



## **INTRODUCTION**

**Date:** August 10, 2006; **REV:** *July 18, 2009; October 16, 2010; December 30, 2011*

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

**NOTE:** Please **READ** these **RULES and GUIDELINES** and **RETURN** the “AFFIRMATION” statement per instructions on the last page.

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 an 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 Rules and 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 or two, one of the most common things I'm 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. And, as of this writing, this is the case as we are beginning to receive numerous inquiries about the program.

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.

# North Carolina Bowhunters Association



## Rules for :

### Bowhunter Certification and Referral Service

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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 member sand the governing members of the executive council. (\*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 individual 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, each year, 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 a draw-lock device or device of similar characteristics, attached to the individuals' bow, to those having a legitimate handicap or disability, that prevents them from shooting their hand drawn bow without aid.

8- Landowners may also choose to provide additional 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. Payment of premiums for additional insurance is the responsibility of the landowner.

9- BCRS members must renew their membership once each year. Refer to your membership card for your expiration date. (Note: Do not loose 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 Member or Certifier. Warm up shots may not 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 six (6) 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 with that bow. You can attempt to qualify with a different bow the same day, or re-qualify another day with the same bow. These same rules apply to new BCRS application members as well as renewals.

10- BCRS members may NOT personally 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. Any/all donations shall be sent to the NCBA Treasurer without delay along with a brief explanation of the source of the donation.

11- BCRS members shall NOT convey information to anyone about any BCRS agreements, other than the current NCBA President and the current members of the executive council, 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.

12- 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.

- 13- 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.
- 14- 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.
- 15- 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.
- 16- 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.
- 17- 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. The owner of a stand shall not be held liable or responsible for any injury or property damage if anyone else uses his/her stand, with or without his/her permission.
- 18- 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.
- 19- The landowner is NOT responsible for the security of stands or blinds left on the property.
- 20- Complete carcasses of animals must be disposed of in the manner required by law, and/or as directed by the landowner.
- 21- DMAP permits/tags allow BCRS members to hunt during OPEN deer seasons only! DMAP tags allow for the legal harvest of "antlerless" deer only, unless specially provided for at the request of the landowner. (NOTE: Button Bucks are considered to be "antlerless" deer.)
- 22- 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 changed for the 2010 season to allow bucks to be taken with DMAP tags, if requested by the landowner.*)
- 23- 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.
- 24- 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.
- 25- BCRS members shall cooperate and coordinate with the BCRS hunt coordinator and landowner 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”, go to the next page, which is an “Affirmation Statement”. Sign and return it as instructed.

*REV. 03.13.2005, 07.18.2009, 08.04.2009, 10.16.2010, 12.30.2011*



## **AFFIRMATION STATEMENT**

All NCBA-BCRS members are required to READ the RULES and GUIDELINES. These RULES and GUIDELINES are revised periodically. When significant revisions are made, each BCRS member will receive a copy of them from the BCRS Chairman.

Current RULES and GUIDELINES are found on our website at: [www.ncbowhunter.com](http://www.ncbowhunter.com)

Before being allowed to continue to participate in any BCRS bowhunting agreements, each BCRS member must sign and return this form to the BCRS Chairman. **PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY**

I "AFFIRM" that I have read the NCBA-BCRS "Rules and Guidelines" dated **December 30, 2011**. I also "AFFIRM" that I understand these RULES and GUIDELINES and pledge to comply with them without exception. I also pledge to read and comply with all guidelines and rules of all landowner agreements with the NCBA-BCRS program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PRINT YOUR FULL NAME: **M-** BCRS Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGN YOUR FULL NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

County of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGN and RETURN this form to:**

**Dennis McClure, NCBA-BCRS Chairman  
645 Shellhabour Blvd.  
Rural Hall, NC 27045**

**Questions? Call Dennis McClure at: 757-839-5736**

**Email: [bcrs@ncbowhunter.com](mailto:bcrs@ncbowhunter.com)**