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Houndsmen Kennel Club

49 Lafayette St

Sayre, PA 18840

Squirrel Hunt Events.

Host Club

The host club will be allowed to hold hunts with approval from H.K.C. By entering in a H.K.C. Squirrel event you agree to hold harmless H.K.C., The host club, Hunt director in the event of an accident or misapplication of the rules. Clubs can set the entry fee.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Houndsmen Kennel Club. will approve all Hunt Divisions and Hunt Directors, keep record of dogs enrolled. And keep record of placements towards Championship Points and Championship Degrees. Houndsmen Kennel Club., will not be held responsible for disbursing winnings, assigning judges, or determining placement of event participants, unless otherwise noted. Furthermore, by you entering a H.K.C. Squirrel Series Event you agree to not hold the Houndsmen Kennel Club, the Hunt Director, Non-Hunting or Hunting Judge, or Guide responsible in the event of an accident, misapplication of the rules, theft or personal injury.
2. Hunt Director – The Hunt Director is responsible for conducting the hunt. The Hunt Director may participate in the event.

3. Non-Hunting Judge – Is an individual who has knowledge of the rules that can interpret and apply them in a fair manner. The Judge will make all decisions, carry the scorecard and be responsible for recording all scores. The judge is to announce the score being recorded and ask if any handler questions the judge's decision. The Hunt Director can assign a Non-Hunting Judge anytime at his discretion. However, the final cast must be assigned a Non-Hunting Judge.

4 Hunting Judge – When a non-hunting judge is not utilized, a hunting judge will be appointed to each cast. This person must have knowledge of the rules and can interpret and apply them in a fair manner. The judge will make all decisions, carry the scorecard and be responsible for recording all scores. The judge is to announce the score being recorded and ask if any handler questions the scoring decision

5. Guide – A Guide is someone who is willing to take a cast to a location where they can hunt safely. A hunting judge can also be a guide for the cast.



General Rules

1. Only dogs enrolled with H.K.C. Squirrel Series are allowed to be entered.
2. There shall be three dogs in each cast with the exception of a two dog cast when necessary. Dogs may be drawn out in two dog casts to avoid an owner's dogs from being drawn out together only if there are enough guides to do so and it does not create an additional round.
3. Only one handler per dog is allowed.
4. All Guides and Judges / Non-Hunting Judges are to draw for their cast. The cast must be announced immediately to ensure that two dogs with the same owner(s) were not drawn.
5. All hunts are full elimination with cast winners advancing. A dog must have scored plus or circle points to be a cast winner and advance.
6. Dogs will be drawn out each round.
7. All casts must hunt 90 minutes the first round. Final cast can vote on hunting sixty (60) mins.
8. In order for a dog to advance or place, it must hunt the entire duration of the cast unless all other dogs in the cast have been scratched or withdrawn. If all other dogs are scratched or withdrawn, the remaining dog must continue the cast until it has scored plus or circle points in order to be declared the cast winner and advance. If the dog hasn't scored plus or circle points when the hunt time expires, it will not advance in the hunt. Any dog scratched or withdrawn cannot advance and will be placed below all dogs that hunt the duration of the cast.

9. If 10 minutes or less is remaining in a 90 minute cast or 5 minutes or less is remaining in a 60 minute cast, a handler may leash his/her dog for the time remaining.

10. In the event that two dogs which are owned by the same owner draw out together, these dogs will not be allowed to hunt together and will be redrawn unless the number of casts are fewer than the number of dogs owned by the same owners.

11. When the dogs are cut loose, the cast will make every effort to stay within hearing range of all dogs. If dogs get out of hearing range a time-out may be called by the unanimous decision of the cast. The cast is to stay as close to the dogs as possible.

12. Cast must stay together and go to all trees. After dogs are declared treed, the cast is to move towards the tree at a moderate pace but shall be at a pace where all cast members can stay together. A handler may leave the cast to go to a split tree to leash his/her dog when the tree time is up or all dogs are declared treed / handled or hunt time expires. After leashing the dog, he/she must return to the cast to score the other dog's tree unless non-hunting judges are being utilized.

