

HAMPSTEAD AND HIGHGATE ANGLING SOCIETY

ANGLING TUITION CODE OF CONDUCT

1 OVERVIEW

HAHAS aims to get more people fishing and to promote angling to the public and the authorities. Angling tuition has a big part to play in this. It is important that the people we teach enjoy their lessons, and that parents, teachers and passers-by get positive impressions of angling and of us.

This code of conduct is based on advice from the Angling Trust. It consists of guidelines for us to follow when teaching. They fall into the categories of 1) respecting peoples rights 2) maintaining proper relationships with people and 3) adhering to personal and professional standards.

2 RIGHTS

Everyone has the right to participate in angling without fear of abuse, discrimination or bullying. HAHAS must ensure that:

- Our lessons are open to everyone and are not discriminatory.
- We treat everyone with respect and courtesy.
- We follow the procedures defined in the *HAHAS Policy for Safeguarding and Protecting Children and Vulnerable Adults*

3 RELATIONSHIPS

HAHAS members should build relationships within angling which are open and honest and founded on trust and respect. They must:

- Never behave in a way that could be construed as abuse of any kind. For example, avoid physical contact unless it is necessary for teaching purposes (rarely the case in fishing), in which case explain to the participant and their parents or carer beforehand
- Never work alone with children or vulnerable adults (this is a situation where abuse can occur, or false allegations of abuse can be made).
- Never engage sexually with participants under the age of 18. This includes innuendos, flirting and inappropriate gestures or words.
- Respect participants' opinions about angling, encourage them to think for themselves and avoid criticising them in public.
- Keep participants and their parents or carers informed of the requirements of the sport both physically and financially.
- Always be willing to engage with the public and answer their questions.

4 PERSONAL STANDARDS

HAHAS members and volunteers should demonstrate proper personal conduct at all times. They must:

- Be reasonable, honest , considerate and patient when teaching.
- Be well presented.
- Project an image of health and cleanliness (e.g. don't smoke or drink before or during lessons).
- Aim to be a positive angling role model.

5 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

HAHAS must ensure that lessons are safe, well organised and meet the needs of the participants. We must:

- Make sure that the material to be taught is appropriate to participant's ages and abilities.
- Recognise that fun and enjoyment are just as important to participants as learning and achievement.
- Ensure that all our activities are planned and delivered to the best of our ability, with a risk assessment always carried out.
- Aim to develop our skills through training and research.
- Aim to improve over time by reviewing our lessons – amongst ourselves and with participants – to identify areas for improvement.
- Promote good angling practice (e.g. clearing up litter, handling fish properly).
- Promote the benefits of angling as a rewarding sport that brings you closer to nature.

6 REVIEW AND VERSION HISTORY

Version	Date	Author	Comments
1	11-Jun-2023	Matthew Pierce	Initial draft.