

Etiquette in the Field

Safety First

- Ensure your equipment is in good working order. Use reliable leashes and swivels
- When raptors are tethered in close proximity make absolutely certain that they cannot reach each other
- Make sure your bird is properly secured at all times in the presence of other raptors
- Never leave a raptor unattended, not even for a moment
- Avoid flying near power lines and busy roads
- Scan the hunting area thoroughly for any potential predators before releasing your bird

Hawking

- ALWAYS get permission before entering private property
- Do not fly hawks together unless they have been trained and conditioned to safely do so
- If there is conflict between birds in a group hawking situation, the aggressor should be removed from the field
- Bury or camouflage any entrails or carcasses so as not to distract other raptors
- DO NOT feed your hawk on a kill when other birds are nearby - trade off and remove the kill from sight as soon as possible

New to the Field?

- Allow the falconer(s) flying birds to direct the entire hunting situation, including where you go, and what you do in the field
- Don't be further into the field than the falconer; allow him/her to lead
- When walking near a falconer, remain on their right side to avoid stressing their bird
- Refrain from any activities that appear to produce stress in a raptor
- Never touch, feed or take pictures of a hawk without the permission of the bird's owner
- Do not rush in on a hawk that has caught game

Dogs

- Dogs should be leashed outside of a hunting situation
- Unless you know that all raptors in the area are comfortable with your dog, DO NOT let it run loose
- Dog owners must honor a falconer's request to remove their dog from the hunting field

