



KIMBERTON HUNT CLUB

EST. 1870

*Foxhunters Handbook and
Membership Directory*

The History of the Kimberton Hunt

The Kimberton Hunt was formally established in 1870 and continues to flourish today. In all of those 137 years only four huntsmen have carried the horn for the Kimberton Hounds. The club continues to hunt the same territory in the Kimberton and Chester Springs area of Pennsylvania that the first Kimberton Huntsmen hunted in 1870. This is quite remarkable considering the amount of development and changes that have occurred in the area over those years. Traditionally the Kimberton hounds have always been owned by the huntsman and leased to the membership of the club which also makes it remarkable that none of these huntsmen have ever relocated the pack of hounds to new territory.

1870-1920 Mr. Raymond Graham, MFH & Huntsman

Raymond Graham was the first huntsman of the organized Kimberton Hunt. Foxhunting, of course, took place before this time in the area but in 1870 several small farmer packs were combined to become Kimberton Hunt. One of these packs included the Spring City Hunt from nearby Spring City, PA. Raymond Graham owned a dairy farm on the outskirts of Kimberton, PA and kenneled the new pack there. Raymond also owned the Spring City Racetrack which may explain why the Spring City pack was absorbed into the Kimberton Hunt.

1920-1970 Mr. George “Stiney” Stine, MFH & Huntsman

George Stine took over the horn in 1920 after Raymond retired from hunting hounds. George kenneled the hounds at his Sti-Mi-Go- Farm in Wilson’s Corner (Pughtown Road and French Creek Road) also located just outside the village of Kimberton, PA. Some readers may remember Stine and Wall, an electrical contracting store in Phoenixville, which was owned by George Stine. Stine was assisted by Raymond Graham’s grandson, Harry Graham, who was the whipper-in and future huntsman. When George Stine retired he asked the Kimberton Hunt to purchase the pack of hounds but the membership declined his offer. Stine turned the horn over to Harry Graham in 1970 but Graham was without a single hound. Stine had sold the entire pack of hounds to Pickering Hunt upon his retirement.

1970-1978 Mr. Harry Graham, Huntsman

Harry Graham now found himself a huntsman without a pack of hounds and went about finding himself some hounds. Harry was lucky enough to find ‘Big Jim’ Favinger (the late Hen Favinger’s son) who was willing to set Harry up with a few hounds from his pack. As time went on Harry also received hounds from Albert Crossen (Pickering Hunt) and Paul Hofferker (private pack) as well as many others. Harry accumulated about fifteen hounds but not many of good quality. Harry established a kennel at his farm in Kimberton near the Kimberton Farm School. For a short time Sandy Dunn and Dick Rhoads served as joint masters in 1971 and 1972 but later resigned from the position. Sandy Dunn continued to whip for Harry every Wednesday and Saturday. Harry’s turn as huntsman left the club a bit out of favor with the local landowners but with a small but strong group of members that wanted the future of the club to continue. Harry retired from hunting in 1978 and later died of emphysema in 1984.

1978-2013 Mr. Sandy Dunn, MFH & Huntsman

Sandy Dunn had his own small pack of hounds since 1973 when Albert Crossen (Pickering Hunt) had given him three puppies. Sandy and then girlfriend Barbara kenneled their small pack in Gladwyne, PA. Sandy knew that he needed some old hounds to get his pack started and was lucky enough to get an old bitch named Snaggle from Paul Hannum. Albert Crossen also gave Sandy many older steady hounds from the Pickering Hunt kennel. As Sandy’s pack of hounds grew they were quickly outgrowing the Main Line neighborhood of Gladwyne. Sandy and Barbara reaffirmed this notion when they ran a fox past the church window while Sandy’s parents were inside worshipping. Sandy had started to bring his small pack of hounds with him when he whipped for Harry Graham and Kimberton Hunt.

In October of 1975 Barbara and Sandy were married and moved to a farm on Route 23 in Spring City, PA with their 7 ½ couple of Penn-Marydel's. When Harry Graham retired in 1978 Sandy was asked to take over as huntsman for the Kimberton hounds. At that time there were only six members of the club; Barbara and Sandy Dunn, Herman and Ruth Wetzel, Kelly Murphy, Margaret and Bill Caryle, and Karen and Ron Knapp. As Sandy developed his pack of hounds more hounds were added from Alvin Christman, Claude Carl, Todd Addis, Dave Finger, and John Dean. Sandy has developed his pack from the 7 ½ couple of hounds to as many as 37 couple. Today the kennel houses 20 couple of hounds. Early in his career Sandy had an especially proud day when he had two of his best bitches whelp on the same day that Barbie was born.

