



HASTINGS ISLAND HUNTING PRESERVE



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MAY 2023

THE 2023 – 2024 SEASON IS RAPIDLY APPROACHING

Thank you for a wonderful 2022-2023 Pheasant Season! Our soggy fields are drying out, after a very wet winter, and we are using the Spring and Summer months to rest, recuperate and prepare for next season. During that time, we will also be hosting a number of “off-season” events, when we hope you’ll join us.

Danielle Earl, Club Manager

BIRD CARDS

Included with this Newsletter, please find a copy of our 2023-2024 Season Membership Application.

Like many companies, we continue to experience significant increases to our cost of doing business. In particular, the cost of birds, has again seen a large increase over the prior season (bird-inflation). That, coupled with fewer breeders raising pheasant and chukar in California, means we find it necessary to again increase our prices in order to keep even with the rising costs.

Doubtlessly, you do not enjoy price hikes. Neither do we, as we know that they are unsustainable over the long term. We recognize that hunting is a choice and not a necessity, and we appreciate your continued business and support.

We know that there are other hunting Clubs and non-hunting activities available to you, so we surveyed the market and still feel that we are a pretty good deal, compared to other Clubs or competing activities.

If you continue to hunt, the best way for you to offset price increases at the Club is to make sure to take advantage of one or more of our discounts for early deposits, or try our Early Season Cards.

The Club is now accepting deposits for the 2023-2024 Pheasant Season. A deposit made by May 31st locks in your price at the discounted Early Cash Price. We also continue to offer a discount on all bird cards and birds cleanings paid by cash or check.

We had to close our membership early last season. If you want to safeguard your membership for the 2023-2024 Season, please make your deposit as early as possible.

OFF - SEASON ACCESS

Your Club remains open to you during the off-season, Wednesday through Sunday, 8:00am to 4:00pm.

You may camp or fish overnight, as long as you sign in at the Clubhouse, Wednesday to Saturday.

The Club is closed to all activity from Sunday at 4:00pm to Wednesday at 8:00am, and we are closed for the entire month of June, so we can get a little rest.

Chukar are also available for dog training. Even on the warmest days, the early morning hours are cool enough to allow your dog a good run through our green fields and afterwards take them for a

refreshing swim in our large ditches or the surrounding river.

PRE-PAID BIRD CLEANING DISCOUNT

Bird Cards and Prepaid Bird Cleaning go hand in hand. Prepaid Cleanings save you money on each bird cleaned and lock you in at a lower price for the entire season.

The enclosed application, has an option for you to sign up for this simple way to prepay for your bird cleanings. The price for pre-paid cleanings are not increasing this coming season, while the price of regular bird cleaning is slightly increasing.



Holly Heyser organized another fun New Hunter / Women's Event in December

IMPORTANT DATES

Last Day for Early Cash Price Deposits	May 31, 2023
Club Closure	June 1st to June 30, 2023
New Member Orientations Begin	September 2, 2023
Annual Club Trap Competition Shoot	September 9, 2023
First Day of Pheasant Season	September 23, 2023
Last Day to Pay Off Bird Cards	September 30, 2023
Last Day of Hunting for Early Season Cards	December 15, 2023

TRAP COMPETITION CHAMPION!

Although we did not publish a December 2022 newsletter, we wanted to let you know that Caleb Harris is our 2022 Club Trap Competition winner. Great shooting, Caleb!!

We hope to see you defending your title on Sept 9, 2023.



ENJOY A CHUKAR HUNT ?

Chukar are a fast-flying, fun and economical bird to hunt, during the off-season. The Club offers several options for organized chukar hunts:

The "All-Inclusive Hunt" is built for ten or more hunters. It includes 100 or more chukar, bird cleaning, a continental breakfast, and four rounds of trap. You will finish your hunt with a New York steak BBQ lunch.

If you wish to bring a smaller group, the Club can arrange hunts for 5-9 hunters, with these same extras and at a similar price, per hunter.

If you wish to enjoy hunting chukar at a lower price and without the extras, we also offer the "No-Frills Hunt", which includes 10 or more chukar, an assigned field for your group and ,if desired, bird cleaning.

Chukar hunts are a great way to enjoy your Club during the off-season. Please call the Club office to make a reservation. We hope to see you!



