



April 22, 2024

Dear Members of the Fort Leavenworth Hunt:

The Joint Masters of the Fort Leavenworth Hunt would like to report to you on where the hunt stands at the conclusion of the 2023-24 season, our thoughts on the way forward in the coming season, and other information important to our subscribers. This information (and more) will be discussed in greater detail at the Annual Member Meeting, which has been scheduled (in accordance with our bylaws) on 8 May 2024 at 1730 at McGuire's (Easton) clubhouse.

The season once again offered great hunting behind keen and dedicated hounds who worked hard to provide good sport despite often unfavorable hunting conditions. We were able to take hounds out for 51 of 62 scheduled hunting days! We made use of country west of 251st Street for several hunts, which supported hunting approaches in the north and lessened the hunting pressure on the interior part of our primary fixture. We launched a successful inaugural "Kansas Hunt Week" event, hunted both our Maryville and Flint Hills fixtures, and participated in the Leavenworth Veterans Day Parade. We enjoyed a wonderful and profitable "Black and White" hunt ball. We conducted a well-attended and well-executed Junior Hunt and qualifier for the Junior Hunter National Championship. We also hosted several guests at our closing hunt and had many members represent FLH at Mission Valley's closing hunt.

We cannot conclude a summary of last season without acknowledging the loss of two long-time hunt members and supporters—Hollis Fullerton and Lee McGuire. Each gave selflessly and were immeasurably impactful to the Fort Leavenworth Hunt. We are grateful for the time we had with them, for their contributions to the hunt, and for the memories that we will continue to cherish.

As you know, a new season begins the day after closing hunt! Staff and volunteers have been coordinating to exercise hounds and prepare them for the Central States Hound Show on May 4. A schedule for hound walking will be posted when available. We are also prepping for a number of summer activities—including trail familiarization and moonlight rides—and for the hunting season ahead, which will include our Intro to Foxhunting sessions and the second Kansas Hunt Week (in partnership with the Flint Hills Hunt)! Season calendars will be distributed at the annual meeting.

As with any organization, the biggest challenge in securing the future of FLH is to attract long-term, sustaining members who share our passion for and dedication to the sport. We will continue to trade on the excellent sport we provide to attract those who understand and appreciate the traditional hunting experience. We will also work to recruit members who are new to but interested in foxhunting by offering programs and opportunities that make foxhunting accessible for beginning foxhunters. Finally, we will continue to value and involve our supporters who cannot/do not/no longer ride but still enjoy supporting the hunt and joining our social activities. In the coming year we want to cement these social memberships!

Achieving the goals mentioned above and ensuring a successful future for FLH also depends on a sustainable fiscal approach to membership dues. After a careful review of the past season's finances, we are pleased to report that FLH dues will NOT increase for the 2024–25 season.

2024–2025 Dues Structure

FLH members/subscribers pay annual dues (covering 1 October through 20 September), with the amount determined by the schedule below. For convenience, dues may be paid in a lump sum or as a monthly installment automatically charged to a credit or debit card.

Subscribers:

Civilian and Retired Military Subscribers: \$696/ \$58 monthly.

Active Duty Officers /Senior Enlisted (E7-E9) Subscribers: \$420/ \$35 monthly.

Active Duty Enlisted (E1-E6) Subscribers: \$588/ \$49 monthly.

2nd Hunt Subscribers (current member of a MFHA hunt) (Riding/non-voting): \$300/ \$25 monthly.

Social Subscribers:

Social Subscribers (non-riding/non-voting): \$144/ \$12 monthly.

Member/Subscriber Activity Expectations

FLH is a membership-supported organization with primary hunt fixtures on private property. We cannot maintain those fixtures without the active support of our riding members! Information on how to participate in trail clearing, gate or coop installation/repair, maintenance of the clubhouse, etc. will be shared at the annual meeting.

Additional Notes

1. Our Intro to Foxhunting sessions are free and attendees of the sessions are invited to participate in all FLH autumn hunts. (To participate in formal hunts, a capping fee or membership is required.)
2. FLH now allows unlimited capping (\$50 per hunt). In addition, first-time hunters are welcome to join FLH for three hunts without capping fees. Subsequent rides (in the same season or following seasons) will require a capping fee.
3. Subscribing members who have been awarded FLH colors are encouraged to wear their colors at all formal hunts conducted by or jointly by FLH. Social members are not authorized to wear FLH colors unless an announced masters' exception is made for special occasions.
4. We encourage any commercial interests wishing to support the hunt to do so thru the MWR commercial sponsorship program. Please see a master for more information.

In closing, we truly believe that the hunting experience offered by FLH is second to none. We are proud of the level of sport our hounds provide, our beautiful country, our welcoming atmosphere, and our ability to accommodate both seasoned foxhunters and riders new to the sport. As masters, we are dedicated to continuing this legacy and growing the Fort Leavenworth Hunt. Thank you for your support in working toward this goal.

Respectfully,

Jim, Teresa, Candy, and Steve