



# OFFICIAL UKC<sup>®</sup> HUNTING BEAGLE RULEBOOK

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EFFECTIVE January 1, 2025



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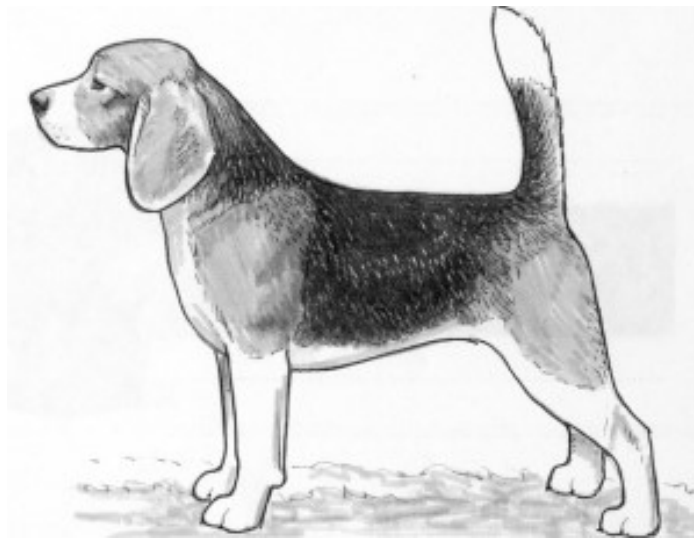
# BEAGLE

## Official UKC® Breed Standard

Revised January 1, 2013

### Scenthound Group

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The goals and purposes of this breed standard include: To furnish guidelines for breeders who wish to maintain the quality of their breed and to improve it; to advance this breed to a state of similarity throughout the world; and to act as a guide for judges.

Breeders and judges have the responsibility to avoid any conditions or exaggerations that are detrimental to the health, welfare, essence and soundness of this breed, and must take the responsibility to see that these are not perpetuated.

Any departure from the following should be considered a fault, and the seriousness with which the fault should be regarded should be in exact proportion to its degree and its effect upon the health and welfare of the dog and on the dog's ability to perform its traditional work.

### HISTORY

There is considerable doubt as to the origin of the Beagle. Beagles are known throughout Europe, and are the smallest of the scent hunting hound. In literature, they were mentioned as far back as 1475.

Their popularity has been greater in the United States and Canada. Beagles have been in the "Top Ten" of most popular breeds for over 30 years, and are one of the most popular breeds in America.

The UKC Hunting Beagle is a "total" dog, excelling as a hunter while possessing excellent conformation. Looks and ability go hand-in-hand in developing the ideal UKC Hunting Beagle.

### GENERAL APPEARANCE

The Beagle has been referred to as "a foxhound in miniature". A smooth, short-haired hound, slightly longer than tall. Ears lay close to the head. Usually tri-color (black, white and tan), but all typical hound color combinations are acceptable.

Because the Beagle is first and foremost a hunting hound, scars (the result of honorable wounds) shall not be considered faults nor shall they be penalized by Judges. This includes cuts, nicks, notches on the ears, and/or ears that are frayed at the edges from working in brush, tall grass, etc.

*Disqualifications:* Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.

### CHARACTERISTICS

An independent personality is a generalization of most hounds, although individuals may vary. Has a good hound voice. Usually friendly disposition. Can make a good house pet or outside dog.

*Disqualifications:* Viciousness or extreme shyness.

### HEAD & SKULL

The skull is fairly long. It is slightly domed at the occiput. The cranium is broad and full. The muzzle is of medium length. It is straight, and square cut, with the stop moderately defined.

**TEETH:** A full complement of strong, white teeth meet in a scissors or level bite.

*Disqualifications:* Overshot bite. Undershot bite. (Overshot or undershot is defined as having a visible gap between the upper and lower teeth.)

**EYES:** The large eyes are set well apart. They have a soft, hound-like expression; gentle and pleading. They are brown or hazel in color.

*Disqualification:* Blind.

**EARS:** The ears are set moderately low, setting close to the head. The forward edge turns slightly into the cheek. They are long reaching when drawn out, extending nearly to the end of the nose. They are fine in texture. The ears are fairly broad and rounded at the tip; with almost no erectile power.

*Disqualification:* Deaf.

