

CUMANN SLAT IASCARAIGH NA hEIREANN

TROUT ANGLERS' FEDERATION OF IRELAND CONSTITUTION

**THIS CONSTITUTION REPEALS AND REPLACES ANY FORMER
CONSTITUTION OF THE TROUT ANGLERS FEDERATION OF IRELAND
THEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE FEDERATION.**

1. TITLE

The federation shall be called the Trout Anglers' Federation of Ireland (hereinafter called the Federation').

2. HEADQUARTERS

The Headquarters address of the Federation will be the address of the Federation's Secretary for the time being.

3. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Federation will be:

- 3.1.** To organise and unite trout angling clubs affiliated to the federation and to provide a means of expression of their collective opinion on all matters affecting their interests and welfare (clubs to include Associations with the same objectives).
- 3.2.** To safeguard, improve and promote the interests of the Federated clubs and their

members. The Federation may enter into arrangements with other bodies for insurance and any other purpose if it is considered to be in the best interests of its members.

- 3.3. To encourage and promote the formation of trout angling organizations.
- 3.4. To organise, assist and represent trout angling interests in Ireland.
- 3.5. To further the interests and development of trout angling in all its aspects.
- 3.6. To safeguard the Federation clubs interests in connection with legislative matters dealing with inland fisheries or having a bearing on inland fisheries. To help to secure the effective administration and enforcement of existing laws relative to inland fisheries or having a bearing on inland fisheries, where such laws are not in direct conflict with these objects or with the ideals and aspirations of the Federation's clubs.
- 3.7. To co-operate with and assist state fishery bodies in the protection, conservation and development of trout angling waters.
- 3.8. To cultivate a spirit of co-operation with kindred organisations.
- 3.9. To take part in or to organise any international activity which will benefit trout angling and which will promote good fellowship between anglers of all nations
- 3.10. To do all or any such lawful things incidental or conducive to the attainment of all or any of the objects of the Federation.

4. MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1.** Membership of the Federation shall be open to all trout angling clubs (or associations), provided:
- (a) The club has at least 15 members, whose names must be submitted to the relevant Provincial Secretary;
 - (b) Be proposed and seconded by two existing clubs at a provincial meeting and;
 - (c) Voted into membership by a majority vote at a provincial meeting. Any club which is not accepted by a Provincial council may re-apply to the Central Council in writing. After examination of the case, the Central Council may grant membership on a majority vote of two-thirds.
- 4.2.** A permanent register of Federated clubs with the name and address of the club's secretary will be kept by the Secretary of the Federation. Any change in the office of Secretary of a club must be notified to the Federation's Secretary within fourteen days of such change. The Secretary of the Federation shall on appointment accept full responsibility for the up-dating and proper control of the permanent register, and, shall produce it for inspection on the request of any Officer of an affiliated club, at all Central Council meetings, and at the Annual General Meeting. On leaving office, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to hand over the register to the incoming Secretary at the conclusion of the meeting where the change of Secretary is ratified.
- 4.3.** Clubs which are affiliated to the existing Federation at the date of adoption of these rules shall continue their affiliation of the Federations newly constituted rules and subject thereto, shall be deemed to have fully accepted and adopted these rules whether or not they are present and vote at the General Meeting adopting same
- 4.4.** The name of the club and the name and address of the club Secretary of a

newly approved club will be notified to the Federation's Secretary, who will inform the Central Council at the next Meeting of that body. Notice of acceptance shall then be forwarded to the club Secretary. The Central Council may refuse membership to any club (or association) without stating reasons, subject to the provision of section 4.6 setting out the right of appeal.

- 4.5.** If at any time the Central Council of the Federation shall be of the opinion that the interests of the Federation so require they may, by resolution, expel from the Federation any club or they may suspend any club from the rights and privileges of membership for any stated time. In relation to any motion to expel or suspend the following provisions shall apply:-
- (a). Three weeks before any such motion is considered by the Central Council the Council shall give notice in writing to the club to whom the motion refers of their intention to consider such a motion.
 - (b). The Central Council shall carefully consider and deliberate on any reply received to the notice referred to at (a)
 - (c). Expulsion or suspension shall have effect from whatever date the Central Council fixes provided always that such date shall not be earlier than the date on which the motion was carried.
 - (d). Notice of such expulsion or suspension shall be given to the club concerned as soon as possible after the date on which the decision was taken. The notice will be forwarded to the Secretary of the club or, if he is not available, to the Chairman, by registered post. A copy of such notice will be forwarded to the Provincial secretary concerned.
 - (e). The expelled or suspended club may, by notice in writing to the Federation Secretary within fourteen days of receipt of notice of expulsion or suspension, request that the decision of the Central Council be referred to the next annual General Meeting of the Federation at which meeting the decision of the Central Council may be over-ruled.

4.6. Any club or association, suspended or otherwise aggrieved and any club or association whose application for membership has been refused shall have the right to appeal to the next Annual General Meeting.

5. CONSITUTION

5.1. The management of the Federation shall be vested in:

- (a). The Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting.
- (b). The Central Council

5.2. For the purpose of more efficient management the areas of activity of the Federation shall be those areas which are encompassed within the four Provinces of the State viz., the Province of Ulster, the Province of Munster, the Province of Connaught and the Province of Leinster.

5.3. For the purpose of giving effect to paragraph 5.2 a provincial Council will comprise of two delegates from each affiliated club within the Provincial Council's jurisdiction.

5.4. For the purposes of

- (1). Electing a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer
- (2). Making nominations for the Central Council of the Federation each Provincial Council will hold an Annual General Meeting each year.

The names and addresses of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and the nominees referred to at (2) above shall be forwarded to the National Secretary.

5.5. Provincial Councils shall have powers to frame and adopt any Bye Laws and

Rules they deem fit and appropriate to their own province provided that none of such Bye Laws and Rules shall infringe or be at variance in any particular with the T.A.F.I. Constitution.

6. CENTRAL COUNCIL

6.1. The Central Council of the Federation shall comprise of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and sixteen other members. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, secretary and Treasurer shall be elected annually at the A.G.M. of the Federation. The other sixteen members forming the Council shall be nominated by the Provincial Councils from among their members as set out at 5.4 Each Council will nominate four from their members and will also give the names in of two reserve members in order of preference.

6.2. Where a vacancy occurs on the Central Council, the Council shall co-opt a member. This co-option will be made from a nominee of the Provincial Council whose member caused the vacancy. In the event of a vacancy occurring among the officers of the Central Council, the Council will elect one of its members by ballot to fill the vacancy until the next A.G.M. The resolution to fill such a vacancy shall be the next Council meeting following the occurrence of the vacancy.

6.3. The duties of the Central Council shall be:

- (1). To seek the implementation of resolutions passed by the A.G.M. of the Federation
- (2). To report to the A.G.M. of the Federation on the implementation of each resolution passed at the previous A.G.M. of the Federation.
- (3). Manage, superintend and direct the affairs of the Federation between A.G.M.'s

- (4). Carry out and enforce the rules and uphold the constitution of the Federation
- (5). Direct the actions of the officers of the Federation
- (6). Be responsible for the proper administration of the funds of the Federation under its control.
- (7). Make representations to and carry out or make arrangements for carrying out of negotiations with any authority controlling or having any interest in Inland Fisheries or the development and/or protection of inland Fisheries or any authority having a bearing on matters affecting Inland Fisheries.
- (8). To further and do all that is lawful to ensure the furtherance of the objectives of the Federation

6.4. Sub Committees

- (1). Central Council may appoint sub- committees or special committees for particular purposes and shall appoint Chairpersons of any such Committees. The Central Council may adopt the minutes or Reports of such Committees. The Central Council shall be at liberty to appoint to such Committees persons other than members of the Central Council and shall have the power to remove any member from or to dissolve any such Committee at any time.
- (2). In the event of any problems arising at Provincial level which affect the proper management or organization of the Federation, Central Council shall appoint a Sub-Committee consisting of the National Chairman and the National Secretary and two Council members to discuss with the Provincial Council the problems which have arisen and to report back to the Central Council. It shall be mandatory for each Provincial Council to arrange a meeting with such Committee within fourteen days of receipt of notification from the Federations Chairman or Secretary of the necessity of such a meeting.

