

REC Report Rules Change Proposals for the 2018 ACoD

The following Rule Change Proposals will be submitted for approval to the 2018 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 2018 ACoD, and will go into effect on January 1, 2019.
---Russ Jacobs and Marilyn Standerford, Co-Chairs, REC

1. The Board of Directors has asked us to clarify Ch. V, Sec.7, and they suggested improved wording, Option 1 below. After much discussion and repeated re-writing, the REC agrees that clarification is needed, but believes that Option 2 below does a better job. The ACoD will be offered a choice between these two options; the REC recommends that they approve Option 2.

Option 1: Ch. V., Sec 7: First placing hounds in all regular stakes of each breed shall run -off or withdraw from Best of Breed competition. Unless all ties for first place and Best of Breed can be resolved in one course, all ties must be broken before running Best of Breed. Best of Breed competition must be resolved in one course. In the case of multiple flights, an overall winner in the Open stake, an overall winner in the Field Champion stake, and an overall winner in the Veteran stake must be determined by runoff or forfeiture unless the Best of Breed can be run in one course. The winner of this run or the remaining hound shall be declared that breed's Best of Breed. Determination of this overall winner shall be determined in the same manner as tie-breaking: namely, all hounds in contention shall be randomly drawn in as many courses as are necessary, and after a single run of each course the high-scoring hound will be considered the overall winner (ties must be forfeited or run-off). ~~The winner of this run or the remaining hound shall be declared that breed's Best of Breed.~~ Only hounds winning a Best of Breed run shall be awarded points equal to the points awarded the highest-placing hound in that breed which it defeated.

Option 2: Ch V, Section 7: Best of Breed competition must be resolved in one course. The winner of this run or the single hound remaining after all other competitors forfeit or withdraw shall be declared that breed's Best of Breed. First placing hounds in all regular stakes of each breed shall run-off or withdraw from Best of Breed competition. Unless all ties for first place and Best of Breed can be resolved in one course, all ties must be broken before running Best of Breed. ~~Best of Breed competition must be resolved in one course.~~ In the case of multiple flights, an overall winner in the Open stake, an overall winner in the Field Champion stake, and an overall winner in the Veteran stake must be determined by runoff or forfeiture ~~unless~~ until the Best of Breed can be run in one course. Determination of ~~this~~ each overall stake winner shall be determined in the same manner as tie-breaking: namely, all hounds in contention shall be randomly drawn in as many courses as are necessary, and after a single run of each course the high-scoring hound will be considered the overall winner (ties must be forfeited or run-off) and eligible to run for best of breed. The winner of this run or the single hound remaining after all other competitors forfeit or withdraw shall be declared that breed's Best of Breed. Only hounds winning a Best of Breed run shall be awarded points equal to the points awarded the highest-placing hound in that breed which it defeated. In the event of a single entry in any breed, or all hounds in a breed entered in

one stake, the Best of Breed winner shall be determined solely by the highest combined scores of the preliminary and final courses. A hound must earn a qualifying score in the run-off in order to win Best of Breed. A hound who wins a Best of Breed run, and who is a single entry in a stake, shall be awarded a first placement with competition.

Effect: To clarify Best of Breed run-off procedures.

Rationale: The current wording is often confusing, and interpreted in different ways by different people.

The REC recommends that Option 2 be approved.

2. **Ch VI, Section 1, (e):** ~~A p~~Per capita fees are as set by the Board of Directors (see schedule of fees on the ASFA website) for each hound which was a paid entry in a regular stake (excepting those whose entry fee was refunded) and for each paid entry in non-regular stakes (Kennel, Breeder, and Bench Stakes). No per capita fee is due for any entry, regular or non-regular, that was fully refunded to the exhibitor. All per capita fees shall be paid through...

Effect: To clarify when per capita fees are owed to the ASFA.

Rationale: Currently it is not clear that per capita fees are due on non-regular stakes.

The REC recommends that this proposal be approved.

3. **Chapter IV, SCHEDULING THE MEET, Section 7. Hound Certification Form. Section 7. Hound Certification Form.** A current Hound Certification form is to be included in the premium, if hound certification runs will be offered.

Effect: Completes the sentence so that it makes sense.

Rationale: It is not complete in the current rulebook.

The REC recommends that this proposal be approved.

4. **Ch. V, Sec 12 (e)**
~~N~~o ASFA championship points will be awarded to the Best in Field winner based on the highest points awarded to any individual hound that ran in Best in Field. This will not exceed 40 points. However, the hound that wins Best in Field will be credited with a first placement in a stake.

