

Masters of Foxhounds Association Constitution, Rules and Recommendations

2010

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DEFINITIONS

1. A "Recognised Hunt" is a Hunt:
 - (1) which has been officially accepted by the Committee;
 - (2) which has paid by the 1st July in each year the current Registration Fee of the Masters of Foxhounds Association (MFHA) together with such sums as the Committee shall decide from time to time;
 - (3) the Master or Representative of which is a Member of the MFHA; and
 - (4) which has adopted Rules or a Constitution and has validly lodged a copy thereof with the MFHA.
2. The "Registration Fee" shall be the Annual Fee payable by Recognised Hunts to the MFHA, prior to the 1st July, in each year or in such manner as the Committee may from time to time decide.
3. A "Hunt Club" is an association covering a Hunt country, which no longer maintains a pack of hounds, but whose country is included in a Recognised Hunt by arrangement and which has adopted a Hunt Constitution lodged with the MFHA, and whose Chairman shall be a Member.
4. A "New Hunt" is a new establishment organised within the boundaries of an already Recognised Hunt, or one within an area in which there is currently no Recognised Hunt.
5. A "Member" means a Member of the MFHA as defined in Rule A.2.
6. A "Master" means a current Master of a Recognised Hunt or a Representative of a Recognised Hunt.
7. A "Representative" means the Chairman of the Committee of a Recognised Hunt or a member of such Committee where a Master has yet to be appointed, who shall be a Member and shall be treated as a Master until the appointment of a Master of that Hunt when the Representative shall cease to be a Member.
8. The "Committee" means the Committee of the MFHA as defined in Rule A.3.
9. The "Chairman of the MFHA" shall mean the Chairman of the Committee.
10. The "Point-to-Point Board" is the Governing Body of point-to-pointing, set up jointly by the British Horse Racing Board and the MFHA.
11. The "MFHA Point-to-Point Committee" is the regulatory authority for point-to-points, set up by and representing the interests of hunting in respect of point-to-points.

12. The "MFHA Standing Committee for Team Chasing" is the regulatory body for team chasing set up by and representing the interests of the MFHA.

13. The "MFHA Standing Committee for AI" (Artificial Insemination) is the regulatory body for artificial insemination of foxhounds set up by and representing the interests of the MFHA.

14. The "Rules" means the Constitution and Rules of the MFHA as revised from time to time in accordance with Rules A.4(5) and A.9.

15. "Instructions" means instructions issued by the Committee which have not expired under the provisions of Rule A.4(6).

16. "Hunt Staff" means a member of Hunt Staff in accordance with the provisions of Rules C.1-8.

17. The "Stud Book" means the Foxhound Kennel Stud Book, maintained by the MFHA.

18. Unless the context otherwise requires, words importing one gender shall be construed as importing any other gender and words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.

A. CONSTITUTION OF MFHA

Regulatory Body

1. The MFHA shall be the regulatory body for Foxhounds and their Hunts in Great Britain, whose responsibilities shall include inter alia supervision of those individuals and organisations involved with Foxhounds and supervision over the administrative arrangements pertaining to the organisation of such Hunts, together with responsibility for all other matters which relate to, affect or may come to affect Foxhounds and their Hunts in Great Britain with the exception of those matters under the specific jurisdiction of the Central Committee of Fell Packs and the Federation of Welsh Packs.

Membership

2. The Members of the MFHA shall be:
 - (1) Present Masters of Recognised Hunts;
 - (2) Ex-Masters of Recognised Hunts who have been Masters for not less than five consecutive years;
 - (3) Ex-Masters of Recognised Hunts of less than five years standing, desiring to continue their Membership who have submitted their names and who have been duly re-elected by the Committee;
 - (4) Representatives of Recognised Hunts or of loaned countries;

- (5) Chairmen of Hunt Clubs;
- (6) Associate Members, who shall be (a) present Chairmen of Recognised Hunts, not otherwise Members, who shall become Associate Members during their term of office and (b) Masters of packs of hounds recognised by the governing association or organisation of any country outside Great Britain who shall be entitled to become Associate Members provided they are proposed and seconded by Members. Associate Members shall be entitled to attend, but not vote at, the Annual General Meeting.

