

## Game Management Committee

### Deer Management Guidelines

The primary purpose of this committee is to establish a set of guidelines that will be adopted by Renfro Hunting Club for governing the management and harvesting of deer. The committee will also function as liaison with the land owner, Texas Parks and Wildlife and other professional wildlife biologists to formulate harvest recommendations based on data collected from Renfro Hunting Club. The following guidelines will be assessed annually prior to the beginning of hunting season.

#### *Guidelines*

In order to improve and maintain a high quality hunting experience we recommend the adoption of the following guidelines.

1. The minimum age of a trophy or management buck harvested should be 4 ½ years of age or older.
2. For a buck to qualify as a trophy buck he must be 4 ½ years of age or older, have 8 or more points and score more than 125 gross Boone and Crocket.
3. For a buck to qualify as a management buck he must be 4 ½ years of age or older and score between 110 and 125 gross Boone and Crocket.
4. For a buck to qualify as a cull buck he must be at least 3 ½ years old and must be a natural 7 point or less. A buck that would be 8 points or more but has a broken antler will not qualify.
5. Maintain a buck to doe ratio of no more than two does to every buck. This ratio will be calculated based on the incidental observation cards and spotlight surveys. In the future using digital camera surveys may be utilized as well.
6. No limit will be put on the number of does a member is allowed to harvest. Renfro Hunting Club is given a minimum and maximum number of does to harvest each season and corresponding number of doe permits.
7. Maintain a high fawn crop with high recruitment rates. The fawn crop should be 70 % or better. This value can be determined using two different methods. First, the doe lactation rate of all does harvested before December 16<sup>th</sup> of each season and secondly from the observation cards. If this ratio is determined to be less than the 70 % we **must** remove more of the does that year if time permits or the next

hunting season. If the ratio falls below 70 % the doe to buck ration may be reduced from 2 to 1 to 1½ to 1.

8. Every member is encouraged to maintain at least one (1) protein feeder at both of their deer stands.
9. Members are encouraged to eradicate all hogs.
10. The best chance for members of Renfro Hunting Club to see and/or harvest a quality trophy buck is to manage the sex and age ratios and keep the herd size within the carrying capacity of the habitat. Members need to realize that as the composition of the forest changes so does the food supplies within that forest. All Renfro members need to make every effort to learn to age a deer on the hoof.

### ***Penalties for Non-compliance***

1. For any buck deer harvested that is determined to be under age (trophy or cull), a member will be fined \$250.00 and will forfeit the ability to shoot additional buck deer (cull or trophy) for the remainder of the season. The member will be allowed to shoot does and hogs once the \$250 fine has been submitted. If the age of a buck is disputed, an appeals policy is in place.
2. Any member not recording the dressed weight of a deer, the antler measurements and the B&C score of a buck or have a jaw bone turned in by February 15 will be fined \$250.00. B&C measurements are to be scored by the members on the list in the number one sign in box, a taxidermist, or any official scorer.

All fines must be included with the first installment of dues.