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Hunters for the Hungry is a program of Tennessee Wildlife Federation. The Federation was founded in 1946 and is one of Tennessee’s oldest and largest wildlife conservation organizations. Its mission is to lead the conservation, sound management, and wise use of Tennessee’s wildlife and great outdoors. This is done through stewardship, youth engagement, and public policy.

Hunters for the Hungry motivates the generosity of Tennesseans to donate, process, and distribute venison to our neighbors in need. This gives hunters more opportunities to hunt, better connects hunters and communities to each other, and helps manage growing deer populations.

To participate, deer hunters simply donate field-dressed deer—or part of a deer through the pound or pack donation method—to a participating Hunters for the Hungry processor. Participating processors package the venison at a discounted rate and are reimbursed by Hunters for the Hungry. Every processor is certified by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, ensuring the highest quality. Local food banks and food pantries then pick up the venison and distribute it to the people and families they serve every day.

This network of volunteers each contributes their time and skills to bring high-quality, lean, organic venison to families in need across Tennessee.
7+ MILLION MEALS
PROVIDED SINCE 1998

ONE DEER =
168 MEALS

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED:
• Give financially
• Donate a whole deer
• Donate a portion of a deer
• Start a high school Hunger Challenge club

Find a processor near you at
TNWF.ORG/PROCESSORS
Tennessee Wildlife Federation’s Hunger Challenge is a point-based competition among high school clubs not only raises critical funds to help feed hungry families, but also serves as an educational experience for students. By participating, students gain important skills in leadership, club-building, humanitarianism and philanthropy.

Students earn points for their club by participating in various activities: volunteering, fundraising, and donating deer to Hunters for the Hungry. At the end of the Challenge, the club with the most points is named the state champion and has the honor of displaying the Hunger Bowl trophy in their school for the next year. In addition, regional champions are named and get to display the regional championship trophies in their school for a year. State and regional champions receive a plaque to permanently hang in the school, celebrating their win.
The Hunger Challenge runs from May 2019 through January 2020. However, the fundraising portion of the Challenge ends December 31, 2019.

The Hunger Challenge is intended for schools to compete against one another as well as for students to gain a better understanding about what hunger looks like in their community and how they can make a difference. **We strongly encourage your Hunger Challenge club to tour your local food agency** by the end of September, or within the first two months of establishing a club. Tennessee Wildlife Federation can assist in setting up tours.

Each school club is required to have an active advisor to oversee the club and act as the liaison between the students and the Federation. A point tracker is in the back of this guidebook to help advisors keep up with their club’s points. **Advisors need to update the document every two weeks and provide a copy to Tennessee Wildlife Federation.**

Above all, the Federation wants students learn about hunger while challenging themselves through this friendly competition.
Hunger Challenge clubs earn points through fundraising, volunteerism, and deer donations. The following pages detail how to earn points in each of these categories. At the end of the Challenge, these points are weighted to determine the club’s final score.

**Points Breakdown per Category**

- Fundraising: 40%
- Volunteerism: 30%
- Deer Donations: 30%
Fundraising is a crucial element for Hunters for the Hungry and the Hunger Challenge. All monetary donations made to Hunters for the Hungry are tax deductible. Each club is encouraged to set a goal of raising $600, which will provide approximately 900 meals.

The funds your club raises help cover processing deer donated in your county as well as support program logistics. Each processor has agreed to process a donated deer at a discounted rate. The money raised through the Hunger Challenge allows hunters to donate deer free of charge.

Advisors are responsible for collecting, recording, and keeping up with funds raised by the students. At the end of every other week, the advisor should send the funds the club has raised to Tennessee Wildlife Federation. Our staff will keep a record of what money has been received.

Note: The fundraising portion has an earlier cutoff date than others to make sure deer processors receive funds needed for their work. Fundraising must be complete by December 31, 2019 and funds in Tennessee Wildlife Federation’s possession by January 4, 2020. Funds received after this date will count next season.

Clubs can come up with their own creative ways to raise funds. A few go-to options include:

- **Kickoff Sponsorship** – Each club is encouraged to find a community club sponsor(s) that will make an early season gift. Sponsorship donations can be in any amount, ranging from $100, $500, $1,000, or more! Every sponsorship donation makes hitting your club goal more attainable and encourages your students.

- **General Giving** – Students can raise money through general giving. They can simply go out and solicit financial support from individuals or businesses. Students should make it clear that all financial donations are tax deductible.

- **Events** – From cookouts to car washes to banquets, events are great ways to raise funds while igniting the entrepreneurial side of students.
Hunters for the Hungry works because many people volunteer a little in order to accomplish something big! Our hope is Hunger Challenge clubs will be part of that culture of giving time.

The entire club does not have to be present to volunteer. Every volunteer activity that students participate in will need verification from the advisor. Verification should include:

- Date
- Activity description
- Approximate start and end times of students’ participation

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

**Hunters for the Hungry Venison Delivery (where applicable)** – Clubs can volunteer by picking up meat that has been processed by a Hunters for the Hungry processor and delivering it to their local food bank or pantry.

**Purpose:** To reduce the burden on the processors as well as local food banks and pantries. Both the processors and food pantries really appreciate the service because it saves them valuable time. Also, club members get a firsthand look at the process of hunger relief.

**Note:** Clubs **MUST** check with Tennessee Wildlife Federation before scheduling pickups.

**Tour & Volunteer at Local Food Banks** – Clubs can volunteer at their local food relief organizations, ranging from packing food to serving meals. Food banks and pantries will often give volunteers a behind-the-scenes tour of their operation.
**Purpose:** To provide area food banks and pantries much needed manpower, while giving students a firsthand look at hunger conditions in their communities.

