



Platte Valley Hunting Retriever Club

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Dear Hunting Dog Enthusiast:

Thank you for your membership in the Platte Valley Hunting Retriever Club (PVHRC). Enclosed is your 2009 membership card to be carried while training on PVHRC's leased properties. The club currently has two leased properties to train on.

A map to the properties and rules for their use is attached. Please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with this information. The club is working to obtain additional training grounds as well. If you have any ideas or contacts that may help in this endeavor, please let me know.

Membership runs from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009 with renewal forms in the November, December, January newsletter, and on the website – www.pvhrc.com. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call me or one of the club officers listed on the following page and also shown on the back of your membership card.

I hope to see you out at the training grounds and at the upcoming hunt tests. Remember, what you get out of the club will be what you put into it. Don't hesitate to get involved. I know you'll find that it's a lot of fun.

Good training!

Joe Olson
PVHRC Membership Chairperson

NOTE – If you would like a copy of the Club By-Laws, you can get it off our website, www.pvhrc.com.

How to Collect the Benefits of Joining the Platte Valley Hunting Retriever Club



What are the benefits of membership in Platte Valley HRC? Well there are several. The first and most obvious is getting a better performing retriever to hunt with. In addition, you get an opportunity to meet a lot of people, locally and from other states, with similar interests. You get access to a large number of acres of training grounds where you can train with live birds and live rounds. If you find yourself in the market for a new retriever pup, you get an opportunity to see some potential parents work. You get kept up to date with the national news from Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. and the UKC, the national sanctioning bodies PVHRC is hooked up with. You get a chance to earn meaningful hunting titles for your retriever. You get a chance to run your dog in hunting tests where you handle the gun, with the dog hunting to and marking from the gun. You get chances to hook up with more experienced members to train.

So how do you collect these benefits? Well, you get involved in club events. It's a two way street. You learn and benefit and the club is supported so its benefits can continue.

If you and your retriever will really benefit, you'll spend some time at dog training on a regular schedule. How much time you put in depends on how much you want out of it. If you want just a good solid hunting retriever (the HR title) it doesn't have to take too much time, but it will still take a commitment of time and some regular training. Should you decide you will not be satisfied short of developing skills that will take you and your dog all the way to its championship; you will spend a lot of time. But, for serious hunters who will not settle for less than a four-legged hunting companion that can do it all, this championship is worth pursuing. You will not end up with a Hunting Retriever Championship without a dog that can do it all--as an upland hunter and as a waterfowl retriever. That is the benefit of the hunting test program. The tests are designed to focus on realism and really are a means to an end. The end is better hunting retrievers. Yeah, the ribbons and titles are great. I'd be lying if I said otherwise. But, they are second to the improvement of the retriever's hunting skills in this organization. As soon as the testing and priority for titles goes ahead of the hunting, then the game has gone astray and needs to be jerked back on course. Hunting tests are designed to simulate actual hunting situations. By participating in these events, you and your dog learn to handle retrieves that you will surely encounter in the duck blind or in the upland field.

A well-trained retriever is a real source of pride and enjoyment in the hunting field. If you don't believe it, ask anyone that's got a Hunting Retriever title or is getting close to it, or who has a Finished dog or champion. They believe it!

The club is basically a bunch of hunters who are at various stages of experience in training their dogs. You may be a new member with a young dog. Or you may be an old vet. It does not matter. What matters, is that you come out and participate. There are plenty of people to help you, and in-turn for you to help.

One of the things this club is all about is sharing what we have learned with others. A few members put their dog out with a pro and don't train, but mostly everyone from Hunting Retriever Champion owners to the people with their first Started fun hunt pass are benefiting from the help and support of other club members who themselves were helped earlier.

Your dog won't get to be a better hunting retriever by virtue of you having a Platte Valley membership card in your billfold. But it is the ticket to better retriever work. You don't have to have great seniority and moss on you north side to be an active and essential member of this club. We've got people with less than a year with us, taking on major club responsibilities. All you've got to have is the interest and a commitment to spend some time. What you get out will no doubt be more than what you put in, but as you stay involved, you'll become someone special to some new member because you encouraged them at their first fun hunt, you took the initiative to stick out a friendly hand at a club event or meeting, or you picked up the phone and invited them to train.

We hope you will join us in enjoying hunting more through better dog work. Welcome to Platte Valley HRC! No matter where you are in the training of your Hunting Retriever, we feel the HRC program has something to offer you if you'll get involved.

<p style="text-align:center">PLATTE VALLEY HUNTING RETRIEVER CLUB, INC. PVHRC TRAINING GROUNDS: DESCRIPTION AND RULES</p>

The Platte Valley Hunting Retriever Club (PVHRC) has two parcels of land for club training grounds. The first parcel is the "East Pond". The second is "Mary's Place." Members are encouraged to use the properties subject to the rules and policies governing each. Our use of these lands needs to meet the approval of the landowners. So, please treat the properties, landowners and other members with respect. See the attached PVHRC Property Map that shows the general location of each property.

