

# GROUND RULES

## *Central Ohio Coon Hunters Association, Inc.*

*ADOPTED December 13, 2021*

**I.** These Ground Rules are formulated as provided for in the Association's Constitution and Bylaws. The Ground Rules are the operational guidelines by which all members must abide. There are no unwritten rules.

### **II. Administrative Rules:**

1. Reserving Use of club facilities – Clubhouse/Grounds/Pond/Ranges: The clubhouse and all Association facilities are open to all members except when they are reserved for an event sanctioned or approved by the members. All members may reserve the clubhouse or any association facilities for their use by making a request to the association president. The reserving member will assure that all facilities used are left in a clean and undamaged condition. If they are not, the member may be charged fees sufficient to defray any costs incurred to repair or clean as determined by the Board of Directors.

2. Guests: One guest may be brought onto the Association premises per member per day. Said guest must pay the required fee and upon arrival complete the waiver of liability form signed by the guest and sponsoring member. The waiver form and fee are to be deposited in the locked "work hours form" box in the clubhouse. Any individual may be a guest two times per year after that they should consider membership, In addition, guests who are shooting the 3D archery course are to deposit the appropriate target fee in the aluminum box at the entry of the Gun Range for the half or full course fee amount. Guest fees do not apply to visitors or guests who are attending "open house" or events offered by the club or who are not actually using the facilities, a waiver is still required for anyone on the premises. MEMBERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT AND ACTIONS OF THEIR GUESTS.

3. Association equipment or supplies are not to be taken off the premises without the express consent of the managing Chairman responsible. The Chairman may defer to the Board of Directors.

### **III. GENERAL RULES:**

1. Use of Premises: Association premises shall not be used for unlawful purposes. Members must act responsibly at all times. Members shall refrain from actions which provoke or incite antagonistic behavior or trouble between members and or guests at any time.

2. Preserve and protect: Everyone on the premises must act safely and responsibly in fire prevention, conservation of utilities (electric, garbage/trash disposal, water and wastewater) and use of buildings, grounds and equipment as well as themselves

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3. Dumping on premises: Bringing garbage or trash onto association premises for disposal is not permitted without written permission from the Association Board of Directors. Violators will be referred to the proper authorities for possible legal action.

4. Speed Limit: Vehicle speed limit is “slow”, not to exceed 15 miles per hour anywhere on the premises.

5. Safety, First Aid and Trauma Kit: Members and guest are to observe common rules of safety. A First Aid Kit is available in the clubhouse for minor injuries i.e. cuts, scratches, etc. For injuries requiring a higher level of care, a Trauma Kit is also available for use on occurrences of major bleeding, broken bones, medical emergencies etc. **DO NOT USE THE TRAMA KIT FOR MINOR FIRST AID INCIDENTS!!** Report any use by leaving a note so that we an restock as needed.

6. Youth: Although Association property is attractive to young family members, anyone under 18 yr. of age must be accompanied by and under the supervision of a parent or adult at all times while on the premises.

#### **IV. ARCHERY RANGE:**

1. Alcoholic beverages: Consumption of alcohol by anyone while on the Archery Range, either the bags or 3D range, is absolutely forbidden. NO EXCEPTIONS.

2. Shooting Times: Everyday year around shooting of archery is from Sunrise to Sunset with the exception of scheduled events which can affect the use of the archery ranges, i.e. Open House, Archery event, work performed in archery danger zones etc.

3. Waiver of Liability Forms (WLF): Members are required to complete and sign a Waiver of Liability Form annually to be kept on file by the Association. All guests and event participants are required to complete and sign a Waiver of Liability Form daily when using the premises. Absolutely no use of archery equipment or other use of the premises is permitted without a signed WLF on file for that day.

4. Broadhead Arrows: Do not shoot broadheads at any target either the bag targets or the 3D targets. Broadheads will only be permitted during a special broadhead shoot as organized by the Archery Chairman responsible for archery at Central Ohio Coon Hunters Assn.

##### 5. Archery Practice (Bag) Range:

- a. Be aware of the area behind the bag targets. People occasionally venture into this area.
- b. Always leave the area clean and picked-up.

