

## A Word Ere We Start

Boys, to the hunting-field! Though 'tis November  
The wind's in the south; but a word ere we start---  
Though keenly excited, I bid you remember  
That hunting's a science and riding an art.

The order of march and the due regulation  
That guide us in warfare, we need in the chase---  
Huntsman and Whip, each his own proper station,  
Horse, hound and fox, each his own proper place.

The fox takes precedence of all from the cover;  
The horse is an animal properly bred  
After the pack to be ridden, not over---  
Good hounds are not rear'd to be knocked on the head.

Strong be your tackle, and carefully fitted,  
Breast-plate and bridle, girth, stirrup, and chain;  
You will need not two arms, if the mouth be well bitten,  
One hand lightly used will suffice for the rein.

Buckskin's the only wear fir for the saddle;  
Hats for Hyde Park, but a cap for the chase;  
In tops of back leather let fishermen paddle,  
The calves of a foxhunter white ones incase.

If your horse be well bred and in blooming condition,  
Both up to the country and up to your weight,  
O then give the reins to your youthful ambition,  
Sit down in your saddle and keep his head straight!

Pastime for Princes! – prime sport of our nation!  
Strength in their sinew and bloom on their cheek;  
Health to the old, to the young recreation;  
All for the enjoyment the hunting field seek.

Eager and emulous only, not spiteful;---  
Grudging no friend, though ourselves he may beat;  
Just enough danger to make sport delightful!  
Toil just sufficient to make slumber sweet.

R.E. Edgerton Warburton

## FOX HUNTING WITH THE BRIDLESPUR HUNT



Established 1927

Recognized By Masters of Foxhounds Association 1929

This booklet was originally created by Mr. Adelbert Von Gontard, ex-MFH and Mr. August A. Busch, Jr., ex-MFH and has been edited and republished several times through the years, for the benefit of members and guests of the Bridlespur Hunt.

Revised and Reprinted 2007

Those who have served as Masters of Foxhounds throughout the 79 years of The Bridlespur Hunt are as follows:

Adalbert Von Gontard – 1927-28  
August A. Busch Jr. – 1929-37 & 1946-47  
Mrs. Henry J. Kaltenbach Jr. – 1938-46  
Adolphus B Orthwein – 1946-51  
Louis F. Aitken – 1947-52 & 1969-72  
Paul Victor Von Gontard – 1951-52  
James B. Orthwein – 1952-87  
Andrew J. Shinkle – 1952-69  
James A. Butler Jr. – 1972-74  
Parker B. Condie – 1974-78  
Wayne Kennedy – 1978-79  
Harry C. Weber – 1983-85  
Mrs. Thomas S. Kenny Jr. – 1978-86  
Mrs. E. H. Lewis Jr. – 1986-2000  
John C. Heisler – 1989-90  
Mrs. Thomas M. Carney – 1991  
Franklin F. Starcher – 1991-1992  
Eugene Deutsch – 1999  
Werner Kugler – 2000 - 2007  
Jill Wagenknecht – Meramec Valley Hunt 1996-2000  
– Bridlespur Hunt – 2001  
Mary Hensel – Meramec Valley Hunt – 2000-2001  
– Bridlespur Hunt – 2001

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Fox Hunting with Bridlespur Hunt..... 3

Fox Hunting..... 5

Hunt Protocol..... 8

Hunting Attire..... 12

Club Rules..... 15

Membership/Use of Property..... 18

By-Laws..... 20

## **FOX HUNTING HISTORY**

Fox hunting has been an integral and important part of rural life in many parts of the United States for centuries. Hunting flourishes because of the good will of landowners and farmers. Be constantly aware that you are a guest on someone else's land and never jeopardize this good will. Hunting takes place in public. We must all assume that our activities will be observed by the public and must be prepared to be held publicly accountable for our actions. It is our absolute obligation to maintain the highest standards of sportsmanship and good behavior at all times.

## **THE BRIDLESPUR HUNT**

The Bridlespur Hunt was founded with the inspiration, support and assistance of the late Mr. August A. Busch Sr., who obtained the original draft of hounds from the well-known Joseph B. Thomas-Percy Rockefeller pack at Overhills, North Carolina. They consisted entirely of American hounds, or, as better known, Virginia Hounds. By careful breeding, observation and culling of the less desirable, the two guiding spirits of the Hunt, Mr. August A. Busch Jr., and Mr. Adalbert Von Gontard Sr., developed a pack with most excellent nose and voice. They have gone out twice a week since that time, even during the war years of 1941-1946.

After the development of West St. Louis County began making it impossible to foxhunt in that area, under the leadership of Andrew Shinkle, MFH and James B. Orthwein, MFH, new kennels, clubhouse and skeet shooting range were completed in St. Charles County. The Benne Road location was our home since 1957.

In 2001 The Bridlespur Hunt and the Meramec Valley Hunt joined together. The merging of fixtures and members from both clubs has solidified and strengthened Fox Hunting in the St. Louis Metropolitan area. The name of the resulting hunt is The Bridlespur Hunt.

The Meramec Valley Hunt was established in 1981 by Wayne Kennedy, Joe Sansone and Dr. Bruce R. McCloskey. The club was recognized by the Masters of Foxhound Association in 1988. The club hunted Crossbred Foxhounds mainly in the territory South of Interstate 44. Upon Mr. Kennedy's retirement in 1995 the horn was turned over to Jill Wagenknecht. Jill was made Co-Master in 1996. Mary Hensel replaced Joe Sansone in 2000 as Co-Master with Dr. McCloskey and Jill Wagenknecht.

Once again urban development forced the club to search for a new location in 2006. Through the tireless effort of Werner Kugler, MFH, Bridlespur found its new home in Lincoln County. A new kennel and lovely clubhouse were built to complete the new home of Bridlespur Hunt. 1388 acres of beautiful rolling hills and woods provide wonderful hunting and incredible trail riding. This should secure the future of The Bridlespur Hunt and the sport of fox hunting for years to come.

