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## 50 Years of History with Golden Ram

Ever wonder how Golden Ram got its name? Golden Ram was founded by Lou Federico in 1971, and it's beginning is far from conventional.

In the 1960's Lou was overseeing the construction of three high-end resorts in Baja, Mexico. As the second resort reached completion, the government took over his resorts. The final resort, which was never built, was to be called "Borrego del Oro", Spanish for "Golden Ram".

In 1968, after Lou returned to the US, he was working on development projects in San Francisco when he was approached by his friend Bud Boyd who was a writer at the Chronicle and 2 other businessmen from Utah who said they had a great business proposal for him. They wanted to start a membership-based hunting club with leased ranches. Lou quickly agreed, and they started The American Sportsman's Club with a few properties, one of which was the Hedgpeth Ranch (which was a part of Golden Ram until 2021 when it was put up for sale by family members).

After a few years, the American Sportsman Club reputation began to diminish because they were over-selling memberships & didn't have enough ranches. Lou realized he needed to create a new company, this one more focused on quality ranches and limited memberships to give members a better experience and not on maximizing sales. In 1971, Lou founded Golden Ram, with a loan from his wife, a well-known San Francisco model at the time. He also convinced his cousin, Nick Tacito, to help him out in the business by visiting ranches.

Together Lou & Nick steadily grew the properties within the club, gaining ranches such as the Baxter Ranch & Tyson O'Ferrall which is still in the club portfolio. After almost a decade and a half, in 1985 Lou was ready to retire and approached Nick about buying the business. Nick accepted and took over. At the time, most Golden Ram members were part of the Italian community in South San Francisco, and they had doubts over the ownership change, and many considered leaving. It wasn't until Julio Cerquettini, a well-respected patrolman at one the ranches stuck up for Nick and pleaded the members to give Nick a chance, a year, before leaving Golden Ram. That year was a success and the business continued to expand into more duck properties and big game hunting through the 1990's. In 1995, the Executive Ram program began, where members could lease private blinds and private ranches. At the same time, Golden Ram started their trophy guided hunting program with a well-known booking agent from Montana. Nick recruited his wife Kandace to become office manager in 1996. In the early 2000's Golden Ram led their first trophy Tule Elk Hunt, a California exclusive and a requirement in the North American Grand Slam. Currently the club provides

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The Golden Ram Sportsman's Club



**June 22-27, 2021:** Family Weekend at The Hedgpeth.

**June 28, 2021:** Phone-in reservations begin for our A-Zone Archery Deer season at The Timberland & Ten Mile Creek Ranches.

**July 10, 2021:** Archery deer season begins in the A-Zone.

**July 16, 2021:** Deer season ballots due in GR office by 5:00PM for draw.

**July 29, 2021:** Opening weekend deer season ballot results can be checked by phone at 10:00AM.

**August 3, 2021:** Phone-in reservations begin for both rifle deer seasons.

**August 14, 2021:** Rifle deer season begins in A-Zone.

**August 21, 2021:** Archery Deer and Bear season begins in B & D Zones.

**Sept. 18, 2021:** Rifle deer season begins in the B-Zone.

**Sept. 18, 2021:** Rifle bear season begins on ranches where we hunt bear.

**Sept. 25, 2021:** Rifle deer season begins in the D-3 Zone.

guided hog, deer & Tule elk hunts under the leadership of Rick Escover, David King & Adrian Simi.

In 2012 Colin Finn & John Selvitella became partners in the club with Nick. John eventually left the business to focus on other opportunities, while Colin, Nick, and the team continue to refine Golden Ram's vision which is to focus on family-oriented hunting and outdoor explorations. Colin created the first family weekend at the Hedgpeth Ranch in 2013 which continues to be a yearly event, and he continues to evaluate & add new properties. Combining the skills of essential patrolmen and exceptional guides who help monitor & manage activities at the ranches, Golden Ram focuses on quality hunting experiences, executive programs, and outstanding guided hunts. **Golden Ram is the oldest membership-based hunting organization in the United States and we look forward to the next 50 years in the outdoors. Come visit us in camp at one of the ranches!!!!**



L-R: David King, Nick Tacito, Kandace Tacito, Rick Escover, Colin Finn

## Big Game Hunting:

Where we'll hunt big game in 2021

Golden Ram Ranchography

### Beaver Valley Ranch - NEW

*Where:* Siskiyou County  
*Deer Zone:* B6  
*Usage:* 7 days a week  
*Archery Deer:* August 21-September 12  
*Rifle Deer:* September 18 - October 14  
*Pig:* None but if seen can be taken  
*Bear:* No  
*Turkey:* No  
*Quail:* Yes  
*Camping:* Call office for instructions  
*Special:* 3 points or better

