

Hamilton Rod and Gun Club

Upland Bird Club

2016 Season

The Upland Bird Club (UBC) is a committee of the Hamilton Rod & Gun Club (HRGC) and operates a Class B Commercial Shooting Preserve under Massachusetts General Law (MGL) 131, section 31 and Code of Massachusetts Regulations (CMR) 321, 2.05 and as such is governed by MA State Hunting Laws. The Hunting Preserve season runs from Sept 15 to the following March 31st. The following rules have been adopted by the UBC Committee and are in addition to the General Range Rules as outlined in the HRGC Club Rules of Operation.

1. In order to become eligible for membership in the Upland Bird Club, (UBC) you must be a member in good standing of Hamilton Rod and Gun Club, (HRGC). Membership is currently limited to forty (40) members for safety purposes and to ensure all members have an excellent hunting experience.
 - a. Please contact the UBC Chairperson to inquire about UBC membership openings or to be put on the waiting list for membership.
2. A UBC membership is required to hunt stocked birds on the HRGC grounds. A Full membership allows individuals to hunt the entire preserve season and costs \$50. Provided the member volunteers to assist UBC in the many tasks that are required to keep the program viable. Such activities include, bird raising, fund raising, stocking, pen maintenance, etc. If any UBC member chooses not to participate in the activities required to keep UBC viable, then an addition \$50 fee will be applied prior to receiving a UBC pin which allows you to hunt during the upland bird stocking season.
3. UBC dues are fifty dollars, (\$50) are due on or before June 1, 2016. If dues are not received by that date your membership will be given to the next person on the waiting list. If you choose not to participate in UBC work activities, then an addition fee of fifty dollars, (\$50) is due on or before October 1, 2016. Prior to the start of bird stocking and is required prior to receiving a UBC Hunting Pin.
4. All dues, HRGC and UBC must be paid in full prior to be considered a member in good standing and to participating in UBC hunting activities.
5. Please utilize safe gun handling, courtesy, and good sportsmanship at all times. Violations and complaints will be reviewed by the UBC Committee and subsequently presented to the HRGC Board of Directors for possible action, including potentially losing you membership to UBC and or HRGC.
6. Hours of operation are Monday – Friday from 8am to Sunset, Saturdays at sunrise, and Sundays 9:30 am to 4:00pm or Sunset, whichever is earlier.
7. Harvest limits are two (2) birds per day and four (4) birds per week per UBC member. Guest are not allowed to harvest upland game beyond the hosting member/s limits.
 - a. The week begins on Saturday at sunrise and ends on Friday at sunset.
8. A stocking schedule will be provide to all UBC members in good standing prior to the start of the hunting season. It will also be posted at the sign in/out station along with sunrise charts. Saturday will have dual stockings, the first for sunrise and the second for 1 PM.
 - a. No hunting will be allowed from 12 noon to 1 PM on Saturdays during the stocking season in order to facilitate safe passage in the woods for the individuals stocking afternoon birds.

