



Felixstowe Sea Angling Society  
36 Manor Terrace, Felixstowe IP11 2EL  
[www.fsas.org.uk](http://www.fsas.org.uk)

### **Shore Fishing Safety and Risk Statement**

**Felixstowe Sea Angling Society** seeks to promote the sport of sea-angling for its members, particularly shore-based sea match angling competitions. Felixstowe sea angling society recommends all its members to familiarise themselves with this safety statement, making every effort to comply with the safety advice, whenever they are fishing. Sea angling can be dangerous, given the inextricable link to the sea and weather conditions, this risk statement highlights the significant dangers and the effective control measures can be used to minimise the risks, supporting the sea match angler to enjoy their pastime, whilst allowing others to enjoy their experiences who may share the beach space with them at the time.

**Felixstowe Sea Angling Society** extends to all parts of the UK, thus making detailed assessments of every fishing location impossible and impracticable, however this assessment provides general, good safety principles, which if applied will reduce the risk of injury and or harm to the individual or others. In the event of any emergency, the individual must dial 999, ask for the appropriate emergency service to attend. To assist the emergency services, always have your exact location to hand.

**Felixstowe Sea Angling Society** encourages all members to be aware of basic first aid, and to have a first aid kit and responder at all competitions (Match Secretary holds basic 1<sup>st</sup> Aid). All Felixstowe sea angling society members under the age of 16, should be accompanied by a responsible adult.

#### **All Members MUST;**

1. Prior to fishing, make sure you are fit, well, able to participate and properly hydrated. Ensure all your fishing equipment is checked and safe, e.g., line, knots, rigs etc. If fishing at night, ensure you carry a suitable headlight and spare. Take adequate food, clothing and if fishing alone tell Match Secretary where you are going, in case you don't return. It is recommended you always have a mobile phone (charged) in case of emergencies.
2. Any Felixstowe Sea Angling Society member who has a known medical condition and or requires a close peg for medical reasons **MUST** make themselves known to the match organiser/ Secretary. If you are feeling unwell prior to the match, then you should consider not fishing as you may put yourself and other anglers at risk. For fit/able anglers, if you have a long walk to your peg, consider the type and amount of tackle you can safely carry.
3. Always check weather and tide conditions. If conditions deteriorate beyond safe limits, fishing should be abandoned. When fishing a Felixstowe Sea Angling Society competition, if due to weather the match may be in doubt, check with a match official before going onto the match venue. During hot conditions ensure you have suitable protection from the sun, e.g., sun-screen, hat etc and a plentiful supply of drinking water.
4. Cast safely, considering proximity of others, weather conditions, on all occasions use a suitable shock leader, working on the principle of 10lb for every 1oz of weight being used, e.g., 6oz casting weight = 60lb shock leader as a minimum and any weight over 40gram / 2oz should have 50lb or more. The leader must be of suitable length to all at least 6 turns on the reel and extend to include the rig being used by the angler.
5. Before casting always check the area is clear of other anglers and members of the public, whether on the beach, swimming or aboard water craft. If in any doubt do not cast, wait until the area is clear and safe before casting.



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6. Litter is a danger to wildlife, domestic animals, and other beach users. Felixstowe Sea Angling Society members must ensure their fishing area is clear of litter. Bait wrappers, tackle and any other rubbish must be removed, even if it doesn't belong to the angler before leaving the beach.

7. Be aware of slippery, uneven, or weed covered surfaces and beach obstructions. Certain weather conditions can adversely affect cliff stability, leading to collapse, mud-slides etc. Do not stand/fish beneath unstable cliffs, wear suitable footwear for the conditions/type of fishing, be aware of flooding tides which may cut off your retreat.

8. When fishing matches it is common place to have pre-baited rigs. Felixstowe Sea Angling Society members should be aware of free-running pets, who may fowl themselves on these rigs. Try to keep spare rigs within the confines of your base camp. Be aware of anyone near you and respectfully advise them of the risk.

This statement highlights the significant risks which may face a Felixstowe Sea Angling Society angler when fishing matches, but it is not exhaustive.

At all times the individual angler must take care of themselves and their fellow angler and beach users to maximise the enjoyment of our sport.

#### History

Revision	Author	Date	Notes
Draft A.	Jason. Banham	11/08/2019	Initial draft
Draft B	Phil Riches	02/03/2020	Document re-formatted
Issue 1	Phil Riches	29/03/2021	Spelling checked and corrected where necessary.

#### Approval

Approved by	Date	Notes
FSAS Committee	29/03/2021	Ready for distribution.