



HUNTING RETRIEVER CLUB, INC.

**Rules And
Guidelines
for
Hunting Retriever
Tests**

Effective January 1, 2011

UNITED KENNEL CLUB, INC.



**UNITED KENNEL CLUB, INC.
Est 1898**



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2"



3"



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If additional information is desired, please contact:

United Kennel Club, Inc.

Hunting Programs Department

100 E Kilgore Rd • Kalamazoo MI 49002-5584

Phone: (269) 343-9020 • www.ukcdogs.com • hounds@ukcdogs.com

Shaded areas indicate Running Rules.
 The remainder of the rulebook is policy and
 procedural information.

INHERENT RIGHTS & POWERS OF UKC®

(Revised December 18, 2009)

United Kennel Club holds and has reserved to itself certain inherent rights and powers in connection with conducting its business, registering litters, transferring registrations of dogs, licensing events, and awarding titles. These inherent rights and powers include but are not limited to the following:

United Kennel Club has the right to inspect all reports, score-cards and documents related to UKC events. Some, but not all, of the items subject to inspection are:

- a) scores;
- b) disqualifications of dogs for fighting or other reasons;
- c) errors by the recording person; and
- d) documentation excluded for any reason.

UKC reserves the right to correct any mistakes found during such inspection whether or not the document has the signature of a Judge or Club Officer. UKC reserves the right to itself and in its sole judgement and discretion, to take such actions and impose such sanctions as would:

- a) Bar an individual from entering or participating in any way in any UKC licensed event.
- b) Bar an individual from transferring or registering any pups or dogs in that person's name (joint or full registration) or to any member of that person's family.
- c) Bar an individual from receiving Championship points for any dog registered in that person's name (joint or full registration).

By way of illustration, the following constitute some, but not all, of the situations calling for the above sanctions:

- a) Falsification or alteration of a UKC Registration Certificate, Pedigree, UKC Easy Entry™ Card or any other UKC document.
- b) Falsification or alteration of any reports of wins issued to UKC
- c) Falsification or alteration of receipts issued by UKC Judges.
- d) Switching, wrongfully using or attempting to use a UKC Registration Certificate, Pedigree, UKC Easy Entry™ Card or any other UKC document.
- e) Selling or attempting to sell a dog with false or incorrect UKC Registration Certificate or Pedigree.
- f) Intimidating, threatening, or injuring a Judge, Club/Association member or official, event participant or spectator, or UKC representative.

The six illustrations given above are only by way of example and UKC reserves to itself its inherent right and power to impose such sanctions in any other circumstances deemed appropriate by UKC

Any individual who is found guilty by a court of law of a crime involving dogs will be barred from United Kennel Club for an indefinite period. A person shall be considered guilty in a criminal proceeding if they are convicted by a judge, jury, or if they enter a plea bargain or other arrangement to plea to a lesser offense, or if their case is disposed of by any form of deferred adjudication; a person shall be considered guilty in a civil proceeding if they are held responsible or liable by a judge, jury, or if a compromised settlement is reached between the parties..



PREAMBLE

The Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. and the United Kennel Club, Inc. are providing a program to develop the hunting retriever to fulfill its intended purpose in life - hunting. These two organizations, working closely together, provide hunters and hunting retrievers a series of actual hunting tests in a controlled environment working toward titles granted by UKC of Started Hunting Retriever (SHR), Hunting Retriever (HR), Hunting Retriever Champion (HRCH), Grand Hunting Retriever Champion (GRHRCH), and Upland Hunter (UH).

The Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. and United Kennel Club, Inc. provide ongoing educational and training experience for hunters and their retrievers. Except for the International Grand Hunt, a hunting retriever will be able to participate in all tests at each level of competition without being eliminated. HRC believes in promoting conservation of waterfowl and upland game birds and provides a continuing commitment of our American members to our Second Amendment rights and all members' rights to keep and bear arms.

The United Kennel Club, Inc. and/or The Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. may change rules and policies as deemed necessary.

The Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. annual Board of Directors meeting is held the second week in June of each year. The HRC Board of Directors is comprised of the Presidents of each HRC Club and the Elected Executive Committee Members. Regular election of National Officers occurs every two years in odd numbered years.

DEFINITION OF LICENSED HUNTS

Regular licensed hunt: A UKC regular licensed event hosted by an approved UKC/HRC Club. All three categories (Started, Seasoned and Finished) must be offered at every regular licensed hunt other than the International Grand Hunt. The three categories will be run simultaneously. These tests range from the Started Hunt Test, which is the least complex in testing; to the Seasoned, a slightly more difficult category; to the Finished Hunt Test, which is considered by far the most demanding of these three tests. The Finished category requires the hunting retriever to prove ability, skill, natural instinct, tenacity and control.

An HRC Club may host a UKC licensed Upland Hunt test(s) in one of three ways: a. with its regularly scheduled licensed hunt; b. on a different day as a separate licensed event; or c. on a different day from a separate licensed event, hosting two Upland Hunts in one day.

United Kennel Club, Inc. / Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. (UKC®/HRC)

The Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. (HRC) is an International Retriever Club affiliated with the United Kennel Club, Inc. (UKC). United Kennel Club will assist in the formation of all new Clubs, and, together with the HRC, Inc., have standardized all the rules and regulations for consistency in the program.

The Board of Directors of HRC, in conjunction with the United Kennel Club, Inc., has adopted all rules and regulations for the running of hunting retrievers in true-to-life hunting situations, and will amend and expand these rules and regulations as the need arises.

HUNTS

A UKC Licensed HRC Hunt must be hosted by an approved UKC/HRC Club. All three categories, Started, Seasoned and Finished, must be offered at every hunt other than the International Grand Hunt and the Upland Hunt.

There are two types of hunts, which are classified, by type of Activity. The Activity types are "Regular Hunt" and "Upland Hunt." The maximum number of entries at a Licensed Hunt is based upon the number of Judges (flights) per category. Although the Club may declare a lower number, the maximum number of entries a flight of Judges can judge at a Licensed Hunt shall be:

Started - entries not to exceed 50 dogs per flight

Seasoned - entries not to exceed 40 dogs per flight

Finished - entries not to exceed 30 dogs per flight

Upland - entries not to exceed 30 dogs per flight.

Limiting the number of entries per flight will allow hunting retrievers an opportunity to participate in each of the hunting tests without being eliminated.

There is a collective limit of eight (8) dogs per Handler, per Hunt. Each Club has the option of lowering this limit. The limit must be published on the Premium. Each dog is limited to one (1) entry per Licensed Hunt. A dog participating in a Regular Hunt (Started, Seasoned or Finished) may participate in a separate Upland Hunt(s) on the same day. Any Handler handling more than 8 dogs or more than a Club's lower designated limit, will forfeit all Championship Points for all dogs handled by that Handler at that Hunt. The Handler and the Hunt Secretary are jointly responsible for ensuring that point slips information is correct and complete and the limits are not exceeded.

A separate entry fee for the Upland Test will be determined and collected by the host Club. The host Club will submit the appropriate per dog assessment to the UKC and the HRC, just as it does for the other test entries.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

UKC, Inc. Licensed HRC Hunt Tests are open to all purebred hunting retrievers, versatile Gun Dog breeds and Airedale Terriers. UKC Permanently Registered dogs and those in the Limited Privilege (LP) Program will be given preference over all non-UKC registered dogs of current HRC Members meeting the Club's Entry Deadlines entering in all events. Non-UKC registered dogs are able to participate in a Licensed Hunt Test (no points will be awarded unless registration requirements are met).

HRC, Inc. and/or affiliated HRC club officers have the right to refuse the entry of any dog or handler. However, no handler shall be refused entry based upon religion, race, color, national origin, age or sex.

As of the date of the Hunt, any non-HRC, Inc. member owners of dogs participating at the Seasoned, Finished or Upland levels will be charged an additional \$5 fee per entry. The host Club retains \$2.50 of this fee and \$2.50 is sent to HRC, Inc. with the HRC Hunt Report.

As of the date of the Hunt, any non-UKC registered dogs participating will be charged an additional \$3.00 fee. This fee is sent to UKC with the UKC Hunt Report.

TEST STANDARD

UKC/HRC Clubs will conduct hunting tests consistent with an actual day's hunt afield. In all hunting tests, hunting retrievers in all categories will not compete against each other for placements, but instead will run and be judged against a set test standard.

CLOTHING

Judges, Hunt Marshals, Gunners, Bird Boys and Handlers must wear hunting clothes. Hunting clothes worn must be harmonious with the hunting environment, such as camo in waterfowl and dove hunting, white clothing if snow goose hunting. Gallery and spectators should not be in white or light colored attire that might interfere with the dog's performance.

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Hunting retrievers will be disqualified for fighting or attacking Handlers, participants, spectators, Judges or UKC/HRC Officers or other dogs. Handlers will be asked to leave the test grounds, resulting in disqualification for both the Handler and the hunting retriever if the Handler interferes with the test, Judges, Hunt Marshal, Gunners, Bird Boys, UKC/HRC Officials, or any other participants. Physical abuse of a hunting retriever will result in the immediate disqualification of both the Handler and the hunting retriever. Mishandling of firearms will result in immediate disqualification of both the Handler and the hunting retriever; a disqualified Handler's other entered dogs may be handled by someone else. All persons at the Hunt (including Handlers, Judges, spectators, Club members, visitors, etc.) are expected to display good manners, practice gun safety and show sportsmanlike conduct. Violation of UKC's drug and alcohol policy will result in an immediate disqualification. See UKC Policy of Drinking and Illegal Drug Violations on page 67 for more information.

CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

United Kennel Club, Inc. maintains all records of Championship points and titles. Points are not recorded until the Official Hunt Test Reports are received from the Club by the Hunting Programs Department at UKC. Phone calls or participant's copies of pass receipts are not official notification of points.

In order to receive UKC Championship points recognition and titles, an individual must be in good standing with UKC, Inc. and all dogs must be permanently registered with UKC, Inc.

See the section "How Does A Dog Receive Credit For Its Hunt Test Points" on page 11 for more information on non-UKC (unregistered) dogs' points.

Once Championship points have been earned in any category, except Grand, a dog cannot earn additional Championship points in a lower category. They may continue to participate in these lower categories if desired. Championship points are earned as follows:

STARTED: Five (5) Championship points per UKC Licensed Hunt are awarded for those dogs who pass all Started Hunting Retriever tests. Four (4) Started passes are required for the Started Hunting Retriever (SHR) title. Once points are earned in a higher category, the retriever may not return to Started and earn the SHR title.

A maximum of ten (10) Championship points towards a higher degree can be earned in this category.

SEASONED: Ten (10) Championship points per UKC Licensed Hunt are awarded for those dogs who pass all Seasoned Hunting Retriever tests.

A maximum of forty (40) Championship points towards a degree can be earned in this category. Unless ten (10) Started Championship points were earned, then, a maximum of thirty (30) Championship points can be earned toward a degree in this category.

FINISHED: Fifteen (15) Championship points per UKC Licensed Hunt are awarded for those dogs who pass all Finished Hunting Retriever tests.

GRAND: Forty (40) Championship points per UKC Licensed Hunt are awarded for those dogs who pass all Grand Hunting Retriever tests.

UPLAND HUNT: Ten (10) Championship points per UKC Licensed Hunt are awarded for those dogs who pass all Upland Hunt tests.

The Upland Hunt Test is a separately licensed event and not to be confused with an Upland test that may be included in a Seasoned or Finished test or the Upland series of the Grand Hunt.

CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES

STARTED HUNTING RETRIEVER (SHR) - The Started Hunting Retriever (SHR) title is attained by earning four (4) passes in the Started category. Points/passes earned in a higher category do not

count towards this title. A maximum of ten (10) Championship points can be earned in the Started category towards a higher degree. Once points are earned in a higher category, the retriever may not return to Started and earn the SHR title.

HUNTING RETRIEVER (HR) - The Hunting Retriever (HR) title is attained by earning forty (40) Championship Points.

Points can be earned in Started, Seasoned or Finished. Dogs are not required to earn points in Started and/or Seasoned to earn this title. If only five (5) points are earned in the Started category, then forty (40) points may be earned in the Seasoned and/or Finished categories. If ten (10) points are earned in the Started category, then thirty 30 points may be earned in the Seasoned and/or Finished category.

HUNTING RETRIEVER CHAMPION (HRCH) - The Hunting Retriever Champion (HRCH) title is attained by earning one hundred (100) Championship Points. Sixty (60) of the one hundred (100) points must be earned from the Finished category. Points can be earned in Started, Seasoned or Finished. Dogs are not required to earn points in Started and/or Seasoned to earn this title.

A maximum of forty (40) points can be earned in the Seasoned category towards the Hunting Retriever Champion (HRCH) title, unless ten (10) Started Championship points were earned, then, a maximum of thirty (30) Seasoned Championship points can be earned toward the HRCH degree.

GRAND HUNTING RETRIEVER CHAMPION (GRHRCH) - The Grand Hunting Retriever Champion title is attained by earning two hundred (200) additional points in the Finished, Grand or Upland - forty (40) points max from Upland - categories after the HRCH title is earned for a total of three hundred (300) points. Eighty (80) of the additional two hundred (200) points, above the HRCH title, must be earned from passing two (2) Grand Hunts.

UPLAND HUNTER (UH) - The Upland Hunter (UH) title is attained by earning forty (40) Upland Hunter Championship Points. Upland points only count toward the Upland Hunter title and HRC's Point Club Recognition Programs.

TITLE CERTIFICATES

The SHR, HR, HRCH, GRHRCH and UH certificates will be automatically mailed by UKC to the registered owner of the dog on file at UKC when they have completed the requirements for these titles. These titles shall be carried as a prefix to the dog's name on the UKC registration certificate and pedigree.

HRC Members 500 Point Clubs Recognition Programs

These Clubs are HRC recognition programs which are administered by the HRC Administrative Secretary.

Memberships in the HRC Point Club Recognition Programs are exclusive to current members of HRC, Inc.

These programs recognize HRC Members for their support of Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. through their membership and who own dogs achieving 500, 1,000, 1,500 and/or 2,000 UKC Championship points in the HRC Hunt Test & Upland Hunt Programs.

The HRC member-owner of the dog must be a member in good standing with HRC, Inc. for a minimum of 12 months immediately PRIOR to the time that the Member's dog earns the qualifying Championship Points (500th for 500 Club and 1000th for 1000 Club, etc.) Continued Membership in the Point Club Recognition Programs shall be in effect for the term of the individuals HRC, Inc. membership.

HRC recognizes the 100 Championship points that UKC recognizes for the retriever's HRCH title, plus all additional points earned in Finished, Grand and Upland Hunt Tests toward the Point Club Recognition Programs.

HOW DOES A DOG RECEIVE CREDIT FOR ITS HUNT TEST POINTS?

Correctly and completely fill out the Hunt Test Entry Form when entering the dog in the hunt test.

When a dog passes a Licensed hunt, the owner and/or Handler should be furnished with a point receipt by the host club. Get the points receipt at the hunt before leaving. Do not lose these receipts. If there is ever a question of the pass the owner/handler will be able to provide proof of the tests passed.

If the dog is not UKC registered prior to the Hunt, register the dog within 60 days of the date of the Hunt and include a copy of the passed point slip along with the UKC Application for Registration for the dog. See Non-UKC Registered Dog below.

UKC Registered Dog - The easiest way to make certain a dog receives credit is to make sure the UKC Registration number and the UKC Registered name of the dog entered is correct on the point slip. If there are any discrepancies, see the Hunt Test Secretary immediately to correct any problems.

Non-UKC Registered Dog - A dog that is entered and runs the day of the hunt that does not have a UKC Registration number on their dog is considered a non-UKC Registered Dog. This includes those dogs whose owners have applied for Registration but have not been officially notified of UKC Registration.

1. Non-UKC registered dogs may be entered in any of the following categories: Started, Seasoned, Finished or Upland Hunter. If the dog is not UKC Registered when entering and passing a Licensed Hunt Test, the owner

has 60 days to get the dog UKC registered.

2. UKC register the dog within 60 days. Attach a copy of the passed points receipt to the completed *Application For Single Registration or Limited Privilege Form* being sent to UKC.

3. If the dog is not UKC registered within 60 days of an event, the earned points will expire. However, the owner may reinstate the expired points by UKC registering the dog and submitting to the Hunting Programs Department a fee of \$50 along with copies of the expired points receipts.

4. If prior to the hunt, the owner has sent an *Application For Single Registration* to UKC but has not received their dog's Registration papers, do not write "Pending" in the area for the registration number on the Hunt Test Entry Form.

Once the owner receives the dog's Registration papers, make a copy of the passed point receipt. Insert the registration number on the copy of the point receipt and mail it to UKC, Attn.: HUNTING PROGRAMS. If the dog has met the 60-day registration requirement, the points will be applied to the dog's record. The owner will be notified if the points are expired.

FORMING A NEW HRC CLUB

Individuals interested in forming a new Hunting Retriever Club should contact HRC, Inc. PO Drawer 3179, Big Spring TX 79721 – (432) 267-1659 - Fax (214) 261-5166 - E-mail AdminSecretary@H-R-C.org

The HRC Administrative Secretary will put you in contact with the appropriate Field Representative who will evaluate the need and support for a Club in your area. Upon recommendation of the Field Representative, the Administrative Secretary will supply you with a packet of information, which explains how to form a Club and the various steps in putting on a hunt. The area HRC Field Representative and HRC Public Relation's person will assist the new Club in formation. A UKC/HRC Field Representative and/or National HRC Officer will attend the Club's Preliminary Hunt.

UKC INFORMATION

HOW DO I CHECK MY UKC/HRC HUNT POINTS?

Call (269) 343-9020, e-mail hounds@ukcdogs.com or write United Kennel Club, c/o Hunting Programs Department, 100 E. Kilgore Rd., Kalamazoo, MI 49002-5584. UKC will be able to give you the number of points the dog has earned. When contacting the Championship Department, the dog's UKC registration number, the dog's name, and the owner's name will be needed.

It is important to keep a copy of the pass receipts

from all the hunts for your records.

Points will not be credited to a dog until the official UKC Hunt Report has been received at UKC.

HOW TO REGISTER A DOG WITH UKC, INC.

United Kennel Club is the world's largest all-breed performance dog registry. United Kennel Club is a pedigree-based registry and issues a pedigree free of charge with each permanent registration.

Litter Registration - This is the preferred and less costly method of registration. Both Sire and Dam must be UKC registered before the litter can be registered. An individual puppy Registration Certificate is issued for each pup in the litter.

Single Registration - For dogs that are not litter registered. This method of registration is more costly than litter registration. The dog must be currently registered with a registry acknowledged by United Kennel Club.

