

BASC

Deer Management Scheme

Dorset

Information and Application Form 2016/17

INTRODUCTION

The Dorset Deer Management scheme is open to all BASC members (**who are in possession of their own stalking rifle and hold an Open Certificate**) and is designed to provide practical follow-on experience for those who have completed the Deer Stalking Certificate Level 1 and therefore anyone wishing to attend the scheme must hold this qualification.

A combination of foot stalking and high seats will be used to give members the opportunity to shoot roe deer in a lowland environment. Opportunities to shoot other species may be available in some locations at various times of the year although bookings should be made on the basis of roe only. All stalking, which takes place as part of the scheme, is under the overall supervision of a co-ordinator who will supervise the briefing, deployment of stalkers and conduct all culling operations.

DATES AND COST FOR THE 2016-17SEASON

- Event 1: 26th – 27th Aug 2016
- Event 2: 2nd – 3rd Sept 2016
- Event 3: 9th – 10th Sept 2016
- Event 4: 30th Sept- 1st Oct 2016
- Event 5: 7th – 8th Oct 2016
- Event 6: 4th – 5th Nov 2016
- Event 7: 18th – 19th Nov 2016
- Event 8: 25th – 26th Nov 2016
- Event 9: 16th & 17th Dec 2016
- Event 10: 22nd – 23rd Feb 2017
- Event 11: 10th – 11th March 2017
- Event 12: 24th – 25th March 2017
- Event 13: 7th – 8th April 2017
- Event 14: 21st – 22nd April 2017
- Event 15: 5th – 6th May 2017
- Event 16: 19th – 20th May 2017
- Event 17: 2nd – 3rd June 2017
- Event 18: 9th – 10th June 2017
- Event 19: 14th & 15th July 2017

An event will cost £180.00. There will also be no additional trophy fees associated.

STALKING PROCEDURES

The stalking lease area is widespread throughout the county of Dorset with many larger areas grouped together in clusters. A central point to the main area is between Shaftesbury and Blandford Forum. Where possible, stalking events will take place on core areas where continuous leased farmland can be used to accommodate two stalkers. Some travel between different areas may be required to ensure participants have maximum opportunity.

A single event can accommodate two stalkers and will comprise of two stalking outings over two days. The first will be a PM outing on the afternoon/evening of the first day followed by an AM outing the following morning. One stalker will be positioned in a high seat unaccompanied and the other will be accompanied by the co-ordinator to stalk on foot in a different area. The two stalkers will then swap over for the second outing. A different area may need to be used for the second outing depending on what is seen/shot during the evening before.

Scheme participants will be briefed by the co-ordinator before heading out onto the ground. The stalker visiting the high seat will only be permitted to shoot from the high seat and a finish time

will be agreed with the co-ordinator prior to each outing. A more detailed safety briefing will take place prior to outings in the field.

During the open season for roe deer, the BASC scheme allows members to cull 1 roe buck per outing. Does and buck kids during the winter events will be unlimited. The choice of individual animals to be culled will be at the discretion of the stalker and there will be no additional trophy fees for male animals.

RIFLES AND AMMUNITION

It is essential that anyone who intends to take advantage of the scheme has a basic knowledge of deer and stalking and is confident and proficient in using their rifle in field conditions.

For the shooting of roe deer in England and Wales, firearms and ammunition must conform to requirements laid down in the Deer Act 1991(as amended) These are stated as follows:

- **Calibre not less than .240 inches**
- **Not less than 1700 ft lbs muzzle energy**
- **Ammunition that is designed to deform in a predictable manner**

All rifles must be prepared and zeroed prior to arrival on the programme. It would be prudent to bring enough ammunition to cover all eventualities that might occur over the 2 days. Factory ammunition and home loads are both acceptable.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

A permit authorises the holder to shoot specified deer on BASC leased ground on certain dates. Stalking will be by agreement with the BASC Game & Deer Department. The permit will only be valid for the period booked and will be forfeited if not exercised within that period.

