

WELLSFIELD TROUT FISHERY

CATCH & RELEASE RULES

All anglers should report number of fish caught and released to staff at the cabin before leaving the fishery. C&R is available on both Fly Ponds only.

To Minimise DAMAGE TO FISH OR FISH MORTALITY:

- 1) Barbless Flies or De-Barbed Flies MUST be used.
- 2) Single hooks only, no trebles or doubles or tandem or trailing hooks.
- 3) No Fly Spoons, Live Bait, Artificial Bait or Liquid or Solid Scent Enhancers to be used on flies.
- 4) Keep fish wet, keep them in the net, do not handle fish on catch and release.
- 5) No photographs of fish out of water. Please take photographs of fish in the net only.
- 6) Quickly weighing of a fish in the net, over the water, is allowed.
- 7) All fish over 8lb to be returned on the fly ponds. All Brown Trout must be returned.
- 8) Fish should be played and netted and unhooked as quickly as possible to avoid stress.
- 9) Please allow fish time to recover in the net in the water before releasing.
- 10) All anglers MUST possess Forceps or De-Hooking Tool to remove flies. Do not touch the fish with your hands.
- 11) Min. 6lb breaking strain should be used.
- 12) Knotless nets should be used to avoid fish being damaged.
- 13) No dragging of fish up the bank or tailing of fish.
- 14) Any deep hooked fish in throat, gut or gills – hook must be left in fish and line cut short.
- 15) Fish should NEVER be held up vertically by the tail or held up vertically by the gills.
- 16) Bleeding or injured fish must be dispatched and paid for.
- 17) All Catch Returns, including NIL returns must be given to the bailiff at the cabin before leaving the fishery.

Caution: When water temperatures exceed 18°C in summer take extra care as oxygen levels will be lower and fish will get stressed much more easily and take longer to recover.