13. The cast is to arrive at the tree together to determine if all dogs declared treed are showing treed by either looking up or barking up. The Judge is to reach the tree first and give the ok to handle the dogs after he/she determines all dogs are treed that were declared.

A dog must have scored plus or circle points to be a cast winner and advance.

2. If no dog in the cast has scored plus or circle points, it shall be considered a dead cast. If a cast is dead in the first round the dogs will not place in the hunt. If a cast is dead after the first round, the dogs will be placed amongst non-cast winners.

3. The dog with the highest final score will be declared the cast winner provided the dog has scored plus or circle points. A dog's final score is determined by subtracting minus points from the plus points scored.

4. If dogs have the same final score, the second determination for a cast win will be the highest overall cast score. The dog's overall cast score will be its final score and circle points. If dogs have the same overall cast score of plus/minus and circle points.

The Overall Cast Score will include the dog's plus/minus points and circle points.

TIE BREAKER FOR A CAST WIN

1. Dogs involved in a tie for a CAST WIN, shall be handled at the conclusion of the hunt time and then recast for a 10 minute tie breaker round to decide the winner or handlers involved in the tie may agree to hunt sudden death or flip a coin to determine the winner. (Points received

during the tie-breaker round are to be added to the score on the scorecard only to determine the winner but are not included for the final score)

2. If after the 10 minute round and dogs are still tied, sudden death will be used to decide the winner or handlers involved in the tie may agree to flip a coin to determine the winner. The first dog declared treed and receives plus or circle points will be the winner. If the dog declared treed receives a minus score, the win will go to the other dog involved in the tie.

3. If there is a three way tie after the 10 minute round, sudden death will be used to determine their placements or all handlers involved in the tie may agree to flip coins to determine the winner. The handler with the odd coin shall be declared the winner. The first dog declared treed and receives plus or circle points will be declared the winner, the second dog declared treed and receives plus or circle points will be 2nd. If the first dog declared treed receives a minus it will be placed third in the cast and the other two dogs will continue to hunt the sudden death hunt-off.

HOW TO PLACE NON-CAST WINNERS WHO ARE TIED

1. Dog with the most first plus trees.
2. Dog with the least minus points.
3. Dog with the most circle points.
4. Dog with the most first trees (plus & circle).
5. Cast Scores added together from previous rounds and dog with the highest final score is declared the winner.
6. If the dogs tied have only hunted 1 round or are still tied after scores being added together, a coin toss will be used to break the tie.

SCORING OF THE TREE

Measurements to determine split trees shall be from base to base of the declared trees. Base to base measurement is to be 2ft above ground level on the declared tree and the tree in which the squirrel is found in.

1. 100 pts. First Tree; 40 pts. Second Tree; 20 pts. Third Tree
2. A dog must bark to be declared treed.
3. The proper call to declare a dog treed shall be "Dog's Name, Treed". This method will be used to assist a judge in determining the order of the calls should they be made simultaneously. A judge shall accept any form of tree call but will award the higher tree position to a handler who uses the proper call when calls are made simultaneously.

