



### **Fees:**

£5/day

£30/week

£50/year

### **Fishing At The Dorset Hideaway.**

Please read the following carefully be it new to fishing or you have been enjoying the sport for years.

We want everyone to enjoy our beautiful ponds and fantastic rural location and the information is intended to help you get the most from you stay with us.

### **Fish Welfare.**

The welfare of The Dorset Hideaway fish is paramount; care must be used.

All fish to be returned unharmed. A landing net is a must, you never know the size fish you will catch.

Only use fishing tackle that is designed for freshwater fishing. Under no circumstances should items designed for sea fishing be used at all.

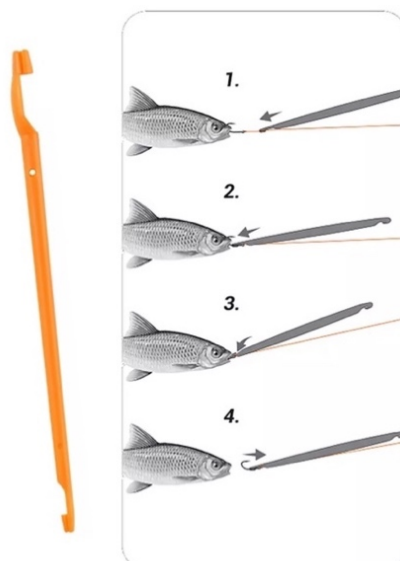
### **Handling Fish.**

All fish are covered with a protective layer of slime and this acts as the first line defence against parasitic infections, bacteria, and other diseases that a fish may contract. When you catch a fish, you must make sure you don't remove too much of this protective coating, so always wet your hands before handling the fish and never use a cloth to hold a fish. Always unhook fish quickly but carefully and return them to the water as quickly as possible. You are welcome to take a picture of your catch, as it's always special moment when you catch a fish, be it your first ever or even one hundredth fish, it always makes you smile.

### **Unhooking Fish.**

Never pull on the line to remove a hook from a fish you will end up seriously injuring the fish. If the fish is too large to hold in one hand then lay it on a soft grassy area or even better use an unhooking mat to remove the hook (unhooking mat is a padded cushion to protect fish from being injured on the ground). With a smaller fish hold it tightly so that it doesn't flap about and slip out of your hands onto the ground but don't hold it too tight or you may damage its internal organs. If the fish is lip hooked you may be able to remove it with your fingers. If the fish is hooked inside its mouth and you can see the hook, use a fishing disgorger (a thin plastic or metal rod with a slot in the end). If the fish is deeply hooked and the hook can't be removed safely with a disgorger it is better to cut the line as close to the hook as possible. Don't worry the hook will dislodge itself in a short space of time. Using barbless hooks make removal a lot easier.

#### **How To Use A Disgorger**



**Hold the line tight and put the slot of the disgorger over the line and slide it along the line until you reach the hook. Push the hook in the opposite direction to the way it went in until it is free and then carefully remove it.**

### **Returning Fish To Water.**

NEVER throw a fish back into the water. The Dorset Hideaway fish are scared of flying!

Always get down close to the water (as safely as possible) to release a fish and let the fish swim away. If you catch a large fish, especially one of our Carp, it may have tired itself out while you were trying to land it. In this case gently hold the fish in the water until it is ready to swim away.



### **Bait Types.**

A variety of baits work, however we recommend using Maggot, Worms, Luncheon Meat, Sweet Corn or Bread. We can't guarantee you will catch but one of these normally does the job.

### **Please Follow Our Guidance, it's here to make your stay better.**

- **An Environment Agency rod licence is required by law to fish. These can be purchased online or from a Post Office. (details at the bottom of this page)**  
**Please Note:** Children under 13yrs do not need a rod licence. Licences for children aged between 13 and 16 are free, and called a junior licence and is a required by law.
- **No vehicles are to be driven to the ponds, as it can cause damage to the wildlife habitat. No parking spaces are available, it's not a far walk from your pitch so enjoy the peace and quiet.**
- **No unaccompanied children under 10yrs old to fish without an adult present.**
- **Caution must be taken around the water edge, it can be slippery and the ponds are deep. No running around the ponds.**
- **Please respect others fishing and keep noise to a minimum.**
- **Always take and use a landing net, you never know what you will catch. (Fishing is not allowed without one)**
- **No keepnets to be used.**
- **Barbless single hooks only.**
- **ONLY use freshwater fishing tackle, no sea fishing hooks, weights or tackle.**
- **Do Not leave litter of any kind behind.**
- **No fish to be taken from the ponds under any circumstances.**
- **If in doubt about something do not do it, ask for help.**
- **We have a wide variety of wildlife on site, especially around the ponds. Please do all you can not to disturb or harm the wildlife.**

### **Helpful Contact Details.**

Rod Licence Purchase: Bridport Post Office, 25 West Street, Bridport DT6 3UN  
Or Online at: [www.gov.uk/fishing-licences](http://www.gov.uk/fishing-licences)

West Bay Angling Centre, West Bay, Bridport, DT6 4EL. Tel: 01308 421800