

Bear Swamp Hunt Club

Member's Guidelines

Club General:

The club is run by guidelines not rules. The guidelines are just there to add definition where necessary as some items are not flexible such as dues, dates, and ages. Other than that the guidelines exist to explain how the club functions not to hold anyone to a particular standard.

We believe members should not need rules for them to follow the intent of the club. Every member is expected to do the right thing and to consider their fellow club members. When this happens, rules are not needed. If someone needs hard rules to follow to keep them in check, this club is not for them.

We have 2 general club meetings per year, one on labor day weekend and one either the first or second weekend of Turkey season whichever is not Easter (typically either the second or third weekend in April). The purpose of these meetings is to set direction for the club, determine membership, and to get some work done at the club.

The April meeting will focus on membership for the upcoming year, summer food plot planning, and summer improvements to the club.

The September meeting will focus on hunting preparations, fall food plot planning, and final budget issues for the year.

All members get a vote in any club decision such as: general guidelines, dues, use of funds, adding land, adding members, new members, etc.

Majority vote wins.

Ideally voting takes place in person at a meeting. Being this is a small club the members not present will be contacted via email or phone for their votes.

Member's General:

We have 2 types of membership, family and individual. Family membership dues are 1.5 times the individual membership dues.

Individual membership covers only one person. This membership gets one vote in club meetings.

Family membership covers everyone in the immediate family (1 generation: parents and children.) A parent should opt for family membership when a child begins to hunt in a stand by himself. When 2 stands are being occupied by a family, that family needs to have family membership. Again do the right thing and police yourself. Family membership gets one vote in club meetings. It does not get one vote per family member.

At the April meeting, returning members should give a verbal commitment.

The number of members to add for the upcoming season will be voted on at the April meeting. At that time, we will have the number of returning members and estimation of forward costs.

Membership dues will be set at the April meeting and will be due by June 15th each year. Dues cover leases, insurance, utilities, food plots, and general improvements. Corn is not covered by the dues.

Members are not fined. It is a good fit or not. If someone does not like to hunt in harmony and wants to push the limits, he should find somewhere else to hunt.

New Members:

A new member candidate must be present at a club meeting or hunt as a guest where the candidate can meet the members.

A new member candidate must be voted into the club before the membership becomes valid.

A new member should pay his dues at the club meeting which he is voted into club membership.

Member relatives get first consideration as membership positions become available in order of relationship. (Sons will be considered before uncles, cousins, or nephews). They still must be voted into the club by a majority vote of the members.

Member Removal:

Should a member not abide by the guidelines and spirit of the club, his membership may not be accepted the following year. If a member blatantly disregards the club guidelines or other members, that member can be voted out of the club by the members effective immediately and forfeit his dues for that year.

Guests:

A guest should not hunt more than 3 days at the club. If they desire to hunt more, they should consider becoming a member.

Adult guests can be brought to the camp for bow season and any time after Thanksgiving. This restriction does not apply to children guest under 18 who will hunt in the same stand as a member.

Members should coordinate with each other when guests are involved to ensure that the camp is not overcrowded.

Work Days:

We typically have not had official work days. But everyone typically puts in 1 if not more days of work at the club be it in season or prior. Every member should put in 1 working day at the club. More often than not the club meeting days become work days.

Stand Locations:

Every stand location should be marked on the map. If it is a permanent tower, tripod, or ladder stand, I will update the maps with its location. If it is a lock-on, its approximate location should be hand marked on the map.

Hunting:

Every hunter should sign in and out when hunting. That includes that he is out and where he is.

Please record your kills on the front page of the camp notebook...A picture at some point would also be appreciated.

Anyone, an adult and or child, that has never killed a buck can shoot the buck of their choice. The second buck needs to be of mountable standards. If someone just wants more meat, they should target does.

Normally an adult should not shoot a buck unless it is big enough for them to mount. There are exceptions to every rule so use your judgment.

When members hunt, for consideration of others, they need to pick a location and stay in that area until they sign out of that spot. Also for legal reasons, a member should not "hunt" while cruising around the farm on an ATV or in a truck. It is fine to hunt from an ATV but it should be parked.

Funds beyond obligations:

Funds in excess of leases, insurance, utilities, etc. should be used for the improvement of the club such as facilities, hunting stands, food plots, etc. The allocation of these funds should be voted on by the members.

General Budget line items for next year:

Leases: 6,400

Mohorn Lease: 2000

Utilities: 2,700

Insurance: 400

General improvements: 500

Total: \$12000

For the 2010-2011 season, individual dues are set at \$1000 and family dues are set at \$1500. Members will be added until dues cover expenses.