

CAMP / EVENT STANDARDS HAHWG

Results from the steering committee of Hunting and Angling Heritage Working Group Friday, March 4, 2011

Purpose

The purpose of the Hunting and Angling Heritage Working Group (HAHWG) is to gather leaders in industry, conservation groups, youth groups, and wildlife management professionals to synergistically preserve the hunting and angling tradition.

Each group brings a critical element to the HAHWG and has a slightly different view of success. Industry benefits from recruitment and retention by increased, perpetual revenue streams; conservation groups benefit by helping solidify the North American model of conservation and by increasing membership in their organizations; youth development groups enhance their programs by becoming involved in programs beneficial to their youth; and the wildlife management agency benefits by solidifying working relationships with partners, and solidifying the future of wildlife conservation.

The foremost approach used by the HAHWG to preserve our hunting, angling, and trapping heritage is to provide opportunities, through mentored events, for people to learn how to use the outdoors. In order to maintain consistency, and to minimize liability, the HAHWG agrees to the following standards for outreach events.

EVENT STANDARDS-REQUIRED

- ✔ Never (EVER) one-on-one between mentor and child, ANYWHERE. Parent or guardian of child must be continuously present with child when hunting or away from camp. NO EXCEPTIONS.
- ✔ Never (EVER) one-on-one between adult mentors and adult participants of opposite sex: If adult mentor takes adult participant of opposite sex, another adult, whether mentor or companion of participant, must be present.
- ✔ Parents/Guardians may not drop their kids off and return later to pick them up. If parents/guardians leave for an errand, they must take their children with them.
- ✔ Mentors shall not leave, or become separated from, participants in the field. Many times participant are unfamiliar with the area and are ill-equipped to get themselves unlost.
- ✔ Must provide Gun Safety Briefing in Camp during seminars, with safety acknowledgement by participant.
- ✔ No loaded guns in camp, no guns out of cars in camp.
- ✔ Must shut down archery range or pellet rifle range if qualified adult not continuously present during shooting
- ✔ Hand Washing Station for cooks.
- ✔ Hand Washing Station for camp participants at eating area.
- ✔ Servers must wear plastic gloves.
- ✔ ALWAYS check for fire restrictions prior to having campfires. (you may check for restrictions at [www. http://www.publiclands.org/firenews/AZ.php](http://www.publiclands.org/firenews/AZ.php))
- ✔ First Aid Kit present at camp:

CAMP / EVENT STANDARDS HAHWG

- ✔ Notify nearest First Responder (ambulance, fire, local LE agency) of location and times of event. If EMS is unreasonably far away, must have first aid trained person present for entirety of camp.
- ✔ No alcohol present during Department-sanctioned recruitment and retention events.
- ✔ No Use of profanity.

I acknowledge receipt of these standards and by signing here as a representative of my organization hereby agree to make these standards known to all adult volunteers at my event. Further I commit to ensuring my organization adheres to the above standards during this event.

Event name and location _____

Authorized Organization Representative

Print Name

Signature

Date

BEST PRACTICES

- ✔ Signage at camp (registration, directional)
- ✔ Registering memberships – remember, this is not selfish, its helping new hunters/anglers find a social support network to become an independent participant
- ✔ Always provide seminars-natural history, where to hunt, hunting tips
- ✔ Talk about equipment that you use/carry in your backpack
- ✔ Remember to offer BASIC outdoor skills training-we are trying to attract brand new people who may be completely familiar with the outdoors
- ✔ Avoid trophy talk. This may be intimidating to participants who are completely out of their element
- ✔ Clean/process game away from cooking area
- ✔ Demonstrate kitchen preparation of game/fish when possible
- ✔ Always have an experienced adult tending the camp shooting activities (if none available, shut it down)
- ✔ Market to non-outdoor youth groups
- ✔ Include hunter ethics in seminar
- ✔ Include a hand-out acknowledging ALL groups and ALL sponsors involved in camp
- ✔ Take photos at camp and provide summary to any business who sponsored items for your camp. This is critical to continued sponsorship
- ✔ Consider free one-year youth membership to your organization
- ✔ Assign one person to take video/pictures/notes for YouTube videos to promote the fun of the event