



# OBAN AND LORN ANGLING CLUB

Charity No. SCO47428

Dear Member

It has been a while since my last newsletter advising that our waters would be closed due to Covid-19 restrictions. Sadly, we are still not able to give a definitive date for fishing to restart. But it is looking promising.

## Fishing after Lockdown - Phase 1

The Scottish First Minister announced on Thursday 21st that May 28th may see a decision on relaxation of lockdown restrictions. This will confirm Scotland moving to Phase One of the Scottish Government's "Route Map" (copy attached). This document may be revised by the Scottish Government as their policies evolve. The latest version can be downloaded from:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-framework-decision-making-scotlands-route-map-through-out-crisis/>

Phase 1 of the Route Map will allow participation in certain outdoor sports and activities including angling.

It could be argued that the advice itself is imprecise as the document includes the following under Phase 1:

"You will also be permitted to travel short distances for outdoor leisure and exercise but advice to stay within a short distance of your local community and travel by walk, wheel and cycle where possible."

This could be open to alternative interpretations. In Argyll, a "short distance" could be quite different to one in Glasgow. A graphic summarising the phases of lockdown release has been circulated that includes mention of a 5 mile recommendation. In our case this would render most of our waters out-of-bounds to most members. The First Minister briefed on 22<sup>nd</sup> May that the 5 mile limit was not going to be mandatory and subject to local circumstances, so it looks as though our access will be unrestricted. We just need a definite date to be announced.

The Scottish Government has emphasised that a decision on easing the lockdown will be based upon infection rates at that time, so the Club's waters

will not actually open on the 28th May and suspension will remain in place until the Scottish Government confirms if and at what date any lifting of restrictions will apply. As soon as confirmation is announced I shall provide an update; social distancing will still be required. Details of safe practice guidelines for all anglers will be published shortly by Angling Scotland.

It is clear that should there be a significant rise in the Covid-19 infection rate and/or deaths then the current lockdown will be maintained. Let us hope very much that this is not needed.

### **Subscriptions**

I would like to remind members who have yet to renew subscriptions that these are now due. Subscriptions can be paid online using Paypal to [olac@ymail.com](mailto:olac@ymail.com) or by bank transfer. Details are given on the 2020 membership application form (attached). Please use the form to advise Treasurer Iain Moody if any of your details have changed.

If you have yet to renew, please pay your subscription soon. The Club has financial commitments to meet. Our utility suppliers, insurers and riparian owners have not waived their charges. Fishing will be a welcome release to us all when the lockdown is eased but the Club will cease to exist if we do not have the funds to continue. There will be many financial casualties of the Covid-19 pandemic. Your subscription will ensure that Oban and Lorn Angling Club is not among them.

### **Thanks**

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support through this disquieting time. I must give special thanks to Donald Maclean for strimming the verges around the Club Hut at Mossfield. As I am in lockdown with my wife who is "shielding" for 12 weeks, this was a job I was not looking forward to doing. Thank you Donald.

### **Work parties**

Work parties will resume in due course when it is prudent to assemble in accordance with Phase 1 restrictions. I see that we are forecast to get a month's rain in the next 24 hours, so we may see more water in Loch Nant than of late. The first job, once we can get out, will be to launch the boats there as planned for March 29th.

More so than usual, I hope that this email finds you well and raring to go and catch some fish. Fingers crossed it will be soon.

Kind regards

**Jonathan Anglesea**  
President



**OBAN and LORN  
ANGLING CLUB**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP - SEASON 2020**

Name: .....  
Address: .....  
.....  
.....  
Postcode: .....  
Tel: .....  
Email: .....  
Signed: .....

**PLEASE TICK ONE BOX THAT MATCHES YOUR STATUS**

- Full Membership £75**
  
- Concessionary £55**  
 **Applicable to those aged over 65 years on or before March 15<sup>th</sup> 2020, full-time students, registered disabled and registered unemployed.**
  
- Junior (Under 16) – Free**  
 **Juniors may fish all club waters free of charge when accompanied by a member.**

**PLEASE MAKE PAYMENT TO:**

**In person:** Abacus Bookkeeping, 8 High Street, Oban PA34 4BG. (Cash only, please)

**By post:** Iain Moody, OLAC Treasurer, 16 Meadow Rd, Dunbeg, Argyll, PA37 1QB

**Bank:** Account- Oban and Lorn Angling Club  
Sort code- 80-22-60  
Account number- 16034069

If paying by bank transfer, please remember to send this form to Iain Moody to ensure that you receive your cards.

**Notes:**

- Oban & Lorn Angling Club rents fly fishing for Brown Trout, Salmon and Sea Trout on approximately twenty waters in the area. Club waters may change from time to time and an update of current waters may be found in our "OLAC Fishing Guide 2020" available from the website or permit sellers.
- Club boats are reserved by phoning the boat booking line (09:00am to 20:00pm). This is Mr Jim Grout - Tel: 01631 710649 Mob: 07772288497
- You need to state your membership or weekly permit number to book a boat. Anglers must be aged over 18 years to book dub boats. You may leave a message when/ if the booking officer cannot answer but you will be called back with confirmation. Your reservation is valid only once you have spoken to the booking officer.
- Outboards are permitted on most boats – to a maximum of 5HP please.
- **Lifejackets must be worn by all boat users.**
- Float tubes may be used on club waters.
- Brown Trout season is March 15 - October 6<sup>th</sup>.
- Salmon/ Sea Trout season is indicated in "OLAC Fishing Guide 2020".
- See our Website at <http://www.obanandlorn-anglingclub.co.uk/> or Facebook Page for further details.



covid-19-  
framew...isis.pdf