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Bridlespur Hunt was, and is, to bring together those who are keenly interested in riding to hounds. The prime purpose of any individual who hunts should be to watch and follow the working of the hounds in their efforts to outwit the fox. Another purpose of the Bridlespur Hunt is to improve the breed of our hounds. We steadily strive to breed hounds of good conformation, keener nose, greater endurance and good cry. Throughout the years English Hound blood has been bred into the pack, developing an excellent "Crossbred" pack. Many hunts throughout the country have found it desirable to cross their "American" Hounds with "English", obtaining more hound control, which has become more important as the rural areas have developed and highways have appeared. The English hound is much more inclined to discipline and control without sacrificing the voice and drive of the American Hound.

## FOXHUNTING

### **Foxhunting is made up of the following:**

- A pack of hounds
- A Huntsman
- Hunt Country
- Masters of Foxhounds
- Whippers-In
- Field Master
- The Field



### **A PACK OF HOUNDS:**

A suggested minimum being 12 couple, hounds being counted in couples, making 12 couple a total of 24 hounds. Most huntsmen wish to hunt between 10 and 15 couple, with many of the hunts going out with as many as 30 couple. There are three basic breeds of hounds suited to mounted foxhunting: the English, the American, and the Crossbred, which are a combination of the English and the American. The Bridlespur Hunt has a Crossbred pack.

### **A HUNTSMAN:**

The Huntsman (male or female) is the person responsible for the care, feeding, and training of the foxhounds. The Huntsman controls the hounds with voice and horn. Each horn call has special meaning to the hounds, as well as the whippers-in and field, and while the hounds understand the Huntsman's voice, the horn covers a great distance and can be heard by the hounds long after the voice.

### **HUNT COUNTRY:**

This is the area in which the hunt takes place.

### **MASTERS OF FOXHOUNDS:**

Most of the organized mounted foxhunts in the U.S. belong to an organization known as **THE MASTERS OF FOX HOUNDS ASSOCIATION (MFHA)** and each hunt has its own Master or Masters of Foxhounds (MFH). The Master is the person or persons in charge of the hunt organization, makes all of the decisions as to how the hunt is run, where and when the hunts are held, employs the Huntsman and takes responsibility for a good relationship with the landowners and community. In many hunts one of the Masters will actually hunt the hounds. Bridlespur prefers to employ a professional Huntsman and the Masters assist as needed.

## **WHIPPERS-IN:**

Each hunt has Whippers-in, which are usually honorary whippers-in as opposed to professional whippers-in. This means that they are members of the hunt club who voluntarily donate a great deal of time to helping the Huntsman exercise hounds and during the hunt they ride where the Huntsman designates to observe hounds, keep them from rioting on deer or cattle, turning them back from crossing highways and busy roads. A Whipper-In must know the names of the hounds, which are old steady hounds and which are young hounds and be generally aware of where the hounds are at all times.

## **FIELD MASTER:**

The Field Master may be a MFH or a member of the hunt who has hunted for a number of years, knows the country well and has a steady, bold jumping horse. The Field Master rides ahead of the field members within sight of the Huntsman, but not too close as to interfere. The Field constitutes all of the hunt members and guests who are out with the hunt and it is their duty to stay behind (and not crowd) the Field Master, nor must they ever pass the Field Master. Most hunts have two fields, the Jumping Field, and a Hilltopping Field (non-jumping). The Hilltoppers are led by a Field Master who must know the country well, and can lead them through the country where they can open gates and get around the area without losing the hunt.

## **THE HUNTING FIELD:**

As stated above, THE FIELD constitutes all of the persons hunting on a certain day. They should be in control of their horse at all times and if they experience any difficulties which will require them to leave the hunt (such as losing a shoe, breaking an item of tack, unable to control their horse, or perhaps a tired horse), they should advise a member of the field, or the Field Master. THE MEET is the place where the hunt gathers before hunting. THE FIXTURE CARD contains the time and place where "The Meet" will be on a given date.

When riding in the Hunting Field, you are asked to be as quiet as possible, so as not to disturb the Field Master or the Huntsman, who must be constantly listening for hounds. At a check (when hounds have lost the scent), the Field will often engage in conversation, which makes it difficult for the Huntsman to gather hounds if distracted by loud talking and laughing. When the Master and Huntsman decide to end the day's hunting, and the Huntsman gathers the hounds and begins the hack back to the Meet, there is plenty of time for conversation. As a Field Member you should make every effort to

keep up with the Field as it is very easy to get lost and interfere with the hounds and the Huntsman.

### **THE HUNT SEASON:**

Hound work is year 'round activity; the Bridlespur Hounds are walked out daily for exercise. Preparation for the fox hunting season begins in earnest on the 1<sup>st</sup> of August when the Hunt Staff commences hound exercise by horseback. This is referred to as "Roading". This gets both hounds and staff horses into hunting fitness, and is particularly important for the young entry, as this is usually their first exposure to horses and to areas outside the kennel grounds. Ideally, this period of exercise lasts about six weeks. Members are welcome to come out during this time. It is an excellent opportunity to leg up your horse or introduce a green hose to hunting.

### **CUBBING:**

Cubbing consists of the first six weeks of hunting prior to the opening of Formal Hunting. It is designed to enter the young hounds and continue the conditioning of both hounds and horses. During cubbing we work the converts slowly and thoroughly, paying close attention to keeping track of the young entry. On very warm, or bad scenting days we will not keep the hounds out for very long periods as this training period is extremely important to the success of good hunting when the formal season starts. Do not expect the cubbing season to provide fast or long hunts, however, this again depends on the game and the scenting conditions.

