

# PHEASANT SHOOTING

## HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

All guns must be in possession of the following:

1. A valid Shotgun Certificate OR a valid UK visitor's permit
2. A valid certificate of Third Party or Public Liability Insurance (current BASC or Countryside Alliance membership is satisfactory)

Following a comprehensive risk assessment, the following key points for shoot days are drawn to your attention.

### Shooting Competence

- It is expected that you are a competent shot with a full understanding of the Grouse Shooting safety protocol – the BASC Code of Safe Shooting Practice can help. Novice guns should notify the Estate well in advance of the day to enable supervision arrangements to be made.

### Shooting Procedure

- No shot to be taken at birds below the tree line.
- Shots will only be taken in front or behind – not to the side
- No ground game
- Guns must be unloaded when not in use
- After loading, guns must be closed with the barrels pointing to the ground
- At every new peg you should familiarise yourself with the position of the direction of the beaters, stops and pickers up.  
**IF IN ANY DOUBT DO NOT SHOOT**
- Stay next to your peg until the drive is completely finished; this may be acknowledged by the sounding of a horn / whistle. All guns must be unloaded and put back in their slips before moving away from the peg.
- Always check your barrels are free of obstructions before loading. In the event of misfire unload your gun with the barrels pointing away from others
- Ensure that cartridges of the correct calibre are used

All birds must be accounted for before proceeding to the next drive.

- **Please note that the shoot manager/ keeper has full authority to require anyone deemed by him to be shooting unsafely to cease shooting at any time during a drive and/or for the remainder of the day, and if appropriate to leave the shoot immediately. His authority in this matter shall not be questioned, and any consequences of such a requirement may not be discussed until after the day is completed.**

### Environment

- Guns and companions should keep alert to the danger of falling shot quarry
- Guns will be made aware of any public rights of way present near the drives. If members of the public are present all shooting must cease until they have moved to a safe location. If you become aware of any walkers please immediately warn your neighbours and ensure that they do likewise.
- The terrain may be uneven and appropriate sturdy footwear should be worn. Walking sticks are a useful aid.
- Extreme weather conditions may occur and appropriate clothing should be worn / available in your vehicle.
- Bridges / stiles may be present when walking to your peg. Ensure that you take appropriate care and attention when using these
- Dogs should be secured at a safe distance from the peg so to not pose trip hazard
- All non shooting companions should sit / stand in a position agreed with the gun whilst the drive is in progress.

### Transport

- Some of the access tracks may be steep and uneven and care should be taken when driving along them. Sufficient distance should be allowed between vehicles and an appropriate gear selected. If in any doubt stop the vehicle and ask an experienced driver to take over.

- When being transported off road the ride may be uneven and uncomfortable. All passengers must be seated at all times and dogs held / secured when travelling.
- The vehicle's doors or hatches may have sharp edges; and all passengers must ensure that no clothing / possessions are trailing that could become entangled in the moving parts of the vehicle or in fixed points over or past which the vehicle travels.

### **Personal Health**

- Ear protection should be worn by all persons at the peg. Safety glasses are also recommended.
- During a drive the barrels of a gun may get hot and it is therefore advisable to wear leather gloves or use a barrel guard.
- Please ensure that any necessary medication is kept with you at all times including antihistamine if allergic to wasp / bee stings.
- Please advise the shoot organiser of any food allergies / intolerances before the day
- Alcoholic drinks may be available at certain points during the day. **ALL GUNS MUST BE AWARE OF THE DANGERS OF IMMODERATE DRINKING** during the shooting day, and must exercise restraint until the day is completed. **The shoot manager/ keeper has full authority on the ground of possible impairment of judgment at any time to require any gun to desist from drinking further alcohol during the day, and/or to cease shooting. His judgment in such a matter shall not be questioned.**
- Water or other non alcoholic drinks should be taken regularly on hot days.

### **Disruption**

- If a shoot day is disrupted by saboteurs unload your gun immediately and return it to its slip.

Do not confront the saboteurs but return to your vehicle until the situation is resolved.

### **Action to be taken in the event of an emergency**

Please adhere to the following procedure for all emergency situations:-

1. Contact the nearest keeper without delay
2. The Estate keeper is the designated first aider for the day
3. The keeper will assess whether the emergency can be dealt with using the resources to hand or if the emergency services should be contacted.
4. Please follow the directions of the keeper throughout the emergency situation
5. Shooting will be suspended, weapons secured in gun slips until the keeper advises otherwise.
6. For reassurance, first aid kits are kept on the beaters bus and in the keeper's vehicle.

**Health and Safety is your responsibility and any concerns should be raised immediately with the Shoot Manager / Keeper**