



## TFFC Newsletter February 2020

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### New Rules

2020 is here and with it brings some exciting new changes.

To start, please familiarise yourself with the [new rules](#) as approved by the committee and the DTF.

Notable changes:

- Dogs allowed at the farm subject to rules 46-54
- Dam 1 - Permanent Trophy Dam as per rule 61

Please [click her to view the new rules](#)

For any queries regarding the rules, please direct queries to the Chairman,  
[chairman@tffc.co.za](mailto:chairman@tffc.co.za).

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## New membership drive

It's tough out there! The hard times that we have been experiencing over the last few years have resulted in our member numbers slowly dropping off. To keep things affordable, the DTF made the call to not increase the TFFC membership fee and to rather focus on growing our membership.

The new membership drive has two primary focuses – **welcoming back old friends** and **making new friends!**

We recognise that our most powerful recruiters are our existing members. As an incentive, ex-members that re-join will receive their first month's membership on the house and the member that brings an "old friend" back, will receive a month's free membership too!

The new member arrangement is pretty similar. New members will get their first month free and if an existing member was responsible for signing them up, that member will also get a month's membership on the house!

Now for the exciting bit! Traditionally the DTF have been in the habit of raffling off a year's free membership at the TFFC AGM. We will be making a small tweak to this arrangement. At the next TFFC AGM, the member that brings the most members into the fold during the course of the year, either new or returning, will be the recipient of a year's free membership.

Remember that the focus of the TFFC over the past few years has been towards making the farm a family centric environment. We have new members with their families that don't fish, but love the farm for everything else it offers.

You will receive regular updates regarding the new membership drive, as well as who the recruitment "shining stars" are, via the TFFC Newsletter.

We look forward to welcoming back old friends and making new friends!



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Dam 1 is a TROPHY DAM and therefore "Catch & Release" only

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## The Fishing

Once again, the summer rains turned up late and when they arrived, they still did not fill all the dams. It was only after Christmas in January when heavy downpours, sometimes measuring more than 90 ml in a day, transformed our waters. In late January the spillways of all our dams were overflowing strongly and at the time of writing they are still spilling over.

Water temperatures, especially during December were dangerously high and the odd floater was seen probably as a result of catch and release. Despite these problems the catch returns have been acceptable and at least we can look forward to a good autumn and winter with full dams.

## Stocking

Stocking with rainbows will commence on March 19, immediately before the government school holidays. Further stockings will take place on April 2 and 9 before the Easter break and from then on through to mid-December they are planned on at least a monthly basis and will include 2 brown orders in winter.

## Grass carp news & weeding

Mechanical weeding is scheduled for late March. We are hoping that once the young grass carp which we have been stocking since 2015 make significant inroads in the heavy weed infestations this practice will be seldom necessary..

As mentioned above the restocking of dams with young grass carp commenced in 2015 and to date 384 of these fish have been placed in Dams 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6. However, almost half of this total was released in 2019 and this year and it takes about 4 to 5 years before they are big enough to make a significant impact on the weed. That being the case it might be another 2 to 3 years before we see a major improvement and thereafter it might well be that Charl and his netting party will have to remove some from over populated waters to be placed in dams that need a bit of topping up.

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Grasscarp stocking

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## House improvements

As some of you may know, several of the mattresses have been replaced in the main farm house. Thanks to Janine and Ivana for their efforts in arranging these.

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PLEASE NOTE: Johannes does not work on weekends at all, and 99% of the time leaves the farm to go to his family.

If any member or shareholder needs to get into the store room etc, arrangements need to be made prior to Friday afternoon before Johannes leaves for the weekend.

**Book to go to Middelpunt**

OR

**Call Ivana on 082 521 5947**



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 Website

 Email

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