



Wessington Springs Area Chamber & Development
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wessingtonsprings.com

Foothills Pheasant Fest Competitive Hunt

The 3rd Annual Foothills Pheasant Fest is scheduled for December 17-18, 2021! Rules meeting and Calcutta are Friday evening Dec. 17, followed by the Competitive Hunt on Saturday, Dec. 18th with an awards banquet to follow. Attached is a copy of the application form and rules. Please review the rules carefully and **submit your application prior to the December 3rd, 2021 deadline.**

Please note: The Competition Hunt is limited to 10 teams. Team selection criteria will include, but not be limited to:

- First 10 teams with a paid entry.
- Complete application information and waivers.
- WS Chamber reserves the right to add more teams at their discretion.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call us 1-605-539-1929 or email lore@wessingtonsprings.com. We look forward to seeing you!

Sincerely,

Loree Gaikowski

Loree Gaikowski
Executive Director
Wessington Springs Area Chamber & Development



Foothills Pheasant Fest Hunt Rules

Hunt Date: Saturday, December 18 2021

Registration Fee: The cost for each team is \$1,500 (\$250 per gun). A certified check, money order, or personal check, by December 3rd will be accepted. Registration past this deadline will require a certified check or money order only. Sorry, no credit cards. The entry fee includes the Friday Night Landowner/Team Reception & Dinner, the Competition Hunt, and Saturday Night awards Banquet.

Hunt Registration: The hunt will consist of up to 10 teams with six hunters and six dogs on each team. Applications must be complete to be accepted. **All Hunters must be at least 18 years of age or if under 18 hunting with their guardian.**

Scorekeepers: Each team will have two non-partisan scorekeepers randomly drawn at the Sunday morning meeting. Scorekeepers will be responsible for tracking time in the field, shots taken and the number of pheasants harvested. They will have the authority to disqualify any team that does not follow the rules of the hunt. Scorekeeper's decisions are final when made in the field. Prior to the final check-in of the birds, the committee can review the scorekeeper's decision if brought to a committee member by a team member that was scored for clarification.

Streamer Bonus Bird: Each landowner will have 10 farm raised pheasants released on their property donated by Gisi Pheasant Farms. This does not liberate SD hunting preserver rules, you still must follow all SD hunting laws designated by the SDGFP. One of those released birds will have a streamer tied to the leg of the pheasant. This streamer bird will count as 1 additional bonus point toward your teams score. 18 birds harvested that includes the streamer bonus bird will score as 19 points. Plus one additional point per unspent shell. Example: 16 pheasants + 1 bonus for streamer bird + 4 shells leftover = 21 total points.

Hunt Times: The teams will be allowed to hunt from 10am until one of the following occurs; 3pm, all 24 shells have been used or 18 birds have been harvested. Each bird harvested will add 1 point to your teams total score, the exception to this rule is the streamer bird. Scorekeepers will accompany the birds, remaining shells and the entire team back to the check-in area, prior to 4:15pm. The team captain and the scorekeepers must accompany the birds to officially record count and weigh-in.

Check-In: Each team captain and their scorekeepers must check-in their birds at the designated location by 4:15pm. At this time, the birds will be counted and officially documented by the check-in committee. Check-in time will be strictly adhered to and teams checking in past 4:15pm **will be disqualified**. Immediately following check-in each team will be given the opportunity to have their team photo taken with their birds, dogs and scorekeepers.

Gun & Shells: Each member of the team will be allotted four (4) shells for the hunt, twenty-four (24) per team. Team members may use any LEGAL shotgun shell and gun desired. Hunters are NOT allowed to exchange shells between team members. The exception to this rule is the 3 for 3 bonus. Each hunter may shoot only 3 birds.

3 for 3 Bonus: A 3 for 3 Bonus is the harvesting of 3 roosters in the first 3 shots. That hunter must immediately relinquish his/her 4th shell to a scorekeeper and the team has until the end of the competition to declare the recipient of the shell. The transfer is documented by the scorekeeper. He/she may continue to walk and drive pheasants but must put their gun back in vehicle ASAP.

