



## BRITISH GAME ASSURANCE - ASSOCIATE MEMBER SHOOT STANDARDS

**BGA will regulate the following standards through our auditing partners, if a complaint is received a spot audit will be required to make sure the following standards are being adhered to.**

- 1 Associate Members must compile with the law at all times.
- 3 Associate Members must ensure shoot management continually benefits wildlife and its environment.
- 4 Associate Members must be able to demonstrate that birds released have been reared to UK legal requirements and BGA standards, even when sourced from abroad.
- 5 Stocking densities must not compromise animal welfare or have a negative impact on the surrounding biodiversity. Associate Members should refer to the GWCT's releasing guidelines.
- 6 Each shoot must have a named person who is responsible for bird welfare.
- 7 Where applicable release pens are to be checked twice daily when in use ensuring adequate water, food, and habitat is available.
- 8 Ducks must be released onto open water in numbers appropriate to the carrying capacity of the wetland habitat and encouraged to become wild.
- 9 All shoots must be registered with a vet. The vet or practice should be an active Member of the BVPA.
- 10 Medicines and veterinary treatments must be authorised for use in the UK and must only be used when necessary and when prescribed by a veterinary surgeon. Antibiotics must not be used prophylactically.
- 11 Stated withdrawal periods must be adhered to for all medication before game is shot.
- 12 Birds must not be released to replenish or replace stock shot during the season. Birds must not be shot within four weeks of being released and must be mature and fully adapted to the wild.
- 13 Adequate food and water must be provided throughout the season and thereafter until appropriate levels of natural food are available.
- 14 Adequate picking-up must be available to ensure birds are quickly accounted for and wounded birds dispatched accordingly.
- 15 Associate Members must take responsibility for ensuring guns use non-lead ammunition where legally required.
- 16 Shot game is food and game must not be shot without intent to consume it.
- 17 Where a person formally associated with an associate Associate Member shoot is convicted for wildlife crimes, the shoot will be expelled from BGA and their Associate Membership withdrawn. Individuals with an unspent conviction for wildlife crimes must not be engaged in any capacity directly relating to the management of the shoot.
- 18 Game that is unfit for consumption, along with processed game carcasses must be disposed of in accordance with UK legislation.
- 19 Associate Associate Members must ensure that their shoot is maintained in a tidy manner that does not bring the game shooting sector, the BGA or the Shoot Assurance Scheme into disrepute.

I agree to abide by the BGA Associate Membership standards as seen above and should I be found to be in major breach of these standards I understand that my Associate Membership of the BGA could be terminated and steps may be taken to inform game shooting sector stakeholders.

It is BGA Associate Members' responsibility to be aware of and adhere to all relevant legislation. [The Code of Good Shooting Practice](#) sets out the framework that enables shoot managers, guns, gamekeepers and their employees to deliver sustainable shooting. The FSA Wild Game Guide [The Wild Game Guide](#) sets out the regulatory requirements relating to the handling of shot game.

I have read, understood and agree to BGA's [complaint process](#) and will allow for ad-hoc inspections by external auditors in the case of a substantive formal complaint made in regard to my shoot.