

With the Summer now underway this is a good time to be at the club, although right now it is a little hot and sticky!

I want to update you on some of the goings on at the club and make sure you have all you need to enjoy your fishing.

Phase One Return Update

Our new procedures have been in operation for just over a month, and things seem to be working out well thanks to the cooperation of members.

To remind you of a few things (which I get asked about the most):

- Yes, we have changed the code on the door of the Club House and will only re-issue this new code to members when we are fully open again. In the mean time you can enter the clubhouse through the second door to use the bathrooms using a key that is placed on a hook that is located about 4 – 5 feet up the tree nearest the yellow fuel tank by the car park
- Yes, I am still willing to come and open the club house if you need access to the locker room to empty your locker, just let me know when works for you and I will try and be there for then
- Yes, you will need to bring your own 'fish-friendly' nets (rubber netting preferred) with you, as well as a chair if needed and any refreshments
- No, we are still not allowing guests at this stage of our re-opening and will update you when we feel this is appropriate. In the meantime, we have had steady number of members fishing most days and we appreciate how the social distancing guidance is been respected

I also have a few asks of you when you come to the Club:

- Members have pointed out that as our badges in the Club House it is harder to know if the other fisherman are members or not? I suggest that next time you go fishing at the Club you retrieve your badges (it is accessible entering in the second door still) and wear your badge when on the property. This way we can remain vigilant on approaching anyone fishing who is not wearing a club badge. Can I also suggest that you take your club badge home with you for the next time you visit and there is no need to worry if you ultimately lose you badge as we have replacement badges for everyone that we will put in the club house when we fully reopen
- Can you please send a record of the fish caught and the fish kept to info@theuctc.com, even if you fish and do not catch anything. This way we can keep our records up to date and this helps inform up of the levels of required stocking

We have had a few of our keener members camping on the club grounds to allow them to make the most of the late evening's hatches. This is OK to do if the social distancing guidelines are observed.

Fishing Update

I wanted to share some guidance on safer Catch and Release:

- Bring the fish in as quickly as possible to avoid extreme exhaustion. Do not use ultra-light gear for catch and release.
- Keep the fish in the water and resuscitate it. Handle the fish gently with wet hands or moist gloves. If you must net it, use a release net made of soft knotless fabric and keep the fish under water in the net. Do not lift the fish up in the air or squeeze it. Although you may want a picture before you let it go, consider that that photo-op may kill the model.
- If you plan to keep a fish or two for the table, let the hook-up decide what you kill. If a trophy size fish is hooked in the lip for an easy release – let it go. If you catch a smaller fish that is bleeding – keep it.
- Have tools and plan ready. Consider using a Ketchum Release Tool. Have the tool ready. Make sure your eyes are covered in case the hook flies free. Locate the hook, then decide how to approach it.

I also wanted to remind you that right now the Trout are under a lot of stress based on the air and water temperatures and will be limiting their activity to conserve their energy. Therefore pond fishing tends not to be very good during the heat we are experiencing now and being caught puts a lot of stress on the fish that are already stressed.

Unless we officially close the pond for some reason (which we haven't had to do in at least 15 years), fishing is still allowed during hot times; however, for the sake of the health of our fishery, we request that members be mindful of the conditions and follow prudent fishing practices during times of extreme heat. So, when air temps exceed 30' C, please:

- limit fishing to the coolest times of the day, either early morning or later in evening; do not fish in the heat of the day
- limit 'playing' or handling of fish; land and release as quickly and humanely as possible
- limit hot weather catch to 5 fish or less

For your information we have had our pump on since the first week of June in order to preserve our water levels as much as we can, and we have stopped feeding the fish as is usual as we go into the summer months.

Lastly, as if Corona Virus were not enough, a case of Ranavirus has been detected in at Forks of the Credit Provincial Park. Ranavirus is an infectious disease of amphibians, reptiles, and fish caused by viruses from the genus Ranavirus. Transmission of ranavirus occurs through direct contact, ingestion of the virus, ingestion of infected animals, or exposure to infected soil or water sources. We have talked to the CVC and they advise that if our members are fishing the Credit River to please not bring their waders to the Club and ideally to use a different line than used on the River. We will continue to monitor this situation and keep you informed if any new locations of the Virus are found in the Watershed.

Golf Fish Day (Wednesday 16 September 2020)

While our 2020 events are currently on hold, we will be proceeding with a rescheduled Golf Fish Day for Members and your Guests which will now be held on Wednesday 16 September 2020 at Osprey Valley Golf Course. The price of the event for members is \$100 and for guests it is \$125. We currently plan to meet up and eat at the Golf Club afterwards unless things change at our own club in which case, we would have our normal BBQ. Any members interested in attending should reach out to Norm Huff on huffnm@aol.com or 647-270-7015.

Club Matters

The only other Club Matter which need to be covered is the fact that the **2020 Membership Directory** has been mailed to all members at your homes

The club remains open and active for your fishing pleasure!

Tight lines!

Simon Witts
President UCTC

info@theuctc.com

+1 519 806 0455 (mobile)