Effect: To award championship points to the winner of Best in Field.

Rationale: Hounds with little breed competition may find it difficult to earn enough points to finish.

The REC recommends that this proposal be rejected.

Explanation: Versions of this proposal have been made in the past, and the argument for and against have been thoroughly explored. The REC continues to believe that this would represent a watering-down of ASFA titles.

5. **Ch V, Section 5:** Regular stakes are described as follows:

(a) **OPEN STAKE**

Each stake shall consist of entries of only one breed, dogs and bitches; ASFA Field Champions of record of that breed may not be entered. A photocopy of acceptable registry must be submitted with a hound's first ASFA field trial entry. This requirement will be waived for hounds registered with the National Greyhound Association. To be eligible to enter the open stake, a hound must have been certified by a licensed judge within the year preceding the closing date for the entry, hound's first competition, or have previously competed in the Open stake. Such certification must indicate that the hound completed one course of at least 500 yards, running continuously with another hound of the same breed (or another breed with a similar running style), and showed no inclination to interfere with the other hound, or to course the other hound rather than the lure. A hound must be at least eleven (11) months old to run in a certification course. The preceding eligibility requirement will be waived for a hound that has earned a lure coursing ~~or racing~~ title from another recognized organization, if such title requires competition, and if a waiver for such title has been approved by the ASFA.

Effect: To eliminate racing titles from the list of eligible waiver titles.

Rationale: Racing titles are earned under sufficiently different conditions than are common in lure coursing, and earning a racing title may be a poor indicator of a hound's propensity to course cleanly.

The REC Recommends that this proposal be accepted.

6. Referred from the Board, 12/15/2017.

Chapter III - JUDGING

In addition to those rules and procedures set forth in Chapter II, as they relate to judges, the following shall apply:

Section 1. Clubs may, at their discretion, use either one or two judges for any given breed or breeds at ASFA lure field trials. If only one judge is used, he or she must be regularly licensed for each breed so judged with the exception of field trials held in conjunction with a given breed's national specialty, ~~Regional Invitationals~~, and the ASFA International Invitational, which must use two judges for each stake. Clubs hosting an ASFA Regional Invitational should use two judges for each stake. A hosting club in a Region which routinely has low entries may, with the approval of their Regional Director, have the option of using one judge in stakes to reduce the financial burden on the club.

Rationale (provided by the Board:) Hosting an ASFA Regional Invitational is a special event and two judges should be used for each stake, but if a region routinely has low entries which would cause a financial burden on said hosting clubs, the host club will have the option of using one judge on some stakes when approved by the Regional Director.

The REC makes no recommendation on this proposal.

7. **Ch. XIII: Glossary.**

Non-regular stakes: Consists of Bench, Breeder and Kennel stakes within each individual breed or Singles stake. No points are awarded.

Effect: To explicitly add bench stakes to the Glossary as a non-regular stake.

Rationale: Bench stakes are currently left off the list of non-regular stakes in the Glossary.

The REC recommends that this proposal be accepted.

8. Referred from Region 8:

Chapter XI LICENSING OF JUDGES Section 4. Provisional Status (seeking regular license)

(d) The Board, upon recommendation of the chair, and in no less than 30 days after publication, shall determine, if the applicant shall be granted a license for the breed or breeds for which the license is sought.

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; so long as those requirements are met, Singles stake shall also count as an additional breed.

(c) The Board, upon recommendation of the chair, and in no less than 30 days after the applicant's name has been published, shall determine whether the applicant shall be granted a license to judge the breed(s) for which the license is sought.

Section 11. Upon receipt of a written request from a judge licensed for eight breeds, the Chair ~~may~~ shall grant a license for all breeds. The judge will be licensed for all breeds in no less than 30 days after publication.

Effect: This would impose a 30 day waiting period before licensing.

Rationale: this would add uniformity and consistency to the process of licensing ASFA judges. At the present time it has a different statement for each waiting period: To make everything consistent we should add a waiting period after the applicant judge has filed for an upgrade of his/her ~~their~~ license.

The REC recommends that this proposal be rejected.

Explanation: Although the REC is certainly in favor of consistency, it believes that there should be two publications on the website before full licensure—60 days rather than 30 days—and that the chair should have discretion over granting an all-breed license. REC would like to see this proposal sent to REC for further revision.