### **FORMAL HUNTING:**

Fomal hunting begins at the end of October. By this time young hounds should be steady and hunts have gradually lengthened to full scale. Hunting continues twice a week.

## HUNTING PROTOCOL

Please respect your FIELD MASTER and stay approximately ten feet behind him or her, as it is necessary for them to be able to hear hounds and huntsman without being crowded

Field members ride in order of seniority. Persons with colors always ride in front of those without colors. It is appropriate to always allow those with more seniority than yourself to ride in front of you. Check with a more senior person to see where they wish to ride in the field. For more clarification, a list, of who and when colors were awarded, has been included in the back of the book.

We do not allow smoking at any time while you are mounted.

Please do not drop behind the field. If you cannot keep up, you must have someone direct you to the nearest road and hack via roads only. Never ride cross-country unless you are following the Fieldmaster. If you leave the hunt, please notify a fellow rider and he/she will have someone contact the Fieldmaster, (when convenient) so they will know who has left the field. We also ask that after a hunt you remain mounted and quiet until all of the hounds are safely in the kennel, at which time give thanks to the Huntsman for the day's sport.

## HILLTOPPER

We welcome hilltoppers and plan a Hilltop Master available for those of you who do not wish to jump, and hope to make this both a learning and pleasant experience. In order to ensure that we have someone to lead the hilltoppers, we ask that you **call the day before the hunt if you wish to hilltop, or if you are bringing a guest to hilltop.**

## SOCIAL MEMBERS

Social members are encouraged to utilize the club facilities throughout the year. Hunting activities will take precedence over social activities and trail rides. Social Members are entitled to hunt with the pack two times per season.

## GUESTS

You may have a guest during cubbing as well as formal season. We suggest you contact the Secretary or one of the Masters the day before, giving the name of the guest and whether hilltopper or jumper. Inform your guest of the proper attire, etiquette and capping fees prior to the Hunt. Upon arriving at the Meet arrange to pay your guest's capping fee and **have your guest sign a release waiver. Please note that it is**

**very important for you to arrive early to get these things done. No one will be permitted to hunt without a signed release.**

Guests belonging to another hunt may pay a \$50.00 capping fee or not at the Masters discretion. Guests NOT belonging to another hunt will pay a \$50.00 capping fee. When you have a guest, you and your guest ride in the back of the field unless invited by the Fieldmaster to ride in another position in the field.

## **EQUINE PROFESSIONAL**

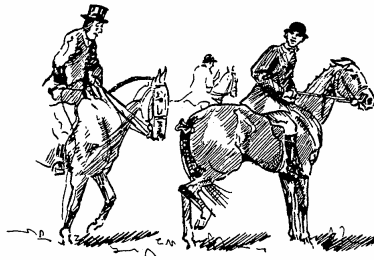
An Equine Professional is someone that has or operates from a place of business from which they regularly invoice clients or one who earns the vast majority of their earned income from the boarding, training, transporting, buying or selling, of horses and from the instruction of student riders.

Such equine professionals who wear the appropriate indicator may ride in the hunt at no charge.

## **GROOM**

A person who is paid to assist a regular hunting member with the preparation for, and transportation to the hunt, and on a regular basis assists said member with their equine endeavors. Such grooms must be mounted on a hunting member's horse and may ride in the hunt at no charge.

## DO AND DO NOT



THE KICKER

1. If at all possible, don't ride a kicking horse. If you have ever seen a horse with a broken leg due to a kicker you will never forget it. If you find yourself on a kicker, it is imperative that you tie a bright red ribbon near the root of the horse's tail, as a warning to others, and ride at the very back of the field.
2. Control your horse. Don't run into other members of the field. It is discourteous, to say nothing of being rather painful. If you have an unruly horse, get rid of him, as there will be no pleasure for yourself, or for anyone else, if you cannot keep your horse in hand.
3. Don't crowd at fences. Give the person in front of you at least a hundred foot lead, so if horse and rider should go down, you will not jump on them. If your horse refuses a jump you must circle and go to the end of the line.
4. Don't talk while hounds are casting about for the line. Your entire interest is supposed to be centered on the working of the hounds.
5. Be on time. A hunt must be conducted on schedule, and no greater discourtesy can be shown the Master, and to the Hunt itself, than to straggle in with no regard for the time of moving-off as shown on the fixture card. Plan to arrive at the Meet 45 minutes prior to moving off time and be mounted 15 minutes prior to moving off.
6. Don't fail to give a hound room. To run down a hound is well nigh unpardonable. Hounds are hard to train, expensive to keep going and do their best to give you good sport. Since many horses kick at hounds, do not fail to give hounds a wide berth. If hounds or the hunt staff is passing you *keep the head of your horse turned toward them*. Do not berate, cheer on or talk to a hound that is for the Huntsman.
7. If someone comes down, don't keep on going; pull up promptly, help him remount and assist him in every way possible. This same thing may happen to you the next time out.
8. If hounds are gone away on the line of a fox, and by chance you should *see* the fox back-tracking, don't get "buck fever". Pull up and shout "Tally-ho" at the top of your voice, pointing with your hat or cap in the direction that the fox has gone. *Don't gallop over the line of scent - stay still until the hounds are brought up and capped on the line.*

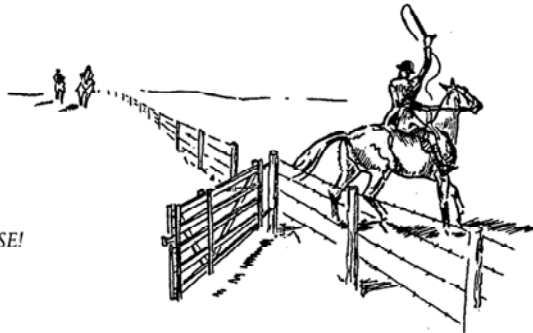
9. Please return all gates to open/close status that the first rider found them in, if in doubt ask the Huntsman or Fieldmaster, or close them.
10. Be of assistance to your Hunt. Do not simply take everything for granted. A hunt is difficult to maintain, even under the most ideal circumstances. Without your individual interest and assistance it will not prosper as it otherwise should. Ascertain if there is not some burden that you can take off the shoulders of the Hunt officials. Consistently manifest a practical willingness to assume responsibility, if and when requested.
11. Above all, show your pride in your Hunt and your respect for the Master, by hunting regularly, at all times with your attire, your horse and your tack in scrupulously correct and clean condition.

