## **ADVICE TO RIDERS/ETIQUETTE**

- An annual release and waiver must be signed by all riders prior to hunting or riding in other hunt activities, and hard hats must be worn at all times while mounted.
- Make your presence known to the honorary secretary at the meet. If you bring a guest, introduce them to a master and the secretary and ensure that they submit a completed waiver/hold harmless and pay their cap (if required). Juniors MUST have their hold harmless signed by a parent or guardian [no exceptions]. The hold harmless form and cap must be taken care of BEFORE MOUNTING.
- Remember to show courtesy and consideration to our landowners—without whose continuing support we would not be able to hunt—and their property. Follow your field master's instructions, close gates behind you, and do not ride over crops (even if the huntsman or a staff member does). Do not litter, damage fences, or disturb livestock.
- Members with colors (those in scarlet or black coats with collars that have colors representing their hunt affiliation —green for FLH) have earned the privilege of riding at the front of the field. Adult riders without colors should follow those with colors, and juniors riders without colors should ride at the back of the field.
- Do not ride past your field master.
- Do not allow large gaps to develop in the field. If you wish to ride more slowly, or in the back of the field, invite others to go ahead. (Members without colors may pass members with colors in this case.)
- If your horse kicks, tie a red ribbon on its tail and keep clear of other riders. If you are on a green horse, tie a green ribbon on its tail to alert other riders that they should approach with caution.
- If your horse is unmanageable, or if your horse kicks a hound, you will be asked to retire for the day. Your field secretary will guide you on how to leave the field and return to the trailer area safely.
- Do not circle in front of other horses or pass too closely or at high speed.
- Do not ride on top of or in the way of hounds; leave plenty of space for them to pass.
- Always make room for the huntsman and staff. Back off of the trail, keeping the head of your horse facing them.
- Do not rate (speak to) a hound unless requested to do so by one of the hunt staff.
- Keep a horse's length between your horse and the horse in front of you. When following at a fence, do not jump until the horse in front has safely cleared the fence. If your horse refuses a fence, circle to the back of the field.
- Do not talk while hounds are working.
- If you wish to leave the field for any reason (including to move to a different field), request permission of the field master or field secretary so that they can direct you.
- No one is allowed to ride on hunt country at any time other than during a scheduled hunt activity, and then only with a field or on designated trails at designated times.

