



Regulations Governing UKC<sup>®</sup> All-Breed  
**Events & Misconduct**

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

## CHAPTER 1 - GENERAL RULES

**Section 1. Licenses.** United Kennel Club reserves the right to grant, withhold or revoke event licenses at its own discretion. UKC licensed events are governed by UKC rules, classifications, and point systems. UKC reserves the right to change rules, policies, and fees at any time without notice.

The following rules and regulations governing UKC licensed events and the awarding of UKC points, qualifying scores and titles issued by UKC are uniform and are not given on a local or geographical basis.

UKC clubs may offer any event or combination of events for which they hold a license. Certain restrictions may be applied to different UKC events which can be found in the event specific rulebook. All other UKC events default to the **Official Rules for All-Breed Events**.

### **Section 2. Suspended/Barred Individuals.**

Individuals must be in good standing with UKC to participate in any UKC event. Individuals who are suspended/barred by UKC are prohibited from entering or participating in any UKC licensed event nor may they hold office in any UKC approved club or association. Dogs owned or co-owned by an individual who is suspended/barred from UKC are ineligible to be entered in any UKC event.

### **Section 3. Restrictions.**

No dog less than 8 weeks of age may be present on the grounds of a UKC licensed event. The allowance of any other dog not entered in the event will be at the discretion of the club.

The use of alcohol and illegal drugs by exhibitors and judges while participating in UKC licensed events is prohibited. Exhibitors in violation of the alcohol or illegal drug rule may be excused from the ring by the judge and from the show/trial or event grounds by the Event Committee or any officer of the host club and the decisions of these officials are final. The host club must notify UKC in writing of any judge who is in violation of this rule.

**Section 4. Required Inoculations.** All dogs must have all inoculations required by local laws or ordinances to be present on the grounds of any UKC event or to be eligible to compete at UKC events. Owners/handlers must have documentation of a current rabies vaccination readily available for all dogs entered in a UKC licensed event. In the event of an attack on a dog or person, a copy of the dog's rabies certificate must be provided to the host club. The host club will include the proof of rabies vaccination along with the Disqualified for Attacking form. Any dog that is known to have been in contact with a canine communicable disease within thirty days prior to the event may not be on the grounds of a UKC event. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action.

**Section 5. Event Secretaries/Managers, Event Chairs and Judges.** The Event Chairperson and the Event Secretary must be present during events at which they are serving in these capacities. No person may serve as a judge for a club at any UKC licensed event held on the same weekend when they are serving as an Event Chairperson, Event Secretary or as an Event Manager.

Event Secretaries and Event Chairpersons for a provisional UKC club may not exhibit in the event in which they serve in this capacity. Once a club attains fully licensed status for the specific type of event being offered, an Event Secretary may exhibit in an event in which they serve in that capacity if they have a capable substitute for the time they are away from the Secretary's Table.

An Event Chairperson of a fully licensed club may enter their dogs in an event in which they serve in this capacity at the discretion of the host club.

It is strongly recommended that host clubs restrict the Event Chair from entering or handling a dog in any event in which they serve as the Chair. Event Managers may not enter any dogs in any event in which they have been hired, nor may any dog(s) owned or co-owned by the Event Manager be entered.

No judge (including emergency replacement or backup judge) for any event may serve as an Event Chairperson, Event Secretary, or an Event Manager at the same UKC Licensed event for which they have been hired.

No judge may be designated as the individual to accept any entry (pre-entries and/or day-of-show entries), for that event, nor may they handle any entries at any time during the scheduled weekend. No scheduled judge may receive entries at their mailing address for an event that they are scheduled to judge, nor may a scheduled judge's telephone number or email address be used as contact information for any club event information.

**Section 6. Start Times.** No dog may be judged before the advertised start time of the event, except the dogs of performance judges using the back-up judge system.

**Section 7. Finality of Judges Decisions.** By entering a UKC event, the owner and handler of any dog agree to accept the decision of the judge as final. The decision of a judge is the opinion of the judge and not that of United Kennel Club.

**Section 8. Judging Procedures and Mandatory Excusals.** The judge may use whatever reasonable procedures they deem necessary to evaluate the dogs in an effective and efficient manner. UKC judges are encouraged to discuss placements with exhibitors. Judges may not ask any exhibitor questions regarding the dog being evaluated other than age.

Each judge must sign the Judge's Book upon the completion of a judging assignment and return it to the Event Secretary. Judges are responsible for the accuracy of the information in their Judge's Books. Judges are required to keep their Judges' Books for a period of one (1) year after the event.

Exhibitors are presumed to know the condition of their dogs and risk disciplinary action for exhibiting dogs with conditions that warrant a mandatory excusal.

Judges must excuse any dog being exhibited with sutures, bandages, adhesive or any other material that is indicative of or related to any injury, surgical, or medical procedure.

Judges must excuse any dog that is lame, appears to be ill, or is unfit for competition. The Judge's Book must be marked accordingly and include the reason the dog was excused. The Judge's decision on these matters is final.

Dogs determined to be unfit are dogs whose physical condition affects its ability to safely compete, or whose physical condition is so compromised that it is not fit for exhibition. This includes but is not limited to any dog that has visible, unhealed injuries, is emaciated or is obese. Injuries indicative of a dog's natural work should be well healed. Scars and blemishes due to hunting or working injuries as per a breed's standard are not grounds for excusal. The Judge's decision is final.

A Judge must excuse any dog that is blind and mark the Judge's Book accordingly. The Judge's decision is final.

**Section 9. Recording Event Results and Regulation of Record Keeping.** UKC regulates and records the results of all licensed events and issues awards for levels of achievement at these events. Additional events may be added at the sole discretion of the United Kennel Club. UKC has the right to inspect all reports, score sheets, and other documents related to UKC licensed events and to review those documents for any reason.

Pursuant to the Inherent Rights and Powers, UKC employees may make corrections, additions or deletions to any documents related to UKC licensed events regardless if a judge or club officer approve those changes. UKC reserves unto itself, in its sole judgement and discretion, the right to take such action and impose such sanctions as it deems appropriate. Points or qualifying scores earned toward titles are awarded after UKC receives and processes the official event report from the host club.

UKC will mail the appropriate title certificate to the owner on record once a title has been verified. The owner of a UKC registered dog is responsible for having their address correct for all registered dogs. If an owner has moved, an Official UKC Change of Address Form needs to be submitted to the UKC Registration Department before the issuance of the title.

**Section 10. Club Records and Submitting Event Results.** The Event Secretary must provide the judge with one completed copy of the signed Judges' Book prior to the judge leaving the show grounds on the last day of their assignment.

The Event Secretary is responsible for submitting all event results to UKC within 10 business days of the event using the appropriate forms for the event type. Clubs that do not meet the event report deadlines shall be fined \$25 dollars per month per licensed event.

Entry forms must be included with the event reports. All official UKC Class Change/Entry Correction Forms that have been submitted must be included with the original entry form. Cancellations received in writing and before the pre-entry deadline date must be submitted with the original entry form. This applies to all UKC licensed events. The Event Secretary is responsible for making a copy of each entry form for club records. The club must retain the copies of all event results and paperwork for at least one (1) year.

**Section 11. Event Service Fees.** *An event service fee is assessed per entry following an event. Event service fees must be sent to UKC with the official event results. The current event service fees are as follows:*



**All-Breed Sports** – Licensing & Event Service Fees

This fee schedule is effective for all 2021 event applications returned to UKC after December 31st, 2020.

<b>Event Type</b>	<b>Licensing Fee</b> <i>Due at time of scheduling</i>	<b>Event Service Fees</b> <i>Assessed per entry following event</i>
<b>Conformation</b>	\$80/Show	\$3.00/entry
	\$35/Single Breed	\$3.00/entry
<b>Nosework</b>	\$50/Element	\$3.00/entry
	\$40/Handler Disc.	\$3.00/entry
	\$60/Class Trial	\$3.00/entry
<b>Drag Racing</b>	\$30/Trial	\$2.75/entry
<b>Lure Coursing</b>	\$30/Trial	\$2.75/entry
<b>Weight Pull</b>	\$30/Trial	\$2.75/entry
<b>Agility</b>	\$30/Trial	\$2.75/entry
<b>Rally Obedience</b>	\$45/Trial	\$2.50/entry
<b>Dock Jumping</b>	\$10/Splash	\$2.50/entry
<b>Precision Coursing</b>	\$45/Trial	\$2.50/entry
<b>Obedience</b>	\$25/Trial	\$2.50/entry

**Absent dogs and cancellations made after the pre-entry deadline date are counted for recording fees.**

**Section 12. Dog Temperament and Behavior.** Owners of UKC registered dogs are responsible for the behavior of their dogs at UKC events. Dogs participating in UKC events are expected to have stable temperaments appropriate to their breeds and to be sufficiently well trained so that no dog's behavior interferes with the judge's ability to evaluate the dog or its performance. Owners or designated handlers are expected to ensure that their dogs present no threat to persons or other dogs attending the event.