- b. This applies to every Saturday, from the first Saturday in October to last Saturday in November, just prior to the start on the MA Deer Shotgun Season. See the Massachusetts Wildlife Abstracts to verify the start of deer shotgun season.
9. All members must sign in and out when hunting during the UBC season, the sign-in/out book is located in the flip top stand near the UBC bird pen. The reason is to understand how many birds are harvested in comparison to what was liberated. As part of the preserve permit we are required to report the amount we liberate & harvest to the Ma Department of Fisheries & Wildlife in order to maintain our preserve status.
10. All birds shot on HRGC grounds must be tagged with a preserve tag. This protect you from having birds shot under the HRGC preserve status from counting as part of the state allowed bag limits, as well as legally transporting birds before and after the state pheasant season as defined in the abstract.
 - a. Tags are located in the flip top located near the flight pen and must be affixed to leg of the harvested upland game.
11. All hunters MUST wear an approved Hunter Orange hat or cap while hunting / dog training.
12. No shotguns larger than 12 GA please and shot size is restricted to # 5 or smaller. Black powder shotguns are allowed as is bow & arrow in pursuit of UBC birds
13. Please respect all "Safety Zone" signs. These will be in place around the bird pen, marking 150 ft from a public roadways, marking the campground area during September. UBC members can hunt off the dirt roads & trails within club property the campground area during after September 30th.
14. No bird hunting allowed during the MA Shotgun/Black Powder (only) Deer Season as outlined in the Abstracts provided by Ma Department of Fisheries & Wildlife.
15. In the spirit of good sportsmanship upland game must be shot after taking flight. Shooting upland game on the ground is prohibited.
16. All UBC members and guests must hold both a valid hunting license and either an F.I.D card or L.T.C and may have to produce such licenses whenever in the field in pursuit of UBC birds.
 - a. Minors 12 – 14 Years of Age: No FID is needed by minors 12 -14 yrs of age so long as accompanied by a duly licensed adult and provided that only one firearm is possessed by the two. Only one minor per adult is permitted. Minors must have completed and passed a hunter safety course.
 - b. Minors 15-17 years: A valid Hunting License is required. All minors 15 -17 yrs of age must comply with a "Consent Letter "as described in the MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife 2016 Abstracts. In addition, they must have a Basic Hunter Education Certificate (H.E.C)... They must carry the H.E.C while hunting with a firearm. An F.I.D is also required."
17. Guests must be accompanied by a UBC member at all times. Guests are encouraged to promote the sport, and to showcase both the HRGC grounds and UBC. UBC asks to limit the frequency of any guest to not more than two (2) visits per hunting season.
 - a. Member/s and their Guest/s can only shoot the number of birds their host/s are entitled to. Harvest limits were set at two (2) birds per day four (4) per week. Therefore if one (1) guest is hunting with one (1) UBC member they are only allowed to harvest two (2) birds. If there were two (2) guests hunting with one (1) member, they are still only allowed to harvest two (2) birds.

- b. The expectation would be scheduled paid hunts where Member/s and their Guest/s can shoot as many birds as paid for.
18. There are no more than two (2) paid hunts allowed at one time. When there is a paid hunt going on, UBC asks that others refrain from hunting that area of the property at that time. Otherwise the grounds are considered always open during the Preserve Season to UBC Members in good standing to hunt and run their dogs. Please refer to the log book at the Flight pen to determine if a paid hunt is in progress. (This rule does not apply on Saturdays during the state hunting season.)
- a. Individuals wanting to purchase birds for paid hunts must order them prior to March 1st and pay for them with their dues payment due on June 1. Bird will be sold to UBC members at cost which includes the cost of the bird and feed. See rule # 21 for current pricing.
 - b. A 48 hr. notice is required via phone, to schedule a hunt/ training session. Please contact Larry Boucher at 508 245-3563 with the date, time of your hunt and the number of your pre-paid birds requested. Please leave your call back telephone number when leaving a message or send a text. **NO EXCEPTIONS PLEASE!** This allows the proper time to plan to capture and box your required number of birds. You will receive a callback confirming your hunt date, time, and number of birds boxed. You are responsible to stock your own birds for paid hunts.
 - c. If you call for birds and do not cancel via telephone 24 hours prior to your scheduled session or simply do not show up, you will be charged a \$ 20 fee. Your birds will be returned to the pen.
19. No unsprayed female dogs are allowed on club grounds to hunt UBC birds if they are actively "in Heat". This is asked as a courtesy to other UBC members and their dogs.
20. At the sole judgment of the UBC Committee, the Hunting Preserve may be closed from time to time to accommodate other schedule HRGC events.
21. Bird Prices for the 2016 Season for UBC Members in good standing will be:
- a. Pheasant: 2 for \$30 paid in advance
 - b. Chukar : if available 2 for \$20
 - c. Quail: if available \$8.00 each

(Prices subject to change with a 30 day notice published)