



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB™

## Performance Events Department

October 2016

To: Clubs Licensed for Earthdog Events

Subject: **Allowing Practice Sessions Prior To and/or Following a Test**

This is to inform your club of a recent change to the Earthdog Regulations. Effective November 1, 2016 clubs may, at their option, provide practice sessions prior to and/or following a test. Prior to this change, practice sessions were not allowed within 24 hours of the start of a test. This modification is intended to provide additional opportunities to introduce new participants to the sport.

The specific changes are as follows:

### Chapter 4, Section 1. Test Area Conditions and Dimensions

Paragraph #8. The dens shall be located to minimize outside distractions. The earth may be dug up to one week prior to the test day or permanent dens may be used. ~~however no dog shall be allowed to enter the earth within 24 hours of the start of the test, except when the den is used for a sanctioned, licensed or member club Earthdog test.~~

Paragraph #11. Practice sessions. The Test Committee may, at its option, hold practice sessions. ~~only after all actual judging has concluded.~~ Official test tunnels may be used for practice. The practice sessions may be held before and/or after the official hours of the earthdog test but never during a test. The practice sessions must be under the supervision of a Test Committee member, who shall be responsible for the conduct of the practice and the care of the quarry during the practice. ~~In the event of a two test weekend, the actual test den site may not be used for practice following the first test unless the den layout is substantially changed for the second day.~~

Questions or comments may be emailed to [Earthdog@akc.org](mailto:Earthdog@akc.org).