Subscribers and guests of this Hunt should make it an invariable rule never to rider over a farmer's land, save when out with the hounds when due permission has been sought and given. Never to ride over land that is wet or in crops, never to ride through a barnyard or through cattle at speed, this is a certain way to shut off amicable relations.

By contrast, make it a point to have a pleasant word with the landowner, or his family, and always raise your hand. Simply and sincerely, make them feel that you are appreciative of their great courtesy in permitting the Hunt to ride through their property.

If the Hunt, by chance, should knock down a fence or open a gate, regard it as your immediate duty to remedy this situation at once. One of the quickest ways to close a good hunting district is to allow a farmer's livestock to get out become injured or lost.

*GATE, PLEASE!*



## **PROPER HUNTING ATTIRE**

There are two groups comprising the Bridlespur Hunt: regular members, and members who, in recognition of valuable service to the Hunt, have been invited by the Master to wear the Hunt button. Members of the latter classification are commonly referred to as members "with colors."

On formal hunting days, regular members wear formal black. Ladies and gentlemen with colors can be distinguished by their attire on formal days: gentleman wear formal scarlet and ladies wear formal black or navy with robin's egg blue collars. Gentlemen wear canary vests, and ladies robin's egg blue vests.

On informal days, all members dress in ratcatcher, except members of the hunt staff who always dresses in formal scarlet. This includes lady Masters and Ladies serving as huntsman or whippers-in.

Non members, hunting as guests, come attired the same as regular members. Some exceptions are made for children and are noted herein.

When hunting out of town with another hunt it is not appropriate to wear your colors unless it is a joint meet or you have secured permission from their Masters to wear your colors.

**Formal Black Without Colors:** Guests and those members without colors during Formal Season—Weekends and Holidays

**COAT:** Black or dark blue Melton, or hard finished lightweight. (Never velvet) Collar of coat material.

**SHIRT:** White stock shirt.

**TIE:** White stock, neatly tied with plain gold stock pin fastened horizontally.

**VEST:** Canary.

**BREECHES:** Buff or canary.

**HAT:** Black Derby with hat cord or black velvet hunt cap. Hair arranged neatly in hairnet. No earrings.

**BOOTS:** Plain black leather dress boots. (Not field boots)

**GLOVES:** White or yellow string, brown, tan or natural leather.

**WHIP:** Hunt Whip with thong.

**CHILDREN:** Under 16 may wear tweed coats with tan or black boots, or jodhpurs boots, and must wear hunt caps with safety harnesses.

**Formal Black With Colors:** Ladies who have been awarded their colors, during Formal Season—Weekends and Holidays

**COAT:** Black or dark blue Melton, or hard finish lightweight. Robin's egg blue collar, black bone buttons, with BH engraved thereon, or black Shadbelly with engraved buttons.

**SHIRT:** White stock shirt.

**TIE:** White stock, neatly tied with plain gold stock pin fastened horizontally.

**VEST:** Robin's egg blue vest with brass buttons engraved with BH buttons

**BREECHES:** Buff or canary.

**HAT:** Black hunting derby with black hat cord, or black velvet hunt cap. Top hat may be worn with Shadbelly coat only. Hair net is mandatory. No earrings.

**BOOTS:** Black with black patent tops and garter straps of patent. Blunt spurs with black leather straps.

**GLOVES:** White or yellow string, brown, tan or natural leather.

**WHIP:** Lady's hunting whip with thong.

**Formal Scarlet:** Formal Scarlet is worn only by Gentlemen who have been awarded colors and by Ladies of the Staff who have colors.

**COAT:** Scarlet, single breasted frock, with robin's egg blue collar, or formal cutaway "Shadbelly", four buttons closing (except for Huntsman or Master who will have five button closings to carry a horn). Polished brass buttons with BH engraved thereon.

**SHIRT:** White stock shirt.

**TIE:** White stock, neatly tied with plain gold stock pin fastened horizontally.

**VEST:** Canary with brass buttons with BH engraved thereon.

**BREECHES:** White or off white.

**HAT:** Top Hat with scarlet hat guard fastening inside of coat collar, or velvet hunt cap with ribbons ns turned up. Staff will wear only black velvet hunt cap with ribbons turned down.

**BOOTS:** Black with brown boot tops, tabs sewn on but not down, white buck garter straps. Blunt spurs, with black leather spur straps.

**GLOVES:** White or yellow string, brown, tan or natural leather.

**WHIP:** Hunt whip with thong.

**Informal (Ratcatcher):** To be worn during Cubbing Season and on Weekday hunts during Formal Season.

**COAT:** Hacking jacket of subdued color in solid, check or tweed.

**VEST:** Of conservative complementary color, optional.

**SHIRT:** Ratcatcher with tab collar and stock pin, or shirt and tie.

**BREECHES:** Brick, Brown, Buff or Canary.

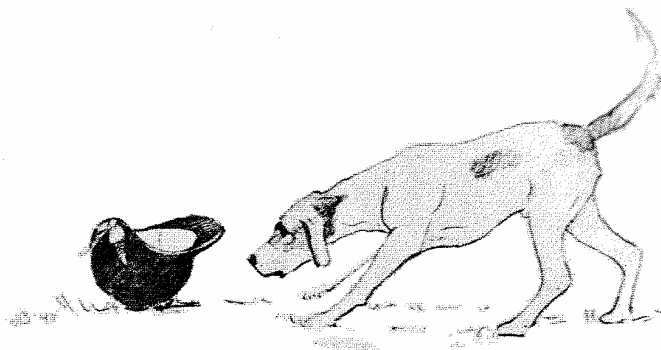
BOOTS: Black or brown leather, Field or Dress.

