



**AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB®**

Performance Events Department

Date: **May 18, 2022**

To: **All Clubs Licensed to Hold AKC Pointing Breed Field Trials**

Subject: **Changes to AKC Pointing Breed Field Trials**

This communication is to inform your club of several changes impacting AKC Pointing Breed Field Trials. Not all these changes will be of interest to all clubs but you should be aware of the options that are available. Please note that the effective dates vary depending on the change.

1. FDSB Registration Papers

The AKC Board reviewed its policy on dogs registered by the Field Dog Stud Book (FDSB), which has been purchased by the United Kennel Club (UKC). Since the AKC does not register pointing breeds based on their UKC registration papers, the Board in November 2021 voted to stop registering dogs based on their FDSB registration papers effective July 1, 2022. At their April meeting, the Board agreed with a staff recommendation to refine this policy to state that the AKC will not register dogs based on their FDSB registration papers if the registration papers are issued after **July 1, 2022**.

2. 60 Minute Derby Stakes

This is a change to allow 60-minute derby stakes at the option of the host club. The length of the derby stake must be stated in the premium. Previously derby stakes could not be run longer than 45 minutes. This change becomes effective **June 1, 2022**. (Procedure 1-B, Derby Stakes)

3. Rooding Behind the Gallery

This is a change to allow rooding of dogs behind the gallery at the option of the host club. Previously rooding was allowed at the option of the host club if the trial lasted more than three days. Clubs that do not want to allow rooding shall state this in the premium. This change becomes effective **June 1, 2022**. (Procedure 6-Q, Rooding Behind the Gallery)

4. Grand Field Champion Titles Followed by a Number

This is a change to provide for a number to be added after the Grand Field Champion (GFC) title or the Grand Amateur Field Champion (GAFC) title indicating the number of times a dog has met the GFC or GAFC criteria. Grand points earned back to the introduction of Grand stakes in 2014 will be credited toward this title. This change will become effective **September 1, 2022**. Updated title certificates will be issued at that time. (Chapter 14, Section 7. Grand Field Championship)

5. Regional Championship Stakes and Titles

This is an expansion of AKC's Pointing Breed Field Trial program to provide Regional Championship stakes. The highlights of the Regional Championship stakes are –

- A Regional Championship must be run as a Grand Limited stake. This means each brace must be run for a minimum of one hour and all dogs entered must meet the Limited stake qualification.
- There must be a minimum of 13 starters for the stake to count as a Regional Championship. If there are less than 13 starters, the stake reverts to a regular Grand Limited stake.
- The winner (1st place) of a Regional Championship stake will earn a Regional Champion title.

- There shall be four Regional Championship prefix titles – Regional Field Champion (RFC), Regional Amateur Field Champion (RAFC), Regional Walking Field Champion (RWFC) and Regional Amateur Walking Field Champion (RWAFC). Dogs that win more than one Regional Championship of the same type shall have a number added after the title (RFC#).
- Dogs that place in Regional Championship stakes shall earn points under the regular point schedule. If a dog is not a FC or AFC, the points shall be credited toward these titles. If the dog is a FC or AFC, the points shall be credited toward the Grand Field Champion or Grand Amateur Field Champion titles.

Scheduling and Applying for Regional Championship Stakes

- Each Parent Club that has been approved to hold a National Championship Field Trial will be granted the right to hold Regional Championship stakes, with the number indexed off the breeds participation in the sport. The Performance Events department will determine the number of Regional Championship stakes per Parent Club.
- Parent Clubs may hold Regional Championship stakes under their name or may designate local specialty clubs to hold Regional Championship stakes. Parent Clubs are not obligated to utilize all their Regional Championship stakes.
- Regional Championship stakes hosted by a Parent Club or a local specialty club may be open to their breed, or it may be open to all breeds. Host clubs may not open the event to a select group of breeds unless permission is obtained from the Performance Events Department.
- Each Regional Championship stake will have its own event number. A Regional Championship may be held in conjunction with a local field trial, in which case the club shall submit two event applications – one for the local trial and one for the Regional Championship stake.
- Regional Championship stakes must be applied for using the [Regional Championship Event Application](#).
- It is expected that Parent Clubs will provide for Regional Championship stakes that serve all segments of the sport – All-Age/Gun Dog; Open/Amateur; Horseback/Walking; and all regions of the country where practical.
- Clubs may submit regional championship event applications after July 4, 2022.

More complete details regarding Regional Championship stakes can be found [online](#).

6. **Gunners Can Ride ATVs/UTVs at Field Trials & Hunting Tests**

This is a change to allow gunners to ride ATVs/UTVs when gunning on course is required. This change applies to both Field Trials and Hunting Tests at the option of the host club, provided land use regulations allow. **This change is effective immediately.** (Procedure 8, Motorized Vehicles)

7. **Pointing Breed Field Trials Sponsored by Other Organizations**

Under Board Policy, AKC clubs have never been allowed to hold UKC Pointing Breed field events. With the American Field being purchased by UKC, the AKC Board at their November 2021 meeting, voted to no longer allow AKC clubs to hold events sponsored by the American Field **effective July 1, 2022**. This means there will be no more AKC/AF dual licensed trials, and further that AKC clubs may not hold separate trials under the sponsorship of the AF/UKC or any organization affiliated with them.

Any questions should be emailed to fieldtrials@akc.org.