In 1980 Barbara and Sandy purchased their current farm in Birchrunville, PA. Sandy quickly built the barn to house his horses and hounds and worried about the house later. After moving into their new property it quickly became the hub of all Kimberton Hunt activity. Most meets leave directly from the kennels to nearby Powder Mill, Tilt Hill, Glen's and Titones; the same hills that were hunted in 1870 with the first members of Kimberton Hunt. Sandy hunted the hounds consecutively for thirty-four years with the help of many people, most importantly Barbara. She has been whipper-in, hound truck driver, kennel help, chief public relations officer, club president, horse show manager, head chef for most functions and most importantly the greatest supporter of the club. Today Barbara and Sandy's daughter Barb Mueller is a Jt. MFH and whips or leads the field for many of the hunts. The Dunn family continues to strive to provide good sport and fellowship for the members of the Kimberton Hunt.

2013-2014 Mike Gottier, Huntsman

During the winter of 2012 hounds ran towards Malhorn Road and stirred Mike Gottier from his mid winter's nap. He hopped in his car to see what was the commotion and what did he wondering eyes did he see but a pack of foxhounds stuck in his neighbor's fenced in yard. His life had already revolved around bassets so this was not much different, just a little bit longer legs! He quickly jumped into action to help and started car following that day. As Sandy saw he was needing a backup huntsman he encouraged Mike to get to know the hounds and the differences in fox and rabbit. Mike readily jumped at the opportunity to hunt the hounds the following season and did a fine job of learning on the job! Mike went from whipping bassets on foot to hunting foxhounds on horseback rather quickly! Mike got his feet wet that season and has progressed quickly through the MFHA Professional Development program. He has now served as a Kennelman and whipper in to Midland Foxhounds, GA and first whip at Keswick Hunt, VA.

2014-2018 John Dean, Jr. , Huntsman

As luck would have it longtime huntsman and friend of the Dunn's John (Johnny) Dean Jr. moved from Missouri to Pennsylvania for his love of chasing the red fox over western coyote. John had hunted hounds in Pennsylvania and the Eastern shores of Maryland his entire life and looked to get back to his roots of hunting fox. John spent a season with Radnor Hunt before arriving to hunt the Kimberton Hounds. John brought with him some of his own eastern shore hounds which are also true Penn-Marydel's but typically a smaller hound. John and Sandy had hunted together since the late 1970's and had continued their friendship over the years. John stepping in to hunt the hounds was a perfect fit for the club and the Kimberton Hounds. John has now moved his personal hounds and hunting to the Warwick Village Hounds and the Addis Family.

2018-Current Phil Shirk, Huntsman

As a newcomer to hunting hounds but certainly not hunting or horses Phil Shirk stepped up to the horn in the Spring of 2018. Phil is eager to learn and has a family to help him with the task. His brother Enos Shirk and wife Diana eagerly jumped in to help whip and all help provide the Kimberton membership with great sport. Phil has already started to make a name for himself in the hunting world with the good sport he shows! The entire family's ability to ride a horse is something to be seen! When not hunting hounds Phil is busy with his farrier business. He and Diana, also train and sell horses.

Recognized with the Master of Foxhounds Association

In October of 2015 The Kimberton Hunt became a registered pack with the Master of Foxhounds Association. This is the first step in the process to become a recognized pack of hounds. Despite the long history of the club the original founders thought it unnecessary to become recognized because they were the primary landholders of the hunt country. Later Pickering Hunt became a recognized hunt in the territory and KHC could not become recognized since only one club may do so in a territory. Pickering Hunt disbanded allowing Kimberton to apply to the MFHA for the honor of being the recognized hunt in the territory. The MFHA was very complimentary of the long history of KHC and formally recognized the club in 2018.