**Note:** Tennessee Wildlife Federation can assist club advisors to connect with participating food banks and pantries if needed.

**Hunters for the Hungry Display Booth** — Clubs can earn volunteer points by creating, displaying, and manning an informational Hunters for the Hungry booth at local retailers, community centers, and public events such as fairs. During this time, students are responsible for distributing information and educating the public about Hunters for the Hungry. Students may also want to have donation jars available to raise money for the program, earning one point for each dollar raised.

**Purpose:** To support and raise public awareness of the program and hunger in Tennessee.

**Note:** Some clubs have partnered with a local processor to set up a booth at their shop.

**Community Presentation** — Another way to earn volunteer points is for students to give presentations about Hunters for the Hungry to other groups in their community. Presenting to groups—from churches to nearby rival schools—will sharpen the students’ communication skills and educate people about Hunters for the Hungry.

*A club will earn 300 bonus points if a student presentation to another school results in them agreeing to form a club next year.*

**Purpose:** To provide a method for students to hone their public speaking skills and raise their confidence in group settings. Presenting can also educate the public about what Hunters for the Hungry is and ways to get involved.

**Note:** An easy-to-follow PowerPoint presentation will be provided that contains talking points, visuals, and statistics.
Hunger Challenge clubs should meet periodically to encourage students to collaborate, plan, and lead. Meetings should cover what students have done already and plan to do in the future, as well as provide an update on the total number of points the team has earned so far.

Clubs should meet at least once a month and meetings should not last more than 20 minutes, unless directed by the advisor.

**Purpose:** For students to come together and gather thoughts about club participation.

**Note:** Club Meetings are worth 25 team points per meeting, regardless of the number of students involved.

Meeting minutes (notes) MUST be recorded and submitted to receive points. Minutes should include:

- Date and Time
- Number of students present
- Items discussed
- Advisor signature
Students can either donate deer to Hunters for the Hungry through a participating processor or have someone else make a donation in their name. The hunter donating a whole deer should write the school and student’s name on the Hunter Receipt at the processor. Points will only be awarded based off of the receipts that each processor turns in. A complete list of processors throughout the state can be found at tnwf.org/processors.

**Purpose:** This is where it all begins. Hunters donating deer is how we were able to provide nearly 600,000 meals last year alone.

**Note:** Only whole deer donations earn points in the Hunger Challenge.
COMMUNICATION
Advisors are responsible for being the liaison between Tennessee Wildlife Federation and the Hunger Challenge club. Any problem or question a student has must be voiced through the advisor. Advisors should communicate with the Federation if the club needs help coordinating a volunteer opportunity or educational tour.

FINANCES
Advisors are responsible for collecting, recording, and keeping up with funds raised by students. At the end of every other week, the advisor should send what funds the club has raised to Tennessee Wildlife Federation (300 Orlando Avenue, Nashville, TN 37209) to the attention of Matt Simcox.

CLUB MEETINGS
Advisors are required to attend all club meetings to ensure students are actively participating. Advisors must collect meeting notes and approve them with a signature to receive points for those meetings.

TRACK POINTS
Advisors are responsible for keeping up with the club’s points. At the end of the competition, the advisor must approve the point tracker sheet for it to be valid.

ATTEND ACTIVITIES
Advisors are encouraged, but not required, to attend club functions outside of regularly scheduled meetings. However, advisors must stay in the loop about planned activities and should know the details of each club function.
STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

OFFICERS
Each club is to elect a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

OFFICER DUTIES
President
• Lead the club to achieve its goals for the year
• Schedule and develop meeting agendas
• Lead the club in volunteer and service projects
• Recruit and be a voice of the club

Vice President
• Assist the president in achieving the club’s goal for the year
• Be knowledgeable of the club’s activities
• Assist the president in recruiting new members
• Work with club advisor to track all club points

Secretary
• Maintain all club records
• Record keeping and minutes of all club meetings
• Maintain membership records
• Maintain any club news and marketing information

Treasurer
• Organize all accounting and budgeting procedures for the year
• Work with advisor to track and submit all income to Tennessee Wildlife Federation immediately
• Maintain receipts of all club purchases and inventory
• Keep club advisor, president, and officers informed of the club’s financial records

CLUB MEETINGS
Active club members must attend all club meetings, if possible.
The Hunger Challenge is designed to be a fun educational experience for students—part of the fun is the competition! There are two types of awards given: team and individual.

Team awards are given to the statewide winner and regional winners. Top teams receive trophies that will be on display at their school for the next year as well as plaques for permanent display.

Two individual awards are given in each of the four regions. Winners receive personalized crystal trophies.

**TEAM AWARDS**
- **State Champions’ Hunger Bowl** – Awarded to the club with the highest points statewide
- **Regional Awards’ Silver Bowl** – Awarded to the club with the highest points in each of the four regions
- **Top School Volunteer** – Awarded to the club with the most volunteer hours
- **Top School Harvester** – Awarded to the club with the most donated deer
- **School Top Gun** – Awarded to the club that raises the most money
- **Club Goal Award** – Awarded to each club that reaches their goals in all three categories

**Points Breakdown per Category**
- Fundraising 40%
- Volunteerism 30%
- Deer Donations 30%

**INDIVIDUAL AWARDS**
- **Top Gun** – Awarded to the student who raises the most money in each of the four regions
- **Harvester Award** – Awarded to the student who secures the most deer donations in each of the four regions
## 2019 Hunger Challenge

### Points Tracker

**School:** ______________________

**Advisor:** ______________________

Additional Points Tracker PDFs are available online at [www.tnwf.org/hunger-challenge](http://www.tnwf.org/hunger-challenge)

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