

Section 2: A-Zone Information

Section 2.0 A-Zone Opening Day Procedures

The following procedures are for the opening day allocation of the “A-Zone” blinds at the Rondeau Waterfowl Management Unit. Prospective opening day hunters should note the following:

1. Opening day blind allocation will be conducted by the means of the traditional lottery draw to be held at 2:00 pm sharp on the Saturday prior to opening day. The draw will take place at the Rondeau Waterfowl Management Unit office within Rondeau Provincial Park.
2. Prospective hunters may make an application to enter the blind allocation lottery draw between Noon (12:00pm) and 2:00 pm on that Saturday. Application forms will be available at the Rondeau Waterfowl Unit Office. Applicants will be required to enter names, addresses, licenses and permit numbers, and the number of hunters.
3. In order to be eligible for the lottery, applicants must be prepared to show possession of a valid Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit and an Ontario Outdoors Hunting Card including a small game licence.
4. Upon completion of the application form, a number will be issued to the applicant. This is the number that will be used in the lottery draw.
5. After 2:00 pm sharp on Saturday of the draw, no additional applications will be received. At this time the lottery draw will begin. No duplication of applications / names will be accepted (meaning two different names of same party hunting together on the opening day) and any such misuse of the system will result in the application(s) being removed from the lottery.
6. At 2:00 pm sharp on Saturday the lottery draw for the opening day blind allocation will commence. The first party selected will be given the first opportunity to choose an available blind; the second party selected will be given the second opportunity and so on until all available blinds are allocated. The parties will be able to select either a morning hunt or an afternoon hunt. Morning hunters **SHALL** be back to the Waterfowl Management Unit office by **2:00 pm** the day of the hunt. Afternoon hunters **MAY NOT** depart from the Waterfowl Management Unit office for their blinds before **1:30 pm**.
7. Once a blind has been allocated, an A-Zone daily waterfowl permit will be issued to each person who was successful in obtaining a blind for the initial hunt on opening day.
8. The reselling of blinds for opening day will be allowed on a **first come first serve basis after the first hunt** is complete. Hunters expecting to participate in any resale opportunities must notify the waterfowl unit office upon their arrival on opening day and be in the immediate vicinity of the waterfowl unit office at the time of resale

9. The reselling of blinds will follow the lottery ranking of those who are present and the ranking of the party will not be affected by passing / rejecting or missing any particular resell opportunity (you don't lose your place in line if you don't want to hunt the blind up for resale).
10. There will be **no first – come – first – served hunting on opening day until all lottery participants** have been accommodated.
11. All hunters must return to the Waterfowl Office at the conclusion of their hunt and present all game for identification and statistical recording.
12. The Rondeau Bay Waterfowl Unit Office will be open at 4:30 am on opening day.

Section 2.1 A-Zone Daily Blind Allocation Procedures

The following procedures are for the allocation of “A-Zone” blinds, at the Waterfowl Unit, excluding opening day (see Section 2.0 for opening day procedures).

1. The Rondeau Waterfowl Unit office will open at 4:30 am on each hunting day. (This is subject to change and it is the hunter's responsibility to check any postings that may effect the operational hours of the RWU office.)
2. Present hunting parties are able to make an application to participate in the lottery draw at 5:00 am for a blind allocation choice. This procedure, combined with reservation holders, which are also present (see Section 2.2 for A-Zone Reservation Information), will provide the blind choice standing for the initial hunt.
3. Allocations of blind choice for the initial hunt will proceed according to the following system:
 - a. Blind Choice :
 - i. #1 – First Lottery winner
 - ii. #2 – First Reservation
 - iii. #3 – Second Lottery Winner
 - iv. #4 – Second Reservation
 - v. #5 – Third Lottery Winner
 - vi. #6 – Third Reservation
 - vii. Etc.

*Reservation holders not personally present at the time of allocation will be considered “no shows”, and will be removed from the initial allocation and will be charged the registration fee. All reservations behind the “no show” will be moved up one position in the ranking. (I.e. If #2 Reservation is a “no show” then #3 Reservation moves into the #2 Reservation spot and so forth.)

4. The assigning of blind choice standing by lottery will continue until all hunters present at the time of the lottery have received a choice standing. In the event that the number of

hunters present exceeds the number of blinds available for the initial shoot, the blind choice standing will be used to determine order of allocation for any subsequent hunt opportunities as blinds are vacated.

