
11. These Rules shall apply to all the commoners in the settlements of Mount Thompson and Ramsey. Application.

**THE SAVANNAH SOUND, ELEUTHERA
COMMONAGE RULES**

S.I. 102/2004

(SECTION 11)

[Commencement 15th December, 2004]

1. These Rules may be cited as the Savannah Sound Commonage Rules. Short title.

2. To become registered as a commoner of Savannah Sound the applicant must be able to prove his or her direct ancestry to a Bahamian Descendant of the above mentioned settlement and must be residing in the settlement for a continuous period of at least six months prior to the application. Direct ancestry means a son, daughter, grandson or grand daughter to a resident Bahamian Descendant. Registration.

3. When a commoner is registered under these rules he shall pay a registration fee and annual dues. Fee.

4. A register of commoners shall be made and kept by the Family Island Administrator at Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera. Register.

5. There shall be an annual meeting of commoners of any land held in common on the first Monday in the month of December. Annual Meeting.

6. Meetings of the commoners may be summoned at any time by the Family Island Administrator, or by the Chairman or by five or more commoners. Public notice of any such meeting shall be given twenty four hours before such meeting by an announcement on a public radio station or on the community notice board, or by public announcements in the schools or churches. Meetings.

7. The elected officers of the commoners or persons delegated by them shall comprise of the Land Policy Committee of the commoners. Land policy.

8. (1) The application for land can be made by any registered commoner in good financial standing for residential, commercial, touristic or farming usage. All applications are subject to investigation by the Land Policy Committee. Land Policy Committee.

(2) The Land Policy Committee will go out and measure all approved properties before any labourer or machinery begins to clear land. Lots are to be one hundred feet by one hundred and fifty feet.

(3) Any commoner who has been granted a parcel of land who fails to cultivate that land in one year after clearing the land and allows the land to grow up in excess of six feet will have forfeited his or her claim to that land, and any other registered commoner of Savannah Sound may apply for that property.

Setting Fire. **9.** Fire shall not be put to any land in possession of a commoner until reasonable notice has been given to the occupiers of the adjacent land.

Watering places. **10.** Every commoner at all times shall have free access to all natural watering places containing water and a fair use and distribution of such water supply for drinking and other purposes excluding the sale of such water.

Permission to enter land. **11.** No person shall enter upon the lands of a commoner without his/her permission or other lawful excuse.

Resolution of disputes. **12.** In the case of any disputes arising between commoners in relation to commonage land and its use, the Land Policy Committee shall investigate and determine such dispute and the decision of the majority of that committee shall be final.

Work on commonage land. **13.** No person who is not a registered commoner shall be allowed to work or cultivate any land of the commonage upon shares, except in the case of rule 15.

Right to enclose land. **14.** A commoner shall have the right to enclose any approved land that he/she occupies.

Illness or absence. **15.** In the event that a commoner becomes ill or is absent from the community any member of his/her immediate family or a registered commoner that he/she shall direct may continue his cultivation.

Trespassers. **16.** At any time subsequent to a date which shall be three months after these rules shall have become law any person in occupation of land held in common, but not registered as a commoner shall be deemed a trespasser and shall not have any right in respect of any land which he/she may occupy or cultivate except he/she shall have caused his/her name to be registered by the Family Island