6.5. Central Council may meet as often as it deems necessary in order to carry out its

business and functions officially, but shall meet once in every three months. However the first meeting of a newly appointed Council shall be within one month of the A.G.M. of the Federation. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer may call a meeting at any time if he considers such meeting necessary. The Secretary shall be required to summon a meeting on receiving a requisition signed by at least four members of the Council who shall state, in writing, the purpose for which the meeting is required. The Central Council Secretary will send a notice of the meeting in writing together with an Agenda for the meeting personally to each member of the Council at least seven days prior to the date of the meeting. Any such meeting must be held within 21 days of receipt of such a request by the Council Secretary

6.6. The quorum necessary for the holding of a meeting of the Central Council shall

be not less than seven.

6.7. The Secretary of the Central Council shall take and record minutes of all meetings of the Central Council and of all annual or Special General Meetings. The minutes shall be recorded in a proper permanent book kept especially for that purpose. On change of position of Secretary it shall be the express duty of the outgoing Secretary to hand over to the incoming Secretary the minute book fully written up at the conclusion of the meeting where the appointment is ratified. The minute book shall be open for inspection by any officer of an affiliated club and at all Council and General Meetings. To protect the continuity of the Federations records, the National Secretary shall forward to each Provincial Secretary a copy of the minutes of all Council and General Meetings.

6.8. The Chairman of the Federation, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Central Council. If both Chairman and Vice-Chairman are absent the meeting will then elect its own Chairman from among its

members present and the Secretary will preside over the election.

- 6.9.** Any member of the Central Council who is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Council without reasonable cause will be deemed to have resigned from the Council and the vacancy thus created will be filled in accordance with rule 6.2.

7. GENERAL MEETINGS

- 7.1** The delegates attending the annual or a Special General Meeting shall be the primary policy makers of the Federation.
- 7.2.** Delegates to the Annual General Meeting or to any Special General Meeting shall be appointed by their relevant affiliated clubs and shall sign an attendance register before entering the Meeting.
- 7.3.** Except as provided for in Rule 7.7 and 8.4 voting will be conducted on a show of hands. Motions shall be carried on;
- (a) A simple majority plus;
 - (b) A majority in at least two provinces. If requirement (b) is not met for a motion the motion shall be lost.
- 7.4.** A Special General Meeting may be called at any time by the Central Council and due notice of same shall be given.
- 7.5.** A Special General Meeting shall be called on the request of any two Provincial Councils provided each Provincial Council holds a meeting with a proper quorum and is given a majority decision to seek a Special General Meeting of the Federation. A Special Meeting so demanded shall be called by the Secretary in the

proper manner and held within 21 days of the request being delivered to the Secretary.

- 7.6. A Special General Meeting shall, in regard only to the special matter or matters for which it is summoned, be vested with the same power and authority as the A.G.M. and shall have the same procedures.
- 7.7. Voting will be conducted by secret ballot if such is directed by a motion from the floor duly proposed and seconded and carried by a simple majority of delegates present and voting.

8. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 8.1. The Annual General Meeting of the Federation shall be held in Athlone not later than the 15th of February each year. In the event that Athlone is not available the Central Council shall decide on another venue near the geographical center of the country.
- 8.2. The Chairman of the Federation will preside at the A.G.M. and all other meetings of the Federation. In his absence the Vice-Chairman will preside. If neither is present the meeting will elect one of the delegates present to preside till such time as the meeting elects a new Chairman for the ensuing year. The Chairman shall be the sole judge of order and will control all matters and points of order arising and in the case of a tie shall have a casting vote in addition to his deliberate one.
- 8.3. In accordance with Rule 8.4 below the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of the Federation shall be elected annually by the delegates present at the A.G.M. All outgoing national officers shall be eligible for re-election but no person may hold the same office for more than three consecutive years. After a

lapse of one year he/she is again eligible to seek election and to hold office. Provincial Councils may, in exceptional cases and to protect continuity, decide to extend the service of a provincial officer by one year.

- 8.4.** Election of officers of the Federation shall be by secret ballot. The exception to this is where there is only one nomination for the post.
- 8.5.** Notice of any Annual General Meeting will include the Agenda for the Meeting and will be given at least fourteen clear days before the date of the A.G.M. Copies of the secretary's report and the Audited accounts will also be forwarded with the notice of Meeting.
- 8.6.** Delegates to each Annual General Meeting shall appoint an Auditor or Auditors to hold office from the conclusion of that until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting. None of the following persons shall be qualified for appointment as Auditor of the Federation; any Officer of the Federation or any delegates or members of any Federated clubs.
- 8.7.** Delegates to the Annual General Meeting shall each year fix the annual subscription payable by the Federated clubs to the Federation's central funds for that year. Subscriptions shall be paid by 31st August each year otherwise clubs in default will cease to hold membership and even on re-instatement, clubs will not be permitted to vote at the next following Annual General Meeting for the year in which the default was incurred.
- 8.8.** Resolutions or motions for inclusion on the agenda of the A.G.M. of the Federation shall be lodged with the Federation Secretary not later than seven days after the Provincial A.G.M.
- 8.9.** Voting at the A.G.M. of the Federation will be confined to those present at the

meeting and entitled to vote in accordance with Rule 7.3. Officers present at the meeting shall be entitled to vote. Voting by proxy is not permissible. Except as provided for in Rules 7.7 and 8.4 voting will be conducted on a show of hands. The majority, as defined in 7.3., shall decide all issues except it will require a two-thirds majority of the voting delegates present at the Federation's A.G.M. to change any part of the constitution.

8.10. The quorum for an A.G.M. of the Federation shall be not less than 40 voting delegates, to include representatives from at least two provinces.

9. FINANCE

9.1. The financial year of the Federation will end on November the 30th of each year on which date the accounts of the Federation will be balanced for presentation to the A.G.M. following.

9.2. The A.G.M. shall appoint a person or persons to act as Auditor for the ensuing year. Such Auditor shall examine the receipts and expenditure of the Federation and make a certified report thereon.

9.3. The A.G.M. shall fix that part of the Affiliated Club's affiliation subscription which is allocated to the Federation's fund. This subscription will cover the calendar year for which the A.G.M. is held. The part of the affiliation subscription which is held at provincial level shall be fixed by the relevant Provincial Treasurer. Affiliation subscriptions shall be paid to the Provincial Treasurer within whose area the headquarters of the club are situated. The Federation funds allocation shall be forwarded by the Provincial Council to the National Treasurer not later than 31st of August each year.

(a). The Provincial Treasurer will forward insurance premiums on behalf of the

Federation to the National Treasurer on their receipt.

(b). The Provincial Treasurer shall have their audited accounts submitted to the National Treasurer not later than the 15th October each year.

9.4. All clubs affiliating to the Trout Anglers federation of Ireland that have their insurance with other Angling Federations, must take out Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland insurance for its club members who wish to participate in Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland organized competitions.

9.5. The Federation treasurer shall cause to be kept proper Books of Accounting relating to

(a). All sums of money received and expended by the Federation and the matter in respect of which receipts and expenditure takes place

(b). The Assets and Liabilities of the Federation.

For the purposes of the above section, proper Books shall not be deemed to be kept in relation to the matters aforesaid if there are not kept such Books as are necessary to give a true and fair view of the state of the Federation's affairs and to explain its transactions.

The Books of Account shall be kept at the residence of the treasurer and shall be made available for inspection by Members at the Annual General Meeting and at all Council and Special Meetings. Every Record required to be kept by the Federation under this Section shall be preserved for a period of ten years and any disposal after that period, shall be at the discretion of the Central Council.