### NECK

The medium-length neck rises free and light from the shoulders. It is strong in substance, yet not loaded. The throat is clean and free of folds of skin. A slight wrinkle below the angle of the jaw is acceptable.

*Faults:* A thick, short neck carried on a line with the top of the shoulder. Throat showing dewlap and folds of skin, termed "throatiness."

### FOREQUARTERS

The clean, muscular, sloping shoulders convey the idea of freedom of action with activity and strength. They are not heavy nor loaded.

**FORELEGS:** The straight forelegs have plenty of bone in proportion to the size of the hound. The pasterns are short and straight.

*Faults:* Straight, upright shoulder. Out at the elbows. Knees buckled or bent backwards. Crooked or bowed forelegs.

### BODY

The chest is deep and broad, but not so much as to interfere with the free play of the shoulders. The back is muscular and strong. The broad loins are slightly arched. The well-sprung ribs provide an abundance of lung room.

*Faults:* Disproportionately wide chest. Lack of chest depth. Very long, swayed, or roached back. Flat, narrow loins. Flat, narrow ribs.

## HINDQUARTERS

The strong, well-muscled hips and thighs provide an abundance of propelling power.

**HIND LEGS:** The stifles are strong and well let down. The firm, symmetrical hocks are moderately bent.

## FEET

The feet are close, round, and firm. The pads are full and hard.

*Faults:* Long feet. Open, spreading feet.

## TAIL

The tail is set moderately high. It is carried gaily over the back with a slight curve, not turned forward. It is short as compared with the size of the hound, and has a brush.

*Faults:* A long tail. Excessive curve. Inclined forward from the root. Rat tail with absence of brush.

## COAT

The beagle has a close, hard, hound coat of medium length.

## COLOR

All typical hound color combinations. No solid colors are acceptable.

*Disqualification:* Albinism.

## HEIGHT AND WEIGHT

Not to exceed 15 inches. Height is measured across the shoulders at the highest point (withers), with the hound standing in a natural position, with its feet well under it, not leaning forward or backward.

## ELIMINATING FAULTS

*(An Eliminating Fault is a Fault serious enough that it eliminates the dog from obtaining any awards in a conformation event.)*

Over 15 inches in height.

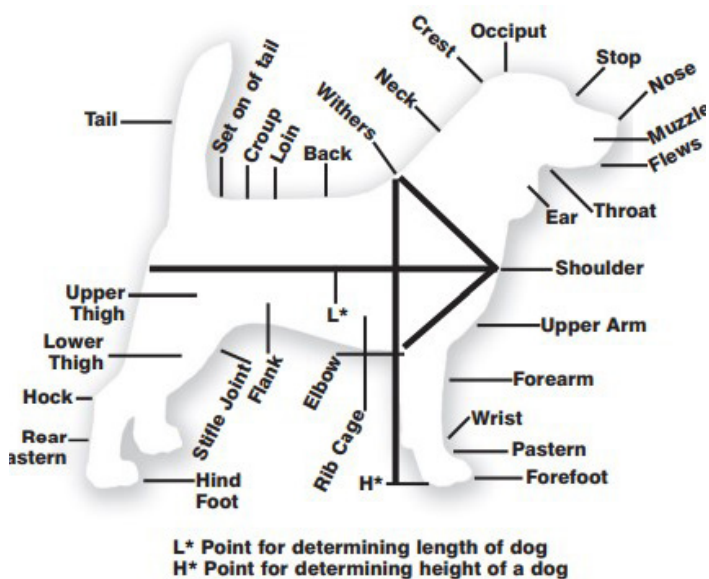
## DISQUALIFICATIONS

*(A dog with a Disqualification must not be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, and must be reported to UKC)*

- Unilateral or bilateral cryptorchid.
- Viciousness or extreme shyness.
- Albinism.
- Overshot bite. Undershot bite. (Overshot or undershot is defined as having a visible gap between the upper and lower teeth.)
- Deaf
- Blind.

## RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF BODY PARTS

To aid in the judging of Beagles, the following illustration is presented as a guide to assist the Judge. It must be remembered that balance is the most desired quality to seek in evaluating dogs. It is the way those parts work in unison that make up the proper working hound. Remember: the whole dog is more important than the individual parts!



## LICENSES

### All current fees available at [ukcdogs.com](http://ukcdogs.com)

#### All Fees to be paid in U.S. funds.

UKC reserves the right to change any and all policies, fees, etc., without notice.