5. Hunters arriving after the conclusion of the lottery draw will be assigned a blind choice standing in relation to their order of arrival. These hunters will not be accommodated until after all lottery participants have accepted or rejected a blind.
6. When initial shoot participants vacate blinds, blinds will be resold according to the blind choice standing. It is the hunter's responsibility to be personally present at the Rondeau Waterfowl Unit office at the time a resale blind becomes available.
7. Missing or rejecting a particular resale blind opportunity will not affect the blind choice standing for any subsequent opportunities (you don't lose your place in line if you don't want to hunt the blind up for resale).
8. All hunters will be required to complete a registration card which requests names, addresses, licences and permits as well as presenting a valid Rondeau Provincial Park vehicle pass (daily or seasonal).
9. Hunters should be prepared to choose their blind quickly by referring to the location map and the registration board that indicates which blinds are already occupied. Both resources are posted in the Rondeau Waterfowl Unit Office.
10. All hunters must return to the Waterfowl Office at the conclusion of their hunt and present all game for identification and statistical recording.

Section 2.2 A-Zone Blind Reservation Allocation Procedures

In order to provide prospective waterfowl hunters with an opportunity to obtain a blind on a specific hunting day, five (5) reservation spaces are available for each hunting day except opening day. The procedures are as follows:

Note: Hunting is only permitted on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays one half hour (1/2 hr) before sunrise and one half hour (1/2 hr) after sunset.

1. Reservation application forms may be obtained during the hunting season from the Rondeau Bay Waterfowl Unit Office located in the park or from our website. Applications may be dropped off at the RWU Office or mailed.
2. Hunters should ensure that all information requested on the reservation application is completed. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.
3. Reservation applications must be received at the Rondeau Bay Waterfowl Unit Office no later than two (2) weeks prior to the requested hunt date. Applications received after this time will not be considered.

4. No money is to be remitted with the reservation application. Hunters whose reservations are confirmed will purchase the daily waterfowl hunting permit on the day of the hunt. After the draw has been made all “cancellations” and “no shows” will be charged \$20.00, regardless of membership, which must be paid prior to hunting in A-Zone again.
5. All reservations received for a particular hunting day will be assigned a number and entered in a special lottery draw to determine the successful applications and their order of blind choice. Confirmation can be received by calling the Rondeau Waterfowl Unit Office (519.674.1775).
6. Hunters must report to the attendant on duty at the Rondeau Waterfowl Unit Office by 5:00 am on the day of the hunt in order to secure their reservation choice. Hunters will be considered “no show” and their reservation cancelled if they are not present at the time of blind allocation (5:00 am).
7. A confirmation reservation guarantees the applicant(s) a blind selection standing. It does not guarantee the reservation holder any particular blind. Please refer to Section 2.1 Daily Blind Allocation A-Zone Procedures for an explanation on how blinds are allocated.
8. Any hunter with three (3) or more cancellations will be disqualified from any further reservation draws for the remainder of the season.

Section 2.3 A-Zone Second Shoot / Resell Procedures

When a blind becomes vacant (after a hunter from the initial draw has concluded the hunt) it will become available for second shoot or resell. The following will outline the procedures for second shoot / resell:

1. The attendant working the Rondeau Waterfowl Unit Office will keep a list of hunters for the second shoot / resell. The first hunter who notifies the office of their interest for second shoot / resell will be first on the list; the second hunter to notify will be second on the list and so forth.
2. Every hunter waiting for a second shoot / resell opportunity will be responsible for making sure their name is on the list.
3. A blind becomes available for second shoot / resell when the initial hunter notifies the office that he/she is finished hunting for the day.
4. The first hunter on the list has the first choice on the available blind. If they wish to hunt it they may, if not, they may defer this choice while still maintaining their position on the list. The second hunter now has a choice to hunt the blind, and he/she may defer this choice while still maintaining their position on the list and so forth.
5. Having standing on the second shoot / resell list does not guarantee a blind choice (initial blind holders may remain at the blinds throughout the legal hunting day).

6. Any hunter from the initial lottery may forgo their initial choice and be added to the second shoot list. (Each hunter is responsible for making their intentions known to the office staff.) Hunters are not allowed to add their names to the second shoot / resell list until the initial lottery has finished or they forgo their initial blind choice from the lottery (meaning you may not be in possession of a blind and be on the second shoot / resell list).
7. The hunter(s) must be personally present in the office at the time of resale of the blind. For the sake of courtesy the office area will include the washroom, or parking lot of the Rondeau Waterfowl Unit Office. If the hunter is not present in these areas he/ she will lose their position on the list and will have to re-register when they return. Please inform the office staff if you will be using the lavatory to avoid any mishaps.
8. Registered hunters in A-Zone may switch blinds by contacting the RWU office via cell phone or radio only if hunters present on the second shoot / resell list decline the blind in question. A hunter may not change blinds by means of sending a message back to the RWU office through a third party in any circumstances.
9. The second shoot / resell list will be kept until the end of the hunt day. When the staff in the Rondeau Waterfowl Unit Office changes for the day, the order of hunters waiting for second shoot / resell will remain the same.