

Resolution to Support Continuation of Hands-on Hunter Education

Whereas, the State of Wisconsin has been a leader in providing Hunter Education training to novice hunters and as a result there has been major reductions of hunting accidents in Wisconsin during the 50-year history of the Hunter Education program; and

Whereas, the DNR Hunter Education program utilizes over 3,000 dedicated volunteer instructors to provide hand-on classes for firearm safety instruction; and

Whereas, the passion and knowledge provided by the volunteers and passed on to the students is an integral part of the hunter education process and is important to continue the legacy of hunting and the ethics involved; and

Whereas, the demand by some for “easier” access to instruction and a lower level of student commitment to the time required to be properly trained, has resulted in an official review of the current highly successful Hunter Education program that may totally eliminate the requirement for “hands-on” or “face-to-face” fire arm safety training in the future; and

Whereas; the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation supports continuing and improving the current Hunter Education Program with its “hands on”, “face-to-face” firearm safety education including handling of firearms under supervised conditions by dedicated instructors and believes that it should remain an integral and important part of the Hunter Education Program; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at its Annual Meeting held on April 20th and 21st, 2018 at Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, requests the Department of Natural Resources, Governor and the State Legislature continue to retain hands on Hunter Education training as an Integral part of the overall Hunter Education Program.

Submitted by the Wildlife Committee
Gary Dieck and Kevyn Quamme co-chairs

