



Since 1971

*The official publication of
The Golden Ram Sportsman's Club*



June 23, 2018: Family Weekend at The Hedgepeth.

June 26, 2018: Phone-in reservations begin for our A-Zone Archery Deer season at The Hedgepeth & Cholame Ranches.

July 7, 2018: Archery deer season begins in the A-Zone.

July 16 2018: Deer season ballots due in GR office by 5:00PM for draw.

July 31, 2018: Opening weekend deer season ballot results can be checked by phone at 10:00AM.

August 1, 2018: Phone-in reservations begin for both rifle deer seasons.

August 11, 2018: Rifle deer season begins in A-Zone.

August 18, 2018: Archery Deer and Bear season begins in B & D Zones.

Sept. 15, 2018: Rifle deer season begins in the B-Zone.

Sept. 15, 2018: Rifle bear season begins on ranches where we hunt bear.

Sept. 22, 2018: Rifle deer season begins in the D-3 Zone.



With Fond Memories:

Dear members,

Many of you may already know that our dear friend Bill Gidding passed away recently. He and his wife Betty have been Golden Ram members since 1973. In their membership application, they indicated that they wanted to joined so that they and their boys would have a safe place to hunt.



For many years Bill and his wife Betty were camp hosts at the Bar Z. They would pack up their truck and trailer days before B-zone and leave their home in Santa Cruz to make the trip to Covelo. They would set up before any members had arrived. They were always eager to answer new members questions and give additional information to anyone who asked for help.

We are sure that anyone who hunted Bar-Z will remember them since their camp site was near the sign-in booth and there was a sign directing members to visit their campsite. They spent the entire B-zone season at the ranch helping others.

We would just like to say thank you and we will never forget all the effort and time that Bill and his wife Betty spent supporting Golden Ram.

Colin, Nick and Kandace

**Forked Horn Drawing at Bar-Z for First Time Youth Hunters
– See page 6**

Big Game Hunting:

Where we'll hunt big game in 2018

The Hedgepeth Ranch

Where: Sonoma County
Deer Zone: A
Usage: 7 days a week
Archery Deer: July 7 - July 29
Rifle Deer: August 11 - September 23
Archery Pig: October 6 - November 11
Rifle Pig: November 22 - Quota Fill or 2/28
Bear: None *Camping:* Yes
Turkey: Spring Only
Fishing: Black Bass & Catfish
Special Use: 2 Lodges for rent. Call (707) 847-3100 for Ranch Retreat rentals

Special Rules: Ranch closed during March. We now have a large dumpster located just off the main road. This is for garbage only! No hides are to be disposed of here. Due to ongoing ranching operations, we will no longer be able to camp and/or leave trailers and RVs at the White Barn area located on Scaggs Springs Road at the ranch's main entrance.

The Cholame Ranch

Where: San Luis Obispo County
Deer Zone: A
Usage: Thursday - Sunday
Archery Deer: No. **Closed**
Rifle Deer: No. **Closed**
Pig: We'll hunt every other month based on harvest against quota
Bear: None *Fishing:* None
Camping: Yes
Special Use: Dove/Quail/Chukar/Varmint

The McIsaac Ranch

Where: Mendocino County
Deer Zone: B3
Usage: Thursday - Sunday
Archery Deer: No
Rifle Deer: September 15 - October 21
Pig: No
Bear: Yes
Fishing: None
Camping: Yes. during deer season only.
Special Rules:
 No vehicle traffic on roads.
 Fool hunting only. 3 points or better all year

Dominion Ranch

Where: San Luis Obispo county
Deer Zone: NIA
Usage: Friday-Sunday
Pig: Archery Only
Dove: Yes *Quail:* Yes
Camping: Yes
Special Use: New ranch near Santa Maria CA. Archery only for hogs. No Deer hunting. Arrivals are Thursday. after 12pm, and departures are Sunday. No Thursday Scouting. Early arrival is to make camp

Tyson/O'Ferrall Ranch

Where: Mendocino County
Deer Zone: B1
Usage: 7 days a week
Archery Deer: August 18-September 9
Rifle Deer: September 15 - October 21
Pig: None
Fishing: None
Bear: September 15 - December 31
Camping: Yes
Special Use: Quail & Turkey allowed
Special Rules: 3-points or better

The Bar Z Ranch

Where: Mendocino County
Deer Zone: B1 *Usage:* 7 days a week
Archery Deer: August 18-September 9
Rifle Deer: September 15 - October 21
Pig: None
Camping: Yes
Turkey: Yes. spring season only
Rear: September 16 - December 31
Fishing: Blue Gill & Catfish
Special Rules: **NEW:** 3-points or better
 Ranch closed from January - July except spring turkey season.
Special Use: Quail & Spring Turkey hunting allowed during CA F&G seasons.

