



## BY-LAWS

Cypress Creek Hunt Club By-Laws      2024-2025 Hunting Season

### **THE MAIN RULE OF THIS LEASE IS COMMON SENSE & COURTESY.**

#### **State Laws and Requirements**

1. All state laws will be followed. Any member that breaks a state law can be expelled from the club with no refunds.
2. No alcoholic beverages or drugs are allowed on the lease. No drugs allowed in the camp. You will be dismissed immediately.
3. A membership will consist of the member, spouse, and children 18 and under at time of renewal.
4. All memberships are non-refundable or transferable.
5. Memberships are from March 1, 2024, to March 1, 2025. A deposit is due on March 1, 2024 with the balance in full due on April 15, 2024. You will be issued a gate key, a placard to display on your mirror, a contract, a member information sheet, a waiver, a copy of the by-laws, and a map. Members will return the signed contract, waiver, and information sheet to the President. Members cannot hunt without these papers completed.
6. Memberships consist of three (3) protected hunt areas. A member can purchase two (2) full memberships. A member can buy one (1) additional protected hunt area for a cost of \$300.00 added to his regular membership fee. New members can stake out any place where no existing stakes are located. Members can claim areas left open by departing members by entering the lottery. There will be no inheritance of sites from departing members. If stakes are not updated by March 1st according to the required specifications, you could lose your spot to other members.

7. A limited number of campsites are available for members. This includes electric and water hook-ups. There is a dump station available for waste. Every camper must have a disposal tank for black and gray water. All campers must completely shut down their electricity, water, and gas when leaving to go home.

### Visitors

8. **A visitor is anyone that is not a paying member. Visitors are allowed after the first nine days of general gun season. Visitors cannot hunt bow, muzzleloader, etc.** Visitors are allowed three times PER YEAR TO HUNT at the cost of \$25.00 a day. Youth guests (18 years old and under) can hunt at no charge but must be with an adult. They must hunt out of one of your three protected stands. A member who violates the visitor rules by not submitting a Release Form or payment in advance of the hunt will be subject to discharge from the lease. Visitors may help the member in the off-season without charge but must fill out a waiver before entering the leased land and cannot have a firearm in their possession. The fee will be waived for an active-duty service member home on leave. **Children over 18 years may hunt with the member (parent) 5 times per year without any charge.**

### Bag Limits

9. A three buck deer bag limit consisting of three bucks and a doe with a VALID CLUB ISSUED FWC Permit per membership. Each member is allowed a 6 point or better at any time—for example, bag a ten, then a 7, then a 6 pt or better. **Any deer harvested must have a gross weight of 65 pounds or greater. Deer harvested under 65 pounds will receive a club fine of \$250.00 or immediate dismissal.** If Doe tags are available, distribution will be by drawing issued and used only by members; any unused tags must be returned to the President for redistribution. Cow horned spikes (10" long) or irregular antlered deer will not be harvested without pre-approval by the President.

10. A junior or first-time hunter (15 years old or younger) that has never killed a deer, regardless of sex can harvest a state legal deer (spike 5" long, 3 point).

11. Violation of club rules on deer harvest will result in a \$250.00 fine and/or probation for the rest of that hunt year and/or immediate dismissal from the club.

12. There is no limit on hogs. (YOU CANNOT USE A GUN TO HARVEST A HOG PAST THE FIRST WEEKEND IN AUGUST) Hogs may only be harvested using whatever means approved for DEER during that period. For example, during bow/crossbow season, hogs may only be taken using a bow or crossbow; during muzzleloader, season hogs may only be taken using a muzzleloader, bow, or crossbow.

13. Night hog hunting: Members MUST be in (1) of their designated hunting locations. Night hog hunting season begins the day after deer season ends until the first weekend in August. All members MUST be OFF the lease at 1:00 AM and can go back out at 5:00 AM. For your safety during the evening hours only, all members MUST notify another member that they will be out on the lease harvesting hogs.

14. Hog Traps: Must be pen style traps only. Traps **MUST** be checked daily, and not set while member is gone. **Any member who violates this rule will be terminated from the lease.**

15. You can hunt on the road during turkey season, but you must mark both directions within 100 yards with an orange cone. You must also provide your cones and mark the board with an orange dot. If you are hunting by or near another member's spot, you must notify that member to avoid disturbance. Non-turkey hunters must check the board to avoid disturbance to turkey hunters. Quiet time for turkey hunters is until 11:00 am. Turkey's limits are in accordance with state laws. Violators will be reported to the proper authorities. **YOU CANNOT HUNT TURKEY WITH A RIFLE DURING TURKEY SEASON, SHOTGUN ONLY!**

16. New FWC Requirements for the 19-20 hunting season: Beginning with the 2019-2020 hunting season, a new rule goes into effect requiring all persons to comply with harvest reporting requirements including hunters under 16 years of age, resident hunters 65 years and older, those with a disability license, military personnel, and those hunting on their homestead in their county of residence. All deer are to be reported through the harvest reporting system by the hunter who harvested the deer. Before moving a deer from the point of harvest, hunters who harvest the deer are required to record in their harvest log information such as their name, date of harvest, sex of the deer, and county or wildlife management area where harvested. Additionally, this and possibly some additional information, must be reported to the FWC's harvest reporting system within 24 hours of harvest and prior to: 1) final processing of the deer, 2) any parts of the deer being transferred to any meat processor or taxidermist, and 3) the deer leaving the state. Harvest logs will be available before the start of the deer season, hunters can access harvest logs online. Hunters should keep the harvest log nearby when hunting deer. Additionally, CCHC requires all game to be recorded in the books that are at the skinning rack. This includes harvested deer, hog, turkey, and all lost game. ALL lost deer game will be counted against your yearly deer tag, weather recovered or not. CCHC strongly recommends that all hunters review the new rules on the FWC site located here: <https://myfwc.com/hunting/regulations/faqs/>.