Limited Privilege Listing - For spayed or neutered purebred dogs of breeds eligible to compete in Hunting Retriever events. The dog may have an incomplete pedigree or be without registry affiliation. Dogs are not "registered" and do not enter the gene pool. They are "listed," which gives them the opportunity to earn points and titles in working events. Listed dogs may not enter Conformation Shows. To request applications please provide the following information:

The breed of the dog,

The age of the dog,

What registry the dog is currently registered with.

Write, telephone or email requests to the address below.

Registration Rules and Policies

For information on UKC Registration Rules and Policies, contact:

Registration Department
United Kennel Club, Inc. • 100 East Kilgore Road
Kalamazoo MI 49002-5584 • registration@ukcdogs.com
www.ukcdogs.com



UKC is the trademark of the United Kennel Club, Inc. located in Kalamazoo, MI. The use of the initials UKC in association with any other registry would be in violation of the registered trademark. Notify United Kennel Club, 100 E Kilgore Rd, Kalamazoo MI 49002-5584, should you become aware of such a violation.

SENDING WORK TO UKC

Correspondence receives prompt attention at UKC. You can speed up the process, however, by mailing your correspondence or requests for services to the proper departments (listed below) at 100 E Kilgore Rd, Kalamazoo MI 49002-5584.

Mail Litter Applications to:

Litter Department

Mail Transfer of Ownerships and inquiries on registration papers to:

Transfer Department

Mail Applications for Duplicate Registration Certificates to:

Duplicate Department

Mail requests and inquiries to:

Registration Correspondent

Mail advertisements, articles and subscriptions to:

HUNTING RETRIEVER

Mail Applications for Events, inquiries about

Championship points and Judges Applications to:

Hunting Programs Department

Important Information About Fees

- All fees must be submitted in U.S. Funds. Out of Country personal checks may be used, however the words "Payable in U.S. Funds" must be included on the check.
- It is not recommended to send cash to pay for services.
- A fee of \$25 will be charged for checks returned for insufficient funds or accounts closed (bounced checks). The customer is also placed in a "money order only" situation. No other work or services will be performed until the individual makes the check good. All work is blocked, which prohibits further activity until the check is made good.
- It is important to pay all accounts with UKC within 30 days to maintain good standing with United Kennel Club. Outstanding accounts will be turned over to collection.

GUIDELINES TO SCHEDULING and LICENSING HUNTS

200 Mile Radius Between Hunts.

UKC has sole discretion on mileage.

**Effective January 1, 2011*

SCHEDULING UKC EVENTS

*"Regular Hunt" and "Upland Hunt" are separate events. Hunt dates are defined as Saturday and/or Sunday *only*.

To determine which Club has seniority for a specific date's activity, each Club has exclusive, historical Activity dates. "Exclusive" meaning no other Club may hold the same Activity on the same date(s) within the prescribed 200-mile radius.

Two separate Upland Hunts may be held on one day. However, the two Upland Hunts must be licensed to one

Club only. A Club can hold only one Regular Licensed Hunt on a given day.

A UKC Licensed HRC Hunt may only be hosted by a UKC/HRC Licensed Club. All three categories, Started, Seasoned, and Finished must be offered at every Hunt other than the International Grand Hunt and the Upland Hunt. The three categories will be run simultaneously.

***Section 1: National Event Date**

No Licensed or Preliminary hunt (Regular or Upland) will be permitted in conjunction or in competition with the annual Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. (HRC) Board of Directors meeting which is held *during* the second week of June each year.

Section 2: Preliminary Hunts

All new Clubs must be a UKC/HRC Licensed Club before a Preliminary Licensed Hunt will be scheduled.

All newly approved Clubs must hold a Preliminary Licensed Hunt. An UKC/HRC Field Representative must be in attendance at the Preliminary Licensed Hunt. The new Club is to contact the appropriate Field Representative to coordinate the scheduling of the Preliminary Hunt.

Each Club must secure an approved Preliminary Hunt date with UKC by written request, and signed by one Club Officer. This must be done in a time frame that will meet deadline requirements (see chart regarding Application deadlines).

The written request shall include:

- a. Club name
- b. Date Requested
- c. Type of Preliminary Hunt Requested (Regular or Upland)
- d. Location of Hunt Test
- e. Hunt Test Chairperson, address, phone number and email address
- f. Hunt Test Secretary, address, phone number and email address

UKC will notify the Hunt Test Secretary if the written request for a new hunt date is available or denied within five (5) working days of receipt. If the hunt date is available, the *UKC Application for Licensed Event(s)* form will be mailed by UKC to the Hunt Test Secretary (unless otherwise requested) according to the chart. The Application must be returned by the Deadline Date as indicated on the Application. Application fees are waived for a Preliminary Hunt.

The Preliminary Hunt weekend date now becomes the Club's weekend.

All Preliminary Hunts are "Preliminary Licensed Hunts". UKC Championship points are awarded.

A Preliminary Licensed Hunt (Regular and/or Upland) may only have one flight per category, unless the Field Representative requests special exemption for multiple

flights from the HRC Executive Committee. The maximum entries per flight for a Preliminary Licensed Hunt are listed below. A Club may lower the number of entries per flight but may NOT exceed these maximums OR the Club's designated maximum published on the premium.

Started - entries not to exceed 50 dogs per flight.

Seasoned - entries not to exceed 40 dogs per flight.

Finished - entries not to exceed 30 dogs per flight.

Upland - entries not to exceed 30 dogs per flight.

HRC per-dog and non-HRC member owner fees are waived for a Preliminary Hunt. Clubs must submit the recording fees along with the Hunt Report to UKC for Preliminary Licensed Hunts, per Section 10 of this rulebook.

Section 3: Previously Scheduled Date

1. UKC will automatically mail the *UKC Application For Licensed Event(s)* forms to the host Club's Secretary (unless otherwise specified by the Club) on file at UKC, approximately 6 months prior to the event.

2. UKC Regular Hunt and/or Upland Hunt assignment weekend dates are determined by referencing each Club's "historical" dates for their corresponding Activities the previous year. All Activities are scheduled according to the assigned weekend of the year.

3. UKC will strive to schedule your club for the same weekend every year, but these weekends may vary from year to year.

4. Clubs that share a weekend (i.e. one Club on Saturday another on Sunday) will be scheduled the same weekend for the following year. If Clubs wish to switch (or alternate each year) the day of that weekend, it is treated as a change of date. Each Club will be required to release the weekend in writing in order to make it possible to approve a new date request.

5. The *UKC Application for Licensed Event(s)* form has the weekend date(s) and Activities indicated on the application that has been approved for a Clubs event(s) on that particular year.

6. Applications received by UKC that have changes made to their scheduled "Event Date", without prior written approval from UKC, **will** be denied.

All requests for change to a Club's scheduled Event Date must be sent to UKC in writing, prior to the Application Deadline date and must be approved by the UKC Hunting Programs Department.

7. Any Applications that are received by UKC that have changes made to their scheduled Activities without prior written approval from UKC **will** be denied.

8. Completed Applications, with appropriate fees, must be received by the UKC Hunting Programs Department on or before the deadline date printed on the Application. Faxed Applications will not hold the Club's weekend date.

9. A weekend Hunt Date is considered canceled if Applications and fees are not received by the Application Deadline Date. The Club will not automatically be scheduled for that weekend and the hunt date may be given away.

10. Canceling a Previously Scheduled Hunt Date: If a Club does not wish to hold their Event on their previously scheduled weekend but wishes to hold this weekend for the following year, they must notify UKC in writing at least ten (10) days prior to the *UKC Application For Licensed Event(s)* form deadline date. If that weekend is not used for a second year, it will no longer be held for that Club and may be assigned to another Club on a first come, first served basis.

Section 4: New Date

UKC strives to avoid conflict with other Clubs in the area. If the Club should request a date that would conflict with another Club's hunt, UKC may suggest an alternate date for the hunt. UKC endeavors to maintain the same weekend for the licensed Club events from year to year. They may vary a week or so, depending on the changes in the calendar.

To schedule a new date for either existing or newly formed Clubs, the following procedure should be followed:

1. Once a Club has a proposed date for their hunt, a call may be made to the UKC Hunting Programs Department to verify the availability of that date and activity.

2. Once it is determined there are no conflicts in scheduling, the Club may verbally request that UKC hold the available date for the activity. The date will be held for that Club for five (5) days. Should the Club decide to permanently schedule the held date the Club must notify the Hunting Programs Department in writing (signed by one Club Officer) confirming the held date within the five day hold period. Should the five (5) day hold period pass without notification from the Club, the held date will be released and become an available date again. Faxed Applications will not hold the Club's dates.

3. Requests for new dates or verifications of held dates are only approved by written requests and are processed in the order received. UKC will notify the Club in writing of their approval.

4. The written request must include:

- a. Club name
- b. Date Requested
- c. Type of Hunt (Regular or Upland)
- d. Location of Hunt Test

5. It is recommended that a club's written request for a new date be received by Hunting Programs Department no less than six (6) months prior to the desired date.

6. *Application For Licensed Event Form(s)* will be mailed to the Club Secretary (unless otherwise specified) on file at UKC during the appropriate scheduling period.

7. **Change of Hunt Date:** The Field Representative must approve and recommend any date changes for Clubs within the Region. A change of hunt date must be requested in writing after obtaining approval and recommendation of the Field Representative and is subject to UKC approval (procedure above). When a change or a new weekend is approved by UKC, that date then becomes the Club's scheduled weekend.

Section 5: UKC Application For Licensed Event

UKC will automatically mail the *UKC Application For Licensed Events Form* to the host club's Secretary (unless otherwise specified by the Club) on file at UKC approximately 6 months prior to the event. When Clubs receive their Application(s), the following steps should be taken:

1. The Club Secretary should complete the Application(s) or forward the Application(s) to the appropriate person responsible for the event.

2. Information provided by the Club as required on the Application must be accurate and complete. Applications must be signed and received with proper Licensing Fees at UKC by the deadline date printed on the Application. Any incomplete information, or Applications submitted without Licensing Fees, could delay processing, cause the Club to be assessed a late fee or cause the event to be canceled. Faxed Applications will not hold the club's weekend.

3. The Application will list what Activities the Club held on the corresponding weekend the year before.

4. The listed Activities on the Application have been checked for conflicts. If the club wishes to host additional Activities, they should contact the Hunting Programs Department requesting the additional Activities.

Section 5: Application Deadlines & Fees

a. When Applications are not received by the deadline date (see following chart regarding Application deadlines), the weekend hunt date is considered canceled. The club will not be scheduled the following year for this weekend. The Hunt date may be given away.

*b. Clubs that submit late applications **will** be assessed a late fee or the application may be denied at UKC's discretion. Late fees assessed will be \$20 per event.

Proper License fees must be submitted with the Application for each hunt date. Regular Licensed Hunt-\$35, Upland Hunt-\$25. Checks or Money Orders for fees are to be made payable to "United Kennel Club, Inc." Foreign Checks or Money Orders must be payable in U.S. Funds.

Clubs are encouraged to meet all scheduling deadlines in order for each Hunt to be published in *HUNTING*

RETRIEVER magazine's Upcoming Events section.

All efforts must be made to not change a Hunt Date if at all possible.

If a Club must cancel its Hunt after it has been confirmed, they must notify UKC of the cancellation and the reason(s) for doing so.

Application Date Deadlines

Hunt Date	Mailed to Club	Due to UKC	Issue Published In
Dec/Jan	June	Aug 1	Oct/Nov
Feb/Mar	August	Oct 1	Dec/Jan
Apr/May	October	Dec 1	Feb/Mar
Jun/Jul	December	Feb 1	Apr/May
Aug/Sept	February	Apr 1	Jun/Jul
Oct/Nov	April	June 1	Aug/Sep

Section 6: JUDGES / JUDGES APPROVAL FOR HUNT TESTS

Judges licensing, approval for Hunt tests and records are processed by HRC through the HRC Administrative Secretary.

Clubs are urged to verify all HRC Judges with the Judge Reports on the HRC website www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org prior to submitting them for formal approval. The HRC Administrative Secretary must approve Judges prior to the Hunt(s) and before distribution or **publication** of Club Premium(s). The *HRC Judge Category Approval Form* is available on the Club CD, may be downloaded from the HRC website, or may be submitted online at the HRC website.

A Regular Hunt Test must have two Judges per flight per category. At least one of the Judges must be licensed for that category. If the second Judge is an Apprentice Judge, the Licensed Judge must be an AA Licensed Judge at that category. (See 'AA' Judges).

Only one Apprentice Judge is allowed per AA Licensed Judge in a Regular Hunt Test. For the Upland Hunt Test, there will be a minimum of two (2 Licensed OR 1 apprentice + 1 AA) Judges OR a maximum of three (2 apprentice + 1 AA) Judges for each Upland test flight. Two Apprentice Judges are allowed per AA Licensed Judge in an Upland Test, for a maximum of three Judges per Upland flight.

1. The following number of maximum entries per flight of Judges shall apply. A Club may lower the number of entries per flight, but may NOT exceed these maximums or the Club's designated lower maximums published on their premium.

- Started** - entries not to exceed 50 dogs per flight
- Seasoned** - entries not to exceed 40 dogs per flight
- Finished** - entries not to exceed 30 dogs per flight
- Upland** - entries not to exceed 30 dogs per flight.

2. The *HRC Judge Category Approval Form* must be

received by HRC no less than 4 weeks before the hunt date. The *HRC Judge Category Approval Form* may be mailed, e-mailed or faxed to the HRC Administrative Secretary, or submitted online at www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org. Late *HRC Judge Category Approval Forms* may jeopardize the hunt status.

3. A Judge will only be approved as to the status they are on record at HRC at the time their name is submitted.

4. HRC will notify the Hunt Chairperson by letter, e-mail or fax of the approval or denial of the submitted Judges. Should judges be denied, the Club must contact the HRC Administrative Secretary.

Section 7: Judging Changes

1. Replacement Judges. Judging changes should only be needed in cases of extreme emergencies. Replacement Judges must be licensed or an approved apprentice for the appropriate category. Complete current Reports of HRC Licensed and Approved Apprentice Judges are posted on the HRC website, www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org.

When Judge(s) changes are made, it is imperative that the Club is absolutely positive the replacement Judge is qualified to judge that category. A Judge judging in a category that they are not approved for may result in lost points for those dogs that had passed under the unapproved Judge.

Replacement Judges - before the hunt date: Judging changes needed before the actual day of the hunt must be approved by HRC. Fax or e-mail the request to change a Judge to HRC for approval. HRC will return a fax or e-mail to approve or deny the replacement Judge.

Replacement Judges - day before a hunt: The Club should make every effort on changes needed the day before the hunt to contact HRC with their replacement Judges. Replacement Judges should be pre-approved by HRC.

Replacement Judges - the day of the hunt: Changes on the day of the hunt cannot be pre-approved. If the Club finds they have no alternative but to replace a Judge on the day of the hunt, the replacement Judge should be chosen according to the following guidelines, in this order:

- a. A Judge who is licensed at the same level or higher than the Judge that is being replaced.
- b. An UKC/HRC Field Representative.
- c. An Apprentice Judge who is at the same level as the Judge who is being replaced.
- d. A licensed Judge from the next lower level.
- e. An Apprentice Judge from the next lower level.

These guidelines are to only be used in the event a Judge must be replaced the day of the hunt. Anytime prior to the day of the hunt, Judge changes must be approved by HRC. The HRC Administrative Secretary must be advised of any Hunt Judges changes and the

UKC Official Hunt Report Form must reflect the Judges that actually judged the event.

2. Adding a flight of Judges. Clubs may add additional flights if entries warrant such action. The Judges for additional flight(s) must be pre-approved by HRC. Clubs cannot add a flight without pre-approving the Judges. The Club should e-mail or fax their request to add a flight to the HRC Administrative Secretary for approval.

The request should include: Club Name, Hunt Date, Flight Category added, Judge and/or Apprentice names; the name, e-mail and/or fax information of person making the request.

HRC will return by e-mail or fax to approve or deny the Judges for the added flight(s) within two (2) business days. If the Judges are not approved, then a different Judge(s) would need to be requested.

3. Canceling a flight of Judges. Situations may arise whereby the Hunt entries do not warrant the holding of more than one flight in the category. If flight(s) are cancelled the HRC Administrative Secretary should be notified after the Hunt.

Section 8: Hunt Premiums.

Clubs are responsible for creating their own Premiums. A sample Premium is available on the HRC Club resource CD or may be requested from the HRC Administrative Secretary. Premiums may not be distributed, published or posted until approved by HRC. No partial Premiums may be published or posted by a Club. Clubs choosing to use any online entry processing service are responsible for ensuring all Premium requirements and information are included. Any Club accepting anything other than an HRC approved Premium for an entry is responsible for obtaining a signature from the Handler or Owner or Authorized Agent, accepting the Release of Liability Statement and the Immunization Statement prior to the person running the dog.

The following information is required to be included within the Premium.

1. "United Kennel Club Licensed Regular Hunt", OR "Upland Hunt"; or "Preliminary Licensed Regular Hunt" OR "Preliminary Upland Hunt";
2. "This Hunt is held under the Rules & Policies of United Kennel Club, Inc. and Hunting Retriever Club, Inc.";
3. Open to all dogs of eligible breeds.
4. "Eight (8) dog entry limit per Handler." The Club may designate a Lower limit;
5. "Each dog is limited to one (1) entry per Licensed Hunt.";
6. "Club Name, Date of Hunt(s), and Location of Hunt";
- *7. "Hunt Chairperson & Hunt Committee and Hunt Secretary with address and phone/email";
8. "Judges list by category." Judges that have been approved by HRC must be listed. Premiums must

- be republished after any Judge changes as may occur after initial Judge approval;
9. "Advance entries closing date; entry fee amount and information for submitting payment";
 10. "Maximum entry limits are: STARTED: entries not to exceed 50 dogs per flight; SEASONED: entries to not exceed 40 dogs per flight; FINISHED: entries not to exceed 30 dogs per flight; UPLAND: entries to not exceed 30 dogs per flight". Clubs may LOWER the entry limits.;
 11. "Add \$3 to entry fee for Non-UKC Registered dogs". The Club may not increase or decrease this fee with exception of Canada Clubs who may convert the fee into a Canadian dollar equivalent.;
 12. "Add \$5 to the entry fee for each Seasoned, Finished or Upland of Non-HRC member Owners". This fee never applies to Started entry Owners. The Club may not increase or decrease this fee with exception of Canada Clubs who may convert the fee into a Canadian dollar equivalent.;
 13. Immunization Statement and Release of Liability Statement will include a minimum of the following: "I certify this dog's immunization is current & has no known communicable disease i.e. Kennel Cough. FURTHER, I agree not to hold the Landowner(s), HRC, UKC or the Host Club responsible for loss of property, damage or injury incurred during this event. HRC, UKC, the Host Club and the Landowner(s) are NOT responsible for loss, accident or theft, and further assume no responsibility for any damage or injury sustained by the handlers, or to any of their dogs or property and further assume no responsibility for injury to children who are to be under the supervision & control of their parent or guardian. FURTHER, by my signature, I acknowledge and insure that the Handler understands that he/she will have the opportunity to view a test dog run the tests; that he/she has the option of withdrawing this dog from any test the Handler in his/her sole discretion deems unsuitable or unsafe; and agrees further that by participating in said tests he/she assumes all risk of harm or accident to either the Handler or the dog";
 14. "Championship Points awarded to UKC Registered Dogs (and dogs registered with UKC within 60 days of this event). 5 Championship Points for Started; 10 Championship Points for Seasoned; 15 Championship Points for Finished; 5 Championship Points for Upland; Rosette Ribbons in all Categories";
 15. "Bird/game will be used"; "Camo or other appropriate hunting attire is required for Handlers". Type of bird/game would be Ducks or Chukar, etc.