Colors and Buttons

As a registered hunt club the Kimberton Hunt can now award colors to its deserving members. This is a tradition in which members that have met protocol may attach a colored color and KHC buttons to their formal hunt coat. The award of colors is made by the masters at their sole discretion to hunting members who have made an ongoing significant contribution to the continuation of the hunt's tradition of sportsmanship. Those considered are typically members who have hunted regularly at least three years, who have been exemplary members, on a well turned-out horse; who have participated in and contributed to the success of the hunt's activities; and who are a credit to the hunt's reputation.

The Kimberton Hunt colors are: Hunter Green with Tan Piping

The Hounds

The Kimberton Hunt pack consists of Penn-Marydel hounds which were originally bred for the Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware terrain. The hounds are well suited for our hunt country because of their good voice, their stamina and their desire to run closely together. Penn-Marydel's come in tri-color, black and tan, red and white and blue tic coloration.

Hunting and Kennel Terms

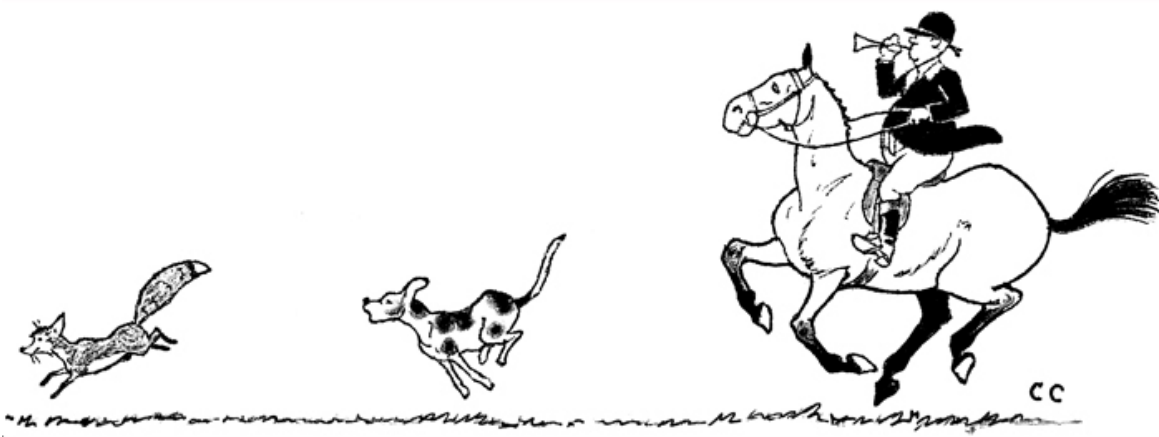
"Kennel up"
"Pack Up"
"Move Along"
"Hark to Em"
"Come along"
"Hold Up"
"Hurry"



