

General Rules

1. Ignorance of any rules will not be grounds for protest.
2. Judgment calls by the scorekeepers are final and cannot be protested.
3. This is a hunting club. Chukars will be used for the contest. However, if a dog finds a pheasant or quail, all applicable points will be awarded for any game bird that is produced.
4. Hunters/handlers will carry four shells each in the doubles division and six shells in the singles division. Each unused shell will be awarded 10 points minus any shells forfeited for safety's called or scooped birds those do not count as unused. In the doubles division hunters/handlers may not exchange shells.
5. Dead or **wounded** birds found from a previous run will not count for any score. This is a judgment call by the scorekeepers and cannot be protested.
6. Scorekeepers may excuse any dog which they feel is unfit to compete.
7. Bitches in season will be allowed to participate only after all other runs have been completed in that division and field. Failure to inform the field marshals prior to the competition day will result in automatic disqualification and forfeiture of entry fees.
8. All hunters will compete with good ethics and sportsmanship. Poor sportsmanship will result in immediate disqualification and all entry fees will be forfeited.
9. Alcohol or drugs may not be consumed before or during your run(s). Automatic disqualification and entry fee forfeiture will result. This will be the responsibility of all field marshals and scorekeepers.
10. All participants and volunteers must sign a liability waiver for Black Canyon Wing & Clay prior to competition. They must also sign that they have read and understand all rules of the contest prior to competing.
11. You may protest a non-judgment call to a Field Marshall but it must be done within 30 minutes of the completion of the run. However, only rule calls may be protested and will require a \$100.00 deposit. If the protest is won the deposit will be returned. If the protest is lost the deposit goes into the prize pool.
12. Arguing with the scorekeeper before, during or after your run will not be tolerated and will fall under the sportsmanship rule (see #8). If you have a discrepancy, your time and issue will be noted and the run will continue. A protest may be filed under the rules (see #2, 11). Remember judgment calls cannot be protested.
13. A contestant may only protest his/her score and no one else's.
14. Electronic collars will be permitted. Any abuse or misuse of e-collars will result in immediate disqualification.
15. Hunters/handlers and dogs must enter the field through the "gate." The gate will consist of two tee posts placed prior to the challenge at each field location. Time starts when the team enters through the gate. Time will stop when the final bird is retrieved to hand or the handler leashes the dog and calls time. Hunters, dog and scorekeeper will exit the field at the closest boundary point. Dogs must be leashed immediately when time expires, the last bird is retrieved or when time is called by the handler.

16. In order for unused minutes to count for score, four birds (doubles) or three birds (singles) must have been bagged. If a hunter or handler chooses to cease hunting before the quota of birds has been harvested, unused minutes will not be scored.
17. All eligible birds must be produced within boundary areas. Birds flushed out of bounds will not be eligible for harvest **in flight** regardless if they are flying in bounds or not. However, if a bird flushes out of bounds and returns to the field, it would then be a legal bird to be re-hunted.
18. Retrieving to hand means just that, the dog must retrieve to the handler's hand from the dog's mouth. Handlers may not move once the bird is shot. You may take one step toward the dog but if the pivot foot moves it will be scored as a partial retrieve. If the dog drops the bird the handler may encourage the dog to pick up the bird but the handler may not move in order to do this. The handler must remove the bird from the dog's mouth to receive full points otherwise it will be scored as a partial retrieve. You may not use your gun or leg as a tool to move the dog closer to you. Hunters may not move in order to show a dog a downed bird. The handler may use a secondary item such as an empty case or fetching dummy to get a dog to go to the area of a downed bird. However, if the handler or hunter moves with intent of helping the dog find the downed bird, there will be no score for a retrieve. The hunter may kneel down but not lay down. If time has expired and a bird has been shot, the handler has a 60 second grace period to complete the retrieve. If the dog has the bird in its mouth within the first 30 seconds of the grace period but does not complete the retrieve, points will be awarded for the point or flush but not bagged or retrieved, used shells will also be deducted. *See scoring system for details.*
19. Every attempt must be made to retrieve a downed bird. If a dog cannot find a downed bird then the hunter/handlers must make a legitimate effort to recover the bird. All birds harvested must be carried by the handler either in a vest or by hand. No dropping of birds in the field.
20. Scooped birds (trapped or caught). All scoops regardless of division will be counted as bagged and retrieved if completed but only half points will be awarded for pointing division, and there will be a 2-point deduction for flushing division. A shell will be forfeited for each scooped bird as well.
21. Birds may not be re-released for flight by humans. If a bird does escape once in possession of a human and then returned in bounds it may be re-hunted. Previous awarded scores for that bird will be erased if a new point or flush is established on that bird. This will be up to the scorekeeper's judgment and cannot be protested.
22. Hunting blinds will be placed at each field in order to house the hunter/handler and dogs from being able to see the field being set. If you are not in the blind 15 minutes prior to your start time you forfeit your run and entry fee stays in the pot. Any variance to this must be approved by the field marshal.
23. Any ties in scores will be broken by the time the first bird was bagged.
24. If at any time during the run a bird is missed by a shooter, you may continue to hunt for any remaining birds including residual birds from previous runs. However, you may only count four birds (three in singles) towards your score. If you choose to continue hunting after four birds (three in singles) have been produced, as soon as you produce another bird after the fourth or third depending on division that will negate the lowest score of any previous bird you have scored in the run even if the prior bird has a higher score value.