A judge must excuse a dog when the dog's behavior significantly interferes with the judge's ability to evaluate the dog or to evaluate the dogs of other exhibitors. This includes, but is not limited to, such behavior as not standing for examination or refusing to walk. A judge must excuse a dog when the dog's demeanor gives the judge reason to believe that the dog may not be safely examined or appears to be a serious threat to other dogs in the ring. In such cases, the judge must mark the dog "Excused" in the judge's book and state the reason for the excusal. The judge's decision on such matters is final.

**Section 13. Dog Temperament and Behavior, Disqualifications for attacking and Excusals for aggressive behavior.** A dog must be disqualified for attacking a person or another dog. Minor altercations involving two or more dogs must be excused for aggressive behavior. If dog on dog incidences rise to the level of attack as determined by the Judge or Event Committee then one or all dogs involved must be disqualified. The term "attack" is defined as aggressive physical interaction between two or more dogs or a dog and a person. "Attacking" includes attempts to bite a person even if no contact is made.

Any dog disqualified for attacking or attempting to bite a person is immediately rendered ineligible to compete at any UKC events and the exhibitor shall forfeit all entry fees for any event where the dog has yet to compete. The exhibitor must secure the dog(s) and remain on the premises until the "Disqualified for Attacking" form has been completed. Failure to sign the "Disqualified for Attacking" Form by the exhibitor will not prevent the dog from being disqualified or from removing the dog's eligibility for competition.

In all cases the Event Chair will fax or email the Disqualified for Attacking form along with the exhibitor's entry form to UKC within 72 hours of the incident.

Owners may request reinstatement upon receiving official notification of the disqualification from UKC.

**Dog on Person:** A judge must disqualify a dog that attacks a person (including its handler) while in the ring. The ring area includes all competition areas in which the judge is officiating, including but not limited to, entering or exiting the show ring, the chute area, on deck area, weigh-in area, staging/holding area, and catch/release area.

If the attack occurs in the ring, the judge must suspend judging immediately and have the dog and its handler removed from the ring. Medical attention should be sought immediately, if necessary.

The dog must be marked as "disqualified" by the judge and the reason for the disqualification must be written on the judge's book. The judge must also report any such incident to the Event Committee immediately and fill out a "Disqualified for Attacking" form. The judge may recommend that the host club have the dog removed from the event grounds. The judge's decision is final.

If the attack on a person occurs outside the ring/competition area or anywhere on the event grounds, it must be reported immediately to the host club's Event Committee and medical attention should be sought if necessary. The Event Chair, rather than the judge, must fill out a "Disqualified for Attacking" form. The Event Committee may request the dog be removed from the event grounds. The Event Committee's decision is final.

**Dog on Dog:** When a dog attacks another dog while in the ring, the judge must suspend judging and determine if medical attention is necessary for any person and all dogs involved in the incident. If no medical attention is necessary, then the dog(s) and their handler(s) must be removed from the ring.

If an injury to any dog has occurred, the judge must disqualify the dog that caused the injury. The judge may also determine that the other dog(s) involved in the incident be excused for aggressive behavior. The judge has the right to excuse or disqualify all dogs involved in the incident regardless of which dog was the perceived instigator.

Aggressive behavior between two dogs is a mandatory excusal. The judge must mark the dog(s) as excused in the judge's book and note "excused for aggressive behavior" as the reason for the excusal. The judge's decision is final.

Dogs excused for aggressive behavior with another dog may not continue to compete in any event for the remainder of the day, regardless of additional classes entered.

Excusals for aggressive behavior with another dog will be recorded on the dog's UKC record. Upon a second excusal for aggressive behavior, the dog will be disqualified by UKC and will no longer be eligible to compete unless or until it is reinstated.

If an incident between two dogs occurs anywhere outside ring/competition area or anywhere on the event grounds, it must be reported immediately to the host club's Event Committee. The Event Committee must investigate this matter and if the incident resulted in an injury, the Event Committee must disqualify one or all dogs involved in the incident. The decision of the Event Committee is final.

If no injury occurred the Event Committee must include a report of the incident with their event reports. The report should identify all dogs involved in the incident, including armband numbers and a summary of the altercation between the two dogs. The Event Committee may include their determination of which dog was the instigator, but UKC reserves the right to record the incident on the permanent record of any dogs involved.

**Section 14. Collars and Leashes.** All dogs must be on leash being held by a handler if not securely contained in a confined area (i.e. crate, ex-pen, etc.). Collars may be of any style appropriate for the dog and the event it is participating in. Studded, "pinch" or "prong" collars, harnesses (head and/or body), or any type of special training collars are permitted on the grounds of a UKC event. There are collar restrictions for competition which may vary, please refer to the appropriate rule book for different collar or equipment requirements for the event in which the dog is participating. Electronic collars (e-collars) are not permitted to be used on the grounds of a UKC licensed Conformation or Performance event.

**Section 15. Use of Electronic Recording Devices While in the Ring.** Except in Nosework, the use of cell phones and recording devices while exhibiting in the ring/competition area is prohibited. Exhibitors found using such devices while exhibiting must be excused by the judge with the reason for excusal marked on the judge's book.

## **CHAPTER 2**

# **SCHEDULING UKC® EVENTS AND JUDGES PANELS**

**Section 1. Number of Events in a Year.** UKC Clubs may host as many events per year as the club may properly support. However, UKC has the right to limit the number of events held by clubs or Event Managers at its sole discretion.

**Section 2. Number of Events per Day.** A club may apply to host more than one type of event on the same day, for example a Conformation event, an Obedience trial, and a Drag race. UKC reserves the right to limit the number and types of events a club may hold per day at its sole discretion.

A club may apply to host the following number of events on the same day:

- **Agility.** Each Agility trial is considered as an event. A UKC club may apply to hold no more than two Agility trials per day.
- **Conformation.** A UKC club may apply to hold no more than two shows per day. Each Conformation show is considered as an event. This applies to single breed shows, group shows or shows open to all breeds (regardless if all breeds are offered).
- **Dock Jumping.** A UKC club may apply to hold no more than one event per day. Multiple splashes are generally offered at the event. One event can be spread over more than one day.
- **Drag Races.** Each Drag Race generally holds a Flat and Steeple Race and is considered as one event. A UKC club may apply to hold no more than two Drag Race events per day.
- **Lure Coursing Meet.** Each meet is considered as an event. A UKC club may apply to hold no more than one full meet per day, and/or one Coursing Tested meet per day (A full meet offers a Coursing Aptitude Test, Coursing Tested and Regular Stakes). The club may offer and additional Coursing Aptitude Test on the same day.
- **Precision Coursing.** *A UKC club may apply to hold no more than two Precision Coursing trials per day. Each trial may consist of up to one Sprint at each level, one Dash, and one Steeplechase, but does not have to include all three race types.*
- **Nosework.** Each Nosework trial is considered as an event. A UKC club may apply to hold no more than two trials per day.

### **Applying for Events:**

- Clubs may limit each trial to a specific number of entries or to a less than eight (8) hour judging day for each judge.
- Clubs may offer any combination of classes they choose providing entries do not exceed the eight (8) hour judging limit per day for any judge.

- Show hours may not exceed a total of twelve (12) hours per day including all classes and/or all trials.

**Example:** If running trials as in this example, trials should be run concurrently so as to not exceed the twelve hour per day time limit. Judge 1 would run Trial 1 HD followed by Trial 2 HD, while Judge 2 would run Trial 1 Containers followed by Trial 2 Containers and so forth.

**Trial 1: Judge 1: Handler Discrimination**

- o Judge 2: Containers – Novice through Elite
- o Judge 3: Interior – Novice through Elite
- o Judge 4: Exterior – Novice through Elite
- o Judge 5: Vehicle – Novice through Elite

**Trial 2: Judge 1: Handler Discrimination**

- o Judge 2: Containers – Novice through Elite
- o Judge 3: Interior – Novice through Elite
- o Judge 4: Exterior – Novice through Elite
- o Judge 5: Vehicle – Novice through Elite

- **Obedience.** Each Obedience trial is considered as an event. A UKC club may apply to hold no more than two Obedience trials per day.
- **Rally Obedience.** Each Rally Obedience trial is considered as an event. A UKC club may apply to hold no more than two Rally Obedience trials per day.
- **Weight Pull.** Each weight pull is considered as an event. A UKC club may apply to hold no more than two weight pull events per day.

**Section 3. Multiple Clubs Sharing a Location and Date:** Two or more clubs may not hold UKC licensed events of the same event type at the same location on the same day, without special permission from UKC.

Requests for sharing a location and date must be submitted to UKC by both clubs wishing to share a date and location. Clubs that want to be added to another club’s historical weekend and share their event site must submit a request in writing along with the written consent of the club that owns the date and location. Clubs who own the historical date and location can approve or deny any club wishing to add their event.