HAT: Velvet Hunt Cap or Derby, Black or Brown.

GLOVES: White or yellow string, brown, tan or natural leather.

WHIP: Hunting Whip with thong, optional.

NOTE: RUBBER BOOTS ARE TO BE WORN ONLY WITH RAIN COAT ON RAINY DAYS. RAIN COATS SHOULD BE OF CONSERVATIVE COLORS, TAN, BROWN, DARK GREEN, NATURAL.



*PROTECTIVE HEAD GEAR without a fastened chin strap can easily fall off and is therefore useless. A drawing by Jean Bowman (1949).*

## CLUB RULES

These rules and regulations are established by the club to protect the Club facilities and to promote the health, safety, welfare and enjoyment of the members, their families and guests and all other persons using the Club facilities. The Club may amend these Rules and Regulations from time to time. These Rules and Regulations, as may be amended, together with the By-Laws of the Club, are binding on the Members of the Club as a condition of Membership.

1. Members, their families and their guests, shall abide by all the rules and regulations of the Club as they may be amended from time to time. Members are responsible for the conduct of their guests while at the Club's facilities. Guests must be accompanied by a member at all times.
2. The Club facilities shall only be for the members and their immediate family. Any member shall be permitted to bring guests (each to come out not more than 3 times) to encourage new members to join the Club. All guests must sign an Agreement of Release and Waiver of Liability, to be obtained from the Club Secretary.
3. At times, scheduled activity (i.e. hunting, hunter paces) will take precedence over "trailriding" or other non-hunt sponsored events. Please watch for publicized activity calendars and letters put out each month. If in doubt, call one of the Masters.
4. Alcoholic beverages will not be served, sold, or consumed at the Club in any manner prohibited by law.
5. No one under 21 is permitted in the Club House except during scheduled functions or when accompanied by an adult.
6. No pets are permitted in the Club House at any time.
7. Members shall not use the roster or member list for solicitation or commercial purposes.
8. Smoking is permitted only in designated areas. The Club may restrict cigar and pipe smoking.
9. All member complaints, criticism or suggestions, of any kind, relating to the operation of the Club or its employees must be in writing, signed and addressed to the Club Secretary. Errors in billing charges should be directed to the Treasurer.
10. Members and their guests shall not abuse, reprimand or criticize any of the Club's employees, farmers under contract, agents or representatives verbally or otherwise. All such criticisms shall be immediately reported to the Board of Governors and/or management for disciplinary action.

11. No one will be permitted in the kennels or staff barn, at any time, unless accompanied by the Huntsman or a Master.
12. Concealed firearms and all weapons of any kind are not permitted on Club property at any time except such firearms as may be stored by the Staff for training of the hounds. Special exceptions for the hunting of wild game can only be granted by the Board of Governors, by special permission.
13. In order to encourage the safe enjoyment and primary purpose of Bridlespur's Valley Green Farms, no hunting or trapping is permitted except as authorized by the Board of Governors.
14. In no event shall the Club discriminate against any individual because of the individual's race, color, sex, national origin, handicap or marital status.
15. The Club desires to encourage the use of the Club's facilities by members for private functions on any day or evening provided it does not interfere with the normal operation of the Club or services regularly available to the members. Members are requested to make reservations with the appropriate Club personnel for available dates and arrangements.

Private Functions are permitted at the Club only with prior written permission. The member sponsoring the function shall assume full responsibilities for the conduct of all guests, the removal of all decorations from the function and cleanup of the Club House. The sponsor of the function shall be responsible for any damage to the Club facilities and for payment of any charges regarding the use of the facilities.

16. Any violation of these rules or any conduct of a member of guest contrary to the best interest of the Club will subject the member to disciplinary action by the Club in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.

### **Discipline**

Members are responsible for their own conduct and for the conduct of their family members and guests. Any member whose conduct or whose family's conduct or guest's conduct shall be deemed by the Club to likely to endanger the welfare, safety, harmony or good reputation of the Club or its members or is otherwise improper may be reprimanded, fined, suspended or terminated from the Club and may have all privileges associated with the membership suspended or terminated by the Club. The Club shall be the sole judge of what constitutes improper conduct, but improper conduct shall include, without limitation: (i) failure to meet eligibility for membership, (ii) submitting false information on the application for membership, (iii) allowing his or her Membership to be used by another person, (iv) failing to pay any amount owed to the Club in a proper or timely manner, (v) failing to abide by the rules and regulations as set forth herein and as established by

the Club from time to time, (vi) abusing Club personnel or employees, or (vii) acting in a manner incompatible with the standard of conduct of the existing membership or which would likely injure the reputation of the members of the Club.

The Club may restrict or suspend some or all of a member's family and/or guest's privileges for the reasons outlined on paragraph one (above). No member shall, as a result of any restriction or suspension of membership privileges, be entitled to any refund of any membership deposit, dues or any other fees. During the restriction or suspension, dues and other charges shall continue to accrue and shall be paid in full prior to reinstatement as a member in good standing.

Any membership which has been terminated hereunder shall be treated as a resigned membership and only a deposit made by a member (if any) shall be returned to the member in the same manner as in case of any other resigned membership. All dues and fees are nonrefundable.