The Committee

3. (1) The Committee shall normally consist of twelve Members, each elected in respect of one of twelve designated regions. The Committee shall have the power to re-designate the regions and, if thought appropriate, increase their number and in consequence the number of Members to be appointed to the Committee. Three Members shall form a quorum.
- (2) A Member of the Committee shall retire after a term of three years, and only in exceptional cases, where no other suitable candidate has been identified for the region for which he was appointed, be re-elected for one further consecutive three year term. Committee Members shall be eligible for election for a further period in office after a break of at least one term.
- (3) Subject to rule (4) below, the Committee shall be the body responsible for identifying and submitting suitable candidates to fill vacancies for election at the Annual General Meeting. Candidates must have been a Member for at least three years before being so elected and have signified in writing their consent to serve.
- (4) A Member shall have the right to notify the Committee of the name of a potential candidate for any vacancy; such notification must have been sent to the Director of the MFHA by no later than the 31st of December of the year prior to the relevant Annual General Meeting.
- (5) In identifying and deciding on the suitability of the candidates for submission for election to the Committee, including any name so notified to the Director, the Committee shall have regard to such matters as the individual's good standing, his knowledge and experience of hunting, ability to command the respect and confidence of Masters and others in the region for which he would be appointed and a willingness and ability to arrange regional meetings of Hunts, visit Hunts and their kennels within his region and attend all other hunting related engagements as necessary, in addition to attending the regular meetings of the MFHA Committee.
- (6) The Committee shall send to each Member at least twenty-one days prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting a list of the candidates whose names will be put forward for election and their respective regions for which they are standing. The Chairman shall have the right to decide at the Meeting whether the vote for election for any one or more vacancies should be by show of hand or secret ballot. For the avoidance of doubt, the membership at the Annual General Meeting can only elect new Committee members who are recommended by the Committee in accordance with the provisions of sub clauses (3) to and (5) above.
- (7) In the event that the Meeting does not then elect a candidate to fill a vacancy, the Committee shall immediately consult widely to identify a suitable candidate likely to command general support for election to fill the remaining term of that vacancy at the next General Meeting, and having so identified him, co-opt him as an additional Member to serve on the Committee until the next General Meeting. Such a person will be entitled to vote in any decision of the Committee.
- (8) Where a Member of the Committee is unable or unwilling to complete his full three year term, that vacancy shall be filled by a suitable candidate likewise identified by the Committee and co-opted as an additional voting Member to serve on the Committee until the next Annual General Meeting, and thereafter if elected to complete the term of the Committee Member he is replacing.
- (9) The Committee shall elect a Chairman (the Chairman of the MFHA) who must either be a member of the Committee or a Member who has previously served on the Committee. His term of office shall be three years from the day following the Annual General Meeting at which his appointment shall be announced. Thereafter by the decision of the Committee, he may be re-elected to continue to serve either for one year or for a further three years.

Should the Chairman of the MFHA not be a member of the Committee when so elected or should his membership of the Committee expire during his term of office he shall, until the term of office expires, be or remain a supernumerary

Committee Member. The Chairman shall have the casting vote if there is otherwise an equality of votes in Committee.

- (10) The Committee may elect a Vice Chairman and/or an Honorary Secretary and/or Treasurer, who should be members of the Committee or persons who have previously served on the Committee. Such persons shall be elected by the Committee to serve on it until the next Annual General Meeting and thereafter for such period not exceeding three years as the Committee may decide. Such persons will not have a vote in any decision of the Committee, unless they are appointed ordinary members of the Committee, under the provisions of Rule A3(6).

Powers

4. The Committee shall have the following powers additional to those set out above.
 - (1) Power to assist where appropriate in bringing about a repeal of the legislation banning hunting with hounds, including specifically the Hunting Act 2004.
 - (2) Power to provide information on matters relating to the Hunting Act 2004.
 - (3) Power to regulate Recognised Hunts which maintain a pack of Foxhounds and power to regulate Members in accordance with the Constitution and Rules.
 - (4) Power to adjudicate on all matters brought before it.
 - (5) Power to recommend new or revised Rules for approval by the Annual or any General Meeting of the MFHA.
 - (6) Power to set the rate of the annual Registration Fee for Recognised Hunts and the arrangements by which it will be paid.
 - (7) Power to issue Instructions from time to time. Such Instructions shall be valid for a maximum period of twelve months only and thereafter they will cease to have effect unless they have either been renewed or incorporated in the Rules. Such Instructions shall be clearly labelled as such when issued and also dated.
 - (8) Power to issue Guidance Notes.
 - (9) Power to co-opt additional Members with special expertise to serve on the Committee until the next Annual General Meeting. Such persons will not have a vote in any decision of the Committee.
 - (10) The right to call a General Meeting at any time on twenty-eight day's prior written notice.
 - (11) Power to maintain the Stud Book.
 - (12) Power to regulate Point-to-Point Steeplechasing and Team Chasing in accordance with the Rules.
 - (13) Power to give guidance to Members on any matter it so wishes connected with Foxhounds, including their breeding and management.
 - (14) Right to advise Members and Recognised Hunts on their relationship with farmers and landowners within their country.
 - (15) Right to take suitable action if in the opinion of the Committee the actions of a Member seriously damage the future opportunities for Foxhunting in Great Britain.
 - (16) Power to regulate Foxhunting, so long as the same shall be legal.

