



Die Jagterskonfederasie van Suid-Afrika
CHASA
The Hunters Confederation of South Africa

CHASA SETTING THE PACE: SAFETY ON CORPORATE HUNTS

Every year, literally thousands of individuals embark on so-called corporate hunts. This is the practice wherein companies invite clients to join in on hunts. The groups vary in size and it is not uncommon to have parties exceeding 10 members. It does happen that many of the “hunters” are first-timers or inexperienced, and they often do not have their own firearms. It also happens that not all participants hunt – some are just there for the ride and more often than not, it is an excuse to get away from home and do things that normally would not be allowed. This unfortunately includes alcohol abuse, and the potentially disastrous effects are obvious.

Shooting accidents happen every year and people get killed or maimed for life as a direct result of not adhering to basic safety principles. CHASA has decided to do something about this and the decision was taken to produce a DVD where basic safety rules and the application thereof are explained and demonstrated. The services of a production company, Alpha and Omega, were obtained and John Harris and Koos Barnard agreed to “act” out the scenes that would normally occur on a corporate hunt. Dave Aadnesgaard made one of his hunting concessions available

and the team descended into the beautiful Umkomaas valley on the 7th June to start shooting this long-overdue production. It took three days to produce, as the weather just did not want to play along.

The final product should be available by the end of July and hopefully it will add value to these corporate hunts in future. If it saves one life or prevents serious injury, it will have paid for itself.

Right: Koos Barnard demonstrating how to make a rifle safe.



SAFETY TIPS:

Accidents don't just happen - they are caused by ignorance or disregard of safety rules. The following safety rules should be learned and practiced until they become a habit - yours!
Information taken from *A Hunter's Handbook* edited by Tim Ivins.

TEN COMMANDMENTS OF FIREARM SAFETY:

I: TREAT EVERY GUN WITH RESPECT, AS IF IT'S A LOADED GUN

II: WATCH THAT MUZZLE! Be able to control the direction of the muzzle even if you should stumble.

III: BE SURE THE BARREL AND ACTION ARE CLEAR OF OBSTRUCTIONS, and that you only have ammunition of the proper size for the gun you are carrying.

IV: BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET BEFORE YOU PULL THE TRIGGER. Know identifying features of the game you hunt.

V: UNLOAD GUNS WHEN NOT IN USE. Take down or have actions open. Guns should be carried in cases to the shooting area.

VI: NEVER POINT A GUN AT ANYTHING YOU DO NOT WANT TO SHOOT. Avoid all horseplay when handling a firearm.



VII: NEVER CLIMB A FENCE OR TREE OR JUMP A DITCH WITH A LOADED GUN. Never pull a gun towards you by holding the muzzle.

VIII: NEVER SHOOT A BULLET AT A FLAT, HARD SURFACE OR WATER. At target practice be sure your backstop is adequate.

IX: STORE GUNS AND AMMUNITION SEPARATELY, beyond the reach of children and careless adults.

X: AVOID ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BEFORE OR AFTER SHOOTING.

Follow these rules & practice safe shooting!