Add specific information; i.e., Bring waders for Seasoned/Finished; Bring Upland orange hat and vest, etc.;

*16. Additional information to be provided are: "hotels, meals, Veterinarian name and phone number, Hospital."

*17. The statement: "Remember Gun Safety & Sportsmanship"

Section 9: Hunt Paperwork

The UKC Official Hunt Packet will be mailed to the Club's Hunt Secretary after the *Application for Licensed Event(s)* and fees are received by UKC. The Packet will contain the following items:

- a. UKC Official License for the event;
- b. UKC Official Hunt Report (one is used for each Licensed event);
- c. UKC Formal Complaint Forms;
- d. UKC Hunt Test Category Results Form (one form is used for each category);
- e. Master Judging Sheets (Club to make appropriate number of copies);
- f. UKC Official Championship Points Receipts;
- g. HRC Hunt Report Form. This report is to be mailed to the HRC, Inc. Treasurer with the appropriate fees of \$4 for each dog entered in the hunt plus \$2.50 of the \$5 collected for non-HRC member owners of entries. HRC Completed Judges Assignment reports are sent to the Administrative Secretary;
- h. UKC Single Registration Forms;
- i. UKC Brochures;
- j. HRC Membership Brochures.

Section 10: Submission of Hunt Reports.

UKC Hunt Report Forms are to be received by UKC, with proper fees, within 15 working days from the completion of the Licensed Hunt.

A Recording fee, payable to UKC, of \$1.50 for each **UKC Permanently Registered** dog entered and **\$4.50** per non-UKC Registered dog entered must accompany the UKC Hunt Report.

Late hunt reports or reports without fees will be subject to a penalty charge(s). Currently, the penalty charge is \$20 per licensed hunt. UKC will notify the Club's Officers of any Hunt reports over 30 days past due. If the UKC Hunt Reports are not received within 30 days of that notification date, additional late fees of \$20 per month may be charged, and the HRC Secretary will be notified of the past due Hunt Report.

All Formal Complaints made at a licensed event must accompany the *UKC Hunt Report Form*. Once a Formal Complaint is filed it can only be rescinded by the complainant until midnight the day of the event.

Any changes in scheduling UKC Events will be printed in the *HUNTING RETRIEVER* magazine.

HRC Hunt Report Forms and appropriate fees are to be sent to the HRC Treasurer within 15 working days from the completion of the Licensed Hunt as indicated on the HRC Hunt Report form.

HRC Completed Judges Assignment Reports are to be submitted to the Administrative Secretary within 15 working days as directed on the form or may be submitted online at: http://www.huntingretrieverclub.org/Forms/Judge_Completed_Assignment_Form.htm

HRC JUDGES REQUIREMENTS, GUIDELINES & INFORMATION

Due to the vast geographical growth of HRC, deviations from these Guidelines will be considered for New Club(s) or hardship cases only upon special request and approval of the HRC President and HRC Executive Committee. Any deviations should be directed to the HRC Administrative Secretary.

***Base Requirements for all Judges**

1. The individual must be in good standing with the United Kennel Club, Inc. and must be a current member in good standing with Hunting Retriever Club, Inc.; and

2. The individual must be an avid upland game and/or waterfowl hunter; and

3. The individual must be thoroughly knowledgeable of the HRC rulebook; and

4. The individual must be at least **18** years of age before applying; and

*5. The individual must provide proof of successfully completing a state or province certified Hunter Safety Course (each province and state have their own regulations so this may include more than one course, e.g. - in Ontario, Canada - CFSC and Hunter Education). This requirement must be met before an applicant can be recommended by their local HRC Club to become a Judge, including grandfathered Judges; and

6. An individual shall have owned, trained, handled and passed his/her retriever in the specified category of judging, and be able to provide a copy of a passed point slip **earned within the prior 10 years**; and

7. Attend a Judge's/Handler's Seminar once every three (3) years; and

8. The individual agrees to adhere to HRC Firearms Safety Policy & HRC Lightning Safety Policy; and

9. The individual agrees to uphold the Judges Code of Ethics as printed in this Rulebook; and

10. It is understood and agreed that the Judge License may be withdrawn, suspended, revoked or not renewed by HRC, Inc., in its sole discretion and judgment at any time, with or without cause.

Base Requirements/Guidelines for Apprentice Judges

1. Only one Apprentice Judge is allowed per AA

Licensed Judge at a Regular or Preliminary Regular Hunt. Two Apprentice Upland Judges are allowed for one AA Licensed Upland Judge at an Upland or Preliminary Upland Hunt.

2. Apprentice Judges are to report to the hunt grounds on setup day prior to the hunt to meet with the Hunt Committee, Licensed Judge and Marshal. Both Judges should thoroughly go over and select the hunt areas in order to test the hunting retriever in a true-to-life hunting situation.

3. The Apprentice Judge is to actively participate in the design and setup of the tests with the Licensed Judge on setup day.

4. On the day of the hunt, the Apprentice Judge shall actively participate in the Handlers meeting.

5. The Apprentice Judge shall properly record the dog(s) performance on the Judges sheet.

6. Apprentice Judges shall participate in any Handler Conferences with the Licensed Judge at the appropriate times after the conclusion of their tests.

7. The apprentice Judge agrees to uphold the HRC Judges Code of Ethics at all times.

8. Failure of the apprentice Judge to be present and participate in Test Setup and/or failure to participate in Handler Conferences after the hunt and/or failure to properly record the performance of the dog(s), will cause the Apprenticeship to be void and shall not count toward Licensing requirements. All areas of the Apprentice Form must reflect 'yes' by the Licensed Judge or the apprenticeship will not count toward Licensing requirements.

9. Licensed and apprentice Judges are to keep all Judges sheets for a period of one (1) year.

10. No dog in contention for points, owned or co-owned by a Judge or apprentice Judge may be entered under the Judge or apprentice. No dog in contention for points, trained by a Judge or apprentice Judge for compensation during the preceding twelve (12) months may be entered under that Judge or apprentice. No dog in contention for points, owned or co-owned by a member of the Judge's or apprentice's immediate family, spouse, co-habitant, stepparent, brother, sister, child or stepchild of a Judge or apprentice may be entered under the Judge or apprentice.

*11. Judges may not judge an immediate family member.

STARTED

A. Procedure to apply for Apprenticing Started

Once the BASIC REQUIREMENTS are met, the applicant shall submit the following to HRC, Inc., PO Drawer 3179, Big Spring TX 79721 Fax (214) 261-5166; e-mail AdminSecretary@H-R-C.org.

1. A letter of recommendation by the applicant's local HRC Club. This letter must be signed by one Club officer who is not an immediate family member (spouse,

co-habitant, parent, stepparent, brother, sister, child or stepchild).

2. A completed Judge's Test (a copy of the test may be obtained from the HRC Administrative Secretary or downloaded from the HRC website www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org).

*3. A COPY of proof for successfully completing a certified Hunter's Safety Course (each province and state have their own regulations so this may include more than one course, e.g. - in Ontario, Canada - CFSC and Hunter Education).

4. A COPY of one (1) of the applicant's passed Started points slip for his/her dog **obtained within the prior 10 years.**

5. Information on the date and location of attendance at a HRC Judge's/Handler's Seminar. If the applicant HAS NOT attended a Seminar within the previous 12 months, the applicant shall have 6 months from the date approved to apprentice to fulfill this requirement or the approval to continue to apprentice will be denied until the Seminar requirement is met.

B. Requirements to become a Licensed Started Judge.

The apprentice must earn 3 credits. The credits shall be earned by apprenticing 2 times and attending the HRC Judge's/Handler's Seminar. Apprenticeships must be under different AA Licensed Judges.

C. Requirements to become a Licensed AA Started Judge.

1. A Licensed Started Judge must judge Started as a Licensed Judge two (2) times to earn AA (Approved for Apprentice) designation.

D. To maintain Started Judge License, you must:

1. Maintain membership in HRC, Inc. and be in good standing with UKC, Inc.

2. Attend an HRC Judge's/Handler's Seminar once every three years.

3. Pass a Judge's test during odd numbered years as new Running Rules go into effect.

SEASONED

A. Procedure to apply for Apprenticing Seasoned - A Licensed Started Judge should submit the following to HRC, Inc., PO Drawer 3179, Big Spring TX 79721, fax (214) 261-5166; e-mail AdminSecretary@H-R-C.org.

1. A letter of recommendation by the applicant's local HRC Club. This letter must be signed by one Club officer who is not an immediate family member (spouse, co-habitant, parent, stepparent, brother, sister, child or stepchild).

2. One COPY of the applicant's passed Seasoned points slip for his/her dog **obtained within the prior 10 years.**

B. To become a Licensed Seasoned Judge, you must:

Earn 3 credits. The credits may be earned by

Apprenticing 3 times or apprenticing two (2) times and attending an additional HRC Judge's/Handler's Seminar. Apprenticeships must be under different AA Licensed Judges.

C. Requirements to become AA Licensed Seasoned Judge:

A Licensed Seasoned Judge must judge Seasoned as a Licensed Judge two (2) times to earn AA (Approved for Apprentice) designation.

D. MAINTAINING Seasoned Judge License you must:

1. Maintain membership in HRC, Inc. and remain in good standing with UKC, Inc.
2. Attend an HRC Judge's/Handler's Seminar once every three years.
3. Pass a Judge's test during odd numbered years as new Running Rules go into effect.

FINISHED

A. Procedure to apply for apprenticing Finished

A Licensed Seasoned Judge should submit the following to HRC, Inc., PO Drawer 3179, Big Spring, TX 79721 Fax (214) 261-5166 - E-mail AdminSecretary@H-R-C.org.

1. A letter of recommendation from the applicant's local HRC Club. This letter must be signed by one Club officer who is not an immediate family member (spouse, co-habitant, parent, stepparent, brother, sister, child or stepchild).
2. A COPY of one (1) of the applicant's passed Finished points slip **for his/her dog obtained within the prior 10 years.**

B. To become a LICENSED Finished Judge you must:

Earn 3 credits. The credits may be earned by apprenticing three (3) times or apprenticing two (2) times and attending an additional HRC Judge's/Handler's Seminar. Apprenticeships must be under different AA Licensed Judges.

C. Requirements to become AA Licensed Finished Judge.

A Licensed Finished Judge must judge Finished as a Licensed Judge two (2) times to earn AA (Approved for Apprentice) designation.

D. MAINTAINING Finished Judge License you must:

1. Maintain membership in HRC, Inc. and be in good standing with UKC, Inc.
2. Attend an HRC Judge's/Handler's Seminar once every three years.
3. Pass a Judge's test during odd numbered years as new Running Rules go into effect.

GRANDFATHERED JUDGES

One Grandfathered Judge is allowed in Started and one in Seasoned for a Preliminary Regular Hunt. Two Grandfathered Judges are allowed in Upland at a Preliminary Upland Hunt.

All requirements for regular apprenticing for Started, Seasoned or Upland apply, except that the Grandfathered Judge must only earn one credit and that credit must be an approved apprenticeship at the Preliminary Hunt. If a Seminar has not been taken as of the date of the Grandfather Apprentice assignment, AA status will be not be issued until completion of the Seminar requirement which must be within 6 months of the Grandfather assignment. Only Licensed status will be issued in the interim.

'AA' JUDGES

Only 'AA' (Approved for Apprentice) Licensed HRC Judges will be approved to be paired with an Apprentice Judge.

'AA' Judge Designation requires a Licensed Judge to gain additional experience and knowledge at a specific level before accepting a judging assignment with an Apprentice Judge. A Licensed Judge is required to judge a specific level two (2) times as a Licensed Judge to become 'AA' designated, before allowing that Licensed Judge to be paired with and 'teach' an Apprentice Judge at that level.

Not having earned the 'AA' designation at any or all levels does not prohibit a Judge from moving up in the Apprentice Judge Program and becoming a Licensed Judge at any or all levels. It does prohibit that Judge from being placed with an Apprentice Judge. A Judge earns 'AA' designation by judging two (2) times as a Licensed Judge at that level.

The 'AA' requirement does NOT apply to Grandfathered Judges – (**See GRANDFATHERED JUDGES**).

UPLAND JUDGES

A. Procedure to apply to apprentice Upland

Once the BASIC REQUIREMENTS are met, the applicant shall submit the following to HRC, Inc., PO Drawer 3179, Big Spring TX 79721 Fax (214) 261-5166; e-mail AdminSecretary@H-R-C.org:

1. A letter of recommendation from the applicant's local HRC Club. This letter must be signed by one Club officer who is not an immediate family member (spouse, co-habitant, parent, stepparent, brother, sister, child or stepchild).

2. A completed Judge's Test (a copy of the test may be obtained from the HRC Administrative Secretary or from the HRC website at www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org).

*3. A COPY of proof for successfully completing a certified Hunter's Safety Course (each province and state have their own regulations so this may include more than one course, e.g. - in Ontario, Canada - CFSC and Hunter Education).

4. A COPY of one (1) of the applicant's Upland passed points slip for his/her dog **obtained within the prior 10 years**.

5. Information on the date and location of attendance at a HRC Judge's/Handler's Seminar. If the applicant HAS NOT attended a Seminar within the previous 12 months, the applicant shall have 6 months from the date approved to apprentice to fulfill this requirement or the approval to continue to apprentice will be denied until the Seminar requirement is met.

B. To become a LICENSED UPLAND Judge, you must:

Earn 3 credits. The credits must be earned by apprenticing 3 times or apprenticing two (2) times and attending an additional HRC Judge's/Handler's Seminar. Apprenticeships must be under different AA Licensed Judges.

C. To become AA Licensed Upland Judge:

A Licensed Upland Judge must judge Upland as a Licensed Judge two (2) times to earn AA (Approved for Apprentice) designation.

D. To maintain UPLAND Judge License, you must:

1. Maintain membership in HRC, Inc. and be in good standing with UKC, Inc.
2. Attend an HRC Judge's/Handler's Seminar once every three years.
3. Pass a Judge's test during odd numbered years as new Running Rules go into effect.

GRAND JUDGES

Grand Judges are selected by the Grand Hunt Committee from the current pool of HRC AA Licensed Finished Judges.

SEMINARS

All Judges are required to attend the HRC Judge's/Handler's Seminar once every 3 years. The 3-year term of the Seminar requirement will be extended to 12/31 three years from the year of any Seminar taken. Note: The required Seminar for Started only counts for Started, but does establish the initial Seminar Requirement. A Judge may elect to apprentice twice in Seasoned and/or in Finished and/or Upland and attend an additional Seminar as the third credit. The 3-year term of the Seminar requirement will be extended to 12/31 three years from the year of any Seminar taken.

The Seminar Schedule is published on the HRC website: www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org.

JUDGES TESTS

A Judges Test is required for all Judges when rule changes go into effect on January 1st of odd numbered years. The primary purpose of the Judges Test is to ensure current and new Judges are familiar with new Running Rules as well as overall knowledge of the HRC Rule Book. Regardless of when the Judge is licensed; a test is required as new Running Rules go into effect.

The Judges Test is available from the HRC

Administrative Secretary, Field Representatives, the HRC Club CD (sent to each Club President), or downloaded from the HRC website, or may be taken online at www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org. The Judges Test is an open book test, and will state the criteria for obtaining a passing score and the consequences of failing the Test.

LICENSE EXPIRATION or REVOCATION

1. A Judges license will “expire” if any of the requirements for maintaining the license are not met.

2. The HRC Judges license may be suspended, revoked, or not renewed by Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. in its sole discretion and judgment, at any time, with or without cause.

REINSTATING A JUDGES LICENSE

To reinstate an expired license you must submit a request for reinstatement to HRC, Inc., PO Drawer 3179, Big Spring TX 79721, fax (214) 261-5166; e-mail AdminSecretary@H-R-C.org. The request should include prior Judge status, Judge # (if known), length of time inactive and reason the license lapsed. Requests are evaluated on a case by case basis based on the length of time the license has been expired. You may be required to attend the HRC Judge’s/Handler’s Seminar and/or serve additional apprenticeship(s). HRC will notify the Judge as to the status of the request for reinstatement.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. A Judges license will not be denied on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin or sex.

2. No dog in contention for points, owned or **co-owned** by a Judge or apprentice Judge may be entered under the Judge or apprentice. No dog in contention for points, trained by a Judge or apprentice Judge for compensation during the preceding twelve (12) months may be entered under that Judge or apprentice. No dog in contention for points, owned or co-owned by a member of the Judge’s or apprentice’s immediate family, **spouse, co-habitant, parent, stepparent, brother, sister, child or stepchild** of a Judge or apprentice may be entered under the Judge or apprentice.

3. Licensed and Apprentice Judges are to keep all Judges sheets for a period of one (1) year.

HRC JUDGES CODE OF ETHICS

HRC Hunt Test Judges, to the best of their ability, will uphold these high ideals becoming of HRC Judges.

- a. Be mindful and consistent with the philosophy and purpose of HRC, its programs and UKC licensed Hunt tests.
- b. Portray a neat and appropriate appearance and manner.

- c. Refrain from gossip about individuals, dogs, or other Judges.
- d. Be mindful to be fair in judging the dog's performance, not the Handler's personality.
- e. Set an example for which future Judges and participants will seek to aspire.

