# WIRRAL GAME FISHING CLUB

## HEALTH & SAFETY FOR WORKING PARTY VOLUNTEERS

**The following points on health and safety are to be acknowledged by members attending working parties and beat maintenance for Wirral Game Fishing Club. This is to ensure that its operations and services are executed at all times, so far as is reasonably practicable, in such a manner that it will assist in ensuring the health, safety and welfare of members and persons likely to be affected by its operations.**

### Members have a duty of care to themselves and others

1.To enable the club's insurance policies to remain valid, no work on any WGFC water is to be undertaken by members, without first having sought the approval of a club officer. A risk assessment must be carried out and signed off by the approving officer. Work carried out without approval may not be covered by the Club's insurance policy.

2. The local riparian owner should be notified of any intended work.

3. No fires unless riparian the owner approves.

4. Before undertaking any bank work, a leader and deputy are appointed.

5. The leader and deputy shall make a note of all persons who make up the working party and have their contact details at hand.

6. A First Aid kit shall be made available. Any qualified First Aiders shall make themselves known to the leader.

7. A minimum of two (2) persons to work together at all times.

8. The leader or deputy shall have a mobile phone or other means of communication on his/her person, or access to one, at all times.

9. The leader or deputy shall know the emergency contact details and the working party location, in case the emergency services are required. The OS grid references are part of the beat descriptions on the WGFC website www.wirralgamefishing.club

10. The leader, on arriving at the venue, shall decide whether it is safe to carry out the planned work, taking into account such things as weather conditions and the state of the river etc.
The leader must also ensure that national and local emergency restrictions and regulations issued by the government concerning such things as foot and mouth disease, Covid, etc are adhered to.

11. There shall be an outline plan of the work to be undertaken communicated to all in attendance.

12. In the case of all power tools such as chain saw, brush cutter/strimmer and pole saw, and lifting equipment such as Tirfor winch, only those qualified and competent to handle such equipment are entitled to operate such tools, or in special circumstances under the supervision of a competent person.

13. The qualified operator shall carry out a visual check on the equipment to ensure that it is safe to use.

14. Appropriate safety equipment to be worn at all times when operating power tools.

15. A safe working distance is to be observed when using all tools. (Be aware of others in your vicinity)

16. The leader or deputy shall instruct in the felling, or winching by pulling or lifting of any tree, or limb of a tree, of a size that could cause injury to others.

17. Where the working party is of such a size that it could operate as two separate groups the leader will lead one group and the deputy will lead the other. Both leader and deputy shall observe the WGFC health and safety policy.

18. Members who elect to attend working parties shall be responsible for ensuring the work they undertake is within their physical capabilities, and realise they have a duty of care to themselves and other members of the working party.

19. Good housekeeping within the working area is paramount at all times.

20. At the end of the working session the leader or deputy shall ensure that they account for all participants and all tools. They will ensure the venue is left in a clean and tidy fashion with all debris, as far as is possible, collected into neat piles and where possible rubbish will be taken away for the correct disposal.

**REVIEWED 06/12/2021**