### Important Information About Fees

- All fees must be submitted in U.S. Funds. Out of Country personal checks may be used, however the words "Payable in U.S. Funds" must be included on the check.
- It is not recommended to send cash to pay for services
- A fee will be charged for checks returned for insufficient funds or accounts closed (bounced checks). The customer is also placed in a "money order only" situation. No other work or services will be performed until the individual makes the check good. All work is blocked, which prohibits further activity until the check is made good.
- It is important to pay all accounts with UKC within 30 days, or as otherwise indicated herein, to maintain good standing with United Kennel Club®. Outstanding accounts will be turned over to collection.



UKC is the trademark of the United Kennel Club located in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The use of the initials UKC in association with any other registry would be in violation of the registered trademark. Notify United Kennel Club, 100 E Kilgore Rd, Kalamazoo MI 49002-5584, should you become aware of such a violation.

### Inherent Rights & Powers of UKC®

Revised December 18, 2009

United Kennel Club holds and has reserved to itself certain inherent rights and powers in connection with conducting its business, registering litters, transferring registrations of dogs, licensing events, and awarding titles. These inherent rights and powers include but are not limited to the following:

United Kennel Club has the right to inspect all reports, scorecards and documents related to UKC events. Some, but not all, of the items subject to inspection are:

1. scores;
2. disqualifications of dogs for fighting or other reasons;
3. errors by the recording person; and
4. documentation excluded for any reason. UKC reserves the right to correct any mistakes found during such inspection whether or not the document has the signature of a Judge or Club Officer. UKC reserves the right to itself and in its sole judgment and discretion, to take such actions and impose such sanctions as would:

- a. Bar an individual from entering or participating in any way in any UKC licensed event.
- b. Bar an individual from transferring or registering any pups or dogs in that person's name (joint or full registration) or to any member of that person's family.
- c. Bar an individual from receiving Championship points for any dog registered in that person's name (joint or full registration).

By way of illustration, the following constitute some, but not all, of the situations calling for the above sanctions:

- a. Falsification or alteration of a UKC Registration Certificate, Pedigree, UKC Easy Entry® Card or any other UKC document.
- b. Falsification or alteration of any reports of wins issued to UKC.
- c. Falsification or alteration of receipts issued by UKC Judges.
- d. Switching, wrongfully using or attempting to use a UKC Registration Certificate, Pedigree, UKC Easy Entry® Card or any other UKC document.
- e. Selling or attempting to sell a dog with false or incorrect UKC Registration Certificate or Pedigree.
- f. Intimidating, threatening, or injuring a Judge, Club/ Association member or official, event participant or spectator, or UKC representative.

The six illustrations given above are only by way of example and UKC reserves to itself its inherent right and power to impose such sanctions in any other circumstances deemed appropriate by UKC.

Any individual who is found guilty by a court of law of a crime involving dogs will be barred from United Kennel Club for an indefinite period. A person shall be considered guilty in a criminal proceeding if they are convicted by a judge, jury, or if they enter a plea bargain or other arrangement to plea to a lesser offense, or if their case is disposed of by any form of deferred adjudication; a person shall be considered guilty in a civil proceeding if they are held responsible or liable by a judge, jury, or if a compromised settlement is reached between the parties.

### Registration Rules and Policies

For information on UKC Registration Rules and Policies, contact:  
Registration Department · United Kennel Club  
100 East Kilgore Road · Kalamazoo, MI 49002-5584  
(269) 343-9020 · [registration@ukcdogs.com](mailto:registration@ukcdogs.com) · [www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com)

### Sending Work to UKC®

United Kennel Club suggests that all fees for UKC services be submitted in a personal check, money order or with the use of most major credit cards. Sending cash is not suggested.

When more than one piece of work is mailed to UKC, and different services are requested; i.e., a seven-generation pedigree on one dog and a three-generation pedigree on another, instructions should be included as to exactly what work is required.

