

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.

Section 2. A person shall not judge the same breed or breeds ALONE on two consecutive days within a 150-mile radius.

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.

Section 4. No judge shall perform any other field trial duties during his or her judging assignment that are reasonably likely to interfere with his or her judging performance. In particular, no one may judge and operate the lure at the same time, or judge and serve as huntmaster at the same time.

Section 5. Each and every judge, before beginning his assignment, shall walk the course and verify with the field chairman that the approved course plan is properly staked.

Section 6. While on the field during his judging assignment, no judge shall discuss anything relative to his judging assignment with any handler or agent.

Section 7. While observing the course in progress, when two judges are used, the judges shall stand apart. They shall not converse during the running of the course, nor shall they discuss anything pertaining to that course, except to state "no course," until the score sheets have been turned in to the field clerk or his representative.

Section 8. A judge shall be able to call a no-course at any time:

- (a) the hounds are interfered with or disrupted or he cannot fairly score the course.
- (b) when a segment of the lure falls off and any hound reacts to said segment, but only if he cannot fairly score the course.
- (c) if a hound or hounds touch or catch the lure and, in the judge's(s') opinion(s), by so doing that action causes interference with the running of the course, it shall be declared a no-course. Any time a hound becomes entangled in the string, the judge(s) shall order the lure stopped and may declare a no-course.
- (d) if the lure operator fails to maintain the 10-30 yard limit, and the hounds become unsighted, a judge shall have the prerogative to call a no-course.

If either judge calls a no-course on one or more of the hounds in a course, both judges will score the re-run.

Section 9. Judges are responsible for scoring all categories in all courses: preliminaries, finals, runoffs, etc.

Section 10. Placing of winners shall be decided on the basis of qualities evidenced by: enthusiasm, follow, speed, agility and endurance in scoring the hounds. Judges shall score in whole numbers only, and shall be governed by the following system:

Enthusiasm	15 pts.
Follow	15 pts.
Speed	25 pts.
Agility	25 pts.

Endurance 20 pts.
 Total: 100 pts.
 Less: Pre-slip penalty -1 to -10 pts.
 (from each judge). When a pre-slip occurs, each judge shall levy a penalty of between 1 and 10 points for that course. A pre-slip may be called by the huntmaster at the beginning of the course, at a mid-field re-start of the same course or both. Each judge shall levy a penalty for each pre-slip. The pre-slip penalty shall not be carried over in the case where a no-course is called on the course in progress.
 Less: Course delay penalty -1 to -10 pts.
 (from each judge). When a course delay occurs, each judge shall levy a 1 to 10 point penalty for that course. This includes when a hound is slipped when no tally-ho has been sounded. The course delay penalty shall be carried over in the case where a no-course is called on the course in progress and shall be cumulative in the case of repeated delays.

Section 11. A judge may score some hounds in a course and re-run other hounds from the same course. At his discretion, the judge may score hounds which fail to complete the course for any reason, if a judge is able to do so. In the case where the hounds fail to run in the preliminary course, a judge shall have the option of giving the hounds a minimum score or excusing them.

Section 12. A zero total score from both judges, or a judge when only one is used, in the preliminary course automatically excuses a hound for the day. Hounds excused for any reason in the preliminary course will not be permitted to run in the final course, and will not be counted as having been in competition when computing the points. Hounds scored in the preliminary run but excused in the final run shall be counted when computing points.

Section 13. Hounds may be excused from the field by a judge for the following reasons:

- (a) Hounds who fail to run after the tally-ho in either the preliminary or final course.
- (b) Hounds who may be considered unfit to compete.
- (c) Hounds who course other hounds rather than the lure.
- (d) Hounds whose handlers or owners interfere with the judges or officials.
- (e) Hounds who delay the course.
- (f) Handlers who willfully interfere with another competitor, his hound, or any official.

Section 14. Hounds shall be dismissed from the field by a judge, for the day, for interfering (aggressively or playfully) with the course of another hound. (Growling and/or barking, in and of itself, does not constitute grounds for dismissal.)

Section 15. In the event that a hound running loose joins a course in progress, and interferes with or instigates a fight with another hound properly entered in that course, the judge or judges currently judging the course in progress may excuse the offending hound from the field for the day. (Such judges need not be scheduled to judge the breed to which the offending hound belongs.)

Section 16. Hounds shall be disqualified by the judge, or by agreement of both judges where two are used, for the following reason: fighting - the aggressor in fighting in the field. In the event that only one of two judges disqualifies a hound, this disqualification constitutes a dismissal.

Section 17. If a hound is excused, dismissed or disqualified, the course may be called a no-course by a judge. The remaining hound or hounds may be run in a remaining course if one exists or be given the opportunity to re-run alone and be scored.

Section 18. Judges shall immediately inform the huntmaster when a course is called a no-course or when a hound is dismissed or disqualified (see Ch. II, Sec 4, #22).

Section 19. Judges must state on the judges sheet the specific reason for excusal, dismissal or disqualification.

Section 20. A judge may not change his or her score or decision after a trial is concluded.

Section 21. After a course has been judged, and the marked score sheets turned over to the field clerk, only the judge can change his final score and only in the case of an arithmetical or blanket color error.

Section 22. The judge's decisions upon all matters relating to the course are final and binding. The Board of Directors of the ASFA may reverse, change or modify a judge's decision, but only in accordance with the procedures in Chapter IX.

ASFA Website Copy