

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



RAPTOR CLUB

Rules and Codes of Conduct

1. It is the aim of the Club to carry forward the traditions of Falconry and Raptor management, maintain the Clubs code of practice and support captive breeding programs for all diurnal and nocturnal birds of prey.
2. All laws and legislation for keeping birds of prey must be strictly adhered to. Any members not doing so may be dismissed from the Club.
3. New Members and beginners will be given any help or assistance required.
4. Club Members acquiring a raptor through the Club and wishing to dispose of it at a later date must first offer it back to the Club members before it is offered for sale on the open market.
5. Members may be a Member of any other Falconry Club or Raptor Breeding organization.
6. All Members must agree to a Raptor keeping inspection scheme, this will be conducted by an appropriate club member designated by the committee, with regards to bird welfare.
7. Members may give private or public falconry displays as individuals, groups or Club as long as they are competent to do so and hold the appropriate insurance. Permission from the committee must be gained prior to using the Club Name.
8. The Club shall consist of Full Members, Associate Members and Junior Members.
9. The Club is not required to disclose any reason for refusing Membership.
10. Membership is by the approval of the committee.
11. Any Member who faces an accusation in a Court Of Law for any offence regarding animal welfare, cruelty or under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, must report the matter to the Club within seven days.
12. Annual subscription will be determined at a General Meeting held each year.

13. Members whose subscriptions are eight weeks in arrears will have to re-apply for membership.
14. New Members will be issued with a full set of Club Rules.
15. When flying hawks/falcons, Game & Quarry Licenses must be carried by the members as the law dictates. Any member not able to produce a valid license will be requested to withdraw from any Field Meeting the Club has arranged.
16. Bad conduct or bad language will not be tolerated. Courtesy must be shown to Land Owners, their families and guests. Good dress code must be followed i.e. no disruptive pattern camouflage clothing is acceptable. (For further information contact a committee member).
17. Members who organise a Field Meeting may add further rules which must be adhered to in conjunction with the Club Rules.
18. A charge (agreed at the AGM) will be made to Members attending Field Meetings. The charge will cover any expenses incurred with any remainder going to Club funds.
19. Dogs at Field Meetings will only be allowed at the Field Captains discretion. There will be no more than 2 dogs worked at any one time. Any other dogs present and not working must be kept under control and on a lead
20. Slips at quarry to be agreed at the Field Meeting by the Field Captain and party. At no time should any more than a cast of raptors be flown at once.
21. All quarry should be dispatched quickly and treated with respect, no firearms are permitted at any time
22. Members or guests showing unsportsmanlike conduct or unsatisfactory behavior will be requested to leave the Field Meeting at the Field Captains discretion.
23. When individual slips are being taken all other birds **must** be 'tied on'.
24. Moneys for Field Meetings will be collected at the Club Meeting prior to the Field Meeting or on the day by the Field Captain.
25. A Guest is defined as: a Member of another Falconry Club, a prospective new member or a person who may be of benefit to the Club, i.e. a Landowner, Vet, Guest Speaker, Ferreter etc.
26. Guests may attend Field Meetings providing prior notice is given to the Committee and approval is obtained.
27. Guests are the responsibility of their Sponsor.
28. Cameras and videos are forbidden on field meets, unless with prior permission is obtained from the Field Captain.

29. Any photographs taken at a field meet must be shown to the committee prior to any form of public display.
30. All members are responsible for their own third party liability insurance at all club meetings and functions. (Advice can be obtained from the committee).
31. Any person selling, displaying or advertising Raptors for sale through the club in any way is responsible for ensuring that the any legally required documentation is correct and in order. Any breach of this will result in the matter being reported to the appropriate authorities.
32. Any amendments to these rules and codes of conduct will be made by a vote of the full committee. Members will be notified of any changes at the next scheduled meeting.
33. Monthly Club meetings will be held on the last Thursday of each month with effect from January 2006.
34. The Club Annual General Meeting will take place on the last Thursday of January in every year with effect from January 2007. At this meeting the committee will be dissolved and a new committee will be elected.

Further information is available from:

**The Secretary, Northamptonshire Raptor Club, 5 Main Road, Hackleton,
Northampton, NN7 2AB.**

E-Mail: N Raptor Club@aol.com