4. If a tree call is made simultaneously and it is unable to be determined the call order, the points for the declared calls shall be added together and divided equally for that tree.
5. When a dog is declared treed by the handler, the dog must hold the tree for 2 minutes unless all dogs are declared treed / handled or hunt time expires.
6. 1 Minute Rule – When a dog is declared treed, tree points will remain open for 1 minute. All dogs declared treed after 30 seconds and before 1 minute will receive 20pts. At 1 minute the tree points are closed and no other dog(s) may receive points for that tree. Dogs that are declared treed within the first minute must hold the tree until the 2 minutes expire unless all dogs are declared treed / handled or hunt time expires.
7. If all dogs that are declared treed receive a minus for leaving the tree or the 2 minute no bark rule, the tree shall be reopened.
8. After dogs are declared treed, the cast is to move towards the tree at a moderate pace but shall be at a pace where all cast members can stay together. The handler of the dog declared 1st tree will determine how close but will not get closer than 30 steps (90 feet). Should a dog(s) tree within 30 steps (90 feet) of the cast, the cast is to move to at least 30 steps (90 feet) away.
9. No jogging or running at any time to a dog declared treed.
10. After 2 minutes and upon signal from the judge, handlers are to leash their dogs.
11. A search for the squirrel is to be conducted after all dogs at the tree are leashed.
12. Five minutes is allowed to search for the squirrel.
13. The Judge is to observe and make sure all dogs declared treed are showing treed by either looking up or barking up before handlers leash their dogs. If a dog declared treed is not showing treed, the judge shall allow 15 seconds for it to show treed or it is minus. (The judge must announce when the 15 seconds has started) If the dog shows treed within the 15 seconds, it shall be minus if it was over 15 steps (45 feet) from the tree shown. 8
14. Dogs that are treed on separate trees that are over 20 steps (50 feet) apart will be declared a split tree.
15. In the case of a split tree, the first dog called treed will be searched first.
16. When a split tree is determined and the search areas overlap, a dog shall not receive plus points for a squirrel found within the 20 step (50 feet) search area of a tree that has already been searched and scored unless plus points were awarded to the dog(s) declared treed and a second squirrel is found. A scored tree and its search area can only be scored once per cast.
17. When multiple squirrels are found within a declared dog's search area during the 5 minute search time, the squirrel closest to the declared tree will be scored for the dog(s). Other

squirrels not scored for the declared dog can be scored on by another dog(s) that is declared split. The same squirrel cannot be scored twice.

18. When dogs are split and hunting judges are in use, a handler will be allowed to go to the tree and leash his/her dog provided there is not a search time running. The handler is to return to the cast for judging of the other dog's tree. If there is a non-hunting judge, a handler will be instructed to handle their dog and will not need to return to the other dog's tree for scoring unless otherwise instructed by the judge.

19. Dogs treeing on separate trees within 20 steps (50 feet) and more than 1 squirrel is found, the second squirrel must be seen in the actual tree that the second dog is treed on for the dog to receive split tree points. Awarding split tree points can only occur if the 2nd or 3rd dog is declared treed before the tree is closed and after the 1st dog's squirrel is found.

20. Dogs treeing on separate trees within the 20 steps (50 feet) and only one squirrel is found, it shall be scored as one tree.

21. When dogs are out of sight and declared treed, if the dog that is called first leaves the tree before the cast arrives to determine if they were split, tree points shall be awarded for the tree position in which they were called.

22. After the scoring of a tree, there shall be a thirty (30) second walk time before dogs can be recast unless all dogs are handled at the tree and all handlers agree to recast together. The walk time shall be started immediately following the scoring of a tree. A dog may be cut any time after the thirty (30) seconds provided that all dogs are not declared treed or handled. (1 dog must be hunting and not declared treed) Dogs must be cut no later than sixty (60) seconds.

23. A handler who cuts their dog before the thirty second walk time expires will receive 100 minus points for each offense.

24. A handler that does not cut their dog before the sixty (60) seconds expires, shall receive a warning the first offense, 100 minus points for each offense thereafter.

25. A handler must verify that all dogs are not declared treed before recasting. Should a handler cut his dog when all dogs are declared treed or handled, the dog cut shall receive 100 minus points for the first offense and scratched the second offense.

26. If a dog is declared treed before a handled dog is recast, the dog that was recast cannot receive any points for the tree in which the declared dog is treed on. If the dog that was recast trees within that dog's search area, points are to be deleted.