**MEMBERSHIP, USE OF PROPERTY  
LOSS/PERSONAL INJURY / PROPERTY- POLICY**

1. Each member as a condition of membership and each guest as a condition of invitation to the Club facilities assume sole responsibility for his or her property. The Club shall not be responsible for any loss or damage to any private property used or stored on the Club facilities, whether in stalls, barn, paddock, pasture or elsewhere. Any such personal property which may have been left in or on the facilities for two months or more without payment of storage thereon may be sold by the Club, with or without notice, at a public or private sale, or may be otherwise disposed of, and the proceeds, if any, may be retained by the Club.
2. No person shall remove from the room in which it is placed or from the Club's Facilities, the Club's premises any property or furniture belonging to the Club, without proper written authorization. Every member of the Club shall be liable for any property damage caused by the member, any guest, or any family member. The cost of such damage shall be charged to the responsible member's Club account.
3. Any member, family member, guest or other person who, in any manner, makes use of or accepts the use of any property, apparatus, appliance, facility, privilege or service whatsoever owned, leased or operated by the Club, including without limitation, the use of jumps, etc. who engages in any contest, game, function, exercise, competition or other activity operated, organized, arranged or sponsored by the Club, either on or off the Club's facilities and/or the Club's premises, shall do so at his or her own risk. The member and his or her family members and guests shall defend and hold Bridlespur Hunt, its directors, officers, members, employees, representatives, agents and members of the Club's advisory board or committees (collectively, the "Indemnified Parties") harmless from any and all loss, cost, claim, injury, damage or liability sustained or incurred by him or her, resulting there from directly or indirectly, arising out of or incident to membership in the Club or from any activity occurring on the Club facilities and/or Club's premises and/or from any act or omission of any of the Indemnified Parties. Any member shall have, owe and perform the same obligation to the Indemnified Parties hereunder in respect to any such loss, cost, claim, injury, damage or liability sustained or incurred by any guest or family member.
4. Should any party bound by these Rules and Regulations bring suit against any of the Indemnified Parties in connection with any event operated, organized, arranged or sponsored by the Club or on any other claim or matter in connection with membership in the Club, and fail to obtain judgment therein against, any one or more of them, said party shall be liable to the prevailing Indemnified Parties for all costs and expenses incurred by them in the defense of such suit, including court costs and attorneys' fees and expenses through all appellate proceedings.

## **Arbitration**

It is expressly understood and agreed by the parties that any controversy or claim arising out of or relating to the Membership Plan or Rules and Regulations, shall be settled by arbitration by an arbitrator in accordance with the CPR Non-Administered Arbitration Rules, and judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator may be entered by any court having jurisdiction thereof provided, however, that the Club shall have the right to collect, through a court proceeding, any Club account or other amount owing as a result of the member's loss or destruction of the Club's property or injury caused to any party. In the event of any dispute or disagreement, either party may submit the matter to binding arbitration. The arbitrator is not empowered to award damages in excess of compensatory damages and each party hereby irrevocably waives any right to recover such damages. Each party shall bear its own costs, including attorney's fees, and the costs of the arbitrator shall be divided equally. A copy of the CPR Non-Administered Arbitration Rules is **available** from the Club at a member's request.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **PREAMBLE**

The following By-Laws are adopted for the purpose of joining the Bridlespur Hunt Club, organized in 1925, recognized by the Masters of Foxhounds Association in 1927 and the Meramec Valley Hunt, organized in 1981 and recognized by the Masters of Foxhounds Association in 1988. Both hunts were incorporated in the State of Missouri and have as their mutual purpose of promoting the sport, tradition and etiquette of mounted foxhunting as required by the Masters of Foxhounds Association, to promote equestrian educational activities, to sponsor equestrian events and recreational activities associated therewith, and to support the research of diseases effecting canine and equine animals. **THE NAME OF THE RESULTING HUNT SHALL BE "THE BRIDLESPUR HUNT".**

## **BYLAWS**

### **ARTICLE I - BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

#### **Section 1.**

**The Governing Board** shall consist of ten members (authorized to wear the hunt colors) and shall include six Co-masters, this number to accommodate the joining of the two Clubs, one of whom shall act as President and any additional co-masters shall act as Vice-Presidents. No vacating Master shall be replaced until such time as the number of Masters is reduced to three which shall then continue to be the maximum number. The Board shall include a Secretary, Treasurer, and additional members as needed to make up a total of ten. In order for any person to vote or be a candidate for election , such person must be a member with colors, current in dues and other fees and over the age of 18 years. The Masters, with the approval of the Board of Governors, may appoint any qualified member in good standing to the Board of Governors, when such appointment shall be deemed to the best interest of the Hunt.

#### **Section 2.**

**TERMS OF OFFICE.** Masters and Officers shall be elected for a term of three years and shall not be removed during this term, except for cause, resignation, or death. Masters and Officers may be reaffirmed to a subsequent term by vote of the Governing Board. Board Members (other than above) will be elected for a term of three years only, with removal during term for cause with the same cause applying to Masters and Officers. If any Board members shall be removed for reasons outlined above, before the end of a term their replacement may be made by vote of the remaining Board to serve until the next annual election.

### **ARTICLE II - POWERS AND DUTIES**

#### **Section 1.**

**MASTERS:** The Masters of Foxhounds shall have control and be in complete charge of all matters pertaining directly to the actual conduct of hunting. They shall also determine who shall be authorized to wear the full hunt regalia. The Masters shall have the final determination in selecting appropriate hunting territories, and in matters pertaining to the pack of foxhounds, their care, training and breeding.

The Masters shall have commitment of the Corporation to act in correspondence with other Hunt Clubs, dealings with the Master of Foxhounds Association, dealing with landowners, etc. The Masters shall not commit the Corporation to any course of action regarding contracts or financial commitments without the authority of the Board of Governors.

## **Section 2.**

**PRESIDENT:** The master acting as President shall preside at all meetings of the Hunt and perform such other duties as usually devolve upon that Officer. He shall be ex-officio Chairman of the Board of Directors.