RUNNING RULES, GUIDELINES and POLICIES FOR UKC LICENSED HRC HUNT TESTS

INTRODUCTION AND GENERAL INFORMATION

The Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. (HRC), in affiliation with the United Kennel Club, Inc. (UKC), provides hunters an arena in which they may train and test their retrievers in true-to-life hunting situations. In addition, those retrievers which have demonstrated both their natural and trained abilities afield are awarded UKC Championship points toward the titles of Started Hunting Retriever (SHR), Hunting Retriever (HR), Hunting Retriever Champion (HRCH), Grand Hunting Retriever Champion (GRHRCH) and Upland Hunter (UH). Through this testing and training program, UKC and HRC will provide a platform on which to base a sound breeding program, and UKC will maintain a registry of working hunting retrievers. The UKC Championship Degrees will enable you to look at a UKC registered dog's pedigree and immediately determine by the prefix to the dog's names whether that dog and any of its ancestors have earned UKC titles in the HRC Program. It will help hunters to select pups or dogs from bloodlines that have demonstrated true hunting/retrieving abilities.

True-to-life hunting situations are the key ingredient to setting up and judging any HRC/UKC Licensed event. It is of paramount importance that Judges continually ask themselves, "Would I hunt like this?" Tricky or unrealistic hunt tests are not only counterproductive, but are against the principles by which the Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. was formed. The following guidelines are intended to familiarize the Judge with the purpose, philosophy, and procedures, which are utilized in judging a licensed hunt.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the licensed hunt is to test hunting retrievers afield under actual hunting conditions. Those hunting retrievers that demonstrate desirable hunting abilities will be rewarded with titles and incorporated into a sound-breeding program. The other reward of the program is better hunting retrievers afield during hunting seasons across the country, less lost game, and more enjoyable hunting.

PHILOSOPHY

Judges should strive to set up tests and judge hunting retrievers in natural situations, evaluating the retriever on qualities desirable in a hunting retriever. Although the complexity of the tests will vary from Started to Grand, the underlying philosophy should remain the same: to test the retrievers in hunting tests and to evaluate them as useful hunting companions.

PROCEDURES

Judging is not an exact science as no two dogs are alike and no two tests are identical. A Judge must be experienced in both hunting and retrievers. See "Licensing Requirements" section on page 20. It is difficult to evaluate a retriever during the short periods the dog is in front of the Judge and it is the average or mediocre retriever that will be the hardest to judge. With this in mind, the Judge must fully understand the purpose of the HRC program and evaluate the situation with that consideration.

TESTS

Preplanning is important on the Judges part. The test must be designed, laid out, and executed in such a manner as to enable the Judge to evaluate certain hunting qualities; e.g., marking, nose, desire. Merely throwing a few birds in the field and sending a dog out after them will not serve the purpose of the tests and most likely will not allow the Judge the opportunity to judge a true hunting retriever. Specific goals and purposes must, therefore, be incorporated into each test, and the test must be carefully planned to demonstrate those qualities. The Judge will work with the Hunt Marshal, Test Marshals, Gunners, and Bird Throwers to set up a realistic test. The purpose and procedures of each test must be explained to the Handlers prior to the testing of their dogs.

Judges must also maintain the realism of the hunt by making sure:

1. All blinds are truly blinds, not just pieces of wood stuck in the field.
2. All Bird Throwers and support persons are well hidden while in the field.
3. The gallery and non-working personnel are kept out of the field while a test is being conducted.

Logistics should also play a part in setting up a hunting test. Even though HRC limits the number of retrievers per category, tests spread out all over the hunt grounds can delay the hunt considerably. The efficient use of grounds and personnel will make the hunt run smoothly and give the Judge a better opportunity to evaluate each retriever.

JUDGING RETRIEVERS

Specific guidelines are given for each category (Started, Seasoned, Finished, Grand and Upland Hunter), but it is the Judges responsibility to observe each retriever's performance with an impartial and educated eye. It is important that Judges keep in mind at all times that they are not judging one dog against another, but instead judging an individual retriever against a set Test standard which is clearly defined prior to the beginning of a test.

The following are desirable traits of a true Hunting Retriever. They will be judged according to the Test standard, which will vary between each category.

1. Marking ability and memory
2. Nose
3. Hunting desire
4. Control
5. Hunting style

A retriever can be failed for failure to deliver to hand (to the area of the Handler in Started), excessive dropping and mouthing of the bird. The retriever should be marked down for repeated dropping or mouthing of the bird, or failure to return promptly to the line with the bird.

1. MARKING ABILITY AND MEMORY

The Judge must score on whether the retriever truly marked and remembered the bird, or if it merely stumbled upon it while wildly running around the field. Also, a retriever that must be handled to a marked fall does not demonstrate marking ability. Serious faults, which would be grounds for failure, would include:

1. Failure to find a bird;
2. Throwing an object to aid the dog; and
3. Excessive handling to marks that the retriever should have seen.

The Judge should score a retriever lower for poor marking, repeated handling on marks, leaving the hunt area, and disturbing too much cover.

2. NOSE

A sharply tuned nose is obviously a desirable characteristic of a hunting retriever; however, it is a difficult attribute to specifically test. Judges should be on constant alert for this trait during all tests. Judges should be careful, however, and not be quick to mark down a lack of nose on a particular test as scenting conditions can vary considerably from test to test.

3. HUNTING DESIRE

Included in this category would be courage, desire, determination, and perseverance. A test may be failed if a retriever:

1. Stops and gives up hunting;
2. Refuses to enter rough cover, water, ice, mud or any situation involving difficult or unpleasant going after being commanded to do so, or;
3. Shows no interest in hunting a bird or picking it up.

A retriever should be marked lower for reluctance to enter unfavorable terrain or water, and hunting in a disinterested, lackadaisical manner.

4. CONTROL

Control covers most of the trainable attributes of a good hunting retriever, including manners, obedience, steadiness, response to directions, and delivery. A retriever must be under some degree of control if it is to be a useful tool in retrieving downed game. At the Started level, a good deal of leeway is granted the retriever, but at the Seasoned, Finished, Grand and Upland Hunter levels, control must be considered with increasing importance. Judges must ask themselves if they would spend time in a blind or boat with this retriever.

Manners and Obedience - Seasoned, Finished, Grand and Upland Hunting Retrievers should walk quietly at heel off lead, sit quietly in any position designated by the Handler, and honor (when required), in a quiet manner. These retrievers should not require frequent and noisy restraints by the Handler. Failure may result from:

1. A Handler touching the retriever after they signal ready (except at the Started level);
2. A retriever out of control;
3. Breaking; or
4. Excessive noise at the line by the retriever or the Handler.

The retriever can be marked down for poor line manners, creeping, and requiring numerous commands at the line to steady.

Steadiness - Seasoned, Finished and Grand Retrievers are required to be steady at the line without physical or excessive verbal restraint. A controlled break (Judges must decide distance prior to running the test) will result in a mark down at the Seasoned and Finished levels and a failure at the Grand level. In the event of a controlled break, the retriever must stop and return quickly to the line when directed to do so.

Response to Direction - When a Handler chooses to direct their retriever with voice, whistle, and/or hand signals, the retriever should respond. Dogs entered in the Grand Hunt test will be judged much harder than Upland Hunter, Finished or Seasoned, but in all cases, excessive refusals by the retriever can result in failure. The Judges must decide in each test what excessive is and judge accordingly.

Delivery - A retriever that finds the game but either eats it or runs off with it is sometimes worse than no retriever. A retriever should promptly return to the Handler (Handler area in Started) with the bird and deliver it in such a manner as not to risk losing it if it were a cripple or damaging the meat. Hard-mouth at any level is grounds for immediate failure; however, a Judge must carefully consider the situation, examine the bird, and discuss the matter with the Co-Judge. In any event, the

bird in question must be removed from the pool of usable birds. If the retriever is failed for hard-mouth, it should be done at the time and the Handler notified. The bird must then be tagged with the retriever's number and saved until the hunt is over.

5. HUNTING STYLE

This is an open-ended category that includes style, sportsmanship, attitude, and intelligence. These qualities will be more evident in the older retrievers that have hunted a season or two, but nevertheless, important if we are to breed the best hunting retrievers.

Style - Each breed has its own manner afield and retrievers from different parts of the country or world also are characteristically different. The Judge must view the retriever's entire performance before scoring on style.

Attitude and Intelligence - This is another attribute that is hard to judge, but will surface in good hunting retrievers, especially the retrievers with some hunting experience. A Judge should grade higher a retriever that has learned how to use the wind, hunt the heavy cover, as well as keep its mind on its business.

The above-mentioned attributes should, in most cases, be common to retrievers entered in all categories; however, they will obviously be judged differently depending on the category being judged. There are more specific guidelines pertaining to each category (Started, Seasoned, Finished, Grand and Upland Hunter).

SPORTSMANSHIP

The Judge is to assess the retriever not the Handler, but there are numerous things that fall under the heading of unsportsmanlike conduct and should result in either failure or a major mark down. They include but are not limited to:

1. Carrying exposed training equipment to the line (except whistle), or threatening the retriever;
2. Permitting the retriever to preview the test;
3. Deliberate blocking by the Handler, so a retriever will not see all birds and falls; and
4. Pointing out the bird throwers and/or gunners to the retriever by the Handler prior to birds being thrown.
5. Interfering, intimidating, threatening or fighting with the Judges are grounds for disqualification.

TEST DOGS

Use of test dogs is required at all UKC/HRC LICENSED events. This will enable Judges to see how smoothly the mechanics of the tests will be executed, to give the Handlers a view of the test, so that bird and drag back scent will be on the ground for all dogs and to verify the usefulness of the test. Test dogs must be of the same level as the test; i.e. a retriever with Finished points can not be used as test dog for Started or Seasoned. A Judge may run his or her appropriately qualified dog as a test dog only in the class and flight they are judging.

GUNNERS

If a designated Gunner is used, the individual should: 1) be at least 16 years of age; 2) have completed a certified Hunter Safety Course; and 3) be approved by the Judges of the Test where the Gunner is being used.

HANDLER INSTRUCTIONS

Judges should, while Handlers are assembled for the test dog, give instructions in accordance with the information listed under "Judges" in each test category; the Guidelines For Judges & Conducting Hunts, and the Hunt Test Briefings which are available on the Club CD and online at www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org.

RULES & GUIDELINES**STARTED HUNT TESTS****PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY**

This hunt test is for Started Hunting Retrievers and Handlers. It duplicates actual hunting conditions throughout the local area. Judges will look for natural ability rather than trained performance. The Started Hunt Test is for young or inexperienced hunting retrievers. The Started Hunting Retriever might not have had the experience of a season of hunting or limited exposure to hunting and/or training. A Started Hunting Retriever should be able to do a simple dove or waterfowl hunt and retrieve game from land and water.

ELIGIBILITY

A purebred dog of an eligible breed of any age or sex may participate. Any hunting retriever with Championship points in either the Seasoned or Finished categories is not eligible for competition in this category for points. Hunting Retrievers may continue to participate in the Started category even though they have earned all Championship points available towards the UKC Started Hunting Retriever (SHR) title and/or the UKC Hunting Retriever (HR) Championship titles. No hunting retriever may participate in two different hunt categories per licensed hunt. Bitches in heat will not be allowed on the hunt grounds.

Dogs may participate in this category without being UKC registered. Non-UKC registered dogs participating in the Started category have 60 days after passing the test to become UKC registered and have their Championship points applied to their record. A fee will be charged by UKC for application of points to a dog's record if not registered within 60 days.

DESCRIPTION

The Started Hunt will have four tests. Two tests shall be marked water retrieves. Two tests will be marked land retrieves. The Started Hunting Retriever can participate in all four tests regardless of whether or not it passes each test.

HUNTING TESTS

The hunting test must duplicate actual hunting conditions. Practical hunting distances must be used in all Started Hunting Retriever tests. Dead pheasants, pigeons, ducks or other game birds must be used for all hunting tests to gain Championship points. Shot flyers shall not be used in the Started class.

JUDGES

Judges will provide an explanation of each hunting test objective to the Handlers. Judges will “pass” or “fail” a hunting retriever based on its ability rather than the Handler’s expertise. The Judges must follow the Started Hunt Test Rules and Judge’s Guidelines. Gunners and Bird Boys shall be placed at the Judge’s discretion. There will be at least two Judges, one of which must be licensed or AA Licensed if one is an Apprentice Judge.

The Judge’s decision is final.

HANDLERS

At the retrieving line, voice or whistle commands can be used to steady the hunting retriever. The Handler shall not intimidate the hunting retriever at the retrieving line. The Handler shall not have any training aid to intimidate the hunting retriever: i.e., whip, prod, cane, quirt, dummy, weighted or shock collars or other similar equipment at the retrieving line. On the Judge’s signal, the hunting retriever is to be released by the Handler, or as otherwise directed by the Judge. The Handler must keep the hunting retriever on lead to and from the retrieving line. A hunting retriever that breaks away and runs into the working area of another hunting retriever may result in disqualification. Handlers are expected to conduct themselves in a manner such that they do not disturb game or the hunt. It is recommended that all Handlers take and pass a province or state certified hunter safety course.

SHOTGUNS, GUN SAFETY & HRC FIREARM SAFETY POLICY

Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. adopts the policy of the International Hunter Safety Association (available on the Club CD or www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org). All HRC Judges are required to PROVE safe each firearm used in their Hunt Test. HRC strongly recommends that all participants at a HRC/UKC Licensed event have an approved Hunter Safety Course.

Only authorized guns will be allowed in the test area. Authorized guns are those shotguns inspected and found to be in proper working order and approved for use at the test site(s) by a hunt official(s). All shotguns are assumed to be loaded with live ammunition and must be handled accordingly. The Handler must hold the shotgun in a safe hunting position. During test simulations, when directed by the Judges, the Handler must shoulder the shotgun, aim, track and shoot at the top of the arc of the thrown bird. Mishandling of firearms will result in immediate disqualification of both Handler and

hunting retriever. If pump or semi-automatic shotguns are used, a plug must be in the magazine, limiting the gun to a total of three shots.

To minimize the possibility of an accidental discharge of a firearm while handling a dog during an UKC/HRC LICENSED test, Handlers should not be given more poppers, or permitted to load more poppers into the shotgun than are required to complete any given segment of a test. More poppers may be provided and/or loaded at a Judge's discretion if they are required by the logistics of the test. However, gun safety must be a priority consideration at all times.

HUNTING EQUIPMENT

Hunting equipment such as boats, decoys, duck blinds, calls, etc. will be used in these tests. The Started Hunting Retriever will be allowed to have a collar, leash or line around its neck to assist in steadiness at the retrieving line.

SPECTATORS / GALLERY

*Reasonable silence, good manners and sportsmanlike conduct are required of all spectators. Any spectator interfering with any test will be directed to leave the hunt grounds. Spectators shall not have on white or light colored clothing that might interfere with a dog's performance. No dogs that are participating are allowed to watch from the spectator's section.

LIGHTNING SAFETY POLICY

The HRC Lightning Safety Policy (available on the Club CD or on the HRC website at www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org) will be followed at all HRC licensed events.

TEST RULES

I. The maximum land test distance will not exceed seventy-five (75) yards, but may be less. The maximum water test distance will not exceed sixty (60) yards, but may be less.

II. Hand signals, voice or whistle commands may be utilized by the Handler to encourage the Started Hunting Retriever to perform.

III. The hunting retriever is not required to be steady at the retrieving line. The hunting retriever may be hand held at the retrieving line. If the hunting retriever is hand held, the Handler will not handle the shotgun. The Handler may request the gunner to move a distance away to avoid scaring an inexperienced dog.

IV. The bird must be delivered to the immediate area of the Handler. It is not necessary to deliver to hand. The Judges should define 'immediate area' of each specific Test.

V. Testing will consist of only single marks for both land and water.

VI. No double marks, triple marks, or blind retrieves are to be used in the Started Hunt Test.

VII. Only one bird is allowed per mark.

VIII. The hunting retriever can be cast from the retriev-

ing line a maximum of two (2) times. If the hunting retriever is unproductive after a second attempt, the Judge will instruct the Handler to pick up the hunting retriever and that the test is failed.

IX. Gunners and Bird Boys must be inconspicuous and blend in with the local hunting conditions. When Bird Boys and Gunners are hidden, an attention getting shot or shots may be used or a duck or goose call must be used before the birds are thrown. A shot must be fired when the bird is at the top of its arc.

X. The dog must have a clear view of the fall.

XI. On consecutive singles from the same Retrieving line, the line to the falls should not be less than 90 degrees.

XII. Dead birds will be used. It is recommended that game be used that is consistent with the hunting situation in the local area. Shot flyers shall not be used in the Started class.

XIII. Judges should courteously advise Handlers of desirable dress, if necessary.

XIV. Judges should advise the Handlers that continuous failure to demonstrate true hunting form and safety with the shotgun could result in failure of the test or disqualification.

XV. The Judge's decision is final.

IMMEDIATE FAILURE

The hunting retriever shall immediately fail the test if a Gunner or Bird Boy is required to help or assist in any way. A bird unfit for the table resulting from hard-mouth shall be grounds for failing the test. Failure to pass any hunting test will not prevent a hunting retriever from participating in subsequent tests, unless the Handler is unsafe in handling a gun.

CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

See Champion Points for more information.

GUIDELINES - JUDGING STARTED HUNT TESTS

This is a test designed to assess the ability of the dog to follow the flight of the shot bird to the area of the fall, and its ability to go directly to the area of the fall, retrieve the bird and return it to the Handler.

The area of the fall shall be left to the Judges discretion in their consideration of the test and cover, based on the terrain and type of game hunted, but the following should be considered:

1. Is there a clear field of vision for the dog to see the mark?
2. Was the dog attentive at the line?
3. Does the dog react to the attention-getting devices?
4. Did the dog proceed directly to the area of the fall?
5. Did the dog hunt the area of the fall?

1. Hand signals, voice and whistle commands may be utilized by the Handler to encourage the Started Hunting

Retriever to perform; however, should excessive handling or noise occur, which in the opinion of the Judges would disturb the hunt, then at the Judges discretion, they may declare failure of the test. The dog is being tested for its marking ability, not handling. However, a clean handle is preferable to an extended hunt.

II. A dog is not required to be steady at the Retrieving line; however, it may have a collar, leash or line around its neck or may be hand-held to assist in achieving steadiness. If the Started Handler opts to shoot the shotgun, the dog may not be restrained. A controlled break shall not fail a dog, but shall be marked down. The Judges should evaluate the dog's temperament as displayed in its spontaneous behavior in order to assess its suitability as a hunting companion. Hyperactivity, wildness, jumping about, barking, excessive disobedience, lethargy or lack of interest are undesirable.

III. The bird must be delivered to the immediate area of the Handler. Delivery to hand is desirable. Consistent failure to deliver or consistent reluctance to deliver can result in failure.

IV. If a Started dog is unproductive after a second attempt, the Judge will instruct the Handler to pick up their dog and that the test is failed.. At this point, the Judges may recommend that the dog be assisted in completing the retrieve with the help of the Bird Boys or Gunners.

