

ASFA
FIELD ASSOCIATION

2020. Issue 3. MAY

Communiqué



SPECIAL EDITION

- *Online Judging Seminar*
- *Team Coursing*
- *COVID Safety for Lure Coursing Trials*
- *Welcome to Region 6's New RD*
- *2021 II Planning Update*

INCLUDED IN THIS VERY BRIEF ISSUE . . .

- ✓ ASFA Online Judging Seminar – Saturday, June 20, 2020
*This is ASFA’s first ever online Judging Seminar. Enrollment is VERY limited.
So, if you are interested, please register right away page 2*
- ✓ Team Coursing – A New ASFA Experimental Program
*“Team Coursing” is ASFA’s newest Experimental Program. Please look over the
proposal for the program and share your thoughts, ideas and opinions. pages 3-5*
- ✓ Safe Practices when Lure Coursing Trials Resume pages 6-8
- ✓ Welcome to ASFA’s Newest Regional Director
The new Regional Director for Region 6 is Paul Kytta. page 8
- ✓ Update on 2021 II Planning page 9

Online ASFA Judging Seminar

Saturday, June 20, 2020 1:00 – 3:00 pm CDT

**** REGISTER EARLY ** JUST 10 SPOTS AVAILABLE ****

Who Can Attend?

Anyone can attend. No advance preparation is needed. And for those wishing to become ASFA judges, this is a start.

What to Expect?

ASFA Judges Committee Chair Greg Breitbach will lead the seminar. There will be a PowerPoint presentation, videos and discussion, including Q & A. The seminar will cover the ASFA judging rules and their meaning, related policies, and note taking. Attendees will judge courses via videotape segments, with discussion of each segment being judged. Various interpretations of the same course will be explored. There will be no test.

How to Register?

Register early. Let Greg Breitbach know that you want to attend the seminar by sending him an email. Include your full name and phone number and send it to VPI@asfa.org. Then follow-up by mailing the registration fee of \$10.00, payable to ASFA to: ASFA Judges Licensing, 1930 W Galena St, Milwaukee, WI 53205. The online details you will need will be emailed to you on June 19th.

NOTE: The deadline to register is June 13th, or upon the seminar filling up – whichever occurs first. If demand exceeds the slots available for this date, another session can be scheduled.



TEAM COURSING

A New Stake for ASFA Field Trials
By Greg Breitbach

The Experimental Programs Committee has put together “Team Coursing” as a new event for ASFA trials. We hope that Team Coursing will be ready to roll out this Fall. **But first, we would like to hear from you.**

Please review the proposed rules for the Team Coursing program, which are set out below. Then, please send your questions, comments, and / or concerns to Greg Breitbach within the next 45 days at VP1@asfa.org.

Note: Team Coursing is not a new idea. Our committee dissected the original Team Coursing concept, made some changes, added enhancements to improve participation, and came up with the following program, which we think has great potential for excitement and participation. The approach we have taken does not include the awarding of titles. But teams will be ranked nationally each year. After the 45 day comment period, we will publish your responses and any updates to the program based on your responses in the 'Communique'.

TEAM COURSING

The purpose of this event is to build camaraderie and partnerships between exhibitors at ASFA lure coursing events and to demonstrate cooperative hunting skills which focus on how hounds work together as opposed to measuring individual coursing skills.

[Running Rules Chapter V Running the Meet, Section 5. Regular stakes are described as follows:

....

(e) Team Coursing is an event which may be run after BOB or after Best in Field. Any ASFA recognized pure bred sighthound (referred to as hounds) at least one year of age and eligible for competition in regular, singles or Limited stakes, including hounds with breed disqualifications and competition disqualifications, shall be eligible for entry in this stake. Team stake entries from all breeds shall be combined into one mixed stake, with placements and Top Team points awarded across the teams. Each team of hounds shall run one course. No ASFA points or placements toward the Field

Championship or Lure Courser of Merit titles will be awarded from this stake, and no points or other considerations toward an ASFA title of any sort will be awarded to individual hounds from the Team stake.

(Note: Reason that Dismissed, Disqualified and Singles hounds are eligible is because the owners/agents of the team will know if the hounds they are running are compatible prior to entering. Since no hounds other than the ones by the owners/agents will be on the field coursing, each owner/agent is responsible for the actions of the hounds.)