All monies received shall be lodged to an authorized Bank Account and Cheques shall be drawn on such Account when signed by at least two officers of the Federation or in

such manner as may be permitted by the Central Council.

On change in position of Treasurer it shall be the express duty of the outgoing Treasurer to hand over the Books and Records to the incoming Treasurer at the conclusion of the Meeting at which the appointment is ratified and to give the new appointee all reasonable explanations required on the Books, Vouchers and Accounts.

9.6. Borrowing: The Federation may, at any time, raise other income either by borrowing or any other method as it thinks fit for whatever purpose it requires.

9.7. If, at any time, the Federation in General Meeting assembled shall pass a resolution authorizing the Central Council to borrow money the Central Council shall thereupon be empowered to borrow for the purposes of the Federation such amount of money either at one time or from time to time and at such rate of interest and in such form and manner and upon such security as shall be specified in such resolution and thereupon the Trustees shall, at the discretion of the Central Council, make all such dispositions of the property of the Federation and any part thereof as the Central Council may deem proper for giving security for such loans and interest. All members of the Federation after the passing of such resolutions shall be deemed to have assented to the same as if they had voted in favour of the resolution.

9.8. The Federations banners are the sole property of the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland and will only be issued to Provincial councils on receipt of written applications from the Provincial Secretary and thereafter the Province is responsible for the care and replacement of damaged or defaced items.

9.9. The €10 levy on all participants (senior and Juvenile) in both Provincials and Inter-Provincials (both river and lake) is to be lodged in a Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland central fund for the benefit of Trout Anglers Federation of

Ireland International teams both senior and juvenile.

10. TRUSTEES

- (a) Not less than two and not more than six members of the Federation may be appointed to act as Trustees. The Trustees shall be appointed, re-appointed and removed, on the nomination of the Central Council, by the Annual General Meeting.
- (b) All the property of the Federation may be vested by the Central Council in the Trustees and the Trustees shall deal with the property so vested in them as directed by resolutions of the Central Council (of which an entry in the minute book shall be conclusive evidence).
- (c) The above sub-sections (1) and (2) shall be subject to the Trustees being indemnified out of the funds of the Federation against all expenses, damages, costs and claims whatsoever incurred by them in the proper execution of their functions.

11. POWERS

The Federation through its Central Council is empowered to take, prosecute and defend any Court proceedings brought on behalf of or made against the Federation in furtherance of its objectives. All differences and disputes between the Federation's members, or between members of the Federation itself, shall be referred to the decision of an arbitrator,- to be appointed by the parties to the dispute, or if they cannot agree upon a single arbitrator, to the decision of two arbitrators- one appointed in writing by each of the parties, or in the case of disagreement the arbitrators, to the decision of the umpire, to be appointed in writing by the arbitrators; and it is agreed between the members of the Federation that this course of action shall be taken prior to instituting legal proceedings, through the courts.

12. SERVICE OF NOTICE

All notices required to be given under these rules shall, unless expressly stated otherwise in any particular rule, be deemed to be given to the person concerned and in the case of an affiliated club given to the person named as Secretary in the register of clubs, if said notice is forwarded by prepaid post. Notices shall be deemed to be delivered two days after date of posting. Such notices shall be sent to the person's last known address and in the case of a club to the address recorded in the Federation's records.

13. INLAND FISHERIES

13.1. The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland defines the Inland Fisheries resource as the indigenous fish species and their habitats. The State has the primary and statutory responsibility for the protection of the Fisheries resource and the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland considers that anglers and other stakeholders have a moral responsibility to respect and protect this resource. The EU Water Framework Directive requires the State to protect all bodies of surface water and the aquatic ecosystems and to protect the biodiversity of these. The EU Habitats Directive also requires that the fish environment must be maintained and protected.

13.2. Proposals of less financial support and a reduction in staff numbers and services for Inland Fisheries are not acceptable to the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland. It is essential that the government commits to providing adequate funding and staffing for the protection and sustainable development of inland Fisheries.

13.3. The trout Anglers Federation of Ireland is concerned that the role of the angling clubs/organisations in the preservation and development of Inland Fisheries must be recognized. While mindful of the contribution that the inland Fisheries resource makes

to the tourism industry, the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland insist that priority access must be given to angling clubs and organisations in the lease/licensing of State Fisheries in the future. Lease/License arrangements must provide for proper access to waters for all anglers.

13.4. The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland maintain that the Trout and Coarse Fisheries Development Societies (co-ops) have made a significant contribution in assisting angling clubs in maintenance of club waters and so the greater Inland Fisheries resource. It is of the utmost importance that the Co-ops will be retained and adequately funded.

STRUCTURES

The retention of strongly empowered and representative structures must be reinforced in any new organizational structure. The replacement of the regional Fishery Boards by Regional Inland Fisheries Advisory Councils is seen by the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland as a retrograde step and has not got the support of the Angling Federations. Advisory Councils cannot advance timely decision-making and would result in administrative gridlock and untimely delays.

The protection of Inland Fisheries requires constant and detailed monitoring at regional level coupled with effective and immediate responses. This type of response is best generated at close proximity to the action rather than removing decision making to a remote national centre. There is an undisputed need for active and decisive participation by people with detailed knowledge of Fisheries at a regional level. Local Fishery bodies need to be able to act quickly and decisively.

Recognition by the public, local organisations and local authorities, of a Regional Fishery Authority presence as the body in charge and with power to protect Fisheries is essential. An Advisory Council at local level cannot do this.

RECOMMENDED NEW STRUCTURES

1. Regions can be realigned with the Water Framework Directive Water Basin Districts.
2. New Regional Structures to retain the statutory functions of the existing Regional Boards and to be accountable to a National Inland Fisheries Structure for decisions made in the region.
3. New regional Structures membership to be realigned to focus directly on the Inland Fisheries Resource.
4. Angling members on the new Regional Structures to be produced from Angling Electoral Colleges and these Colleges to be reflected at national level. The number of remaining stakeholder members must not exceed that of the Angling members.

14. ENVIRONMENT OFFICER

There is no definitive description of this position; however there are a number of core issues that the environment officer would have to deal with;

1. Man-made threats to the aquatic environment; Built environment development projects, infrastructure pressures (roads-power-lines-communications cabling-piped and ducted services), commercial-industrial pressures, development of flood plains and water meadows, abstractions, hydro-power installations and forestry pressures.
2. Water quality issues; Agricultural pressures, waste treatment pressures, the Water Framework Directive and the River Basin Management Plans.

3. Alien Species; Creatures alien to Irish waters, plants alien to Irish waters and their environs. The habitat directive.
4. Climate change; The effects of floods and material transport in rivers.
5. Aquaculture; Development of private fisheries adjacent to rivers and lakes.
6. Other potential threats to the indigenous fish species; The extinction of some aquatic insects and in-stream life forms.

The National Environment Officer would be prepared to advise the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland's Central Council of these and other threats to the aquatic environment which could impact on trout angling.

The National Environment Officer would advise the Central Council of a supporting team of Provincial Environment Officers and a viable communication regime to share needs and experiences throughout the Federation.

The National Environment Officer would attend Central Council meetings and make reports/proposals to the Central Council.

15. DRUGS IN SPORTS

Any angler tested and/or found dealing in, or guilty of, the illegal use of prohibited, controlled or performance enhancing Drugs, in any form, while participating in any event whatsoever associated with or organized by the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland, or its members, or club members, affiliated in any way

to the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland, convicted of being in possession of controlled substances (drugs) will be subjected to discipline by the Executive Committee.

The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland aims to stop doping practices in sport by:

- (a). Imposing effective sanctions on persons who commit doping offences.
- (b). Education and informing persons about drugs in sports issues
- (c). Supporting the drug testing and education initiatives of the Irish Sport Council.
- (d). Keeping a register of persons who are subject to out of competition testing.