Director

5. There shall be a Director of the MFHA, who shall normally be appointed the Director of the Council of Hunting Associations, unless decided otherwise by the Committee. He shall be elected by the Committee to serve on it during his term of office, but he will not have a vote in any decisions of the Committee.

New Masters

6. New Masters and Representatives must be proposed and seconded by a Member and must sign a membership form thereby binding themselves to abide by the Rules (as amended from time to time) and any Instructions. Their application will then be considered by the Committee at the next meeting. The decision as to whether the applicant is accepted or not shall be final and no reason for the decision need be given.

Subscription

7. The annual subscription for Members shall be such sum as the Committee shall decide from time to time. Subscriptions to the MFHA shall be payable by the 1st of July each year. Every Member who is three months in arrears with such payment shall automatically cease to be a Member.

General Meeting

8. A General Meeting of the MFHA shall normally be held annually during June, at which meeting a statement of accounts and the report of the Committee up to the 30th April shall be laid before the Members. A

General Meeting of the MFHA may be called at any time at the request in writing of fifty Members, thirty of whom must be serving Masters, provided that twenty-eight days notice is given to the Committee. The Committee must convene this meeting within six weeks of any such request, giving at least twenty-eight days prior written notice. A General Meeting may be called by the Committee at any time on twenty eight days prior written notice.

Notice

9. Twenty-eight days notice must be given to the Committee in writing of any proposal to introduce a motion to bring in a new Rule or to amend an existing one. Such Rule or amendment must be confirmed at the subsequent General Meeting.

Non-Membership

10. A Hunt will no longer be a Recognised Hunt if the person appointed by that Hunt committee to be Master does not become and remain a Member.

Sub-Committee for Adjudication

11. The Committee shall have the power to appoint a sub-committee of such numbers of Members as the Committee shall decide, to hear and deal with any matter of regulation contained within these Rules or any Instructions (or any contravention thereof) or to adjudicate on any disputes.

B. RUNNING A HUNT

Hunt Constitutions

1. Each Recognised Hunt shall adopt a Hunt constitution and rules, which must be lodged with the MFHA and approved by the Director of the MFHA. Any alteration to the Rules and Constitution of the Hunt shall be forwarded to the Director of the MFHA for approval within twenty-eight days of their taking effect. The Director of the MFHA is empowered, with the approval of the Committee, to approve or disapprove such rules and to suggest any alteration to them but he shall give reasons for any disapprovals or alterations.
2. All Hunt Constitutions must include an obligation to remain a Recognised Hunt under the Rules and an undertaking to accept the Rules, Instructions and jurisdiction of the MFHA.

New Masters

3. Following their appointment, new Masters shall enter into a written Agreement with their Hunt Committee. A copy of the signed Agreement shall be lodged by the Committee with the Director of the MFHA by the 1st July that year. In the event that the Agreement is not so lodged, the Director shall send written notification of failure to the new Masters concerned. In the absence of just excuse (as determined by the Director), any Master who has not signed and had the Agreement lodged within a further three months (ie by the 1st October) shall automatically cease to be a Member.
4. This written agreement must include a requirement to observe the arrangements referred to in Rule D.2. It must also include an undertaking by the Master to adhere to the Rules.

Obligations of Masters

5. It is the duty of every Master to ensure that all those persons appointed by him to act for him in his absence and all Hunt Staff comply with the Rules at all times. Masters remain responsible for the actions of such deputies. Masters are responsible for the actions of their Hunt Staff.
6. It shall be the duty of every Master to report to the Director of the MFHA any serious incidents affecting his Hunt as soon as possible.

Insurance

7. All Recognised Hunts must have adequate Third Party Liability Insurance and Employer's Liability Insurance. It is recommended that all Hunts give serious consideration to Legal Fees Insurance.

