

Resolution #09
Required 2/3 Majority

Submitted by: Furmer Reed and Patricia Doherty
Passed: 2014 Annual Convention, June 21, 2014, unanimously
Title: **PORTABLE GROUND BLIND SAFETY**

WHEREAS, since 1977, Hunter Orange must be worn to make hunters more visible to other hunters when hunting in any season with a license that authorizes the use of a firearm, including those hunting with a bow and arrow during firearm deer seasons; and

WHEREAS, the garment featuring Hunter Orange must be the outermost garment and must be visible from all sides. Camouflage orange garments, with 50 percent or more of the surface in Hunter Orange, are legal; and

WHEREAS, this law does not apply to persons hunting waterfowl, crow, wild turkey, or to persons engaged in the sport of falconry. Archery and crossbow deer hunters also are not required to wear Hunter Orange, except during the youth firearm seasons, early antlerless firearm and the November firearm deer season; and

WHEREAS, hunting incidents have decreased after the introduction of the Hunter Orange Law; and

WHEREAS, hunters should be absolutely sure of their target and what's behind it and understand that their bullets can travel great distances; and

WHEREAS, the portable ground blind has increased in popularity as technology has been improving for the last several years to match habitats and further conceal hunters to make them invisible; and

WHEREAS, the States of Indiana, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iowa require at least 144 square inches of Hunter Orange visible from all directions from around the blind during firearm season, or any season in which the hunter is required to wear Hunter Orange; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has been recommending Hunter Orange on portable ground blinds. NOW,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Michigan United Conservation Clubs (MUCC) work with the DNR and Natural Resources Commission to require portable ground blinds to incorporate Hunter Orange material which must be at least 144 square inches, and must be visible all around the blind when occupied during firearm season; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that when the portable ground blind is left unoccupied, the owner must post their name and address written legibly in English somewhere in a conspicuous spot on the outside of the structure and near its entry, similar to tree stand requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Hunter Orange requirement does not apply to blinds made of dead vegetation found on the property nor does it apply to tree stands or other elevated stands.