##### 6. Archery 3D Target Course/Range:

a. The 3D course is available to shoot from approximately March 15<sup>th</sup> through September 15<sup>th</sup>. At the discretion of the Archery Chairman some targets may be removed to lesson wear and tear while leaving a set of practice targets out for members to use.

b. The fees for shooting the 3D targets will be posted in the glass front bulletin board on the front porch of the clubhouse. Money is to be deposited in the aluminum box at the entrance to the Gun Range.

c. Do not shoot arrows toward the lake or behind the gun range.

d. Do not attempt to move or realign the 3D targets. Do not “lean” on targets while removing arrows etc. Notify the Archery Chairman if you notice a problem on the 3D Target Course.

**V Gun Range:**

1. Alcoholic beverages: Consumption of alcohol by anyone while on the Gun Range, either the 50yd or 100yd range, is absolutely forbidden. NO EXCEPTIONS.

2. Gun Range Shooting Times:

November 1 Thru March 1 – Monday thru Saturday: 10:00am until Sunset

March 2 thru October 31----- Monday thru Saturday: 10:00am until the earlier of  
Sunset or 8:pm

Year Around-----Sunday: 12:00 pm until the earlier of Sunset or 6:00 pm

NOTE: Refer to weather reports to get daily sunset times.

3. Waiver of Liability Form (WLF): Members are required to complete and sign a Waiver of Liability Form annually to be kept on file by the Association. All guests and event participants are required to complete and sign a Waiver of Liability Form daily when using the premises. Absolutely no use of firearms or other use of the premises is permitted without a signed WLF on file for that day.

4. Standard Operation Procedures (SOP): The Range SOP is in the clubhouse located below the trauma kit for anyone to review. The SOP is developed and reviewed for revision by the Chief Range Safety Officer and the CRSO’s appointed agents.

5. Posting the Red Flag: The first shooter using the range is responsible for posting the red warning (Range in Use) flag located in the northwest corner of the range building. The last shooter to leave the range is responsible for returning the flag to its storage location.

6. Firing line: The firing line is the front edge, the edge toward the impact area, of the concrete.

7. Range Cease Fire Rules: The CRSO is the point of contact.

a. The range is one range with two backstops at different distances. All cease fires for any reason apply to the entire firing line (both distances).

b. Hearing and eye protection are recommended.

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c. Anybody can call a CEASE FIRE when an UNSAFE condition is recognized. Upon hearing “CEASE FIRE” repeat the call immediately and make all firearms safe and await further instructions.

d. The range operates on a “good neighbor” basis; there are no safe shooting positions when a user goes down range for any reason. The shooters must agree to a “CEASE FIRE” and follow the rules when any user goes down range for any reason.

e. During a cease fire, all firearms shall be unloaded, placed on the bench, with action opened and may not be handled for any reason. Do not go down range until all shooters have acknowledged the cease fire by announcing “CLEAR”.

f. When going to and from targets, please be courteous to others by not wasting time.

g. When returning to the bench, do not handle firearms, ammunition or magazines until everyone is behind the firing line and all shooters acknowledge “the line is hot”

h. All target material must be removed from the range before you leave. Clay birds are bio-degradable and may be left on the range.

8. Targets: Clay birds and paper targets are authorized but not provided (bring your own). Other targets may be approved from time to time at the discretion of the Range Chairman and approved by the Association’s Board of Directors. Shooting of bottles or cans will not be approved. *NOTE; A LIST OF APPROVED TARGETS WILL BE POSTED IN THE GLASS FRONT BULLETIN BOARD ON THE CLUBHOUSE PORCH.* The range committee may install targets from time to time for members to shoot and enjoy.

9. Target Stands: Target stands are provided by the association for shooter convenience. Do not use the stands for shotgun patterning (Bring your own material). Use tape when available to attach your targets. When finished shooting return the target stand to the covered area of the range and dispose of your target properly.