Dud Shell: In the event of a "dud" shell, contact your team scorekeeper and they will replace the dud shell with a new one. You must have the dud shell to prove that it didn't go off. Once a hunter has used his/her shells, he/she must quit hunting. He/she may continue to walk and drive pheasants but must put their gun back in vehicle ASAP. Violation of any of these rules will result in disqualification of the entire team from the competition.

Dogs: Each team may have up to six (6) dogs in the field at one time. Additional dogs may travel to the hunt location, as long as only six dogs are participating in the hunt at one time. Dogs will not be provided by the committee or landowner and are not required to be in the hunt.

Trapping: If a dog traps a rooster pheasant, that bird can be added to the kill. Each trapped bird is recorded by the hunter losing a shell. If a hunter traps or assists the dog by pouncing on a bird that was not shot by them, this practice is NOT a legal form of hunting and the team is DISQUALIFIED from the hunt immediately. A "TRAP" is defined as a bird that was not shot by the team but was caught by a dog.

Tiebreakers:

- 1) Longest tailfeather. Tailfeather must be attached to the pheasant upon presentation to the official check-ins. The tailfeather will be plucked by a tournament official when witnesses are present.
- 2) Total weight of birds harvested per team.

Land: The committee will provide the land for the hunt and teams must hunt on the designated land for their team. All landowners have the option to hunt on neighboring land with permission from the neighboring landowner. Landowners will draw for their team at the Friday evening mixer and will have an opportunity to meet at that time. Roadhunting will not be allowed for the competition. Landowners may accompany the hunting party, but it is optional.

Awards: Awards will be given to the First and Second place teams as well as the First and Second place Landowners. Awards include engraved guns to the First and Second place team and landowners.

Hunt Headquarters: Headquarters for this year's hunt will be the Wessington Springs American Legion located on the hill as you pull into Wessington Springs. There are several lodging properties available, please call for a complete list 1-605-539-1929 or view listing online at <https://wessingtonsprings.com/where-to-stay>

Calcutta – How it works: There will be 2 Calcutta's. Team & Land. Both will be done Friday before the Landowner draw. 50% of the profits of each category will be paid out to the charities. 30% will go to 1st place and 20% will go to 2nd place.

Other Hunting Rules and Regulations:

- ◆ Current South Dakota hunting regulations supersede any and all Ringneck Festival Rules. All hunters must have a current South Dakota hunting license and adhere to all South Dakota hunting regulations. All birds must be tagged and logged in by the team official prior to leaving the field.
- ◆ The daily limit, according to STATE LAW, is 3 cock pheasants per person. Possession limit is 15 cock pheasants, taken according to the daily limit. Limit accrues at the rate of 3 birds a day and 15 birds may not be possessed until after the fifth day of hunting.
- ◆ All hunters must sign a notarized liability waiver form before they will be allowed to participate in the hunt. The committee, landowners, officials and sponsors are not responsible for accidents, injury or theft.
- ◆ If any team disagrees with their official's decision or scorekeeping, finish the hunt and the team must bring up the discrepancy to the rules committee at check-in. The rules committee will have the final ruling in any discrepancy.
- ◆ This is a "Fair Chase" contest and all pheasants are to be taken in flight and not on the ground. Any hunters firing at a pheasant on the ground will be DISQUALIFIED from the hunt immediately.
- ◆ There will be NO ALCOHOL tolerated during the festival hunt. Anyone violating this rule will be immediately disqualified.
- ◆ We ask that anyone choosing to smoke use extreme caution when in the field. Please have courtesy for the landowner's property.
- ◆ The winning team will be determined by; first, the number of birds harvested, second, the number of remaining shells each team has and third, the total weight of the birds. Be sure to give any remaining shells to the scorekeeper at the end of your hunt, so that they can be documented prior to leaving the field.
- ◆ After check-in, the birds will be the team's property and responsibility.

