



The British Carp Study Group

Email: membership@bcsg.co.uk

Website: www.bcsq.co.uk

Tel: 07977 570122

President: Terry Eustace

Past Presidents: Richard Walker, 'B.B' and Eric Hodson

The B.C.S.G. was founded in June 1969 by Peter Mohan of Bristol and Eric Hodson of Sheffield. There were twenty-four founder members and now there are over three hundred from most parts of Britain and several other countries including, Australia, France, Germany, Ireland, Spain, and the U.S.A. There are twelve Regional sections throughout the United Kingdom, which regularly meet to exchange views and ideas. The first of these regions was started in the Manchester Area in 1969.

The B.C.S.G. is not a "specimen group" in spite of the name, but is a national one species organization for experienced and successful carp anglers. It was the first large national carp fishing organization in the world; started the first ever magazine for carp anglers; held the first Carp Conferences; organized regional meetings and in these and many other ways pioneered the way to success for national organizations for anglers interested in one particular species of fish.

The B.C.S.G. is a non-political organization and therefore does not have a political agenda. However, it is a member of, and provides input to, the Specialist Anglers Alliance and is also a member of The Anglers Conservation Association.

Whilst the B.C.S.G. is progressive in outlook, is influential and does much for its members in an informal way, it is not a pressure group and its main objectives are social. It encourages and facilitates free exchange of information (through its magazine, newsletters, website and national meetings) between members who, by the nature of the standard required for membership are the most experienced group of carp anglers in the country.

The group provides a number of services to its members including two quality magazines per year plus additional newsletters, together with its own three fisheries, which are open to all members on payment of a modest syndicate fee. Regular Fish-Ins are held on these venues and at other fisheries throughout the country to which all members are invited to attend. Also the group has its own website with a very active forum (www.bcsq.co.uk).

There are no rules and regulations and no 'Constitution'. No member is obliged to take part in any of the Group's activities, but all members are expected to make contributions (letter, article or photograph) to '*The Carp*', the B.C.S.G. magazine, which, as far as we are aware, is the only angling magazine that carries no form of direct advertising.

All members are keen conservationists and take an active part in the maintenance of the waters they fish. Many own or control their own fisheries and, in this way, play a very important role as environmentalists.

Membership of the B.C.S.G. is open to anyone. To become a member, there are qualifying standards and to achieve it you will need to be an experienced and successful carp angler. Membership is not restricted to any particular number, but it is not easy to be accepted. This is because we want membership of the B.C.S.G. to be something which carp anglers aspire to and feel that they have achieved something by obtaining membership. The B.C.S.G. is not an elite but we do like to feel that it will be the ambition of many carp anglers to obtain membership.

If you have been carp fishing for more than fifteen years and would like to apply for membership, please visit the BCSG website (www.bcsq.co.uk), email: membership@bcsg.co.uk or call 07977 570122.