

Polish Anglers NI Trustees Annual Report April 23-March 24

Minutes of the Annual general meeting of Polish Anglers NI. Held on the 26th November 2024

Board Officers/ Trustees Present:

Tomasz Rzonca

Martin Hughes

Ciaran Mc Neill

Piotr Pankau

Artur Bojczewsk

Maria Morgan

Gary Houston

Trevor Ogborn

The Secretary/ Note Taker brought the meeting to order and asked everyone to take their seats. Everyone at the meeting was reminded that only members have the right to speak at the meeting and must direct all questions through the secretary. Only members over the age of 18 can vote at the meeting.

Apologies:

Gerard Meehan

Attendance:

12

Agenda:

1. Chairmans Report
2. Treasurers Report

3. Election of Officers
4. Any other Businesses

Chairpersons Report:

I would like to welcome everyone to our Annual General Meeting for the year ending March 2024. This year has been very good in terms of the amount of funded projects but we have seen a drop off in membership due to other fisheries getting more funding and being able to offer state of the art facilities and also we had Green/Blue Algae for a couple of months in the fishery. We hope you and all your family are well and we are looking forward to a greater year in the Wolfhill Fishery. Can we make it noted that Wolfhill Fishery is our base but we have events and coaching all over Northern Ireland.

As previously stated in last year's meeting COVID 19 has had a major impact on fishing activities and the whole world over the last number of years, with a lot of activities stop starting throughout the start of last year. This year we have found it very difficult to get older people out of their house due to them being use to the sedentary behaviour during covid or they can't get out due to ailments.

We are working with the GP Federation and their referral pathway to get sedentary/lonely people out of the house. This was one of our main objectives for the club this year.

1. Events/Coaching

We have worked with a good number of groups this year all over Northern Ireland. We have worked with a number of groups with a range of abilities and ages. We have worked with the following:

- Saint Vincent De Paul Primary School
- Ligoniel Primary School
- LARCHE-Learning Disability Group
- Everton Day Centre

- Mens Social Group
- Belfast Hills Partnership
- International Mens Day
- Young Mens Group
- Colins Men Shed
- USEL
- Surestart Craigavon
- Surestart Castledearg
- Surestart Coleraine
- Surestart Omagh

We have also had a number of competition all over Northern Ireland ranging from Belfast to Portrush.

2. Grants

We acquired funding up to £5100.00 during this financial year to run events all over Northern Ireland. This funding came from Live Here Love Here, Belfast City Council Small Grant, Ulster Angling Federation, DAERA Sport Hardship Fund and other small parts of funding. Can we please make it noted that we are very thankful for this funding as this enabled us to continue our amazing events and also maintain the Fishery.

3. Membership

We have 72 members registered in our club for the year ending March 24. These members were acquired from advertising on social media, word of mouth or from our coaching/fishing events. We have 8 women members which is the highest in the clubs short history. Membership remained the same as the cut prices from the year before due to the financial implication COVID has had on everyone especially those deprived people in Upper North Belfast. All our members were fully insured and were free to fish in the Wolfhill Fishery all year round.

We organise international top competitions in NI with top Anglers, team of Ireland, different countries, different methods.

We do the Coaching for Sure start groups in Craigavon, Lurgan and portadown for kids.

We looking for young people who will have a chance to join the team of Ireland and represent the country in world champions chip.

We support new members with rod licence cost £92, we give some equipment for free to new young fisherman's.

Treasurers Report

The treasurer's report was done by our secretary/treasurer Ciaran Mc Neill. Due to the increase in costs for equipment, competitions and insurance and also less membership we had a closing balance of £118.12. This was an increase in last financial year were we started with a negative balance. On a positive note we got a lot of grants in at the start of the financial year to help with costs, events and give out free goodies to members.

I look forward to looking after the finances for another year for the Polish Anglers, meeting members and helping bringing more income to help improve the club.

Ciaran Mc Neill

Secretary/Treasurer

Polish Anglers NI	Accounts 23/24
April 2023-March 2024	
Income:	
Membership:	£964.22
Grants/Funding	£5100.00
Competition:	£1137.17
Total:	£7201.39
Expenditure:	
Bank Fees:	£52.99
Membership Insurance:	£40.00
Subs/Competition:	£3409.97
Office Supplies:	£314.95
Equipment	£511.05
Facilitation:	£3112.96
Total:	£7441.92
Opening Balance:	£358.65
Total Income:	£7201.39
Total Expenditure:	£7441.92
Balance: 03/04/24	£118.12

Election of Officers

Chairperson- Martin Hughes

- Proposed: Ciaran Mc Neill
- Seconded: Maria Morgan

Vice-Chairperson- Trevor Ogborn

- Proposed: Tomasz Rzonca
- Seconded: Ciaran Mc Neill

Treasurer: Ciaran Mc Neill

- Proposed: Maria Morgan
- Seconded: Tomasz Rzonca

Secretary: Ciaran Mc Neill

- Proposed: Tomasz Rzonca
- Seconded: Martin Hughes

Head Coach: Tomasz Rzonca

- Proposed: Ciaran Mc Neill
- Seconded: Martin Hughes

Policies & Procedures

All policies were ratified, signed and dated.

AOB:

- Dog Fouling: This has been a major issue in the last number of years in the Environment & Heritage Site. Tomasz proposed putting wildlife cameras up in the site to deter people from letting dogs of their leads.
- Better signage in the dam to stop people from illegally fishing in the top dam
- Issues with Green/Blue algae has been very worrying but looks like we are getting it sorted with our partner organisation Ligoniel Improvement Association.