Tom Tealdi and friends enjoyed a beautiful day chukar hunting in late April.

THE BEST TIME TO HUNT AT HASTINGS

Each year, the bulk of our membership places their bird card deposits in time to receive the early pricing, and they then pay off their balances by September 30th. This proactive approach makes a lot of sense and saves our members money.

Each fall we experience the best hunting weather of the Season. October and November are the best months to hunt at Hastings, with the cover still being in great shape, prior to the first frosts of the year. There is good morning moisture in the fields from overnight dew, which helps your dog scent birds more easily. The cool mornings and temperate afternoons are easy on both hunters and their dogs.

This is also the time of year when our fields are less crowded. Even on the weekends, there is rarely a wait to get out in the field, unless there is fog, of course. This is a great time to bring your family, new hunter or guest. We feel that it is the best time of year to hunt pheasant.

But, every year, we have a consistent number of hunters who, for whatever reason, wait until the end of the season to shoot out their cards. Indeed, we have members who pay their card in-full in May, but only come out for the first time in the second week of March!!! They ask for a reserved field and want us to plant 20 birds so they can finish their card in one, rushed and desperate hunt. Why would you do this to yourself? It seems miserable to us.

At the close of each season, we invariably have members who have birds left on their cards and want those birds "rolled over" to the next season. When we explain that we don't do that, they get upset. We always ask, "where have you been? We have been here most days, since the end of September".

The point is, DON'T PROCRASTINATE!!! Come out early in the season and enjoy your Club; you've already paid for it!! Enjoy the great weather, and the beautiful crowd-free fields. Enjoy a fun, leisurely day in the field, and not a race to shoot off your card, before it's too late. We look forward to seeing you during the Fall.

MATCH.PUP!!!

We are lucky to have some amazing rental dogs. Our outstanding rental string bloodlines are available to Members by way of our stud service. For your next litter, if you are looking for the hunting or confirmation qualities which our dogs' possess, then look no further. We provide stud services from our proven bloodlines of hunting dogs: GSP's, Wirehairs and Labs.

Please contact Danielle Earl at the Club Office to arrange for viewing, renting of a dog prior to stud services, as well as reviewing pedigrees and our stud service policies. We will also happily provide you with references from prior, satisfied clients.

SUMMER FIELD WORK

During the summer, you may see tractors and equipment working the Club's fields. We use this time to help prepare the fields for the coming Season. We attempt to work the ground in each field, every few years. This helps level the soil and knock down the grass clumps that develop over time. Occasionally, we burn fields for the same reasons and to reduce unwanted weeds and insects.

The Club is located on a working farm. If you see workers or equipment in a field, please stay away. If you see an airplane spraying a field, please do not enter that field. While this should be common sense, we are amazed how often members ignore these warnings.

In order to maintain our healthy, green cover we irrigate our fields throughout the entire off-season. This means your favorite field might be flooded. The front counter can tell you which fields are being irrigated, and to assist you in deciding where to run your dog.

Several members have asked why we replant Club fields in the fall and not during the off-season. Our natural grasses are best planted in the fall to establish strong stands that will last many years. Planting in the summer heat does not work well for these grasses, thus the fall planting.

When you visit the Club, please check the large map behind the front counter, to see if any areas on the Island are closed to Club activities. Please also consider the size and difficulty of passing heavy machinery when passing on the island roads, and please do not park along a road in a way that would block that equipment from passing.

We are committed to maintaining the Club's fields at the highest quality. After several years of drought, we hope that you notice the condition of our fields, compared with many other locations not blessed with the same access to water.



Mark Phelps (fourth from the right) generously devotes his time to our Hunter Safety Classes. He is joined by fellow instructor, Dennis Deanda, and some of the participants of our last class.

"CLUB PRICING" FOR GARMIN ELECTRONICS



The Club is an authorized distributor of Garmin products and we gladly offer a special members-only discount on Garmin products, which include: GPS watches, sports and fitness monitors, outdoor recreation, automotive, marine and aviation GPS devices.

Please visit www.garmin.com to view Garmin's extensive selection of products.

We urge your to compare the Club's pricing to any competitor's, even those you find online.



We are confident that we will have the best deal you are able to find.

Once you place your order with us, it will then be delivered to the Club for pick-up. Keep in mind that all sales are final.

