

North Carolina Bowhunters Association

Rules for :

Bowhunter Certification and Referral Service

Bowhunters (and clients) participating in the "Bowhunter Certification and Referral Service" are governed by the following requirements in order to be certified by the North Carolina Bowhunters Association.

1- The BCRS program will be managed by the "NCBA-BCRS" Chairman, as appointed by the NCBA Executive Council. It shall be the duty of the NCBA-BCRS Chairman, in conjunction with members of the BCRS committee, to review all applications for "BCRS Certification" and approve or disapprove the application, as necessary.

2- All Certified participants are required to comply with ALL requirements of any program they apply for and subsequently, may be assigned to. i.e.: IF a landowner wants ONLY doe deer harvested before any bucks, the member must agree to comply with that provision. If a landowner requires that whole deer be removed from their property, the member must comply with that provision, and so on. Failure to comply with requirements set forth by landowners is grounds for suspension and/or termination of certification and subsequent removal from the BCRS program.

3- All Bowhunters participating in any BCRS activity must be a current NCBA member with active BCRS certification.

4- NCBA-BCRS insurance covers only individual BCRS members that conform to the following:

- a- The BCRS member is participating with a landowner on a BCRS referral.
- b- The BCRS member is hunting on private property that he/she has registered with the NCBA-BCRS Chairman. (*NCBA-BCRS individual members may register private lands they own, lease or have permission to bowhunt upon with the NCBA-BCRS Chairman. BCRS insurance coverage applies to members in these instances, but the properties MUST be registered in advance with the BCRS chairman.)
- c- Members may NOT enter upon individual agreements with any landowners that they make contact with as a result of participating in any current BCRS agreement. In the event this situation arises, the property involved shall be added as a part of the overall BCRS agreement, if possible, and will be available to all BCRS members, so the insurance will apply. Members who negotiate such agreements on their own as a result of their involvement with a BCRS agreement, are required to notify the hunt coordinator immediately. Members who fail to adhere to this procedure are subject to discipline at the discretion of the

“agreement coordinator” with the approval of the “BCRS Chairman” and the “President of the NCBA”.

5- When (IF) a landowner contacts the NCBA-BCRS Chairman requesting bowhunter referrals, the chairman, or designated hunt coordinator, will notify all certified BCRS members of the request via email or telephone. BCRS hunts will **NOT** be published in the NCBA Magazine, as all agreements are strictly confidential and this information is available **ONLY** to current BCRS members. (*Notifications via U.S. Mail will **NOT** be done.) BCRS members must make a written or verbal request, via email, snail mail, or a phone call, to each particular hunt coordinator, to be included in the referral process for each, individual referral after receiving notification. This process will occur annually on renewed individual hunting agreements. BCRS members **MUST** indicate their desire to be included on each individual hunt, when they are initially advertised and renewed annually. The BCRS chairman will **NOT** maintain a list of members who simply wish to be included in **ALL** agreements. Again, BCRS members must respond to each advertised hunt to be eligible for participation in that individual hunt. Assignment of BCRS members to the referral will be handled on a lottery system and rotating assignment basis for each hunting agreement, if necessary. IF specific dates are assigned to BCRS members to hunt, they must comply with the assignment. IF they are unable to comply, they must contact the BCRS Chairman, or hunt coordinator, to cancel or switch dates with other members as necessary. Failure to comply with assigned bowhunting opportunities may result in suspension or termination of bowhunting privileges on that particular referral, or other referrals.

6- ALL BCRS referrals must be reviewed, approved and administered by the NCBA-BCRS Chairman and Committee. After approval, the chairman, with committee approval will appoint/assign a “Coordinator” to administer and enforce the guidelines concerning each referral.

7- NCBA-BCRS insurance covers **ONLY** approved Bowhunting activities of certified NCBA-BCRS members. Hunting with any type firearm, or any weapons other than a bow and arrow, as defined by NCBA and the P&Y Club is **NOT** covered by BCRS insurance. The exception is that NCBA and BCRS members may use crossbows if they possess the NCWRC crossbow permit, **OR** have been approved by the NCBA (Crossbow Committee) as having a legitimate handicap or disability that prevents them from shooting a bow. All requirements set forth by the landowner must also be complied with at all times, without exception.

8- Landowners may also choose, (or be required) to provide liability insurance coverage that NCBA-BCRS members participate in. Every case shall be reviewed, if necessary, on a case by case basis by the BCRS Chairman and Committee before final approval.

9- BCRS members must renew their membership once each year. Refer to your membership card for your expiration date. (Note: Do not lose your membership card, as you must have it in your possession to sign up for and participate in any BCRS contracted hunts.) You must shoot an Accuracy Proficiency Target (APT) in the presence of an official BCRS Certifier. No warm up shots may be taken at the APT target. The APT target may not be altered or enhanced in any manner. This is to ensure that everyone shoots the APT target under the same conditions. All ten shots must be taken at the APT target. At least five (5) out of the ten (10) shots allowed must be inside the six inch circle with the target placed at twenty (20) yards for Compounds bows, fifteen (15) yards for Traditional bows, in order to pass the APT test. If you fail to do this, then you are done for the day, but you can re-qualify the very next day. These same rules apply to new BCRS application members as well as renewals.

10- BCRS members may **NOT** accept any donations from any landowner in any form such as cash, personal gifts, compensation, or reimbursement of any kind. NCBA is a non-profit organization and we must maintain that status. The BCRS program is a "FREE" service of the NCBA. If a landowner wishes to make a monetary donation to the NCBA land acquisition fund or other funds, then that is

allowed, and you may encourage them to do so if the topic is raised. This will allow us to accept the donation under those conditions only.

