

**Mule Creek Hunting Club  
2021-2022 Season Hunting  
Rules**

The lease holder (lease manager) has explained to each member that this is a trophy deer lease. The member has assured the lease manager that he or she is a serious trophy deer hunter.

The following rules have been put in force by the lease manager to ensure that the goals of the feed and harvest program plus the goals of the other members will be achieved and that each member will realize the harvesting of a trophy buck.

GENERAL RULES:

1. No guests are allowed on this lease.
2. Members spouses, sons, and daughters under the age of 21 are allowed onto the lease with member.
3. Member's spouse, son or daughter must hunt with member in the same blind. Spouse and child's harvest will count toward member's allotment.
4. Member and family shall harvest no more than 5 deer *depending on census count*.
5. No member will cut or damage any gates, fences, or improvements upon the leased premises. Members to keep all exterior gates closed and locked. All other gaps or gates to be left as they or found. (open or closed)
6. Member shall not unduly alarm or injure any livestock on the leased premises or interfere with any livestock operations being conducted on the leased premises.
7. Member shall be liable to landowner for reasonable value of any livestock killed or disabled by member.
8. Member shall be liable to landowner and lease holder/manager for any and all damages to landowner or lease holders real or personal property caused by the member.
9. If a member brings a camper or trailer onto premises. It will be parked in an area approved by the lease manager. Member to provide their own septic, electric and water hook ups if needed.
10. No dogs will be allowed to run freely on the leased premises. Landowner requires that all domestic animals be tethered or caged at all times, other than actively engaged in lawful hunting activities.
11. No open fires are allowed in the pasture; campfires are allowed in the camp area under careful supervision.
12. It is acknowledged that neither landowner nor lease holder/manager will be responsible for anything that might happen to any member's camper, trailer, or any other personal property while on the leased premises.
13. All extra refrigerators, freezers and any other electrical devices or lights must be turned off at the end of the regular season.

GENERAL RULES CONTINUED:

14. Storage of old blinds, feeders, lumber, etc. is not allowed on the lease premises. Items left over one year (with the exception of utility trailers shall become property of the ranch and may be disposed of. This rule started April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011.
15. Any member caught sneaking a deer off the ranch will be asked to immediately leave the ranch and will forfeit the remainder of the season and will not be asked back.
16. Pick up all spent brass and used targets when you are finished at the shooting range.
17. No bow hunting except for hogs and javelina.
18. Absolutely no driving in pasture after dark except to look for wounded deer.
19. No trapping of any kind except hogs. (Make sure trap is secure when leaving lease).
20. Breaking of any State of Texas game laws.
21. Crossing any boundary line of leased property into other people's property.
22. Placing of hunting stands, feeders, or hog traps within 200 yards of lease boundary or closer than 750 yards from another stand.
23. No permanent structure may be added to lease without Landowner (Lessor) or lease managers prior approval.
24. No dove or quail hunting and the firing of shotguns around any deer blind or feeder 2 weeks before or during the regular deer season. This will cost you your membership if caught by the lease manager or another hunter.
25. Driving on wet, muddy roads to the extent rutting occurs. This will be enforced. Only utility vehicles no larger than a standard jeep are allowed when roads are wet. 4-Wheelers and ATVs are approved.
26. No driving in camp over 5mph.
27. Walk-in coolers to be used for deer storage only and are to be turned off unless a designated user is present.
28. Discharging of firearms of any kind in or around the camp area.
29. Each member's camp site area to be kept clean, neat, and orderly.
30. Members are required to haul off all personal and household garbage off the lease.
31. No burning of household garbage in the wire cage that is designated for the burning of feed bags.
32. Quail hunting from December 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of the regular deer season is prohibited except in a designated quail hunting zone as noted on ranch map.
33. Hunting off of portable tripods is not allowed, pop up blinds are encouraged. .
34. No duck hunting before 9:00 AM and after 3:00 PM during duck season
35. No harvesting of any turkey hens and jakes, only adult gobblers with at least a 5" beard are allowed until further notice.
36. Members to be assigned ranch protein feeders that they are responsible to keep in working condition and filled with feed.
37. During the late dove season hunting is allowed in the designed quail area between the hours of 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

38. Trail cameras are only to be used at hunter's personal area and at the protein feeders they are assigned to. No other locations are approved.