THE ETIQUETTE OF FOXHUNTING

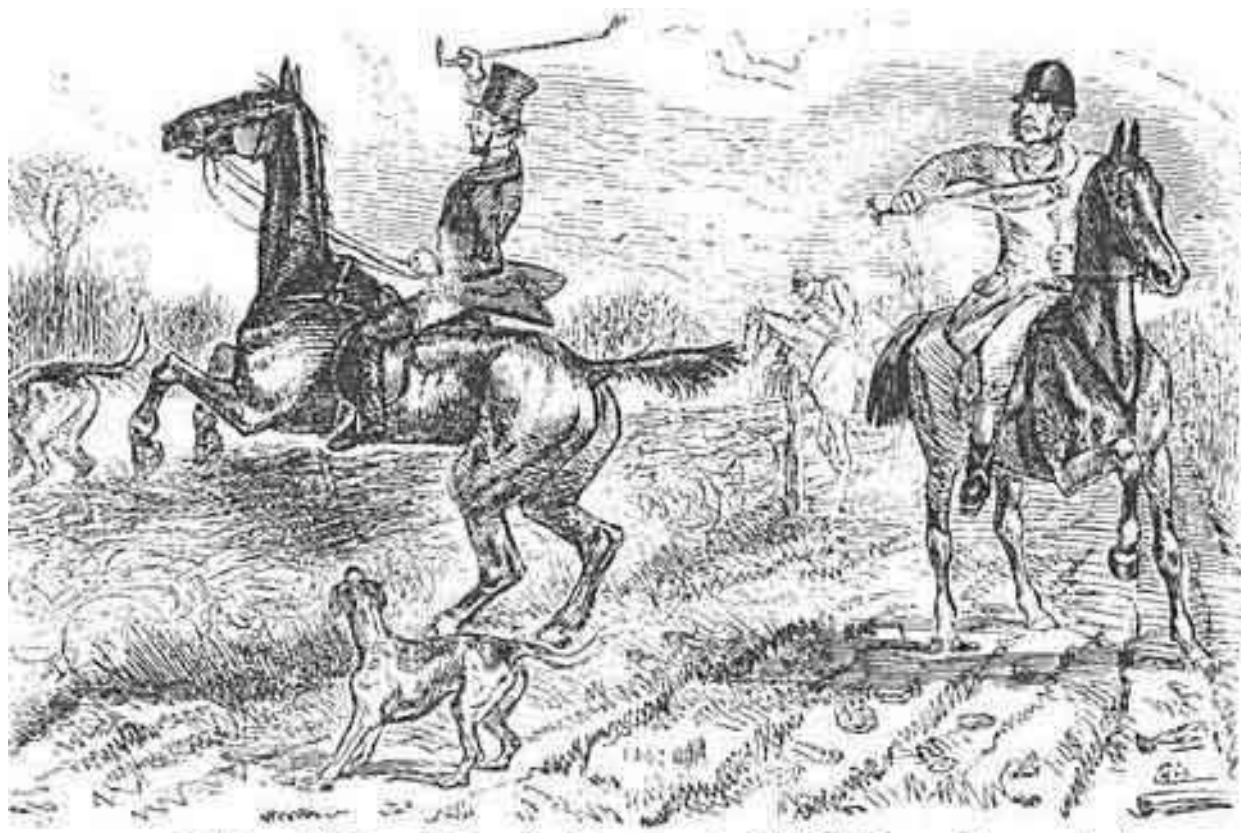
- ❖ Members are responsible for the welfare and conduct of their guests. Please make sure guests are safely equipped and educated in hunting etiquette.
- ❖ Always contact the Master of the hunt before bringing a guest to hunt.
- ❖ The field follows and obeys the instructions of the Field Master. It is important for the field to remain in a group so that riders are not spread out to potentially turn the fox or be in the Huntsman's way.
- ❖ Staff is given the right of way. Please yield QUICKLY to staff when they need to pass the field. Place your horse's hind quarters AWAY from the staff and hounds. Never get between staff and hounds. Don't talk to Whipper's in. Never follow the Whipper's-in; they are not part of the field.
- ❖ Arrive at the hunt with a well groomed horse and clean tack. You are representing our hunt. If you bring a guest, introduce them to the Field Master and Master and submit the cap. Don't wait to be asked.
- ❖ Delay jumping a fence if there is danger of harming a hound.
- ❖ Avoid crossing in front of another of the field. When you are headed for a certain panel, jump that one.
- ❖ Give a person "room to fall". Don't crowd going into a fence. If your horse refuses a fence, go to the rear of the field and try again.
- ❖ Call "Ware Hole" to those behind you and point to it. Also ware wire, glass, hound, car, staff, ect.
- ❖ Close the gate if you are the last one through it. Replace rails you knock down.
- ❖ Make way if a member of the staff wishes to pass. Pull aside to let he or she pass and alert those near you by saying "Ware Staff". Point your horse's head towards the approaching member.
- ❖ Brush by to duck under branches. Do not hold them, as they will snap back to hit the person behind you.
- ❖ Stop and be quiet at a check. Make sure that your horse can stand still when asked at a check. Noise will distract the hounds and possibly turn the fox thereby potentially ruining the hunt.
- ❖ Ride around seeded, planted, hay fields- never over them. When farmers see hoof prints, they can't tell whether crop damage came before or as a result of riders. Avoid lawns, driveways and houses.
- ❖ Turn your horse's head toward passing hounds when standing. NEVER permit your horse to kick a hound.
- ❖ If you view a fox, not in sight of any of the staff, wait for the fox to be further away and shout "Tally-Ho" and point your hat.
- ❖ Before you hack back to the stable, trailer or van be sure to thank the Master and Field Master for a good day's sport.
- ❖ Never leave the hunt without notifying the Field Master that you are dropping out. The Field Master is responsible for your safety. The Field Master will tell you the best way to return without interfering with the hunt.
- ❖ If your horse kicks, it is only considerate to braid a red ribbon on the tail and ride at the rear of the field if possible and maintain a safe distance.
- ❖ Do not crowd against other horses, do not let your horse forge ahead of others, forcing them off the path.
- ❖ Juniors, new members, green horses and guests are expected to ride in the rear of the field.
- ❖ Horses should always be hunted with a martingale.