Foothills Pheasant Fest Hunt Application

Available online at www.wessingtonsprings.com

Hunt Date: Saturday, December 18, 2021 (Please Print or Type)

Team Name: _____

Dogs Names _____

1) Team Captain: _____

Address: _____ Phone: (home) _____

City, State, Zip: _____ (cell) _____

Email: _____

How did you hear about the competition? _____

Person to Contact in Case of Emergency

Name: _____ Phone: (w) _____

Address: _____ (h) _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Relationship: _____

2) Team Member: _____

Address: _____ Phone: (home) _____

City, State, Zip: _____ (cell) _____

Email: _____

How did you hear about the competition? _____

Person to Contact in Case of Emergency

Name: _____ Phone: (w) _____

Address: _____ (h) _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Relationship: _____

3) Team Member: _____

Address: _____ Phone: (home) _____

City, State, Zip: _____ (cell) _____

Email: _____

How did you hear about the competition? _____

Person to Contact in Case of Emergency

Name: _____ Phone: (w) _____

Address: _____ (h) _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Relationship: _____

4) Team Member: _____

Address: _____ Phone: (home) _____

City, State, Zip: _____ (cell) _____

Email: _____

How did you hear about the competition? _____

Person to Contact in Case of Emergency

Name: _____ Phone: (w) _____

Address: _____ (h) _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Relationship: _____

5) Team Member: _____

Address: _____ Phone: (home) _____

City, State, Zip: _____ (cell) _____

Email: _____

How did you hear about the competition? _____

Person to Contact in Case of Emergency

Name: _____ Phone: (w) _____

Address: _____ (h) _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Relationship: _____

6) Team Member: _____

Address: _____ Phone: (home) _____

City, State, Zip: _____ (cell) _____

Email: _____

How did you hear about the competition? _____

Person to Contact in Case of Emergency

Name: _____ Phone: (w) _____

Address: _____ (h) _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Relationship: _____

Application Deadline: December 03, 2021.

The entry forms can be sent to: Wessington Springs Area Chamber & Development – Foothills Pheasant Fest PO BOX 132, Wessington Springs, SD 57382. If you have questions call 1-605-539-1929. Email: loree@wessingtonsprings.com

Foothills Pheasant Fest Competition Hunt Waiver

WHEREAS, the undersigned is a Participant, Team Member or otherwise involved, in the **FOOTHILLS PHEASANT FEST**, known as and hereafter referred to as the **“FOOTHILLS PHEASANT FEST”**. The undersigned does agree to participate in said activities fully realizing the inherent danger in any type of sporting event of this nature and agrees to and assumes the risks inherent therein:

WHEREAS, the undersigned desires to release certain parties from any damages that may arise, directly or indirectly, as the result of his/her participating in the Competition Hunt known as the **“FOOTHILLS PHEASANT FEST”**.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of being allowed to participate in the **“FOOTHILLS PHEASANT FEST”** the undersigned assumes all risks inherent in such an activity and does hereby release and forever discharge the **“FOOTHILLS PHEASANT FEST,”** its committee, as committee of the hunt, and members, as members of the hunt, and individually: The Wessington Springs Chamber and Development, host facilities, hosts, scorekeepers, judges, sponsors, hunters and all landowners upon whose land they may be hunting, from any and all manner of actions, causes of action, claims and demands whatsoever, in law or in equity, which may arise now or in the future as a result of, or pertaining to, the undersigned participation in said hunt or any of its activities.

AND, in consideration of being allowed to participate in the hunt known as the **“FOOTHILLS PHEASANT FEST”** the undersigned consents to allow pictures, his/her name and/or likenesses of him/her to appear in any official documentary or exclusive coverage of the **“FOOTHILLS PHEASANT FEST”** in any manner incidental to the undersigned participation and without compensation to the undersigned.

I, _____ (print name) being duly sworn, say that I am the person referred to in this record of application: that the statements herein contained are true to the best of my knowledge and belief and that I have read and understand the Release and Rules of the Hunt.

In Witness Thereof, I have hereunto affixed my hand this _____ day of _____, _____.

Participant _____ (signature)

Town/State _____

Now on this _____ day of _____, _____ before me, a Notary Public, in and for said person personally appeared to me known to be the identical person who signed the above release and acknowledge the execution thereof his/her voluntary act and deed.

Witness my hand and seal on the day and year above last written.

Notary Public Signature
My commission expires: _____

A waiver form needs to be completed for each team member.
Return the forms to: Wessington Springs Chamber & Development – Foothills Pheasant Fest
PO BOX 132, Wessington Springs, SD 57382
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