



Angling Scotland Limited

Angling included as part of Scotland's route
map for the relaxation of lock down

Phase 1 update 23 May 2020





Introduction

Angling Scotland Ltd has been working with the Scottish Government, SportScotland and Marine Scotland to ensure that angling can start again as soon as it is safe to do so. We offer this advice to anglers and fisheries as best practice. We will continue to work with the Scottish Government and its agencies as we follow the route map to the new normality.

We rely on the angling community to reflect itself well, to follow the Scottish Government guidance in letter and in spirit and in doing so strengthen our hand in being able to best represent anglers and angling, and to better influence government thinking in the angling environment.

We hope that you find this guidance as both useful and sensible as we begin to reintroduce Angling into our lives.

David Ogg
Chairman, Angling Scotland LTD





Guidance for Anglers

The following guidance has been established to ensure a safe environment for all “Anglers” and all on-site staff, sets out the basis on how Anglers can return to a safe environment as outlined by the Scottish Government’s Phase 1 relaxation of restrictions.

Not only are Anglers expected to comply with the guidance they should also observe the government and public health restrictions. Guidance is subject to change and will be under continuous review. We would ask all Anglers to regularly check with Angling Scotland and their fisheries for regular updates.

Prior to Angling:

- Travel from your home must be in line with Scottish Government guidelines – in phase 1 local travel is noted as broadly 5 miles from home. Anglers should use their discretion but focus on local trips as much as possible.
- If you are in the highest risk (shielding) group outlined by the Government, then you should stay at home.
- If you are ill or have any symptoms of COVID-19 then stay at home.
- Schedule your session time in the manner prescribed by your fishery. Under no circumstances should you arrive without booking in advance.
- Disinfect your equipment including waders, nets and any other items that may come in to contact with you or the water.
- Ensure you have enough equipment for the entire session as the facilities at the fishery may be closed and you should not exchange equipment with other anglers.
- Aim to arrive no more than 15 minutes prior to your session.
- Park your car in such a way as to facilitate physical distancing.

During Angling:

- Always observe social distancing rules at the fishery.
- Use your own net do not share nets with other Anglers
- Do not share equipment, food or drink with others unless from the same household.
- Follow all local procedures that are implemented by your fishery or club.
- Always follow good hand and respiratory hygiene guidelines e.g. washing of hands, use of face coverings in enclosed spaces.





Guidance for Fisheries

The following guidance sets out the basis on how fisheries can open and provide a safe environment for Anglers as outlined by the Scottish Government's Phase 1 relaxation of restrictions.

Procedures are subject to change, we would therefore ask fishery managers to regularly check here for updates.

For Fisheries to open they should first ensure that:

- All activity should be consistent with current guidance on health, physical distancing and hygiene – facilities should also make sure they can adapt to changes in guidance at short notice.
- All essential maintenance and preparatory work has been completed in order to ensure compliance with Government guidance on physical distancing and hygiene.

General Guidelines

- Risk assessment – should be carried out and documented.
- Put your risk assessment on display so that Anglers can understand the risks and measures taken to manage.
- Travel guidance outlined by the Scottish Government should always be adhered to by anglers. Broadly speaking this means that anglers should be from the local area with minimal exceptions.
- Physical distancing rules outlined by the Scottish Government must always be adhered to.
- Anglers who are in the highest risk (shielded) group outlined by the Government should not attend fisheries during phase 1.
- Anglers with any symptoms of COVID-19 should also not attend fisheries.





Useful Links

[Government guidance on physical distancing & travel](#) – Click Here

[NHS Inform Physical Distancing](#) – Click Here

[Government guidance on shielding](#) – Click Here

[NHS Covid-19 information](#) – Click Here

[Scotland's route map and framework for decision making](#) – Click Here

[Angling Scotland Website](#) – Click Here

[Angling Scotland Facebook](#) – Click Here

Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a time limit of how long I can fish?

All fisheries are asked to put guidelines and measures in place to manage use of facilities to ensure social distancing at all times. It is a matter for each venue to determine availability/ capacity and whether to impose time limits.

Can members of the same household share tackle and fish together?

Yes – provided they live in the same household. You should update a fishery ahead of arrival, and make them aware of the situation.

Can over 70s fish?

Yes – however, members who are in the highest risk (shielding) group outlined by the Government are advised to practise caution and stay away from risk.

Do Anglers need to bring their own hand sanitisers?

It is recommended everyone brings their own hand sanitiser and uses frequently during their fishing session.