[insert new section] Section 7. The following description applies to Team Coursing stake:

(a) Owners/agents may form teams of up to five (5) hounds. Hounds on a team do not have to belong to the same owner/agent or the same sighthound breed. Each team will have a name under which they will compete at each event. If owners/agents from different areas select the same name, the first entry of a name will remain and the records coordinator will notify the subsequent teams that they have to change their name prior to entering records. A hound may be on multiple teams but may only compete with one team at a trial. Teams with five hounds may change hounds only at the beginning of a new year (ex. a hound decides it no longer wants to run cannot be removed and replaced). A team with three hounds may add up to two additional hounds during the year.

(b) Three available hounds of the team will be selected by the owners/agents to compete in this stake. A completed entry form will be submitted to the Field Trial Secretary.

(c) The hounds of the selected team do not have to be entered in the regular trial.

(d) The order of teams running shall be by random draw. (See Ch. V, Sec. 7) Blanket colors will be:

- 1st TeamBright YELLOW
- 2nd TeamBright PINK
- 3rd TeamBright BLUE
- Repeat for additional teams.

(e) Hounds shall be inspected prior to running in this stake. Lamé hounds or bitches in season will be barred from running and team may use one of the other available members. Teams with less than three hounds will be scratched and entry fee refunded.

(f) Teams will run once. After completion and posting of scores, all teams no longer required for further judging are excused. No substitution of hounds on a team after inspection.

(g) The top teams shall be determined by the highest score.

(h) Ties for the top four placements will be run-off or forfeited. If one team in a tie runoff is dismissed or disqualified, the team not dismissed or disqualified is considered to have won the runoff.

(i) Team points for Yearly Top 20 are awarded to each team based on their placements.

(j) There may be one or two judges. Max score per team per judge will be 100 pts. Judging will be based on:

- Team Effort 25
 - This category is to evaluate how all three hounds are cooperating in the hunt. Are there changes in lead/position during the course or do all hounds maintain positions. Hounds should not be blocking the other team members but should allow opportunity for others. During the course, does the team attempt to pin/trap the lure.

- Catching the lure in mid-course as a team is not negative in this event, but rather a positive.
- **Team Follow 15**
 - A team works the lure, trying to force a turn, with individuals in the team changing positions based on the behavior of the lure and their function at the time within the team
 - The center dog forces a turn, placing the lure into the path of one of the flanking dogs then one of the flanking dogs will pick up on it, becoming the center, and the other two will reposition themselves to flanking position
 - Another common behavior for a well-functioning team is to alternate positions, allowing a fresh dog to take the center position, adding pressure on the lure, to tire it out. This also occurs when there are speed differences between the team members. Changes in position allow slower members to catch up, maintaining pressure on the prey.
 - The judge must look for the team working together, maintaining pressure on the prey, watching, anticipating, forcing the prey to turn. A key factor to look for is how well the team communicates with each other.
 - Is the course dominated by a single dog, with one or two other dogs along for the ride? If so, then that is not team follow. Are all three dogs sharing the Hunt?
- **Team Speed 20**
 - Not all of the hounds on the team need the same speed, but how they use individual speed to enhance the team Not all need speed but speed that work together
 - Overall time to complete course. Not actually timing the course, but relative to other teams.
 - This is one time where if the machine speed can be heard, it may be used as a gauge
- **Team Agility 20**
 - Is the team tripping over each other or are they transitioning smoothly through turns and terrain.
- **Team Endurance 20**
 - If two hounds are running full out at the end and one member stops or significantly slows, the team gets only a maximum 2/3 of total score since not all members of the team are working effectively.

(k) Yearly Top 20 points will be awarded based on the following:

- The first place team will earn 4 x number of teams entered
- The second place team will earn 3 x number of teams entered
- The third place team will earn 2 x number of teams entered
- The fourth and lower place team(s) will earn 1 x number of teams entered

(l) Entry fees will be set by the host club and a per capita fee will be paid to ASFA as determined by the Board of Directors. \$?/team (\$?/hound).



RECOMMENDED SAFE PRACTICES for LURE COURSING EVENTS in the AGE of COVID

The AKC recently published the following recommended best practices for Lure Coursing events. Please feel free to share these recommendations as well as your other safety ideas based on your own experience. Let's all stay safe.

May 12, 2020



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB™

Lure Coursing

Suggested Best Practices for the Well-Being of Dog Sport Participants

The AKC supports each club's informed decision to reschedule, postpone or cancel their respective events, as well as supporting clubs ready to hold events in locations that are open and permit gatherings. As events resume across the country, people need to feel safe while enjoying their dog activities. The AKC urges clubs to take appropriate precautions for the benefit of their participants. Events need to be held in a manner that emphasizes the safety of participants and event officials over efficiency.