**Section 4. Club Territories.** All UKC Clubs must have a designated city on file with UKC indicating where they will be hosting events and/or where the majority of their membership resides. Clubs may host events within a 200-mile straight line radius of their designated city.

National Breed Associations have a US territory and may schedule specialty events anywhere in the United States.

Specialty clubs may go outside of their territory to host a specialty event (for their breed(s) only) in conjunction with another UKC all-breed event. Specialty clubs must request permission from the all-breed club and UKC to host an event in conjunction with the all-breed event outside of their territory. All-breed clubs will exclude the specialty breed from their event if the number of shows available to the specialty breed exceeds two in one day.

**Section 5. Mileage Conflicts.** UKC will not license events of the same event type on the same day to be held by different clubs within 100 miles of each other, except for all-breed events and specialty events if permission is granted by UKC. Distance shall be calculated using the closest driving route and not air (straight line) miles.

**Section 6. National Dates.** Fully licensed National Breed Associations that host their national specialty on their historical weekend will have exclusive rights to offering competition for that breed on the day of its national specialty. Fully licensed National Breed Associations that do not host their National event on a historical weekend will not have exclusive rights to offering competition for that breed only on the day of its national specialty.

**Section 7. Applying for a Licensed Event.** UKC does not schedule events by which weekend an event falls within a month but rather by a corresponding weekend date of the year. The dates of a club’s scheduled event may vary each year. Approximately every five years the actual date of the event may be up to five days different.

A club that has offered an event in any one year shall own the corresponding date the following year. If a club fails to confirm an event by returning its application **at least 60 days prior to the event** and does not request that its date be reserved for the following year, shall lose ownership of that corresponding date and it will become available to other clubs on a first-come, first-served basis. Event dates may only be reserved for one year.

**Section 8. Applying for a New Corresponding Date.** Clubs may check on the availability of event dates by phone, email, or written request. UKC will confirm if the date is available. Requests for new dates are processed in the order they are received. Requests for new dates made within 60 days of the requested event date may be denied. The new date request must include the following:

- 1) Full name of club and club ID number.
- 2) Date or dates of the event.
- 3) Types of events and how many to be held per day.
- 4) Site location, including City and State.

When a new event date is approved, applications for those events will be mailed to the club’s Corresponding Officer. If applications for a requested date have already been mailed, the application will be emailed. Duplicate event applications for approved dates will be sent by email unless mailing via the USPS is requested. Clubs are still responsible to turn in all scheduling applications at least 60 days prior to the event, regardless of when the request was made for the event date.

**Section 9. Clubs offering more than one Performance Event.** A club may apply for more than one type of performance event in a day or on a scheduled weekend. Clubs must be licensed for all scheduled event types. If only one judge is scheduled to officiate for more than one performance event on the same day, the club must limit the entries for both events so the combined events do not exceed 8 hours of judging time. The entry limits must be designated on the Event Application, for example Obedience entry limit 30 and Rally Obedience limit 60.

**Section 10. Receiving Application for a Scheduled Weekend.** Approximately nine months before a club's reserved corresponding date, UKC will mail or email an Event Application to the club's Corresponding Officer. The application will be for the same number and type of events as were offered the previous year. Any changes or additions to an event must be approved in writing or by email with UKC before submitting the Event Application.

The Corresponding Officer is responsible for ensuring that all forms are promptly sent to the appropriate Event Committee members.

Clubs holding events in states with special requirements for bringing dogs into the state must list those requirements in writing when submitting the Event Application.

**Section 11. Deadlines for the Event Applications.** *All Event Applications must be returned to UKC with appropriate licensing fees no later than 60 days prior to the start of the scheduled event. Applications must be complete. Applications returned after the 60-day mark may be denied or may be assessed a late fee.*

**Section 12. Event Licensing Fees.** Event Licensing fees will be provided to the club with the Event Application. Licensing fees are subject to change without notice.

**Section 13. Pre-Entry Only Events.** Clubs have the option to host a pre-entry only event. In this case, the Event Application must state that only pre-entries will be accepted for an event and must set a pre-entry deadline date. The club must send each entrant a confirmation of the entry and a judging schedule. The judging schedule must include the club's refund policy and its policy on the substitution of dogs.

No additional entries may be accepted after the Pre-Entry deadline date. No day-of-show/trial entries may be taken at a pre-entry only event.

**Section 14. Day of Show and Pre-Entries.** Clubs have the option to accept day of show entries in addition to accepting pre-entries for their event. The host club determines entry fees.

Clubs offering a discounted entry fee for pre-entries must establish a pre-entry deadline date, after which time no further pre-entries will be accepted at the discounted price. Exhibitors whose entries fail to arrive by the pre-entry deadline date must be charged the day-of-show entry fee.

The pre-entry deadline must be published with the premium list or club announcement of the event and with the event information on the UKC website. Clubs offering day-of-show entries must have a published entry time for each day. Exhibitors who fail to submit their entries by the closing time for the day shall not be permitted to exhibit in that day's events.

Entry times must include an opening and closing time for the acceptance of entries. Entries for non-licensed classes may be accepted after the closing time for entries if the class has not started.

Third party entry services must have the written permission of the host club to take entries for any events offered by a UKC licensed club. All third-party entry services that list UKC licensed events must state clearly on any website or publication that the service operates independently from the host club and the UKC. All UKC licensed clubs have the right to refuse entries from any third-party entry services.

**Section 15. Extending Day of Show Entry Times.** In the case of extreme weather, site change or other emergency conditions, the Event Committee may determine that extending the taking of entries or delaying the start of all judging by a reasonable period is necessary. In such cases, the extended entry or delayed show time does not have to be approved by UKC, though such extensions or delays should be clearly posted at the event site. Should this happen, the extension of entry taking, or delay of judging must be explained in writing by the Event Secretary when submitting the event report.

**Section 16. Non-Licensed Classes.** Clubs must list all non-licensed classes that will be offered on the application. At the discretion of the club, entries into non-licensed classes may be taken at any time, prior to the start of judging for the specific non-licensed class.

**Section 17. Judging Panel.** The Event Chairperson is responsible for hiring judges who are licensed by UKC for the event and the breeds they will be judging. The selection of judges must be included on the Event Application and submitted by the deadline date to avoid late fees. Judges are hired by contractual agreement between the host club and the judge. The Event Chairperson is responsible for keeping judges' contracts for at least one year after the date of the event.

**Section 18. Entry Limits and Judging Time.** Judges should not be scheduled to judge for more than 8 hours per day based on the number of entries judged per hour for an event. Judges will not stop judging an assignment if they exceed eight hours of judging time.

If entries for Conformation exceed the entry number listed below before the pre-entry deadline date, the club must hire an additional judge for the event. In this case, the club must split the assignment between the judges without dividing breeds within a group. All changes or additions must get written approval from UKC.

The club may request approval in writing to exceed the eight-hour judging time limit for a judge that reaches the limit before the pre-entry deadline date and must notify the judge that they have exceeded their limit.

If entries for Agility, Nosework, Obedience or Rally Obedience exceed the eight-hour time limit for one judge before the pre-entry deadline date then an overflow judge should be hired, or a wait list established.

Judging time will be based on the following numbers of entries judged per hour for one judge for each of these events. Judging limits are approximations and should be used as such in determining how long an event will run. Judges are responsible for adhering as closely as possible to the number of dogs judged per hour. Breaks and lunch times are not included when determining judging time.

- Agility – number of entries judged per hour is 25; (maximum daily limit, approximately 200 entries)
- Conformation – number of entries judged per hour is 22; (maximum daily limit, approximately 175 entries)

- Nosework – **number of entries judged per hour varies based on level and element. Please reference the UKC Nosework Limit Calculator on the UKC website.**
- Obedience – number of entries judged per hour is 7; (maximum daily limit, approximately 56 entries)
- Rally Obedience – number of entries judges per hour is 16; (maximum daily limit, up to 125 entries.)

Weight Pull, **Precision Coursing**, Lure Coursing, Drag Racing, and Dock Jumping events have no limits on the number of entries judged per day, per judge, however judges should not exceed eight hours of judging time. Clubs that limit judging time to less than eight hours for one judge in an event must publish those entry limits in the club's official announcement of the event and in the Upcoming Event listing on the UKC website.

Clubs that offer more than one performance event of the same type, or multiple performance event types must limit the number of entries to what is outlined as the maximum daily limit for entries per judge.

**Section 19. Overflow Judge.** Should entries for any event reach or exceed their entry limits prior to the pre-entry deadline date, the club may choose one of the following options:

If the limit is exceeded before the close of entries, the club may request approval from UKC to add an overflow judge. The written request must include a complete breakdown of all entries for each class. Upon approval, the overflow judge is only to be assigned to the specific breed, class and/or section that will affect the fewest number of exhibitors. An overflow judge may not judge a certain number of dogs within a breed, section or class but must judge the entire breed, class or section assigned to them. An overflow judge may be approved by UKC to judge more than one event or type of event on the same day. An overflow judge is not considered an Emergency Replacement judge and must hold the appropriate licenses for the event in which they are hired to judge.