- ❖ If branches or other obstructions are on the path and are movable by hand, dismount and move the debris if time allows.
- ❖ If hacking to the meet never hack through a cover that could potentially be hunted that day. Use the roads as much as possible to avoid moving foxes out of the cover before the hunt.
- ❖ If staff is dismounted to aid hounds, quickly approach and offer to hold their horse.
- ❖ When riding on the road remain to one side to allow cars to pass. Wave the cars by if they are unable to see traffic and acknowledge the passerby in some polite manner. If hounds are crossing the road to being hacked down the road slow traffic down or stop them if necessary.
- ❖ Always acknowledge landowners and thank them.



Kimberton Hunt Annual Activities

Monthly- Membership meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month
 August 1st - October 31st - Cub Hunting Wednesday's and Saturday's
 First Saturday in November - Opening Day of Formal Hunting Season
 November- March 31st- Formal Hunting Season
 October- Annual Landowner Open House at the Kennels
 November- Opening Meet, Yellow Springs History & the Hunt, Thanksgiving Meet and Blessing of the Hounds
 December- Annual Christmas Party
 February- Annual Hunt Ball
 April- Kimberton Hunt Club Horse Show, Poole's Training Preserve Hunting Trip
 August- Annual Summer Picnic



Indignant Master of Hounds: "Now, you sir! Mind the hound!
He's worth forty times as much as your horse."

Punch
John Leech

Membership Categories

Family Membership- Includes members of an immediate family over 18 years of age eligible for voting (senior members only), social and hunting privileges

Single Membership- Includes voting, social and hunting privileges for one adult

Junior Membership- Includes social and hunting privileges for one minor under 18 years of age

Social Membership- Includes invitations for one single person to all social activities of the club including monthly meetings, hunt breakfasts, holiday parties and picnics; does not include voting or hunting privileges. A social membership is for one person; therefore a married couple must pay two subscriptions.

Landowner Social Membership- This category is for landowners within the KHC territory: Includes invitations for one single person to all social activities of the club including monthly meetings, hunt breakfasts, holiday parties and picnics; does not include voting or hunting privileges. A social membership is for one person; therefore a married couple must pay two subscriptions.

Initiation Fee- Paid with submission of application

Capping Fee- Paid for privilege of hunting one hunt; limited to three caps before membership application is expected. Members are responsible for making sure guests submit capping fee before the hunt and introducing guests to the Field Master and Master.

