

Fort Hill Hunt Club

Club Bylaws

Article I

Organization

1. The name of this organization.
 - A. Fort Hill Hunt Club

Article II

Purpose

1. The purpose of this Club shall be to obtain suitable land for hunting and to encourage and foster among its members the highest level of good stewardship.
2. We will promote clean sportsmanship, observe all laws, respect the rights of the landowners, and instill a great sense of fellowship among the members.

Article III

Governing Body

1. Elected Officials:

- A. **President:**
- B. **Vice President for Brunswick**
- C. **Vice President for King & Queen/Essex**
- D. **Secretary**
- E. **Treasurer**
- F. **Directors #**

2. Responsibilities:

A. **President:**

1. He shall be Chairman of the Board of Directors.
2. He will run the regular scheduled monthly meetings.
3. He has the right to enter into contracts and agreements with individuals, other clubs, landowners, businesses, etc. in the name of the Club.
4. He will be in charge of calling Board Member Meetings to discuss affairs and business of the Club.

B. **Vice Presidents:**

1. They shall be Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors.
2. They will stand in for the President to run the regular scheduled monthly meetings.
3. Act on the behalf of the President on all matters related to Club affairs and be responsible for all club operations within their appointed hunting areas.
4. Elected member of the Board-of-Directors.

C. **Secretary:**

1. This office is responsible for all written communication for the Club.
2. He shall take the Club minutes at all meetings.
3. He must provide monthly reports of regular meetings and correspondences for the Club.
4. This officer is also an elected member of the Board of Directors.

D. **Treasurer:**

1. The treasurer is responsible in collecting all dues, fees and donations.
2. He is responsible for paying all Club financial responsibilities (i.e. Taxes, utilities,

Fort Hill Hunt Club

contracts and miscellaneous bills).

3. He shall provide a written report every month to the Club and President.
4. This officer is also an elected member of the Board of Directors.

2. Responsibilities: (Continued)

E. Directors #:

1. The total number of elected Directors shall be determined by the President. The number of Directors coupled with the number of Officers will always be an odd number to maintain a tie-breaker status on the board. Elected Board members are required to meet with the President and other elected officials to propose rules and rule changes for the club. Note: Any rule change must be approved by 2/3 vote of board membership present at a called meeting.
2. Discipline members, including dropping that member from the club.
3. Assign committees, for "Fund Raisers", set workdays, etc. so members can participate in the working needs of the Club.
4. Set annual dues and assessments as required for the annual operation of the Club.

F. The Board of Directors:

1. Shall assist and advise the President in the conduct and activities of the Club.
2. The Board shall also recommend major changes in policy or regulations, as changing situations warrant.
3. Decisions of the Directors shall be final in all emergency situations brought to its attention and it does not require full membership approval.
4. Valid action may be taken by the Board of Directors when a quorum of 2/3 of its designate number is present.

Article IV

Membership

1. Ways an individual can become a member:

A. Sponsored applications:

1. Submitting a sponsored application to one of the Board Members plus half of the application fee.
2. Board members review applications and submit the application at the next Club meeting where fees and rules for this process will be addressed on the application as for this may change from year to year.

B. Application voting requirements:

1. All applications for membership will be voted on using secret ballot where a two-thirds majority vote in favor will be required for acceptance.
2. All **NEW** members will be on probation for his/her first year of membership.

2. How to set membership:

A. Determine the required membership:

1. The membership shall consist of a number determined by the Board of Directors. (Average 75 acres per person.)

B. When membership dues are set:

1. The dues of the members will be set by the February meeting, with a Commitment Fee of \$100.00 due by the March meeting. Note: The Commitment Fee is for old members so the Club can get a rough idea of who is joining back for another season. This will help the

Fort Hill Hunt Club

Board of Directors determine how many new members will be needed for the upcoming season.

C. When dues are due:

1. Remainder of dues to be paid by May Meeting, **Paid-in-full**, for **Old Members** returning for another season. Note: If the dues are not paid, the old member will be dropped from the Club rolls. Any member claiming a hardship must notify the President who will deal with them on a case-by-case basis.

.D Designations of Membership:

1. **New Member:** Anyone who has not been a member of the Club the previous year. The spouse and all the children 18 and under living at home will be designated **Family Members** with hunting rights at **NO Fees** as long as they live at home.
2. **Old Member:** Any member who has been a member of the Club the previous year and will continue for another season. Note: The spouse and all the children 18 and under still living at home will continue to be designated as **Family Members** with hunting rights at **NO Fees** as long as they live at home.
3. **Jr. Member:** Whose father, mother or legal guardian is not a member of Club and he/she must be living at home, attending school, less than 18 years of age and a parent or legal guardian must sign his application release agreement.
4. **Honorary Member:** Shall be elected by Board of Directors in recognition of distinguished service to the Club.

E. Member responsibilities:

1. Any member whose conduct is undesirable or otherwise unsatisfactory may be voted out of the Club by majority vote of the Board of Directors after reviewing the offending member's remarks or conduct. Note: If a member is voted out by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, **NO** part of the dues will be refunded. If voted out a member has the right to request a hearing in front of the board to appeal charges/dismissal.
2. A member is responsible for his guest(s) and there actions along with insuring that he/she sign the guest book, release agreement and their guest fees paid.
3. All members are required to perform three work days a season as instructed and monitored by the Vice Presidents in charge of the hunting areas prior to hunting.
4. If a member does not complete his/her work days a seventy-five dollar fine will be imposed for each work day **not** worked and it must be paid prior to getting a membership card or permission to hunt. If a member can't work his/her work days, but can get someone to do his/her work days it will be accepted as completed but the Vice President in charge of the area where the work is to be performed must be notified of the change. If a membership card was issued prior to work days being worked, the member must return the membership card to a member of the Board of Directors until paid.

