COONHOUND ADVISOR

Trevor Wade

Signs of spring are starting to pop up here in southwest Michigan. The snow has thawed, the temperatures are on the rise and with that, ticks have started crawling. Just last night, with the temperature hovering around 35°, I came in from hunting my young hound for a couple drops and found one crawling on me. Those things are relentless. I know not long from now those mutant northern mosquitos will be flying. My 40% deet bug spray seems to act more as an attractant than a deterrent. I am open to any and all tips for defending myself against those wretched things.

On a different note, with the spring season comes a bulk of the major coonhound events. The upcoming events schedule is full of RQEs, State Championships and Breed Days in the coming months. Speaking of RQEs, we have changed up the process a little bit for hounds that qualify. As many know, all cast winners in the hunt and category winners in the show at these Regional Qualifying Events used to receive a receipt from the club after the fact, that served as an entry form into the next leg of the World Championship. To take some of the strain off of the host club's officials and also, save some paper from the folks who lost or threw away the receipt without reading it first, we will now be sending out the win receipt/entry form with the qualifying certificate once the report is processed. The hope is that this becomes a more efficient process and takes away the hassle of keeping up with that important piece of paper.

Be Courteous!

It's no secret that hunting and hound hunting in particular is under attack. Every week you see new bill proposals and legislation pop up in states across the nation trying to impede on our rights as hunters and houndsmen. To further hinder our ability to enjoy our lifestyle, hunting grounds are becoming less readily available and it seems we are constantly fighting negative stereotypes. Why then, would a hunter feed those stereotypes by tossing their garbage out on a landowner's property while hunting?

When a fellow came to the stage Saturday afternoon at the Winter Classic and let us know that he wouldn't be able to guide that night due to someone on his cast throwing out garbage at his hunting spot the previous night my blood pressure must have shot through the roof of the civic center. The landowner was furious with him and he was on the way to clean up the land, and wasn't sure he'd ever be welcomed back. In this situation, you have a guy who went out of his way to procure land to hunt on and then volunteer that land to allow other hunters the opportunity to hunt their dog and compete in a cast there. Now it's possible that one disrespectful person could have ruined that spot for him for good.

I know I am preaching to the very small minority here. Out of about 750 dogs/handlers, we had one reported incidence that could have stemmed from one person's blatant disrespect. It's beyond me why they couldn't wait to throw their garbage out at the hotel or gas station later that night. But just to make

things perfectly clear, it only takes one person to plant a bad seed in someone's mind. It only takes one person to give someone a negative impression that may result in them classifying all hunters in that category. Don't be that one person. Be respectful of your guide and the land you are hunting on, whether it be in a competition or just out pleasure hunting.

The topics below were sent to me by Allen and pertain to different scenarios that may occur when entering a dog in an event.

Event Official Responsible for Separating Multiple Entries

Q: I've been serving as the Hunt Director for our licensed club events and this topic came up recently after we ended up with two dogs owned, by the same owner, drawing out in the same cast. It was my understanding that the handler needed to request the two dogs be split up in different casts. The owner questioned the two dogs having been drawn to the same cast but then dropped it after he was told it was his responsibility to request they be split. He was fine with that decision but did say it's not how he understood the rule to be. Since then, we've got some conflicting answers when it comes to splitting multiple owner entries. Could UKC address this topic?

A: Page 50 of the current Coonhound Rulebook provides the answer. It states; *{Owners having multiple entries will have dogs drawn to separate casts if possible.}* The best advice we can give for this and many other topics is to go directly to the rulebook when there is uncertainty on any specific topic, opposed to relying on he said - she said information. Leaning on others for clarifications works sometimes, depending on the knowledge of the person you're asking, but it's always a good idea to go to the rulebook and see for yourself first. There is no mention of it in the rulebook that it is the owner's responsibility to request his or her multiple entries be separated.

The other part involving multiple entries and the draw to touch on is how to mark those multiple owner entries. Back in the day it was common for the Master of Hounds to mark an "X" or a "G" for Gingerich or a "K" for Kellam on the back of each of their multiple entry slips. This way, the Master of Hounds knew to pull out one of the entries if they happened to draw to the same scorecard. This procedure was all fine and dandy until someone watching doesn't know what these marks are for, and they come up with some allegation that the officials are marking entries to manipulate the draw. Not to say that hasn't happened, but more times than not, they were instead marked for multiple owner entry purposes.

