

## **RULES EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

### **Rules Change Proposals for the 2015 ACoD**

The following Rule Change Proposals will be submitted for approval to the 2015 Annual Convention of Delegates. New wording is underlined; deleted wording is ~~struck out~~. Explanations for the proposal are included, along with REC recommendations. **THESE ARE PROPOSALS ONLY**; those that receive a favorable vote will be considered a change in the *Running Rules and Field Procedures for Lure Field Trials*. Such proposals will be published on the ASFA website after the 2015 ACoD, and will go into effect on January 1, 2016.  
---Russ Jacobs, Chair, REC

#### ***All Proposals referred from the ASFA Board of Directors***

##### **(1) Ch III Judging**

**Section 3.** No judge shall handle a hound in the stake or stakes where he is officiating. No hound may be entered in a stake where a judge is officiating if the hound is owned or co-owned by that judge, or if the hound is owned or co-owned by a member of that judge's immediate family or residence. Such hounds may be entered at that meet in other stakes where the judge is not officiating. No Judge shall officiate at a certification course for any hound which he/she owns or co-owns or which is owned or co-owned by a member of that Judge's immediate family or residence.

**Effect:** To make clear that judges cannot certify their own hounds, or those owned by their family or residence.

**Reason:** This brings a longstanding policy (JUDG18) into the rulebook.

*The REC recommends that this proposal be accepted.*

##### **(2) Ch XI Licensing of Judges**

**Section 4.** Provisional Status (seeking regular license)

(a) During the period for which a provisional license is granted, the applicant is free to accept judging assignments. (On all premium lists, announcements, flyers, and so forth, an asterisk preceding the judge's name shall denote provisional.) The provisional license encompasses all breeds, but at no time shall a person judge more than four breeds in addition to Singles stakes and Limited stakes, for which he is not regularly licensed at any one trial without special dispensation as stated in Section 8 of this chapter. This provision applies both to Regional Invitationals and to standard trials.

**Effect:** To clarify what provisional judges can judge at Regional Invitationals and other trials.

**Reason:** This brings a longstanding policy (JUDG20) into the rulebook.

*The REC recommends that this proposal be accepted.*

##### **(3) CH XI Licensing of Judges**

**Section 7 (b)** If the ASFA records indicate that a person has not judged at a trial in the preceding two years, the license shall lapse and the judge shall lose all previous status. Except that, if a licensed judge shall be stationed outside of the United States by a branch of the U.S. Military, and such service makes it impossible for him or her to judge ASFA trials, the time spent out of

the U.S. shall not be counted as part of the two year inactive period. Additionally, if there are extenuating circumstances such as, for example, serious illness on the part of the judge or his or her family, making it impossible for him or her to judge ASFA trials during the two year inactive period, the judge may apply during the period of inactivity to the Chair of Judges Licensing for a suspension of some or all of the two year period. The Chair of Judges Licensing may recommend to the Executive Committee of the ASFA Board of Directors that some or all of that two year time period not be counted as part of the two year inactive period. The final decision as to whether some or all of that period of time be waived shall be made by the Executive Committee of the ASFA. In either case, the Board of Directors of the ASFA shall be notified of such action promptly.

**Effect:** To allow for exceptions to the two year maximum inactive period for judges.

**Reason:** There may be exceptional circumstances that make it advisable to extend the period of inactivity allowed.

*The REC recommends that this proposal be accepted.*

#### **(4) Chapter V Running the Meet**

**Section 12, Paragraph (e)** ~~No ASFA championship points will be awarded; however, ASFA~~ championship points will be awarded to the hound winning Best in Field based on 4 points for itself and each dog defeated up to a maximum of 40 points for that trial. (For example: if there were 6 dogs running for BIF, the winner would receive 24 championship points in addition to the points already earned that day. If the winning dog was the only one of its breed, it would now have 28 points for that trial (24 +4). If the winning dog already earned 20 points for that trial, it would now have 40 as 8 points would not count from the BIF total.) The hound that wins Best in Field will be credited with a first placement in a stake.

**Effect:** To award championship points for BIF wins.

**Reason:** Some dogs that run very well do not have strong competition in breed, and they must run much longer before they earn a title than do dogs of others breeds.

