

NEWBIE BEAT, RIVER ANNAN

RULES OF FISHING CONDUCT

A. Scottish Government Wild Fisheries Reform and Annan Fishery Board

Newbie Beat follows the Scottish Government Wild Fisheries Reform grading of rivers, which currently grades the River Annan as Grade 3 and necessitates the return of all Salmon and Grilse. The Beat also adopts the River Board regulations (which can be found on the FishPal River Annan website).

B. Sporting Conduct

1. All kelts and gravid fish, all salmon fry, all migratory fish that are foul-hooked (i.e. hooked otherwise than in the mouth) and all migratory fish under 10" long must be returned to the river immediately with as little injury as possible;
2. Fishermen must not fish in a manner whereby fish are likely to be foul-hooked. No excessively weighted fly or bait may be used. There should be no fishing upstream;
3. A fisherman must move downstream at a reasonable pace if another fisherman is fishing down the pool behind him, or is waiting to fish that pool from either side of the river;
4. No gaff may be used at any time.

C. Restrictions on Bait Fishing

1. Fishing with a worm/worming may only be practiced in red/chocolate flood water but only as a last resort on the following stretches of the River

Beat 1, from the Jubilee Bridge to Milnby Cauld (i.e. the Black Pool)

Beat 2, between the Annan by-pass bridge and the former Cuthbertson Bridge (Mill Pool)

Beat 3, on the Island Pool, but only from opposite the gate at the southern end of Warmanbie Wood down to the Jubilee Bridge;

and only provided they are permitted by the Fishery Board;

2. Other natural baits, (including prawn and shrimp) cannot be used on these or any other part of the Beat in any circumstances whatsoever.

D. Restrictions on Spinning

Fly fishing is encouraged whenever possible and especially when the River is low; however

1. Spinning is allowed at all times only on Beat 1, Beat 2 and Beat 3 as per descriptions given above under Bait Fishing Restrictions below and on Howes Corner on Beat 3;
2. On the remainder, spinning is only permitted when the water height is 1ft or above, taken from the Brydekirk SEPA/Fishpal River Levels.

3. All spinning lures may only have one set of hooks and a maximum hook size of Size 4.

E. Cauld Pool and Cauld Stream

No fly or spinning bait may land above the white marker on the wall on the right bank immediately below Milnby Cauld. This rule applies to all heights of water.

F. Beat Rotation

Owners will rotate beats at 1pm daily. The beats are:

Beat 1– Black Pool (from Jubilee Bridge down), Cauld Pool, Cauld Stream and Pats Bridge

Beat 2– Craigdale, Mill Pool, Kingswell and The Flats

Beat 3– Island Pool (down to Jubilee Bridge), Violetbank, Howes Corner and The Spittal

G. Returning Fish

1. In accordance with the Scottish Government regulations, all Salmon and Grilse must be safely returned to the River throughout the season;
2. Sea Trout may be killed, provided they are not coloured, but fishermen are encouraged to take no more than one fish per day- A voluntary catch and release code for all sea trout is encouraged by the River Board.
3. Fishermen are asked to exercise restraint in the taking/killing of herling- ie under 1lb- (maximum of two per day);
4. Brown Trout season runs from 1st March to 6th October. Killing Brown Trout is permitted, although Brown Trout caught accidentally out with this time must be safely returned.

H. Enforcement of Rules

The Fishery Manager, supported by GM Thomson, as Factor, will have full responsibility and authority for ensuring that these Rules are fully adhered to. The Manager does not have any discretion to waive any of the Rules, and fishermen are asked not to request her/him to do so.

The Fishery Managers' decision on any aspect of interpreting this Code on any particular day is final.

G M THOMSON & CO, Factors

Date: 1st December 2021