### NO KILL LIST:

A No-Kill list (with pictures) will be posted in the sign out trailer. Bucks on this list should be given more time to mature. It is each member's responsibility to acknowledge these deer. Anyone harvesting a deer on the No-Kill list will forfeit all game for the remainder of the season and may not be invited back the following year. Copies of pictures to post in your blind or carry with you will be available upon request to the lease manager.

### BLINDS AND FEEDERS:

1. Only one blind is allowed per member.
2. Any hunter can take his blind private in other words he would hunt his blind only and no others. No other hunter would be allowed to hunt that blind.
3. Members to hunt their blind only thru the first two (2) weekends, after that member can hunt any blind except those taken private.
4. Any member with a blind determined unsafe by the lease manager will not be allowed to hunt another member's blind until that members blind is considered safe.
5. Each member is required to have at least one corn feeder feeding corn from October 1<sup>st</sup> through the end of the regular season.
6. Blinds not feeding corn will be tagged at map board by an "out of service tag".
7. Member whose feeder is not working will be notified by the lease manager. Member is not allowed to hunt any other members blind until feeder has been working for 10 continuous days. If feeder is not maintained continuously after one notice, member will be notified to hunt his blind only to the end of the season.
8. Any member who fills their tags must maintain their feeder till the end of the regular season. No Exceptions!
9. Each morning by 5:30 AM, member will select a blind for the morning hunt from the map board located in the sign out trailer; selections will be by 3:00 PM for the afternoon hunt. No posting the night before unless it is your blind you are tagging.

*The first purpose of the map board is the show which blind is being hunted. The second and probably the most important reason it shows that everyone is back in camp and safe. That is why it is so important that you remove your tag when you come in, so nobody worries about you and comes looking for you.*

10. After 5:30 AM for the morning hunt and after 3:00 PM for the afternoon any blinds not chosen will be open for other members.
11. Members should take extra caution not to drive by blind chosen by another member and to stay away from that area as much as possible. No driving by a

- chosen blind later than 6:15 AM during the morning hunt and no later than 4:00 PM during the afternoon hunt.
12. When hunting another members' blind, leave same as found.
  13. No more than two (2) people are allowed in a blind at a time.
  14. Hunting with portable pop-up ground blinds or brush arbors is encouraged. Location to be approved by the lease manager if available otherwise portables to be no closer than 750 yards from other members blind or feeder. Pop up blinds to be removed after member is finished with that hunt, brush arbor can remain. Blinds are not to be left or passed to another member. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

#### MANAGEMENT HUNTS:

Lease Manager reserves the right to do management hunts each season in order to control deer population and to improve the trophy buck program. The funds from these management hunts to be used to pay the management hunt expenses, ranch blind expenses, guide fees, maintain the management trailer and other ranch improvements for the benefit of the landowner and all members.

Members may exempt their blind from the management hunt program.

A \$100.00 blind use fee will be paid to each member whose blind is used to harvest a management buck.

Any member that wants to guide a management hunter in one of the ranch blinds for a \$200.00 guide fee per hunt may do so. Member acknowledges that they are accountable for what management hunter shoots.

Lease manager will dedicate and maintain 3 "Ranch Blinds" that can be used by any member to harvest "Trophy Bucks" and does if necessary.

Bucks in the management program will be 9 points or less, 4.5 years old or older and score no more than 140" B&C scoring points.

Members may donate their management buck or doe to the program if they do not plan to use their tags.

#### HARVEST PROGRAM AND RULES:

Each member has said that they want to harvest "Trophy Bucks", *not simply good management bucks*. To accomplish this, the bucks must be given the chance to age to full maturity. Age and the proper nutrition are the backbone of any management program. Everyone should consider setting their personal goal at a minimum of 170" B&C.