V. Gunners and Bird Boys should be inconspicuous in keeping with the hunting situation. At the discretion of the Judges, not more than once in each event the Gunners may be visible in order to simulate specific hunting situations, such as dove hunting. It is the intent of these regulations to provide the dog with adequate opportunity to focus its attention on the area of the fall.

SEASONED HUNT TESTS

(*Effective January 1, 2011)

PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

This hunt test is for Seasoned Hunting Retrievers and Handlers. It duplicates actual hunting conditions throughout the local area. Judges will look for style and natural ability and evidence that the Seasoned Hunting Retriever exhibits a reasonable degree of control. These hunting tests have longer retrieves on both water and land than Started Tests. The Seasoned Hunting Retriever must be steady on line and retrieve to hand. The Seasoned Hunting Retriever in these hunting tests usually has a couple of seasons of hunting experience, and more training.

ELIGIBILITY

Any purebred dog of an eligible breed of any age or sex may participate. This is the next step for hunting retrievers that have earned the maximum Championship

points in the Started Hunt Test category. It is not necessary to have earned Championship points in the Started Hunt Test category before participating in the Seasoned Hunt Test category. Hunting retrievers with Championship points earned in the Finished Hunt Test category may not be entered for points in the Seasoned Hunt Test category. No hunting retriever may participate in two different hunt tests per Licensed Hunt. Bitches in heat will not be allowed on the Hunt grounds.

Dogs may participate in this category without being UKC registered. Non-UKC registered dogs participating in the Seasoned category have 60 days after passing the test to become UKC registered and have their Championship points applied to their record. A fee will be charged by UKC for application of points to a dog's record if not registered within 60 days.

DESCRIPTION

*The Seasoned hunt will have five (5) tests. These five tests shall consist of at least the following: (1) a double-marked land retrieve, (2) a double marked water retrieve, (3) a walk-up, or tracking, or quartering test, (4) a blind land retrieve, and (5) a blind water retrieve. Part of the test must include a diversion. **If an Upland game test is to be run, this option must be announced on the Club's Premium.** Failure of a hunting retriever to pass any of the hunting tests will not prevent the hunting retriever from participating in subsequent tests unless the Handler is unsafe in handling a gun.

HUNTING TESTS

The hunting test must duplicate actual hunting conditions. Practical hunting distances must be used in all Seasoned Hunting Retriever Tests. Dead pheasants, pigeons, ducks or other game birds must be used for all hunting tests, except for shot flyers or upland game tests, to gain Championship points.

JUDGES

Judges will provide an explanation of each hunt test objective to the Handlers. Judges will "pass" or "fail" a hunting retriever based on its ability rather than the Handler's expertise. The Judges must follow the Seasoned Hunt Test Rules and Judge's Guidelines. Gunners and Bird Boys shall be placed at the Judge's discretion. There must be at least two Judges, one of which must be licensed or AA Licensed if one is an Apprentice Judge. The Judge's decision is final.

HANDLERS

At the retrieving line, voice or whistle commands may be used to steady the hunting retriever. The Handler shall not intimidate the hunting retriever at the retrieving line. The Handler shall not have any training aid to intimidate the hunting retriever; i.e., whip, prod, cane, quirt, dummy, weighted or shock collars or other similar equipment at the retrieving line. On the Judges signal, the hunting

retriever is to be released by the Handler or as otherwise directed by the Judge.

The Handler must keep the hunting retriever on lead to and from the retrieving line. A hunting retriever that breaks away and runs into the working area of another hunting retriever may result in disqualification. Handlers are expected to conduct themselves in such a manner that they do not disturb game or the Hunt. It is recommended that all Handlers take and pass a province or state certified hunter safety course.

SHOTGUNS, GUN SAFETY & FIREARM SAFETY POLICY

Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. adopts the policy of the International Hunter Safety Association (available on the Club CD or www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org). All HRC Judges are required to PROVE safe each firearm used in their Hunt Test. HRC strongly recommends that all participants at a HRC/UKC Licensed event have an approved Hunter Safety Course.

Only authorized guns will be allowed in the test area. Authorized guns are those shotguns inspected and found to be in proper working order and approved for use at the test site(s) by a hunt official(s). All shotguns are assumed to be loaded with live ammunition and must be handled accordingly. The Handler must hold the shotgun in a safe hunting position. During test simulations, when directed by the Judges, the Handler must shoulder the shotgun, aim, track and shoot at the top of the arc of the thrown bird. Mishandling of firearms will result in immediate disqualification of both the Handler and the hunting retriever. If pump or semi-automatic shotguns are used, a plug must be in the magazine, limiting the gun to a total of three shots.

To minimize the possibility of an accidental discharge of a firearm while handling a dog during an UKC/HRC LICENSED test, Handlers should not be given more poppers, or permitted to load more poppers into the shotgun than are required to complete any given segment of a test. More poppers may be provided and/or loaded at a Judge's discretion if they are required by the logistics of the test. However, gun safety must be a priority consideration at all times.

HUNTING EQUIPMENT

Hunting equipment such as boats, decoys, duck blinds, calls, etc. will be used in these tests. The Seasoned Hunting Retriever will run without a collar, except where prohibited by local ordinances.

SPECTATORS / GALLERY

Reasonable silence, good manners and sportsman-like conduct are required of all spectators. Any spectator interfering with any test will be directed to leave the hunt grounds. Spectators shall not have on white or light colored attire that might interfere with a dog's performance. No Seasoned dogs that are participating are

allowed to watch from the spectator's section.

LIGHTNING SAFETY POLICY

The HRC Lightning Safety Policy (available on the Club CD or on the HRC website at www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org) will be followed at all HRC licensed events.

TEST RULES

I. The maximum land test distance will not exceed one hundred (100) yards, but may be shorter. The maximum water test distance will not exceed seventy-five (75) yards, but may be shorter. The land blind retrieve maximum test distance will not exceed sixty (60) yards, but may be shorter. The water blind retrieve maximum test distance will not exceed sixty (60) yards, but may be shorter.

II. During all five hunting tests, hand signals, or voice or whistle commands may be used by the Handler to encourage the Seasoned Hunting Retriever.

III. The Seasoned Hunting Retriever is required to be steady at the retrieving line. At the retrieving line the hunting retriever may be touched to steady, but when the Handler signals "ready" the hunting retriever should not be touched again.

If a Seasoned Hunting Retriever leaves the retrieving line before being signaled to do so, it must be stopped and return to heel. Failure to stop and return to heel upon command will be considered an uncontrolled break. Excessive or consistent creeping by a Seasoned Hunting Retriever will be treated as a controlled break and the retriever must be brought to heel on the Judge's command. The judges will give a lower score to the Seasoned Hunting Retriever for a controlled break.

During hunting tests, the Seasoned Hunting Retriever may be placed a reasonable distance from the Handler at the retrieving line.

IV. The bird must be delivered to hand.

V. Testing will consist of double marks for both land and water. The Handler cannot point out either the Bird Boys or Gunner's location for the Seasoned Hunting Retriever prior to the bird being thrown.

VI. No Seasoned Hunting Retriever test will have triple marks.

VII. A diversionary bird can be thrown after the walk-up, blind, or last retrieve of a double mark. If a Seasoned Hunting Retriever switches to the diversionary bird, it will not fail but will be scored lower by the Judge. The hunting retriever shall retrieve the diversionary bird.

VIII. The Seasoned Hunting Retriever can be cast from the retrieving line a maximum of two (2) times. If a Seasoned Hunting Retriever is unproductive after a second attempt, the Judge will instruct the Handler to pick up their hunting retriever and that the test is failed.

IX. Gunners and Bird Boys must be inconspicuous and blend in with the local hunting conditions. When Bird

Boys and Gunners are hidden, an attention getting shot or shots may be used or a duck or goose call may be used before the birds are thrown. A shot must be fired when the bird is at the top of its arc.

X. Blind retrieves should be through easy cover and relatively open water. A dry shot popper shall be fired by the Handler in the direction of the blind while the dog is at heel prior to the dog's running the blind retrieve.

XI. Judges should courteously advise Handlers of desirable dress, if necessary.

XII. Judges should advise the Handler, if necessary, that continuous failure to demonstrate true hunting form with the shotgun and safety could result in failure of the test or disqualification.

XIII. Judges decisions are final.

IMMEDIATE FAILURE

The Seasoned hunting retriever shall immediately fail the test if a Gunner or Bird Boy is required to help or assist in any way. A bird unfit for the table resulting from hard-mouth shall be grounds for failing the test. Failure to pass any hunting test will not prevent a hunting retriever from participating in subsequent tests unless the Handler uses a gun in an unsafe manner.

CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

See Championship Points for more information.

GUIDELINES - JUDGING SEASONED HUNT TESTS

I. Hand Signals, voice, and whistle commands may be utilized by the Handler to encourage the Seasoned Hunting dog to perform; however, should excessive handling or noise occur which, in the opinion of the Judges, would disturb the hunt, the Judges may declare failure of the test.

The dog is being tested for its marking ability, not handling. However, a clean handle is preferable to an extended hunt.

II. Controlled breaks, poor obedience and poor manners should be noted and when excessive or repeated, should be cause for failure.

During a test when a crippled bird is escaping, the Judges can send the dog prior to the bird hitting the ground.

Steadiness should be judged according to the degree that it would interfere with a normal day's hunting. Creeping to an excessive degree puts the dog in the blast cone of the shotgun and can deafen or inadvertently kill it.

III. The Judges should periodically inspect birds taken from the Handler, especially in the case of a dog suspected of hard-mouth.

IV. The Judges should look for the dog that walks obediently to the line, sits obediently and exhibits an attentive attitude.

V. The standards of control and performance on

blinds for Seasoned dogs are less than those for Finished or Grand. Less control and more whistle and cast refusals can be accepted for the Seasoned dog as compared to more advanced categories.

Sitting on the whistle is not a necessity, but Seasoned dogs should demonstrate the capability to respond to directional control.

Lining the blind is not required. It is preferable that the dog exhibits the ability to be under control.

A dry shot popper shall be fired by the Handler in the direction of the blind while the dog is at heel immediately prior to the dog's running the blind retrieve. The intent is to encourage the dog to run the blind.

Popping, (looking to the Handler for direction without a signal), shall not be penalized.

VI. The diversionary bird must be thrown as the dog returns from the retrieve. A switch is defined as the dog dropping one bird and picking up the other bird. The purpose of this test is to require the Seasoned dog to demonstrate a reasonable degree of control on the return from a retrieve. The diversionary bird should be thrown where the dog can see it, but not in its return path.

VII. In the event that a hunting retriever is unproductive after being cast by the Handler on a second attempt, the Judges must inform the Handler that the dog has failed the test.

VIII. Gunners and Bird Boys should be inconspicuous in keeping with the hunting situation. At the discretion of the judges (not more than once in each event) the Gunners may be visible in order to stimulate specific hunting situations, such as dove hunting. It is the intent of these regulations to provide the dog with adequate opportunity to focus its attention on the area of the fall.

IX. Quartering. The dog hunts in a radius ideally from 10 to 30 yards to the side and in front of the Handler. The live bird is released (or thrown) in full view of the dog. The distance from the bird to the dog should be within scenting distance when the bird is released. The dog is not required to be steady to shot. The dog should immediately return to the previous hunting range upon being called and/or whistle commanded by the Handler. The Handler shoots a popper, but the bird is not killed (for the dog's safety). If the dog does not immediately return to the hunting area it fails the test.

The dog should be eager, hunt all available cover diligently and be under control.

The intent of the Quartering test is not to demonstrate running a pattern. The intent of this test is to demonstrate its natural tendency to hunt and be under control.

In the Upland Game Test, the Quartering and Walk-up can be combined.

One or more dogs can be in a moving line with one dog out front quartering, for example. However, gun safety should be a paramount consideration.

Walk-up. A quiet unobtrusive verbal reminder to “sit” is acceptable as the bird flushes or is shot. Great care must be exercised by the Judges that this is not abused to the extent of intimidation.

FINISHED HUNT TESTS

**Effective January 1, 2011*

PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

This hunt test is for Finished hunting retrievers. It duplicates actual hunting conditions found throughout the country. The successful completion of these tests leads to the qualification of a hunting retriever for the title of Hunting Retriever Champion, (HRCH). To pass these hunting tests the Finished Hunting Retriever must accomplish the tasks required with both style and accuracy. Judges will look for natural ability and a trained performance. The Finished Hunting Retriever must respond promptly to either voice or whistle commands and remain steady and under control at all times. The Finished Hunting Retriever should be a pleasure to hunt with under any conditions.

ELIGIBILITY

A purebred dog of an eligible breed of any age or sex may participate. This is the next step for hunting retrievers that have earned maximum Championship points in the Started and/or Seasoned Hunt categories. It is not necessary to have earned Championship points in any other Hunt Test category prior to participating in the Finished Hunt Test category. Bitches in heat will not be allowed on the hunt grounds.

Dogs may participate in this category without being UKC registered. Non-UKC registered dogs participating in the Finished category have 60 days after passing the test to become UKC registered and have their Championship points applied to their record. A fee will be charged by UKC for application of points to a dog's record if not registered within 60 days.

DESCRIPTION

The Finished Hunt will have at least four (4) tests. These four tests shall consist of the following: (1) a multiple marked water retrieve, (2) a multiple marked land retrieve (either or both the multiple marked water retrieve or the multiple marked land retrieve must include an honor), (3) a water blind retrieve, and (4) a land blind retrieve. These blinds may or may not be included in one of the required multiple marked retrieves. Part of the test must include a diversion as the dog returns to the retrieving line **from any retrieve**. At the option of the Judges, the hunt may include an upland game test. If an upland game test is to be run, this option must be announced in the Club's Premium. Failure of a hunting retriever to pass any of the hunting tests will not prevent the dog from participating in a subsequent test unless the Handler is

unsafe in handling a gun.

HUNTING TESTS

The hunting test must duplicate actual hunting conditions. Practical hunting distances must be used in all Finished Hunt Tests. Dead pheasants, pigeons, ducks or other game birds must be used for all hunting tests, except for shot flyers or upland game tests, to gain Championship points.

JUDGES

The Judges will provide an explanation of each of the hunt tests objectives to the Handlers. Judges will “pass” or “fail” a hunting retriever based on its ability rather than the Handler’s expertise. The Judges must follow the Finished Hunt Test Rules and Judges Guidelines. Gunners and Bird Boys shall be placed at the Judges’ discretion. There must be at least two Judges, one of which must be licensed or AA Licensed if one is an Apprentice Judge. The Judge’s decision is final.

HANDLERS

At the retrieving line, voice or whistle commands may be used to steady the hunting retriever. The Handler shall not intimidate the hunting retriever at the retrieving line. The Handler shall not have any training aid to intimidate the hunting retriever; i.e. whip, prod, cane, quirt, dummy, weighted or shock collars or other similar equipment at the retrieving line. On the Judges signal, the hunting retriever is to be released by the Handler, or as otherwise directed by the Judge. The Handler should bring the hunting retriever to and from the retrieving line off lead. Handlers are expected to conduct themselves in a manner such that they do not disturb game or the Hunt. It is highly encouraged that all Handlers take and pass a province or state certified hunter safety course.

SHOTGUNS, GUN SAFETY & FIREARM SAFETY POLICY

Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. adopts the policy of the International Hunter Safety Association (available on the Club CD or www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org). All HRC Judges are required to PROVE safe each firearm used in their Hunt Test. HRC strongly recommends that all participants at a HRC/UKC Licensed event have an approved Hunter Safety Course.

Only authorized guns will be allowed in the test area. Authorized guns are those shotguns inspected and found to be in proper working order and approved for use at the test site(s) by a hunt official(s). All shotguns are assumed to be loaded with live ammunition and must be handled accordingly. The Handler must hold the shotgun in a safe hunting position. During test simulations, when directed by the Judges, the Handler must shoulder the shotgun, aim, track and shoot at the top of the arc of the thrown bird. Mishandling of firearms will result in immediate disqualification of both Handler and hunting retriever. If pump or semi-automatic shotguns are used, a plug must be in

the magazine, limiting the gun to a total of three shots.

To minimize the possibility of an accidental discharge of a firearm while handling a dog during a UKC/HRC LICENSED test, Handlers should not be given more poppers, or permitted to load more poppers into the shotgun than are required to complete any given segment of a test (i.e. only one popper prior to shooting the Finished blind, three poppers prior to shooting at the marks, and one prior to shooting at the diversion). More poppers may be provided and/or loaded at a Judge's discretion if they are required by the logistics of the test. However, gun safety must be a priority consideration at all times.

HUNTING EQUIPMENT

Hunting equipment such as boats, decoys, duck blinds, calls, etc., will be used in these tests.

The Finished Hunting Retriever will run without a collar, except where prohibited by local ordinances.

SPECTATORS /GALLERY

Reasonable silence, good manners, and sportsman-like conduct are required of all spectators. Any spectator interfering with any test will be directed to leave the hunt grounds. Spectators shall not have on white or light colored attire that might interfere with a dog's performance. No Seasoned dogs that are participating are allowed to watch from the spectator's section.

LIGHTNING SAFETY POLICY

The HRC Lightning Safety Policy (available on the Club CD or on the HRC website at www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org) will be followed at all HRC licensed events.

TEST RULES

I. The maximum land test distance will not exceed one hundred-fifty (150) yards, but may be shorter. The maximum water test distance will not exceed one hundred twenty-five (125) yards, but may be shorter. The blind retrieve maximum test distance will not exceed one hundred (100) yards

II. During all hunting tests; hand signals, voice or whistle commands may be utilized by the Handler to encourage the Finished Hunting Retriever. The Finished Hunting Retriever should demonstrate a prompt and precise response to all voice, whistle, and directional commands.

III. The Finished Hunting retriever is required to be steady at the retrieving line. At the retrieving line the dog may be touched to steady, but when the Handler signals "ready", it may not be touched again. The Finished retriever may be failed for a "controlled break" and may be failed for excessive, consistent creeping. If a Finished retriever leaves the retrieving line before being signaled to do so, it must be stopped and return to heel. Failure to stop and return to heel upon command will be considered an uncontrolled break. During hunting tests, the Finished dog may be placed a reasonable distance from the retrieving line.

IV. The bird must be delivered to hand.

V. Testing will consist of double or triple marks for both water and land. At the Judges discretion, the Finished Hunting Retriever may be required to make retrieves in an established sequence. The Handler cannot point out either the Bird Boy or Gunner's locations for the Finished Hunting Retriever prior to the bird being thrown.

***VI.** During the hunting tests, a Finished Hunting Retriever must be required to honor another hunting retriever at or near the retrieving line. When the Finished Hunting Retriever is honoring, its view of the hunting test cannot be obstructed. **A Finished Hunting Retriever shall not be required to honor during another dog's blind retrieve.**

VII. During the test, a diversionary bird will be thrown as the hunting retriever returns to the retrieving line. If the hunting retriever switches to the diversionary bird on the return, it shall fail the test.