The Permit Holder will be required to:

- a. read conditions and complete booking form;
- b. give notice as detailed within the cancellation policy. A refund will only be provided where the place can be reallocated and an administration fee for legitimate and unavoidable cancellations will then apply;
- c. comply at all times with relevant legislation, general conditions of the permit and any instructions issued by the co-ordinator. Failure to do so may result in termination of permit without recompense;
- d. use a rifle calibre of not less than .240 inches and expanding ammunition which produces a muzzle energy of not less than 1700 foot pounds. The ammunition must be designed to expand in a predictable manner;
- e. to arrive with a zeroed rifle and to fire a group of sighting shots – on request – at a range and accuracy to the satisfaction of the co-ordinator or other authorised person;
- f. produce – for inspection on request by the co-ordinator or other authorised person – a valid Firearms Certificate and proof of current BASC membership (which gives third party insurance cover with an indemnity limit of £10,000,000 legal liability) and proof of holding a game meat handling qualification;
- g. indemnify BASC against any loss, injury or damage;
- h. shoot any injured or diseased deer that may be encountered;

- i. to notify the co-ordinator of all shots fired who will make the final decision on any follow up action required;
- j. stop stalking if a deer is wounded, until it has been despatched or otherwise accounted for to the co-ordinator's satisfaction
- k. ensure that he/she does not shoot from any vehicle or by artificial light;
- l. pay to BASC fees as set out on the attached advisory paper by the times stipulated;
- m. note that the carcass is the property of BASC. Weight and other measurements of interest will be recorded officially. The Permit Holder may purchase the venison at the current market price outlined by the co-ordinator and make their own arrangements for its removal;
- n. note that while all arrangements for a satisfactory outing will be made in good faith, BASC can give no guarantees that deer will be encountered;
- o. note that BASC reserve the right to suspend or withdraw a Permit at any time and its decision in any matters arising from the granting of a Permit will be final;
- p. note that BASC reserves the right to vary all conditions, dates and charges without notice.
- q. this stalking opportunity is solely for the benefit of BASC members and permits may not be bought and resold for any commercial purpose or for financial gain. BASC reserves the right to cancel or withdraw without recompense; any permit which the Deer Management team believes may have breached this condition.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation options are numerous and should easily cater for all tastes and budgets. The central point to the main area is between Shaftesbury and Blandford Forum, however, we recommend that you contact the BASC Game & Deer Department before booking any accommodation to confirm the best location in relation to the area being used for that event.

INSURANCE

BASC operates a cancellation charging scheme and it would be prudent to consider an insurance policy to cover cancellations due to unforeseen eventualities. Members should ensure that the 'holiday element' is covered by separate insurance cover and should inform any potential insurer that the 'shooting element' is covered under BASC membership.

VEHICLES

A 4x4 vehicle is not essential but as farm tracks will be used some of the time, it can be an advantage. The lease does not allow participants to use quad bikes or similar all-terrain vehicles and they should not be brought to the scheme.

DOGS

Participants who wish to bring dogs with them must seek prior permission from BASC. Some locations, at certain times of the year, may have a high level of livestock grazing and therefore dogs may not be permitted. The co-ordinator will have access to a deer dog if required.

HOW TO MAKE A BOOKING

Bookings will only be taken from **10am Tuesday 16th August 2016** by calling the Game and Deer department direct and will be on a first come first served basis to ensure fairness. Those

interested in booking must contact the Game and Deer Management team by phone (01244 573019) to confirm availability. Please note that messages or calls received before this time will not be processed. Card payments over the phone and cheques sent in by post are both accepted.

BASC reserves the right to cancel any booking at any time at which point a full refund of the outing fee will be made. BASC will not be liable for any other costs incurred by the member in booking the outing.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Please note carefully before making a booking

Full payment must be forwarded with any application for a permit.

If a permit is cancelled then BASC will endeavour to reallocate the permit but if this is not possible, then the following scale of charges will apply:

- Reallocation of permit by BASC at any stage – admin fee of £30.00
- More than 8 weeks before start of permit - admin fee of £30.00
- Less than 8 weeks but more than 4 weeks before start of permit - 30% of permit fee
- Less than 4 weeks but more than 2 weeks before start of permit - 60% of permit fee
- Less than 2 weeks before start of permit - 100% of permit fee

Please return forms and remittance to:

Email: game.deer@basc.org.uk

BASC Game & Deer Management Department
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