10. Duds and fire brass: Buckets with sand in them are for misfires “duds” not cigarettes, trash etc. Brooms and dust pans are provided for picking up brass from the range and buckets for brass disposal are available, help the range volunteers by picking up after yourself. If you bring something to the range, put it back where you got it. *NOTE: DO NOT PUT MISFIRED OR LIVE ROUNDS IN THE TRASH RECEPTICLES OR FIRE PITS (yes we did have to say that)*

## **VI. Pond and Dam:**

1. Swimming: Swimming in the pond is not authorized for anybody. Should someone fall into the pond there are three “throw rings” available around the pond to aid in rescue.

2. Watercraft: Use of watercraft i.e., boats, canoes, kayaks, innertubes etc. is not permitted. For maintenance purposes the Pond Chairman may authorize the use of a watercraft.

3. Ice on the pond: Do not walk on the ice on the pond our ice is never safe to walk on.
4. Vehicles on Dam: The dam is closed to any vehicle traffic other than the Associations maintenance equipment necessary to cut grass etc. Anyone crossing the dam, foot traffic only, should replace the cable barriers or go around them.
5. Fishing: The Association stocks the pond with fish for the members to enjoy. Fish are “catch and Release” except as listed and posted in the glass covered bulletin board on the clubhouse porch. This list is maintained by the Pond Chairman who may change it at any time. No fishing license is required to fish in the pond.
6. Fish Monitoring: Any big fish that is caught and returnable to the pond should be tagged and recorded. Tagging materials, a scale and a logbook is kept in the clubhouse in a small black tool bag located on the kitchen pass-thru counter. Fish that are caught who are already tagged should be weighed and recorded in the logbook.
7. Frogs and Turtles: Deliberately catching frogs and turtles is not permitted. In the event you catch a frog or turtle return it, unharmed, to the pond.
8. Burrowing Animals: Please report any sightings of burrowing animals around the pond, or especially on the dam, to the Pond Chairman.

## **VII. Grounds:**

1. Use of ATV/Golf Carts/ Off Road Vehicles et.al.: The use of any vehicle for off road application is prohibited. An exception can be granted by the Association’s Board of Directors after consulting all applicable parties of interest including the current liability insurance provider.
2. Use of Association machinery and equipment: The Association owns various pieces of equipment. To use this equipment members need to get authorization from the Building and Grounds Chairman, who will verify that the member has proper knowledge to safely operate each unit the member desires to utilize for the benefit of the Association.

## **VIII. Hunting:**

1. Eligibility: Only members who are paid as of the March meeting are eligible to hunt in the upcoming Ohio Hunting Season on Association premises. Members who join after the March dues deadline must wait until the next membership year to gain hunting privileges. All hunters must possess a current Ohio Hunting License and any applicable permits and follow all laws and regulations.

2. Equipment: All hunting equipment (tree stands, blinds, feeders etc.) shall not be placed until August 15<sup>th</sup> and must be identified with a tag bearing the member's name and phone number. The equipment must be removed by March 15<sup>th</sup> of the following year (after the season ends). All elevated hunting apparatus i.e. tree stands, elevated blind, must be commercially manufactured and maintained in a safe and serviceable condition. Absolutely no nails, screws, steps, spikes or anything that penetrates the tree bark is to be used on the Association's premises. *Note: Failure to remove your hunting equipment and gear will result in the Association removing and disposing of said gear at their discretion, the Association Board of Directors could revoke the member's hunting privileges.*

3. Hunting Locations: Hunters should mark their location on the arial photograph on the rear wall of the clubhouse so that other hunters have an idea of your where abouts on the property.

#### **IX. Camping:**

1. Camping is permitted on COCH property providing it does not interfere with any scheduled activity or event. The basic time limit for a camp is 72 hours unless approval of a longer duration is issued by the Association's Board of Directors. Overstaying the approved time limit may subject the member to a "No Camping" penalty of up to 6 months and removal of the offender's equipment, member to reimburse the Association for any cost incurred.

#### **X. Clubhouse/Kitchen:**

1. No Smoking, Vaping or tobacco use is permitted in the clubhouse.
2. The Kitchen is controlled with access granted by the Kitchen Chairman
3. If you use the coffee maker, please rinse it out and dispose of the filter and used coffee prior to leaving.
4. The wall phone in the clubhouse is for outgoing emergency calls.
5. When leaving the clubhouse reset the thermostat to 55deg. Turn off the lights and lock the door.