



**Beekeeping for Beginners**  
Cost: £40  
Whitstone School, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5PF  
Somerset Beekeepers' Association - Central Division



The course runs for six Wednesday evenings 7.30pm to 9.00pm  
Dates: *February 27<sup>th</sup>; March 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>; April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2019.*  
Plus a practical hands-on session on *Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2019* starting at 2.30pm

The fee includes associate membership of SBKA Central Division for one year. Students are encouraged to attend monthly apiary meetings all of which provide practical demonstration and advice from very experienced beekeepers.

The course syllabus is shown overleaf.

Free tea and coffee are provided on arrival

Note: we aim for a prompt start at 7.30pm

If you would like further information about the course please contact Maggie Norris on

01749 831155

or by email [maggienorris@btopenworld.com](mailto:maggienorris@btopenworld.com)

Note: No refunds will be made of fees paid in advance unless we are able to resell your place. Numbers are limited to a maximum of 30 attendees.

***Book early to avoid disappointment***

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Booking Form – Beekeeping for Beginners Course 2019		
Salutation Mr/Mrs/Miss etc.	First Name	Surname
Address		
Post Code		
e-mail address	Home Tel No	Mobile Tel No
Do you currently have any hives? Yes/No	Payment enclosed Yes/No	Paid on line Date

Payment is required in full in advance to secure your booking .Please pay £40 per attendee on line to SBKA Central Division; CAF Bank; Sort code 405240; a/c 00013248 with your name and reference 'course'.

Alternatively make cheques to 'SBKA – Central Division' and enclose with the booking form

*Please send booking form(s) to Maggie Norris, Long Close, Shapway Lane, Evercreech, BA4 6JS*

**SBKA CENTRAL DIVISION**  
**BEGINNERS COURSE OUTLINE**

**Session 1 Introduction**

- What is a honeybee ?
- A beekeeper has to ...?
- Why keep bees ?
- How much time will it take ?
- How much will it cost ?
- Will I get stung ?

**Session 2 About the Bees**

The castes  
Honeybee Anatomy  
The life cycle of the individual  
The life cycle of the colony

**Session 3 Equipment**

- Which Hive ?
- Frames and Foundation
- Hive Stands
- Apiary Siting and Layout

**Session 4 Principles of Bee Handling**

Basic rules  
Personal requirements  
Tools of the trade  
Opening the hive  
What to look for  
Swarming

**Session 5 Bee Forage and Honey**

- Bee forage
- Honey production
- Harvesting the crop
- Extracting and extractors
- Preparation for winter

**Session 6 Diseases, Pests, Predators  
and General Recapitulation**

Diseases  
Pests and predators  
Veterinary Medicines Regulations  
General recapitulation

**Practical Course and typical Central Division's summer programme**

- Assembling Frames and Hives
- Meeting a few thousand bees
- Swarm Prevention & Control
- Making a Nucleus
- Queen Marking
- Clearing the Supers
- Honey Extraction
- Feeding & Treating