

Chapter V

RUNNING THE MEET

Section 1. At a breed specialty trial, either two or three regular stakes shall be offered, i.e., Open, Field Champion and Veteran, except that at a Limited breed specialty trial only the Limited stake will be offered; at an all-breed trial, three regular stakes shall be offered in all breeds, i.e., Open, Field Champion and Veteran.

Section 2. Except for national breed specialties, any entry limits shall be restricted to limitations in overall number of hound entries accepted at a trial. National breed clubs may choose, in addition, to require that any hound entered in a national breed specialty must have earned 20 ASFA points, or equivalent points in its country of residence, or must be a Field Champion of Record. If a national breed club chooses to impose such a requirement, proof of non-ASFA title and non-ASFA points for hounds should be in the form of a photocopy of the certificate, or page of formal printing and included with the entry.

Section 3. No hound may be entered in more than one regular stake at a meet. Designation of stake entered may be changed up until the draw for that breed has begun.

Section 4. The judge or judges must be the same for all stakes in any one breed, unless a judge is unable to complete his assignment (see Ch. II, Sec. 7, #4 & 5). The only exception shall be for Singles stake, in which all hounds entered are judged by the judge or judges published for the Singles stake.

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.

(b) **FIELD CHAMPION STAKE:** Each stake shall consist of entries of only one breed, dogs and bitches, who are ASFA Field Champions of record. Hounds whose owner's records show them to be ASFA Field Champions may be entered for a period up to 90 days without official certification. Hounds whose owner's records show them to have met the requirements for the Field Champion title may be changed from the Open stake to the Field Champion Stake provided notification is made to the field secretary prior to roll call. Hounds determined not to be eligible to compete in the Field Champion stake will forfeit all points and placements earned in that stake toward an LCM.

(c) **VETERAN STAKE:** For any individual hounds whose age is at least six years, except Irish Wolfhounds whose age shall be at least five years, and Whippets and Rhodesian Ridgebacks, whose age shall be at least seven years. The hound certification requirement in (a) above also applies to hounds entered in the Veteran stake which have not previously competed in Open. Hounds entered in the Veteran stake may not be entered in any other regular stake in the same lure field trial.

Section 6. The following description applies to all regular stakes:

(a) When the entry in any regular stake reaches 20 or more, the stake will be split. The stake will be divided as evenly as possible by random draw, except as noted in Ch. V, Sec. 7, #3. Multiple entries from the same owner will be divided between courses as evenly as possible if the appropriate box on the entry form has been checked. There must be a minimum of 10 in each flight. If the entry in a stake

which has been split into flights drops below 20 at any time prior to the running of the first course of that stake, the stake shall be redrawn.

- (b) Every entry in the regular stakes, not excused, dismissed or disqualified, shall be run twice. The order of running for both courses shall be by random draw. (See Ch. V, Sec. 7)
- (c) Hounds absent at roll call or at the running of their stake or flight shall be scratched.
- (d) After completion and posting of final scores, all hounds no longer required for further judging are excused.
- (e) The top five placing hounds in each stake or flight shall be determined by the combined scores of the preliminary and final runs.
- (f) ASFA points are awarded to the first through fourth placements in all regular stakes and/or flights (when regular stake entry is split).
- (g) Ties for the top five placements in any regular stake (or flights when the stake is split) will be run-off or forfeited. If one hound in a tie runoff is dismissed or disqualified, the hound not dismissed or disqualified is considered to have won the runoff.
- (h) All hounds entered in a regular stake shall be divided into trios, if possible, or braces. However, at the option of the host club, selected breeds may be run in braces, if possible. Host clubs shall not have this option at Regional or International Invitationals. Clubs exercising this option shall so state in the premium list, and shall list those breeds to be run in braces. When necessary under this option, hounds shall be run in trios rather than alone, including in the Best of Breed run. Hounds shall be designated by colors according to their drawing.

