

Malleny Angling Ltd (MA)

Health and Safety Policy

Health & Safety Policy Statement for Members and Day Permit Anglers to: Harlaw Reservoir, and Threipmuir Reservoir.

The scope of responsibility includes the whole perimeter of Harlaw Reservoir. At Threipmuir Reservoir, the scope of responsibility includes the bank from the Boathouse clockwise to Black Springs. The scope of responsibility does not include the use of boats, as boats are not permitted.

Harlaw and Threipmuir Reservoirs are situated in the Pentlands National Park and are a multi-functional area of recreation. MA only control fishing activities and therefore has restricted authority extending to anglers only. Anglers are considered to be members of MA or others who are in possession of an approved day permit, where necessary having paid the appropriate fee. It does not extend to members of the Boat Club based at Threipmuir Reservoir.

MA places the utmost importance on Health & Safety and as far as is reasonably practicable, will do all it can to ensure the Health and Safety of its members, Day Permit anglers and also others who may be affected by its acts or omissions. MA will also try to ensure a safe and healthy environment.

This Health & Safety Policy Statement and the associated Health & Safety Procedures represents the policy and system against which MA will monitor and assess its Health & Safety performance.

Every person engaged in fishing at Harlaw and Threipmuir Reservoirs has a legal responsibility, (a duty of care) to look after their own and others' health & safety and comply with this policy, rules and any other health and safety requirements issued by MA.

Health & Safety Policy and Procedures will be reviewed at least annually or at other times, dependent on changes in legislation or circumstances.

MA is committed to working with the local authority and other regulative bodies to ensure the safe use of Harlaw and Threipmuir Reservoirs and the protection of the Pentlands National Park.

The General Secretary will be responsible for the Health & Safety Policy jointly assisted by the Chairman, management committee, bailiffs and the Health & Safety Advisor. Operational responsibilities are further devolved to all Members and Day Permit holders.

Copies of the Health & Safety Policy and Procedures will be prominently displayed within the Bailiff's hut and made known to all anglers.



Signed by: Robert Ross
Malleny Angling Ltd
March 2020

Summary

Introduction

Malleny Angling Ltd is governed by directors and a general committee all of whom are duly elected by members at the AGM. The directors and members of the committee have the authority to co-opt others where their knowledge or experience is deemed useful to Malleny Angling Ltd.

This document provides a summary of the salient points for Health, Safety and General Welfare. Additional paperwork such as Risk Assessments should be read in conjunction with this Policy.

Health & Safety Policy Statement

Malleny Angling Ltd has provided a Health & Safety Policy Statement as evidence of its commitment to maintain the safe and healthy use of Harlaw and Threipmuir Reservoirs.

A copy of our Policy is displayed at the Bailiff Station and a copy is available to all persons.

Risk Assessments

Malleny Angling Ltd assesses the risk to the health and safety of anyone who might be fishing at Harlaw or Threipmuir reservoirs and also visitors.

Many of our risk assessments are generic. Specific risk assessments are written and recorded for any deviations of our original generic risk assessments.

Rules

All members of Malleny Angling Ltd and day ticket holders must check in before fishing commences and check out again when leaving. This is a safety check of those fishing. Failure to check out may, at the discretion of the bailiff, result in declaring an emergency search.

Permission to fish

Malleny Angling Ltd reserves the right to refuse person/s permission to fish if it is determined by a bailiff, directors or committee member that by fishing it represents a danger to the person, other anglers or visitors.

Risk Assessments for Vulnerable Anglers

Malleny Angling Ltd operate a policy whereby if vulnerable persons wish to fish they must be accompanied by a responsible adult/carer, who is required to carry out their own risk assessment.

Responsibility and further risk identification is the responsibility of the responsible adult/carer. It is recommended that any anglers taking life dependency drugs should report this to the duty bailiff.

Risk Assessment for Young Visitors/Anglers

Young visitors under the age of 16 years must be accompanied by an adult and must be supervised at all times.

Visitors to the reservoirs are requested to stay clear of anglers at all times.

Inexperienced Anglers

Anglers who have no previous fly fishing experience should request information, instruction, or training prior to using the Reservoirs to ensure their safety and the safety of others.

Duty of Care

Anglers must ensure the safety of others by ensuring that hooks do not endanger other anglers, visitors, swimmers, animals or wildlife. Anglers must be vigilant in checking that at all times a safe distance is allowed for casting, in particular back casting and always checking for any hazard. Particular care must be taken when fishing areas close to public walkways such as the Dam Backs.

Nylon

Discarded nylon can be dangerous to wildlife, must be removed from any fishing location and be disposed of safely.

