



HASTINGS ISLAND HUNTING PRESERVE



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DECEMBER 2023

Merry Christmas, and a very Happy New Year to our Members and Guests! We are looking forward to seeing everyone during the Holidays! Thank you for making it yet another fantastic year. Danielle Earl, Club Manager

BIRD CARDS!

The Club is still selling the Late Season 20 Bird Cards for the remainder of the 2023-2024 Pheasant Season. If you have any friends you would like to sponsor into the Club, please keep in mind that for several seasons, we have closed new Memberships in December or January.

The Early Season Bird Cards ends on December 15, 2023. If you hold an Early Season Bird Card, you must harvest all your remaining pheasant by December 15th. After that, you can still use the Club amenities for Trap Shooting, Fishing, or Chukar Hunts, but you will no longer be able to hunt pheasant for the remainder of the 2023-2024 Season.



Ryan, Alex, Hudson, Leighton, Westyn and Karson Ferris

FUNFLATION

Hunting at the Club is a great way to spend an enjoyable day with family or friends, and compared to some these other winter activities, it won't break the bank:

This year the cost of a one-day, adult lift ticket at Heavenly Valley is a whopping \$190.00 or \$237-\$265 at Squaw Valley on a Weekend or Holiday.

A ticket to a concert at Shoreline Amphitheater can be up to \$199.50 for reserved seating. These seats sell out fast and then show up on the secondary market for double, sometimes triple or more than the face value.

The seats at Levi's Stadium for a 49'er Football Game are some of the most expensive in the NFL. The least expensive seat is over \$400.00 per person. For a family of four it could end up costing you over a thousand dollars for an afternoon/evening of football.

Movie tickets are now \$16.00 per person. Add in the costs of drinks and snacks, and you are easily looking at \$100 for a family of 4 for a night at the movies.

At the Club, your Membership covers the entire Pheasant Season. In addition, you have year-round access to the amenities of the Club, including trap shooting, fishing, camping, chukar hunts, and dog training.

ROAD ACCESS TO THE CLUB FROM HIGHWAY 113

Thank you to our neighbors at D&R Livestock, who have spread a thick layer of recycled asphalt on their access road to the Club from Hwy 113.

We hope that this layer of recycled asphalt is a big improvement over the past few winters, when the road would become very muddy in wet weather conditions.

While this new road surface should help reduce the muddy conditions, keep in mind that this is still a rough road with large sized chunks of asphalt mixed in. The speed limit is 15mph.

We highly recommend that you exercise proper caution when driving on this road. If you prefer a smoother, paved road, access the Club from the Rio Vista side of the Island.

Drive Safely Everyone!!

HOLIDAY HOURS & SPECIAL CLOSURE	
Field Hours 7:30am -12:00pm Club Closes at 2:00pm Club Closed Club Re-open's Club Closed Special Club Closure Club Re-Open's	Christmas Eve - December 24th Christmas Eve - December 24th Christmas Day - December 25th December 26th New Years Day - January 1st February 21 and 22, 2024 February 23, 2024

SPOTLIGHT ON THE COFFEE SHOP

We are often asked why our coffee shop is closed on Mondays and Wednesdays. Although we would love to open every day the club is open, we just don't get the breakfast/lunch traffic to make it feasible. On your next visit to the Club, please stop by and see what's cookin'.



Irma and Romelia

Irma Saavedra and Romelia Cisneros are on the grill and making hearty omelettes, delicious cheeseburgers with fries or onion rings, and the best milkshakes in Rio Vista.

Stop by and try a milkshake in Vanilla, Chocolate or Coffee, and they serve a great tasting Root Beer Float, too!

The Coffee Shop is open on Thursdays and Fridays, 10:00am–2:00pm, and on Saturdays and Sundays, 7:00am–2:00pm. (Grill goes off at 1:30pm).

FISHING AT HASTINGS ISLAND

Many of our members enjoy the fine fishing opportunities present at the Club. With a variety of surrounding waterways, and many species of game fish native to the area, a few hours with a pole and reel can net you a huge fish!! We regularly see Sturgeon, Striped and Large Mouth Bass, Carp and Catfish, all being taken from the bank of the levees or from fishing boats launched at our boat ramp, which provides access to nearby public waterways and most of the Delta. Fishing is available 24 hours a day when the Club is open.



As with any visit, members must always sign in and out at the Clubhouse.

22ND ANNUAL TRAP SHOOT!!

This fall, our Annual Trap Shoot was an exciting event. A cool morning on a calm and sunny day greeted the shooters, as our returning champion, Caleb Harris, led the first squad in defending his title.

After 3 rounds of competition, Caleb led the pack, but only by 2 clays. A tense final round ensued as Caleb dropped a target right away, but then bounced back without another miss, winning the shoot with his final 91/100 score, to make it two years in a row for Caleb.



Congratulations Caleb and we look forward to seeing you back in 2024 to go 3 for 3!

HENS, HENS, HENS!

When the State Pheasant Season begins, the Club releases mainly hens. This provides several benefits for our Members. Firstly, Hens during November and December hold well in cover and fly well because they are not carrying eggs, as they later do carry in February and March. Secondly, the Club has contracts with breeders which provide for a single price per bird, based on the Club taking Roosters and Hens. This allows the Club to help keep Bird Card costs from changing wildly from season to season. Thirdly, any Hens which migrate across irrigation canals onto the nearby cattle properties, cannot be hunted by people on those ranches, as the State season allows only Roosters to be hunted on other properties. Those Roosters that made their way to the nearby ranches return to the Club as soon as we release Hens. This two-step process means Pheasant bought for the Club and released by the Club, are hunted by Club Members only and not by non-Members on nearby ranch land.

