

OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. To preserve the tradition of hunting with dogs.
2. To further the advancement of all breeds of hunting dogs in the state.
3. To do all in its power to protect, preserve, and advance the interests of all dog owners and to encourage sportsman-like behavior in all types of dog hunting throughout the state.
4. To organize and train action groups within each of the 82 counties to educate legislators and promote legislation that supports the missions, goals, and objectives of the Mississippi Hunting Dog Association.

CODE OF ETHICS

Members of the Mississippi Hunting Dog Association must abide by federal, state, and local laws at all times, and conduct themselves in a manner that projects a positive image of our sport.

We must:

- Enjoy our sport in a safe, courteous, and legal manner.
- Respect the rights of landowners, non-hunters, and others that do not desire to hunt as we do.
- Strive to maintain a positive image and relationships with property owners, legislators, wildlife officials, and the general public.
- Show pride in our dogs as our hunting partners and companions by providing quality food, water, shelter, and care.

The Mississippi Hunting Dog Association is a not-for-profit statewide association whose goal is to preserve and protect the sport of hunting game with dogs in the state of Mississippi.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN?

The MSHDA monitors legislative proposals and mobilizes efforts to ensure that the interests of hunting dog enthusiasts are protected. Past efforts of the MSHDA have helped protect the rights that we enjoy in Mississippi today. In order to preserve these rights in the future, support from a growing membership is vital.

If you believe that the tradition of hunting game with dogs is worth preserving, please support the Mississippi Hunting Dog Association.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership dues are \$10 per year, payable on or before the first day of your renewal month.

To obtain or renew membership in the MSHDA, please forward your \$10 dues payment along with the completed membership card (below) to the current MSHDA Secretary listed in this pamphlet.

Tear along the dotted line

Name:
Street Address or P.O. Box:
City/State/Zip Code:
County of Residence:
Telephone number (including area code):

MISSISSIPPI HUNTING DOG ASSOCIATION



**AN ORGANIZATION
DEDICATED TO THE
PRESERVATION OF
HUNTING GAME WITH
DOGS IN THE STATE OF
MISSISSIPPI**

We must never:

- **Trespass on private property.**
- **Release dogs in a place or manner that can be expected to infringe on the rights of private property owners.**
- **Hunt from a public road or right-of-way.**
- **Behave in a manner that creates a negative image of hunting dog owners.**

Maintaining a positive image is critical to the future of hunting game with dogs, so be a good neighbor. Introduce yourself to the neighboring landowners in the area you hunt. (Absentee landowners can be located by referencing property tax records at your county courthouse.) Ask for permission to retrieve your dog should it ever leave the property you are hunting. If you are unable to call your dog off of property that you do not have permission to enter, you will need to call local authorities for assistance.



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Individuals who adhere to our Code of Ethics are unlikely to become involved in a dog-related dispute. However, it is important that we be aware of our rights as well as our obligations as hunting dog owners. The laws below are in place to protect all Mississippi dog owners.

MS Code § 69-29-15: **It is unlawful for a person to remove any collar**, tag, or marking device on any animal not owned by such person and without the permission of the owner of the animal. The initial violation is punishable by a fine of between \$250 and \$1,000 or by imprisonment in county jail for up to 6 months, or both. Subsequent violations are punishable by imprisonment in the Penitentiary for not less than one year, or a fine of not less than \$1,000, or both.

MS Code §97-41-16: **Any person who shall maliciously kill, maim, or injure any dog** or cause any person to do the same, shall be fined up to \$1,000 or imprisoned up to 6 months. In addition to fine(s) or imprisonment imposed, the court shall order that restitution be made to the owner of such dog. Restitution may include the replacement value of the loss, veterinarian expenses, loss of income, etc.

If you feel that a violation has occurred, contact local authorities immediately. Insist that a police report be filed. Remain as calm as possible. Do not become involved in an altercation. Gather evidence if practical (take photographs, notes, etc) and contact an officer of the MSHDA for further advice.



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