27. After a tree is scored, any dog that was handled at the scored tree shall receive a warning for returning to a tree within that search area on the first offense, 100 minus points for a second offense, and shall be scratched on the third offense. After a dog has been declared treed on a separate tree, it shall be considered a first offense should it return to a scored tree. If

the dog(s) are out of sight and it cannot be determined if it is a previously scored tree, the dog is to be called treed and must hold the tree for the 2 minutes.

28. When tree game other than Eastern & Western Gray, Red, or Fox Squirrels is the only game found in the declared tree, it shall be assumed the game being treed and points are to be deleted.

29. If a squirrel and another type of tree climbing animal (wild or domestic) are both found in the declared tree, the points are to be plus.

30. When a tree climbing animal (wild or domestic) other than the listed squirrel species above is found in the search area but is not in the declared tree, it shall NOT be assumed the game being treed and points shall not be deleted.

SEARCHING TREE

7 minutes are allowed to search the tree after the tree is closed and dog(s) are handled.

The full 7 minutes does not have to be used if the squirrel has been scored or the handler(s) of the dog(s) declared treed is satisfied that the tree shall be circle.

Vine pulling, bush shaking and pecking on trees is allowed.

Running objects in dens or holes is not allowed.

No climbing trees and no slingshots.

A piece of 1 inch, schedule 80, plastic conduit not exceeding 24 inches long and is completely open on both ends, with the exception of 2 small holes with a wrist strap, may be carried to peck on trees. No added materials can be contained within the conduit. If the conduit being carried does not meet the above specification, the handler using the illegal object will be scratched from the hunt.

A plastic bottle may be used to peck or rub on trees.

If conduit or a plastic bottle is not being used, only items found around the declared tree may be used when pecking on trees.

Dog(s) that come into the search area (50 feet) of a declared tree after the 3 minutes has expired, are to be handled, if possible, to prevent interference. This rule is not intended for a dog that wanders thru the search area and continues hunting but rather for a dog that would interfere with the dog declared treed or searching of that tree.

Handlers and Judges shall search the tree. It will be determined by the unanimous decision of the cast, before the hunt begins.

The squirrel must be scored before the 7 minute search time has expired. No points are to be awarded for squirrels found after the search time has concluded.

SCORING OF PLUS POINTS

Measurements to determine the distance of a squirrel shall be from the base of the declared tree to the base of the tree that the squirrel is found in. Points will be awarded only when a squirrel is seen by the majority of the cast members or a non-hunting judge. Squirrel must definitely be seen. No scoring of a mass, dark spot or anything else that appears to be a squirrel. A dog will receive plus points when a squirrel is seen in the declared tree or in a tree within 15 steps (50 feet) of the declared tree. The squirrel must be seen by the non-hunting judge or majority of the cast between the time the dog is declared treed and before the 7 minute search time expires in order to receive plus points.

If a cast can see the dog(s) declared treed and it is obvious that it is following a squirrel by its actions and the squirrel is seen either on the ground or timbering, plus points will be awarded.

If a squirrel is caught on the ground, tree points will be awarded to the dog(s) that were declared treed. If no dog(s) were declared treed, no points are to be received. Tree points are NOT to be split for squirrels caught on the ground. No plus points will be awarded for flying or ground squirrels.

SCORING OF MINUS POINTS

When a dog trees and it is evident that a squirrel is not in the tree or there is no possibility that a squirrel may have timbered or have gone to a hole or nest within 15 steps (50 feet) of the declared tree, points shall be minus. . When a dog moves over 12 steps (35 feet) away from the declared tree, it shall be minus. A dog will be allowed to recheck itself within 12 steps (35 feet) from the declared tree but must show treed within fifteen (15) seconds or it shall be minus.

When a dog(s) is declared treed, one dog in which is declared must bark every 2 minutes until the cast arrives at the tree or all dogs declared treed will be minus.

When the 2 minute no bark time is running, the cast is to continue walking in the direction of the dog(s) but will stop with 30 seconds remaining and listen for a dog declared treed to bark if it has not been heard. If the 2 minute time is broken, the cast is to continue walking to the dog(s).

