

Lake Chanteboeuf Rules for netting, unhooking, weighing and photographing your Carp



We have had a few very unfortunate incidents resulting in a dead fish and a banned angler and so feel that we have had to reassert the rules of fish handling. These fish are all big and even if you are a very experienced angler things can go wrong so please do familiarise yourself with them.

- All carp over 45lb are only to be photographed in the water – You will be asked to leave if this rule is broken.
- Please if possible bring your own chest waders. We have ones available which are there for your use but most anglers prefer their own.
- Landing nets, weigh slings, tripods and unhooking cradles are provided on site for all anglers. Do not bring your own on site. Make sure all of these are positioned in readiness ahead of casting out.
- The use of boats for landing fish is only allowed in the case of a snagged fish. Fish must never be placed inside the boat. No retaining of carp caught during the night for photos in the morning. You will be asked to leave if you do this.
- If you notice any fish in distress or have a problem with any fish caught, please let us know immediately (24/7).
- If you have a fish snagged, NEVER pull for a break, you can use the boat to release it.

PROCEDURE AFTER NETTING A CARP

- Leave the carp in the landing net in the water. If the fish looks to be over 50lb – two people are required for handling.
- Unless the hook falls out in the net, cut the line or remove the hook link if it's attached via a 'quick link'.
- Remove your wrist watch, get your scales ready and zeroed on the tripod, put your chest waders on and get your camera set up and ready.
- Pour a bucket of fresh cool lake water in the cradle and keep pouring fresh lake water over the fish throughout the time that it is out of the water.
- Remove pole from landing net arms (leaving fish and net in water).
- Never lift the fish out in just the net or by rolling the net up and taking it to the unhooking cradle.
- In the water, slide the weigh sling under the fish and landing net and check that all fins are flat against the body.
- Lift the sling out of water with the fish and landing net both inside and place directly on the hook of your scales (do not remove the landing net, just deduct the weight of the net plus sling later).
- After weighing, if the hook is already out, return the sling immediately to the water without putting it down. If the fish needs unhooking then lower into the unhooking cradle, remove the hook and immediately place back in water.
- Do not ever roll a carp over or stand it on its belly. Remove the foam base from the cradle and float the cradle in the water (removing the base allows water in the bottom of the cradle and makes this exercise easier).
- Place the sling into the floating cradle and only then remove the landing net by slightly lifting the carp and pulling the net out from the tail end of the fish.
- Pick water that is waist deep for the photos. This is easier for lifting the fish and also safer. You are able to do this in front of the designated house and hut swims.
- Lift the fish keeping it close to your body for the photos. Stay low to the water and only ever lift the carp a few inches above the cradle. Do not stand.
- The whole process from removal of the fish from the water, weighing, photographing to release should not exceed 5 minutes.
- Our rules are there for the safety of the carp at all times, and our aim is to maintain a high standard of stunning fish in pristine condition for you to come and catch again in future years when they are even bigger. Thank you.