary.
- 4.** The Annual General Meeting will be held in Plymouth at a venue and date to be decided by the Committee. It will be as early in the year as possible.
- 5.** The Headquarters of the Group shall be at the premises selected by the Committee.
- 6.** To achieve membership of the Group, an angler must have caught three fish, of different species, or three fish of the same species but of different categories (ie Wreck, Reef, Shore) that equal or exceed the Specimen weights as listed in the Group's Bye-Laws. Proof of capture will be accepted from the Records Officer or Secretary of the applicants Club or by the signature of two reliable witnesses. Acceptance will be on the approval of the Committee.
- 7.** The Committee shall be empowered to suspend, any member, who infringes any rule or Bye-Law, or whose conduct in the Committee's opinion has been prejudicial to the Group. The said member to have the right of appeal.
- 8.** The Annual Subscription shall be decided at the AGM and will be payable on January 1st each year. Life Membership shall be 10 years subscriptions. Members more than three months in arrears will be deemed to have resigned.
- 9.** The funds of the Group shall be placed in accounts with a Bank to be authorised by the Committee. Withdrawals to be authorised by the Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer.
- 10.** Members of the Group may call a Special General Meeting at any time by requisition to the Secretary, signed by not less than ten members and stating the business to be discussed. The notice must be sent by post to the Secretary at least 21 days prior to the meeting and only the business stated thereon will be transacted.

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11. For Annual Prize and Trophy purposes the season will start each year on January 1st and end on the 31st December each year.
12. Any person that is known to use or hire another person to use on their behalf, those nets, known as Gill nets be barred from membership to the Group. This method of fishing being considered as detrimental to all anglers.
13. The Committee has the authority to increase subscriptions by a maximum of £1.00 per year, if an increase is deemed necessary.
14. Proposed alterations to these rules or Bye-Laws must be notified to the Secretary 21 days prior to the Annual General Meeting. Such alterations will not be sanctioned unless receiving a majority vote exceeding two-thirds of the members present.

BYE-LAWS

1. If you know of someone who would like to apply for membership of the SPECIMEN ANGLING GROUP OF PLYMOUTH and can produce positive proof that he or she has caught THREE specimens over the Groups set standard (see rule6), contact the Secretary who will be pleased to send an application form.
2. Fishing Limits : Fish will be accepted from anywhere in the British Isles and Southern Ireland providing weighing slips are produced from an official source.
3. All the Groups trophies will be awarded by the selection of the anglers best 6 Specimens from the number they record with the Groups Record Officer. These 6 will be recorded on a percentage basis against the Groups Specimen Weights and the member with the highest aggregate percentage will be awarded the nominated trophy. In the event that more than one angler has an equal aggregate percentage, the trophy will be awarded to the angler who's aggregate contains the single highest percentage fish, and continued on a count-back basis for all 6 fish if necessary.
4. Species to qualify for the Groups nominated awards will be as per the Specimen Weight List and only fish above the Specimen Weight will be eligible.
5. Only TWO rods, reels, line and THREE hooks in total may be used for the capture of boat or shore fish. Hand lining is prohibited. Another person may take hold of the trace after the fish has been brought within reach for the purposes of netting or gaffing.
6. During the playing of a fish, the angler must not rest the rod on a boat gunwale.
7. Trophies shall be competed for annually by fully paid up members of the Group only.

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- 8.** For the purposes of Group Records, one or other of the Marine Biological Stations must positively identify Spotted Ray and any other Ray not included in the Specimen List.
- 9.** Exceptional Merit Awards will run for the whole year and will be awarded for all fish over 150%. In the event of a member catching more than one specimen of the same species in the same category (wreck, reef, shore) only the best would receive an award.
- 10.** The Ron and Audrey Salcombe Estuary Cup is for organised trips decided by the Committee, boat or shore, within the Salcombe / Kingsbridge Estuary with minimum weights to be set by the Committee.
- 11.** All members are responsible for ensuring their "weighing slips" reach the Records Officer within 21 days of capture if they want a Specimen to be considered for the Groups Trophies. Any fish weight phoned-in and not confirmed by the submission of a certificate will not be recorded.
- 12.** All fish submitted for Group awards must be weighed on certified scales and independently witnessed. Fish may be weighed at sea if conditions allow an accurate weight to be obtained. Fish submitted for new Group records must be weighed on shore.
- 13.** Shark and tope weights can be estimated using the approved length / girth ratio tables.

(Girth x Girth x Length) / 800. All measurements in inches.