



# Regional Invitational Policy

Operational Policy O-INVIT03

(As approved by the Board of Directors, November 2020)

The chair of the Invitationals Committee shall submit a copy of this current Regional Invitational Policy to the Forms Chair to update the policy and provide it to the Internet Liaison for publication on the ASFA website.

Each year the ASFA will sanction a series of lure field trials, the purpose of which shall be to promote and further test those hounds that have attained at least one point toward their ASFA Field Championship, hounds that are ASFA Field Champions or hounds that are ASFA Lure Coursers of Merit. These lure field trials consist of a series of ASFA Regional Invitationals held in each of the ASFA Regions and the ASFA International Invitational. See the International Invitational Policy for requirements for that event.

**Requesting permission.** The club submits a request to its Regional Director at least 4 months prior to the proposed date. This request should include:

- Name of the club
- Proposed date or dates
- Location of trial and description of grounds
- Entry fee
- Additional activities (if any)

**Date.** A date that has already been approved by the Scheduling Chairman for a trial in that region, or is a priority date or dates in effect for a club, cannot be used unless the club holding the date or dates notifies Scheduling, in writing, that it will relinquish the date for the Regional Invitational. The club relinquishing the date would retain priority for the following year. After a date has been approved for the Regional Invitational, no other trial shall be held in the region on the same date.

A Regional Invitational may be held any time from January to December, but there shall be only one weekend each year in each region, on that weekend a club may host a one-day or a two-day Regional Invitational, upon the approval of the Regional Director.

**Two Day Regional Requirements.** When hosting a two-day Regional Invitational there will be a Best In Regional Invitational held at the conclusion of the second day of competition. This competition will be judged by two all-breed ASFA judges. To compete in this final competition the hounds must have competed both days of the Regional and received qualifying scores both days and won Best of Breed at least once. The Best of Breed winners for each day will be drawn by random draw to compete in the Best in Regional Invitational. The hound with the highest total score from that run will be declared that year's Best in Regional Invitational for that Region.

**Entry limits.** There shall be no entry limits without prior approval from the Regional Director.

**Location and grounds.** The trial must be held within the regional boundaries. The grounds must be adequate to accommodate a large trial for the region. Course lengths must be within rule specifications (500 yards or more), but a length in excess of 750 yards is recommended. The grass must be a length that allows the lure operator clear visibility of the lure. Consideration should also be given to accessibility, lodging, refreshments, and restroom facilities.

**Entry fees.** Will be set by the host club and may have a higher fee for late entries.

**Additional Activities.** Activities such as banquets, seminars, dog shows, awards, etc., (if offered) should be listed in the premium.

**Eligibility.** Any hound that has at least one ASFA point, is pointed in its country of residence, or is AKC pointed is eligible to enter a Regional Invitational in an appropriate stake, including Single Stake, if offered. Proof of non-ASFA points for hounds should be in the form of a photocopy of the certificate, or a page of formal printing, included with the entry. For a Provisional breed to be eligible, the hound must have received a placement with competition. All points or placements must be earned prior to the closing date of the event. An eligible hound may be entered in any number of Regional Invitationals. Hounds entered in the Single Stake are not eligible to be entered in Breeder, Kennel, or Bench stakes.

**ASFA Website.** One page will be available on the ASFA website for announcing and providing the premium for each Regional Invitational, provided the host club submits ad copy to the Internet Liaison ([webmaster@asfa.org](mailto:webmaster@asfa.org)). The date of the "current" Regional Invitational can be announced on this page as soon as the date is approved by Scheduling for the next year. The page will remain available after the trial to post results and pictures. Again, these must be provided by the host club to the Internet Liaison. The article and photos of each Best of Breed and Best in Regional Invitational should be submitted as soon as possible after the trial. There is no charge to the host club(s) for this page. All reported content added to this page will be submitted to [webmaster@asfa.org](mailto:webmaster@asfa.org) by a single representative of the Regional Invitational Field Committee. The Scheduling Chairperson will submit the Regional premium list to the ASFA website for publication.

**Per capita fees to ASFA.** The Regional per capita fee is published on the ASFA website. This fee will be forwarded to the Records Coordinator with the trial results. The per capita fee for each Bench, Breeder and/or Kennel stake entry will be forwarded to the Records Coordinator with the trial results. Copies of the Bench stake, Breeder stake and/or Kennel stake entries will accompany the records.

**Rosettes and Trophies.** ASFA provides rosettes for all placements, ASFA medallions for each Best of Breed winner and for the High Scoring Single (if offered). The host club must request these from the Regional Director at least 25 days before the trial. The host club may offer additional trophies at the club's own expense or through donations.

The Best of Breed rosettes shall be 15 inches in length. All unused ribbons and medallions will be returned to the Awards Chair within 14 days after the trial.

The purpose of perpetual trophies donated for the ASFA Regional Invitational is to honor those hounds that have achieved outstanding records in the sport of lure coursing. This fosters the continued remembrance of remarkable individual coursing hounds.

Trophies may be donated for individuals who have volunteered a great part of their life to improve and promote the sport of lure coursing in the region. For dogs, only one trophy per category per breed will be accepted. All trophy donations must be in writing and approved by the Regional Director or at the Regional meeting. Only Perpetual Regional Trophies will be donated in this manner. All other trophies will be donated for one year and will be accepted by the host club for that year.

**General.** The premium list shall include both the host club's and ASFA's Officers and Board Members. Judges must be regularly licensed for the breeds that they judge. Equipment provided by the host club should be adequate to handle a large entry for the region. A veterinarian should be on call or at the trial site. Each year, the Regional Director will review all proposals received from clubs requesting to host a Regional Invitational. Once a decision is made, the Regional Director shall notify, in writing, the Scheduling Chairman and each club that submitted a proposal. All additional requirements and exceptions to the ASFA rulebook relating to Regional Invitationals are noted; all ASFA rules and policies shall apply to Regional

Invitationals. The ASFA Board of Directors must approve exceptions to any of these invitationals policies. Consult the ASFA Corresponding Secretary or your Regional Director for more information.

**Invitational Policies Review.** The Invitationals Committee shall review the Regional Invitational Policies on an annual basis. The review is **not** intended to be a re-write of the policies, but rather a time to address issues that may have come up during the most recent Regional Invitationals, and any rule or policy changes that directly affect this policy.

1. The timing of the annual reviews:
  - a. Regional Invitational review shall begin no later than December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.
2. The process that should be followed:
  - a. Issues that cause concern or problems are given to the Invitationals Committee Chairman by clubs, exhibitors, or anyone with knowledge of the issues.
  - b. The chair shall present the issues to the committee members and will establish a timetable and process for discussion and formulation of a resolution. Modifications or changes must be approved by a simple majority vote of committee members voting.
  - c. At the completion, the resolution will be made into a motion and submitted to the ASFA Board of Directors via the Corresponding Secretary and the Policy Compilations Committee, as necessary.
  - d. If the Board of Directors passes the motion, the Invitationals Committee Chair will submit the changes to the Internet Liaison for publication on the ASFA website