We recommend that a slower pace of hunting and a well-planned pattern of dog work in the field. This will allow you to achieve the best hunting results, as Hens do sit well in cover and do not run around as much.

Please keep in mind that the final benefit for the release of Hens during State Season is when the Club returns to releasing mainly Roosters on December 27, 2023, the Roosters will be present and released for a much longer period of time during the last part of the 2023-2024 Season. For more information, please see the article on the Club's website at www.hihp.com/hens-during-state-season



CHRISTMAS TAILS FROM THE CLUB

The Club takes great pride in the quality and performance of our well-trained, veteran Rental Dogs. These solid hunters have the benefit of hundreds of hours of training and many seasons of hunting pheasant. These dogs have been the key to many hunts.

As our dogs become experienced hunters, the Club rotates them off of the Rental Line and into Forever Homes with our Members, where they can continue to enjoy pheasant hunting. This allows the Club to bring in new dogs and prepare them with the same high level of care, training and experience.

During this season, the Club has found forever families for two of our dogs. We are happy to see these two excellent dogs found homes with Members.

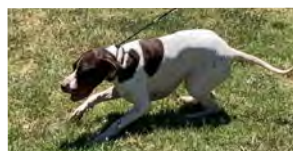


“Izzy”, is a German Shorthair Pointer with seven years of experience, is a hard hunter and was a favorite for many years. She is now settled in with a forever family and two children that enjoy her, as she takes naps on the couch and gets love and attention every day.

“Scout”, a Yellow Labrador with 4 years of experience and training is now in his forever home and enjoying life in Santa Cruz and hunting pheasant.

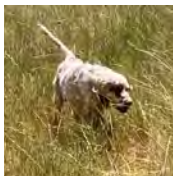


It is time for two more of the dogs at Hastings Island to find new hunting homes with lots of love.



“Lightning” - This English Pointer has been with us for 4 years. She is fully obedience trained and recently she has broken out and is showing desire and drive to find birds and hunt. She would be a perfect choice for a single hunter.

“Gunner” - The Rental Line’s English Setter is a dog with a history of steady performance. Gunner is very loving and would make a great addition to any family. He is fully trained and has many seasons of finding pheasant and chukar at the Club.



If you are interested in “Gunner” or “Lightning”, please call the Club at (707) 678-3325 and talk to Danielle Earl.

STAY CONNECTED

Facebook is a great way to stay connected with us and keep up with all the Club goings on. Although we may post updates regularly, we do not check messages on the site so the best way to contact us is to call (707) 678-3325 or email: clubmail@hihp.com.



LADIES WHO HUNT

Last month the Club hosted the 4th Hastings Island Introductory Women’s Hunt. This event is a great intro to Pheasant Hunting and we would like to give a big thank you to Holly Heyser for putting it together.

After a safety briefing, everyone met their dog handlers and guides, then headed out into the field in small groups to begin the hunt. After a thrilling and successful day of shooting, everybody enjoyed lunch at the coffee shop while their birds were being cleaned. The afternoon concluded with a round of shooting at the trap range.



4th Hastings Island Introductory Womens' Hunt

Yolo County Pheasants Forever is organizing a Ladies Hunt at the Club in February 2024. Information will be available on the Club’s website and on our Facebook Page. If you or anyone you know might be interested in joining us, please call the club office for more information.

ON-SITE DOG TRAINING

As a reminder, on-site dog training is available to our members through Richard Gebhardt, the owner of Royal Gun Dogs. Richard has been a professional dog trainer since 2002 and in 2021, he began training dogs at The Club. Richard trains dogs for both upland and waterfowl hunting.

Richard holds a “puppy camp” and can help teach your new dog basic hunting skills and acclimate them to the sound of gunshots. He can also help fine tune your older dog in retrieving, flushing and pointing. Just like people, dogs have different personalities and learning abilities. Richard can evaluate your dog and recommend a custom training program.



If you lack the time and knowledge to train your own dog, Richard has Kennel Spaces at Hastings Island and can train your dog for you.

Please contact Richard if you would like more information: (530) 341-4496.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023 IN PICTURES



GIVE GARMIN THIS CHRISTMAS

Christmas is coming and what better gift can you buy for the hunter in your life than a Garmin gift. The Club is an authorized Garmin Distributor and we offer special Members Only price discounts on all Garmin Products.



Garmin makes products designed for the outdoor lifestyle. They bring GPS technology and handheld, wearable, or pocket size technology to hunters of all ages. Smart watches and portable navigation devices, fitness trackers, dog training devices, offer an exceptional way to improve your hunt and your outdoor experience.

Members Only pricing applies to all Garmin products, so we recommend you check their website for the type of device you desire, then stop by or call the Club, where we can assist you with ordering your items at lower than retail prices.



You can find all of Garmin's product line at:

<https://www.garmin.com/en-US/c/outdoor-recreation/>

All sales are final and please allow order and shipping time for all Garmin products to arrive, as we do not have all items in stock at the Club.



NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Please be aware that New Member Orientation classes are now limited to specific dates, and advanced registration is required. If you are a New Member and still have not attended an Orientation, please call the Club Office to inquire about the remaining dates and reserve a spot. Classes are approximately 30 minutes and all new members are required to attend the class prior to their first hunt.

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