**VICE PRESIDENTS:** The Senior Vice President (or other VP agreed upon) shall, in the absence of the President, or in the case of his death, resignation, or inability to act, perform all of the duties of the President until the office shall have been filled as provided in these ByLaws.

**SECRETARY:** The Secretary shall keep a record of all the proceedings of the Hunt and of the Board of Governors; shall issue all notice of meetings; shall conduct the correspondence of the Hunt; shall be custodian of the archives and shall perform such other duties as usually devolve upon that officer.

**TREASURER:** The Treasurer shall collect all dues, fees, and other moneys payable to the Hunt, which he shall deposit in the name of the Hunt in such Bank as shall be designated by the Board of Governors; and such monies shall be drawn only by checks signed by him, or any other person specifically authorized by the Board. He shall pay no demands against the Hunt, other than routine demands, unless they have been first approved by the Board. He shall present a detailed report of his accounts at the Annual Meeting of the Hunt Membership and shall prepare monthly financial reports of current receipts and expenditures to the Board of Governors.

His books shall at all times be open to the inspection of any member of the Board, and he shall report to the Board the names of members who have failed to pay any dues, assessments and accounts, of their liability to the Hunt.

## **ARTICLE III - MEMBERS**

### **SECTION 1.**

**MEMBERSHIP.** The Board of Governors may enroll as members of the Hunt, such persons as they shall see fit as provided as follows: Persons wishing to join the Hunt shall indicate their desire to the Secretary. They may then be allowed to hunt with the organization, not to exceed four (4) times, for which a capping fee may be charged as determined by the Board. At any time during this period the Masters and the Board shall pass upon their eligibility for membership. Upon a person's admission to membership, any capping fees paid by such person shall be credited against initiation fees of dues.

The Board of Governors may issue special incentives when deemed advantageous to recruit new members, but these incentives should lead to regular membership as described above.

## **SECTION 2.**

**SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP.** The Board shall have the right to extend Social Membership status to persons who do not engage in mounted foxhunting, or to any foxhunting member who for any reason wishes to remain active in the Club but is unable to participate in mounted foxhunting. Social members shall have all of the privileges of regular members and shall have reduced dues as currently designated by the Board and may have the opportunity to hunt two times per season without capping fee. Those wishing to hunt more than two times per season shall be moved to Regular Membership status. Social Members who have transferred from Regular Member Hunting status, with colors, shall retain their voting privileges at any membership meeting

## **SECTION 3.**

**HONORARY MEMBERSHIP.** The Board of Governors shall have the right to extend an honorary membership to those former members who have made a contribution of unusual worth to the activities and betterment of the Bridlespur Hunt. These members who have been awarded their colors shall have the privilege of voting at meetings of the membership.

## **SECTION 4.** Amended 4.25.2007

**JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP.** Unmarried children of present members may participate in the Hunt and its activities to age 31 as part of their parents' family membership. Other applicants who shall apply for Social or Regular Membership and are under age 31 shall become Junior Members at one half the initiation fee, dues and assessments until they have reached age 31, at which time the Treasurer will change their status to Senior Member. This will apply to both Social and Hunting Membership.

## **SECTION 5.**

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP.** Those members having purchased Life Membership at the time this practice was available, will retain a non dues paying status, but will be assessed the yearly hunt subscription (if hunting), and such other assessment as are required of non-life members.

## **SECTION 6.**

**TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP FOR CAUSE.** A membership may be terminated upon a two-thirds majority vote by the Board of Governors for cause. Cause shall be actions contrary to or jeopardizing the purpose of the Corporation as stated in the Preamble: these include but are not limited to the following: 1.) a endangering the well being of the participants, 2.) damaging landowner's or other personal property through negligence or recklessness, 3.) unsportsmanlike conduct, 4.) acting in a manner not in the best interest of the Club, or in a manner which is detrimental to the reputation of the Club or its members. 5.) Failure to correct violations of the dress code of the hunt after having been informed of violation. 6.) Failure to timely remit dues of assessments.

## **ARTICLE IV DUES, FEES, ASSESSMENTS SECTION 1.**

**DUES, FEES AND ASSESSMENTS.** The Board of Governors shall have power and authority to determine and collect initiation fees and to determine, levy, and collect such fees, dues and assessments upon members of the Hunt as the Board in its discretion shall consider necessary and proper for the best interests of the hunt. The Board shall also have the power to set fees for special incentives as described in Article III, Section 1, paragraph 2, and Section 5.

## **ARTICLE V - MEETINGS**

### **SECTION 1.** Amended 4.25.2007

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.** The Annual Membership meeting of Bridlespur Hunt Club will be held in April at the Bridlespur Hunt Club, or such place in Missouri as may be designated in the notice of such meeting. This meeting will serve as the election meeting and forum for, any financial discussion as precipitated by the annual financial statement which shall have been mailed to each member at the close of the fiscal year of the Hunt and membership views and opinions for reaching goals and progressing toward the stated purpose of the Hunt Club.

### **SECTION 2.**

**SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS.** The Board of Governors may call a special meeting of the Members of the Hunt at any time they deem it advisable, and it shall be their duty to call a special meeting whenever requested by writing by ten (10) members of the Hunt. A written or printed notice of the special meeting shall be mailed to each member, setting forth the time and place of said meeting, at least 7 days prior to such meeting. A quorum of any meeting of Members shall be one fourth (1/4) of the members, but less than that number may adjourn to a fixed date without further notice thereof.

### **SECTION 3.**

**MEETINGS OF BOARD OF GOVERNORS.** The Board of Governors shall meet monthly, or at their discretion, in a mutually agreed upon place. The Secretary is required to give notification of time and place to each Member of the Board at least 48 hours prior to a regular or special meeting. Five (5) members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **SECTION 1.**

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE.** At a regular or special meeting of the board held not more than sixty (60) days, nor less than fifteen (15) days prior to the Annual Membership meeting, The Board shall act as nominating committee to replace any Master, Officer, or Board Member wishing to retire or who shall have served a full term. When a full slate shall have been determined, the

Membership shall be notified at least fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the Annual Membership Meeting.