Unless you have a friend who works at Garmin, it is unlikely, that you will find a better deal elsewhere !!!



HUNTER SAFETY

The Club is looking forward to hosting our next Hunter Safety Course in late Summer/early Fall. If we get enough interest from members, we may host a class sooner. Please call the Club, if you are interested.

Classes are two days, starting at 8:00am each day and limited to 25 students. The fee is \$10.00 per student, payable in advance. The Club offers lunch for a modest cost, or you are welcome to bring a lunch of your own and enjoy our picnic area.

In order to register for the Hunter Safety Class, please go to the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife website: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/hunter-education>.

The Class is very popular, and early reservations are highly recommended!

THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

This Spring and Summer we are excited to be hosting a number of events, many of which are being sponsored by regional dog clubs. These events are a great way to meet breeders, dog trainers and make new connections with people interested in the same breeds as you are. It is also a great resource to find available puppies and see local breeding stock compete in the field, working live gamebirds.

If you would like to attend, or participate in, any of these events, please contact the Event Coordinator listed below.

April 15	Vizsla Club of Northern California Fun Day Patsy Pope (707) 974-6272
April 28—29	German Wirehaired Pointer Club of Northern Sacramento Valley Hunt Test Diane Marsh (916) 774-0770
May 6 - 7	San Francisco Bay Weimaraner Club Hunt Test Bruce Gross (707) 864-8114
May 20 - 21	German Wirehaired Pointer Club of Northern Sacramento Valley Walking Field Trial Diane Marsh (916) 774-0770
May 27 - 28	Sutter Buttes Pointing Dog Club Hunt Test Pam Brann (916) 257-8344
Date TBD	Vizsla Club of Northern California Walking Trial Pam Lambros (925) 783-3379
July 8 - 9	German Shorthair Pointer Club of Northern Sacramento Valley Fun Day Chuck Ramage (925) 783-9215
September 9 -10	Sutter Buttes Pointing Dog Club Hunt Test Pam Brann (916) 257-8344



facebook is a great place to get current updates about the Club, but our Facebook page is not maintained onsite and so it is NOT a good way to get in contact with us. Facebook messages will likely go unanswered for days.

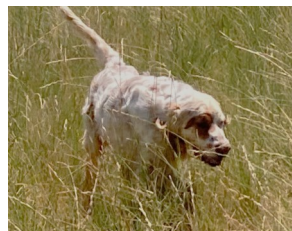
The best way to contact the Club office is by telephone. If our phones are out of order, you are always welcome to email us at: clubmail@hihp.com

KENNEL DOGS FOR SALE

If you have ever rented a dog from us, you know that we have a kennel filled with amazing hunting dogs, all of who are trained by our in-house professional trainer, Richard Gebhardt. In addition to having an amazing training foundation, each dog has hunted thousands of birds, giving them an incredible amount of field experience. After several years on our rental line, our goal is to retire these dogs at point, when they are healthy and young enough to still place with a hunter who will get years of great hunting from them.

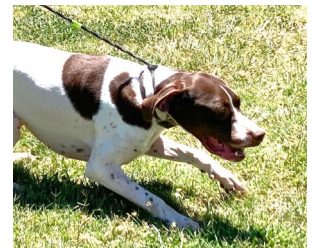
This year we have four dogs for sale, that might be of interest to you. Should you be looking for a finished dog that you can immediately hunt, you might want to consider the following dogs. If you have an interest, contact Danielle Earl in the Club office.

"Izzy": Izzy is a 10 year old German Shorthair, who is an experienced hunting dog. She has been on our rental line for the last seven years. She is very loving and a hard hunter. She works very well with families and children.



"Gunner": Gunner is an English Setter, one of our most predictable dogs. Gunner is very loving and would make a great addition to your family. Gunner is fully trained and an experienced pheasant hunter.

"Lightning": Lightning has been with us for four years. An English pointer, she is fully obedience. Working with a single person, she exhibits a strong desire to find upland game birds and hunt. She would be a great fit for a single dedicated hunter or hunting family.



"Scout": Scout is a 4 year old Yellow Lab. He has been introduced to birds and is fully obedience trained. He will make an excellent duck dog, as he loves the water and retrieving. Clearly, he also likes pheasants!

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