A dog in sight that is showing treed by looking up but not barking shall not have the 2 minute no bark rule invoked.

The 2 Minute No Bark Rule cannot be applied when a tree is being scored unless non-hunting secondary judges are being used that can effectively run the time. Any handler calling a dog treed that is not theirs will be minus each offense and the third time will be scratched from the hunt. Dog(s) seen chasing or treeing any type of domesticated animal by the majority of the cast or a non-hunting judge shall receive 100 minus points for the first offense and scratched the second offense. This includes but is not limited to; cats, cattle, horses, sheep, goats, pigs,

etc.... Dog(s) seen chasing wild game other than a squirrel by the majority of cast or non-hunting judge will be scratched

Babbling Rule

Any dog that is barking while chasing another dog for thirty (30) continuous seconds, it shall receive a warning the first offense, 100 minus points for the second offense, and scratched on the third offense.

Continuous Barking Rule

If a dog continuously barks for a period of 3 minutes without being declared treed, the dog will receive 100 minus points on the first offense and scratched the second offense. A dog must be silent for 30 seconds to break the 3 minutes. If a dog goes silent before the 3 minutes expires, a handler shall be given the opportunity to immediately make a tree call if the dog barks after the 3 minutes has expired but before being silent for 30 seconds. The Continuous Barking Rule cannot be applied when there is a dog declared treed or a tree is being scored unless non-hunting secondary judges are being used that can effectively run the time.

SCORING OF CIRCLE POINTS.

Points shall be circled when a dog trees and there is a possibility that a squirrel could have timbered or went to a hole or nest within 15 steps (50 feet). If the squirrel is unable to be found due to being in a leafy tree. If a cast can see the dog(s) declared treed and it is obvious that it is following a squirrel by its actions and ends up treed in a den, nest or leafy tree and the squirrel is not seen, circle points will be awarded. When dog(s) tree in a place of refuge, other than a tree and no squirrel is seen, the points will be deleted.

DOGS TO BE SCRATCHED

Dogs or handlers are to be scratched as an absolute last resort. Every effort is to be made to allow the dogs and handlers to complete.

Dogs or handlers will be scratched for interfering with another dog or handler's ability to compete.

Dogs interfering with other dogs by growling, showing aggression, face barking, smelling females, males riding other dogs or any other way will be warned the first offense and scratched the second offense.

Any dog that is seen biting another dog will be scratched on the first offense. The dog must be seen in the act by the majority of the cast or a non-hunting judge.

Dogs at large or declared treed but not handled, will be scratched for fighting on the first offense unless a dog involved has been warned for aggression. In this case, the warned dog shall be scratched and the other dog(s) involved in the fight shall receive a warning for aggression. If the cast has seen the start of the fight and can determine the aggressor, only that dog is to be scratched. If the aggressor cannot be determined and no dog has received an aggression warning, all dogs involved are to be scratched.

Any dog that has been scratched for fighting must be reported to H.K.C. Should any dog be scratched for fighting two (2) times in a Series Year, it shall be disqualified from competing in any remaining Series Events for the current year, including the World Hunt. Held in the following year. If any dog is reported 3 times in a TWELVE MONTH PERIOD for fighting, it shall be barred from competing in any and all H.K.C Events for life.

A female in season (heat) shall be scratched. For any unnecessary delaying completion of cast. If a dog becomes lost and delays the cast for more than 15 minutes, when time-out is called.

Dogs returning to a previously scored tree three times before being scored on a separate tree. If a dog is seen chasing wild game other than a squirrel by a non-hunting judge or majority of the cast, it shall be scratched.

