

PBS Code of Ethics and Equipment Policy Statements

The Professional Bowhunters Society (PBS) was founded over 60 years ago by bowhunters who deeply valued and promoted ethical bowhunting. The mission is to act as a helping hand in upgrading bowhunters across the nation and those members from other countries across the world.

1. We believe it is necessary to follow state and federal game laws that define the boundaries of fair chase. Each member is responsible for researching and knowing these laws before the hunt. There is no gray area; if it feels wrong, it is wrong.
2. We believe in the discipline of self-policing. True character is defined by your conduct when no one is watching.
3. Decades ago, designated “bowhunting-only” seasons swept across our nation. They were defined as primitive weapons seasons. We do not look to the constant push of technology to solve our problems. Instead, we lean on the values of self-imposed limitations of more traditional equipment, dedication to the inherent challenges of our age-old sport, and the application of skill and woodsmanship when afield.
4. We are a pro-hunting organization. By their very design, we believe crossbows and Airbows operate like firearms and should only be allowed in firearms or “any weapon” seasons. We believe they have no place in a designated bowhunting-only season.
5. We believe using aerial drones and thermal imaging technology to pursue any animal does not constitute fair chase.
6. We believe in treating the animals we hunt with the utmost respect. We believe in using razor-sharp broadheads from a hand-drawn and handheld bow to humanely dispatch the animal. We reject technology that has the potential to remove any of the animals' senses that they rely on to escape predators.
7. There is room inside PBS for diverse opinions on hunting methods and equipment. However, all members must hold themselves to the highest ethical standards in the field and public. On that principle, we all agree.
8. Our slogan, “Knowledge through Experience,” utilizes the powerful tool of mentoring bowhunters to improve skill sets and refine ethical standards.