- Mail Litter Applications to: **Litter Department** · Litters may also be registered online at [www.ukcdogs.com/litter-registration](http://www.ukcdogs.com/litter-registration).
- Mail Transfer Applications and inquiries on registration paper to: **Transfer Department**
- Mail Applications for Duplicate Registration Certificates to: **Duplicate Department**
- Mail requests and inquiries to: **Registration Correspondent**
- Mail Applications for Events, inquiries about Championship points and Judges Applications to: **Hunting Ops**

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## EVENT INFORMATION

Revised January 1, 2025

### EVENT ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Participants must submit one of the following to entry takers:

#### 1. UKC Easy Entry® Card:

A photo of the dogs' UKC Easy Entry® Card is also an acceptable form of entry.

#### 2. Registration Certificate:

A copy or photo of the dogs' Registration Certificate, clearly showing the dogs name and UKC number, is also an acceptable form of entry.

#### 3. CONDITIONAL:

If the participant is not in receipt of the required items specifically noted above for the dog, they may enter their dog as Conditional, provided they pay the current "conditional entry" fee in addition to the event entry fee. It is the responsibility of the owner and/or handler to provide the entry taker with the most accurate information possible, otherwise, championship wins may not be awarded to the dog. Entry takers shall not require photos or copies of the Registration Certificate, UKC Easy Entry® Card or otherwise if the participant is entering as conditional. Club officials must make records of any Conditional Entries taken on the Event Fees Worksheet Form included in the Event Packet.

##### a. PENDING:

Dogs may be entered as a "conditional entry" if a Single Registration or Puppy Registration application has been completed and submitted to United Kennel Club prior to the date of the event. Clubs must note the conditional entry fees taken for the dog(s) so entered and include them with all other event fees to UKC.

##### b. NON-REGISTERED DOG:

Non-registered dogs may be entered into the events held by the club on the same weekend one time as a "conditional entry". Clubs must note the conditional entry fee and include them with all other event fees to UKC. The owner must complete and send a Single Registration Application to UKC before entering another licensed event. The dog

may then be entered as "Pending" (see above) until the Registration Certificate is received. If a non-registered dog places in the event the owner is given no more than 60 days to permanently register the dog with the UKC. After the registrant receives the permanent registration certificate, they must contact the UKC Hunting Ops with the date(s) and club name(s) where the dog earned cast win(s) while registration was pending. If the dog is not registered within 60 days after the event, any win(s) earned expires. However, the owner may request the expired cast win(s) be reinstated after the dog has been registered by submitting accurate details of those wins along with a fee of \$50 to UKC Hunting Ops.

**WARNING** - Clubs not following the entry requirement procedures as noted above risk losing approval to conduct future UKC licensed event.

**NOTICE** - Dogs which fulfill the requirements for a UKC Hunting Beagle Champion or Grand Hunting Beagle Champion may be entered in the next level of competition even though they have not been officially notified of their new title by United Kennel Club.

**NOTE** - This is contingent on the condition that the records kept by the dog's registrant are in accordance with those kept by UKC. Neither UKC nor the host club is responsible for any mistakes made by the registrant of these dogs concerning the dog's degree. If it is found that the registrant's records were in error, and the dog had not fulfilled the requirements for a Championship title, all points attained by that dog in the higher level will be considered void.

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## SINGLE REGISTERING BEAGLES AT UKC EVENTS

Revised January 1, 2025

Clubs shall no longer accept or mail single registration applications on the day of an event. A Single Registration Application must be completed and submitted directly to UKC. Qualification requirements are noted on the application. Be prepared to include a copy of proof of registration through an approved registry or photos of the dog with the application as required for dogs not so approved.

"To submit a paper application for Single Registration, please visit <https://www.ukcdogs.com/docs/registration-forms/single-registration-beagle.pdf> and print off the application to submit.

To submit your Application for Single Registration online, please visit <https://www.ukcdogs.com/online-single-registration>.

Applications are issued with the right to be corrected or revoked by the United Kennel Club. We reserve the right to change any and all rules, fees, etc. without notice. Completed applications become the sole propriety of the United Kennel Club and will not be returned."