**Section 20. Wait List for Performance Events.** Clubs that do not wish to hire an overflow judge may establish a wait list. When a wait list is established, the club may accept entries over the numerical limit. Entries must be kept in the order they are received. If, on the day of the trial, any of the pre-entries are absent, the absentee will be replaced by the first person on the wait list who is present and ready to compete. Clubs must refund the entry fees for all exhibitors on the wait list who do not get the opportunity to compete. Additional wait list requirements may be required for specific events and can be found in the rulebook for that type of event.

**Section 21. Judge Changes and Refunds.** Any judge changes occurring prior to the last weekday before an event must be approved by UKC during regular business hours. Clubs must provide UKC with judge change requests in writing and include the reason for the requested change.

The club may be required to submit contractual agreements upon request and to reimburse the scheduled judges for all expenses incurred if the change was initiated by the club for the cancellation of their original contractual agreement.

Changes will be posted on the UKC website. The host club must make every reasonable effort to notify exhibitors of the change and offer refunds to all pre-entered exhibitors who submit a written request for refund of their entry fees. Judge changes must be posted in plain view at the event site during event hours.

The host club shall be responsible for their own refund and/or cancellation of entry policy. The club's policy must be given to UKC and clearly posted at the event and included in any additional publication or announcement of the event.

**Section 22. Appointing an Emergency Replacement Judge.** If, on the day of the event, a judge is unable to start or complete their assignment the Event Chairperson must appoint an emergency replacement judge. Priority should be given in this order:

- The club is to find another UKC judge licensed for the events, classes, and breeds assigned to the original judge.
- The club is to find a UKC apprentice judge that is apprenticing for the same type of event the original judge was assigned.
- If options 1 and 2 are not available, the club may appoint the person best qualified to take the assignment.

All official event report forms must show the name, address, email address and phone number of the emergency replacement judge. The Event Secretary must include a written explanation for all assignment changes when submitting the event results to UKC and include the credentials of any emergency replacement judge who is not a UKC licensed or apprentice judge. Points or qualifying scores earned by exhibitors under emergency replacement judges will be counted toward any calculation of required wins under different judges, if the original judge had met that requirement; regardless of who the replacement judge shall be.

**Section 23. Back-up Judge System.** When using the backup judge system for a performance event, the host club must designate a judge and a back-up judge on the Event Application. Back-up judges must be published in the event listing on the UKC website.

Performance judges may compete in the same trial that they are assigned to judge under the following provisions:

Judges must notify the club in advance that they wish to enter a dog in an event they are assigned to judge. The host club must designate a judge and back-up judge on the Event Application. The judge shall be the overall authority for judging the event. Dogs exhibited by the judge may compete only under the assigned back-up judge.

The back-up judge may only officiate for the judge (and immediate family/household members) and may not officiate for any other exhibitors entered in that event except for the events in which multiple dogs are judged at the same time (i.e. drag racing, weight pull, lure coursing). In that case the back-up judge may only judge the class, division, or race in which the judge's dogs are competing.

Judges are prohibited from interrupting their judging assignment to exhibit. Judges may coordinate when they will exhibit based on the event specific rules in which judges are entered and officiating. Judges competing in the events in which they are officiating may not be eligible for placements or awards as per the event specific rules in which they are entered and officiating. All Stars and Championship points will still be available in events that points can be earned. Assigned back-up judges and immediate family members competing under the back-up judge system will be eligible for awards, placements, All Stars and Championship points.



**Section 24. Emergency Replacement of a Back-Up Judge.** Should an assigned back-up judge fail to appear at an event in which they were assigned as the designated back-up judge there will be no emergency replacement of the back-up judge's assignment. In this case, the judge will forfeit their entry and fulfill their assignment. If an event was published on the UKC's website as having a back-up judge and if a fully licensed judge attends an event where the assigned back-up judge did not appear; the judge in attendance may serve as the back-up judge. Clubs must note the change in back-up judges and provide a detailed explanation of the circumstances in their event report.

## **CHAPTER 3 PLANNING UKC® EVENTS AND RULES APPLYING TO UKC® EVENTS**

**Section 1. Appointing an Event Committee.** The club must appoint an Event Committee for any UKC licensed event. The Event Committee is responsible for the management and all aspects of the club's scheduled event, including but not limited to; all preparatory work prior to the event, all administrative functions during the event, and all concluding result submissions after the event.

**Section 2. Event Committee Positions.** The Event Committee shall consist of a minimum of three (3) people; the Event Chairperson, the Event Secretary, and a Chief Steward. When more than one UKC Licensed event is being hosted, the host club may use the same Chairperson for all scheduled events or may appoint an additional Event Chairperson for each event type. If using more than one Event Chairperson for multiple events, the club must name each Chairperson on the Event Application for the events they are assigned. The Event Chairperson will be responsible for all matters relating to the dogs entered. Both the Event Chairperson(s) and the Event Secretary must be in good standing with UKC. The names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses of the Event Chairperson and the Event Secretary must be listed on the Event Application. The Event Chairperson and the Event Secretary must be present during all events in their entirety at which they are serving in these capacities.

With UKC approval, the use of a UKC Licensed Event Manager may fulfill the position of both the Event Chairperson and Event Secretary.

**Section 3. Replacing an Event Chairperson or Event Secretary.** Once an application to hold an event has been approved by UKC, the club may not replace the Event Chairperson or the Event Secretary unless the change has been requested in writing and approved by UKC. If circumstances prevent the Event Chairperson or the Event Secretary from serving on the day of the event, the club must appoint a replacement. The replacement Event Secretary must include notice of the replacement with a written explanation of the reasons for the change when submitting the event results to UKC.

**Section 4. Order of Event Types.** Clubs may determine the order in which offered events will be scheduled except for event sites that have only a single area to be used by both the conformation event and a performance event. When the event site only accommodates a single area for both conformation and a performance event, conformation shall be judged after the performance event have been completed. If these same events are held over multiple days, the show/trial ring must be thoroughly cleaned prior to the performance event on each consecutive day.

**Section 5. Rules.** A current copy of all rules applying to the scheduled event being offered must be available at the Event Secretary's table.

**Section 6. Event Veterinarian.** A local veterinarian must be designated for each UKC event and the information made readily available for all exhibitors. Where local laws require that a veterinarian be in attendance, the Event Chairperson is responsible for ensuring the club complies.

**Section 7. Show Site Changes.** When a club must change their location after it has been published on the UKC website, the club must find and secure a new event site. New event sites must adhere to the club's designated territory to be approved.

Once the new event site is found, the club must notify UKC of the site change and provide the following:

- Reason for the event site change;
- The address, including city and state, of the new event site location;
- The distance in travel time from the old location to the new location.

Once the new location has been approved, the club's event listing will be updated. When a new event site is approved, clubs must provide exhibitors with adequate notification of the change by notifying all exhibitors on the club's mailing list and any exhibitors who pre-entered the event and include directions to the new show site.

Clubs may be required to have signs posted at the old show site directing exhibitors to the new location. Additionally, the club should, if possible, provide someone at the old show site to direct exhibitors to the new location.

Clubs must extend day of show entry and show times if the site changed after the pre-entry deadline date. Because of the change of location, it is possible that exhibitors might miss the Day of Show entry deadline time. Driving time between the old and new locations should be used as a guideline in setting the new entry deadlines and show start times. Signs must be easily visible and posted with the extended entry times and start of show times at the new site.

Clubs must refund any pre-entry fees, upon the exhibitor's written request, made prior to or at the show for any dog that was not exhibited due the change in location.

**Section 8. Canceling a UKC Licensed Event.** Clubs must notify UKC in writing of their intention to cancel an approved event. Cancellation notifications must contain the signatures of two officers (on record) of the club that is canceling the event and the reason the event is being canceled. Permission to cancel an event must be received from UKC before the club sends notification to the judges and exhibitors that the event has been canceled. A club that cancels their event without UKC approval will be subject to disciplinary action, which may result in the

loss of licensing. The decision to refund application fees in whole or in part shall be based on the following criteria:

- A club that cancels its event before the application deadline date and before the application has been processed by UKC will receive a full refund.
- A club that cancels its event after the application has been processed, but has not been published on the UKC website, will receive a refund of all licensing fees minus \$20 per application withheld for processing.
- A club that cancels its event after the event information has been published on the UKC website shall receive no refund of license fees.
- In addition to the above rules regarding licensing fees, and depending on the individual circumstances, UKC may also require the club to take the following actions:
  - o The club must reimburse scheduled judges for all expenses incurred on behalf of the club for the canceled event.
  - o An Event Committee member may be obliged to stay at the event site during the previously scheduled event hours to inform all exhibitors or spectators that the event was canceled.
  - o The club must return all pre-entry fees.
  - o The club must send an event cancellation letter to each person that received a Premium List or other advertisement of the event.
  - o A club that shows a pattern of scheduling and canceling events may lose its licensing with UKC.