REV. 03.13.2005, 07.18.2009, 08.04.2009

ADDITIONAL RULES and GUIDELINES for BCRS Member Activities

Date: August 10, 2006; (REV: July 18, 2009)

To: BCRS Members

From: Lin Webb, BCRS Chairman

Subject: RULES and GUIDELINES for Upcoming Activities with BCRS Landowner Agreements

I want to thank all of you personally for your patience with the BCRS program. We knew it wouldn't happen overnight.. and we also knew that we had a awful lot to learn about what was going to make this program work. And, we still have a lot to learn! I'd like to take a few moments to pass onto you some of the things we've learned so far.

First.. I'd like to go over some general ground rules that we MUST follow when working with any and ALL BCRS agreements. The security of any agreements we participate in is dependent on all of us conforming to some specific rules of behavior and conduct. We must remember that we will be guests on the property of others. In all cases, we will have to comply with a list of rules that they.. the landowners set forth for us in addition to our own set of standard guidelines.

WE must also remember that we are involved with this program as a public service to citizens and landowners of the state of North Carolina. They owe us nothing.

AFTER the first year, one of the most common things I was hearing is that we haven't provided BCRS members with places to hunt, and some have dropped out of the program, citing this as their primary reason. Let me reiterate that the primary purpose of the BCRS program is to provide a service to the public, not to provide NCBA-BCRS members with places to hunt. If it happens that we do acquire places to bowhunt at various times throughout the year for BCRS members, so be it. Most recently, we have acquired a number of agreements for BCRS members to hunt, and more are on "HOLD" and in the negotiation states at this time.

Just as importantly, we must remember that BCRS Member Certification also provides each of us with \$2 million dollars in liability insurance coverage.. everywhere we bowhunt in N.C.; not just on BCRS properties.. EVERYWHERE!

Here are a few rules and regulations that will apply to ALL BCRS agreements:

1- BCRS members shall NOT convey information to anyone about any BCRS agreements that they have personal knowledge about. Many of the landowners we will be dealing with do not want it publicly known that they are allowing us, or anyone, to come onto their property to hunt. We must respect their privacy and NOT talk to other hunters, the media, or anyone.. about ANY properties we are assigned to as BCRS members, at any time; Not even other NCBA officers or regular NCBA members, other than those who are assigned to a specific working agreement. The “Confidentiality” aspect of the BCRS program may prove to be a HUGE ASSET when a landowner makes the decision to use our services or not.

2- Consumption of any form of alcoholic beverages, or illegal drugs, is strictly prohibited before entering, or while occupying the property of any BCRS landowner, at any time. Violation of this rule will be enforced, without exception, by revocation of the member’s BCRS membership permanently.

3- Members must check with the assigned BCRS coordinator to make sure they are cleared to hunt a specific BCRS property every time they intend to hunt.

4- Members must adhere to all rules and policies set forth by landowner in the “Landowner Agreement” for each BCRS property. Each one will be different, as we tailor them to suit the landowners needs and desires.

5- BCRS Members must carry their BCRS identification card with them at all times while on a BCRS property, even if they are only scouting and not hunting.

6- Only portable tree stands and ground blinds may be used. Screws and/or nails may not be used to erect stands or steps into trees to access stands, unless the landowner specifically allows it. Rope steps and climbing sticks are permissible.

7- It is the Bowhunters responsibility to remove stands/blinds at the conclusion of the term of the agreement, or at the end of each season.

8- BCRS member’s personal stands left at a shooting, baited location, may NOT be used by other BCRS members in the absence of the owner of the stand, without obtaining his/her permission beforehand, per the stand owner’s instructions, and/or requirements.

9- BCRS members may NOT “stake out” or “claim” any specific stand location(s) as their own, and prohibit other members from hunting these locations in their absence.

10- The landowner is NOT responsible for the security of stands or blinds left on the property.

11- Complete carcasses of animals must be disposed of in the manner required by law, and/or as directed by the landowner.

12- DMAP permits/tags allow BCRS members to hunt during OPEN deer seasons only! DMAP tags allow for the legal harvest of “antlerless” deer only! (NOTE: Button Bucks are considered to be "antlerless" deer.)

13- If a BCRS member is hunting with DMAP tags, and wants to harvest an antlered deer, he/she must utilize one of his/her own Buck Tags from his/her own hunting license. This animal will be eligible for entry into NCBA annual contests and “All-Time Records” system. The BCRS member must use DMAP “doe” tags when hunting a DMAP permit and may claim and enter the doe into NCBA contests. Any and all deer harvested and tagged with DMAP tags, or if listed on a depredation permit, are now eligible for any NCBA contests. *(NOTE: DMAP rules may change for the 2010 season to allow bucks to be taken with DMAP tags. For the 2009 season, we must still utilize our own personal buck tags if a buck is taken while hunting on a DMAP permit.)*

14- Deer taken under depredation permits are now eligible for entry into NCBA annual contests and our “All Time Records.” All rules for disposal of deer under use of a depredation permit apply.

15- Buck deer are eligible for entry into the P&Y and NCBA records as long as they are a legal kill, and can be possessed legally.

16- BCRS members shall cooperate and coordinate with the BCRS coordinator the collection of jawbones, and documentation of weights of deer, and other information required by either DMAP or depredation permits issued by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission.

NOTICE:

1- Please print and save these “Rules and Guidelines” for your future reference.

2- After reading these “Rules and Guidelines”, the “Affirmation Statement” must be signed and returned as instructed.

Rev: 7.30.2009 LW