Article V

Meetings

1. Meeting Times:

A. Regular Meetings:

1. The Club shall hold its regular meetings the second Wednesday of each month.
2. A non-member shall be permitted to attend a regular meeting of this club as a guest, unless such meeting has been designated closed.

B. Order of Business at Regular Meetings:

1. Call to order by Presiding Officer.
2. Reading of minutes.

Fort Hill Hunt Club

3. Treasurer's report.
4. Old business.
5. Committee reports.
6. New business.
7. Announcements.
8. Adjournment.

C. Special Meetings:

1. The President may call special meetings as needed.
2. Committees shall meet upon call or notice from the Chairman of each committee.

Article VI

Guests

1. What is a Guest:

A. Definition:

1. A guest is defined as any non-club member brought onto club property by a member.

2. Rules for a Guest:

A. Release Agreement:

1. All guests must sign a release agreement on days they are hunting with the Club and be sponsored by a member.

B. When can a Guest Hunt:

1. All lawful hunting seasons, except Black Powder and Archery.
2. No non-members (Guests) may run dogs on the Club's property other than a lawful hunting season when hunting as a guest.

C. What can a Guest Hunt:

1. Deer: Regular Gun Season Only.
2. Turkey: Spring Gobbler Season with a sponsor.
3. Small Game (Rabbit, Squirrel, Dove, etc.): Any member may bring guests for small game hunting except during Black Powder and General Firearm Season for Deer and Turkey.

D. How Often can a Guest Hunt:

1. A guest will be limited to hunting 3 days with the Club per deer season and 3 days per turkey season (Spring Gobbler Season Only).

3.

Fees for a Guest:

A. Fees:

1. A guest fee of twenty dollars will be assessed each day and shall be turned over to an Officer of the Club or the Treasurer.
2. Sponsoring members of guests are responsible for collecting this fee.
3. Guest that own dogs and wish to hunt and run dogs for the Club will have to correlate with the Hunt and Hound Masters, but the 3 day limit and fees will still be in effect.

Fort Hill Hunt Club

Article VII

Rules and Regulations

1. Rules:

A. Work Days:

1. Each member is required to put in 3 full work days per year.
2. This can be done as 3 full days (normally 9 am - 3 pm), or as 4 - 1/2 days (9 am - 12 noon, or 12 noon - 3 pm).
3. A full work day is defined as 6 full hours, and a half work day is 3 full hours of work.
4. All members who fail to put in their required 3 work days will have their name put on a list by the Vice President responsible for that area and turned over to the President.
5. The names on this list will not be allowed to hunt during Black Powder, Archery and the first week of the General Firearms Season, and they will be levied a fine of \$75 for each work day missed. After the first week of the General Firearms Season, they will be allowed to hunt **ONLY** when the fine is **Paid-in-Full** (See Section 2.E.4 above).

B. Clubhouse:

1. When using the Clubhouse all members **MUST** clean up after themselves.
2. All members must help keep the clubhouse clean both inside and out, and it is a good idea to walk around outside the clubhouse once a day and pick up any trash found and put it in the garbage can or on the burn pile. This way it won't take 1 person a long time to clean up.
3. Bring your own sleeping bag, sheets, and pillow when staying overnight in the Clubhouse. Most members have their own beds reserved so if you need a place to sleep (room permitted) buy yourself a bed or call a member not present and ask if it is alright to use their bed. Always respect other members' property.
4. No loaded firearms are to be taken inside clubhouse.

C. Hunting:

1. No person will be allowed to hunt when under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs that will impair the individual's sound judgment and hunting abilities.
2. Treat every gun as if it were loaded. Always point the muzzle in a safe direction and be sure of your target. Keep the safety on and your finger out of the trigger guard until you are ready to fire. Practice self-control. Open the action and unload any gun that is not in use for hunting.
3. Hunters will not fire their weapon until he has positively identified his target, and has determined that firing at the target will not endanger any person, nor is the gunfire directed toward any highway, building, etc., within range.
4. No fires of any kind will be permitted in the hunting area or on leased land unless directed by the Board of Directors, such as burning trash around the clubhouse.
5. There will be no other hunting allowed on days when an organized hunt is scheduled. No groups will hunt on club property during organized hunts, even in a different location.
6. All members and guests must sign the logbook and guest release agreement before the start of the hunt with the Club.
7. Any members that start a fight will automatically be expelled from hunting on Club property until a session of the Board of Directors is called and they issue a decision on the incident.
8. A Huntmaster will be selected when the Club is making organized hunts with

Fort Hill Hunt Club

dogs. All members must obey the Huntmaster directions as follows:

- A. Determining the area for the hunt.
- B. When the hunt begins and terminates.
- C. The number of assistants for each hunt.
- D. Individuals to post on the stands.
- E. Whether or not antlerless deer can be killed.
- F. Coordinate with the dog owners all activities dealing with the employment of the dogs during a hunt.
- G. Tell anyone who is violating any safety rule, to leave the hunt and return to the clubhouse.
- H. Assigning skinning shack details to help with deer processing and cleaning of skinning shed.

2. Regulations:

A. Laws:

1. Obey all state and county hunting laws. Check the regulation book yearly to keep up with all updates. Any member who violates state or local gaming laws will be subject to immediate dismissal from the club.