



## Chester River QDMA Cooperative Rules

1. *Any Trophy buck harvested must be shoulder mounted or European mounted by your taxidermist.*
2. *Hunters must abide by all Department of Natural Resources rules and regulations.*
3. *An official Boone and Crockett scorer will be available to score all trophies harvested. All Bucks harvested must be scored at the CMF Hunting lodge.*
4. *There is a \$100 fine for any button buck harvested. Payable to Chester River QDMA Coop.*
5. *Culling bucks is not recommended at this time because we need to get the sex ratio in balance first.*
6. *Members must log ALL does harvested at the CMF Hunting Lodge cool box even if you are taking it home. If your does are not checked in or donated we are to assume they are not harvested. Members are strongly encouraged to donate any deer to the FHFH program, which will be arranged by CMF.*
7. *Members need to harvest as many mature nanny does with fawns as possible in order to reduce crop damage and bring the sex ratio to at least 2/1. The early season is the most beneficial to the program to harvest mature does and orphan young fawns to insure the buck fawns never leave the area that the mother was harvested. On many coop farms with crop damage, we are requesting that the landowner enforce one doe before a buck. Some members hunting leases may be contingent upon this request.*
8. *The first buck harvested must be a 135 class with a 5" tolerance. For the second buck a member must harvest at least a 140" buck with a 5" allowance and no younger than 3 1/2 years of age. There will be a fine of \$10 per inch from 135".*
9. *Once a member harvests a 135" class buck the next buck must be at least 140" class. The member must continue to harvest 140" class and above from every year after.*
10. *Only two trophy bucks can be harvested per member per year.*
11. *Members must harvest and donate at least 3 mature does before harvesting a 2<sup>nd</sup> buck*
12. *New members may start with the 15" rule the first year but their second buck must be a 135" class. All standard rules apply after the first year.*
13. *Members must carry observation logbooks to better calculate the sex ratio and track progress.*
14. *Members must attend at least two coop meetings per year to educate and track the progress towards long-term goals.*
15. *Youth hunters (up to 15 years old) may harvest any buck of their choice if it is shoulder or European mounted. All member rules apply once their first youth buck is harvested.*
16. *A consultant from "Advantage Whitetails" will be available to analyze your farms and give a Doe quota for your specific area. Many hunting leases will be contingent on this quota.*
17. *Awards will be given for the following:*
  - A. *.Does harvested per square mile*
  - B. *.Most does harvested per hunter*
  - C. *.Heaviest doe contest*
  - D. *.Big Buck Contest with a Bow*
  - E. *.Big Buck Contest with a Firearm**Prizes will be Trail cameras and other management tools.*
18. *The Chester River coop rules are the bare minimum standard for members to follow. Each landowner or leaseholder may incorporate additional rules that may be necessary for their individual property.*

*This is the beginning of an important program that will benefit all involved from landowners to hunters: farmers to residential dwellers. The rules apply to EVERYONE involved in the coop and strict adherence is necessary for it to work. We are all small pieces of a large track of land that currently encompasses 12,000 acres. By working together we can make dramatic land improvements.*

*Thanks for your commitment*

*Member signature \_\_\_\_\_*