*The REC recommends that this proposal be rejected.*

*Rationale:* Since points and placements would now be available through BIF, many clubs who do not offer it will be pressured to do so, incurring additional time to run BIF and expense for a BIF rosette. (Eventually, ASFA will probably have to require BIF.) This rule would have the general effect of cheapening ASFA titles—many hounds have, in the past, “run much longer before they earn a title than do dogs of others breeds,” earning points four at a time. It will also make it more difficult for owners to keep adequate records of their hound’s points, making it more likely that they will enter in the wrong stake. It could also pose additional headaches for FTSs and the Records Coordinator. Finally, the REC is concerned that this would, for the first time, allow a hound to win championship points and placements--perhaps even an ASFA title--without defeating a hound of its own breed.

**Note:** Rule change proposals (5) and (5a) are alternatives; if (5) is approved, (5a) will not be considered.

**(5) Chapter XI, Section 4, subsection (b) and add subsection (c)**

**Section 4. Provisional Status (seeking regular license)**

(b) Any person seeking a regular license for a breed must judge the performance of ~~seven~~ a minimum of four or more hounds per trial in one stake in that breed for two breeds,

1. at a minimum of three trials; and
2. under three or more different licensed judges.

(c) Any person seeking a regular license for a breed must judge the performance of a minimum of five hounds in one stake for one additional breed,

1. at a minimum of three trials; and
2. under three or more different licensed judges.

**Effect:** Changes breed requirements for provisional judges seeking a regular license from seven hounds per trial to four hounds in a stake for two breeds, and 5 hounds in a stake for one breed.

**Reason:** This is the recommendation of the Judges Committee.

*The REC recommends that this proposal be rejected.*

**Rationale:** REC believes that it would be useful to reduce the total number of dogs that must be judged, if the revision also requires cross course judging. However, it finds the “four hounds for the first two breeds, then five hounds” approach to be unnecessarily complex and likely to be confusing. We propose as an alternative:

**(5a) Chapter XI, Section 4, subsection (b)**  
**Section 4. Provisional Status (seeking regular license)**

(b) Any person seeking a regular license for a breed must judge the performance of ~~seven~~ a minimum of five or more hounds per trial in one stake in that breed for three breeds,

1. at a minimum of three trials; and
2. under three or more different licensed judges.

**Effect:** reduces the total number of dogs to be judged from seven to five, and keeps it constant for the first three breeds.

**Reason:** this should make it easier for provisional judges to become fully licensed while requiring that they practice cross course judging, in a simpler format.

*The REC recommends that this proposal be accepted.*

**Note:** The following proposal will be considered only if proposal (5), rather than proposal (5a), passes.

**(6) Chapter XI, Section 4, subsections (b) and (c)**  
**Section 4. Provisional Status (seeking regular license)**

**Add the following to both subsection (b) and subsection (c):**

3. and an overall total of no fewer than 21 hounds in each breed.

**Effect:** Changes breed requirements for provisional judges seeking a regular license by requiring that they judge at least 21 hounds in each of the first three breeds.

**Reason:** This is the recommendation of the Judges Committee.

*The REC recommends that this proposal be rejected.*

**Rationale:** The number 21 seems arbitrary and unnecessary; the REC believes that either (5) or (5a) should stand alone.

**Note:** Proposal (7) will be considered only if proposal (5) *or* (5) *and* (6) pass; exact wording to be voted upon will depend upon which of those proposals passes. If neither (5) nor (6) pass, then (7a) will be considered.

**(7) Chapter XI, Section 5. Licensing for Additional Breeds.** Any judge regularly licensed in at least three breeds may seek an additional breed by meeting the following requirements:

- (a) Judge provisionally the breed for which the license is sought at no less than three trials with three different licensed judges. (Judging ~~seven~~ four or five hounds per ~~breed~~ breed-stake for an overall total of 21 dogs in that breed is a requirement for the first three breeds only and does not apply to any breeds thereafter.)

**Effect:** Makes this section compatible with Section 4 if Rule Change (5) and (6) are adopted.

**Reason:** This is the recommendation of the Judges Committee.

*The REC recommends that this proposal be rejected.*

**Rationale:** If (5) and (6) are rejected, (7) becomes unnecessary.

**(7a) Chapter XI, Section 5. Licensing for Additional Breeds.** Any judge regularly licensed in at least three breeds may seek an additional breed by meeting the following requirements:

- (b) Judge provisionally the breed for which the license is sought at no less than three trials with three different licensed judges. (Judging ~~seven~~ five hounds per ~~breed~~ breed-stake is a requirement for the first three breeds only and does not apply to any breeds thereafter.)

**Effect:** Makes this section compatible with Section 4 if Rule Change (5a) is adopted.

**Reason:** This is necessary if (5a) passes.

*The REC recommends that this proposal be accepted.*