



**AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB™**

Performance Events Department

Date: July 17, 2012

To: **Pointing Breed Hunting Test Clubs**

There have been two recent changes to the Regulations governing Pointing Breed Hunting Tests.

(1) **Judges Approval.** It is becoming increasingly difficult and expensive for clubs to obtain Hunting Test judges. In response to this situation, the Regulation pertaining to approval of judges has been modified to allow one of the two judges to judge the same testing level in consecutive back-to-back events. While a variety of opinions regarding a dog's performance is desirable, this change, when needed, will make securing judges easier and less expensive for host clubs. The change becomes effective August 1, 2012. The old and new language is as follows:

<p>Chapter 1, Section 6. Judges Eligibility and Approval. Each Test (Junior, Senior and Master) or division of a test level shall be judged by two judges.</p> <p>The same judge will not be approved to undertake identical assignments on consecutive days or consecutive back to back events.</p>	<p>Chapter 1, Section 6. Judges Eligibility and Approval. Each Test (Junior, Senior and Master) or division of a test level shall be judged by two judges.</p> <p><u>One of the two Judges may judge the same test level on consecutive days or consecutive back-to-back events. The same team of Judges will not be approved to judge the same test level on consecutive days or consecutive back-to-back events.</u></p>
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(2) **Females in Season.** Starting August 1, 2012 females in season will be allowed to enter the last test of the day on a given course at the discretion of the host club. How to handle the bracing is explained in the Regulations. The old and new language is as follows:

<p>Chapter 1, Section 5. Bitches in Season. Bitches in season shall not be eligible for entry in any Hunting Test and shall not be allowed on the grounds. Entry fees paid for a bitch withdrawn because of coming in season shall be refunded in full by the test-giving club. (Prior to refunding entry fees, a club may require appropriate veterinary certification.)</p>	<p>Chapter 1, Section 5. Bitches in Season. <u>Allowing bitches in season to enter is up to the discretion of the host club. The premium must specify whether or not bitches in season are eligible to enter. (If not allowed, the premium shall state "Bitches in season are not eligible to enter.") If allowed by the club, they are only eligible to enter the last test of the day on a given course and the premium shall specify these test levels. They shall run immediately after all other entries in the test. Males shall not be run until the following day on the course or any part of the course where bitches in season have been run.</u> <u>A female that comes into season after the drawing who is entered in a test level where females in season are allowed shall be moved down to run at the end of the day with another female. If the last brace is an incomplete brace with a female, the female in season moves down to this brace. If the last brace is complete or is incomplete with a</u></p>
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	<p><u>male, the event committee has a number of options for finding a female to run with the female in season. It is the responsibility of the event committee to decide which option to use. Their decision should be guided by being the least disruptive to the overall event.</u></p> <p><u>- If the original brace mate of the female in season is a female, the entire brace can be moved to the end of the test.</u></p> <p><u>- The event committee can select a suitable volunteer female brace mate (a dog not entered) that they know is qualified to run at this testing level.</u></p> <p><u>- If the original brace mate of the female in season is a male, the club can “break” the last brace of the test in which a female is entered in order to find a female to run with the female in season. The original male brace mate for the female in season shall be moved down to run in the next incomplete brace.</u></p> <p>Entry fees paid for a bitch withdrawn because of coming in season <u>when not allowed to enter</u> shall be refunded in full by the test-giving club. (Prior to refunding entry fees, a club may require appropriate veterinary certification.)</p>
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Should you have any questions or comments, please e-mail huntingtest@akc.org.