Deep water

Both reservoirs have deep water, in particular Harlaw, representing a hazard to life which must be treated with respect. Dams are fixtures at both reservoirs and are an area of deep water. The stone banks of the dams are irregular, have gaps between stones and may be slimy and slippery, particularly when wet. Care must be taken when using these areas.

Dangerous wading

Only bank angling is permitted. Anglers must be aware of dangerous wading conditions, in particular at Harlaw Reservoir, where the steep and muddy banks represent a hazard. Deep wading is not recommended. The use of float tubes is not permitted. Wading poles are recommended due to the uneven and rocky surfaces.

Protective Clothing

It is the responsibility of all anglers to wear appropriate clothing and skin protection.

Facilities

Bailiff facilities are located at the east end of Harlaw Reservoir. The facility is for purchasing permits, has a contact mobile telephone (07512 733474) and a first aid kit.

Toilet facilities are available at Harlaw House Ranger Station, located at the east end exit at Harlaw Reservoir. Opening times are normally 24 hours, but may differ due to other factors such as breakdown or vandalism.

Implementation and Operation

Inexperienced Anglers

Where anglers have no fly fishing experience it is recommended that training is given before fishing at Harlaw or Threipmuir Reservoirs. Mallyen Angling Ltd does not provide professional training.

Communication and Consultation with Users and Visitors

Mallyen Angling Ltd recognises the need for effective communications and takes steps to ensure that anglers and visitors have access to information on health and safety matters.

If anglers or visitors have any issues with regard to their or others' health and safety, they should inform a bailiff or member of the committee immediately.

Signing Anglers/Visitors Register

All persons intending to fish and in possession of a valid permit must sign in and out of the register to and from both reservoirs. This is to help ensure their safety.

Health and Safety Signs

The Local Authority display appropriate safety signs informing users and visitors of relevant information which should be adhered to, to ensure their health and safety and the health and safety of others.

Lifesaving equipment

Buoyancy aids are situated at the dam backs on both Harlaw Reservoir and Threipmuir reservoirs. They are only of use to persons getting into difficulty close to the shore. These buoyancy aids are not supplied or maintained by Mallyen Angling Ltd

First Aid

A first aid kit is located at the bailiff station. No registered first aider operates on behalf of Mallyen Angling Ltd

A heart defibrillator is located on the wall of Harlaw House close to the bailiff station.

It is the responsibility of the user to determine safety of use.

Refusing permission to fish

The Duty Bailiff, management of bailiffs, directors and members of the Management Committee have the right to refuse permission to fish if the angler seemingly represents a risk to themselves or others.

Persons who do not comply with the rules and procedures implemented by Mallyen Angling Ltd will be reported to the General Secretary and may be banned from fishing both Harlaw and Threipmuir Reservoirs.

Insurance

Mallyen Angling Ltd has limited insurance cover predominantly, but not entirely, for members of Mallyen Angling Ltd.

Day ticket anglers may have limited insurance cover and therefore in the unlikely event of an accident, have a **personal liability** in respect of any claims.

Checking and Corrective Action

Accidents, Incidents

All accidents, dangerous occurrences and near misses are to be reported to a bailiff, General Secretary, director or member of the Management Committee. These are to be recorded in the accident books located at the bailiff station. If the bailiff station is unmanned, attention can be raised by calling the bailiff's mobile phone or, in an emergency, by calling emergency services.

Reporting

Malleny Angling Ltd has implemented procedures for reporting, recording and investigation of accidents and near miss incidents, and also anti-social behaviour by anglers.

Auditing

Health & Safety Audits are carried out by our Health & Safety Adviser to ensure that both users and visitors are complying with the rules and procedures.

Reviewing Health & Safety Paperwork and Policies

Health & Safety paperwork is reviewed annually, or when new legislation has come into force, or circumstances change.

Address

General Secretary
Malleny Angling Ltd
27 Gowanlea Court
West Calder
EH55 8DQ

Review date

Malleny Angling Ltd will audit the Health & Safety Policy and all relevant documentation annually or as required.

Date of next review February 2021

RISK ASSESSMENTS

Risk assessments will cover the following GENERIC areas of activity.

Bailiffs General Duties
Bailiffs Patrols Outwith Hour
Walking the Banks
Wading
Casting
Stocking
Seemingly Uncontrolled Dogs and Other Animals
Adverse Weather
Open day at Harlaw

SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENTS. Done in conjunction with Carers, helpers or others.

Anglers with Special Needs – Health, Mobility, Visual Impairment. Additional Educational Needs.