## **CHAPTER 4**

# **RULES APPLYING TO ENTRIES AND ENTRY PROCEDURES**

**Section 1. Entering a UKC Event.** Entries to all events for both licensed and non-licensed classes must be submitted using the most current official UKC entry form. Entry forms must be complete when submitted to the Event Secretary, including a valid UKC Permanent Registration number, UKC Performance Listing(PL) number or UKC Temporary Listing (TL) number. Incomplete or unsigned entry forms, or entries unaccompanied by entry fees, are invalid and must be refused by the Event Secretary. No dog may be entered in any event for exhibition only.

**Section 2. Temporary Listing (TL) Numbers.** Dogs that are not permanently registered or do not have a UKC Performance Listing (PL) number must have a Temporary Listing (TL) number to enter UKC licensed events. Obtaining a TL number does not guarantee or imply that a dog will be eligible for permanent registration.

TL numbers may be purchased by exhibitors at any time on the UKC website or by contacting the UKC All-Breed Sports Department during normal business hours.

All TL Numbers are non-refundable, non-transferable and do not apply to the cost of permanent registration or Performance Listing numbers.

TL Numbers must be assigned on or before the show date. TL numbers that are issued after an event will not be valid for that event or any events prior to its purchase. TL numbers do not expire. There is no limit to the number of licensed events a dog with a TL number may be entered in before the dog is permanently registered with UKC. TL numbers are no longer valid once a dog is permanently registered with UKC.

TL numbers included on the application for permanent registration or the Performance Listing application will automatically have the dog's competition history applied to its permanent record. No wins, titles earned, Top Ten Points or All Stars points will be awarded until a dog with a TL number has been permanently registered.

Exhibitors who are competing for Top Ten and All Stars points using a TL number must meet all permanent registration requirements and deadlines to be eligible for year-end rankings.

**Section 3. Pre-Entry Only Events.** Clubs may elect to have a pre-entry only event. Such events will be published as pre-entry only in their official announcement of their event on the UKC website. Exhibitors who enter a pre-entry only event must meet the pre-entry deadline date set by the club after which time no further pre-entries will be accepted. Entries received after the pre-entry deadline date must be returned to the exhibitor in its entirety.

For pre-entry only events all dogs must be permanently registered with UKC, have a Performance Listing(PL) number or have a valid Temporary Listing number by the published closing date of the event to enter licensed classes.

**Section 4. Day-of-Show/Trial Events.** Clubs have the option to accept day of show entries in addition to accepting pre-entries at the same event. Pre-entry fees are usually offered at a discounted rate from what is offered for a day of show entry. To receive the pre-entry fee discount (if any), the exhibitor must submit their completed entry form to the Event Secretary by no later than the pre-entry deadline date. Exhibitors whose entries fail to arrive by the pre-entry deadline date must pay the day-of-show entry fee. The pre-entry deadline date is published with the announcement of the event on the UKC website.

Exhibitors who enter the day of the show must submit their completed entry form to the Event Secretary during the published entry times. Exhibitors who fail to submit their entries by the closing of entries for the day, except for the non-licensed classes, shall not be permitted to exhibit in the events for the day. Entry times and show times are published with the announcement of the event on the UKC website.

**Section 5. Conditional Entries.** An entry which specifies any condition as to its acceptance must not be made and must not be accepted.

**Section 6. Required Information for UKC Entry Forms.** Exhibitors are responsible for the information contained on their entry forms and for ensuring they are competing in the appropriate classes for which the dog is eligible. Dogs competing in classes for which they are not eligible will be invalid.

To be acceptable, an entry must be submitted on the official UKC entry form along with the designated entry fee. All entry forms must contain the following information upon submission:

- Name of the event giving club
- Date of event
- UKC registered name of the dog
- Valid UKC registration number
- Dog's Date of Birth
- Sex of the dog
- Breed
- Variety (if applicable)
- Jump Height/Size division (if applicable)
- Classes to enter
- Name, address, and contact information for owners

**Section 7. Substitution of an Entered Dog.** Substitution of an entered dog may be allowed at the club's discretion. The dog being substituted must meet all eligibility requirements to enter a UKC event and the class it is entering. Substitution of a dog is prohibited when the dog is ineligible to compete. Owners who are substituting an un-entered dog for an entered dog must submit a completed Official UKC Entry form along with the correction/class change form outlining the details of the substitution. In Junior Showmanship, the Junior Handler can substitute a dog if that dog has a valid UKC registration number.

**Section 8. Refusing an entry.** Host clubs may refuse the entry of an otherwise eligible dog or exhibitor for cause. A club's decision is subject to review by UKC, in most cases it will not be overturned except where there is evidence that the club's decision is based on discrimination (race, religion, national origin, sexual/gender orientation etc.), or if the refusal of entry is based upon a personal dispute between the exhibitor and the host club's members. UKC reserves the right to overturn a club's decision to refuse an entry for any reason. Clubs who choose not to accept any entry of an otherwise eligible dog or exhibitor must notify the owner/exhibitor in writing, with the reason their entry(s) will not be accepted by the club and must send a copy of the notification to UKC. Should a day-of-show/trial entry be refused, the host club must notify the UKC with an explanation of why the entry was refused and send it in with the event reports for that event.

**Section 9. Corrections or Changes to Entry Forms.** Move-Up/Entry Correction forms must be provided by the club. An exhibitor or owner may make corrections to an entry any time prior to the judging of the class in which the dog is entered. The form must be filled out and the Event Secretary must make the changes to the judges' books before the dog is eligible to compete in a class other than the one entered originally. The Event Secretary must include the Move-Up/Entry Correction Form with the original entry form. When a change to the dog's information is necessary, the exhibitor or owner may change the dog's name or the dog's registration number on an individual entry, but may not change both on the same entry.

**Section 10. Entry Numbers and Armbands.** Each dog shall be assigned an entry number and the host club must provide armbands or labels. Each exhibitor must wear the armband or label (normally on the left arm), with the number visible to the judge when in the ring, except where prohibited by the rules of an exercise.

**Section 11. Judging and Exhibiting.** The following applies to all UKC licensed judges. No judge may disrupt, delay, or reschedule an event in which they have entered a dog in, to fulfill or complete their judging assignment. Nor may a judge disrupt, delay or reschedule an event in which they are officiating to facilitate exhibiting their dog.

- Conformation Judges.
  - o No judge may pass judgment on a dog of which they are listed as owner, co-owner, breeder or co-breeder in any Conformation class. Conformation judges may not enter or exhibit any dogs in a Conformation event hosted by the same club over the same weekend in which they have been hired.
  - o Conformation judges may enter and exhibit their dog in any Performance event held by the host club, over the same weekend, provided they do not delay or disrupt their judging assignment to exhibit their dog.
  - o Judges reported and proven to have disrupted, delayed, or rescheduled an event to allow themselves to exhibit a dog will face disciplinary action which could include the suspension of judging privileges for up to 1 year and a fine up to \$500.
- Performance Judges.
  - o No judge may pass judgment on a dog of which they are listed as owner or co-owner in any performance event. Performance judges may exhibit a dog or have a dog they own or co-own exhibited by someone else in any event in which they have been hired. Performance judges (and/or their immediate family/household), who choose to exhibit their dogs in the same Performance event for which they have been hired, must utilize the back-up judge system.
  - o Performance judges may enter and exhibit their dog in Conformation, or any other Performance event (they are not officiating), held by the host club, over the same weekend, provided they do not delay or disrupt their judging assignment to exhibit their dog.
  - o Judges reported and proven to have disrupted, delayed, or rescheduled an event to allow themselves to exhibit a dog will face disciplinary action which could include the suspension of judging privileges for up to 1 year and a fine up to \$500.

- The back-up judge system for performance events must be in place for an assigned judge (and/or immediate family/household), to exhibit or have a dog that they own or co-own exhibited in the event in which they are judging.
- Clubs that hire judges who also exhibit in the event for which they have been hired.
  - o No club may disrupt, delay, or reschedule any event for any judge to accommodate a judge exhibiting a dog on the same day they are judging for any reason.
  - o Clubs reported and proven to have disrupted, delayed, or rescheduled an event to allow a judge to exhibit a dog or allowed a judge to disrupt, delay or reschedule an event in which the judge is officiating in order to exhibit a dog will face disciplinary action which could include the suspension of event privileges for up to 1 year and a fine up to \$500.

Judges accepting assignments in which they are considering exhibiting a dog and clubs hiring judges who wish to exhibit a dog at that event must give utmost thought and care to avoid conflicts of time. The judge's primary responsibility is to their assignment to judge.