Timberland Ranch

Where: Mendocino County
Deer Zone: A
Usage: 7 days a week
Archery Deer: July 7 - July 29
Rifle Deer: August 11 - September 23
Pig: None *Fishing:* None
Bear: September 15 - December 31
Camping: Yes
Special Use: Quail & Turkey allowed.

Timberland West

Where: Mendocino County
Deer Zone: A
Usage: 7 days a week
Archery Deer: July 7 - July 29
Rifle Deer: August 11 - September 23
Pig: None *Fishing:* None
Bear: September 15 - December 31
Camping: Yes
Special Use: Quail & Turkey allowed.



Little Valley Ranch

Where: Mendocino County
Deer Zone: A
Usage: 7 days a week
Archery Deer: July 7 - July 29
Pig: None *Fishing:* None
Turkey: Yes. Shotgun
Bear: Archery Only September 15 - December 31
Camping: Yes
Special Use: No on-site camping.
 Walk-in only. No ATVs

The Challenge Ranch

Where: Sierra County
Deer Zone: D3
Usage: 7 days a week
Archery Deer: August 18-September 9
Rifle Deer: September 22 - October 28
Pig: None *Camping:* Yes
Bear: September 22 - December 31
Special Use: Dove, Quail & Turkey allowed during the applicable California DFG Seasons

Sloat Ranch

Where: Sierra County
Deer Zone: D3
Usage: 7 days a week
Archery Deer: August 18-September 9
Rifle Deer: September 22 - October 28
Pig: None
Bear: September 22 - December 31
Turkey: Yes
Quail: Yes
Camping: Call office for instructions
Fishing: Stream fishing for Rainbows and Browns

The White Oak Ranch

Where: Monterey County
Deer Zone: A (Archery Only)
Usage: Thursday - Sunday
Archery Deer: Yes
Rifle Deer: No
Pig: We'll hunt every other month based on harvest against quota
Bear: None
Fishing: None
Camping: Yes
Special Use: Dove/Quail

The following 12 rules apply each and every year, are not flexible, and breaking any of them will result in expulsion from the club with no warning and no refund

- 1) **No trespassing on neighboring ranches.**
- 2) **Driving off established roads for any reason, Extreme fire danger this year!**
- 3) **Failure to report any deer or hog kill, taking more game than your membership limit, or killing a pig out of Golden Ram season.**
- 4) **Bringing an unauthorized guest on Golden Ram property.**
- 5) Careless gun handling.
- 6) Littering of any kind. Be sure your camp is spotless when you exit a ranch!
- 7) Leaving campers or trailers in a camp after you leave. Our ranches are not RV storage units. and you must take your rigs with you each time you end a hunt. Exception: Storage at Bar Z with prior permission only. Check with the Office, Patrol, or Camp Hosts.
- 8) Alcohol and gun powder do not mix. Do not let us catch you intoxicated on the field or driving on a ranch because it will only happen once.
- 9) If a ranch road is too wet to drive on, then walk. Anyone caught using tire chains on a ranch road will have their membership pulled on the spot.
- 10) Reservations are required during big game seasons. No drop-ins.
- 11) Do not use the sign in booths as a sounding board for petty whining. If you have a complaint, call the office or e-mail us.
- 12) All Members must sign in before hunting and sign out upon exiting the ranch.

Fire Season Cautions

- a. Open camp fires are no longer allowed on Golden Ram Ranches.
- b. When using your B.B.Q. pits. always pour water on the ashes and the area directly under the B.B.Q. and keep at least 5 feet of clearance around it (i.e., no leaves or twigs). Beware of trees and branches in proximity.
- c. When parking your vehicle 10 begin a hunt, use extreme care in deciding where you will pull off the road. Parking in tall weeds can start a fire. You don't want to be the person burns a ranch by being stupid.
- d. Always carry a shovel and at least five gallons of water (and/or a fire extinguisher) in your vehicle. You Do want to be the person who saves a ranch by being alert and prepared.
- e. Smoking allowed in vehicles only.

