

FORT CLARK SPRINGS ASSOCIATION, INC.

2023/2024

HUNTING RULES & GUIDELINES

Welcome to Fort Clark Springs! Thank you for joining us this season. The safety and wellbeing of hunters, animals and residents is the #1 priority of Fort Clark Springs Association. FCSA reserves the right to deny any individual authorization to hunt. The hunting experience at Fort Clark Springs is quite unique and is considered to be Residential/Urban Hunting. Fort Clark Springs is approximately 2,700 acres of low fenced property. All animals are free-range and roam the property at will. Hunters will be hunting in wooded areas surrounded by residential and recreational areas. While hunting you may hear vehicular, aviation, gun range activity and/or pedestrian traffic. FCSA is a private homeowner's association, and has numerous hiking and recreation trails that are active year-round. Certain areas have been designated for hunting. Certain bow hunting takes place in areas near hiking and recreational trails that are not closed off from pedestrian access. The wildlife live and thrive in an urban residential environment, and are used to the everyday sounds you may hear during your hunting experience. **DO NOT EXPECT YOUR HUNTING EXPERIENCE TO BE IN A QUIET OR SECLUDED AREA.**

Please read these guidelines carefully and initial where appropriate. You will be asked to sign below.

_____ I am a member of Fort Clark Springs Association (Please check if yes).

Member: Is defined for this particular event and rules as any individual who has been a current member of FCSA for at least 1 full year which entitles them to member rates.

Non-FCSA Member: Is defined for this particular event and rules as any individual who is not a current member of FCSA or has a current membership of less than 1 full year. Individuals in this category cannot receive Member benefits until they meet those qualifications.

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- **All hunting on FCSA property is in accordance with FCSA Rules & Regulations and current FCSA Hunting Rules & Guidelines.** The FCSA Executive Officer or their designated agent will act as the Hunting Supervisor.
 - All hunting will take place from dusk till dawn in designated areas only, unless otherwise granted permission by the property owner or the Hunting Supervisor.
 - No one is allowed to hunt on FCSA property without the permission of the property owner. Anyone found to be hunting on FCSA property without the property owner's consent or outside of the perimeter of this set of Rules & Guidelines will be considered POACHING and will be subject to any and all penalties, fines or legal action as deemed necessary.

- FCSA Hunting Rules & Guidelines and Deer Harvest Availability are subject to change at any given time, depending upon the recommendations of Texas Parks & Wildlife, the FCSA Hunting Supervisor or at the discretion of the Property Owner.
- The Property Owner will set the hunting pricing and hunting dates.
- All hunters must contact FCSA Admin. Office for booking and reservations prior hunting. Hunters are not allowed to hunt without placement of the Hunting Supervisor.
- Non-Member Hunters will be priority in scheduling and placement over members.

PLEASE INITIAL BELOW:

_____ Axis deer will be allowed to be harvested depending upon availability. Once harvest numbers have been met, the harvest will end for the season.

_____ Whitetail Deer will be allowed to be harvested depending on MLDP tags that are available. Once the MLDP tags have been exhausted, the Whitetail harvest will come to an end.

_____ FCSA does not guarantee that any hunter will see or harvest any animal.

_____ It is the responsibility of the hunter and his/her guests to know the following property owner’s Hunting Rules & Guidelines as well as all state game laws prior to hunting.

_____ MEDIA RELEASE: All photo/video captured by FCSA personnel or their representative of hunters and their harvested animals is the property of FCSA to be used solely for the purposes of promotional material and publications. The hunter waives all rights of compensation or ownership thereof and grants a digital media release.

Fees, Penalties and Fines

- All fees, penalties and/or fines are at the discretion of the property owner or their designated agent. Violations of game laws will be enforced by state Game Wardens.
- **FEES:**
 - **Fees: \$250.00** per day with a one (1) doe (Axis or Whitetail) per day limit, all FCSA Hunting Rules & Guidelines apply. Any buck other than a Whitetail “Cull” Buck shot (wounded or harvested) will incur an additional buck fee.
 - **\$125.00** per day for Non-Hunting Observers.
 - **Axis Bucks \$3,500.00** 29 to 34 inches longest main beam, additional inches above 34” will be an additional \$100/inch) Longest main beam will apply.
 - **Axis Buck** up to 28 inches longest main beam, **\$2,500.00**. Axis Bucks in this category that are shot, wounded and/or not retrieved will incur said trophy fee of \$2,500.00.
 - Any antlerless (shed) or velvet horned Axis deer weighing 180 + lbs. will also incur a **\$3,500.00 additional fee**. Axis Bucks in this category that are shot, wounded and/or not retrieved will incur said trophy fee of \$3,500.00.