Hunting Glossary

- Away- The fox is in the open and/or the hounds are on the line
- Babble- When a hound gives tongue for anything other than fox scent
- Bitch- A female hound
- Blank- Failure to find a fox in a covert is a blank. Failure to find a fox all day is a blank day
- Blue-Tic- A white hound which has splashes of black hairs mixed with white, sometimes giving the affect of blue.
- Brush- Fox's tail
- Bye Day- an additional hunting day not on the fixture card
- Capping Fee (or Cap) - fee paid by non-member to ride with the hunt for one day. Limited to three caps before membership is expected.
- Cast- the hounds searching out and hunting for a lost line. The huntsman may take charge and cast the hounds in a specific direction.
- Coffee Housing- distracting field chit-chat while others are listening for hounds
- Check- Hounds temporarily lose the scent of the fox. All followers should be very quiet.
- Cheer- Huntsman's encouragement to the hounds
- Cold Line- Faint scent due to time or conditions
- Colors- Distinctive hunt livery worn by members of recognized hunts at invitation of the Master
- Couple- Hounds are counted in two's and therefore referred to as couples. " We are hunting 20 couple today; 40 hounds"
- Covert (Cover)- Woods or otherwise dense growth were a fox may be found
- Cry (Voice, Tongue, Music)- The method one hound has of telling another hound what is happening. A hound does not bark, it gives voice or tongue.
- Cub- A very young fox
- Cub Hunting- Hunting that occurs in late fall that is usually done on foot. The purpose being to acquaint young entry with hunting, get hounds fit and acquaint cub foxes with running.
- Cur Dog- canine not from the pack
- Dog- Male Dog
- Drive- the urge of the hound to get forward
- Earth- The hole of some burrowing animal, such as a ground hog, cleaned out and appropriated by the fox. The fox rarely, if ever, digs his own earth.
- Enter- Young hounds when first put into the pack are called "young entry". After hounds are running with the pack consistently they are considered "entered".
- Farmer Pack- a hunt club that is not recognized by the MFHA; name originates in rural areas where several men with hounds would combine their hounds for hunting purposes.
- Field- The group of riders led by the field master
- Field Master- Person who leads, directs, and is responsible for the members following, staying together and enjoying the day's sport.
- Fixture- Time and place of meet, also a regular location for a meet
- Full Cry- Sound of the entire pack giving tongue on a hot line
- Gone Away- The fox has left the covert
- Gone to Ground- The fox has ran in an earth to stop the chase
- Hark- Yelled by staff to encourage hounds to move forward to another hound giving voice
- Head a Fox (Turn a Fox)- to force the fox to alter his intended course; usually resulting in a check or total loss of the fox's line. Always avoid traveling in front of the hounds to avoid heading the fox.
- Heel (Running heel)- Hounds running in the opposite direction of the fox

Hold Hard- Warning to riders to stop immediately to avoid a danger or to say out of the way of hounds or staff

Hounds- Canine used for hunting by scent

Huntsman- The individual who hunts a pack of hounds

Line- Fox's scent trail

Master- Person who is in charge of organizing the hunt, and all aspects of hunting; MFH

MFHA- Master of Foxhounds Association; fox hunting's governing body

Override- To press hounds too closely, especially at a check. Also to get in front of the Field Master, both are bad manners.

Pink- The red/scarlet coat and white breeches ensemble, not the color of the coat

Quarry- The hunted animal- fox or coyote

Raised Cap- When viewing a fox remove your hunt cap and point in the direction of the viewed fox.

Rat-catcher- Informal hunting attire

Recognized- an organized hunt club said to be recognized by the MFHA. A recognized pack governed by the MFHA, holds specific hunting territory, and follows specific rules governing hunt attire, breeding programs, and hunting territories.

Reverse Field- the field must turn and go in the opposite direction

Riot- When hounds run anything but legitimate quarry

Scent- The distinctive musky odor of a fox left on the ground, grass, foliage, and in the air.

Formed by glands at the base of the brush and between the toes, urine, scat, and perspiration.

Speak- To give tongue while on the trail of a fox

Staff- Huntsman, whippers-in, kennelman

Professional- paid Honorary- unpaid

Ware(war)- Beware! Alert used with hound, wire, hole, low-bridge, bees, deer, hare, riot, etc.

Tally Ho- An alert to the other followers or the Huntsman that you have personally viewed the fox. Point to help others find it. If the fox is close-by, keep your voice down.

Territory- an recognized pack is assigned a specific territory by the MFHA. Two recognized packs may not hold the same territory but a farmer pack may hunt the same area.

Vixen- Female fox





COVENANT NOT TO SUE, RELEASE, WAIVER OF CLAIMS, INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE AGREEMENT

This agreement is entered into as a condition of and a part of the consideration for the Master, Directors and Members of the Kimberton Hunt Club and the same individually, and the Kimberton Hunt Club and the property owners and their tenants (landholders) agreeing to allow me to ride with Kimberton Hunt Club (KHC) over certain designated property of the landholders, or any other involvement with horses, or any activities incidental, attendant or related to the foregoing:

I understand and acknowledge that any involvement with horses can be hazardous and that riding to hounds is an athletic event which involves numerous risks of injury and that horses are often unpredictable and difficult to control.

I voluntarily and expressly assume all risks and dangers of such involvement.