25. You may not shoot more birds than have been planted for your run to improve score. Once either four or three birds depending on division have been shot (not bagged) your run is over.
26. In the doubles division, each hunter must shoot at least one bird. If one of the hunters does not shoot a bird resulting in a bagged bird, that will result in a 20-point deduction.

Safety Rules

1. All contestants must wear a fluorescent orange hat or vest during competition.
2. Safety is a judgment call and cannot be protested.
3. No birds will be shot on the ground and if you violate this rule, you will be asked to leave the field and you forfeit your entry fee.
4. Guns must be a 12ga. or smaller and shells must be manufactured (2 ¾" in length) sold over the counter (no reloads) #6 shot size or smaller regardless of gauge.
5. An automatic safety will be called if a scorekeeper or other non participant flushes a bird in any division. 35 points for the bird will be given and a shell will be forfeited, however no time will be deducted other than the elapsed time already used (properly bagged birds have a possibility of 40 points). The hunter or handler may decline this offer and continue hunting in order to try to earn full points but the decision must be made immediately. You cannot continue hunting until you make a decision and time will not stop.
6. Hunters or scorekeeper may call a safety but the legitimacy will be decided by the scorekeeper. If a hunter or handler calls a safety in order to try to score an otherwise legitimately produced bird it will result in no awarded score for the produced bird in question. An un-sportsman like warning will be given, there will not be two. (*See general rule #8*)
7. A safety should be called for any unsafe condition involving possible injury to man, dog, property or spectators. For a called safety, full points will be awarded for bagged and retrieved bird including the point or flush if it was made prior to the call. If a safety is called one shell must be forfeited and there will be a two-point deduction on the final score for each safety called. A safe shot is always the responsibility of the person pulling the trigger. If a safety is called by anyone due to possible injury to man or property and a shooter fires anyway, it will result in immediate disqualification. NO EXCEPTIONS! It is always safety first.
8. NO RUNNING! A hunter will receive one warning for the first infraction. A ten-point deduction will be assessed for a second warning. Result of a third warning will be immediate disqualification of the run and forfeiture of the entry fee. This is a judgment call and cannot be protested.
9. No bird will be shot unless safely in flight. A minimum of 5 feet off the ground is required. Failure to follow this rule may result in disqualification if the scorekeeper determines unsafe conditions. This is a judgment call and cannot be protested.

Scoring System

1. All runs are scored not judged.

a. Pointing division

- i. **10 points** for a point (must hold point for 3 seconds)
- ii. **5 points** for a scooped (caught) bird, no scored points for the point.
- iii. **20 points** for a bagged bird.
- iv. **10 points** for a retrieve to hand. This means retrieved to hand, no exceptions. The handler may choose to move and receive points for partial retrieve this is up to the handler. The handler must keep one foot stationary once the bird is shot.
- v. **5 points** for a partial retrieve. The dog must find, pick up the bird and make an attempt to bring the bird to the handler in any division.
- vi. **10 points** for each unused shell. This does not count any forfeited shells.
- vii. **2 points** for each unused minute. Partial minutes do not count.

b. Flushing Division

- i. **10 points** for a flush.
- ii. **8 points** for a scooped (caught bird) no scored points for the flush.
- iii. **20 points** for a bagged bird.
- iv. **10 points** for a retrieve to hand. This means retrieved to hand, no exceptions. The handler may choose to move and receive points for partial retrieve this is up to the handler. The handler must keep one foot stationary once the bird is shot.
- v. **5 points** for a partial retrieve. The dog must find, pick up the bird and make an attempt to bring the bird to the handler in any division.
- vi. **10 points** for each unused shell. This does not count any forfeited shells.
- vii. **2 points** for each unused minute. Partial minutes do not count.

For the double divisions the highest possible score is 228.

This is the breakdown.

- If a team was able to flush or point all four birds that would equal 40 points
- If those birds were retrieved to hand by the dog that would equal 40 points
- Each bagged bird would receive another 20 points per bird totaling 80 points
- If that team was able to accomplish this with only four shells the remaining four unused shells would equal 40 points
- Finally, if the team was able to accomplish this in under one minute that would leave 14 unused minutes which would equal 28 points

For a total of 228 points

For the singles divisions the highest possible score is 168.

This is the breakdown.

- If a team was able to flush or point all three birds that would equal 30 points
- If those birds were retrieved to hand by the dog that would equal 30 points
- Each bagged bird would receive another 20 points per bird totaling 60 points
- If that team was able to accomplish this with only three shells the remaining three unused shells would equal 30 points
- Finally, if the team was able to accomplish this in under one minute that would leave 9 unused minutes which would equal 18 points

For a total of 168 points