



Policy on hunting and disturbance of wild animals

Disturbance of wild animals

1. The unauthorised chasing, killing, hunting or trapping of any animal on MHT land is prohibited under Section 7 of the Malvern Hills Byelaws 1995.
2. In accordance with the law, the hunting of wild mammals with dogs over any land under MHT jurisdiction is prohibited.

Hunting policy

1. In accordance with the law, hunting a wild mammal with a dog/s on MHT land is prohibited.
2. In addition, the activities specified in Schedule 1 of the Hunting Act 2004 are also NOT permitted on MHT land.
3. In the following parts of this policy, “hunting” means following a pre-laid scent trail or a trail made by the scent of a person with a pack of hounds. “The Hunt” means the body organising the hunting event.
4. No hunting may take place on MHT land without written permission given in advance. In the event that hounds come on to MHT land inadvertently, only the hunt Masters, the Huntsman or Whippers-in may follow them, solely for the purpose of retrieving and removing hounds as quickly as possible.
5. Hunts wishing to hunt on MHT land, or run any other event, must make a written application to MHT, in advance, on MHT’s application form. This will be considered under the normal Event Application process, and the application may be approved, MHT may request an amendment to the planned arrangements or the application may be rejected.
6. Approval of applications to run a Hunt event will be confirmed in writing or by E-mail, and applicants must ensure that this has been received before the event takes place.
7. The application process is as follows:
 - a. Not less than one month before the first proposed event organisers must send a written notification giving the dates of any hunting events proposed where they wish to (or it is possible that they may) cross MHT land.
 - b. Details of the proposed event, including routes of scent trails to be laid must be submitted no less than 10 days before the event.
8. Hunts should be aware that the proposed area of any approved hunting event may be made public.
9. The number of hunting events on MHT land will be limited to a maximum of 4 occasions per Hunt in each winter season, such season to be between October 1st and January 31st
10. Hunting will only be permitted on Old Hills, Hollybed Common and Castlemorton Common (including Berrow Downs and lower eastern slopes

of Swinyard Hill below the Pink Cottage Track). Hunting on the main spine of the Hills is not permitted.

11. During the course of any approved event the Master and/or Huntsman must have full knowledge of where the scent trail has been laid and scent trails must not be laid through areas of cover. Hounds must be kept to the path of the scent trail and the pack is to be encouraged to keep moving and not permitted to loiter in any area of undergrowth, scrub, gorse, thicket or covert.
12. Parking of horse boxes associated with the Hunt on MHT land is not permitted, except in identified car parks and parking spaces.
13. Hunts must take all reasonable steps to prevent the parking of vehicles on its land by Hunt followers.
14. The Hunt must advise any farmers or commoners likely to be affected and in particular all those who have stock on or near the Common.
15. MHT reserve the right to cancel permission at short notice if weather conditions so dictated or for any other good reason.

Approved by the Board 14 September 2017