I, the undersigned, agree for myself, my heirs, guardians and legal representatives, not to sue KHC or the landholders (s) of the property where any of these activities mentioned above may take place, and I release and discharge for myself, my heirs, guardians and legal representatives, any and all claims arising out of such activities or the use of such property, including but not limited to any claims alleging negligence, breach of contract, strict liability, or other wise of KHC, or any such landholder(s). This covenant not sue, waiver, and release includes, but is not limited to, bodily injury, death, property damage, loss, contribution, indemnity, or any other claims which I, my heirs, guardians and legal representatives may ever have against KHC, their agents or employees, or any landholder (s).

I, the undersigned, agree for myself, my heirs, guardians and legal representatives, to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless KHC and any landholders involved from any expenses, damages or judgements, including any legal expense, reasonable attorneys' fees, claims for contribution or indemnification, resulting from claims by third parties arising out of my activities mentioned above, or the use of any property in relation to any such of my activities and if applicable, the claims by my children listed below or at majority.

I also acknowledge and agree that I have, or it is my responsibility to obtain and keep in force, sufficient insurance coverage (including but not limited to liability, health, and life) to protect me from any expense, liability claims, or damages mentioned or included in this agreement, and that whether or not I obtain such insurance and whether or not such insurance is sufficient, the provisions above shall be fully effective and enforceable and I will be bound and liable thereunder.

DATE: _____ (Signed) _____

(Print Name) _____

(Address) _____

Parent must sign on behalf of rider under 18. _____



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ *Age (Jr.)* _____

 Last First Middle

Address: _____ *Phone:* _____

 Street

 City- town

 State

 Zip

E-mail Address: _____

Hunting/Equestrian Experience: _____

Two letters of sponsorship from: _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP:

_____ *Family* *Names* *Age (Jr.)*

_____ *Senior (Over 18 years of age)*

_____ *Junior (Under 18 years of age)*

_____ *Social*

All members shall pay dues annually on September 1st at the commencement of hunting. New members must pay upon confirmation of acceptance.

Dues for each member category are: Initiation fees for each member category are:

| | | |
|----------------------|----------|----------|
| Family | \$750.00 | \$250.00 |
| Senior | \$650.00 | \$250.00 |
| Junior | \$50.00 | \$25.00 |
| KHC Landowner Social | \$100.00 | \$50.00 |
| Social Membership | \$225.00 | \$50.00 |

Initiation fee for new members must accompany this application. Return application along with check for initiation fee (payable to Kimberton Hunt Club) to:

Barbara Dunn, President
1030 Jaine Lane
Chester Springs, PA 19425
610-469-0227

Correct Hunt Appointments

| | Master & Staff | Gentleman Member | Lady Member | Junior Member |
|-------------------|---|--|--|---|
| Coat | Frock coat: Black, squared skirt, 5 buttons | Frock coat: Black, rounded skirts, 3 plain black buttons Melton Coat: Black, 3 plain black buttons. Ratcatcher: tweed coat or hacking jacket | Frock coat: Black, rounded skirts, 3 plain black buttons Melton Coat: Black, 3 plain black buttons. Ratcatcher: tweed coat or hacking jacket | Melton: Black or dark Black buttons Ratcatcher: tweed coat or hacking jacket |
| Vest | Yellow or tattersall cloth, brass buttons | Same as Master | Same as Master | Same as Master |
| Breeches | White for holiday, Natural colored everyday | Natural colored | Buff or tan, cord, twill or leather material Ratcatcher: Natural colored | Buff or tan breeches of jodhpurs |
| Shirt & Neck Wear | White Shirt, plain stock tie, plain gold safety pin worn horizontally | Same as Master Ratcatcher: Shirt & tie or colored stock tie | Same as Master Ratcatcher: Ratcatcher shirt w/ collar and stock pin | Same as Master Ratcatcher: Ratcatcher shirt w/ collar and stock pin |
| Hat | Black velvet hunt cap, ribbons down for masters & professionals only | Black velvet hunt cap, ribbons up | Black velvet hunt cap, ribbons up | Black hunt cap with harness or ASTM safety helmet, harness & black cover |
| Gloves | Heavy wash leather or brown leather. | Same as Master | Same as Master | Same as Master |
| Footwear | Black calf boots, brown or colored tops | Black boots Ratcatcher: Black or brown field boots | Black boots, patent leather tops acceptable Ratcatcher: Black or brown field boots | Black boots w/ breeches Black or brown jodhpur boots w/ jodhpur's |