



JUNIOR CARP CAMP 2026

Saturday 25th—28th July 2026
For students 12 to 16 years inclusive

Dear Parent and angler

Thank you for enquiring about the Carp Camp 2026

This leaflet provide some commonly asked questions about the event.

To apply:

please ensure you have read through the event details and lake rules.

Please complete the application form and email it to info@thecarpsociety.com

PLEASE NOTE:
Places are limited

Bookings will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis.
Only when the Questionnaire, Indemnity form and payment are received

Welcome to this year's guide to the 2026 Junior Carp Camp. The event is the successor of our highly successful Carp Schools which we started over 15 years ago. The Carp Camp is intended to provide a thorough grounding on techniques of carp fishing, safety whilst fishing and to encourage a spirit of camaraderie between anglers.

FACILITIES AND PRICE

The cost of the event is £95, This is all inclusive of meals, drinks, instructors and bait.

The event is held at Horseshoe Lake. Meals, some instruction and presentations may take place in the onsite lodge.

SAFETY

Safety is paramount at all Carp Society Junior Events. Our safety record is unblemished and we update policies and risk assessments each year. Additionally the lake is closed for the duration of the event.

Everyone involved as an adult team member receives instruction in safe practice.

We have trained First-Aiders on hand, plus staff with experience of risk assessment and all safety procedures. Our catering staff includes people with food Hygiene qualifications.

We aim to ensure that we have only safe practices in place and we highlight to the students the potential dangers they face and how to minimise them.

RULES

Please note that Horseshoe Lake rules apply at all times. These are available attached or in the link on the website —please take the time to read them.

WHAT SHOULD I BRING?

You will need everything for a 3-night 4-day fishing trip. The mornings are given to instruction and the afternoons, nights and last day are spent fishing. Here is a rough guide to what you will need:-

- Bivvy (include all flysheets and ground sheets etc.)
- Bed chair
- Sleeping bag and pillow
- Two rods and reels
- Two bite alarms
- Rod rests or rod pod
- Landing net
- Weigh Sling
- Unhooking mat
- All terminal tackle, **BARBLESS** hooks, leads, baiting needles etc. in a suitable tackle box
- Minimum line strength 15lbs
- Something to carry it all in
- EA Rod licence
- Wet weather clothing/change of clothes (enough for the stay period)
- Washing kit and towel.
- Bait to start your session with

If you wish to use specific type of bait by all means bring some, as long as they fall within the lake rules.

Lastly though food is plentiful, please bring any extra 'munchies' you may want through the stay.

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Carp Camp?

Good question, you need to know! The Carp Camp is open to anglers aged between 12—16 years old. It is designed to teach you all best practices to help you catch, care for, and return carp of all sizes. We aim to teach you respect for the quarry, other anglers, and the waters we fish.

Do we actually fish?

Yes, afternoons, evenings and nights. You will fish with instructors close by at all times.

What about the lessons?

Some lessons include fishing, some have demonstrations on the bank and others are held in onsite lodge, all of our tutors have specialist knowledge in the field and Horseshoe Lake.

What about bait during the event?

Some bait will be provided from our sponsors, we do recommend you bring some bait you like using with you to start with.

Do parents stay during the event?

We cannot accommodate parents during the event but there are lots of other fishing lakes or B&B accommodation available locally if required.

Food?

During the event we will provide breakfast rolls and lunch sandwiches delivered directly to the swim plus a hot evening meal and desert is served in the lodge. All food is of a high quality and there is always plenty, however please feel free to bring any 'munchies' you like.

Payments:

Places will not be secure until payment is received. A deposit can be made to secure your place and the balance due (as detailed on the booking form).

All payments are non refundable, in the event that you need to cancel please give as much notice as possible, we will endeavour to resell the space, if successful we will refund you less an administration fee.