The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland shall:

- (a). Give the Irish Sports Council accurate contact information if requested.
- (b). Support and assist the Irish Sports Council in conducting drug testing;
- (c). make this policy available to all its members, coaches, officials, and medical and health practitioners and any persons involved with trout angling in Ireland
- (d). Develop and implement, in consultation with the Irish Sports Council and The Confederation Internationale de la Peche Sportive (CIPS) drug education and information programmes for members, coaches, officials, and medical and health practitioners and any person involved with Trout Angling in Ireland.
- (e). Support the initiatives of the Irish Sports Council, Confederation Internationale de la Peche Sportive and the Irish Olympic Council to stop doping offences in sport.

DEFINITION OF A DOPING OFFENCE?

In these rules the expressions “prohibited substance” and “prohibited method” shall have the meaning set out in the Appendix to these rules.

Under these rules doping is illegal and an offence is committed when either;

- (a). A prohibited substance is found to be present in a person’s body tissue or fluids;
- (b). A person is found to have used a prohibited substance or a prohibited method;
- (c). A person admits using a prohibited substance or a prohibited method;
- (d). A person assists, procures, induces or causes others or admits having assisted, procured, induces, or caused others to use a prohibited substance or a prohibited method or to commit any other offence under these rules;
- (e). A person is convicted of a criminal offence involving a prohibited substance;
- (f). A person supplies or deals in or is or has been in the possession of a prohibited substance or admits supplying, dealing in or possession of a prohibited substance or admits supplying, dealing in or possession of a prohibited substance;
- (g). A person fails or refuses to comply with any provision of these rules after having been requested to do so.
- (h). A person willfully obstructs or interferes with the carrying out of anything in these rules.

The Trout Anglers federation of Ireland may conduct investigations into the activities of any person who it has reasonable cause to believe may have committed an offence

under these Rules and that person should co-operate with those investigations.

HOW DOPING CONTROL WORKS

A person shall submit to a doping test at any time when requested by the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland, (or by any directly affiliated body) or anyone or any body authorized by them. Tests may be random or specific and without prior notice. Although every reasonable effort will be made to avoid inconvenience to the person being tested, no liability will be accepted for any inconvenience or loss resulting from the tests being implemented.

A person must keep the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland or anyone or any body authorised by the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland informed of the addressees and telephone numbers where that person can be contacted for testing at any time.

A person who retires from events or activities which are the subject of these rules shall promptly notify the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland or anyone who it directs of their retirement whereupon testing of that person shall cease as soon as practicable thereafter. After retirement, a person who subsequently wishes to participate in any events or activities which are subjects of these rules, must submit to testing under these rules for a period of 3 months before that person will be eligible to enter events or competition.

Testing will consist of sample collection, separation of the sample into two parts and analysis thereof. If the test on the first part of the sample("the A sample") does not indicate the presence of a prohibited substance or the use of a prohibited method, the second part of the sample("the B sample") will be disposed of and no further action will be taken.

If analysis of the A sample indicates the presence of a prohibited substance or the use

of a prohibited method, the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland will then inform the person who was tested of the test results and that the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland believes that an offence may have been committed. The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland may ask for an explanation from that person.

Upon receipt of the notification that analysis of the A sample indicated the presence of a prohibited substance or the use of a prohibited method the person who was tested may request a test on the B sample. If no request for a test on the B sample is received by the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland within 14 days of notification of the person, the person shall be deemed to have accepted the results of the A sample analysis.

If an analysis of the B sample is requested, the person who was tested and a representative of their choice are entitled to be present when the B sample analysis is carried out. A representative of the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland may also be present. The B sample analysis result will be notified by the body carrying out the testing to the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland, who will then inform the person who was tested.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

A person may be suspended from any event or activity organized or authorized by or held under the laws of the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland (or any directly or indirectly affiliated body) wherever held from the time that the Trout Anglers federation of Ireland receives notification that the A sample indicates the presence of a prohibited substance, or the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland becomes aware that any offence under these rules may have been committed.

If the body carrying out the testing advises that the results of the analysis of the B sample does not support the findings of the test on the A sample, any suspension imposed on the person who was tested shall be withdrawn with immediate effect and

no further action will be taken.

If a person is suspended and that person is participating in a team event, the following provision shall apply in respect of the other members of the team, the event in which the team is participating, and any results of the event. The person will be suspended and that person will be replaced by a substitute.

The Disciplinary Panel of the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland shall determine the sanction to be imposed on the person if the Disciplinary Panel decides that the person has committed a doping offence. The person shall have the right to request a hearing before the Disciplinary Panel of the Trout Anglers federation of Ireland.

In making its decision, the Disciplinary Panel must be satisfied, on the balance of probabilities, that a doping offence has been committed.

The Disciplinary Panel will give notice in writing to the person concerned of its decision when it is reached and of the person's right of appeal.

The person and the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland shall have a right to appeal against a decision of the Disciplinary Panel to the Appeal Panel. The appellant shall give notice in writing of the appeal to the other party and either party may request a hearing before the Appeal Panel. The Appeal Panel shall have the power to vary any decision or sanction under appeal. The Appeal Panel will notify in writing the person concerned of its decision when it is reached. There shall be no appeal of the decision of the Appeal Panel under these rules.

The Person concerned or the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland may make written representations to either or both the Disciplinary Panel or the Appeals Panel. At a hearing of the Disciplinary Panel or the Appeal Panel, the person and the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland may be legally represented (or by anyone else) and shall

have the right to give and call evidence and to address the Disciplinary Panel and the Appeal Panel. Failure of the person concerned to attend a hearing or to answer any questions shall not prevent a decision being reached. Decisions of the Disciplinary Panel and the appeal Panel shall be by a majority. All hearings shall be in private.

The Disciplinary Panel and Appeal Panel shall decide on the payment of any or all costs.

The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland, Disciplinary Panel and the Appeal Panel shall accept the result of any test, unless there was not substantial compliance with applicable drug testing procedures, and the non-compliance casts significant doubt on the result. The onus of proof is on the person who claims the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland, Disciplinary Panel or Appeal Panel, as the case may be, should not accept the result. Any certificate, notice or form of the body carrying out the testing shall, until the contrary is provided, be sufficient evidence of the contents thereof.

The decision of the Disciplinary Panel or, in the event of an appeal, the decision of the Appeal Panel, shall be binding on the person concerned and the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland.

APPLICABLE SANCTIONS?

Where the Disciplinary Panel or the Appeal Panel determines that a person has committed a Doping Offence, it will apply one or more of the following sanctions;

- (a). Suspend the person from the selection to represent Ireland in International Competition for a specified period of time;
- (b). Suspend the person from competition in events and competitions conducted by or under the auspices of the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland for a specified

period of time;

- (c). Make that person ineligible to receive direct or indirect funding or assistance from the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland;
- (d). Ban the person from holding a position within the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland;
- (e). Require the person to remain on the Trout Anglers federation of Ireland
- (f). Require the person to repay financial assistance given to the person from the date of the Doping Offence;
- (g). Require the person to go for counseling for a specified period;
- (h). Withdraw awards and records won in events and competitions conducted by or under the auspices of the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland from the date of the doping Offence;
- (i). Reprimand the person.
- (j). Any other sanction the Disciplinary Panel or Appeal Panel, as the case may be, thinks fit.

Where a person has been declared ineligible and wishes to resume competing after their period of ineligibility has expired, they will be required to make themselves available for testing throughout the period of ineligibility. A person may apply to the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland for consideration for reinstatement before their period of ineligibility had expired.

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION?

The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland may recognise the doping regulations and sanctions of any other bodies. If it does so it shall take reciprocal action within the jurisdiction of the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland as it considers necessary in respect of such regulations and sanctions.

Where the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland recognizes the regulations and sanctions of any other body, then any person who is or has been in breach of the regulations of the other body shall be deemed to have breached these rules and the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland may impose any of the sanctions in these rules on that person.

Any deviation from these rules or the procedures referred to therein shall not invalidate any procedure, finding or decision unless it was such as to raise material doubt as to the reliability thereof.