The following is a list of suggested best practices that may be helpful when planning or attending an event. Event locations, facilities and dates will differ. With a situation that is continually evolving, it is up to the clubs to determine the guidelines that best fit their event. In order to inform participants, specific guidelines established by the club should be published in the premium, club website and posted on signage/flyers at their event.

General Practices

1. Clubs, officials and participants are required to follow state and local guidelines that apply to the area where the event is held.
2. Practice social distancing consistent with current guidelines. Avoid congregating to the extent possible.
3. Consider wearing masks when in close proximity to others. Clubs should provide masks if desired for officials, judges and volunteers.
4. Consider wearing disposable or washable gloves.
5. Have plenty of hand sanitizers placed for people to use.
6. Wash hands as frequently as possible. Have disinfecting spray at bathroom facilities for people to spray door handles (or anything else they touch).
7. If you utilize portable toilets, please ask for a hand washing station to be delivered as well.
8. Avoid shaking hands or hugging.
9. Avoid touching dogs that are not your responsibility.
10. Avoid common use pens/pencils – bring your own.
11. Disinfect surfaces in common use areas as often as possible (tables, chairs, doorknobs, etc.)
12. Meals – Avoid or stagger group lunches/diners if possible. It is recommended that clubs supply boxed lunches for judges and volunteers. Hospitality areas should avoid community

items such as salt and pepper shakers, condiments, creamers, etc. Participants should consider bringing their own lunch/drinks.

13. Parking areas – Park with sufficient distance between vehicles if possible.

Event Practices

1. Lure Operators and Field Committee maintaining equipment should consider wearing facial coverings and gloves.
2. Safe handling of paperwork and payment for day-of-event entries.
 - Cash for day-of-event entries – inform participants they should have correct change.
 - Individual handling paperwork and entry fees should wear gloves.
3. Roll call and inspection committee functions can be performed in the parking area one dog at a time. All members of such field committees should consider wearing facial coverings and gloves.
 - Owners of females swipe their own dogs and show the inspection committee the tissue.
 - Wicket measuring can be done in the parking area. Other participants should avoid gathering around during the wicketing process.
 - Wickets should be wiped down between dogs.
4. Ask participants to wait by their vehicles until immediately prior to their running time.
 - Use a bull horn or PA system to inform participants when they should prepare to run.
 - Possibly use Remind (free app) to inform participants they should prepare to run.
5. Starting line – Consider having dogs start a minimum of 6 feet apart. Ask handlers to wear facial coverings when releasing their hounds.
6. The lures should be attached to the line at least 6 feet apart in order to reduce congestion at pickup.
7. If you are a catcher or releaser, consider using gloves and facial coverings when handling dogs and leashes.
8. Hunt Master should wear mask and gloves and to the extent feasible, be a minimum of 6 feet from handlers and dogs.
9. Trial Secretary should wear gloves to handle paperwork.
10. Consider having someone wearing gloves handing out ribbons or rosettes. No self-serve boxes.
11. Have a separate table at least 6 feet from trial secretary table for day of event entries, ribbon distribution and questions.

Participants are expected to follow state, local government, facility and event guidelines. Clubs should be prepared to enforce the guidelines that apply to their event.

CDC - How to Protect Yourself and Others:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

These Suggested Best Practices may be periodically updated. Please check the AKC Lure Coursing (www.akc.org/sports/coursing/lure-coursing/) website for the most up-to-date version.

For questions or additional suggestions, please contact the Performance Events Department at performanceevents@akc.org.

Stay Safe – Enjoy Your Dogs



Welcome
to the new
Regional Director
for Region 6
(Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan,
Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky)

Paul Kytta

1338 Red Bush Lane
Macedonia, OH 44056
330.348.9372
Reg6Dir@asfa.org





2021 ASFA II
INDIANOLA IOWA BALLOON FIELD
September 18-19, 2021

Join Our Team

Kathy Nelson, Scott Hurlbert, Dawn Gibas, Kay Nierengarten & Ping Pirrung are putting together the team for the 2021 II. Their goal is to create an incredibly special event. Katie Kaltenborn has agreed to be the Field Trial Secretary! They would like to hear from you: Do you have thoughts and ideas to share? Would you consider joining the team and helping to put on this event? Please contact Kathy Nelson at Rundogs2017@gmail.com.