### Summit Valley Ranch – NEW ACCESS

*Usage:* 7 days a week  
*Archery Deer:* August 21-September 12  
*Rifle Deer:* ARCHERY HUNTING ONLY  
 September 18 - October 14  
*Pig:* None  
*Fishing:* None  
*Bear:* September 18 - December 31  
*Camping:* No  
*Special Use:* Quail & Turkey allowed  
*Special Rules:* 3-points or better

**Rancho Pacifico**

Where: Lompoc  
 Deer Zone: A  
 Usage: Thursday - Sunday  
 Archery Deer: July 10-Aug 21  
 Rifle Deer: Aug 14-Sept 21  
 Pig: Yes  
 Bear: None Fishing: None  
 Camping: No  
 Usage: Thursday noon - Sunday noon  
 Special Use: For south men only

**The Cholame Ranch**

Where: San Luis Obispo County  
 Usage: Thursday - Sunday  
 Deer: No.  
 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 Mclsaac Ranch**

Where: Mendocino County  
 Deer Zone: B3  
 Usage: Thursday - Sunday  
 Archery Deer: No  
 Rifle Deer: September 18 - October 24  
 Pig: No  
 Bear: Yes  
 Fishing: None  
 Camping: Yes. during deer season only.  
 Special Rules:  
 No vehicle traffic on roads.  
 Foot hunting only. 3 points or better all year

**Dominion Ranch**

Where: San Luis Obispo County  
 Deer Zone: No Closed  
 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

**Rancho Los Palos Colorados**

Where: Lompoc  
 Access: Thursday Noon- Sunday Noon  
 Deer Zone: A  
 Archery Deer: July 10 -Aug 21  
 Rifle Deer: August 14 - September 21  
 Pig: Yes. Fishing: None  
 Bear: September 18 - December 31  
 Camping: No  
 Special Use: For South Men only

**Tyson/O'Ferrall Ranch**

Where: Mendocino County  
 Deer Zone: B1  
 Usage: 7 days a week  
 Archery Deer: August 21-September 12  
 Rifle Deer: September 18 - October 24  
 Pig: None  
 Fishing: None  
 Bear: September 18 - December 31  
 Camping: Yes  
 Special Use: Quail & Turkey allowed  
 Special Rules: 3-points or better, Forked horns last 9 days of season only, October 17 - 25. Forks must be to the ears, no spike fork This is subject to change depending on how many deer are taken to date

**The Bar Z Ranch**

Where: Mendocino County  
 Deer Zone: B1 Usage: 7 days a week  
 Archery Deer: August 21-September 12  
 Rifle Deer: September 18 - October 24  
 Pig: None  
 Camping: Yes  
 Turkey: Yes. spring season only  
 Bear: September 18 - December 31  
 Fishing: Blue Gill & Catfish  
 Special Rules: NEW: 3-points or better, Forked horns last 9 days of season only, October 17 - 25. Forks must be to the ears, no spike fork This is subject to change depending on how many deer are taken to date.  
 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 10 -Aug 21  
 Rifle Deer: August 14 - September 21  
 Pig: If seen, yes. Fishing: None  
 Bear: September 18 - 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 10 - Aug 21  
 Rifle Deer: August 14 - September 21  
 Pig: If seen, yes. Fishing: None  
 Bear: September 18 - December 31  
 Camping: Yes  
 Special Use: Quail & Turkey allowed.

**Ten Mile Creek Ranch - NEW**

Where: 18,000 Acres- Mendocino County  
 Deer Zone: A  
 Usage: 7 days a week  
 Archery Deer: July 10-Aug 21  
 Rifle Deer: Aug 14-Sept 21  
 Pig: None  
 Fishing: Yes on the river.  
 Bear: September 18 - December 31  
 Camping: Yes  
 Special Use: Quail and Turkey

**The Challenge Ranch**

Where: Sierra County  
 Deer Zone: D3  
 Usage: 7 days a week  
 Archery Deer: August 15-September 6  
 Rifle Deer: September 26 - Nov 1  
 Pig: None Camping: Yes  
 Bear: September 19 - December 31  
 Special Use: Dove, Quail & Turkey allowed during the applicable California DFG Seasons  
 Special: **No spike forks. Antlers must be 18" min**

**The New York Flat Ranch**

Where: Sierra County  
 Deer Zone: D3  
 Usage: 7 days a week  
 Archery Deer: August 21-September 12  
 Rifle Deer: September 25 - Oct 31  
 Pig: None Camping: Yes  
 Bear: September 25 - December 31  
 Special Use: Dove, Quail & Turkey allowed during the applicable California DFG Seasons  
 Special: **No spike forks. Antlers must be 18" min.**

**Sloat Ranch**

Where: Sierra County  
 Deer Zone: D3  
 Usage: 7 days a week  
 Archery Deer: August 15-September 6  
 Rifle Deer: September 26 - Nov 1  
 Pig: None  
 Bear: September 19 - December 31  
 Turkey: Yes  
 Quail: Yes  
 Camping: Call office for instructions  
 Fishing: Stream fishing for Rainbows and Browns  
 Special: **No spike forks. Antlers must be 18" min**

***The following club 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 a trailer registration permit. 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 picture of every big game animal harvested must be sent to: [info@goldenramhunting.com](mailto:info@goldenramhunting.com)**

- 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, 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. Please do it at a range at home.
- 18) Dogs are not allowed in the field during any" 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 fire 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.