16. YOUTH POLICY

All sporting organizations which make provision for children and young people must ensure that;

- Y The welfare of the child is paramount;
- Y All children, whatever their age, culture, disability, gender, language, racial origin, religious beliefs and/or sexual identity have the right to protection from abuse;
- Y All suspicions and allegations of abuse will be taken seriously and responded to swiftly and appropriately;
- Y All officials or members (paid/unpaid) involved in Trout Angling have a

responsibility to report concerns to the appropriate person.

Officials, coaches or members are not trained to deal with situations of abuse nor decide if abuse has occurred.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland and its member clubs have a duty of care to safeguard all children involved in trout angling from harm. All children have a right to protection, and the needs of disabled children and others who may be particularly vulnerable must be taken into account. The Trout anglers Federation of Ireland and its members will ensure the safety and protection of all children involved in trout angling through adherence to Child Protection guidelines adopted by Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland.

A child is defined as under 18.

POLICY AIMS

The aim of the Trout Anglers Federation of Irelands Child Protection Policy is to promote practice in:

- Providing children and young people with appropriate safety and protection whilst in the care of Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland officials, coaches or member clubs.
- Allowing all officials, coaches or members to make informed and confident responses to specific child protection issues.

PROMOTING GOOD PRACTICE WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

INTRODUCTION

Child abuse, particularly sexual abuse, can arouse strong emotions in those facing such a situation. It is important to understand these feelings and not allow them to interfere with your judgment about any action to take. Abuse can occur within many situations including the home, school and the sporting environment. Some individuals will actively seek employment or voluntary work with young people in order to harm them. A coach, instructor, teacher, official or volunteer may have regular contact with young people and be an important link in identifying cases where a young person needs protection. All suspicious cases of poor practice should be reported following the guidelines in this document. When a child enters the club having been subjected to child abuse outside the sporting environment, sport can play a crucial role in improving the child's self esteem. In such instances the club must work with the appropriate agencies to ensure the child receives the required support.

GOOD PRACTICE GUIDELINES

All personnel should be encouraged to demonstrate exemplary behavior in order to protect themselves from false allegations. The following are common sense examples of how to create a positive culture and climate within trout angling:

GOOD PRACTICE MEANS:

- ÿ Always working in an open environment (e.g. avoiding private or unobserved situations and encouraging an open environment i.e. no secrets). Avoid one to one scenarios.
- ÿ Treating all young people/disabled adults equally, and with respect and dignity.
- ÿ Always putting the welfare of each person first, before winning or achieving goals.

- ÿ Maintaining a safe and appropriate distance with junior anglers (e.g. it is not appropriate to have an intimate relationship with a child or to share a room with them).
- ÿ Building balanced relationships based in mutual trust which empowers children to share in decision-making process;
- ÿ Making sport fun, enjoyable and promoting fair play.
- ÿ That although manual or physical support situations are rare in trout angling any that do occur should be provided openly and according to the guidelines provided by the Coach Education Programme. Care is needed, as it is difficult to maintain hand positions when the child is constantly moving. Young people should always be consulted and their agreement gained. Some parents are becoming increasingly sensitive about manual support and their views should always be carefully considered.
- ÿ Keeping up to date with the technical skills, qualifications and insurance in sport.
- ÿ Involving parents/guardians wherever possible (e.g. where possible in residential situations).
- ÿ Ensuring that if mixed teams are taken away, they should if possible be accompanied by a male and female member of staff. (NB However, same gender abuse can also occur).
- ÿ Ensuring that at championships or residential events, adults should not enter children's rooms or invite children into their rooms.
- ÿ Being a good role model - this includes moderating one's own behavior in the company of young people.

- ÿ Giving enthusiastic and constructive feedback rather than negative criticism.
- ÿ Recognising the developmental needs and capacity of young people and disabled adults - avoiding excessive training or competition and not pushing them against their will.
- ÿ Ensuring that parents are aware that officials, coaches and clubs will be acting '*in loco parentis*', and if the needs arises they will have the authority to discipline and also administer emergency first aid and/or other medical treatment.
- ÿ Keeping a written record of any injury that occurs, along with the details of any treatment given.
- ÿ Requesting parental consent if club officials are required to transport young people in their cars.

PRACTICE TO BE AVOIDED

The following should be **avoided** except in emergencies. If cases arise where these situations are unavoidable they should only occur with the full knowledge and consent of someone in charge in the club or the child's parents. For example, a child sustains an injury and needs to go to hospital, or a parent fails to arrive to pick a child up at the end of a session:

- ÿ Avoiding spending excessive amounts of time alone with children away from others;
- ÿ Avoid taking children to your home where they will be alone with you.

PRACTICE NEVER TO BE SANCTIONED

The following should **never** be sanctioned. You should never:

- ÿ Engage in rough, physical or sexual provocative games, including horseplay;
- ÿ Share a room with a child;
- ÿ Allow or engage in any form of inappropriate touching;
- ÿ Allow children to use inappropriate language unchallenged;
- ÿ Make sexually suggestive comments to a child, even in fun;
- ÿ Reduce a child to tears as a form of control;
- ÿ Allow allegations made by a child to go unchallenged, unrecorded or not acted upon;
- ÿ Do things of a personal nature for children or disabled adults, that they can do for themselves;**
- ÿ Invite or allow children to stay with you at your home unsupervised.
- ÿ Administer any form of physical punishment or discipline except by way of necessary restraint.
- ÿ *****NB.** It may sometimes be necessary for staff or volunteers to do things of a personal nature for children, particularly if they are young or are disabled. These tasks should only be carried out with the full understanding and consent of parents and the youths involved. There is a need to be responsive to a person's reactions. If

a person is fully dependent on you, talk with him/her about what you are doing and give choices where possible. This is particularly so if you are involved in any dressing or undressing of outer clothing, or where there is physical contact, lifting or assisting a child to carry out particular activities. Avoid taking on the responsibility for tasks for which you are not appropriately trained.

If any of the following occurs you should report this immediately to another colleague and record the incident. You should also ensure the parents of the child are informed.

- Y If you accidentally hurt a junior angler.
- Y If he/she seems distressed in any manner.
- Y If a junior angler appears to be sexually aroused by your actions
- Y If a junior angler misunderstands or misinterprets something you have done

RESPONDING TO SUSPICIONS OR ALLEGATIONS

It is not the responsibility of anyone working in trout angling, in a paid or unpaid capacity to take responsibility or to decide whether or not child abuse has taken place. However there is a responsibility to act on any concerns through contact with the appropriate authorities.

The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland will assure all officials, coaches and members that it will fully support and protect anyone, who in good faith reports his or her concern that a colleague is, or may be, abusing a child.

Where there is a complaint against an official, coach or member there may be three types of investigation

- ÿ A criminal investigation,
- ÿ A child protection investigation,
- ÿ A disciplinary or misconduct investigation.

17. COMPETITIONS

RIVER COMPETITION RULES

1. Clubs are required to display competition rules at the assembly point, to provide a copy of these rules for each angler and the competitor must sign for his/her acceptance of these rules.
2. Competitors have the responsibility to familiarise themselves with these rules.
3. Competitors must have a current membership card of their club/association, which must be affiliated to the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland. Competitors must produce their membership cards at any competition if requested.
4. The organizing committee reserves the right to refuse entry of any competitor for any competition, without being obliged to state the reason for doing so.
5. The organizing committee reserves the right to alter, postpone or cancel the competition.
6. The organizing committee will not be liable for any accidents to any competitor, or for any loss of property.

7. Any competitor bringing the championship into disrepute may be disqualified, and at the discretion of the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland may be barred for a period from competition.
8. For all championships, only brown trout will be accepted.
9. For all championships, entries will only be accepted from club/association Hon. Secretaries.
10. (A) In all senior competitions, competitors shall be 18 years or over on the 1st January in the year in which the competition takes place.

