

QUESTIONS OFTEN ASKED ABOUT THE ARAPAHOE HUNT (1)

How long the Arapahoe Hunt had been in existence?

The Arapahoe Hunt was founded in 1907 but died during World War I. It was reactivated in 1929 by Lawrence C. Phipps, Jr.. In 1934 the Arapahoe Hunt was recognized by the Masters of Foxhounds of America. (Please see the Arapahoe Hunt Club – A Brief History)

Where is the hunt territory?

In 1987 we built a staff horse barn and kennels on the Lowry Bombing Range. We have a non-exclusive lease on 35 square miles (22,000 acres), which we share with other leaseholders. We also have the right to hunt on about 6400 acres of adjacent private land used for grazing. Once a year we go out of state to Wyoming at the Monhagan Ranch near Laramie. (Please see the Arapahoe hunt Club – A Brief History).

How do I become a member of the Arapahoe Hunt?

Normally, a current member of the hunt recommends a potential new member to the Board of Directors and serves as the new member's "sponsor." If a new member doesn't know a current member, a sponsor is found for them. (Please see the Sponsor Guidelines)

What are the different Classes of Membership?

The different Classes of Membership are spelled out every year and sent out with the Fixture Card for each season. Please remember that a membership can be upgraded prior January 1st and see the chart for details.

Who do I call about membership dues and where do I send my payments and initiation fees?

Our treasurer is Marc Patoile at 303 688 3045 (day time) and he will be available to answer any financial questions you may have. All dues and initiation payments should be made to the Arapahoe Hunt and addressed to Arapahoe Hunt,
~~Attn: Treasurer~~

Who do I call if I have a question about what category of membership is right for me or have a membership question in general?

Our Membership Chairman Marie-P. Phipps at 303 646 4784 will be happy to answer any questions you might have about membership.

Do I have to jump all the jumps?

Please know that there are always gates (hand or wire) that can be used instead of jumping the 2', to 3' coop. We recognize that on various days members have various reasons why they do not want to jump (i.e. green horses, weather instead of comprehension), hence the gate option is always available. Just be sure if you open a gate that it is close behind you. (Please see the Rules of Etiquette, page 4, d, and 8 for specifics regarding gates)

What if I do not have all the English attire and tack?

Mt. Lawrence C. Phillips, Jr., MFH of the Arapahoe Hunt for over 42 years, instilled the respect for tradition and the proper attire and recognized the western influence on fox hunting. This respect for tradition has been passed on throughout the years to our staff and field members and continues to gain respect for our heritage to this day. The current MFHs are strongly committed to preserving the tradition and expect regular members of the Arapahoe Hunt to observe the tradition of proper hunting attire. They do not want guests or introductory Members to miss that will be held in October or November. At the clinic a panel of seasoned hunt members will explain the Rules of Etiquette. This is the time for any and all questions to be asked about what to do when, where etc... We strongly urge all new members to set aside this date (See your fixture card) and plan to attend. (In the mean time please read the Rules of Etiquette and consult your sponsor.)

How will I ever learn all the Rules of Etiquette?

All new members will receive an invitation to a Rules of Etiquette Clinic that will be held in October or November. At the clinic a panel of seasoned hunt members will be held in October or November. At the clinic a panel of seasoned hunt questions to be asked about what to do when, where etc... We strongly urge all new members to set aside this date (See your fixture card) and plan to attend. (In the mean time please read the Rules of Etiquette and consult your sponsor.)

What days of the week is the hunt, what time does it start, what do I wear and how do I find out the schedule for hunting and the hunt's social activities?

During the Cubbing Season (First Sunday of September until Regular Season starts beginning/mid October) we hunt at 7 AM on Wednesdays and Sundays. The early hour provides better shooting conditions, which become poor then due to the heat. (There is not hunt the first Sunday of October due to antelope hunt due to the heat).

During the regular Season we hunt every Sunday at 11 AM in our formal attire and Wednesday at 2 PM in our Ratcatcher attire (Tweds).

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Schedule of the hunts

A ‘fixture’ card, stating all hunting days, special activities, social events, etc., is mailed out before Opening Hunt (Generally 2nd Sunday of October).

The Opening Meet is especially colorful. We have approximately 75 – 100 riders, many of whom are senior gentlemen riders in their traditional scarlet coats. We also have a priest coming to bless the hounds, horses and riders. This religious ceremony has its origins in the belief that by this act, through the intercession of Saint Hubert, hounds, riders and horses will be protected from disease and harm.

How does one ‘earn his brass/her silver buttons’ and a gentleman ‘earn his colors’ and a lady ‘earn her piping’?

The five joint masters based their decision on a blending of the following:

- 1.) Respect for and adherence to hunting tradition
- 2.) Horsemanship and sportsmanship
- 3.) Maintenance of ‘good standing’ with financial status
- 4.) Participation in at least 2 years of regular hunting (no ‘magic’ period time)
- 5.) Participation in volunteer activities (i.e. Country Pair Pace event, Hunter trials, jump building, etc..) Junior riders must be at least 13 years old to earn their buttons.

When a lady earned her silver buttons she is also adding a black velvet collar to her hunt black coat.

Gentlemen over the age of 18 who have been awarded their buttons must wait to be asked by the Masters to wear their scarlet coat. After an interval of time following the award of buttons, the privilege of wearing a scarlet coat come upon the Master’s invitation. Likewise awarding of the ‘piping,’ in Arapahoe’s color in cactus green, is by the Masters to those ladies considered to have earned this honor.

Who ‘governs’ the hunt?

The hunt is managed by the Board of Directors consisting of the Joint Masters (Lawrence C. Phipps, III, Marvin Beeman, D.V.M., Robert Deline, Mike Wilfley, and Mary Ewing) the Honorary Secretary (Freddedica Riahi) and members-elected Board Members. (Please see A Brief History for a complete listing of all the directors.)

The twelve members Boards of Directors will host a New Member’s Cocktail Party in late November for all new members. We strongly encourage all new members with their spouse or significant other to attend this warm reception hosted by the Board of Directors.

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In case of inclement weather, how do I find out if the hunt is canceled?

If you are uncertain about whether we will hunt due to inclement weather, call 303 226 5970 and there will be a message if we had canceled that particular day's hunt.

We also use a Calling Tree to get the word out for information other than a specific day's hunt being canceled.

Please do not call the Range phone number.

Don't worry---this will take a while, but your sponsor will help to introduce you around. Don't be shy about introducing yourself to others too. After the hunt most members congregate to in the Tack Room for social time to enjoy generous portions of delicious food and libations (Pot Luck). This social time will provide a great opportunity to get to know other members and they get to know you too.

We ask that all new members fill out the New Member Profile form so that we can publish a short biography in an upcoming newsletter. You might get a phone call from the editor for a more personal contact.

A roster with our complete membership list is generally published each fall and should be helpful with all the names.

What if I want to bring a guest?

The Arapahoe Hunt welcomes guests. The capping fee is \$40 during culling season, \$80 for regular season. You or your guest may also use a coupon awarded for use in lieu of a capping fee.

Guests may hunt not more than three times a hunting season on this basis. After hunting these three times, if your guest wishes to continue to hunt, we invite you to propose your guest for membership.

Your guest will need to sign a release which can be obtained from the arapahoehunt.com website or from the Field Secretary the day of hunting. The Field Secretary will also receive the capping fee or coupon. Please introduce your guests to the Masters hunting that morning.