### **Stand Rules**

17. A Tack Board with your assigned membership number will be used to identify your protected hunting areas.

18. A white PVC stake with your name, updated year of hunt, 2022-2023, and your tack board assigned a membership number will be displayed, showing your protected hunt area. The stake must be 2 inches in diameter with **2-inch black** vinyl letters so that it is easy to read from the road. There should only be one stake per hunt area. There are no 2 of 2 stakes unless approved by the President. **Each member's protected hunting area is two hundred (200) yards in both directions from their stake, which means stakes will be a minimum of four hundred (400) yards apart. Each member is entitled to 200 yards on each side of their stake. THIS STAKE MUST BE PLACED DIRECTLY PERPENDICULAR OUT FROM YOUR STAND, AND OUR ACCESS ROAD/TRAIL MUST BE WITHIN 50 YARDS OF YOUR STAKE.** Roads and creeks are considered natural boundary lines, so it is possible one member could set up across the street from another member. All members hunting creeks must be 200 yards away from another person's stand for safety reasons. The Stake Committee will review any questions regarding stand

and or stake placement. If they cannot resolve the issue, then the President will make the final decision. The last 200 yards of a dead-end road can be claimed by a hunter but must be approved by the President first.

19. Destroying another's stake to gain access to the desired spot will result in the member being dismissed from the club. All questions regarding stand location must be resolved by November 1st. No moves will be permitted after August 1st or before March 1st of the following year. All actions made during this period must have prior approval by the President. All departing member's established areas will be put into the lottery. If you take a designated spot from someone you know is leaving without following the required procedure, you will have to give up that spot for the lottery. New incoming members are permitted to participate in the lottery with some limitations.

### General Rules

20. Car or Truck mirror cards must be displayed in plain view on rear view mirror.

21. Still hunting only. No dogs are allowed on the lease. A tracking dog will be allowed on a leash.

22. No shooting from roads, 4-wheelers, cars, trucks, or onto surrounding leases. There is a \$250.00 fine for this action.

23. **No target shooting**, littering, or going around locked gates. There is a \$250.00 fine for this action. There is a gun range at the Osceola Wildlife Management Area available for use.

24. The carcass dump site is on Gut Road off of Border Road. **Nothing but a carcass will be dumped there. No dumping allowed in the camp. All gloves must be put in the trash can at the skinning rack.**

25. All motorized vehicles except 4-wheelers must remain on existing roads. Trails for 4-wheelers are permitted as long as no damage occurs to trees. The trees must be protected at all times on the property and lease. No permanently attached tree stands or feeders are allowed.

26. Quiet time is one hour before sunrise to 10:00 am (11 am during turkey season) and 3:00 pm to one hour after sunset. No activities are allowed after one hour past sunset on the hunting lease. There is a skinning rack available in the camp to clean your game. All 4-wheelers and vehicles pulling trailers must exercise quietness as much as possible while approaching your stands to hunt. Straight in and straight out of the lease during these times. No recreational riding of any sort is allowed on the lease. **Tractor work and 4-wheeler food plot maintenance must be done outside the quiet times as listed above.**

27. Hunter orange will be worn while on the ground on named roads. This does not apply to archery season. All members are responsible to pay for any damages to the lease caused by them or any of their family or guests. This includes gates, trees, landscape, or other members property.

28. ATV's and UTV's ridden in camp shall be in **IDLE SPEED ONLY ( NO WAKE ZONE ) NO EXCEPTIONS.**

29. Meetings will be held at a date and time specified by the club president. Members who are not physically present at these meetings without **prior authorization** will be imposed a **\$250.00** fine. The club president shall designate the meeting place. All notices of meetings will be given more than a 30-day notice. This notice will specify the date, time, location, and the general nature of the business to be transacted. Notices may be sent by email, mail, or phone call. These notices will be posted on the club's website and social media sites.

30. Membership may be terminated at any time for any cause by the club president. A written notice shall be provided, all funds paid will be forfeited, and you must immediately leave the camp.

31. Membership camping lots are **not transferable** with the sale of a trailer without the prior permission of the club president.

32. Cypress Creek Hunt Club is leasing an additional camp location, which will be referred to as camp four. Although this site is a short distance from our other camp locations, the rules and regulations of our by-laws will be in effect and enforced there.

**HABITUAL VIOLATION OF THE RULES CAN LEAD TO TERMINATION OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP, PLEASE DON'T MAKE IT COME TO THAT, COMMON SENSE AND COURTESY.**