Hunter courtesy and care of our ranches

- 13) **No vehicle traffic on ranch roads the day before the opener on any ranch!**
- 14) Carry biodegradable toilet paper with you in-the field. If you must use a canyon trail as a restroom, use some common sense and move well off the trail where you can take steps to bury your paper etc. with leaves and dirt.
- 15) Leave outhouses as you would like to find them. Remember to use the Lime in the outhouse buckets. Alert Patrol if the bucket is empty.
- 16) Always use the outhouses when in Camp. Do not use the camp area as your restroom.
- 17) Do not sight your rifles in on the ranches. Remember, the range at Hedgepeth is closed during all big game seasons, and there is no varmint hunting allowed on any ranches during any big game season. *Exceptions: Predators are/air game during our hunting seasons).* If you want to plink. do it at a range at home please.
- 18) Dogs are not allowed in the field during an" big game season unless hunting Quail. Be sure your dog has a scarf, jacket, or other visual ID to allow hunters to distinguish them from Coyotes. Otherwise, keep your dogs in camp under control, and on a leash at all times. Dogs are not to be left alone in vehicles in the field.
- 19) If you wound any big game. come back to camp and notify Patrol personally or leave a note. Only then may you take your dog into the field to track the animal. **Nick will personally' verify and monitor use of dogs in the field.**
- 20) Most of the ranchers want us to close all gates; others want us to leave them as we find them. Refer to individual ranch maps to be sure.
- 21) We allow ATVs on all of our big game ranches except Cholame. Side-by-Sides are OK on all ranches.

More common sense ...

- 1) Do not let teenagers drive any vehicle or ATV unless they are 18 or older and have a valid Driver's License. Ranch roads can be dangerous and insurance does not cover drivers under age 18.
- 2) No loaded firearms in camp. **Absolutely NEVER!**
- 3) Do not drive or park in tall. dry grass. It is a huge tire hazard. Park your vehicle on the side of the road leaving enough room for others to drive by.
- 4) Be courteous to your fellow campers. No late night parties. Quiet time on all ranches starts at 10:00 p.m. If you arrive in camp after 10:00 p.m., please be as quiet as possible setting up your camp. If you come back late with game, same courtesy applies: Please be as quiet as possible in the skinning shack and in camp.

News from the Office



Members and new members: Please get your paperwork in promptly. All paperwork including new member contracts and releases need to be signed and returned to the office as soon as possible. During the summer fall period you need to plan for at least 7 days between your payment and the time you will receive your membership card. You cannot visit a ranch to hunt without your membership fees being paid in full and you must also be in possession of your membership card.



Holiday office closure dates:

- May 28 – Memorial Day
July 3 & 4 (Tuesday & Wednesday)
- September 4 Labor Day (Tuesday)
- October 9 Columbus Day (Tuesday)
- November 22 & 23 Thanksgiving (Thursday & Friday)
- December 24 – December 26 Christmas (Monday through Wednesday)
- December 31 through January 2 New Year's Day (Monday through Wednesday)
- Jan 14 Martin Luther King Day (Monday)



We encourage our Golden Ram membership to support the Fregoso Outdoor Foundation. If you know of a veteran who has an interest in the outdoors please visit the veteran center link below to apply.
www.fregosofoundation.org

REMEMBER: Membership cards must be in possession at all times. Call the office if you have not received yours!



Send us your photos!
Info@goldenramhunting.com

Extreme Fire Danger

Since the fire danger will be extremely high this season due to all of the rain, we will have vehicle restrictions due to high grass on some roads. We will post them and expect everyone to follow the rules.

- We cannot afford to have any accidental fires.
- No campfires of any type will be allowed unless there has been at least a full day of rain. Please check with a patrolman.
- Absolutely NO SMOKING OUTSIDE OF CAMP!!!
- It is extremely important that we are very careful when on the ranch and obey the club rules. WATCH YOUR SPEED!
- NO TRAILERS are to be left for the season in the center camping area
- and around the Bar-Z lake. If you have questions please ask a patrolman.
- You can leave your trailer at Bar-Z during deer season in the back by the corral but it MUST be off the ranch when the season is over. (General Deer, Bear, Turkey and Late Season Archery or Muzzle Loader)



Mentoring Program:

Are you a Golden Ram member who wants to share some of your hunting experience?? We want to start a mentoring program that connects new hunters and new members with members who are willing to give a little advice. Don't worry, we're not expecting anyone to give away any hard-earned secret locations. It may just end up being a conversation or email exchange that takes place. That's fine. But it could be more!

For all you experienced members think of the upside if your current hunting partner can't hunt. Perhaps your telephone call goes well and you decide to take an inexperienced hunter under your wing in the field. Wouldn't it be nice to have an enthusiastic, young hunter to send down to the bottom of a ravine to drag that buck or pig up to your ATV?

If you're interested in being a mentor, call the office or email us for more information.



HELP STOP TRESPASSING & UNAUTHORIZED GUESTS:

Recently we have had significant problems with trespassing and unauthorized guests on Golden Ram properties. Trespassers very quickly lead to our second problem which is poaching. Trespassers are stealing from our members. Our members have invested their hard-earned money so that they have the privilege of hunting, fishing and camping on Golden Ram properties. Anyone who hasn't paid a membership is stealing from you, the member.

