



**The Greenbrier Sporting Club
2009 Dove & Pheasant Shoot**

Rules of Engagement

1. All shooters must be in possession of the proper West Virginia state hunting license
 - a. All shooters born *After 1974* must have a valid hunter safety card in their possession
2. The legal limit in the state of West Virginia is 15 doves.
 - a. Once you have 15 dove in your possession you must stop shooting.
 - b. There is no limit on pheasant.
3. All guns with a magazine must have a plug limiting the gun to holding no more than 3 rounds total
4. **KNOW YOUR GAME!!**
 - a. There are many other birds in a dove field most of which are not legal to shoot!
 - b. Killdeer, Tree Swallows, Nighthawks, all look similar to doves but are federally protected migratory song birds
5. All shooters must take their game with them!
 - a. NO Game may be left at Stoney Brook
6. All shooters must use guns with a bore diameter of 20ga or smaller
 - a. NO 12ga guns allowed
7. No shot larger than #7 in the dove field
8. **Do not “swing across the line” while shooting pheasants**
 - a. Pheasants are to be shot in front of the shooter not to the side!
9. **Obey the “blue sky rule” while shooting pheasants and dove**
 - a. All shots need to have an upward trajectory
 - b. No shot should be taken that has a level or below horizon trajectory
 - c. During the pheasant shoot beaters and bird boys are on top of the hills
 - d. During the dove shoot the undulating nature of the field leads to shooters and blinds below other shooters
10. Know the effective range for your choke/load combination
 - a. Shoot within your skill level!
 - i. Most of us are *not* 70 yard shooters
 - b. If you cannot see the tan color of the dove’s belly it is OUT OF RANGE!
 - c. When a dove’s bill is clearly in focus it is in range
11. Stay still in the blind
 - a. It is not necessary to hide down in the blind.
 - b. Motion causes doves to flare away from your position creating difficult shots
12. If you have drawn a blind that just does not have any birds flying near it move to an empty blind
13. During the pheasant shoot stay near your blind
 - a. We will rotate through blind locations during the pheasant shoot

14. DO NOT SHOOT CRIPPLED BIRDS ON THE GROUND!!

- a. During the pheasant shoot pick up dead birds you can easily reach
 - i. Bird boys may be closer than you think
- b. During the dove shoot pick up all birds you shoot
 - i. The other members will thank you for not shooting their blind
 - ii. Some doves will fall into areas where they are unreachable please use good judgment in their retrieval you will find more birds in tall grass than you think

15. Wear dull earth tones.

- a. Camouflage is not necessary.
 - i. Tan or dark Khaki is ideal
 - ii. Consider a short sleeved shirt
 - iii. Consider shorts and field boots as it is desert like in the dove fields

16. Drink a lot of water it is very warm and heat related illness is a possibility

- a. Water and snacks will be provided in the field

17. STAY IN THE FIELD UNTIL DARK!!!

- a. The birds have been flying very late this year due to the heat.
- b. Do not leave the field until close to dark.
- c. If the blind you are in is not shooting well please move to a different location

18. Be prepared for anything

- a. Clothing
 - i. Field clothes that can get dirty/bloody
 - 1. A rain coat you can shoot in is good insurance
 - 2. A clean shirt to wear home is always nice
 - ii. Boots
 - 1. Tennis shoes are not good to hunt in
 - 2. Short "safari" boots are good
 - iii. Gloves
 - 1. A thin pair of golf or shooting gloves works best
 - a. Gun barrels get hot in the dove field
 - b. If you bring golf gloves do not wear white it will spook the birds

- b. Equipment
 - i. Guns
 - 1. Anything 20ga or smaller
 - a. Plan on 50-100 rounds of #6 shot for pheasants
 - b. Plan on 100-250 rounds of #7.5 shot or smaller for dove
 - c. All guns with a magazine must have a plug so that capacity is no more than 3 rounds total
 - d. Tighter chokes are better they offer a denser pattern with slightly better range
 - ii. Safety equipment
 - 1. Eye and ear protection will be provided
 - a. Shooting glasses with a tint are better than clear, looking and shooting into the sky can cause eye fatigue leading to poor shooting late in the day
 - b. The electronic shooting muffs that allow normal speech are great you do not have to shout at your friends in the blind.
 - iii. Medication
 - 1. If you require any medication to be taken throughout the day please bring it with you.
 - 2. If you have seasonal allergies the dove field is the place they will show up. Have some antihistamine on hand
 - 3. We will have first aid available should it be needed