



Nosework

JUDGES NEWSLETTER

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HIDE OFFICIAL

If you are currently a UKC Hide Official, starting in 2020, Hide Officials will no longer be approved to judge UKC nosework trials. Hide Officials who do not plan on seeking a Certifying Officials license may continue to judge UKC nosework events through December 31, 2019. After which time, the hide official license will expire.

Active Hide officials who wish to maintain a UKC nosework official's license may request approval as a Certifying Official. To be considered for the Certifying Official license, the Hide Official must pass the online Certifying Official test (minimum passing score is 85%). There is no fee for active Hide Officials to request approval to become a Certifying Official.

To apply for the Certifying Officials license and to receive instructions for the online test, please send a request to judges@ukcdogs.com and include an updated resume along with the following: Name. Current mailing address, including City/State/Zip-Postal code. Current telephone number (and cell phone if available). Current email address - testing information will be sent to the email address provided.

The UKC nosework test will only be available online and it will NOT be mailed or made available in hard copy.

UKC NOSEWORK HIGHLIGHTS

The UKC Nosework program will see many changes in 2020. Included in this newsletter are some of the most significant changes to the program. Please refer to the Official UKC Nosework rules for the changes in their entirety. All changes are denoted in bold and italic text.

- **Pre-Trials.** Clubs must still host a Pre-Trial for all target odors being offered over the weekend. Clubs whose event is Pre-Entry only must host a Pre-Trial for all target odors for every trial being offered over the weekend.

- **Elimination of Full Trials:** Beginning in 2020 there will no longer be "Full Trials" in UKC Nosework. There will only be Element Trials.

High in Trials and High Scoring Junior. High in Trial and Highest scoring Junior have been eliminated.

Objects. Objects may be used again during a weekend for any level (provided they have not been used to place a hide).

Rewarding at source: Food must be offered away from the source by at least two feet. It must not be offered at or over the target odor source in order to prevent contamination of the hide. If food is dropped within two feet of the search area, a fault will be issued for every infraction. Toys must not be thrown at the source but may be given to the dog and must be at least two feet away from the source of odor. A fault may be issued if the toy is given too close to the source and cause contamination or if it moves the object that contains

the target odor. Handlers that throw their toy, regardless if it is away from the source of odor will be assessed a fault

- **Calling "Clear" and "Finish":** In the last Judges Newsletter, there was a clarification regarding nosework searches and the calling of "Clear" and/or "Finish" when a handler has completed a search during a multiple room/location search.

Under the current rules and in the 2020 rules there is no reason for exhibitors to make any calls of "clear" or "finish" during a search since judges inform the handlers of the number of hides present during each search. Handlers may go back and forth between rooms/locations to locate the hides placed within each room without calling "clear" and when the last hide has been found, the handler does not need to call "Finish" since the number of hides is known.

Coming up in 2020, there will be a slight modification to the Elite Class. Officials may place between two and four hides along with two distractions. Officials will not announce the number of hides placed in this class. When the exhibitor feels they have located/found the last hide, they must call "Finish."

- **Established Entry Limits per level.** To keep judges within the allotted 8-hour judging day, clubs must calculate entry limits using the estimated number of entries per hour for each of the following types of trials;
- **Pre-Trial maximum daily limit per judge 125** (approximately 16 en-

tries per hour).

- Handler Discrimination maximum daily limit per judge 125 (approximately 16 entries per hour).
- Container maximum daily limit per judge 125 (approximately 16 entries per hour).
- Interior maximum daily limit per judge 64 (approximately 8 entries per hour).
- Exterior maximum daily limit per judge 64 (approximately 8 entries per hour).
- Vehicle maximum daily limit per judge 64 (approximately 8 entries per hour).

ALLOWABLE SEARCH ITEMS

Interior Search Items. Items that may be used in an interior search include, but are not limited to, the following: Stationary objects such as furniture, kitchen counters, closets, file cabinets, desks, and moveable objects such as, chairs, tables, storage drawers, children's toys, and so forth.

Exterior Search Items. Items that may be used in an exterior search include, but are not limited to, the following: Any such items that are also used for Interior Searches that may be found outside, additionally stationary objects such as playground equipment, picnic tables, barrels and so forth.

Vehicles. To be designated as a vehicle, it must be used for transporting passengers or things by land, water, or air. Vehicles include cars, vans, motor homes, motorcycles, ATV's, golf carts, tractors or trailers that are designed to be used in combination with a vehicle described above and/or towed on the highway as well as horse drawn wagons or buggies. In addition, any mechanical devices on wheels mainly for use on highways is allowable.

The following are prohibited and may not be used in a vehicle search; moped's, motorized bicycles, traditional pedal bicycles, pony carts, carts or vehicles propelled by human power. Toy cars and/or toy trucks and/or toy tractors and/or big wheels, scooters, skateboards or children's wagons and other such toys do not meet the description of a vehicle and therefore are also prohibited from being used in a vehicle search.