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



**A picture of every big game animal harvested must be sent to:**  
[Info@goldenramhunting.com](mailto:Info@goldenramhunting.com)



**Holiday office closure dates:**

- July 5 (Monday)
- September 6 - Labor Day
- October 11 - Columbus Day
- November 25 & 26 Thanksgiving (Thursday & Friday)
- December 24 (Friday)
- December 31 (Friday)
- Jan 17 Martin Luther King Day (Monday)

**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 if you pay a trailer registration fee but it MUST be off the ranch when the season is over. (General Deer, Bear, Turkey and Late Season Archery)

**Find Us Online!**



**GoldenRamHunting**



**goldenramhunting**



**Golden Ram Sportsman's Club**



**Golden Ram Sportsman's Club, Inc**

**Mentoring Program:**

Are you a Golden Ram member who wants to share some of your hunting experience?? We have 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 or finding 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"> <li>• He's just a buddy of mine</li> <li>• He's my brother in-law</li> <li>• He's my nephew</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family and non-family memberships do not include guest privileges</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I just wanted a little company</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unauthorized guests are trespassers and poachers</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He's my son but he's 28 years old</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family memberships include spouses and children under age 21 living at home who are students.</li> <li>• An adult child cannot hunt under a family membership</li> </ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I forgot to make a reservation and to sign-in</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Failing to make a reservation or sign in is trespassing.</li> </ul>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He used to be a member...</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• So what? He isn't a member now!!</li> <li>• <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.</li> </ul> |

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 Left: Parker King** at the Duck Club **Top-Right: Gabe Wendt** and his archery deer at the Bar-Z **Bottom Left: Allen Brunetta** with his 3x3 at the Bar-Z **Bottom Right: Aaron Branson** with his boar at the White Oak Ranch



# Wall of FAME



**On the Wall: Top Left:** Danny Sanchez with his 4x4 at the Bar-Z **Top-Right:** Wyatt Calkins with his bear at Mclsaac. **Bottom Left:** Chris Garant with his monster boar at the Cholame **Bottom Right:** Daniel Fiscal and his 3x3 deer at the Bar-Z



# Wall of FAME





## 2021 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 29<sup>st</sup> 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 25. Any remaining opening weekend slots for the rifle season can be secured by phone starting on August 3<sup>st</sup>.

**\*\*\*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).

|                                    |                           |                        |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> 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 16 to be included in the draw**

## New Youth Forked Horn Policy

Youth hunters will be able to harvest a forked horn during B-zone deer season. No spike forks.

- Any youth who has not harvested a deer is eligible to register.
- Youth must call the office in advance & register for youth hunt.
- Youth will be able to hunt & harvest a forked horn deer throughout the season. (They can't take 2 forked deer.)
- Forks must be to the ears, no spike forks. No 1-year old bucks.
- This is subject to change depending on how many deer are taken in the season.

### Trailer Policy at Bar-Z:

If a member wants to leave a trailer at for hunting the season, they must call the office and register the trailer and pay for a seasonal pass in the amount of \$150. No trailers can be left unattended in the main campground. The trailer must be moved from the main campground when the member leaves. It can be returned to the main campground when the member returns. The \$150 registration fee is a requirement imposed by the landowner to cover clean up, cut grass, weeds and other fire resistance preparation around camp. **You must call the office and register to have a seasonal trailer at the Bar-Z.**

### Report Vandalism:

There have been reports of members shooting and/or removing posted Golden Ram signs. Other reported incidents include other intentional acts of vandalism. PLEASE REPORT WRONGS ANONOMOUSLY TO THE OFFICE SO WE CAN REMOVE VIOLATORS.

#### Support our member operated businesses:

Ask for Hans Olufs  
West Coast Archery Shop, Inc.  
2040 Petaluma Blvd North Ste 10  
Petaluma, CA 94952  
(707) 766-9971  
info@westcoastarcheryshop.com  
www.westcoastarcheryshop.com



#### Support our member operated businesses:

Ask for Jerry Giovannoni  
Browns Valley Meat  
3263 Browns Valley Road  
Napa, CA 94558  
Meat Department 707-253-2480  
Custom Wild Game Processing