HORSESHOE LAKE RULES



Before you fish:

1. Only Carp Society members and authorised visitors may enter the property and produce their permit and/or membership card to a Carp Society official on request. If such documents cannot be produced the person may be asked to leave the property by a Carp Society official. Non-fishing visitors must report to the office or bailiff. All non-fishing guests must hold valid Carp Society membership and are not permitted to be given the access card to the lake. Access/Exit must be carried out by the permit holder
 2. **Permit holders are entitled to fish the water for the period for which their permit applies except for:**
 - Special events – notified on our Events page
 - Spawning – notified on Facebook and our website
 - Environmental incidents – notified on Facebook and our websiteSuch closures are limited as much as possible however *The Directors reserve the right to close the lake without prior notice at their discretion with no liability of compensation.*
 3. **The permit holders' gate to the property must be closed and locked immediately after entry or exit. The roundabout gate must be locked outside of office hours and the code must not, under any circumstances be given out.**
 4. Whilst on the property vehicles must be driven carefully and quietly and must be parked in the car parks provided. Loading or unloading of vehicles is permitted on the roadways, but vehicles must not be parked on the grass.
 5. Fishing is only permitted from authorised numbered swims. Red post swims (double peg) permit two anglers to fish together to a maximum of four rods from the swim (i.e. two each). White post swims are for single angler occupancy to a maximum of two rods. Blue post swims are for single angler, single rod, daylight only use. No bivvying is permitted in blue post swims. Anglers using blue post swims are not permitted to leave tackle in other swims whilst fishing.
 6. Note: From 1 November until 31 March a *single* angler fishing a red or white post swim may fish with three rods provided that he/she is in possession of the appropriate E.A. licences. Please note the exception is that two anglers sharing a red post swim are limited to two rods each at all times.
 7. **Season permit holders ONLY** are permitted to fish 3 rods in all double (red peg) swims fishing alone and any swim in the Winter Bay from swims 9 – 45 only. THIS DOES NOT APPLY TO DAY TICKETS
 8. No swims may be altered without the consent of a bailiff or Carp Society Official. Climbing of trees is not permitted
 9. No boats of any description are allowed on the water other than the authorised use of a boat by the bailiffs in the course of their duties.
- 10. No Drones may be used Horseshoe Lake without written permission from the Carp Society office.**
11. No wading permitted except for landing and returning fish over shallow water.
 12. Anglers fishing for carp or pike must use a minimum of 15lb breaking strain monofilament line. Float fishing for other species must be carried out with a minimum of 5.5lb line. When feeder fishing for tench, anglers must use a minimum mainline strength of 10lb mono.
 13. Dogs must not be brought onto the property.
 14. It is the responsibility of any angler occupying a swim to ensure that the swim and surrounding area is kept free of litter. **Take all litter home, this includes teabags and cigarette ends.**
 15. The use of all lead core, braided mainlines and shock/carp leaders (i.e. where there is any knot above the hook link) on any baited rods is not permitted.
- 16. All anglers must be in possession of a suitable UNHOOKING MAT. The mat must be well padded, have rigid walled sides and be suitable for holding a 40lb+ fish. *updated Jan 2022**
17. All anglers must be in possession of a DRY landing net of adequate size (at least 90cm arms or Specialist Pan 88 x 65 cm), sacking of fish is strictly prohibited.
 18. Barbless hooks must be used at all times; crushed barbed hooks and the use of long shank hooks are not permitted.
 19. The use of nuts as hook baits or in loose feed are **not** permitted.
 20. No guns, crossbows or weapons of any kind are allowed on the property unless authorized by the lake management.
 21. No open fires to be lit on the property.
 22. Anglers must not introduce into the lake from any other water any live or dead freshwater fish, spawn or pond plants.
 23. The minimum age for holding an unaccompanied permit is 17 years old.
 24. Juniors aged 10-15 years can only fish if accompanied by an adult (who must at no time be more than one swim away). The junior must purchase a day ticket before commencing fishing. Children under the age of 5 are not permitted on the property except in the Lodge area under parental supervision.
 25. Any person fishing the waters must hold the relevant E.A. licence.
 26. Permit holders may be accompanied by non-fishing partner/related child companion who holds a valid CS membership.
- 27. A vacant swim may be reserved by placing a substantial item of tackle (eg a bivvy/rods not a bucket) in the swim and immediately return to their vehicle (ie don't carry on walking around the lake in search for another swim) with the intention of immediately occupying the reserved swim. Anglers considered to be reserving swims, by making arrangements with the current swim occupier will risk being banned from the fishery. YOU CANNOT reserve a swim that is already occupied by any method.**

While you're fishing:

- 28. Any Carp caught over 30lb must be photographed and sent into the office email or by WhatsApp. ALL captures over 35lb anglers must call head bailiff Karl who will come to take a photo, Carp OVER 40lb; the weight must be verified by Karl 07814 258897.**
29. Unruly and abusive behaviour (verbal or physical) between individuals or groups of anglers, or towards Carp Society property or personnel will be deemed to be a rule infringement. All anglers must (at the discretion of the bailiff) conduct themselves in a sportsman-like manner and observe good angling etiquette.
 30. An angler may be absent from his/her swim for a maximum of 4 hours and off site for a maximum of 2 hours in any 24hr period. Please note stalking whilst occupying a permanent swim is allowed with one rod only but only when space permits. This must not interfere with another anglers fishing and is allowed at the bailiff's discretion.
 31. No angler's baited rods must be left unattended. This includes 'walking out' of lines to clip up, if other lines remain in the water. It is not acceptable to leave rods under the control of another angler who is already fishing.
 32. Wound in rods must not be left unattended without the hook bait being removed.
 33. Fishing in areas which are out of bounds or in swims which are closed is prohibited.
 34. The Carp Society shall have the right to inquire into and take the appropriate action in the event of an alleged infringement of the rules in accordance with the current bailiff guidelines, which are published on the Carp Society website. A paper copy is available from the office.
 35. Rule infringements. All permit holders warned for rule breaking could have their permit punched; a second infringement will result in your permit being withdrawn without compensation.
 36. Hourly ticket holders infringing a rule will be warned and on the second occasion will be requested to leave the lake immediately. All rule infringements will be recorded. Return of any permit or options to purchase further tickets are entirely at the discretion of the Society management team.
 37. All bailiffs and Carp Society Officials have the right to examine any vehicle on, entering or leaving the property to ensure that fish are not being removed, transported illegally or stolen. This right may only be exercised in the presence of the person using the vehicle, but refusal to cooperate may result in the termination of the vehicle user's rights to fish and/or be on the property. Any person found attempting to remove fish from any Carp Society water shall automatically lose their permit(s) and membership. Subject to the seriousness of the incident the Carp Society can suspend permission to fish whilst investigating an alleged infringement.
 38. Random checks will be made with regard to permits, memberships, licences, rigs and bait.
 39. The toilets provided must be used at all times.
 40. An angler may spend a maximum of 96 hours (4 days) in a swim before having to vacate it. This is deemed to commence from 10am on the first day of occupancy irrespective of the time of arrival. The same angler cannot reoccupy that swim for a further 120 hours from 10am on the day of his/her departure. For anglers doubling up in red post swims the time limit is set from the first occupying angler. Except designated green post swims (see #39)
 41. Anglers may spend a maximum of 7 nights or 168 hours in a green post swim as indicated on the map. As above the same angler cannot reoccupy that swim for a further 120 hours from the day of departure.
 42. Your permit/hourly ticket remains the property of The Carp Society and is non-transferable and non-refundable
 43. Should you lose your permit or membership card a replacement will be supplied following payment of an administrative fee.
 44. When Surface fishing only one rod per angler may be used, ie not one floater rod and one bottom rod. The use of "Beachcaster" style rigs is not permitted.
- 45. All fish landed must be returned back to the lake in the shortest possible time. A period of ten minutes from the fish going into the landing net to being released is the benchmark, if for whatsoever reason you anticipate it taking longer you must contact the duty bailiff and seek permission.**
- Permission will never be granted for the simple reason that you are waiting for better conditions for a photo.
 - You must under no circumstances land a fish in darkness and keep it in a retainer until daylight for the reason of getting a better photo.
 - The only time a fish may be kept in a retainer is to allow you to sort out your unhooking and photographing procedures out; this time is included in 10 minutes.
 - The fish must be out of the water for no longer than 5 minutes at a maximum. If for whatever reason you do not think you can meet these criteria (it maybe you think the fish will benefit from a rest before release) you must contact the duty bailiff and explain why before proceeding.
- As a general rule of thumb if you are making a continuous effort to photograph, look after the fish, apply carp care and return the fish safely, should it take slightly longer than 10 minutes there shouldn't be a problem.
- 46. Under no circumstances once you have landed a fish should that rod, or any other be recast into the water until the fish has been safely returned.**
- 47. Under no circumstances should a landed fish be taken out of the swim (e.g for photographing)**
- ### Additional T&C
48. Memberships, permits and fishing tickets are non-refundable, non-transferrable at any time.
 49. Lake closures – The directors reserve the right to close the lake without prior notice at their discretion, with no liability for compensation, refunds or extensions.
 50. Rules are subject to change and will be notified on the website.

Any rule infringement will be noted and tickets/cards will be marked accordingly. A second rule infringement will result in the angler/s being asked to leave the lake immediately. Future access to the lake will then be subject to the consideration of the Society Management, who will notify the angler/s in writing.