Prohibited Items

- Articles of adornment. Items placed or attached to the dog for adornment such as, but not limited to, bandanas or jewelry are not allowed to be worn by the dog while in the Nosework working area. The official's decision in the matter is final.
- Reactive Dog Bandanas. Specific colored bandanas and/or collars used to indicate a dog is reactive to other dogs, people, or its surroundings is strictly prohibited. Dogs must be able to be managed safely by their handlers using regular equipment described in this rulebook without the use of reactive dog bandanas/collars. This is the point at which dogs are acceptable on the grounds of UKC Nosework events and will have the opportunity to participate. Judges must excuse dogs showing reactive behaviors from the Nosework working area and may be asked to leave the event grounds by the Event Committee. No refund of entry fees will be made.
- Audio/Visual equipment. The use of cell phones and/or video recording devices (including GoPro's) are prohibited on the exhibitor and/or dog during their search.
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AUTOMATIC NON-PASSING SEARCH

During any search, the handler is not allowed to kick or intentionally move any containers from their original position or move any articles out of the way in any search. Should this happen, the team is to be assessed a non-passing search.

Maximum Search Times. Maximum search time have been established for each level and element, including Handler Discrimination classes. The maximum assigned element times for all classes should not be exceeded.

New Titling Classes. There are now alternate Champion and Grand Champion Nosework titles as well as the addition of the Master Handler Discrimination class and numerical Master Handler titles. The new titles and their requirements can be found in the 2020 Nosework rulebook.

CRATING DOGS IN SEARCH AREAS

Crating dogs in search areas is never allowed. This includes in vehicles that are being used for searches. If exhibitors are volunteering their vehicles for use in a vehicle trial, their dogs must be removed from the vehicle while it is in use for the trial.

SPECTATORS

To help spectators and other exhibitors who may not completely understand the sport of Nosework, clubs should make accommodations for spectators whenever possible. If spectators can be accommodated and the club has not set up an area for spectators, as the Official you may designate where spectators can be located.

The designated area or gallery should be far enough away from the

main search area, for a limited number of spectators. When allowed, spectators are to receive a briefing regarding how Nosework trials work, of what they can and cannot do, and the importance of being quiet in the gallery and not revealing the location of the hides. Spectators who are disruptive must be excused from the gallery. Under no circumstances shall any exhibitor who is entered in the trial observe any class in which they are entered. Due to space limitations and/or the possibility of compromising the environment, a gallery may not always be available.

BACK-UP JUDGE SYSTEM

Knowing the rules regarding back-up judges is not only the responsibility for the club to understand, it is also a judge's responsibility to know how the back-up judge system works since it affects the placements of all dogs in the class. Any official who wishes to enter their dog in the same trial they are judging, must use the back-up judge procedure.

Please review the examples below to familiarize yourself with the different back-up judge scenarios.

Example 1. If Judge A, is judging Pre-Trials and Containers, wants to enter their dog into Interior, in Trial 1 under Judge B, there must be a back-

up judge named for Trial 1. Judge B may act as a back-up judge in this case, or a third judge may be used as a back-up judge.

Example 2. If Judge A wants to enter their dog into the Interior trial, in Trial 1, and they are judging the Interior trial, then there must be a back-up judge named for Trial 1. The judge in this case must be named and must hold the Nosework judging license.

Example 3. If Judge A and Judge B want to enter their dogs under each other. Judge B may act as a back-up judge for Judge A, and Judge A may act as back-up judge for Judge B. The club may also list separate judges as a back-up judge.

Judges who officiate and run their own dog(s) in the trial(s) they are judging are not eligible for any placements, nor may they win any type of awards offered by the club or individuals.

Judges who are entering their dog(s) in any trial or other event where they are not officiating, must make sure they are not delaying their judging assignment to compete with their dog. If this should happen, the judge runs the risk being fined and/or have their judging licenses suspended for delaying competition. For more information, refer to the backup judging rules section.

SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR CHANGES TO THE RULES FOR ALL-BREED EVENTS

Effective January 1, 2019. Previously titled "Official UKC Rules for Dog Events, UKC Misconduct & Discipline Guidelines for Dog Events," this rulebook is now called "Official Rules for All-Breed Events and Misconduct." Please reference this rulebook for event and misconduct questions you may have.

- Judges and clubs will be able to determine an excusal for dog-on-dog incidences instead of requiring the Disqualified for Attacking procedure.
- Club officials will be able to file a DQ for Attack Form for dog attacks that occur outside of the ring without holding a misconduct hearing.
- The clarification that dogs must have four limbs to compete in conformation and junior showmanship.
- Prohibition of exhibitors using recording devices while exhibiting a dog.
- Puppies are no longer required to be permanently registered or have a TL number to enter the non-licensed Puppy class.

**Learn more about
UKC Nosework
online at
www.UKcdogs.com/nosework**

OFFICIAL UKC NOSEWORK RULEBOOK



Effective January 1, 2020