Hunt Country

8. Lending Country
 - (1) Subject to the approval of the Committee, a Master may, with the consent of his Hunt Committee, lend a portion of his country to an adjoining Recognised Hunt.
 - (2) The loan may be terminated by either party giving at least three months notice in writing, to expire before the 1st May, provided that such a notice to terminate, if given by the Hunt which granted the loan, shall not be effective until it has received the approval of the Committee. The Committee will consider each notice on its merits.
 - (3) Any loan of country must be registered with the MFHA.

Disputes

9. Disputes affecting Recognised Hunts and/or Members:
 - (1) Every Member shall be bound to refer to the Committee any case regarding Hunt matters he may have in dispute, if the person with whom he has the dispute shall request or agree to such reference, and he shall submit to the decision of the Committee under pain of expulsion. This Rule also applies to Recognised Hunts.
 - (2) Each party to the dispute shall submit two copies of their case in writing to the Director of the MFHA within three weeks of being called upon to do so.
 - (3) The parties involved in the dispute shall at the time of the initial reference lodge such a sum as shall from time to time be agreed by the Committee by way of a deposit to cover the costs of the subsequent enquiry. Such deposit may be returned at the conclusion of the enquiry at the sole discretion of the Committee.
 - (4) The Committee shall forward to each disputant a copy of the case lodged by the other disputant and shall be empowered to take any further evidence it deems necessary.
 - (5) The Committee shall be empowered to refer such disputes to whatever body or person it deems appropriate to resolve such disputes.

New Hunts

10.
 - (1) The MFHA will not recognise a New Hunt organised within the boundaries of an already Recognised Hunt until those responsible for the proposed New Hunt have obtained the consent of the Master and the Hunt committee of the already Recognised Hunt.
 - (2) Once that consent has been given, and the recognition of the MFHA obtained, an agreement should be signed both by the Chairman of the already Recognised Hunt and by the Chairman of the New Hunt, to the effect that the New Hunt is permitted to hunt within certain specified boundaries only, and on terms agreed between the parties.
 - (3) A copy of this agreement with a map scale of 1:50,000, signed by the Masters and Chairmen of the Hunts concerned, must be lodged with the Director or Secretary of the MFHA.
11. For the purpose of registering a New Hunt country, Hunts accepted by the Central Committee of Fell Packs are regarded as Recognised Hunts.

Hunt Clubs

12. A Hunt Club shall be treated as a Recognised Hunt and shall be subject to the Rules.

Hunt Events

13. Point to Point Steeplechases
 - (1) The Point-to-Point Board, in conjunction with the British Horseracing Authority (the BHA), will only sanction Point-to-Point Steeplechase meetings, which are to be held under the Regulations for Point-to-Point Steeplechases, either by a Recognised Hunt or by a club or association which has the approval of the Master of the Recognised Hunt in whose country the meeting is to take place.
 - (2) A Recognised Hunt running such a meeting, or a Master approving a club or association meeting, must ensure that the meeting is run in compliance with Rules issued by and from time to time updated by the Point-to-Point Board and by the MFHA Point-to-Point Committee, and in accordance with all BHA Regulations pertaining to Point-to-Point Steeplechases in force at the time.
 - (3) The MFHA retains authority over qualification for Point-to-Point Steeplechasing, including rules and rates of subscriptions, in respect of owners, riders and horses.
 - (4) The MFHA retains authority over the right, or otherwise, to levy charges on Recognised Hunts, clubs or associations holding Point-to-Point Steeplechase meetings, additional to any charges levied by the BHA.
 - (5) The Master of a Recognised Hunt is responsible for the conduct and running of the Point-to-Point Steeplechase meeting of his Recognised Hunt, and in accordance with the Rules and BHA Regulations.
 - (6) Failure to comply with these Rules may lead to the suspension of the Point-to-Point Steeplechase meeting. Adjudication of such matters will take place in accordance with clause A.11 of these Rules.
14. Cross Country Team Chases
All Cross Country Team Chases organised by or ostensibly under the auspices of a Recognised Hunt must comply with the Rules issued by and from time to time updated by the MFHA Standing Committee for Team Chasing.