Common lies from trespassers & unauthorized guests	Here's the truth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He's just a buddy of mine • He's my brother in-law • He's my nephew 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family and non-family memberships do not include guest privileges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I just wanted a little company 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unauthorized guests are trespassers and poachers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He's my son but he's 28 years old 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family memberships include spouses and children under age 21 living at home who are students. • An adult child cannot hunt under a family membership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I forgot to make a reservation and to sign-in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failing to make a reservation or sign in is trespassing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He used to be a member... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • So what? He isn't a member now!! • <u>Any member that has been cancelled due to nonpayment cannot be taken as guest by another member.</u> Once you have been cancelled you are no longer allowed on Golden Ram properties and will be treated as a trespasser.

Always show your membership card to Patrolman and other members. If another member asks to see your membership card don't be offended. Be glad he cares enough to make sure your membership is protected from others who may try to steal the benefits for a legitimate membership from you. Ask each other to see a membership ID card.

YOU CAN BUY A GOLDEN RAM HAT OR T-SHIRT BY VISITING THE WEBSITE



On the Wall-Top Right: Kona the German Shepherd working at the blind. **Below-Left:** Cody Walker, Tanner Sleek and Dave Wood with 15 geese. **Below-Right:** Kelsi McNeil in the blind on a junior hunt.



Left: Josh Mazzoni displays his buck. It's a great 3 x 2 buck

Right: Chase M. with an awesome 3 x 4 buck from the A-zone south.



2018 Rifle Deer Season Opening Weekend Ballot

This ballot card is for OPENING WEEKEND HUNTS ONLY. YOU MAY CHECK WITH THE OFFICE ON OR AFTER July 31st for the status of your ballot. If you plan on hunting during the archery season, or if you want to hunt more than one of the A, B & D Zones, DO NOT SUBMIT A BALLOT. Phone reservations for Archery Season begin on June 26. Any remaining opening weekend slots for the rifle season can be secured by phone starting on August 1st.

***Important Reminders

- Ballot participants drawn for the openers in any zone MAY HUNT ONLY IN THE ZONE THEY DREW FOR THE OPENER.
- Ballots can be submitted for groups of Gram members hunting together, just be sure that only one ballot is submitted for the entire group, as a double entry will void the ballot for everyone listed on those ballots.
- BALLOTS OR RESERVATIONS NOT ACCEPTED FOR MEMBERSHIPS WITH DELINQUENT DUES!

Fill in your choice of ranches below (can be A, B or D Zone).

1st Choice Ranch _____ Dates: ____ / ____ / ____ To: ____ / ____ / ____

2nd Choice Ranch _____ Dates: ____ / ____ / ____ To: ____ / ____ / ____

3rd Choice Ranch _____ Dates: ____ / ____ / ____ To: ____ / ____ / ____

4th Choice Ranch _____ Dates: ____ / ____ / ____ To: ____ / ____ / ____

Other Balloted Hunt

Ranch Choice _____

Start Date: ____ / ____ / ____ To: ____ / ____ / ____

This option is for those who wish to submit a ballot for a set of dates not including the opening weekend.

****Note for those submitting a ballot for a hunt in the B zone. Remember that you may not make your second reservation until your first (this ballot) has been completed. This would preclude you from hunting A-zone if you submit a ballot for any B or D-zone ranch.**

License numbers of ALL VEHICLES

The above vehicle information must be included or ballot will be rejected

Signature of membership owner: _____

Names of Hunting Members:
(please print)

Names of Non-Hunting Members:
(please print)

Must be received by 5:00 pm no later than July 18 to be included in the draw

Forked Horn Drawing for Bar-Z First Time Youth Hunt

This year we'll be have a drawing for first time youth hunters to harvest a forked horn deer at the Bar-Z. Five youth hunters who have never taken a deer will hunt over five weekends with a sponsor accompanying the hunter and parent.

1. Forked horn drawing is open to first time youth hunters who have never harvested a deer.
2. Six hunters over five weekends will have the chance to hunt for a fork horn deer with a Golden Ram provided sponsor accompanying the hunter and their parent. The Golden Ram sponsor is NOT a guide.
3. One hunter per weekend.
4. Membership dues must be fully current to enter the draw.

Preferred Weekend to Hunt at Bar-Z:

_____ Sept 15 _____ Sept 22 _____ Sept 29 _____ Oct 6 _____ Oct 13

Preferred Weekend to Hunt at Tyson-O'Ferrall: _____ Sept 15

Youth Hunter Name

Parent / Member Name

Forked Horn Drawing at Bar-Z for First Time Youth Hunter

Six youth hunters who have never taken a deer will hunt over five weekends with a sponsor accompanying the hunter and parent. See details on the youth ballot.

This year we'll be have a drawing for first time youth hunters to harvest a forked horn deer at the Bar-Z or Tyson-O-Ferrall. Youth hunters who have never taken a deer will hunt over five weekends with a sponsor accompanying the hunter and parent.