If a conflict of time arises at an event on a scheduled weekend in which the judge is forced to choose between exhibiting and judging, the judge must fulfill the assignment the club hired them to fulfill and willingly and knowingly withdraw any entries in any event that presents the conflict.

If a judge finds a handler for the entered dog and there is a conflict of time, the dog may still be exhibited in the event in which it is entered. Judges exhibiting in any event on the same day (other than the event they officiate) will be eligible for awards, placements, All Stars and Championship points where applicable.

**Section 12. Judges Immediate Family/Household.** No dog can be entered under a judge that has been owned or trained by the judge, the judge's immediate family or that has lived in the Judge's household or the household of a member of the judge's immediate family, regardless of ownership, within three months of the date of the event. The immediate family members of a judge and members of a judge's household may exhibit any dog not owned or co-owned by the judge in any event, on any day of a scheduled weekend in which the judge has been hired; if they do not enter or exhibit the dog in the same event-type that the judge is officiating on the same day, with the exception of using the back-up judging system in the performance events. Immediate family/household members may enter any event without restriction on any other day the judge is not scheduled to judge. Additional restrictions may apply to immediate family and household members per specific event type which can be found in the corresponding rulebook for the specific event.

## **Chapter 5**

# **Rules Applying to Exhibitors and Spectators**

UKC exhibitors and spectators are expected to display good behavior and good sportsmanship in and out of the ring. Judges may excuse exhibitors from their ring for violations of these rules or conduct that interferes with the event and event participants. Event Committee members may excuse exhibitors or spectators from the show grounds for violations of these rules or conduct that interferes with the event and event participants.

**Section 1. Complaints About the Judge's Placements.** By entering in a UKC event, the exhibitor is inviting the opinion of the judge and must accept the judge's decision as final. Exhibitors are encouraged to discuss placements or scores with judges but may not argue about the judge's decisions. Complaints about the judge may only be lodged with the host club if the exhibitor believes the judge has violated a specific UKC rule. Complaints about a judge's knowledge or application of the UKC event rules must be filed in writing, with UKC but must address specific deficiencies or instances, and provide the name of the judge, the name of the host club and date of the event.

**Section 2. Interfering with the Judge.** No person may interfere with the judge in any way while they are judging a class.

**Section 3. Invalid Entries.** Exhibitors are responsible for the information contained on their entry forms and for ensuring they are competing in the appropriate classes for which the dog is eligible. Dogs competing in the incorrect classes shall be invalidated. If there is an error on a judge's book, exhibitors must notify the ring steward and/or the Event Secretary immediately. An entry is still invalid if an exhibitor exhibits the dog in the wrong class due to an error on the judge's book. Exhibitors are permitted to review all judge's books at an event to ensure their accuracy.

**Section 4. Handlers with Disabilities.** Only one person may handle a dog in the ring/competition area. Handlers may use a wheelchair, crutches, cane or any other means of mechanical assistance in the ring. The judge may also make reasonable modifications to the extent that it assists the handler. No modification may be made that gives any advantage to the handler's dog or that changes the dog's part of the required exercise or performance in any way. Please refer to each event rule book for additional information regarding handlers with disabilities.

## **Chapter 6**

# **Total Dog and Total Junior Awards**

**Section 1. Total Dog and Total Junior Awards.** A club offering conformation and at least one eligible performance event may apply to offer the Total Dog Award when submitting the Event Application as a non-licensed event. Clubs offering Total Dog must offer Total Junior. Participants for Total Dog and Total Junior must meet eligibility requirements.

**Section 2. Combined Club Events.** A club (or with written approval by UKC, clubs holding events in conjunction with each other) offering conformation and at least one eligible performance event may apply to offer the Total Dog Award when submitting the Event Application.

Clubs hosting more than one conformation and performance event on the day Total Dog awards are offered may consider all events eligible for Total Dog qualifiers.

- **Eligible Dogs.** Dogs that are permanently registered with UKC as of the day of the show and dogs that have a valid Temporary Listing (TL) number as of the day of the show are eligible to compete for the Total Dog Award.
- **Eligible Juniors.** Any junior entered and participating in a licensed Junior Showmanship class and a Performance event is eligible to compete for the Total Junior Award.

**Section 3. Requirements for Total Dog.** Dogs must be entered in a licensed conformation class, (regular or altered), and a qualifying performance event on the same day, or as approved by UKC.

- **Conformation Event.** A dog must compete in conformation and win one of the following classes, with competition. *Note: Group 4 win only counts if there are five or more breeds in the Group class.*

- Best Male/Female of Variety
- Best Male/Female
- Reserve Best Male/Female
- Best of Winners
- Champion
- Reserve Champion
- Grand Champion
- Reserve Grand Champion
- Best of Breed
- Group 1 through 4
- Best in Show
- Reserve Best in Show

- **Performance Event Win.** Earn a qualifying score/pass in a licensed class at a UKC Performance Event.

- Agility
- Dock Jumping
- Drag Racing
- Lure Coursing
- Nosework
- Obedience
- Rally Obedience
- Weight Pull
- UKC licensed Hunt events

**Section 4. Requirements for Total Junior Award.** A Junior Handler must be entered in Junior Showmanship and a qualifying performance event on the same day. The Junior must earn a class placement or award of merit, over another junior handler, in Junior Showmanship and qualify in the performance event to earn the Total Junior award.

- **Eligible Junior Showmanship Wins.** Compete in Junior Showmanship and earn a 1st through 4th place win with competition in one of the following classes:
  - Novice Junior
  - Novice Senior
  - Open Junior
  - Open Senior
- **Performance Event Win.** Earn a qualifying score/pass in a licensed class at a UKC Performance Event. The performance events are the same as outlined under Total Dog.
  - **For juniors participating in performance events.** Please refer to the specific performance rulebook for any additional requirements or restrictions regarding a junior participant for total junior awards.

# DEFINITIONS

**Age of Dog.** A dog's age, for entry purposes, is determined by the date of the event. A dog born on January 1 shall turn six months old on July 1 of the same year. Dogs must be in the correct age group for the class being entered on or before the date of the event.

**All-Breed Show.** A Conformation show that offers competition for all breeds eligible for UKC Conformation shows. Shows that exclude specific breeds due to breed specific judge licensing requirements are still considered an All-Breed Show.

**Altered.** A dog made sterile by castration or spaying.

**Blind.** A dog is blind if it has no useful sight.

**Breeder of Record.** The owner of the dam on the date of breeding is the breeder of record of all dogs whelped in the resulting litter.

**Conformation Show.** A show hosted by a UKC licensed club at which the physical attributes and temperament of purebred dogs are evaluated by judges in accordance with these rules and the UKC standards for each breed.

**Corresponding Date.** An event date based on the weekend it falls on within the year, not within the month. If a club offers an event on the 4th weekend of this year, then that club's corresponding weekend date in all subsequent years is also the 4th weekend. To know the exact dates of a corresponding weekend date, clubs should refer to the Event Weekend-Number Date Table, available on the UKC website.

**Day-of-Show Entry.** Entries that can be taken on-site before a show. Most UKC clubs allow entries to be taken on the day of a show or trial. The opening and closing time for taking these entries is found on the Events Listing, on the UKC website and in any official announcement for the show.

**Disqualified.** Dog is deemed ineligible for competition. This can be the result of a condition prohibited in the rules, such as an alteration to the dog's natural state, an undesirable trait as listed in a breed standard or a condition of or action by a dog that is prohibited under the rules of the United Kennel Club. A dog that has been disqualified from a conformation show or performance event pursuant to dog temperament, may not participate in any further events unless reinstated by UKC.

**Entry Form.** An official UKC document required for entry into a UKC licensed event. The entry form provides all the necessary information regarding the dog being entered in the event as well as the owner information for the dog.

**Excused.** A dog that has been dismissed from competition by a Judge. Excused dogs may not continue to participate in the same show or trial, except when the dog is entered in additional classes or additional shows and/or trials. In a performance event, an excused dog may compete in another class at the same trial. A dog excused from a conformation class in show 1 may be shown again on the same day in show 2. It is also eligible for any performance events on the same day.

**Guideline.** An indication or outline of recommended policy or conduct. Guidelines carry the full authority of an official UKC rule and should be interpreted as such.

**Immediate Family.** The spouse, parent, step-parent, child, step-child, brother or sister, grandchild, in-law of a person is considered an immediate family member.

**Intact.** Dogs (males/females) that have full reproductive organs present, including for males, two normal descended testicles.

**Lame.** Impaired locomotion so as to limp or move with difficulty.

**Licensed classes.** Classes that are required to be offered at a UKC Conformation show or Performance event from which dogs can earn points and/or awards.

**Limited Privilege (LP) Program.** The Performance Listing (PL) program has replaced the Limited Privilege program. LP numbers are still valid UKC numbers.