C. HUNT STAFF

Hunt Staff

1. For the purpose of the Rules, Hunt Staff shall constitute all Huntsmen, Kennel-Huntsmen, Whippers-in, Kennelmen or any other person employed (or legally self-employed) by the Hunt or the Master thereof. Grooms employed by the Hunt solely in that capacity shall be exempted for these purposes.
2. All Hunt Staff (unless legally self employed) must have a valid contract of employment, which conforms to current employment law and includes provisions to adhere to and abide by the Rules and any Instructions in force, such as directly apply to them. A draft recommended contract can be obtained from the Director of the MFHA. Legally self employed Hunt Staff must sign an agreement to abide by the Rules and any Instructions in force. A draft recommended agreement can be obtained from the Director of the MFHA.
3. The Employment Year commences on May 1st. Notice should normally be given to or received from Hunt Staff and others employed in Hunt service by February 1st, but expiring on April 30th following.
4. The Committee may ask a Member not to employ a person as a member of Hunt Staff, if the Committee considers that such person is unfit to hold a position as a member of Hunt Staff, having regard to any experience thought desirable for the relevant post, provided that such a person is properly notified.
5. Any member of Hunt Staff or other Hunt employee who handles or uses a firearm of any sort must by law have the appropriate certificate or licence.
6. The MFHA may from time to time require Masters to instruct members of their Hunt Staff to attend seminars or other courses of instruction organised by the MFHA.
7. No Master shall approach, with a view to engagement, a member of Hunt Staff who is not known to be disengaged at the end of the season without first communicating with his present Master.
8. All Masters are to comply with the guidance issued by the MFHA from time to time regarding the provision of protective equipment and clothing for Hunt Staff and other employees.

D. HOUNDS

Ownership

1. A pack of foxhounds which belongs to a Hunt country should be vested in the name of Trustees by deed or in a company limited by shares or guarantee, which is owned by or on behalf of a Recognised Hunt.

Written Agreement

2. When a Master takes over a pack of foxhounds which belongs to a Hunt country, both he and the Hunt Committee should enter into a written agreement. This agreement should state:
 - (1) the total number of hounds in the kennels, both entered and unentered, and the name, age and sex of each hound taken over;
 - (2) that at the termination of the Mastership the Hunt Committee shall select from the whole of the existing pack, excluding any hounds exempted under Rule D.2(4), the equivalent number of hounds of approximately the same age and sex, as specified under Rule D.2(1);
 - (3) that in the event of there not being a sufficient number of hounds, the retiring Master must make good the deficiency to the satisfaction of the Hunt Committee;
 - (4) that, subject to Rule D.2(3), any hounds brought into the pack by the incoming Master at any time during his term of office (but not their progeny) shall remain his property;
 - (5) that no hounds shall be drafted during the Master's last season without the written consent of the Hunt Committee or the Hunt Trustees
 - (6) whether any excess of hounds after selection are to be the property of the Master.

Putting-to

3. Retiring Masters should put to before the 1st May in the year of their retirement a sufficient number of bitches to produce enough whelps from which to make the entry for the succeeding year.

The Stud Book

4. Only hounds from Recognised Hunts in Great Britain shall be admitted to the Stud Book. Entries may be accepted from packs outside Great Britain on payment of a fee.
5. Entry in the Stud Book:
 - (1) To be eligible for entry in the Stud Book, hounds must have been bred, entered and worked in the kennels of a Recognised Hunt; besides which their sires and dams must also have been so bred, entered and worked and must have been registered in the Stud Book, or both their grand-sires and both their grand-dams must have been registered in the Stud Book. (This Rule applies to Volume XVII and to all subsequent issues of the Stud Book).
 - (2) In addition, a Master wishing to enter in the Stud Book any hound, or the progeny of any hound, which is not already eligible under Rule D.5(1) may do so provided that:
 - (a) such hound comes from an established pack of Foxhounds, which has been kept for hunting for at least ten years; and
 - (b) the antecedents of such hounds, going back five generations, have been kept for hunting.
 - (3) Entries for the Stud Book under this Rule must, in all cases, be accompanied by an accurate pedigree extending to the sixth generation.
 - (4) All entries for the Stud Book must be approved by the Committee.
 - (5) Artificial Insemination:
 - (a) Hounds bred by artificial insemination will not be eligible to be entered in the Stud Book if both their parents originated in the United Kingdom or the Irish Republic, unless the MFHA Standing Committee for AI decides otherwise.
 - (b) Proposals for mating hounds (one of which in each case must have originated in a country other than the United Kingdom or the Irish Republic) by artificial insemination, whose progeny is intended for entry in the Stud Book, must be nominated to, and approved by, the MFHA Standing Committee for AI.

