

My Fellow Members,

As much as I wanted to take a break from the politics of the Hammock, the current Board has acted in a manner that compels me to speak out.

As you may have heard, the Board changed several rules to restrict Quail Hunting, basically eliminating the tradition of allowing guests join Members in released bird quail hunts. There has never been an issue in over 40 years, and there is no guest restriction on any other amenity. Why did it suddenly become necessary to restrict guests for just this one particular amenity?

Additionally, the current Board voted to ban quail hunting in Area 1B north, where the quail field habitat improvement was completed last year. Doves, Snipe and all other legal game can be hunted there...just not quail. Ask yourself, why was quail hunting prohibited in the restored quail fields?

Not only are these new rules discriminatory, but they are also in violation of FS 720. This has resulted in a lawsuit by affected Members, and a liability for all the others. This Board is claiming to be defending the Club, but given the above, it appears they are using the Club to defend themselves. The Club's insurance company rejected BOD's claim. We, the members, are paying for this defense.

Indian Hammock is a unique and special place. If we want it to remain so, we must ensure that our Club is governed in a way that is principled, inclusive and fair. If our Board Members prove their inability to do so, it is incumbent upon us to replace them with someone who will.

Please consider these things when it comes to assigning your proxy or voting at the Members' meeting. I also urge you to run for the BOD, the Hammock needs you like never before.

Thank you,

Matt Rector
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