**Non-Licensed Classes.** Optional classes that may be offered at a UKC Conformation show or Performance event. No champion points are awarded from these classes.

**Non-Qualifying Score.** Also referred to as an "NQ" or a "Zero score." A non-qualifying score is given for the most serious deviations from the ideal. One non-qualifying score in any exercise means that the dog may not continue to compete in the class where the deviation occurred but may complete the class. A dog that has received a non-qualifying score in one class may compete in a different class in the same trial.

**Performance Event.** Events where a dog is judged based on performance rather than conformation. Agility, Obedience, Rally Obedience, Drag Racing, Lure Coursing, Nosework, Dock Jumping, Precision Coursing and Weight Pull are UKC-licensed performance events.

**Performance Listing (PL).** A listing number that allows a dog to participate in UKC Junior Showmanship and Performance events. Dogs may be mixed-breed, purebred dogs of unknown pedigree or with disqualifying faults as described in the UKC breed standard or breeds not recognized by UKC. PL listed dogs are not eligible for Regular or Altered Conformation events.

**Pre-Entry.** Entries that are accepted by a club up until a specified date before the show. Some UKC clubs offer pre-entry in addition to day-of-show entry. These entries must be submitted by the pre-entry deadline, as outlined in the club's Event Listing found on the UKC website. Pre-entry rates are normally lower in price than day-of-show entries.

**Pre-Entry Only.** An event where a club determines they will not accept any day-of-show entries. For this type of event, the entry must be submitted by the pre-entry deadline as outlined in the club's Event Listing found on the UKC website.

**Specialty Show.** A Conformation show for a single breed or multiple breeds based on their function, origin, and characteristics (e.g. Setters, Retrievers, Coonhounds). Specialty shows can only be hosted by clubs that actively promote a breed/breeds as outlined in their by-laws.

**Sportsmanship.** Conduct that demonstrates proper consideration for fairness, ethics, respect, and a sense of fellowship with one's competitors while exhibiting; responsibility, self-control and respect for both authority and opponents.

**Temporary Listing (TL) number.** A Temporary Listing is a number issued to an eligible dog that is not permanently registered with UKC, prior to the start of any licensed events. A TL number allows that dog to be entered and shown as a valid entry, receive wins and have those wins converted onto its record once permanently registered.

**Third Party Entry Service.** Any individual, group or association that allows an exhibitor to submit an entry for a UKC licensed event and does not have direct connection with UKC, UKC licensed host club, or designated UKC Event Manager.

**Veteran Dog.** A dog (male or female) over 7 years of age by the date of the show. Dogs 7 years of age and over are not required to compete as a Veteran Dog.

**Wicket.** A measuring device that is used to accurately determine a dog's height. Height is determined by drawing a straight line from the top of the withers perpendicular to the ground.

## MISCONDUCT & DISCIPLINE FOR UKC® ALL-BREED EVENTS

### 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. Misconduct is defined as behavior or actions that are not in the best interest of the sport of purebred dogs. Conduct considered prejudicial to the sport of purebred dogs is any action or behavior that could cause an average, reasonable person or family to be offended or potentially repelled from the sport of purebred dogs; i.e., conduct incompatible with a family friendly environment. There are three 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 to improve or hinder the standing of any dog competing at an event; abusing or neglecting a dog in conjunction with an event; abuse of hotel rooms by dogs or persons attending the events; and any other UKC event rule infraction.

**Category 2. Violation of UKC Registration policies, procedures, or rules.** This may include, but is not limited to, falsification of UKC registration papers; misidentification of a dog or the parentage of a dog; or non-event related abuse or neglect of dogs.

**Category 3. Uttering a payment with non-sufficient funds.** This category refers to paying entry fees via a check with non-sufficient funds in the account, the use of a debit or credit card that is declined, forged or invalid money orders, or other forms of payment where an exhibitor's entry fees remain unpaid after competing.

## MISCONDUCT CATEGORY 1

### PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING MISCONDUCT DURING OR ASSOCIATED WITH A UKC LICENSED EVENT

**Jurisdiction.** All persons present on the grounds of a UKC event during the event hours are subject to the jurisdiction of UKC and are therefore subject to these UKC standards of conduct and disciplinary procedures. In addition, UKC has jurisdiction over misconduct associated with the event 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 reasonably related to the event 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 either the Event Chairperson or the Event Secretary [Host Club Official]. Upon receipt of a complaint, the host club official shall provide the complainant with a UKC Misconduct Complaint Form. The complainant must complete all of Section 1, including the complaint description, which must contain a complete, factual, and detailed description of the conduct alleged to have occurred, and the identity of all persons, potential witnesses, and dogs involved in the alleged misconduct. Once the complainant has returned the complaint form, the Host club officials shall investigate the complaint to determine whether a hearing is warranted. If there is sufficient evidence to believe that an individual is threatening, intimidating, has assaulted, or battered any person or abused or neglected a dog at any time or during their investigation, the host club may elect not to notify the individual on the day of the event that an official complaint has been lodged, or may immediately expel that individual from the event without a hearing.

**Completing the Misconduct Complaint Form.** If the officials determine that a hearing is necessary the host club official shall enter the names, and where known, the addresses, daytime and evening phone numbers of the accused and all witnesses for the complainant in Section 2 and Section 3 of the Misconduct Complaint Form. The officials shall then proceed with holding a hearing using the Hearing Procedure Form. If officials determine that a hearing is not warranted, the completed UKC Misconduct Complaint Form must still be forwarded to UKC and must include a written explanation of the findings of the event committee and why a hearing was not held. This must be signed by the Chairperson and the two-additional members assigned to the hearing committee. The Misconduct Complaint Form must be submitted along with the Event Report. UKC reserves the right to implement disciplinary action on any individual(s) involved from the official complaint, even if the host club determined that a hearing was not warranted.

Any person who becomes aware of an act or event related misconduct AFTER the event, or if the misconduct was committed by a member of the Event Committee or the host club, must notify UKC with a written, signed complaint within 7 days of the event. UKC staff shall forward to the complainant a Misconduct Complaint Form. Complainant shall complete Sections 1, 2, and 3 of the Misconduct Complaint 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.

### **The Hearing Committee and Notice**

- **Hearing Committee:** The Event Chairperson shall appoint from the officers and directors of the host club, two persons who shall serve, with the Event Chairperson, as the Hearing Committee, except that no officer or director who witnessed the alleged misconduct shall serve on the Hearing Committee. Additionally, no person who is related to, living in the same household as, or co-owns any dogs with either the complainant or any accused person shall serve on the hearing committee. If no officer or director is eligible to serve, then other club members may be appointed. The Event Chairperson shall serve as Chairperson of the Hearing Committee and shall set a time and place for the hearing. If the Event Chairperson witnessed the alleged misconduct, the task of appointing the hearing committee shall fall on the Event Secretary and they shall appoint, from the officers and directors of the host club, three persons who shall serve as the Hearing Committee and shall also designate one to serve as Chairperson of the Hearing Committee. The Chairperson of the Hearing Committee shall appoint a member to record the notes of the hearing. The place for the hearing shall be on the event grounds and the hearing time shall be set so as to give the accused adequate time to prepare for the hearing but should take place the same day as the event.
- **Notice:** As soon as possible after receiving the complaint, the Hearing Chairperson shall advise the accused of:
  - o The specific conduct that is the subject of the complaint and the time and place at which the alleged misconduct occurred;
  - o The name of the complainant;
  - o The names of witnesses against them; and,
  - o The time and place of the hearing.

The Hearing Chairperson shall also advise the accused of their right to have witnesses to the alleged misconduct speak on their behalf during the hearing. The witnesses name and contact information must be provided to the Hearing Chairperson prior to the time of the scheduled hearing.

- The Hearing Chairperson must enter the address and daytime and evening phone numbers of the accused in Section 3 of the complaint. They may obtain this information directly from the accused or from the UKC official entry form for the accused, if the accused is an exhibitor. If the accused cannot be located on the grounds, the Hearing Chairperson shall select a date, time and place for the hearing and notify the accused in writing by certified mail (return receipt requested) at the mailing address on the UKC official entry form or the last known address for the accused, whichever is applicable. Every reasonable effort shall be made to locate and notify the accused of the complaint and hearing. Hearings not held on the day of the event must be held no more than 28 calendar days from the date of the event.
- If, after having been advised of the complaint and the date, time and place of the hearing, the accused fails to appear, the hearing shall proceed without the accused.