UKC suggests eliminating any unnecessary perceptions and stay away from marking the back of entry slips for any purpose. There are other fair ways to keep from drawing multiple owner entries to the same scorecard. One is the way UKC and the Field Reps deal with multiple owner entries at the major events. It's simple. After all entry slips are on the cards (upside down), including any blanks to account for any three-dog casts, flip them over and now check for multiple owner entries before sticking any slips to the cards. If there are any multiples, we simply replace the bottom multiple on the card with the fourth entry slip on the next scorecard in numerical sequence. Some onlookers may not know exactly what's going when that occurs, which it very seldom does, but at least they aren't seeing marks on the back of a bunch of entry slips and quickly come to conclusions

that they are marked for whatever unintended reasons they might come up with.

Multiple Owner Entries on Same Card After Casts are Drawn

Q: After casts are drawn and called out, it is determined that the first owner of two dogs drew out in the same cast. This was an inadvertent mistake by the Hunt Director. What is the best way to handle this issue? Or is it too late to do anything about it since all casts have already been drawn out?

A: I would assume this issue became apparent long before all other casts had left the grounds. Therefore, the event official should fix the problem. No, it is not necessary to call everyone back in the clubhouse and redo the whole draw. It can be fixed in a fair way that is not complicated at all. As soon as the Hunt Director becomes aware of it, he or she should simply call all judge's, still on the grounds, back in with their scorecards. A quick and fair way is to take those cards and turn them all upside down, shuffle them up a bit, and lay them down on the table. Have someone pick any one of the cards. Take the last entry on the card that was selected and switch the entry with one of the multiples.

Deciding which of the multiples goes on the new cast, should be done in some fair way that is not done by choice or be the owner's decision. It might be as simple as taking the lowest multiple on the card or another manner that is considered fair. It's not the end of the world and can and should be fixed, if possible. The only way it might not be possible is if all other casts had already left the grounds or there is not one close enough to turn around and come back. Human errors happen. We should be considerate of that and not allow an inconsiderate handler to attempt to make it one.

Dog Not Yet Transferred to New Owner with Regard to Multiple Entries

Q: When a new owner enters a dog in an event and that dog has not been transferred into their name, is the event official required to split the entries when that same owner has another dog entered in the event? Here's an example. Dog A is owned and registered to Allen Gingerich. Dog B is registered to Todd Kellam but was recently purchased by Allen Gingerich. The Bill of Sale (on the backside of the Registration Certificate) shows that Allen Gingerich is the new owner of Dog B but has not yet been transferred/registered to him. May/should Dog A and Dog B be intentionally split or drawn to different casts?

A: Owners having multiple entries in an event are only intentionally split if the dogs are registered in the same owner's name. The registered owner is the name on the front side of the dogs Registration Certificate. Multiple entries may not be intentionally split otherwise. The individual the dog is registered to is what the official must go by. Per the example given above, Dog A and Dog B may not be intentionally split or drawn to different casts.

UKC® Disciplinary Action Committee Report

- UKC's Disciplinary Action Committee determined that Malik Alston of Phenix City, AL, failed to comply with a UKC investigation. DAC Action Suspended until February 19, 2022.
- UKC's Disciplinary Action Committee determined that Glenndale Roberts of Winnie, TX, failed to comply with a UKC investigation. DAC Action Suspended until February 19, 2022.
- UKC's Disciplinary Action Committee determined that Kevin Young of Texarkana, AR, failed to comply with a UKC investigation. DAC Action Suspended until February 19, 2022.

Rev. 2/19/20

The UKC Notice of Suspension list can be found at www.ukcdogs.com/suspension

Attention!

The following person's Nite Hunt Director and Nite Hunt Judging privileges have been suspended until the date listed.

Timmy Murrell • Booneville, Kentucky Indefinite

Violations to these privilges should be reported to the United Kennel Club. $Rev.\ 6/4/18$