

HHP FARMERS CLUB RULES

Board Acceptance Date 08/26/15, amended 5/29/2019, 9/25/2019 and 9/27/2023

GENERAL

As a club in Hilton Head Plantation, our members must comply with the rules and regulations of the Plantation which can be found on the HHPPOA website. Farm specific rules and regulations can be found on hhpfarmers.com under the How to Join link.

Because of the farm's nonprofit tax status, members may not sell farm produce for profit. Any farm sales must first be approved by the board and all revenue returned to the club.

Members must be a HHP property owner or long-term renter, have an assigned plot, and be actively farming during the spring and or fall seasons. There is also a social membership. Social members must be a HHP property owner or long term renter. They may participate in all farm activities without an assigned plot or farming a plot.

Two members in good standing may share a plot(s) but one member must be designated as primary.

HHP farmers with assigned plots may not transfer or reassign their plot(s).. However, nonfarm members may help work a member's plot with the members permission and oversight. These nonfarm members are not eligible to participate in any other farm activities.

Members may relinquish a plot by notifying the plot coordinator or the Executive Board. A member who resigns by choice will not receive a refund of his/her dues or rental fees. Members who paid a refundable maintenance fee are excluded from the no-refund policy provided the plot is properly cleaned.

A member who is expelled by the Executive Board for violating Farm Club rules will forfeit his/her dues and rental fees.

Executive Board decisions can be appealed by submitting a written appeal within three weeks to president@hhpfarmers.com.

Farmers are required to actively farm their plots to grow vegetables, flowers and/or fruits during at least one of the two growing seasons each year. The summer season is from February to August and the fall season is from September to February. All plantings must be confined to within the plot area defined by the corner posts.

A Farm Club dumpster is available on site for disposal of non-vegetative waste (only farm related trash is allowed), the POA Brush Dump at the west end of the farm processes all of our plant debris. Potentially useful supplies, such as tomato cages, plumbing, etc., may be placed behind the barn for others to use.

Any substantial structure erected on a plot taller than four feet must be approved by the Executive Board. Toolboxes, fences, trellises, tomato cages, mulch bins and other low profile farm aids are allowed. All structures must conform to good neighbor shading practice, structures that shade a neighbor's plot are not allowed.

Members may not plant large or invasive bushes or trees, such as bananas, coconut palms, bamboo, figs, pomegranates, crepe myrtles, etc. on their plots.

Members must keep their plot(s) neat and orderly throughout the year. They are also responsible for maintaining the outer perimeter boundaries not accessible by the mower. Members who are temporarily unable to keep their plot(s) in acceptable condition must cover the plot or arrange for regular maintenance. Farmers of non-conforming plot(s) will be notified and have three weeks to remedy the issues, after which the Executive Board can terminate the farmer's membership and return the plot(s) to the rental pool. The Club reserves the right to not renew a member's plot at the end of the year.

WATER USAGE

Water from the Club's well is for crop irrigation, washing of produce, tools, and hands but is not safe for drinking. Please report any leaks or problems to the Irrigation Chairman.

Connections to the water posts shall be made through hoses or timers. Plastic pipes for irrigation of a plot may only be attached to the hose bibs on the water posts using a flexible removable connection (hose). Do not use aluminum fittings which can cause corrosion of brass hose bibs.

Do not attach anything to the water post or within a one-foot radius because this may impede access to the post for needed repairs or shutdowns.

Watering hoses must have a spray nozzle, sprinkler, soaker hose or other flow restricting device attached. Hand watering or soaker hoses are preferred and can be used every day. Use of overhead sprinklers is limited to every other day for 30 minutes maximum and must be adjusted to water only cultivated portions of your plot.

When freezing temperatures are expected the irrigation system will be shut down and all hoses/timers will be disconnected from the water post. Members will be notified via email. If internal plumbing at a plot needs to be drained, it is the member's responsibility to do so. It is also the member's responsibility to reconnect hoses and timers to the water post when the freezing danger is past.

FARM EQUIPMENT

Equipment available for use by members includes rototillers, garden carts, miscellaneous tools and a walk behind mower. Equipment such as riding mowers the bush hog and others as designated may only be used by persons authorized by the Equipment Committee Chairman (ECC). Farm equipment cannot be taken off farm property. Please report equipment found to be broken or inoperable to mowing@hhpfarmers.com.

To use power equipment such as Rototillers, members must have had experience or be trained by the Equipment Committee Chairman.

All equipment must be thoroughly cleaned of debris and grass and returned to its original location in the barn after each use. Do not tip 4 cycle equipment on the side to clean, the oil can run out of the crankcase.