(B) In all Juvenile competitions, competitors shall be over 14 years and under 18 years on the 1st January in the year in which the competition takes place.
11. Competitors will be confined to the one bank of river where drawn. They must start and finish from the same place and, must have their check cards signed at the start and finish of the competition. Unless the catch has been thus checked and certified by the steward it will not be accepted at the weigh-in.
12. Stewards supervising competitions must be facilitated in every way, and bags/creels must be voluntarily presented for inspection at all starting and finishing points, and when requested during the competition.
13. A competitor leaving the vicinity of the river bank unaccompanied by a steward for any period will not be permitted to resume fishing again and shall be eliminated.
14. A rod not longer than 12 feet may be used.
15. The size limit shall be in accordance with the provincial council in whose province the championship takes place.

16. Artificial dry and wet fly fishing only. Spinning and threadline fishing are not allowed.

17. The Provincial Council in whose province the championships take place shall also determine the type of waders to be used. Notice of wader type shall be circulated to all other provinces at least two weeks prior to championships taking place.

18. Where appropriate stretches will be allotted by open draw.

19. Competitors may not fish back to their own bank.

20. Competitors may fish all sides of islands.

21. In the team event, if one competitor is disqualified he/she is disqualified from all prizes both individual and team but, it will not disqualify the other team members from prizes.

22. In the event of equality of weights, the greater number of trout wins.

23. Bank side etiquette and angling courtesy should be observed at all times and anglers should not encroach on, or wade through fellow competitors fishing streams, or disturb waters on salmon anglers.

24. Competitors must provide their own measure. Competitors presenting undersized fish at the weigh-in will have their entire catch disqualified. All qualifying fish will be determined by the official measure on the day.

25. The onus is on all competitors to present fish in a clean, fresh appearance and condition and, intact. All fish will be removed from bags/creels etc for the purpose of weighing.

26. Any competitor being disqualified due to having undersized trout is to be informed by the officials prior to the disqualification being recorded by the recorders. If the competitor in question is not available, the matter should be brought to the attention of his/her team captain on the day, or to an officer of his/her club/association.

27. All competitors must be present at the starting point prior to the commencement of any competition. No competitor may leave before the official depart time.

28. A competitor may not fish the championship waters for 6 days prior to the championships taking place.

29. Any competitor noticing any breach of the above rules by a fellow competitor is to report the matter to the organizing committee at the earliest opportunity to do so.

30. The use of radio or any other communication method by competitors during a competition is strictly prohibited.

31. In all disputes, the judges' decision will be final and binding, and the same applies for any breach of regulations and stewards reports. A competitor may appeal for steward enquiry, but must accept the decision of the enquiry.

RECOMMENDATION

The T.A.F.I. urges all anglers to wear suitable life-jackets/buoyancy aids etc at all times while fishing any river.

LAKE COMPETITION RULES

1. Clubs are required to display competition rules at the assembly point, to provide a copy of these rules for each angler, and the angler must sign for his/her acceptance of these rules.

2. Competitors have the responsibility to familiarise themselves with these rules.
3. Competitors must have a current membership card of their club/association, which must be affiliated to the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland. Competitors must produce their membership cards at any competition if requested.
4. The organizing committee reserves the right to refuse entry of any competitor for any competition.
5. The organizing committee reserves the right to alter, postpone, or cancel the competition.
6. The organizing committee will not be liable for any accidents to any competitor, or for loss of property.
7. Any competitor bringing the championship into disrepute may be disqualified, and at the discretion of the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland, may be barred for a period from competitions.
8. For all championship competitions, only brown trout will be accepted.
9. For all championships, entries will only be accepted from club/association Hon. Secretaries.
10. In all senior competitions, competitors shall be 18 years or over on 1st January in the year in which the competition takes place.
In all juvenile competitions, competitors shall be over 14 and under 18 in the 1st January in the year in which the competition takes place.
11. The size limit shall be in accordance with the provincial council in whose provincial the competition takes place.

12. Competitors must provide their own measure. Competitors presenting undersized fish at the weigh-in will have their entire catch disqualified. All qualifying fish will be determined by the official measure on the day.
13. If a competitor fails to arrive to take part in any competition, unless for good and sufficient reason, his/her entry fee will be forfeited.
14. Competitors may not fish while standing in the boat.
15. When the competition is fished from boats, competitors shall not fish from the bank, and shall return to the starting point in the boat which they set out, except in the event of damage to a boat or oar, failure of motor or being overcome by a storm, when they may return by other means but the circumstances shall be reported to the organizing committee on return.
16. When the competition is to be fished from boats the use of drogues will not be allowed.
17. In the team event, if one competitor is disqualified he/she is disqualified from all prizes, both individual and team, but it will not disqualify the other members from prizes.
18. In the event of equality of weights, the greater number of trout wins.
19. Artificial dry and wet fly fishing only. Spinning and threadline fishing are not allowed. Shooting heads and lead-core lines may not be used.
20. Trolling of flies behind the boat is not permitted whether the boat is drifting or being driven by motor or oars. Side casting is permitted, but flies are not allowed to be trailed behind the boat.

21. Boats and boatmen will be allotted by ballot. Mixed pairing will apply.
22. No boatman shall be allowed to fish in the competition, or to handle a mounted rod while angling is in progress. Where a boatman is provided, a toss of a coin will decide the position of the boat and the position in the boat for the first 3 hours.
23. During a competition, no boat shall encroach within a distance of one hundred yards in front of another boat from which competitors are fishing.
24. All boats must be positioned inside the starting point immediately before finishing time.
25. One rod, not exceeding 12 feet in length may be used by each competitor. Each competitor will be entitled to have a spare rod (length as before) with him/her, but both rods must not be mounted at the same time.
26. In all competitions fishing will not start before the appointed time.
27. A competitor may not fish while the boat is being propelled by the engine.
28. A competitor, whose partner has failed to arrive, may not depart from the starting point, until the permission of the official in charge has first been received.
29. Each competitor must present his/her own catch at the weigh-in, except in team competitions where the team captain will present his/her teams catch at the weigh-in.
30. The onus is on all competitors to present fish in a clean, fresh appearance and condition and, intact. All fish will be removed from bags/creels etc for the purpose of weighing.

31. Any competitor being disqualified due to having undersized trout is to be informed by the officials prior to the disqualification being recorded by the recorders. If the competitor in question is not available, the matter should be brought to the attention of his/her team captain on the day, or to an officer of his/her club/association.
32. Any competitor noticing any breach of the above rules by a fellow competitor is to report the matter to the organizing committee at the earliest opportunity to do so.
33. The use of radio or other communication methods by competitors during a competition is strictly prohibited.
34. The use of fish finders during competitions is prohibited.
35. In all disputes, the judges' decision will be final and binding, and the same applies for any breach of regulations and stewards reports. A competitor may appeal for steward enquiry, but must accept the decision of the enquiry.

RECOMMENDATION

The T.A.F.I. urges all anglers to wear suitable life-jackets/buoyancy aids etc at all times while fishing any of our waterways as it is now LAW.

18. QUALIFICATION FOR AN IRISH TEAM

1. The dress code for all Irish teams participating in International events shall be Green Irish blazer, dark grey slacks, white shirt, Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland tie and the National flag badge on the right lapel.
2. When the World or European Championships are to be fished on lakes, then the Irish team will be picked from the interprovincial lake championships.

3. When the World or European Championships are to be fished on rivers, then the Irish team will be picked from the interprovincial river championships.
4. When the World or European Championships are to be fished on mixed venues (lakes and river), the Irish team will be selected from the Interprovincial Lake and River Championships in the following manner;
 - (a). Where a venue contains 4 lake sections and 1 river section the panel will consist of 4 lake and 2 river anglers.
 - (b). Where a venue contains 3 lake sections and 2 river sections the panel will consist of 3 lake and 3 river anglers.
 - (c). Where a venue contains 2 lake sections and 3 river sections the panel will consist of 3 lake and 3 river anglers.
 - (d). Where a venue contains 1 lake section and 4 river sections the panel will consist of 2 lake and 3 river anglers.
5. Any angler, having refused his/her invitation to represent Ireland in a world championship will not be invited to represent Ireland in the European championships.
6. The team Captain shall have sole control of the team.
7. In any qualifying competition, be it provincial or interprovincial, the entries will be confined to clubs/associations who have their affiliation and insurance fees paid for the year, prior to the competition taking place.
8. For all competitions from which an Irish team will be picked, not more than 3 flies may be used on a cast.

