

New Zealand Pig Hunting Association Inc



Newsletter – December 2016

Welcome to the final newsletter for 2016.

The subject of most interest to the NZPHA at present is generating sufficient interest in member clubs for Public Liability insurance (up to \$10 million dollars). The intention being to leverage the associations membership base to secure a competitive policy only available to clubs that are affiliated to the NZPHA. Interested clubs (affiliated or not), should make contact with the NZPHA at admin@nzpighunting.org.nz . A summary will then be sent to the insurer for the purpose of a formal quote.

The NZPHA website is being reviewed, refreshed and in general, having a major overhaul. Thank you for your patience as the upgrade is completed.

A section will be added for Affiliated pig hunting clubs who wish to advertise their pig hunting competitions.

The NZPHA Facebook profile will change from a "group" to a "page". In short, a page allows us to profile the NZPHA and communicate as required and it will restrict the ability of others to post material not consistent with that of the NZPHA.

The new pig hunters Code of Conduct is now available on the website.

The Blenheim animal cruelty case in which the NZPHA is supplying expert witnesses, has been re-scheduled to mid December 2016

The OSPRI operations in the Kaimanawa and Kaweka Ranges have been postponed for 2016 BUT will go ahead in 2017, after OSPRI have fulfilled their legal obligations of consultation. In practical terms, this will mean the consultation process will start again. OSPRI have posted Consultation documents on proposed 2017 TB Free Pest control operations on the NZPHA website, the Game Animal Council website and the OSPRI website. Should there be any concerns from pig hunters that need the attention of a National body then you should make contact with the NZPHA in the first instance at admin@nzpighunting.org.nz

As a side note: As of 19/11/2016, the Trustees of the East Taupo Lands Trust from their AGM, have rejected the use of 1080 on Trust Lands. The Trust does its own pest control. Protection of the whenua, wildlife & waterways are of their highest priority. EastTaupo Lands Trust controls 30,270 hectares of land to the south east of Taupo.

For those interested, Hooked on Boars, The "Grunt" have published articles on "Go Slow Toxin" (issue 51) and "Kauri Die Back" (issue 52).

After contacting Government Departments and MP's (starting back in May 2016) requesting a response with regards to claims that TB infected possums were being released into the wild. The NZPHA has received a reply from Hon Nathan Guy, Minister for Primary Industries dated 11 November 2016. It sets out the reasons for the study and the procedures followed. All possums released were fitted with radio collars and where possible retrieved and autopsied to determine their TB status.

It has come to the NZPHA's attention that bait station lines on Pirongia Mountain, Waikato have been sabotaged. The lines are for ground bait stations to control pests so as to protect birdlife. They provide no threat to Pigs / Deer. Most of this ground work is done by volunteers from the cities and without those marker lines it becomes a serious issue of Health & Safety.

The next meeting of the NZPHA committee will be 21st January 2017. Venue to be confirmed.

The committee of The NZPHA takes this opportunity to wish you and your families, a Safe and Happy Holiday Season and a Great New Year