If a dog is seen chasing or treeing any type of domesticated animal by a non-hunting judge or majority of the cast, it shall be scratched. Anytime during a cast that a dog's total score is 300 minus, the dog will be leashed and scratched from the hunt. If at any time, a dog fails to hunt for a consecutive Ten (10) minute time period, it shall be scratched from the hunt. Once a dog is placed on the clock for not working, the non-working time shall be broke when the dog is out of sight for three (3) consecutive minutes, or if a dog is in sight and the majority of the cast agrees that the dog is hunting, or the dog is declared treed and handled. If a non-working dog must be handled at another dog's tree, the non-working time is paused and will resume when dogs are recast.

A dog shall be scratched for violation of the Babbling rule on the 2nd offense. A dog shall be scratched for violation of the Continuous Barking rule on the 2nd offense. If scorecard is returned after deadline, all dogs are scratched in the cast. Any handler calling a dog treed that is not theirs will be scratched on the 2nd offense. Any handler who scolds, encourages or punishes their dog during the cast will be scratched on the 2nd offense. Any handler who recasts a dog when all other dogs are handled or declared treed shall be scratched the second (2nd) offense. A dog will be scratched if its handler is under the influence of alcohol or non-prescription drugs or if a handler shows unsportsmanlike conduct or uses excessive profanity. Abusive actions will not be tolerated. Any handler scratched for this offense MUST be reported to H.K.C. and will be subject to disciplinary action.

TIME-OUTS

No time-outs are to be called when dog(s) are declared treed!

No score can be recorded during a time-out.

A time-out will not be used to search a tree.

Time-out may be called by the unanimous decision of the cast.

Time-out may NOT be called by a Non-Hunting Judge without All Cast Members Agreeing.

Time-outs may be called when interference occurs. A time-out requested by a handler of a lost dog shall be granted if all other dogs in the cast are handled.

The handler and lost dog shall have 15 minutes to return to the cast or they will be scratched from the hunt.

A handler may request only one time-out for a lost dog per cast.

Time-out will be called for an accident or sickness.

INTERFERENCE

Interference shall be defined as any human or animal (domestic or wild) interaction that is initiated by a human or animal which interferes with a working dog or a dog declared treed. Interference will not be called for dogs chasing off-game or domestic animals.

An interference call must be determined by a non-hunting judge or majority of the cast.

If interference is determined to have taken place, the handler(s) of the dog(s) interfered with shall be allowed to retrieve their dog(s) while hunt time continues. A dog may not be recast until checking back in with the judge or cast.

If the dog(s) is declared treed when interference was determined to have happened, the declared points shall be deleted.

A time-out may be called for interference but must be unanimously agreed upon by the cast members. –

SCORECARDS

A handler may inspect the scorecard at any time provided the judge is not in the process of scoring dogs.

Scorecards are to be completed in the woods, signed by each handler and turned in to the Hunt Director by the deadline previously established. Failure to turn in a scorecard by the deadline will disqualify the cast.

If a handler does not sign the scorecard, he/she will not place or advance in the hunt.

QUESTIONS

Any handler has the right to question a judge's decision or scoring of any dog in the cast.

Questions must be placed on the card at the time the dog's score is being recorded or should have been recorded.

To question a non-hunting judge, the handler is to pay a \$20 deposit when the score in question is being recorded and to complete the question section on the back of the scorecard before continuing the hunt. The question will be presented to the question panel for a final decision.

When the cast has a hunting judge, a question is to be voted on by the cast while in the field and the question shall be decided by a majority vote.

All handlers are required to vote and if any handler refuse to vote, they shall be scratched from the hunt.

If a handler is not satisfied with the cast vote decision, a \$20 deposit is to be made to the hunting judge or at the time of the vote.

The question section on the scorecard is to be completed and signed by the questioning handler before continuing the hunt.

A question will not be valid unless the above steps have been completed before continuing the hunt.

The question shall be brought to the hunt director immediately upon arriving at the hunt headquarters.

A cast is to complete the hunt before presenting a question to the hunt director, unless the question pertains to a dog or handler being scratched.

The handler may drop the question at any time but will forfeit the \$20 deposit to the H.K.C.

Scorecards are to be verified and signed by all handlers before leaving the woods.