19. INTERPROVINCIALS

1. The number of teams eligible to fish in the All-Ireland inter-club lake championship is one per province. (only one sub may be used on a team.)
2. The number of individual anglers eligible to fish the interprovincial lake championship is to be increased from 14 to 20 per province.
3. The host for the 1997 interprovincial will be Munster. Thereafter it will be Leinster, Ulster and Connaught, and then back to Munster again. If a province is unable to host the championships in turn, that province will go to the end of the previously mentioned rota, and the interprovincial will go the next province in line.
4. In order to resurrect the interprovincial river championship, each of the 4 provinces must run a provincial river championship.
5. A list of results from each province including names, number of trout and weights must be furnished to the Hon. Secretary of the competitions committee not later than the 1st July each year.
6. Unless each angler caught trout in his/her provincial qualifier, he/she cannot qualify to fish for Ireland. He /she will only be eligible to fish for his/her province, for the heaviest trout prize, and for the club prize if applicable.
7. Stewards for all Provincial and Inter-Provincial Championships must be 18 or over on the 1st January in the year in which the Championship takes place.
8. For all Catch and Release Championships, stewards must be named with the competitors' entry.
9. Rainbow trout as well as brown trout may be accepted in Provincial and Inter-Provincial (senior and juvenile) Championships where the host Province agrees to do so.

10. Any club or association that suffers an unforeseen loss due to a national qualifier being cancelled may submit a written submission stating the facts and reasons for the loss to the Central Council who will then debate the claim and award any costs if deemed necessary to do so.
11. An angler or fly-tyer may represent only one club at provincial qualifying level.
12. The 2008 Interprovincial results are to be used to invite anglers to participate in Irish teams for 2 successive years. The 2009 world team will be selected first followed by the 2009 European team(s). The 2010 teams will then be selected in the same manner. Thereafter the Interprovincials will be qualifiers for 2 years in advance. This is to ensure that each team will have adequate time to prepare for their relevant Championships.
13. The Team Captain is to be elected 2 years in advance of any upcoming Championships. This is to ensure that the Captain has adequate time to prepare his/her team.
14. All Interprovincial and Provincial entry forms to have the Trout anglers Federation of Ireland logo and their format is to be agreed by the sitting Officers of the Central Council.
15. All cups and trophies belonging to the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland are to be handed back to the Federation one month prior to the competition taking place. All cups and trophies to be returned in a clean and updated manner.
16. A re-run of any national qualifier can only happen if the competition has been cancelled or if the competition failed to produce a result. In the event where only one trout is caught or only one angler catches trout then that competition is deemed a result.

20. JUVENILE FLY-TYING

1. All competitors shall be under 18 years of age on the 1st January in the year in which the competition takes place.
2. Each competitor shall supply his own fly-tying tools and only tools recognized as fly-tying tools shall be used.
3. Each competitor shall tie 2 samples of a dry fly, a wet fly, a nymph and a lake fly.
4. The flies to be tied will be decided by the Province where the competition takes place.
5. Only materials provided by the organisers may be used to tie the patterns.
6. Entries will only be accepted from club secretaries and it is the responsibility of same secretaries to confirm dates of birth for each individual from their club.
7. During the competition, only designated adults will be allowed in the tying area. These adults should number no more than 4 and where possible each province should have 1 representative.

21. CATCH AND RELEASE

1. Where a competition is to be fished on a catch and release basis, a controller must be provided for each angler on a river venue, and for each boat on a lake venue.
2. The size limit shall be decided by the Provincial Council in whose province the competition is to be held.
3. For all catch and release competitions, barbless hooks must be used.

4. The angler does not handle the trout at any time.
5. Only knotless nets may be used in any catch and release competition.
6. It is the responsibility of the organizing committee to have sufficient measures for the competition.
7. It is the responsibility of the organizing committee to decide if the competing anglers need to bring stewards with them.
8. A steward will not be allowed to act as controller for an angler from the same province on a river venue; however this does not apply on a lake venue as there has to be 2 anglers from different Provinces in the boat.
9. In the event that an angler does not turn up for a lake venue, then the organizing committee must ensure that the angler does not fish on his own with a controller from the same Province.
10. The controller is responsible for unhooking the trout, measuring and recording the length if applicable and for the safe return of the trout to the water.
11. The method of scoring a catch and release competition shall be the same as that adopted by the Confederation Internationale de la Peche Sportive (CIPS) ie;
 - (a). For each scoring fish the competitor will be awarded 100 points.
 - (b). For each and every centimeter of each scoring fish the competitor will be awarded 20 points.
 - (c). The competitor with the most accumulated points will be deemed the winner.
12. Only computer software recognized by the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland may be used in any Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland catch and release competition.

22. SAFETY POLICY

The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland will be committed to providing its member clubs with the latest information on Health Safety & Welfare polices and will comply with the Statute Legislation of Ireland.

Our Insurance Policy requires all members to comply with the legislation and with this in mind the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland have sought the assistance of advisory organizations that have expertise in this area. The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland asks you to pass this information to your members and encourage compliance.

Further, the Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland is committed to the Care of Our Environment and or members must be ever mindful of pollution and the correct and safe disposal of waste. There are heavy fines for personal failure to comply with the State Laws. The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland, request each Club to bring the information to the attention of their members. There support groups and anglers must bring breaches of pollution laws to the attention of the Local Authorities and the Garda. Leading by example, our members must keep our Club Properties, Boats, Engines and Boathouses clean and free from litter.

The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland is committed to the “Code of Conduct in Sport” so that the care of our Junior Members is held in the Highest Standards of Respect to All. A “Drug Free” policy is in place and must be encouraged. Take care of our youth and they will take care of our lakes and rivers.

Keeping in mind, Equality and Equal Status Laws, we must be ever mindful of all visitors and especially anglers who require special needs and support. The Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland has in place a policy, to continue to develop and support the special needs required to help all our members.

Finally, all club members must be alert to security problems. The safe custody of our boats, gear and engines must be our priority. Each Angler is effectively a member, a safety representative and a security observer.

Think Safety-- Think Security.

TROUT ANGLERS FEDERATION OF IRELAND SAFETY GUIDELINES

1. Club safety log must be signed prior to fishing.
2. Life jackets or suitable Buoyancy Aids must be worn at all times.
3. Wear suitable protective clothing for the conditions prevailing.
4. Glasses and/or caps are recommended to protect eyes.
5. Check the Boat builder's plate (normally on the inside of the transom) for maximum design Horse Power permitted.
6. It is recommended that all boats carry the safety equipment as recommended by the Department of Transport (Annex A)
7. First Aid Kit should be carried onboard the boat.
8. Standing on boats is prohibited.
9. All seating must be totally secured to boat and no loose seating across gunwales should be used.
10. Do not allow the use of "Keep Tanks" in boats as they cause free surface in boats which were not designed for this retrofit, thereby adversely affecting the stability of

the boat.

