



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB™

Performance Events Department

April 2018

To: **All Clubs Licensed to Hold Lure Coursing, CAT and FAST CAT®**

Subject: **Use of Head Halter Collars Permissible**

This is to inform your club of a recent change to the Regulations for Lure Coursing Tests and Trials, Coursing Ability Tests, and FAST CAT®.

This change originated from the Herding, Earthdog, Coursing (HEC) Delegate Committee and was approved by the Board of Directors in April. The change becomes effective June 1, 2018.

Lure Coursing is an extremely stimulating event for dogs, since it simulates the pursuit of live prey. A large dog who is eager for the chase can be very difficult for a handler control, especially by a handler who is small of stature or elderly. Allowing the use of head collars on the grounds of Lure Coursing, CAT, and FAST CAT® ensures that handlers of all sizes and ages can continue to compete safely with their dogs.

The exact wording of this change will appear in the regulations in three locations as follows:

- *Regulations for Lure Coursing Test and Trials*

Chapter VIII. Running The Meet, Trial and Test Programs, Section 9. Handlers. (p. 27)

4. No collar or paraphernalia shall be on the hound during the running of the course except the blanket. Protective coverings in colors including yellow, pink and blue are acceptable. Dogs may be muzzled at the owner's discretion. Muzzles must not have sharp, hard edges and must allow the hound to breathe. Special Training devices that are used to control and train dogs, including but not limited to, collars with prongs, electronic training devices may not be used on dogs at AKC events. Head collars, such as the Gentle Leader or Halti, may be used at Lure Coursing events.

- *Regulations for Coursing Ability Tests (CAT)*

Chapter XV Coursing Ability Test Regulations, Section 10. Collar/Paraphernalia. (p. 36)

- *Regulations for FAST CAT®*

Chapter XVI FAST CAT® Regulations, Section 13. Collars/Paraphernalia. (p. 40)

This regulation update is being sent to all Judges, Club Presidents, and Secretaries licensed to hold or officiate at Lure Coursing, CAT and FAST CAT® events.

Comments can be e-mailed to the AKC at: lurecoursing@akc.org