1st number drawn Bright YELLOW
..... (placed on the left)
2nd number drawn Bright PINK
..... (middle or on the right in braces)
3rd number drawn Bright BLUE
..... (placed on the right)

Section 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. 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. 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 runoff 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.

A hound excused, dismissed or disqualified in a runoff and/or Best of Breed run shall not lose prior points or placements earned that day. A dismissal or disqualification in a runoff and/or Best of Breed run shall count on the hound's record in accordance with Chapter VIII, "Disqualification, Dismissal, and Reinstatement of Hounds."

Section 8. As per Ch I Sec 3 of the ASFA Running Rules, Clubs shall refund entry fees for hounds with breed disqualifications, hounds determined to be lame at the time of roll call, bitches in season, hounds disqualified prior to the trial, or those which do not meet the requirements for entry in an invitational (but only if the owner/agent notifies the field secretary of such ineligibility prior to the completion of roll call). Clubs shall publish in the premium list any other circumstances in which refunds will be given or state that there are none.

Section 9. Conducting the Draw

1. The order and arrangement of hounds coursing shall be determined by a random drawing by breed at the beginning of the field trial or stake.
2. The draw shall be after the roll call and inspection on the day of the trial, and shall be made in full public view on the trial grounds. However, stakes may be split prior to roll call at national specialty trials or Invitationals.
3. Multiple entries from an owner shall be divided as evenly as possible between flights (if the regular stake is split.) Upon request from an owner or an owner's agent on the entry form, multiple entries from an owner shall be divided as evenly as possible between each course. This does not apply to the Best in Field competition. In the event of a kennel stake, the separation shall divide the kennel entry.
4. When there is but a single course in a regular stake in which an owner or his duly-authorized agent has more than one hound, these hounds will be run together or one or more will be scratched by owner or his duly-authorized agent, without refund of entry fee.
5. If only one member of a breed is entered, that hound may be run with another breed if all exhibitors involved agree. The hounds would be scored separately.
6. A single entry in a stake may be drawn to run with any other stake of that breed if all the handlers involved agree, but in no event shall more than two stakes be mixed unless all stakes in a breed can be run as a single course. The hounds would be scored separately. The judges shall not be informed which courses are combined.
7. A hound that has received a minimum score of less than half the total possible points in the preliminary course shall be eligible to compete in the final course. A hound that is excused will not be permitted to run in the final course, and will not be counted as having been in competition when computing the points.
8. After the draw is completed, should, for any reason, a hound fail to appear for its course, such that a single hound remains to be run, that remaining hound will be run and scored alone, unless that hound can be added to a brace, should one exist, in a preceding or subsequent course.

Section 10. Singles Stake

At the option of the host club, a Singles stake may be offered. If the host club offers this stake, it must so state in the premium list. All rules pertaining to regular stakes shall apply except when inconsistent with the following:

- (a) Each hound shall run the course alone.
- (b) No ASFA points or placements towards a Field Championship or an LCM shall be awarded.
- (c) Placements shall be awarded based on the combined preliminary and final course scores only. The winner of this stake shall not be eligible to compete in Best of Breed and/or Best in Field courses.
- (d) Single stake entries from all breeds shall be combined into one Mixed Singles stake, with placements being awarded across breeds.
- (e) Only hounds found lame or in season at roll call shall be barred from competition in this stake.
- (f) The judge or judges shall be the same for the entire Singles stake.
- (g) A hound entered in the Singles stake shall not be eligible to enter the Open and/or Field Champion stake at that trial.
- (h) The host club may place a limit on the Singles stake entry separate from any limit placed on entries at the trial.