### **The Hearing Procedure**

- The Hearing Committee must follow and complete the UKC Hearing Procedure Form when conducting the hearing.
- The Hearing Committee Chairperson (hereinafter referred to as Chairperson) shall introduce themselves and the other members of the Hearing Committee.
- The Chairperson shall designate a member of the Hearing Committee to keep a written record of the proceedings and who will also be responsible for completing the UKC Hearing Procedure Form. The record keeper shall try to provide as detailed summaries as possible in the spaces provided.
- Chairperson will advise the accused of the specifics of the complaint, and of the following:
  - o The accused may be present during the testimony of all witnesses;
  - o The accused may question all witnesses;
  - o The accused may present witnesses on their behalf;
  - o The accused may testify in their behalf. No party in attendance is entitled to nor permitted to have an attorney present at the hearing.
- After all testimony, the accused may present a final statement in response to the complaint. If the accused cannot attend the hearing due to distance or other compelling reason that satisfies the Hearing Committee, they may submit a signed, written response to the complaint to be used at this stage of the hearing.
- The Chairperson will introduce and swear in<sup>1</sup> the complainant (if present) and witnesses in support of the complaint. Each will, in turn, present their testimony, followed by questions by the accused, and then any questions from the Hearing Committee.
- The Chairperson will introduce and swear in<sup>1</sup> the accused (if present) and witnesses in support of the accused. Each will, in turn, present their testimony, followed by questions by the accused, and then any questions from the Hearing Committee.
- The Chairperson will then excuse the complainant, witnesses, and the accused to deliberate and make findings.
- The evidentiary standard for findings is that of a preponderance of the evidence. A simple majority is sufficient to make findings and a decision. In coming to a decision, the 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.
- To come to a decision, the Committee must decide:



- o Whether the alleged misconduct was proven to have occurred;
- o Whether the alleged misconduct was prejudicial to the sport of purebred dogs;
- o Whether the alleged misconduct occurred in conjunction with a UKC event. All three of these elements must be met to find against the accused.
- Once the Committee reaches a decision, the Chairperson will call the accused back to notify him/her of the findings of the Committee.
- Within ten (10) days of the hearing, the Chairperson must forward the Hearing Form and Complaint Form and any attachments, such as written statements, to:

**United Kennel Club**

Attn: All-Breed Sports  
 100 E Kilgore Rd  
 Kalamazoo, MI 49002

<sup>1</sup> 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?”

<sup>2</sup> If the complainant or a witness is unable to attend in person, they may testify via telephone if a speakerphone is available. Clubs shall make a reasonable effort to provide a speakerphone where a witness is willing to testify but cannot because of distance or other compelling reason. In the alternative, the complainant or witness may make a signed, written statement to be read aloud at the hearing. The accused may not testify via telephone.

<sup>3</sup> If the amount of evidence you need to be absolutely certain of a fact is equal to 100%, then a 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.

<sup>4</sup> Prejudicial to the sport of purebred dogs is that which could cause an average, reasonable person or family to be offended or potentially repelled from the sport of purebred dogs; i.e., conduct incompatible with a family friendly environment.

## **MISCONDUCT CATEGORY 2**

### PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING MISCONDUCT FOR VIOLATION OF UKC REGISTRATION POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND RULES

**UKC Standard Of Conduct.** UKC dog breeders and registrants must comply with all UKC rules, regulations, procedures, and policies, as well as all local, county, state and federal government regulations for kennel operations.

**Jurisdiction.** All individuals who register individual dogs or litters with UKC are subject to the jurisdiction of 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.

## **MISCONDUCT CATEGORY 3**

### PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING UTTERING A PAYMENT WITH NON-SUFFICIENT FUNDS

- When the club or Event Manager becomes aware of an act of uttering in the amount of \$100 or more, the Treasurer must;
  - o Notify UKC of the uttering misconduct,
  - o Provide along with the written notification, proof the violation and,
  - o Submit a copy of the dog’s entry form(s) to UKC within 30 days of the event.
  - o The club must make every reasonable attempt to collect sufficient funds,
  - o The club may collect a reasonable amount of fees in addition to the entry amount from the exhibitor.
- The UKC Disciplinary Action Committee will review the complaint and if a violation is found, the following steps may be taken:
  - o Invalid Entry. UKC will notify the exhibitor that the dog’s record for the event will be treated as an invalid entry when recording the Event Results.
  - o The exhibitor must contact the club immediately upon notification from their financial institution or from UKC (whichever is first), that the payment was insufficient and resolve the insufficient funds entry payment to the club.
  - o When the outstanding debt has been successfully paid by the exhibitor, which may include additional charges assessed to the club

by their financial institution, the club must notify UKC within 7 days.

- After UKC has been notified by the club or Event Manager that the uttering has been successfully paid, the exhibitor may make an appeal to re-instate the dog's points to the Disciplinary Action Committee. An appeal must be filed not later than 30 days from the date the uttering has been successfully paid to the club. The decision of the Disciplinary Committee shall be final.
- Habitual Uttering. The UKC Disciplinary Action Committee may place on Probation or Suspension any exhibitor or owner for repeated instances of uttering as described in the Penalties section below.

**Misconduct by Host Club.** When any person or persons become aware of an act of misconduct by a club, its event officials, any person acting in an official capacity or acting event manager during the hours of a UKC event must make written notification of the violation by the club to UKC within 7 days of the event.

**Actions For Misconduct.** The Disciplinary Action Committee (DAC) of the UKC is the judicial body whose purpose is to properly handle violations of UKC rules, policies, and procedures. The DAC is in place to ensure that UKC policies are followed, protect the standards and philosophy of UKC, and assist UKC in standing behind the pedigrees that UKC is guardian over. The DAC shall review all Hearing Committee findings and results (Category 1 and 3 Misconduct) and make decisions for staff investigation findings and reports for Category 2 Misconduct. DAC shall decide if one of the following actions shall be taken:

- **Written warning.** Some situations may not be serious enough to necessitate a hearing or warrant discipline. In those cases, the DAC may issue a written warning to the accused to put the actor on notice that his or her actions were unacceptable, and to serve as a reminder of the rules. A file for that individual will be created, referenced, and taken into consideration should any future issues arise.
- **Probation.** Probation shall serve as a reprimand or serious warning. 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 may not require further DAC participation. If the probation is to be accompanied by a fine, the fine must be paid by the stated deadline, or the probation may be increased to suspension.
- **Suspension.** Suspension (also referred to as barring) is a loss of event and registration privileges as defined under the Terms of Suspension. Indefinite and life suspensions shall be reserved for the most egregious offenses or repeat offenders. The loss of event and registration privileges shall begin upon UKC's mailing of the notification to the respondent via certified mail (return receipt requested), but if it is a defined period of suspension, the fine must be paid by certified check or money order before the end of the suspension period. If the fine is not paid by the end of the suspension period, the suspended individual will remain so until the fine is paid in full. Once the suspension period is served, event and registration privileges will be restored with an automatic 3-year probation period.

**Terms of Suspension.** During the period of suspension, the suspended individual:

- May not register any dogs in his/her name (joint or individual ownership). A suspended 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/banned person, regardless of co-ownership status, may be transferred to any member of that person's family, spouse, or companion. Companion is defined as anyone who resides at the same address as the suspended individual.
- May not use dogs that are currently registered in his/her name for breeding purposes. No dog registered in the name of a suspended person (joint or individual ownership) may be used for breeding and no offspring of such a dog is eligible for registration with UKC.
- May not register any litters or sign any litter registrations in any capacity.
- May not enter or participate in any way in any UKC-licensed event, including, but not limited to: co-owner, handler, back-up handler, judge, guide, vendor, spectator, Master of Hounds, Bench Show Judge, Judge or Director for any Conformation or Performance event, and are prohibited from holding office in any UKC approved club or association.
- No dog registered in the name of a suspended person (joint or individual ownership) may be entered or participate in any way in any UKC-licensed event.
- May not receive monetary payouts from any UKC specialty program, including the Performance Rewards Program, or the Beagle Incentive Fund program.
- May not receive Championship points for any dog registered in his/her name (joint or individual ownership).
- May not advertise in any UKC publication or internet site.

**Appeals.** Any person placed on suspension may appeal directly, in writing, to the UKC Appeals Committee. The decision of the Appeals Committee is final.

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

**Chapter 6:** Total Dog and Total Junior Awards added to this rulebook.

# UKC® POLICY REGARDING PERSONS ASSOCIATED WITH FIGHTING DOGS

Any individual or group of individuals known by UKC to promote, support, raise dogs for fighting; knowingly sell, give or trade dogs that will be used in fighting; condone or be associated with the facing off, game testing, rolling or pitting of dogs; or arrested for attending and/or participating in a dog fight, will have the following actions taken against them by United Kennel Club:

- 1. All dog registration privileges will be revoked for life.
  - o a. The person(s) will not be permitted to register any litters of puppies.
  - o b. The person(s) will not be permitted to transfer ownership of any puppies or adult dogs into their name.
- 2. The person(s) will be barred for life from participating in or entering any UKC licensed events. Their dogs will not be awarded any UKC Championship points or titles even if handled by another person.
- 3. The person(s) will be barred for life from advertising in any UKC publications.

Anyone aware of any persons currently involved in such activities as are listed above should report them to United Kennel Club.

## INHERENT RIGHTS and 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, scorecards 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.