11. A maximum of three people per boat is permitted.
12. Please look out for eroded or undermined ground while shore fishing.
13. Please be alert for overhead electric cables while casting.
14. Please be alert and aware of where other anglers are located while casting.
15. Please follow all instructions from the Safety Officer or designated committee member made responsible for safety at each event.
16. Always take due care and attention while operating engines, always having due consideration for other boats and not creating any wake in close proximity (less than 100 meters) to other users.
17. The safety officer has full authority to prohibit people from fishing if it is in his/her opinion that the person is a danger to themselves or to others.
18. In the event of bad weather please be prepared to leave the lake.
19. Always check the Weather Forecast prior to going fishing by radio, TV or for more accurate and timely information, check the following websites

<http://www.met.ie/>

<http://www.marine.ie/home/publicationsdata/data/buoys>

Requirement, as a minimum for your lake boat. x

Category "F" Craft

1	Lifesaving and personal safety equipment	
1.1	An approved PFD/Lifejacket for each person on board, of at least 100 Newtons (see appendix 5)	X
1.2	Appropriate clothing	X
1.3	A buoyant heaving line/throw bag.	
1.4	Horseshoe type lifebelt with light	
1.5	Boathook (telescopic/fixed long shaft)	X
1.6	Boarding Ladder	

2	Flares (all to be within expiry date)	
2.1	Hand held distress flares or a red flag	
2.2	Orange smoke signal canisters	2

3	Fire Fighting	
3.1	Fire blanket-CE marked	

3.2	Fire extinguishers one of which is suitable to fight oil fires in engine spaces or fire bucket.(Do not deploy the bucket overboard while the boat is moving)	
3.3	All cooker/heaters using Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) should be installed as outlined in Marine Notice No.1 of 2000	

4	Navigation Equipment	
4.1	Steering Compass	
4.2	Foghorn, powered or aerosol type	X

4.3	Binoculars	
4.4	Navigation drawing instruments, parallel ruler, dividers or plotting instrument	
4.5	Navigation lights as required by boat length	X
4.6	Suitable up to date charts for areas of cruising	

	Bilge pumping	
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5.1	Manual/electric Bilge pump capable of pumping from any hull watertight compartment and with all hatched closed	X
5.2	At least one complete repair kit including spares should be carried	
5.3	A bucket fitted with rope lanyard (Do not use bucket overboard while the boat is moving)	
5.4	All through hull fittings to be with isolation valves	
5.5	Softwood tapered plugs located adjacent to each through hull underwater fitting	

6	Anchors and Wraps	
6 . 1	Anchor with chain/wrap, as appropriate for vessels size, and operating area ground holding conditions.(folding anchor)	X
6 . 2	Boats should have a suitably reinforced deck cleat/Samson post on the foredeck, and means of closing over the bow roller or fairlead used when anchoring	X
6 . 3	An adequate supply of wraps and fenders, these should include suitable wraps to allow the craft be towed if necessary.	X

7	General Equipment	
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7.1	Emergency steering means i.e. tiller for vessels fitted with wheel steering as their primary means of steering.	
7.2	Waterproof torch	X
7.3	An appropriate tool kit and spare parts for the type of craft being used.	X
7.4	Suitable secondary means of engine starting including battery or hand start	
7.5	Appropriate First Aid Kit	X
7.6	Storm Sail which can be quickly rigged, or the facility to deep reef existing sails.(yachts)	
7.7	Set of Oars / Oarlocks / Paddles	X

7.8	Suitable Knife	X
7.9	Instruction manuals for vessels essential equipment	
7.10	Rigid or inflatable tender	

Sample Safety Statement

CLUB: (enter club name)

Safety Statement:

1. Create a Safe and Healthy Work Environment.
2. Prevent Accidents and ill Health.
3. Comply with the Safety Health & Welfare Act 2005 and the General Applications (2007)

The (enter name of club) is committed through all its members to:

1. The rights of the individual.

2. The dignity in the working and sporting life.
3. The equality of treatment.
4. The non acceptance of bullying or sexual harassment.

Co-operation of Club Members:

1. The duty of reasonable care to one's self and others who may be affected by one's acts or omissions.
2. To co-operate with others so that to comply with statutory provisions.
3. To use all means of securing his/her safety health and welfare, whilst active within the club and at all times.
4. To report to the appropriate club officials, without unreasonable delay, any defects which might endanger safety, health and welfare of its members.
5. Not to intentionally or recklessly interfere with or misuse any appliance, protective clothing, convenience, equipment or means of things provided for the safety, health or welfare of persons arising out of work or angling/boating activity.

Safe Systems of Work

1. All club tasks should be within the competence and capacity of the persons involved.
2. All processes which give to risk can only be controlled by adherence to proper procedure.

3. The purchase of new equipment, alterations of existing equipment or changing a system, of work, should ensure, as far as reasonably practical, that they are without significant hazard. Buy quality CE marked equipment only.

Personal Protective Equipment

1. The Club will provide the required personal protective equipment of quality rating, CE marked, for all club work being carried out by members.
2. The Club will replace worn or defective items, at cost to the club.

Safe Plant and Equipment

1. A Safety Inspection, documented in the Club Records, is to be carried out on regular basis of all property, equipment etc. which is in use by the Club. This must include Signage, marker buoys, safety equipment etc.

Instruction and Equipment

1. Certain tasks in the club operations require that strict safety procedures be followed.
2. It is essential that no person attempt a potentially hazardous task without instruction.

NOTE: It is essential that. Prior to any activity-competition or club work-that a “Tool-Box Talk” takes place by a competent Club Official to all members/workers.

Contractors; Procedures when a Contractor is engaged to do any Club work.

As a priority, before any contractor comes on site the contractor must be requested to provide a copy of the Company Insurance Certificate and a copy of their current Safety Statement.

Where any member of the club is employed and receives payment from the club, as a worker or boatman etc, by virtue of financial gain, it is essential that the club has in place; Employers Liability Insurance.

General Safety Rules.

1. Be Familiar with safety aspects of your job and your sport and sporting area. Know your river and lake.
2. Follow Safety Signs and heed the warnings.
3. Know about Weils Disease - from rats ---wear gloves & wash hands.
4. Do not take chances, if in doubt get advice.
5. If you go angling alone - advise some reliable person your destination and expected time of return.
6. Bring your mobile phone - fully charged and in credit.
7. Warn others, if the job or activity you are doing, creates a risk to them.
8. Observe the “No Smoking” Rules. Be-aware of fuel tanks for engines.
9. Report all dangerous situations or incidents to the Safety Officer.
10. Keep club areas clean and tidy; keep things in their proper place.

11. Do not misuse club tools or equipment.
12. Equipment must be serviced, as per the manufacturers manual and records kept in Club minutes.
13. Place warning, barriers, marker tape etc around opening, trenches etc.
14. Horseplay, practical jokes and running are strictly prohibited.
15. Club Members are responsible for their own boats/gear and must comply with the Statute Regulations and the requirement of their individual insurance policy.
16. Consumption of alcohol and/or drugs, whilst on Club activity/ Competition is not acceptable.

RISK ASSESSMENT PRIOR TO COMPETITION OR CLUB ACTIVITY

(This must be done before any job or competition so that all the variables and hazards are assessed - the weather prior to a competition - the checking of boats prior to events - document details of the pre-competition briefing etc.)

(use the Dairy -- and sign off the "Risk - Assessment).

-Club Safety Representative: (enter name)

First Aider: (enter name)

(Check that all the First Aid Kits are current and complete).

Directory of Emergency Contacts:

Include: Local Emergency Numbers; Emergency 999 or 112.

Garda; (enter local details)

Doctor; (enter local details)

Ambulance: (enter local details)

Hospital: (enter local details)

Fire Brigade: (enter local details)

Signed by Club Officers:

Date: ----/-----/-----

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_____.

_____.

Signature Listing:

Advisory Notices.

Advisory Clause: Please be advised that this is a sample document. Under law, 2005 Act, the Safety Statement must be site- specific, current and only complete after a site/competition “risk assessment”. The document must then be printed onto hard copy and signed off as designated by the club committee/officers. The “Safety Statement” must be brought to the attention of ALL members and a copy of the final document made available for signing by members and/or competition, as a when required. In the event that competitors sign forms, on application to any competition, it is imperative that all such documents are filed away in safety for a period of not less than 10 years.

This constitution was proposed and seconded at the Annual General Meeting, held in Athlone on the 8th of February 2009. It repeals and replaces any other constitution as and from this date.