VIII. The Finished Hunting Retriever can be cast from the retrieving line only once. If the Finished Hunting Retriever is unproductive after the single attempt, the Judge will instruct the Handler to pick up the hunting retriever and that the test is failed.

IX. Lining the blind is not required. The Finished Hunting Retriever should demonstrate the ability to take an initial line toward the blind and a willingness and ability to respond to the commands from the Handler. The Finished Hunting Retriever must stay under control and pick up the bird quickly and efficiently. The judge will not require the retriever to run a predefined route or channel.

X. Gunners and Bird Boys must be inconspicuous and blend in with the local hunting conditions. When Bird Boys and Gunners are hidden, an attention getting shot or shots may be used or a duck or goose call may be used before the birds are thrown. A shot must be fired when the bird is at the top of its arc.

XI. Tests may duplicate a cripple retrieve.

XII. The Upland Game Test shall consist of a simulated walk-up hunt with a subsequent quartering or tracking test. The Finished Hunting Retriever must be steady to wing and shot. Honoring of another hunting retriever is required. During this test the Finished Hunting Retriever will be required to locate and retrieve game, as the Judges shall direct.

XIII. Judges should courteously advise Handlers of desirable dress, if necessary.

XIV. Judges should advise the Handler, if necessary, that continuous failure to demonstrate true hunting form with the shotgun and safety could result in failure of the test or disqualification.

XV. The Judge's decision is final.

IMMEDIATE FAILURE

The hunting retriever shall immediately fail the test if a Gunner or Bird Boy is required to help or assist in any

way. A bird unfit for the table resulting from hard-mouth shall be ground for failing the test. Failure to pass any hunting test will not prevent a hunting retriever from participating in subsequent tests, unless the Handler is unsafe in handling a gun.

CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

See Championship Points for more information.

GUIDELINES - JUDGING FINISHED HUNT TESTS

I. Hand signals, voice, and whistle commands may be utilized by the Handler to encourage the Finished Hunting Retriever to perform; however, should excessive handling or noise occur, which in the opinion of the Judges would disturb the hunt, the Judges may declare failure of the test.

The dog is being tested for both its marking ability and handling. However, a clean handle is preferable to an extended hunt.

II. Excessive noise or intimidation to prevent a "break" should result in failure. A "controlled break" may result in failure.

III. A Judge should periodically inspect birds taken from the Handler, especially in the instance of a dog suspected of hard-mouth.

IV. The Judge should look for the dog that walks obediently to the line, sits obediently, and exhibits an attentive attitude.

V. The diversionary bird can be thrown as the dog returns from any retrieve. Remember, that when a hazard or diversion of any kind is set out for the dog, it is the recovery that the dog executes that is important.

VI. After a dog leaves the line on a retrieve, he cannot return and be re-cast.

VII. Imagination in the placement of Gunners and Bird Throwers should be used on the part of the Judges. A Finished Hunting Retriever should be the type of dog that anyone would be proud to hunt with in all conditions, and this should be a factor in test set-up.

VIII. Quartering. The dog hunts in a radius ideally from 10 to 30 yards to the side and in front of the Handler. The live bird is released (or thrown), in full view of the dog. The distance from the bird to the dog should be within scenting distance when the bird is released. The dog is required to be steady to wing and shot. The dog should immediately return to the previous hunting range upon being called and/or whistle commanded by the Handler. The Handler will shoot the gun (popper), and the gunners may kill the bird. If the dog does not immediately return to the hunting area, the test is failed.

The dog should be eager, hunt all available cover diligently, and be under control. The intent of the Quartering test is not to demonstrate running a pattern, but to demonstrate a natural tendency to hunt and be

under control.

In the Upland Game Test, quartering, tracking and walk-up can all be combined at the discretion of the Judges.

Walk-up. A quiet, unobtrusive verbal reminder to "sit" is acceptable as the bird flushes or is shot. Great care must be exercised by the Judge that this does not carry over to intimidation.

GRAND HUNT TESTS

PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

This hunt test is for Hunting Retriever Champions (HRCH). It duplicates actual hunting conditions found throughout the country. The successful completion of two of these Grand tests valued at 40 points each or (80 points) along with an accumulation of 120 additional points after earning the Hunting Retriever Champion Title for a total of 300 points, will qualify a Hunting Retriever Champion for the UKC title of Grand Hunting Retriever Champion (GRHRCH).

Additional points may be earned by passing either Upland tests with a maximum of 40 points allowed toward your Grand title, or by continuing to obtain points by running additional Finished tests.

This title is evidence that the hunting retriever has demonstrated versatility and excellence in performing under hunting conditions, ranging from various waterfowl environments found in costal marshes, inland waterways, flood timber, or western prairies, to upland game conditions while hunting Upland birds such as pheasant, grouse, chukar, or doves. The Grand Hunting Retriever is expected to be steady, under control at all times and demonstrate an eager and prompt response to all commands with style and precision. The Grand Hunting Retriever Champion should represent the best of the breed.

ELIGIBILITY

Any Hunting Retriever Champion (HRCH) is eligible to participate. Bitches in heat will not be allowed on the hunt grounds.

CONDUCT OF TESTS

All International Grand Hunt Tests will be conducted by the Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. International Grand Hunt Committee at selected host HRC Club locations.

JUDGES

The Judges will give an explanation of each test objective to each Handler. This may be done by gathering all Handlers and issuing instructions before the test commences, or by individually briefing each Handler before signaling ready, or by designating this duty to the Hunt Marshal or Grand Committee person. It is the responsibility of the Judges to be familiar with the Judges Guidelines

and Grand Test Rules and to conform to these standards. The nature of the tests and placement of bird Boys and Gunners shall be at the sole discretion of the Judges. There will be two AA Licensed Finished Judges per test series. The Judge's decision is final.

DESCRIPTION

The semiannual International Grand Hunts will be scheduled for five (5) days, but due to unforeseen circumstances, such as inclement weather, the tests may take longer to complete. The Grand Hunt Committee will make every effort to have the Hunt completed in (5) days. The Grand Hunt Committee will have the power to vary the number of Judges, divide the entry field and run test series simultaneously, and schedule the sequencing of each series accordingly.

The International Grand Hunt will consist of five (5) series of tests. The five series of tests shall consist of the following: Two (2) land series tests consisting of multiple marked land retrieves (either or both of these land series must include an honor and a diversion retrieve). Both land series tests must also include a blind retrieve.

There shall also be two (2) water series tests consisting of multiple marked water retrieves (either or both of these water series must include an honor and a diversion retrieve). Both water series tests must also include a blind retrieve.

The fifth and final test shall consist of an upland game and quartering test series. Failure of the hunting retriever to pass any of the five series tests will prevent it from participating in any subsequent series test.

HUNTING TESTS

The International Grand Hunt tests must duplicate actual hunting conditions. Practical hunting distances must be used in all Grand Hunt Tests, as defined under Test Rule #1. Dead pheasants, pigeons, ducks or other game birds must be used for all hunting tests, except for shot flyers and Upland Game Tests.

THE "GRAND" – POINT SYSTEM

The Grand Hunt differs from other HRC events in that total points awarded by the Judges determination between Solid, Marginal, or Failing work. The number of Judges and Flights may vary according to the anticipated size of the Grand Hunt. The pairing of the Judges is at the discretion of the Permanent Grand Hunt Committee.

The field will be split into four groups, listed as flights "A-D". The field is split with care taken to attempt to have retrievers of multi-retriever handlers in the same group and those entries separated by a reasonable number of dogs. Retrievers with the

same “call-name” are not placed together in the running order. The running order is strictly followed as it appears in the Hunt Program with only “common sense” deviations made.

Tests 1 through 4 will run simultaneously. Groups “A & B” will start their first series test on one set of land and water tests while groups “C & D” will start their first series test on the other set of land and water tests. Once each group finishes their first series test, they will switch tests respectively. Group “A” will switch with Group “B”, and Group “C” will switch with Group “D” to begin the second series tests.

Once the first two series tests are completed, Groups “A & B” will then switch with Groups “C & D” to complete the remaining two series tests.

During the event, the retrievers are to be judged as they would throughout all regular HRC events. The Judges will evaluate the dog’s performance based on Solid, Marginal, or Failing work during each Grand series test. The performance of grading will be directly related to the number values listed below. The number value is only a means for the computer to value the performance given by each Judge.

0 = Fail 1 = Marginal Pass 2 = Solid Pass

The retrievers receive points according to the following system, except for test series five. The Upland Test Series is to be Judged and scored on a Pass or Fail system.

Given that all of the first four series tests are run simultaneously, a retriever may receive a Marginal score only once from any combined set of Judges throughout the event. No retriever that has clearly failed or received a score of zero (0) from any one Judge will be carried on to the next series test.

Beginning with the first series test, a retriever must earn a marginal score of one (1) point from each judge for a combined score of two (2) points to advance to the second series test. At the conclusion of the second series, the scores from both the first and second series tests will be combined. Those combined scores from series 1-2 must equal a minimum total score of six (6) points to advance on to the third series test.

At the conclusion of the third series, a retriever must have earned a minimum combined total score of nine (9) from test scores 1-3 to advance to the fourth series test.

At the conclusion of the fourth series, a retriever must receive a minimum total combined score of (13) from all four series tests to advance on to the fifth series.

This score of thirteen (13) must be received with a

minimum score of six (6) points from test series 1-2, combined with a minimum score of seven (7) points in test series 3-4. The retriever may also advance with a score of thirteen (13) by combining a score of seven (7) or higher from tests 1-2 with a minimum score of six (6) received in tests 3-4.

Following the conclusion of each series test, the Judges briefly confer to discuss their individual judging assignments and then separately mark their scoring sheets. A member of the Permanent Grand Hunt Committee will then review these score sheets to make sure they are complete. Next, the Permanent Grand Hunt Committee will oversee the input of scores into the Grand Hunt computer-scoring Program.

The Computer Program automatically will display an alert error anytime a retriever receives a separation in scores by two points (0,2). Generally an error of this type may occur during the transfer of scores from the Judges sheets onto the official scoring sheet. In the event this should happen, these sheets will then be passed back to the Judges for their review and correction.

CALL BACKS AND JUDGES SHEETS REVIEWS

The Grand Hunt also differs from all other Hunting Retriever Club events in that there is a required cut after each test. With the large number of entries and the time constraints of the Grand, it is impossible to have the Judges open their Judges sheets and talk in depth with the handlers after each test. Therefore, the handlers of retrievers that do not pass may receive a brief review of their Judges sheets after each test. Members of the Grand Hunt Committee will conduct reviews.

The Grand Hunt Marshal or a Grand Hunt Committee Member will announce callbacks after each test.

Handlers choosing to review their Judges sheets will be able to immediately after the callbacks are announced.

Handlers choosing to review their Judges sheets are to inform the Grand Hunt Marshal who will prepare a list for the review according to the running order number in the program.

Handlers missing their scheduled Judges sheets review must wait until the conclusion of the Grand to review their Judges sheets.

Only the Handler may review the Judges sheets.

Reviews are limited to (3) minutes and will be timed by the Grand Hunt Marshal.

Handlers are encouraged to consult with the Grand Hunt Committee if there is any doubt why the retriever failed. The possibility of error does exist due to the amount of data that must be transferred from the Judges sheets to the Judge's score sheets and then to the Computer Program.

HANDLERS

At the retrieving line, voice or whistle commands may be used to steady the hunting retriever. The Handler shall not intimidate the hunting retriever at the retrieving line. No Handler shall possess any training aid or equipment that could intimidate the hunting retriever in any manner. Training aids include, but are not limited to whip, prod, cane and quirt. On the Judges' signal, the hunting retriever is to be released by the Handler, or perform as otherwise directed by the Judges. The Handler should bring the hunting retriever to and from the retrieving line, off lead. Handlers are expected to conduct themselves in a realistic hunting manner and should display true hunting form. It is highly encouraged that all Handlers take and pass a province or state certified hunter safety course.

SHOTGUNS, GUN SAFETY & HRC FIREARM SAFETY POLICY

Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. adopts the policy of the International Hunter Safety Association (available on the Club CD or www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org). All HRC Judges are required to PROVE safe each firearm used in their Hunt Test. HRC strongly recommends that all participants at a HRC/UKC Licensed event have an approved Hunter Safety Course.

Only authorized guns will be allowed in the test area. Authorized guns are those shotguns inspected and found to be in proper working order and approved for use at the test site(s) by a hunt official(s). All shotguns are assumed to be loaded with live ammunition and must be handled accordingly. The Handler must hold the shotgun in a safe hunting position. During test simulations, when directed by the Judges, the Handler must shoulder the shotgun, aim, track and shoot at the top of the arc of the thrown bird. Mishandling of firearms will result in immediate disqualification of both Handler and hunting retriever. If pump or semi-automatic shotguns are used, a plug must be in the magazine, limiting the gun to a total of three shots.

To minimize the possibility of an accidental discharge of a firearm while handling a dog during a UKC/HRC Licensed test, Handlers should not be given more poppers, or permitted to load more poppers into the shotgun than are required to complete any given segment of a test. More poppers may be provided and/or loaded at Judges discretion if they are required by the logistics of the test. However, gun safety must be a priority consideration at all times.

HUNTING EQUIPMENT

Hunting equipment such as boats, numerous decoys, duck blinds and calls will be used in these tests. The Grand Retriever will run without a collar, except where prohibited by local ordinances.

SPECTATORS / GALLERY

Reasonable silence, good manners, and sportsman-

like conduct are required of all spectators. Any spectator interfering with any test will be directed to leave the hunt grounds. Spectators shall not have on white or light colored apparel that might interfere with a dog's performance. No dogs that are participating are allowed to watch from the spectator's section.

LIGHTNING SAFETY POLICY

The HRC Lightning Safety Policy (available on the Club CD or on the HRC website at www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org) will be followed at all HRC licensed events.

TEST RULES

I. The land maximum test distance will not exceed two hundred (200) yards, but may be shorter. The water maximum test distance will not exceed one hundred-fifty (150) yards, but may be shorter. The blind retrieve maximum test distance for both land and water shall not exceed one hundred-fifty (150) yards.

II. The Grand Hunting Retriever should demonstrate a prompt and precise response to all voice, whistle, and directional commands given by the Handler. In this hunt category, no unnecessary or excessive signals or commands should be needed to assist in the process of retrieving.

III. The Grand Hunting Retriever is required to be steady at the retrieving line. At the retrieving line, the hunting retriever may NOT be touched to steady. After signaling "ready", the Handler will be able to quietly, and in a non-intimidating manner, continue to talk to the dog. Excessive verbal commands will be judged as lack of control and may be grounds for failure.

IV. The Grand Hunting Retriever will be failed for a "controlled break" and may be failed for excessive, consistent creeping. During hunting tests, the retriever may be placed a reasonable distance from the retrieving line.

V. Testing will consist of triple marks for both land and water. A quad or delayed quad is permissible in this hunt if it duplicates actual hunting conditions. At the Judges discretion, the order of retrieves will be required in an established sequence. The Handler cannot point out either the Bird Boys or Gunners location for the hunting retriever prior to the birds being thrown.

VI. During the marking tests, the retriever must be required to honor another hunting retriever at or near the retrieving line. When the hunting retriever is honoring, its view of the hunting test cannot be obstructed.

VII. During the test, a diversionary bird may be thrown as the hunting retriever is cast from or returns to the retrieving line. If the hunting retriever switches to the diversionary bird used on the return, it shall fail the test. If a diversionary bird is used during the initial cast from the retrieving line, retrieval of the diversionary bird first will not itself constitute a switch.

VIII. The hunting retriever can be cast from the retrieving line only once. If the hunting retriever is unproductive after one attempt, the Judges will instruct the Handler to pick up the hunting retriever and inform the Handler that the test is failed.

IX. Gunners and Bird Boys must be inconspicuous and blend in the local hunting environment. When Bird Boys and Gunners are hidden, an attention getting shot or shots may be fired, or a duck or goose call may be used before the birds are thrown. A shot must be fired at the bird when it is at the top of its arc.

X. Testing may duplicate a cripple retrieve.

XI. The Upland Game Test shall consist of a simulated walk-up hunt and a quartering test. A tracking test may be included, but it is not mandatory. Quartering is a mandatory task that must be completed in conjunction with this test. The hunting retriever must be steady to wing and shot. Honoring of another hunting retriever is required. During this test, the hunting retriever will be required to retrieve and locate game, as the Judges shall direct.

XII. Judges should courteously advise Handlers of desirable dress, if necessary.

XIII. Judges should advise the Handler, if necessary, that continuous failure to demonstrate true hunting form with the shotgun and safety can result in failure of the test or disqualification.

XIV. The Judge's decision is final.

IMMEDIATE FAILURE

The hunting retriever shall immediately fail the test if a Bird Boy or Gunner is required to assist in any way. A bird unfit for the table resulting from hardmouth, shall be grounds for failing the test. A controlled break is ground for immediate failure. Unsafe handling of a firearm is grounds for immediate disqualification.

CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

See Championship Points for more information.

GUIDELINES - JUDGING GRAND HUNT TESTS

Guidelines are similar to those for Finished Hunting Retrievers. The tests should be difficult, but fair, true-to-life situations. Only UKC/HRC Hunting Retriever Champions (HRCH) may participate in the International Grand Hunts.

Marking tests are wide open to the imagination and hunting experiences of the Judges. Delayed marks and diversionary birds may be used in any order. If the Judges prefer to have the retrieves picked up in a required sequence, this must be made known to the Handlers. In addition to the regular marking tests, a single retrieve is encouraged to be set up in conjunction with either or both of the blind retrieves, in keeping with actual hunting situations. It may also be permissible to run a double blind retrieve test.

Extreme care shall be taken on the part of the Judges to maintain authenticity in all testing situations, whether it be marking, blind retrieves, combinations, quartering, tracking or walk-up tests.

I. Hand signals, voice and whistle commands may be utilized by the Handler to encourage the Grand Champion to perform. However, should excessive handling or noise occur, which in the opinion of the Judges, would disturb the hunt, the Judges may declare the test a failure. The dog is being tested for both its marking and handling ability.

II. Excessive noise or intimidation to prevent a “break” should result in failure. A “controlled break” will result in failure.

III. A Judge should periodically inspect birds taken from the Handler, especially in the instance of a dog suspected of hard mouth.

IV. The Judge should look for the dog that walks obediently to the line, sits obediently and exhibits an attentive attitude.

V. The diversionary bird should be thrown as the dog returns from any retrieve. If a diversionary bird is thrown on the initial cast, Judges should specify whether or not the retrieves should be made in any established sequence. If the dog switches on a diversionary bird thrown on the return from a retrieve, the test will be failed. Remember that when a hazard or diversion of any kind is set out for the dog, it is the recovery that the dog executes that is important.

