

A GUIDE AND RISK ASSESSMENT TO GAME SHOOTING

Game shooting is a potentially dangerous sport if sufficient attention to safety practices is not observed. Your attention is drawn to the following key points, as a participating Gun, to ensure that you and all members of your team have an enjoyable and safe day's sport.

The Shoot will provide a shoot day host to organise the day and each team should have a team captain as spokesperson for the party, this is often assumed to be the person responsible for booking the day.

At the beginning of the day the shoot Host will present a safety talk detailing any hazards relevant to the day along with the rules of the day, the details of this talk must be strictly adhered to at all times.

Health and safety- All persons on the days must:

- Be aware of ground conditions-to avoid slips trips and falls.
- Be responsible for their own gun safety
- Be aware of others in the field and the general public
- Take care if on or near the public highway
- Assess obstacles before crossing and ask for assistance if needed.
- Do not do anything that could risk injury to yourself or others

Good Safety Practice when shooting

Do not swing through the gun or beating line in any circumstances.

Guns must be unloaded and placed in a suitable slip at the end of each drive. A Horn or whistle will sound at the end of the drive.

All Guns must have a valid shotgun certificate and carry adequate public liability insurance (£10 million pounds).

The Host will give brief details of the general format for the day and what is permitted to be shot. Shooting ground game is not permitted.

No shooting at low birds - where clear sky cannot be seen beyond the bird.

Guns should be in a good physical and mental state and not rendered unsafe through alcohol, drugs or ill health. Any ailment not serious enough to prevent shooting but deemed relevant should be brought to the hosts attention, i.e. poor mobility or a history of relevant health issues.

Suitable protective equipment including ear defenders and safety glasses should be worn. (Not supplied)

Please ensure you have the correct calibre of cartridges for the gun that you are using.

Any unsafe or inappropriate behaviour will result in immediate dismissal by the Head keeper.

Adequate weatherproof clothing should be worn to suit the conditions on the day.

Guns should make themselves aware of pickers up, flankers and beaters before the drive commences.

New or inexperienced Guns should be accompanied with a suitable instructor. (Supplied on request at guns cost)

It is the responsibility of Guns to ensure all people that accompany them on the shooting field have the necessary ear and eye protection and are fully aware of the safety requirements and procedures

All members should be aware of falling objects at all times.

Sporting Conduct

Stand only in the position (peg) given to you at the beginning of the drive and move only if instructed to by the host of the day.

The use of plastic wadded cartridges is forbidden in all circumstances and the use of them will result in instant dismissal from the day. Empty cartridges should be gathered up at the end of each drive according to the instructions given on the day.

Dogs are permitted on the day but must be kept under close control at all time and are sole responsibility of the handler at all times. Pickers up will attempt to leave birds for the handler to retrieve but this is not guaranteed.

The Team Captain is responsible for the good conduct of the Team and any poor conduct will be highlighted to that person.

Do not shoot after the signalled end of the drive.

In Case of Emergency

Accidents or injury should be reported to the Head keeper immediately, all of the gamekeepers are trained first aiders in the event of an emergency. An Emergency contact number should be lodged with the team captain for all persons in the shooting party for the unlikely event of injury.

In the unlikely occurrence of saboteurs all guns should be sleeved and the party should return their vehicles and the Head keeper will take charge of the situation.

It is the Team Captains responsibility that all members of the shooting party read and understand this information before the day. And it is suggested that they obtain signed copies from all to confirm it.

Team Captain

Team Member/Guest.....