- Any antlerless (shed) or velvet horned Axis deer weighing less than 180 lbs. will incur a **\$2,500.00 additional fee**. Axis Bucks in this category that are shot, wounded and/or not retrieved will incur said trophy fee of \$2,500.00.
 - **Additional Doe: \$250.00** per doe (either Axis or Whitetail).
 - **Whitetail Bucks: \$1,500.00** Any buck shot regardless of age/size by any hunter (member/non-member) will incur a \$1,500.00 fee. All Whitetail Deer must be 3 ½ years of age or older. Whitetail Bucks in this category that are shot, wounded and/or not retrieved will incur said trophy fee of \$1,500.00.
 - **Whitetail Deer (Bucks or Doe must be 3 ½ years of age or older)**. Whitetail Deer younger than 3 ½ yrs. of age shot (wounded or harvested) will incur a penalty fee of **\$300.00** per animal.
 - **Turkey:** Spring Season only. Must meet Texas Game Law Regulations. Day fee plus \$500.00 per Turkey. The Hunter is responsible for their own tags.
 - **Javelina:** Day fee plus \$300.00 per Javelina. Must meet Texas Game Law Regulations.
 - **Predator Animals (Coyote, Bobcat, Fox):** No bag limit or additional fees.
 - **Other exotic animals:** fee set at property owner's discretion.
 - **Feral Hog:** No additional fee, hunter incentive offered (read below).
- **FERAL HOG - HUNTER INCENTIVE:** Upon successful proof of harvest, a non-member hunter will be awarded an additional day hunt to compensate for assisting in hog management.
 - Hunters who kill animals that they cannot pay for forfeit the animal to FCSA, and all additional hunts will be forfeited without refund. Any penalties, fines or other legal action will be at the discretion of the property owner.
 - Hunters are not allowed to tamper, alter, damage or destroy any FCSA property including but not limited to vehicles, hunting equipment, blinds or feeders. Individuals caught doing so will be in breach of this agreement and all penalties and/or fines as well as criminal charges will apply.

Wounded Animal Policy

Any animal that is shot (wounded or killed), all rules, fees, penalties and/or fines will apply. This policy applies regardless of whether the animal is retrieved or not.

Protected Species

FCSA is home to the federally protected Blue Indigo Snake. All federal laws apply; no one is allowed to kill, harm, harass or try to catch or obtain possession of this snake. Violators will be prosecuted.

Booking/Refunds/Rescheduling/Transfers/ “No Call, No Show”

- **100% of hunting fees are payable at the time of booking.**
- Cancellations or reschedule requests occurring 10 days prior to scheduled hunt date will receive a full refund or payment transfer. Rescheduling is based on availability.
- If a cancellation is made less than 10 days before the scheduled hunt, 50% of the booking fee may be returned only if notification is given prior to the hunt. (see below)
- No Call-No Shows will not be given a refund.
- If you make arrangements with an alternate hunter to fill your space, it is up to you to collect, recover or exchange fees. FCSA will not participate in this type of transfer, hunters are welcome to try to fill your spot in the event that you can not make your hunt.
- Hunters will not tag Whitetail deer with their own deer tags. MLDP tags will be provided.
- All hunting will only take place in blinds and in areas that are designated by the Property Owner. **Trophy hunting will take place in blinds only.** There will be no guided trophy hunts.

CHECK-IN AND HUNTING PROCEDURES

- All hunters must check in at the FCSA Old Motor Pool Building for briefing.
- Morning hunt check in time: 5:00am
- Afternoon hunt check-in time: 3pm
- **LATE ARRIVALS MAY NOT BE SEATED.**
- All hunters must sign a Liability Release, Authorization of Medical Treatment, and Hunting Rules & Guidelines before they are able to hunt. All paperwork must be accomplished prior to the hunt.
- Hunters must notify hunting supervisor prior to any hunt of any medical, physical or mental conditions that may inhibit, impair or put others in jeopardy or danger while on FCSA property.
- All hunters must have a valid Texas Parks & Wildlife Hunting License.
- FCSA will enforce Texas Hunters Education requirements:

Every hunter (including out-of-state hunters) born on or after Sept. 2, 1971, must successfully complete a Hunter Education Training Course. Proof of certification or deferral is required to be on your person while hunting.

- **All persons under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.**
- There will be no smoking, alcoholic beverages, animals (pets) or littering allowed while hunting.
- It is the hunter’s responsibility to ensure their hunting equipment is in good working order prior to hunting. It is the hunter’s responsibility to come prepared for the hunt, this includes both equipment and proper clothing.

- If a hunter needs to sight-in or validate their rifle zero, hunter may coordinate with the hunting supervisor prior to their day hunt to do so at the FCSA gun range.
- The Hunting Supervisor will determine hunter placement.

- **RIFLE HUNTING** will take place in designated areas behind locked gates. After the morning orientation, hunter's will be escorted in their personal vehicles to a designated parking area and then walk to their designated blind. For safety reasons, no hunting or wandering outside of the designated blind is permitted.
- At approximately 10:00 am, all hunters will leave their designated blinds and head back to the entrance gate leading to their designated blind. The hunter will contact FCSA personnel notifying them of their location. FCSA personnel will then meet the hunter at his location, it is at that time the hunters will declare and register the animals that have been harvested during the morning hunt.
- Afternoon hunters will repeat the same process for the afternoon hunt which starts at 3 p.m.
- All weapons will be unloaded (no rounds in the chamber) with "safety on" placing weapons (barrel) in a safe direction away from other individuals when traveling to and from designated hunting blinds.
- It is the responsibility of all hunters that their equipment and/or gear, including firearms are in good working condition and that safety practices are being implemented at all times.