Arrangements for Entry in the Stud Book

- (1) The Director of the MFHA shall act as Editor of the Stud Book.
- (2) The entry list must be sent to the Director of the MFHA each year not later than the 1st December (on the form to be obtained from him) if hounds are to be eligible to be entered in the forthcoming volume of the Stud Book. The lists should be arranged alphabetically according to litters, doghounds at the head of each litter. The year in which each sire and dam was entered must be given.
- (3) The name of each hound in a litter must normally begin with the same letter as either their sire or dam, although the Stud Book Editor may accept a new initial letter in an exceptional case of congestion. Names of one syllable will not be acceptable.
- (4) The name of each hound in a litter must begin with the same letter and in cases where puppies are drafted to other Hunts before going out to walk, it must be ensured that the initial letter of each puppy in the litter is the same.
- (5) When hounds already entered are drafted, the name of the Hunt where they were entered must always be prefixed to their names and the year of entry given. If not already entered by the drafting pack their prefix is that of the Hunt receiving them.

Drafting Hounds

7. (1) The responsibility for drafting hounds lies solely with the Master, unless otherwise arranged in the agreement between the Master and the Hunt committee of that Hunt, referred to in Rule D.2.
 - (2) Hounds may only be drafted to:
 - (a) packs recognised by the MFHA, the Association of Masters of Harriers and Beagles, the Masters of Deerhounds Association, the Masters of Minkhounds Association, the Masters of Draghounds and Bloodhounds Association, the Irish Masters of Foxhounds Association, the Central Committee of Fell Packs, the Federation of Welsh Packs; and

- (b) packs recognised by the relevant hunting association in countries outside the United Kingdom and the Irish Republic.
- (3) Hounds may only be drafted by and to Masters and not by or to any member of Hunt Staff.

Miscellaneous Matters

- 8. All hounds must be earmarked for identification at the time of weaning. The earmark must identify the Hunt, the year of birth and an identification number.
- 9. It is the duty of the Master to make sure that Hunt Staff, or those acting as such, are fully conversant with Rules D.6 and D.7.
- 10. For the purposes of the breeding and drafting of hounds, those Hunts registered by the Central Committee of Fell Packs are accepted and regarded as Recognised Hunts.

**APPENDIX 1
Code of Good Practice**

Recommendations for Running a Hunt

- 1. A Hunt Annual General Meeting should be held each year, not later than the 1st February, to endorse any recommendations which the Hunt Committee may have made. Such a Hunt General Meeting should be open to attendance by landowners, covert owners and farmers on all of whose land the hounds are welcome and subscribers (and if desired, puppy walkers).
- 2. In the event of a General Hunt Meeting not approving the Hunt Committee's recommendation(s) the following options are open:-
 - a. The Hunt Committee may accept a reference back for further consideration.
 - b. The Hunt committee should resign and a new Hunt Committee be appointed forthwith.
- 3. At the Hunt Annual General Meeting the Hunt Committee should be elected or vacancies of the said Committee (according to local rules) filled up.

- 4. When a decision has been taken at a General Meeting of the Hunt affecting the Mastership, it is imperative that any minority should loyally abide by the wishes of the majority of those present at the Meeting and not attempt to re-open the question subsequently.
- 5. As soon as the arrangements for the ensuing season are decided on, the Director or Secretary of the MFHA must be notified of the name and address of any new Master or Representative appointed to represent the Hunt on the MFHA, subject to the provisions of Rule A.6.
- 6. It must be remembered by Masters that repeated incursions into neighbouring countries are likely to cause tension between Hunts and farmers, and should be avoided as far as possible.
- 7. Masters should make proper arrangements for access with farmers, landowners, and owners and tenants of shoots.
- 8. If a Master is asked to bring his hounds into another country for a day's Hunting, the words "by invitation" should be inserted with the advertised meet, but no such words need be added if a portion of a country is lent by a written agreement for the whole season.
- 9. Puppy walkers may take puppies from another country provided the Master of the home country has no objection. In such cases it is diplomatic to offer to take puppies from each kennel.
- 10. No Master should accept flesh from outside his own country except under mutually acceptable agreements previously made with neighbouring Masters.
- 11. Supporters Clubs should be run under the auspices of and for the general benefit of the Hunt that they support.
- 12. It is strongly recommended that Hunt Committees give serious consideration to arrangements for pensions for their Hunt Staff and other Hunt employees, particularly at an early stage in their careers. The Hunt Staff Benefit Society can advise how this can be done throughout a member of Hunt Staff's career. Arrangements should also be made for personal accident insurance for Hunt Staff.