

Boat Figures and Licence Fees

1. In summary, the licence figures for 2004 are as follows:
 (NB 2004 Annual figures inc. actual number to end August plus anticipated renewals, 2003 figures show actual to end of year)

Powered Boats	2004	2003
Annual	140	127
Visitor	98	102
TOTAL	238	229
Unpowered Boats		
TOTAL	273	232

A full breakdown of figures including the various types of Visitor figures, moored and trail boats is included as Appendix 3.

2. This shows a rise in Annual Licences, and, assuming more visitors in September, October and November (which can be quite popular) a rise in Visitors. This reflects the fact that the main Lock Flights remained open through until August, unlike the extreme drought conditions last year.
3. Over the last few years boat licence fees have been increased by inflation only. Following discussion at the Joint Advisory Group it is proposed that a similar rise of approx. 3% - rounded for convenience – is put in place for 2005. This would give the following prices:

	Cruising Fees 2005	3 Day / Visitor	15 Day Visitor	Month Visitor	Annual
Group1	Un powered single seat	-	-	£6.20	£14.25
Group2	Un powered multi seat	-	-	£8.50	£18.50
Group 3	Up to 4 mtrs (12ft)	£13.10	£25.25	£38.35	£63.00
Group 4	Up to 6.5 mtrs (20ft)	£16.25	£30.50	£46.75	£74.00
Group 5	Up to 9.5 mtrs (30ft)	£18.50	£35.70	£54.20	£88.50
Group 6	Up to 16 mtrs (50ft)	£24.25	£47.35	£71.60	£111.00
Group 7	Up to 21.7 mtrs (72ft)	£30.50	£61.00	£90.50	£147.00

4. All other fees remain at current rates, namely:
 - a. A 50% discount will continue for electric powered boats.
 - b. Commercial Operators pay 4x the above rate.
 - c. Mooring Fees (non BCA administered land) are at 75% of the Annual Cruising fee.
 - d. Bankside Canal Centre Mooring Fees remain at 5X the Cruising Fee
 - e. Charity Boats pay 25% of the cruising fee and Moorings are free.

5. Recommendations

1. That the above fees for 2005 are agreed
2. That the Canal Director continues to issue special licences for events etc at his discretion
3. That improvements in boating regulations and arrangements are continued to be explored by the Director in consultation with user groups and that any changes are reported back