

## WE ARE OFTEN ASKED...

### What Does the MFHA Do for Me?

1. **Legitimizes your Hunt.** Hunts attain credibility by belonging to a professional organization that respects longstanding traditions and enforces rules for sportsmanship and standards.
2. **Registers territory to Hunts.** Enforces and interprets the MFHA territory policy for the good of foxhunting and its member hunts.
3. **Assists Hunts in resolving disputes** and problems.
4. **Foxhound Registration.** Records foxhound genealogy in a recognized registry and publishes this information both as a yearly Stud Book and as a searchable online database. The online database assists hunts in registering, breeding and maintaining their packs by providing pedigrees and litter certificates and assisting in finding particular lines of hounds needed for breeding.
5. Establishes and maintains **standards of conduct for foxhunting** and animal husbandry.
6. **Manages the Hunt Staff Benefit Foundation (HSBF).** The HSBF provides monetary assistance to hunt staff professionals and their families who are in dire financial need.
7. **Manages the MFHA Foundation.** The Foundation provides information and programs designed to **educate and inform the public** about the sport of foxhunting and works to obtain funding to secure the sport for future generations. Publications:

Code of Hunting Practices	A Guide to Kennel Standards of Care Checklist
Constitution and By-Laws	A Guide to Leishmaniasis
Developing a Plan to Confront Anti-Foxhunting Demonstrations	Introduction to Foxhunting
Forming a Hunt (considerations and structure)	A Kids Guide to Foxhunting
Foxhound Kennel Notebook	Public Relations Guidelines
MFHA Guidebook	Social Media Policy Guide
My First Foxhunt coloring book	Pony Club Foxhunting Camp
A Guide to Being a Master of Foxhounds	The Secret World of Animal Rights
A Guide for Hound Shows, Puppy Shows & Performance Trials	
8. Provides a **Professional Development Program (PDP):** An educational program to enhance and improve the skills of current hunt staff encouraging them to stay in hunt service and to find and train new hunt professionals within the USA and Canada to fill vacancies. The program also assists hunts with problems by sending a team of experts to the hunt to analyze and work with them.
9. Works to minimize urban sprawl, encourage open space, and preserve hunting wildlife habitat and **conservation** by providing educational materials, information on conservation and hunting easements, and incentives/awards like the annual **Hunting Habitat Award**, to encourage member hunts and landowners to participate.
10. **Youth Programs** created to help get children interested in foxhunting. We published **A Kids Guide to Foxhunting** and **My First Foxhunt coloring book**, continue to provide expertise, funding and assistance to the **US Pony Club**, and have created the **Fairly Hunted Award** which is given to any child (pony club or not) who has successfully hunted at least five times during a season and they receive a commemorative pin, certificate and a one-year subscription to *Covertside*.

11. Provides sanctioned **Hound Shows** with financial support, rules, guides and judges.
12. Maintains a **Hunt Staff Registry** with a current list of open jobs and positions and works to help find the right hunt position for each employee and the right employee for each hunt.
13. **Publishes Directories** of Hunts for the Baily's Hunting Directory in England, *Covertside* Hunt Roster and the Hunt Masters Association directory.
14. Helps provide an **insurance program** for comprehensive general liability insurance available to registered and recognized hunts.
15. Manages the **MFHA website** ([www.mfha.com](http://www.mfha.com)) and the **MFHA Facebook** page. Both have a large amount of information on all aspects of our sport and are devoted to keeping members informed on current MFHA programs and events and to provide assistance to members, hunts and the general public.
16. **Works with national and international organizations** to save hunting with hounds around the world. The American MFHA is a world leader and is well-respected in other countries. In the USA we work closely with United States Sportsmen's Alliance (USSA); National Animal Interest Alliance (NAIA); American Wildlife Conservation Partners (AWCP); Association Fish & Wildlife Agencies (AFWA); American Horse Council (AHC); Unwanted Horse Council (UHC); and American's for Medical Progress (AMP). Worldwide we work with the Countryside Alliance-UK and the International Union of Hunting with Hounds (IUHH-FACE Europe).
17. Works to proactively **counter "Anti" hunting organizations** misinformation and propaganda and help to identify who the animal rights organizations are and their strategies.
18. When applicable, **provides expert witness in State and Federal authorities** on legislation and law suits pertaining to all aspects of mounted hunting.
19. Monitors and **responds to media inquiries and requests** to ensure fair and accurate reporting and often assist in the preparation of articles, radio and TV reports.
20. Publishes **Covertside**, a quarterly magazine for foxhunters to help strengthen the unity of our foxhunting community and a monthly edition of **eCovertside**. Each edition is packed with information on foxhunting history, art, hounds, horses, events, education, threats to the sport and entertainment for the serious foxhunter.
21. Plans and executes **Educational Seminars** for hunt staff, whippers-in, huntsmen, field masters and field members. We have numerous audio CDs and DVDs on foxhunting subjects to include, but not limited to the above and hound care.
22. Handles all **corporation and administrative requirements** for the MFHA, HSBF and MFHA Foundation to include tax and audit requirements.
23. Manages the **Subscribing Membership** program of over 6,000 members.
24. Manages the **Legacy Program** which was created for foxhunters looking toward the horizon to help save foxhunting for future generations.