Upon receiving the \$20 deposit and question, the hunt director will assemble a panel of three qualified people to hear the question.

The handlers, guide and judge that were on the cast will be allowed to give their statement to the panel.

The panel's decision is final!

If the cast's majority decision is overturned, the \$20 deposit will be refunded. If the decision is upheld, the \$20 will be forfeited to the H.K.C.

TRACKING AND TRAINING COLLARS

Tracking Receiver/Transmitter (handhelds) paired with collars that are not capable of producing any type of tone, vibration or electronic stimulation may be powered on and used at all times.

Audio alerts on tracking receivers (handhelds) must be muted.

Tracking Receiver/Transmitter (handhelds) paired with collars that are capable of producing any type of tone or electronic stimulation are prohibited.

Tracking System use during the cast is intended for the personal use of the handler and the safety of the handler's dog only.

No information obtained from tracking devices will be permitted for use in scoring situations in the woods or at panel question hearings.

A Dog must be heard before a handler can make a call.

Handlers must agree to allow the Judge or other cast members to check their tracking system for any electronic stimulation, vibration, or tone capability at any time requested.

Any handler that refuses to allow their Tracking System to be checked shall be scratched and reported for misconduct.

Anyone found to have modified tracking equipment to disguise electronic tone or stimulation capability will be scratched and reported for misconduct.

A dog is only allowed to wear one (1) tracking collar.

Training (shocking and/or tone) collars are strictly prohibited.

A collar with any type of material being used to imitate prongs of a collar with shocking capability is strictly prohibited.

Collars that have both training (Shocking and/or Tone) and tracking capability are strictly prohibited.

If a handler is in violation of the above rules in this section, pictures of the collar are to be taken and the handler is to be scratched and reported to H.K.C. for misconduct.

BREAKING OF RULES

If a handler is reported to the hunt director for breaking the rules intentionally, the incident will be investigated by H.K.C. If found guilty, the handler will be subject to disciplinary action.

VISITORS, SPECTATORS & GUESTS

All are welcome at H.K.C. Squirrel Series hunts and shall follow the directions of the judges and Hunt Director.

If children are present on the cast, no throwing of any objects period.

The Hunt Director will discuss and announce if spectators will be allowed on casts, if agreeable with the majority of the cast members.

Spectators should be allowed to accompany the cast if at all possible.

There shall be no more than 2 spectators allowed per handler on any one cast unless otherwise agreed upon by the remaining cast members.

ALL spectators are to remain with the Primary judge at all times.

Spectators are prohibited from having any type of tracking equipment during a cast in which they are spectating.

Handlers are responsible for the conduct of spectators accompanying them on casts and shall be scratched in the event of any spectator misconduct or rules violations.

ENTRY REFUSAL

Houndsmen Kennel Club. or a Division Hunt Director has the right to refuse entry to any dog or handler. No handler will be refused based on religion, race, color, national origin, sex, or physical impairment.

Any handler denied entry must be given a written statement of reason before entry is refused.

CELL PHONES

Cell phones and other personal communication devices may be carried on a cast, but must be set to vibrate or silent until hunt time has expired.

Handlers and spectators may not have their phones out unless other cast members agree or a handler is using a cell phone as a tracking system handheld.

If a handler or handler's spectator is caught using a phone without permission from the other cast members, they shall receive a warning for the first offense and the handler in which they are accompanying will be scratched the second offense.

COMMON SENSE AND GOOD JUDGEMENT

It is impossible to write a specific rule to cover every situation that may occur during a H.K.C. SQ Series Event. These rules are written with the strict intent to identify and reward a dog that hunts, locates, and trees live squirrels while staying treed until its handler arrives. There will come a time where the use of good judgment and common sense will have to be applied. It is within the scope of these rules for a Question Panel, Hunt Director, or H.K.C. Representative to

use their best judgment in a common sense manner when resolving situations that occur and are not specifically covered by these rules.