VI. Imagination in the placement of Gunners and Bird Throwers should be used on the part of the Judges. The Grand Hunting Retriever should represent the best of the breed and this should be a factor in the placement and test set-up.

VII. Quartering. The dog hunts in a radius ideally from 10 to 30 yards to the side and in front of the Handler. The live bird is flushed (released or thrown), in full view of the dog. The distance from the bird to the dog should be within scenting distance when the bird is released. The dog is required to be steady to wing and shot. The dog should immediately return to the previous hunting range upon being called and/or whistle commanded by the Handler. The Handler will shoot the gun (popper), and the gunners may kill the bird. If the dog does not immediately return to the hunting area, the test is failed.

The dog should be eager, hunt all available cover diligently and be under control. The intent of the Quartering test is not to demonstrate running a pattern, but to demonstrate a natural tendency to hunt and be under control.

In the Upland Game Test, Quartering, Tracking and Walk-up can all be combined at the discretion of the Judges.

UPLAND HUNT TEST

ELIGIBILITY

A purebred dog of an eligible breed of any age or sex may participate. It is not necessary to have earned Championship points in any other Regular Hunt Test category prior to participating in the Upland Hunt Test category.

Dogs entered in an Upland Hunt test may also participate in a Regular Hunt Test on the same date. Bitches in heat will not be allowed on the Hunt Grounds.

Dogs may participate in this category without being UKC registered. Non-UKC registered dogs participating in the Upland category have 60 days after passing the test to become UKC registered and have their Championship points applied to their record. A fee will be charged by UKC for application of points to a dog's record if not registered within 60 days.

JUDGES

There will be a minimum of two (2 Licensed OR 1 apprentice + 1 AA) Judges OR a maximum of three (2 apprentice + 1 AA) Judges for each Upland test flight of a maximum of a 30-dog field.

HANDLERS

At the retrieving line, voice or whistle commands may be used to encourage the hunting retriever. The Handler shall not intimidate the hunting retriever at the retrieving line. No Handler shall possess any training aid or equipment that could intimidate the hunting retriever in any manner. Training aids include, but are not limited to whip, prod, cane and quirt. On the Judges' signal, the hunting retriever is to be released by the Handler, or perform as otherwise directed by the Judges. The Handler should bring the hunting retriever to and from the retrieving line, off lead. Handlers are expected to conduct themselves in a realistic hunting manner and should display true hunting form. It is highly encouraged that all Handlers take and pass a province or state certified hunter safety course.

SHOTGUNS, GUN SAFETY & HRC FIREARM SAFETY POLICY

Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. adopts the policy of the International Hunter Safety Association (available on the Club CD or www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org). All HRC Judges are required to PROVE safe each firearm used in their Hunt Test. HRC strongly recommends that all participants at a HRC/UKC Licensed event have an approved Hunter Safety Course.

Only authorized guns will be allowed in the test area. Authorized guns are those shotguns inspected and found to be in proper working order and approved for use at the test site(s) by a hunt official(s). All shotguns are assumed to be loaded with live ammunition

and must be handled accordingly. The Handler must hold the shotgun in a safe hunting position. During test simulations, when directed by the Judges, the Handler must shoulder the shotgun, aim, track and shoot at the top of the arc of the thrown bird. Mishandling of firearms will result in immediate disqualification of both Handler and hunting retriever. If pump or semi-automatic shotguns are used, a plug must be in the magazine, limiting the gun to a total of three shots.

To minimize the possibility of an accidental discharge of a firearm while handling a dog during an UKC/HRC LICENSED test, Handlers should not be given more poppers, or permitted to load more poppers into the shotgun than are required to complete any given segment of a test. More poppers may be provided and/or loaded at a Judge's discretion if they are required by the logistics of the test. However, gun safety must be a priority consideration at all times.

SPECTATORS /GALLERY

Reasonable silence, good manners, and sportsmanlike conduct are required of all spectators. Any spectator interfering with any test will be directed to leave the hunt grounds. Spectators shall not have on white or light colored attire that might interfere with a dog's performance. No dogs that are participating are allowed to watch from the spectator's section.

LIGHTNING SAFETY POLICY

The HRC Lightning Safety Policy (available on the Club CD or on the HRC website at www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org) will be followed at all HRC licensed events.

TEST RULES

The Upland Hunt Test will be conducted according to the rules already established in this rulebook for the Finished Hunting Retriever. Plus, the changes or additions to these rules which follow:

1. The Upland Game Test shall consist of a simulated walk-up hunt, a quartering test, and an optional tracking test. The Upland hunting dog must be steady to wing and shot. Honoring of another dog is required. During this test the dog will be required to locate and retrieve game, as the Judges shall direct.

2. Quartering. The dog hunts in a radius ideally 10 to 30 yards to the front of the Handler.

In all cases, a natural flush is preferred to the use of traps, pens, cages, or other devices designed to contain and then release birds during the quartering test. However, when conditions exist that prohibit the use of natural flushes (e.g., weather, poor birds, insufficient cover, etc.), such devices may be utilized but must be sufficiently camouflaged. When such devices must be used, the live bird is released (or thrown) in full view of the dog.

The live bird is flushed (thrown or released) in full view of the dog. The distance from the bird to the dog should be within scenting distance when the bird is released. The dog is required to be steady to wing and steady to shot. The dog should immediately return to the previous hunting range upon being called and/or whistle commanded by the Handler. The Handler will shoot the gun (popper), and the gunners may kill the bird. If the dog does not immediately return to the hunting area, the test is failed.

The dog should be eager to hunt all available cover diligently and be under control. The intent of the quartering test is not to demonstrate running a pattern, but to demonstrate a natural tendency to hunt and be under control.

In the Upland Game Test, quartering, tracking and walk-up can all be combined at the discretion of the Judges.

Walk-up. A quiet, unobtrusive reminder to sit is acceptable as the bird flushes or is shot. Great care must be exercised by the Judges that this does not carry over to intimidation.

Each Upland Gun Dog must be presented with a minimum of two (2) birds to “flush” in the quartering test.

3. Tracking. If the Judges use a drag scented path, it should not be less than forty (40) yards in length nor more than seventy-five (75) yards in length. It should also contain at least one distinguishable change in direction.

IMMEDIATE FAILURE

The hunting retriever shall immediately fail the test if a Gunner or Bird Boy is required to help or assist in any way. A bird unfit for the table resulting from hard-mouth shall be grounds for failing the test. Failure to pass any hunting test will not prevent a hunting retriever from participating in subsequent tests, unless the Handler is unsafe in handling a gun.

CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS

See Championship Points for more information.

GUIDELINES FOR JUDGING UPLAND HUNT TESTS

I. Walk-up: The Judge should look for the dog that walks attentively at heel and does not have to be loudly reminded to stay in position. Remember the hunter is trying to walk up or sneak up on sitting birds to get a flush and a shot. A dog that runs ahead or has to be loudly controlled will most likely scare off the birds before the hunter can get within gun range.

It is not necessary for the dog to sit when the bird is flushed or released, but it should not leave the retrieving line before being commanded to do so. The retrieving line in the Walk-up test is the point where the Handler and dog are when the bird is flushed.

II. Quartering: The Upland Hunting Retriever should

hunt the available cover on its own, without continual coaxing by the Handler. In general the dog should use its nose to hunt the cover, with eyes attentive, ears erect, and tail up. The dog does not need to run a pattern, but should show a natural ability to hunt the cover and be under control. Hand, voice or whistle commands are acceptable to begin the dog hunting, change the dog's direction or hunt areas, or keep the dog in gun range. However, a markdown should occur and the test may be failed if the dog is directed by the Handler for every change of direction and to every patch of cover.

The Upland Hunting dog is expected to flush the bird.

After the flush is made the dog should come to a stop on its own or on the command of the Handler. It is not necessary for the dog to sit, but it should come to a stop within a reasonable distance after the flush to allow the Handler and gunners a clean and safe shot. A dog that does not stop on the Handler's whistle or voice command should be assessed a markdown for a refusal, the severity of which will be determined by the conditions of the test and the individual flush. For example a dog that is merely repositioning or moving out of heavy cover to mark the fall better, and then stops on its own or on command, should not be marked down. Any subsequent refusals by the dog to stop will place the dog in increasing jeopardy of failure. A controlled break will result if the dog stops after the flush, then leaves, before being sent by the Handler, to retrieve the downed bird or chase a fly away bird, and then is stopped by the Handler. Judges should instruct gunners to let the bird fly off a short distance (i.e. 10 to 20 yards) before shooting and to make every effort not to drop the bird at the dog's feet. A bird dropped a few feet in front of a dog has a much different effect on steadiness than one dropped 10 to 20 yards away, and Judges must take this into consideration in making their evaluation.

III. Tracking: The Upland Hunting dog should be evaluated on its ability to find a scent trail and follow it to the bird. The dog is not required to stay exactly on the scent trail, but should demonstrate progress along the drag scented path to the dead bird or along the route of a running bird.

Voice or whistle commands may be used to encourage the dog to hunt, but hand signals should not be used once the dog is set on the beginning of the trail. Voice commands such as "back" or "over" would not be acceptable, but commands such as "hunt 'em up" or "find the bird" are acceptable. Sufficient time should be given for the dog to work out the scent trail as long as it is making progress along the trail. If a dog strays completely out of the tracking area it may be called in and set again on the beginning of the trail. However, if the dog aimlessly hunts with no direction along the scent trail and has to continually be reset on the track the test may be failed. Once the bird is found it should be retrieved and delivered to hand.

GUIDELINES FOR JUDGES & CONDUCTING HUNTS

1. Regular Hunt Test will have two Judges per flight, per category. At least one of the Judges must be Licensed for that category. If one Judge is an Apprentice Judge, the Licensed Judge must be an AA Licensed Judge at that category. For Upland Hunt Test, there will be a minimum of two (2 Licensed OR 1 apprentice + 1 AA) Judges per flight, OR a maximum of three (2 apprentice + 1 AA) Judges for each Upland flight. It should be remembered that the AA Licensed Judge should guide, train, and assist the apprentice Judge in every way possible.

2. All Judges should report to the hunt grounds one day prior to the hunt to meet with the Hunt Committee and Marshal. They should thoroughly go over and select the hunt areas in order to test the hunting retriever in a true-to-life situation.

3. Judges should utilize Club-prepared blinds and equipment and cooperate with the Hunt Committee in preparation for the hunt.

4. Judges should meet with the Marshal of the Hunt on the day before, check the list of equipment and ensure that the following materials are on hand:

- Shotguns (in good working order)
- Bird Flagging
- Boats, Paddles, and Life Preservers
- Duct Tape
- Motor (if needed)
- Stools/Chairs
- Decoys Machete
- Poppers String
- Duck/Dove/Goose Calls
- Extra Camo Material
- Blind Brush, etc.

5. All bird boy and test hunt blinds should be built and all tests should be set up one day prior to the hunt. (Omit if different test is being run in the same area that day.)

6. Safety should be the Judge's main concern in setting up the most realistic hunting test for the dog and Handler. Other things such as convenience, gallery, etc., come second.

7. No Judge shall allow a Club to incorporate one hunting test category with another (i.e., running Seasoned with Finished.)

8. No Judge shall handle a dog if he or she is judging a Regular Hunt that day. Exceptions: Using the dog as test dog for the category he/she is judging; or an Upland Judge running a separate Licensed Upland Hunt on the same day that he/she is not judging.

9. A Judge should bring all materials needed the day of the hunt such as: pens, notebook, camouflage clothing, chair, non-alcoholic beverages, raingear, etc.

10. A Judge must not be under the influence of alcohol or any illegal drugs. (See UKC Policy on Drinking and Illegal Drugs - page 67.)

11. All Judges should be at the Hunt grounds a minimum of one hour before starting time on hunt day. They should instruct Marshals, Bird Throwers, and Gunners to do the same.

12. Judges should agree prior to the hunt what they consider to be major or minor faults of a dog's performance. They should also agree on points that are outstanding.

13. Before a test begins, it should be decided which Judge shall signal for birds and watch for no-birds while the other Judge watches the dog for manners, marking, etc.

14. One Judge should be designated to inspect each bird delivered for signs of hard-mouth. All birds should be re-inspected before re-birding. The Judge should also assure that no birds are lying around the retrieving line particularly in the Started Category.

15. All communications should be worked out with the Marshal on receiving order of dogs.

16. Gunners should be assigned positions and instructed as to their duties.

17. All Judges should know the bird arrangement for tests, so that a minimum amount of time is spent on re-birding.

18. All Bird Throwers should be properly instructed on what they are expected to do.

19. A Judge should be totally ready to start their test at official time with the test dog.

20. A complete test description should be given to Handlers assembled before each test dog is run.

21. Judges should greet each Handler in a friendly and courteous manner and discuss:

- A. If the Handler understands the test;
- B. That a loaded shotgun will be used and that it must be handled with care;
- C. That true hunting form should be used (i.e. a bird should be tracked and shot at the top of its arc) STARTED, SEASONED, FINISHED, UPLAND and GRAND; and
- D. Areas where dogs are allowed to be worked while at the point of origin.

22. A Judge's disposition can make or break a Hunt. Please make every effort to settle down a nervous Handler.

23. Judges shall be quick to call NO-DON'T SHOOT when flyaways turn toward the gallery or bird throwers. A dog may be judged on a flyaway or given a rerun.

24. Judges should take into consideration the problems facing the first few dogs to run.

25. Judges should keep the flow of the Hunt at a good and relaxed pace.

26. Judges should look at a reasonable number of

dogs before eliminating any leg of the test. No dog will carry any score on a part of a test that was eliminated.

27. Reruns should be placed at least three dogs down the line instead of being brought back to the line immediately. Judges should also give instruction on the rerun to the Marshal.

28. If another dog interferes with a working dog and causes a bad performance, the dog interfered with should be given a rerun.

29. Judges should ask a Handler to pick up their dog if that dog has, in the Judge's mind, already failed and is creating bad habits or endangering itself.

30. All Judges are expected to remain at the hunt site so that test results may be discussed. Judges' notebooks shall be open for review by any Handler. Judges are to keep the judges sheets for one (1) year.

31. All Judges should not only pass judgment, but also use good judgment.

32. With the exception of the Grand Hunts, Judges will evaluate the same dogs on land and water in all multiple flight Hunts.

33. A dog is required to run all tests to earn points. It must do all retrieves on both land and water. If for some reason all of the tests cannot be run, for example lack of daylight, the test is to be run the next day. If the dog cannot run the next day, no points will be given and the Club is to refund the entry fee.

34. The reason for limiting the number of entries is to give each dog an opportunity to run all tests even if they failed a portion of a test. However, the Hunt Committee and Judges may by unanimous vote permit the use of "call-back" procedures to allow dogs that are still in contention to participate in an event that could not otherwise be completed due to unavoidable situations such as might occur with severe storms. In such situations, the Judges will explain the situation to the gallery and Handlers, and the Hunt Secretary will explain the reason for using "call-backs" on the *UKC Hunt Report Form*. Every reasonable effort must be made to provide all dogs with an opportunity to participate after the "call-backs" are completed.

35. Handlers with physical handicaps should advise the Hunt Secretary of their special needs prior to the hunt date. The hunt committee and Judges will make every reasonable effort to accommodate the needs of the handicapped so they can enjoy and participate in all HRC/UKC Licensed hunts and tests.

FORMAL COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

The Handler of a UKC Registered dog entered in a UKC licensed event has the right to make a formal complaint when a UKC rule or policy has been violated.

The sequence of filing a formal complaint is as follows:

1. All possible effort should be made to resolve the problem at the Club level, with the individuals involved at

the time of the event, this is the simplest and best way to deal with a problem. Since all parties involved are present and the course of events is fresh in everyone's mind.

The alleged rule violation/problem should be presented to the Hunt Chairperson. That person will assemble any Club officers present and any members of the Hunt Committee whose input they feel is necessary. If there is no Hunt Chairperson for this event, the alleged rule violation/problem should be presented to the Hunt Secretary.

2. If a situation cannot be resolved with the Hunt Committee and a formal complaint is made, it must be made on a *Formal Complaint Form*. *Formal Complaint Forms* are provided with the UKC License and sent to the Club along with the *UKC Hunt Report Form* and the *HRC Hunt Report Form*.

The *UKC Formal Complaint Form* is a three-part carbon-less form. The first page is to be sent to UKC The second page is to be retained by the Club for a period of at least one (1) year. The third page is to be retained by the person(s) making the complaint.

The Handler making the complaint must sign the formal complaint.

The Hunt Committee will consider no Formal Complaints after a period of 30 minutes has elapsed from the time all categories of hunt test results are given.

3. A meeting of the Hunt Committee and any Club officers must take place as soon as the *UKC Formal Complaint Form* is filled out by the individual(s) making the complaint.

After the meeting has been held and a decision reached, the Club must report the results and an explanation of the decision reached on the *UKC Formal Complaint Form*. The report must be signed by the Club's officers and Hunt Chairperson, and include their phone numbers and the office title they hold. Send the *UKC Formal Complaint Form* along with the *UKC Hunt Report Form* to UKC's Hunting Programs Department, 100 E Kilgore Rd., Kalamazoo MI 49002-5584.

4. Once a Formal Complaint is filed it can only be rescinded by the complainant until midnight the day of the event.

5. UKC will review the results of the meeting, and will either agree or disagree with the Club's decision; however, UKC reserves unto itself, in its sole judgment and discretion, the right to make any corrections it deems necessary.

6. UKC and HRC will not consider the use of any electronic audio or video recording device(s) or recorded materials in the process of reviewing a formal complaint regarding a Judge's decision.

7. The time limit and sequence must be strictly followed.

UKC POLICY ON DRINKING and ILLEGAL DRUG VIOLATIONS

The use of alcohol and/or illegal drugs during UKC licensed events is a violation of UKC rules and policies.

If an Owner/Handler is determined to be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs while participating at a UKC licensed event by the Club Officer(s), Judge(s) or event officials, they and their dog are to be excused from competition immediately and must leave the hunt grounds. The individual may have someone else handle their other dogs that day if they are already entered. The Owner/Handler may not enter any UKC licensed event for a minimum of six months to a maximum of two years from the date of the violation.

If it is determined by the Officer(s) of the Club that a Judge or apprentice Judge is under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs prior to or while judging, the Judge is to be immediately excused from their duties and must leave the hunt grounds. They will not be allowed to judge any UKC licensed events for a minimum of one (1) year to a maximum of ten (10) years. If a Judge is drinking or using illegal drugs during a licensed event, even if they are not judging, they will not be allowed to judge UKC licensed events for a minimum of one (1) year to a maximum of ten (10) years.

