

**FOX RIVER VALLEY HUNT  
LIABILITY RELEASE, WAIVER, AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT**

The undersigned Participant, or Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s) of Participant (collectively "Participant"), agrees to the following terms and conditions:

1. **ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER:** Participant agrees that riding a horse, riding to hounds, and generally participating in Fox River Valley Hunt activities is an equine activity as it is defined by the Illinois Equine Activity Liability Act. Participant understands and accepts the risks of engaging in equine activities, including, but not limited to: (i) the propensity of an equine to behave in dangerous ways that may result in injury to the Participant, (ii) the inability to predict an equine's reaction to sound, movements, objects persons, or animals, and (iii) the hazards of surface or subsurface conditions. Participant further understands the resulting injuries, death, and property damage that may result from the accepted risks of engaging in equine activities. Participant therefore agrees, on his/her own behalf and on behalf of his/her minor Participant, to at all times to be responsible for his/her personal safety, remain financially responsible for his/her medical expenses, and waives his/her right to any claims arising from his/her participation in or observation of any equine activities or mere presence on the property of Fox River Valley Hunt, Cook County, Illinois and any other property on which Hunt activities are conducted (collectively "Hunt Sponsors"). Participant agrees to obey and follow all rules of safety, procedures, and acceptable conduct of the Hunt Sponsors.
  
2. **RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS:** Participant agrees to release and hold the Hunt Sponsors, their respective heirs, directors, members subsidiaries, affiliates, agents, officers, assigns, volunteers, employees, independent contractors, and affiliated groups, harm less for any illness, injury, death, personal and/or property damage, property theft, or other loss incurred.
  
3. **GOVERNING LAW AND TIME LIMITATION:** This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois. All disputes relating to the interpretations and enforcement of the provisions of this Agreement shall be resolved exclusively by the federal or state court located in Cook County, Illinois, and the parties hereto hereby submit to the jurisdictions and venue of the Cook County Court for such purpose. Participant agrees that any and all claims and/or causes of action, for injury, death, property damage or other claims or losses, by the Participant, on his/her own behalf and/or on behalf of a minor Participant, against the Hunt Sponsors, their respective heirs, directors, members, subsidiaries, affiliates, agents, officers, assigns, volunteers, employee, independent contractors, and affiliated groups, must be brought within one(1) year of the date of the occurrence giving rise to such claim or loss.
  
4. **ATTORNEYS' FEES:** Participant agrees to reimburse the Hunt Sponsors for any and all attorneys' fees and costs incurred by them in enforcing the terms of this Agreement and/or in defending or prosecuting any claims or causes of action involving, or in any way relating to, Participant.
  
5. **PARTICIPANT CERTIFICATION:** Participant certifies that he/she has read this entire Agreement and understands, agrees, and intends on his/her own behalf, and on behalf of his/her heirs, agents, representatives, relatives, successors, and assigns, to be bound by all of the terms and conditions contained herein.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Participant signing on his/her own behalf and as Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s) if  
Participant is under 18 years old

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Adress: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**UNDER THE EQUINE ACTIVITY LIABILITY ACT, EACH PARTICIPANT WHO ENGAGES IN AN EQUINE ACTIVITY EXPRESSLY ASSUMES THE RISKS OF ENGAGING IN AND LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY FROM INJURY, LOSS, OR DAMAGE TO PERSON OR PROPERTY RESULTING FROM THE RISK OF EQUINE ACTIVITIES.**

## COURTESY

There is nothing as exciting as the sound of the pack honoring a line, the huntsman's horn, the thrill of the chase. It is something very personal for each of us, yet it is also a shared experience that takes a lot of work and cooperation on everyone's part. The rules of fox-hunting are meant to ensure good sport in a safe way.

If you hack to the meet through country we may be hunting that day, try to be quiet and walk so as not to disturb the quarry.

The Master and staff are responsible for the day's sport, when you arrive, a polite greeting is all that is necessary.

Respect the hounds - from the moment the hounds move off, they have the right of way. It is unpardonable to step on or kick a hound. It is worse to do this and not report it to the staff immediately.

Whenever you are near the staff and/or hounds, turn your horse's head toward them to prevent a random kick.

Be ready to move off at the appointed time.

For your safety and safety of others, keep your horse under control at all times. **DO NOT TAILGATE**, and maintain the pace set by the Field Master. Do not gallop or move past the horse in front of you without their knowledge and permission before passing.

During checks, the hounds and staff are working. Keep conversation to a minimum.

We are privileged to hunt over a great deal of private property. The staff knows where we have permission to hunt - follow the Field Master at all times. The Hunt Staff may occasionally cut across a field to reach hounds. Do not follow suit. One horse may cause little damage; twenty horses significant damage.

If you must leave early, tell the Field Master. He can tell you where to go to avoid hounds that may follow you and property that we are not allowed to ride on.

Any damage to property or fences should be reported to the Field Master.

Do not sweep out trailers on private property.

Maintain a safe distance - do not crowd at jumps. If you have a refusal, go to the rear. After the third try, look for a gate or gap.

Proper etiquette is necessary for a good, safe hunt that is enjoyed by all.

## TURNOUT

Both horses and tack should be clean and presentable. Horses' manes should be neatly pulled and, on special days - Blessing, Joint Meets - braided.

## HUNT ATTIRE

### Cubbing and week days:

**HAT:** Black or dark brown hard hat.

**COAT:** Ratcatcher, tweed (muted colors), or plain, conservative color (other than black).

**SHIRT:** Cotton shirt (white or colored) with choker, necktie or colored stock tie.

**BREECHES:** Tan, rust or earhtone breeches or jodhpurs (green, black and blue are not correct).

**BOOTS:** Brown or black field or dress boots (no brown or patent tops).

Formal attire is not appropriate during cubbing season.

### Formal Season:

#### Members without colors:

**HAT:** Black hard hat.

**COAT:** Formal black, dark blue hunt or frock coat (always buttoned); no color on collar.

**VEST:** Canary or tattersall vest.

**SHIRT:** White with white stock tie and plain gold stock pin placed horizontally.

**BREECHES:** Tan, buff, rust or canary.

**BOOTS:** dress black (without patent or brown tops).

#### Gentlemen with colors:

**COAT:** Scarlet or black with hunt color on collar and hunt buttons (always buttoned).

**VEST:** Canary or tattersall.

**SHIRT:** White with white stock tie and plain gold safety stock pin placed horizontally.

**BREECHES:** White.

**BOOTS:** Dress black with brown tops.