Section 11. Limited Stake

Limited stakes will be offered by all host clubs if there are any breeds approved for Limited status. All rules and procedures pertaining to competition in the Open stake shall apply to Limited stake competition except where inconsistent with the following:

1. Each Limited stake shall consist of entries of only one breed, dogs and bitches. All Limited status breeds will be run in braces or trios, if possible. Scores and placements will be tallied by breed.
2. Limited stake entry is allowed for hounds of breeds that: 1) are considered sighthounds by their national parent club or the parent club from the country of origin but are not eligible for competition in the ASFA regular stakes, and 2) are on the list of such breeds that the ASFA has currently approved for entry. (The current list of such breeds consists of: Chart Polskis, Galgo Espanols, Magyar Agars, Peruvian Inca Orchids, Portuguese Podengos, and Silken Windhounds.)

3. Limited stake entry must be allowed for all breeds on the current ASFA approved list, except that a club may offer a Limited status breed specialty trial, at which only hounds of the single specialty breed will be accepted for entry.
4. Placements shall be awarded based on the combined preliminary and final course scores (and tie-breaking runs if appropriate). The winners of these classes shall not be eligible to compete in the Best of Breed and/or Best in Field courses.
5. No ASFA points or placements towards a Field Championship or an LCM shall be awarded. However, the parent clubs are encouraged to provide recognition.
6. All-breed judges are licensed to judge Limited stakes.
7. Provisional judges may judge Limited stakes as allowed by Ch. XI, Section 4 (a). However, such judging assignments will not be considered as part of the licensing requirements for additional breeds.
8. Limited status breeds are eligible to compete in ASFA Invitationals.

Section 12. Best in Field.

At the option of the host club, a Best in Field may be offered. All Best of Breed winners shall be eligible to compete in the Best in Field competition (except provisional breeds, Single stakes and Limited stakes). If the host club offers this competition, it must so indicate in the premium list.

- (a) The order of running is to be determined by random draw.
- (b) Multiple entries from one owner will not be split into separate courses, if drawn together.
- (c) There will be only one run.
- (d) Best in Field shall only be run if two or more hounds are in competition.
- (e) No ASFA championship points will be awarded; however, the hound that wins Best in Field will be credited with a first placement in a stake.
- (f) The highest-scoring hound with a qualifying score will be declared the Best in Field on that day.
- (g) When an ineligible hound wins Best in Field, no Best in Field will be awarded.
- (h) An excusal, dismissal or disqualification in the Best in Field competition will not affect a hound's prior awards earned on that day, but will count towards barring the hound from competition.
- (i) A hound winning Best in the ASFA International Invitational shall be considered to have won a Best in Field.

Section 13. At the option of the host club, non-regular stakes may be offered as follows (all entries and awards shall be divided by breed):

Note: The following stakes are non-regular stakes which can be offered by the host club at its option. If one or more of these stakes is offered, it is simply noted and winners are determined from their performance in the regular stake. In other words, these are not stakes especially run. They are designed to offer competitors a chance to win special non-regular ribbons or prizes. No points are awarded in any of these stakes.

- (a) Kennel stake: For hounds of any individual breeds; an entry shall consist of two hounds, designated at time of entry, in one of the regular stakes being owned and kenneled by the same person.
- (b) Breeder stake: For any breed which shall have, designated at time of entry, two hounds bred by the same individual.

In all non-regular stakes there will be only one winner per breed with no championship points awarded.

Section 14. A person may handle any number of hounds during a trial, but may not handle more than one hound in each course of that trial.

Section 15. Any owner who deputizes another person to handle his hound must not interfere with the hound or handler throughout the duration of the course.

Section 16. Handlers shall provide and use, with each entry, a slip lead. No spike or prong collars are permitted on the field.

Section 17. An elastic identification band, a blanket, muzzle (if used), and protective coverings in colors other than those listed in Sec. 5 (h) (if used) may be worn. Identification bands will be a maximum of 3/4" wide elastic in black or white. No other paraphernalia is permissible during the running of the course.

Section 18. These rules permit a handler to muzzle his hound, provided said muzzle has no sharp, hard edges, and allows the hound to breathe freely.

Section19. A hound may not be added to a course unless that hound is a regular entry and is to be scored (i.e., there shall be no bye-dog.)

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