- **BOW HUNTING** will take place in designated areas outside of the rifle hunting area. After the morning orientation, hunter's will be escorted in their personal vehicles to a designated parking area and then walk to their designated blind. For safety reasons, no hunting or wandering outside of the designated blind is permitted.
- At approximately 10:00 am, all hunters will leave their designated blinds or stands. The hunter will contact FCSA personnel notifying them of their location. FCSA personnel will then meet the hunter at his location, it is at that time the hunters will declare and register the animals that have been harvested during the morning hunt.
- Afternoon hunters will repeat the same process for the afternoon hunt which starts at 3 p.m.
- **Bow hunters will only be allowed to hunt in elevated tree (ladder stands only) stands under the following guidelines:**
 - It is the responsibility of the bow hunter to bring his/her own safety equipment. The proper safety equipment will be required to be in good working condition and that safety practices are being implemented at all times by the hunter while they are hunting in elevated tree stands of any type on FCSA property.

- **HUNTING IS ONLY ALLOWED IN FSCA DESIGNATED BLINDS AND/OR TREE STANDS WITHIN THE DESIGNATED HUNTING AREAS AS PRESCRIBED BY FCSA. "SPOT AND STALK" OR SHOOTING FROM VEHICLES IS NOT ALLOWED.** Any hunter(s) caught hunting outside of these

guidelines will not be allowed to continue hunting for the rest of the season and/or future hunts on FCSA property and will be subject to penalties, fines and/or criminal action.

- All ground blinds will be equipped with 2 chairs, any additional chairs will be at the responsibility of the hunter. If more than one individual is hunting out of the same blind, each individual will be paying as an individual hunter.
- Hunters will be allowed to only hunt with the weapon (Rifle or bow/ crossbow) that they scheduled to hunt with. Changing weapons during a hunt will require prior permission from the Hunting Supervisor.
- FCSA personnel will maintain hunting blinds, stands and feeders. Hunters will be allowed to bring and distribute their own Corn, Alfalfa Hay and a All Stock Sweet Feed are also allowed.
- All hunters must shoot in the direction given (from the blind directly to feeder) when they are assigned a blind. No shooting across or outside of blind boundaries will be tolerated. No target practicing or unauthorized shooting is allowed. No shooting skyward (upward) or through/into trees or treetops will be permitted.
 - Rifle Blinds: distance from blind-to-feeder is approximately 50-100 yards.
 - Bow Blinds: distance from blind-to-feeder is approximately 20-30 yards.
- Hunters may use rattling horns and/or mouth or hand-held devices to lure deer or turkey while they are hunting.
- No Turkey hunting will take place in or around roust areas.
- **Upon shooting an animal, the hunter will immediately call and notify the Hunting Supervisor. All animals will be required to be seen by the Hunter Supervisor before processing and/or leaving FCSA property.**
- **Do not attempt to track or wonder around looking for wounded animals without FCSA personnel present.**
- FCSA will make a cleaning area available for hunters. **NO FIELD DRESSING ALLOWED.**
- Cleaning (skinning or caping) and/or animal processing is the responsibility of the hunter. The hunter may ask a FCSA volunteer to help with the processing or cleaning of the animal, but it will be at the discretion of the volunteer. Volunteers are not obligated to assist hunters. The volunteer may ask for compensation for their assistance. The transactions are solely between the hunter and the volunteer – FCSA is not responsible for any agreements or transactions made between a hunter and volunteer.
- Any hunter who does not follow the FCSA Hunting Rules & Guidelines or fails to declare or register any harvested animal by any means will be subject to immediate action by the property owner including but not limited to any and all penalties, fines and/or criminal action.

FORT CLARK SPRINGS ASSOCIATION, INC. is not responsible for any damages, lost or stolen items.

Acknowledgement and receipt:

By signing below, I acknowledge reading and understanding the 2023-2024 FCSA Hunting Rules and Guidelines, and understand and agree to follow all the above Rules and Guidelines as presented to me.

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

AXIS TROPHY RAFFLE

All registered FCSA hunters will be placed into a drawing for an Axis Trophy Hunt. In order to qualify for the raffle entry:

- The hunter must have hunted a day hunt during the 2023-2024 hunting season.
- Only the registered hunter's name will be entered into the drawing (valid upon paid receipt).
- If the registered hunter is paying for other individuals to hunt, it will be at the discretion of the paying registered hunter which names will be entered into the drawing.
- Each paid hunt qualifies for a raffle entry.
- Cancellations or refunds disqualify the hunter from the drawing entry.
- Violations of state Game Laws or FCSA Rules & Guidelines as written above will disqualify the hunter from the drawing.
- The drawing for the Axis Trophy hunt will take place after the ending of hunting season and before the beginning of new season at the discretion of the property owner.
- The winning Axis Trophy Hunt will take place during that year's hunting season unless otherwise coordinated with the hunting supervisor.
- All current Fort Clark Springs Association, Inc. Hunting Rules & Guidelines apply.