East Pond: The East Pond is a large pond with a small amount of land surrounding it. Some limited land training opportunities are available here but the primary use of this property is for water training. This irrigation pond is normally empty by late winter. When it fills depends on the available water; but, in a good water year it is anticipated to fill in April or May.

Access to this property: from I-25 take exit 235 and go east on State Highway 52 approximately 12 miles. Turn left (north) on Weld County Road 37. Go north on WCR 37 2.5 miles to WCR 18. Go east on WCR 18. The entrance to the east pond is located ½ mile east of Weld County Road 37 on Weld County Road 18. The entrance road going north from Weld County Road 18 goes directly to the gate at the pond. Leave the gate as you find it (opened or closed). See the PVHRC Property Map to locate this property.

Mary's Place. Mary's place is 330 acres of property enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). It is a large tract of land that can be used for upland bird training or land retrieving. There is no water at this site.

To access this property, from I-25 take exit 235 and go east on State Highway 52 approximately 12 miles. Turn left (north) on Weld County Road 37. Go north on WCR 37 approximately 1¼ miles to the entrance to the property.

The property is located adjacent to and east of Weld County Road 37 about midway (about 1¼ miles) between State Highway 52 and Weld County Road 18. See the PVHRC Property Map and Detail 1 to locate this property. Detail 2 shows the boundaries of Mary's Place and the boundaries for the 100 acres that are open all year around. Detail 3 shows the designated parking area at Mary's Place. No vehicles are allowed outside the designated parking area. Access is by foot only to the rest of the property.

RULES AND POLICIES FOR THE EAST POND AND MARY'S PLACE

Also at: http://www.pvhrc.com/HTMLPages/Property_Rules.htm

1. The primary purpose of these leases is for retriever training and club activities.
2. Be courteous to fellow members using the grounds the same time you are, i.e., do not drive through the middle of their tests or patterns, or crowd them by working so closely that you bother their training.
3. Each member or guest assumes his/her own responsibility when acting in such a way as to be in violation of any state or federal game and fish laws.
4. The PVHRC Inc. does not assume responsibility for accidents that occur on the premises that the club has a lease on.
5. The East Pond is available for retriever training at any time throughout the year. However, it typically only has water during the spring and summer.
6. Before using Mary's place users must call the owner, Mr. Ashley Miller and let him know they are coming out. His phone number is 303-536-4755. You don't have to talk to him in person, you can just leave a voice message, but you do need to call and let him know that you will be using the property. He wants us to do that so that he is aware when someone will be out there. Please follow this rule. If we don't we could lose access to this property.
7. A member may bring up to three guests to the grounds, but the same guests should not train on the grounds more than one time without joining the club. No guests may be present on the ground unless their host member is with them.
8. Members need to carry their Platte Valley Hunting Retriever Club Membership card at any time they are using the property. The landowners require this so that they can check for trespassers. Members should check the cards of those they do not recognize. Being able to continue these leases will be dependent on how we treat them, so keeping trespassers to a minimum is important.
9. Use of shotguns is allowed for dog training. Proper safety procedures in gun handling must be exercised at all times by members and guests. Do not shoot within 200 yards of Mary's house or buildings. Please be considerate.

10. No alcohol is to be consumed prior to or during training or when firearms are in use. Alcohol consumption may be prohibited at other times as specified by the club in accordance with accepted HRC Hunt procedures.
11. Stay on the designated roads and trails at each property. Do not drive on land planted in growing or unharvested crops.
12. FIRE SAFETY. Don't park vehicles in dry grass; the catalytic converters on the exhaust pipes get very hot and can cause a fire. Be careful to extinguish cigarettes in grassy areas.
13. Avoid any livestock on the properties and try not to disturb them.
14. Hunting is not permitted on these grounds. Any specific exceptions will be determined and administered by the PVHRC officers and board. Camping is not permitted on the grounds.
15. There are a minimum of gates on the properties, but if you go through one, leave it as you found it, either open or closed
16. Do not litter the grounds. Do not leave dead birds or empty shotgun shells on the grounds. Take them and your trash with you when you leave. Pick up your fluorescent orange tape after running blinds.
17. Motorcycling is prohibited on the grounds.
18. Clay bird shooting and all forms of target practice are prohibited, as is the discharging of rifles or pistols (blank ammunition OK).
- 19. These leases are very important to the club and its members. Flagrant or serious abuse of these rules will result in expulsion of the member from PVHRC as provided by article IV of the club's by-laws, and exclusion from further use of the properties.**