## HARVEST RULES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The total number of deer to be harvested will be posted in the sign out trailer opening morning.
2. A buck that is shot, wounded, and not found shall be considered a kill and will be counted against hunter's total count. Hunter to make all possible attempts to find wounded game. If you think you wounded find someone to help.
3. Members to harvest their does by the second weekend of December. No does to be taken by regular members after the second weekend of December.
4. Members are encouraged harvest their management bucks by the second weekend of December.
5. Any member that harvests a deer after the total quota has been reached will lose their membership.
6. Members may harvest a management buck as their trophy if so desired.
7. Doe are to be harvested from the members own stand location unless the current game survey recommends additional does be harvested elsewhere.
8. Members will not shoot other members deer unless approved by lease manager. (No exceptions).
9. Only one (1) trophy buck per season per member. No Exceptions.
10. Freak horn deer to be taken with Lease management approval only. Video or still picture is requested.

## 10 POINT BUCKS

1. No 10 points bucks are to be harvested during the 2014-15 regular deer season except for the following exceptions.
  - Buck is at least 6.5 years old and scores more than 160" B&C.
  - Any member can harvest a 6.5-year-old or older 10-point buck under 150" B&C and calls it their trophy.

## TROPHY BUCKS:

1. Bucks 6.5 years of age or older with a B&C score of 160"+.
2. 8-point bucks 5.5 years of age or older with a B&C score of 140"+
3. 9-point bucks 5.5 years of age or older with a B&C score of 140"+
4. Any buck with a drop tine or tines will be considered a trophy buck regardless of score or age.

## MANAGEMENT & CULL BUCKS:

1. Any 5.5-year-old 9 point that scores less than 140" B&C.

2. Any 4.5-year-old 8, 7,6,5,3 point bucks that score less than 140" B&C.
3. Any 6+ point buck 3.5 years or older with no brow tines (smooth beams).
4. Any spike buck 2.5 years or older
5. No Forked horn bucks are to be harvested.

**Lease manager has final say on buck deer classification.**

**DOES:**

1. If the annual game survey determines it necessary to harvest additional does from certain pastures in order to maintain a balanced herd the lease manager will discuss options with the blind owners of these pastures and an appropriate solution will be determined.

**FEEDING PROGRAM:**

1. The ranch will purchase no less than 48 tons of protein to be used in the ranch feed pens only. Protein will be fed until horns have lost their velvet or we have reached our tonnage limit.
2. Members are encouraged to feed corn and protein year around and as much as possible at their blind location. "The blind with the most corn has the most deer".
3. Each member is responsible to keep the ranch protein feeder that they are assigned to full, and the feed pens maintained and secure.

**REQUIRED INFORMATION:**

**BUCKS:**

1. All bucks to be scored using the Boone & Crockett scoring system.
2. All bucks to be weighted "Field Dressed" instead of Live.
3. Boone & Crockett data score sheet to be filled out COMPLETELY AND IN A LEGIBLE MANNER.
4. Harvest log to be filled out COMPLETELY AND IN A LEGIBLE MANNER
5. One close up photo showing the complete rack. NOTE: Nothing in picture but the buck. Make sure tips of horns are showing in picture taken. We have not been doing a very good job taking the pictures we need improvement.
6. Hunter to remove the 2 lower front incisors teeth of all bucks instead of pulling the lower jaw bones. Teeth to be placed in a baggie along with the numbered tag for that deer then place the baggie with the teeth a buck number into the black tooth box inside the sign out trailer. Teeth to be cut out and not broken off. Roots of the teeth must be intact. THERE IS NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE.

DOES:

1. Harvest form to be filled out. COMPLETELY AND IN A LEGIBLE MANNER
2. Jaw bones to be saved when requested by landowner.

PENALTIES:

In order to help ensure that every potential trophy buck be allowed to reach its full maturity and maximum antler growth a severe penalty to be determined by the lease manager will be imposed on the member who kills one of these potential bucks before its time. A video camera is your best friend. If you are not sure a buck is ready to harvest, take a picture and ask only the lease manager to help you decide if the buck can be harvested. Listening to someone else's opinion and harvesting the wrong buck could result in the loss of your and his membership. Be sure before you pull the trigger. Common sense is your only friend.

## Acknowledgement of Agreement

I have read the Hunting Lease Rules and Agreement and agree to abide by all provisions in this document.

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Signed Name (member)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name (member)

*Initial each page at the bottom and return a complete copy to the lease manager.*

*Mailing Address*

Mule Creek Hunting Club  
6233 CR 340  
Burnet, Texas 78611