Other nominations for Officers or Board Members may be made only upon signed petition of three members of the Hunt received by the Secretary not less than five (5) days before the Annual Meeting. The Secretary shall advise the Membership of this alternate slate to be presented at the Annual Meeting.

## **SECTION 2.**

**ELECTION.** The election shall take place at the Annual Meeting. If no candidates are nominated by petition, The Secretary shall cast a ballot for all the candidates nominated, and said candidates shall thereupon be considered duly elected.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **SECTION 1.**

**FISCAL YEAR.** The Fiscal year of the Bridlespur Hunt shall terminate August 31 of each year.

### **SECTION 2.** Amended 9.8.2005

**AMENDMENTS.** Except as more restrictive requirements may be set forth in these Bylaws with respect to specific Articles or Sections, these Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed by: (a) the Board of Governors by a majority of all Directors present, but not less than four (4) affirmative votes, at least thirty (30) days prior to the Member vote in (b) below, and (b) either (1) a majority vote of all Members by written ballot or consent as permitted pursuant to the General Missouri Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, or (2) a majority vote of all Members present at a special meeting called for such purpose."

### **SECTION 3.**

**PROXY.** No vote by proxy will be accepted at any Board Meeting or Membership meeting.

### **SECTION 4.** Amended 9.8.2005

**DISSOLUTION.** In the event of a dissolution of the Corporation, the assets of the Corporation remaining after the satisfaction and/or discharge of the liabilities and obligations of the Corporation, shall be transferred exclusively to one or more public benefit corporations as defined in the General Not for Profit Corporation Law of the State of Missouri, and in no event shall be distributed to any of the Members of the Corporation, nor to any affiliate of any Member, unless such affiliate is an organization which has qualified pursuant to Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The term "affiliate" as used herein shall mean any person or entity that directly or indirectly owns or controls the Member, that is directly or indirectly owned or controlled by the Member, or that is under

common control with the Member, or is controlled, controls, or is under common control with any sibling, parent, child, grandparent, grandchild or spouse of the Member. The term "control" means the possession, directly or indirectly of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of an entity, whether through ownership of voting securities, by contract or otherwise. This Section 4 of Article VII may be amended only by both (a) the affirmative vote of ninety percent (90%) of the Directors and (b) the approval of either a majority vote of the Members or two-thirds (2/3) of a quorum of Members, whichever is less, but in no event less than twenty (20) affirmative votes of Members.'

## **HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS**

Condie, Parker B.  
9909 Clayton Rd.  
St. Louis, MO. 63124  
314.567.9700

Harwood, Mr. And Mrs. Marvin C.  
9 Fox Run Lane  
St. Louis, MO. 63131  
314.965.1138

Scherck, Elsie  
31 Oakleigh Lane  
St. Louis, MO. 63124  
314.993.1195

Honorary members are selected by the Board on the basis of “long time service” to the club and their inability to take part in the ongoing activities of the Club.

## **LIFE MEMBERS**

Anne Bates  
John C. Heisler  
Karen Kribs  
Werner and Gerda Kugler  
Mrs. E.H. Lewis, Jr.  
Edwin B. and Nina Meissner  
Larry E. Miller (deceased 2005)  
James B. Orthwein  
Bill and Jean Patterson  
Franklin and Bonnie (deceased) Starcher

In 1984-85 it was decided by the Club to sell ten (10) Life Memberships. This was to help retire some of the Benne Road Club debt incurred through the building of the lake and show barn and the renovation of the clubhouse. The one-time lump sum put up by each of these members covers their dues (but not hunt subscriptions or other assessments) throughout the time of their membership in the Club.

## **COLORS AWARDED**

Prior to 1962 records: D.J. Moore 1952.(BH), James B. Orthwein(BH), Bud & Nina Meissner(BH), Marge & Marvin Harwood(BH), Elsie Scherck(BH), Anne Bates(BH).

1966: Bruce McCloskey(BH)

1972: Werner and Gerda Kugler(BH), Lil Lewis(BH)

1973: Parker B. Condie(BH)

1978: Karen Kribs(BH)

1981: Harry Eggelston(BH), Edwina Graham(BH), Don Meissner(BH)

1982: Harry Weber(BH)

1984: Marilyn Carney(BH), Jane Walters(BH), Anne Weber(BH)

1985: Jack Heisler(BH)

1986: Tom Carney(BH), Stephanie Muhlbaugh(BH), Bill & Jean Patterson(BH)

1987: Maria Brazil(BH)

1988: Leslie Ayers(BH), Jim Graham(BH)

1989: Tawny King(MVH)

1990: Ed Beyers(MVH) (BH) 1995

1991: Lee Deutsch(BH), Richard Jensen(BH)

1992: Gene Deutsch(BH), Scott King(MVH), Jill Wagenknecht(MVH), Max Mutrux(MVH)

1993: Jack Chopp(BH), Armand Hoffstetter(BH), Sue Marshall(BH), John Korenak(BH)

1994: Janice Collette(BH), Mary Hensel(MVH)

1995: Heidi Fox(MVH), Louise Jensen(BH)

1996: Bill Collette(BH)

1997: Robert Muhlbaugh(BH)

1998: Roger Smith(BH)

2000: Geri Washausen(MVH)

2001: Gary Pregler(MVH), David Jeffery(MVH)

2002: Jane Liesman, Deb Daugherty, Jean Mutrux, Myra Taylor

2003: Colby Tinsley

2004: Annie Hoagland

2005: Lei Ruckle

2006: Tom Neese, Bob Wilmott

(BH) and (MVH) indicate colors prior to Bridlespur Hunt and Meramec Valley Hunt joining together in the fall of 2001.