It is the Club's responsibility to report such rule infractions in writing to UKC and HRC along with the appropriate *UKC Hunt Report Form* and the *HRC Hunt Report Form*. If a Club is aware of such rule violations and does not report it to UKC and HRC, they place themselves in jeopardy of losing the right to hold UKC licensed events.

A spectator or visitor must leave the hunt grounds if it has been determined they have been drinking during the Hunt or taking illegal drugs.

After the conclusion of the hunt test, after all dogs in all categories have completed the tests, the Club may enforce any alcohol policy that the club deems appropriate.

DISQUALIFIED FOR FIGHTING, UKC POLICY

UKC will notify the owners of dogs "Disqualified for Fighting" after the dog has been Disqualified for Fighting three times within a two-year period. The third time a dog is disqualified for fighting within two years, the dog is barred from participating in UKC events for two years.

When three (3) HRC reports have been received by UKC indicating a dog has been "disqualified for fighting" or attempting to fight within a two-year period:

The reports will be checked to see if the Judge and Hunt Committee and two different officers of the Club have properly certified them. If the reports are properly verified, the registered owner of the dog will be sent a certified letter advising of the dates and the names of the Clubs that have reported their dog "disqualified for fighting," the name of the dog, the registered owner's name

and address and the time barred for fighting will be published in HUNTING RETRIEVER magazine. They will be requested to return their UKC Registration Certificate and Pedigree by a specific date (approximately 30 days) so they can be stamped BARRED FOR FIGHTING UNTIL _____. The dog will be barred for two (2) years. At the end of the two- (2) year period, the registered owner of the dog can return the Registration Certificate and Pedigree, along with the proper fee, to the UKC Registration Office for the issuance of a new Registration Certificate and Pedigree. All reference to fighting will be removed, and the dog will once again be allowed to enter UKC licensed events.

If the owner of the dog does not send in the UKC Registration Certificate and Pedigree by the deadline indicated in the notification letter, the following actions will be taken.

1. Transfer of ownership will not be allowed.
2. No litter(s) will be registered where the dog is the sire or dam.
3. The dog will be barred from receiving any UKC Championship points. If the UKC Registration Certificate and Pedigree is returned after the notification deadline they will be reviewed on an individual basis as to what action will be taken.

United Kennel Club, Inc. has the right to inspect all reports, scorecards and documents of UKC events and to review those documents for any reason. Some, but not all, of the items reviewed are A) scores; B) dogs disqualified for fighting; C) errors by the recording person; and D) documentation excluded for any reason. UKC reserves the right to correct any mistakes found.

Even though the report or other documentation might not have on it the signatures of a Judge or Club Officer, UKC reserves the right unto itself to make the necessary adjustments in line with our Inherent Right and Powers.

MISCONDUCT & DISCIPLINE

Effective January 1, 2007

Misconduct

Misconduct may be defined as conduct that is prejudicial to the interests of the sport of purebred dogs. There are two general categories of misconduct:

Category 1. Wrongdoing during or associated with a UKC Licensed event. This may include, but is not limited to, threatening, assaulting or battering another individual; falsifying any event-related document; cheating or conspiring to cheat in order to improve the standing of any dog competing at an event; abusing or neglecting a dog in conjunction with an event; and any other UKC event rule infraction.

Category 2. Violation of UKC rules. This may include, but is not limited to, falsification of UKC registration papers;

misidentification of a dog or the parentage of a dog; non-event-related abuse or neglect of dogs; or continued failure to keep proper registration records. Procedures for handling event related (category 1) misconduct are listed immediately below. Procedures for handling rules violations (category 2) are listed on page 70.

Procedures For Handling Misconduct During Or Associated With A UKC Licensed Event Covered By This Rulebook (Misconduct Category 1)

UKC Standard Of Conduct

United Kennel Club events are intended to be family oriented recreation for dog enthusiasts and their UKC-registered dogs. Accordingly, UKC expects the highest standard of conduct at these events. The following procedures apply to all cases of misconduct occurring or associated with a UKC Licensed Coonhound, Beagle or HRC event, regardless of whether the misconduct is discovered during or after the event.

Jurisdiction

All persons present on the grounds of a UKC event during the event hours are subject to the jurisdiction of the UKC and are therefore subject to these UKC standards of conduct and disciplinary procedures. In addition, UKC has jurisdiction over misconduct that may occur off the grounds of the event or outside event hours. This paragraph shall be interpreted as broadly as is necessary to regulate any off-grounds misconduct that is prejudicial to the interests of the sport of purebred dogs. One example of such off grounds event-related misconduct is abuse of motel rooms by dogs or persons attending the events.

The Complaint

Any person who becomes aware of an act of event related misconduct during the hours of a UKC Licensed event, must notify a UKC-licensed official or any host club official at any time during the hours of the event. A UKC Licensed official so notified must immediately inform a host club official of the complaint. The host club may immediately expel any individual from the event where there is probable cause to believe that the individual threatened, intimidated, assaulted, or battered any person or abused or neglected a dog.

Upon receipt of a complaint, the host club official shall provide the complainant with a UKC Misconduct Report and Hearing Form. The complainant must complete all of Section 1, providing the following:

1. The complainant's name;
2. The complainant's address;
3. The complainant's daytime and evening phone numbers;
4. A complete factual description of the exact conduct alleged to have occurred, including the identity of

all witnesses, other persons, and dogs involved in the alleged misconduct; and,

5. The specific sections of the pertinent UKC rule-book which have allegedly been violated.

The host club official shall enter the names, and where known, the addresses, daytime and evening phone numbers of all witnesses in Section 2 of the Misconduct Report and Hearing Form. The Misconduct Report and Hearing Form shall be forwarded to UKC with the Event Report. No action will be taken on a Misconduct Report and Hearing Form unless it is signed and dated by the complainant.

Any person who becomes aware of an act of event-related misconduct after the event, must notify UKC in writing. UKC staff shall forward to the complainant a Misconduct Report and Hearing Form. Complainant shall complete Sections 1, 2, and 3 of the Misconduct Report and Hearing Form. Section 1 must be filled out completely. Complainant must fill out as much of Sections 2 and 3 as he/she is able and return the form to UKC.

All signed Misconduct Report and Hearing Forms shall be reviewed by the UKC staff within thirty (30) of receipt. If in the sole judgment and discretion of the UKC staff there is sufficient cause, UKC will notify the host club who received the complaint to hold a hearing on the complaint. The notice to hold a hearing shall include a copy of the original Misconduct Report and Hearing Form submitted and signed by the complainant.

Notice To Hold A Hearing

Within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the UKC notice to hold a hearing, the Club President of the host club that received the complaint shall:

1. Appoint a Hearing Committee Chairperson and two Hearing Committee members from among the club's officers and board members. No officer or director who witnessed the alleged misconduct shall serve on the Hearing Committee;

2. Set the time and place of the hearing. The date shall be no more than thirty (30) days from the date the UKC notice to hold a hearing is received by the host club. The date, place and time shall be selected to reasonably allow the person against whom the complaint is made (hereinafter referred to as the "respondent") to attend;

3. Notify the respondent by regular and certified mail (return receipt requested) of the date, place, and time of the hearing; the exact conduct which is the subject of the complaint; the name of the complainant; and the names of all witnesses. The Notice of Hearing shall further advise the respondent that he/she will not be allowed to have an attorney present at the hearing and shall also include a statement of the following respondent's rights:

a. The right to be present during the testimony of all witnesses;

b. The right to cross-examine all witnesses;

c. The right to present witnesses on his/her own behalf;

d. The right to testify in his/her own behalf;

4. Notify the witnesses by regular mail or telephone of the date, place, and time of the hearing; the exact conduct which is the subject of the complaint; and the name of the complainant; and,

5. The respondent must notify the Club President within three (3) days of receipt of the Notice of Hearing if he/she is unable to attend. The Club President will make every reasonable effort to accommodate the respondent in setting a new hearing date, time and place, but shall not postpone the hearing date any more than an additional ten (10) days.

If The Respondent Fails To Appear At The Hearing

If, after having been advised of the complaint and the date, time and place of the hearing, the respondent fails to appear, the hearing shall proceed without the respondent.

The Hearing

The Hearing Committee Chairperson shall advise the respondent of the following rights:

1. The right to be present during the testimony of all witness;

2. The right to cross-examine all witnesses;

3. The right to present witnesses on his/her own behalf;

4. The right to testify in his/her own behalf.

All witnesses who come before the Hearing Committee shall testify under oath or affirmation administered by the Hearing Chairperson.¹

Witnesses who are unable to attend in person may testify by telephone if a speakerphone is available in the hearing room, but written statements or affidavits must not be considered. Clubs shall make a reasonable effort to provide a speakerphone in cases where a witness is willing to testify but is unable to do so because of distance or any other compelling reason.

The complainant shall present his/her evidence first, followed by the respondent's evidence. Each party shall be allowed to cross-examine the other's witnesses. Members of the Hearing Committee shall also be allowed to question the witnesses. Spectators shall not be allowed at hearings except for UKC Field Representatives appointed to attend the hearing on behalf of UKC or UKC staff. No party shall be entitled to have an attorney present at the hearing.

¹ If a witness is unwilling because of religious or other beliefs to take the traditional oath (Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?), then the following affirmation shall be offered: "Do you promise to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?"

² If the amount of evidence you need to be absolutely certain of a fact is equal to 100%, then preponderance is equal to 51%. In other words, the evidence must be sufficient to convince the members of the Hearing Committee that the fact asserted is more probably true than not true.

The Findings

At the conclusion of the hearing, the Hearing Committee shall deliberate and make their findings based on a preponderance of the evidence.² A two thirds majority is sufficient to make findings. The findings shall be reported as follows:

1. Whether the alleged misconduct was proven to have occurred;
2. Whether the alleged misconduct was prejudicial to the interests of the sport of purebred dogs;
3. Whether the alleged misconduct occurred in connection with a UKC event.

In making findings, the Hearing Committee may not consider the respondent's general reputation or status in the sport of purebred dogs, prior acts of misconduct for which no disciplinary action was taken, nor the extent of the respondent's investment in dogs. The sole consideration must be the specific instance of misconduct with which the respondent is charged.

Completing the UKC Misconduct Report and Hearing Form

The Hearing Committee Chairperson shall complete Sections 3, 4, and 5 of the Misconduct Report and Hearing Form as follows:

1. Section 3. The name, address, and phone number of each witness shall be filled in the appropriate spaces, where needed. The Summary of Testimony shall include a comprehensive summary of the testimony of each witness, including the specific facts established from the evidence that led to the Committee's findings and recommendations, and the specific UKC rules or policies that were violated.

2. Section 4. The time (only where respondent was served in person) and date of service of the Notice of Hearing, and the names, addresses and phone numbers of the Hearing Committee members shall be entered in the appropriate spaces. Respondent's presence at or absence from the hearing shall be noted in this section.

3. Section 5. One block must be checked on each line under Findings. If the Hearing Committee finds that the alleged misconduct did occur, that the misconduct was prejudicial to the interests of the sport of purebred dogs, and that the misconduct occurred in conjunction with a UKC event, then the Committee must recommend a penalty. Each Committee member must enter his/her signature and date in the spaces provided.

Within ten (10) days of the hearing, the Hearing Chairperson shall forward one copy of the UKC Misconduct Report and Hearing Form to: Manager, Hunting Programs, United Kennel Club, 100 E Kilgore Road, Kalamazoo MI 49002-5584. The club hosting the event shall also keep a copy of the completed UKC Misconduct Report and Hearing Form.

Procedures For Handling Misconduct Not Associated With A UKC Licensed Event (Misconduct Category 2)

UKC Standard Of Conduct

UKC dog breeders and owners must comply with all UKC rules, regulations, and policies, as well as all local, county, state and federal government regulations for kennel operations.

Jurisdiction

All breeders who register individual dogs or litters with UKC are subject to the jurisdiction of the UKC and are therefore subject to these UKC standards of conduct and disciplinary procedures.

The Complaint

A person who becomes aware of an act of misconduct not associated with an event must notify UKC in writing. The notification should include all known facts and circumstances surrounding the alleged misconduct; the date of and location where the alleged misconduct occurred; and any witnesses who may have additional knowledge of or information about the alleged misconduct.

Investigation, Findings, and Recommendations

UKC staff shall investigate such complaints and shall report findings and recommendations to the appropriate UKC Department Head.

Penalties For Misconduct

The appropriate UKC Department Head shall review all Hearing Committee findings and results (category 1 misconduct) and staff investigation findings and results (category 2 misconduct). If the Department Head upholds the findings of the Hearing Committee or staff, one or more of the following penalties shall be imposed:

1. Probation for a period up to three years. During the period of probation, the individual shall be closely monitored by UKC. Any other instance of misconduct may result in immediate suspension or barring at the discretion of the appropriate UKC Department Head and without further due process.

2. Suspension. The appropriate UKC Department Head shall impose a minimum Three Hundred Dollar (\$300) fine and a minimum one-year suspension for probation violations and for most other serious acts of misconduct. The period of suspension shall begin upon UKC's mailing of the notification to the respondent via certified mail (return receipt requested), but the fine must be paid by certified check or money order before the time counts toward the sentence. For example, a person may be notified on January 1 that his penalty will be a one-year suspension and a fine of three hundred dollars. This individual will be suspended as soon as notice of the penalty is mailed by UKC to the respondent, but the one-year suspension does not start until the date UKC receives payment of the fine. If a respondent waits until March 1 to pay the fine, the suspension will actually run fourteen months

until midnight of February 28 the following year.

3. Barring. The appropriate UKC Department Head shall impose barring for an indefinite period of time for repeat instances of misconduct or for the most serious forms of misconduct, including, but not limited to, cruelty to dogs. The period of barring shall begin upon UKC's mailing of the notification to the respondent by certified mail (return receipt requested).

Suspension and Barring

During the period of suspension or barring, a person who is suspended or barred:

1. May not register any dogs in his/her name (joint or individual ownership). No dog registered in the name of a suspended/barrred person (joint or individual ownership) may be used for breeding and no offspring of such a dog is eligible for registration with UKC. A suspended/barrred person may transfer any dogs currently registered in his/her name (joint or individual ownership), except that no dog registered in the name of a suspended/barrred person, regardless of co-ownership status, may be transferred to any member of that person's family.

2. May not register any litters or sign any litter registrations in any capacity.

3. May not enter or participate in any way in any UKC-licensed event. No dog registered in the name of a suspended/barrred person (joint or individual ownership) may be entered or participate in any way in any UKC Licensed event.

4. May not receive Championship points for any dog registered in his/her name (joint or individual ownership).

5. May not advertise in any UKC publication or internet site.

Appeals

Any person placed on probation, suspended or barred by a UKC Department Head may appeal directly, in writing, to the UKC President or the Vice President for Administration. The decision of the President or Vice President for Administration is final. UKC Inherent Rights and Powers

Notwithstanding anything herein, and regardless of whether these procedures are followed, under UKC's Inherent Rights and Powers, UKC reserves the right to itself and its sole judgment and discretion, to investigate any suspected misconduct and to impose such sanctions and penalties as deemed appropriate.

**Forms referred to in this rulebook are available
on the HRC Club CDs,
www.HuntingRetrieverClub.org
or may be requested from the
HRC Administrative Secretary.**

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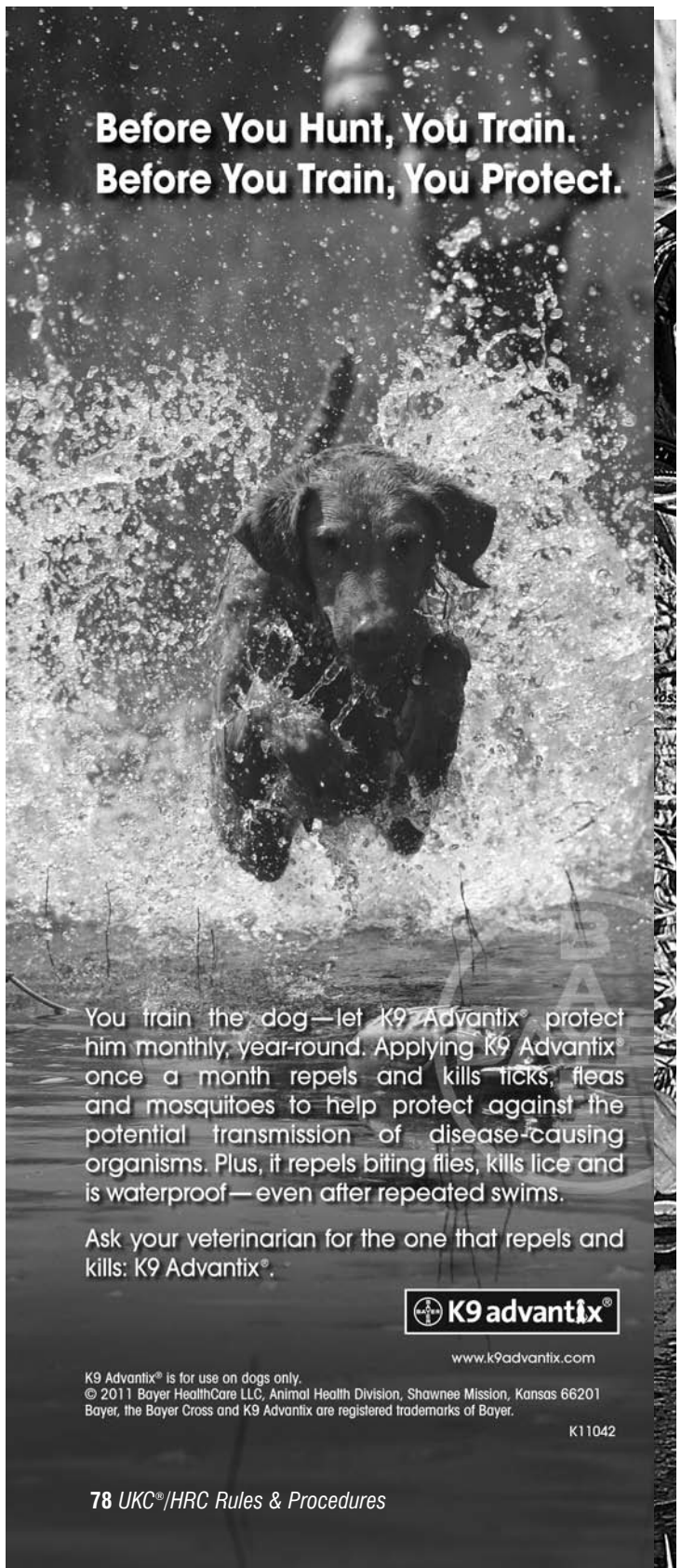
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