## MEASURING HOUNDS

Revised January 1, 2022

1. All dogs, except those that are permanently measured, must be measured the day of the event prior to entry of hunt or show.
2. A drop bar type measuring stand or a rigid, one piece, wicket-type stand set for 15 inches are both acceptable types of measuring devices. A tape measure is not an acceptable means of measuring dogs at events. Dogs must be measured at ground level. Standing the dog on a flat board with a non-slip surface to be measured, is acceptable.
3. The height of the dog is the distance from the ground to the top of the shoulders or withers. This point at the top of the shoulders is where the neck appears to meet the shoulders. The dog's legs should be directly under him and not leaning forward or backward. The registrant/handler may assist in posing the dog and steadying him. No physical alterations may be made to dogs to comply with height restrictions.
4. Those dogs measuring over 15 inches will not be eligible to be hunted or shown at the event, be it the hunts or the show.
5. If a dog meets the measurement requirement in the morning prior to the hunt, that same dog need not be measured for the show.
6. A one-time measurement of the hound shall suffice for entry into all hunts and shows held by the same club on any given day and or that are held on the same weekend.
7. A hound that is measured out is not eligible to be remeasured for any additional hunts or shows held by the same club on that same day or that same weekend. The registrant/handler of a hound that is measured over 15 inches, may appeal to have the hound measured by the Master of Hounds/Hunt Director or Bench Show Judge. The event officials' decision is final.

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## AWARDS AT UKC LICENSED EVENTS

Revised January 1, 2022

1. The Host Club determines the awards presented to their winners. Trophies or plaques are the most popular because winners then have a memento by which to remember that hunt. Clubs may also choose to have a Poor Boy event where no awards are given. Generally, entry fees are lower for Poor Boy events. If the club chooses to not give awards they are strongly encouraged to note "Poor Boy" on the Event Confirmation form so it can be advertised as such.
2. Monetary prizes may also be awarded. The club may choose to pay back entry fees or some other monetary prize to their winners. In the event they wish to include an added purse in their award package the club should include such notice when confirming the event details with UKC. Distribution of such prize money is the sole responsibility of the club and UKC will not enter any disputes thereof.

3. The club must understand and be aware that there may be additional law and tax implications that they will need to adhere should they be interested in awarding monetary prizes or conduct any Calcutta type activities at their event. UKC cannot provide any legal advice or information regarding any additional laws and/or tax implications that may be associated with such activities and is not responsible for any complications that may arise. Clubs are responsible for ensuring compliance on their own and must know that they proceed at their own risk with any such activities.

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## TITLES OF EXCELLENCE AND THE REQUIREMENTS TO EARN THEM

Revised January 1, 2025

The rules, regulations, classifications, and classes designated to earn those degrees as recognized by United Kennel Club are uniform throughout the United States and Canada. They are not given on a local or geographical basis. The degrees of excellence as issued and recognized by the United Kennel Club are as follows.

1. **UKC HUNTING BEAGLE CHAMPION (HBCH)** - To be declared an official Hunting Beagle Champion, a dog must have earned five cast wins in UKC Licensed Hunting Beagle Hunts recorded on the records in the UKC Championship Office. A dog must hunt designated hunt time and have a total score of plus points and be a cast winner before they can receive Championship wins, unless noted otherwise for the event.
2. **GRAND HUNTING BEAGLE CHAMPION (GRHBCH)** - Other than UKC Hunting Beagle Nationals and NHBA Days, unless otherwise approved by UKC; Hunting Beagle Champions and Hunting Beagle Grand Champions are drawn out and compete in the same category. GRHBCH degree is earned by winning eight (8) Champion Category casts at a UKC Licensed Hunting Beagle Hunt. A dog must hunt designated hunt time and have a total score of plus points and be a cast winner before they can receive Championship wins, unless noted otherwise for the event.
3. **GRAND HUNTING BEAGLE CHAMPION MULTIPLIER DEGREES** - Additional multiplier and UKC Hall of Fame degrees are earned and awarded to Grand Hunting Beagle Champions as follows. A dog must hunt designated hunt time and have a total score of plus points and be a cast winner before they can receive Championship wins, unless noted otherwise for the event.
  - a. 8 cast wins (GRHBCH2)
  - b. 16 cast wins (GRHBCH3)
  - c. 24 cast wins (GRHBCH4)
  - d. 32 cast wins (GRHBCH5)
  - e. 37 cast wins (GRHBCHHOF)



4. **UKC SHOW CHAMPION (CH)** - Qualifications for Show Champion: A Show Champion will be a dog that has earned a minimum of 100 UKC recorded Championship points and one win with competition while showing for Best Male or Best Female. Points must have been earned under at least three different UKC licensed Show Judges. Champion Males and Females are shown together, and a Championship win will be awarded to the winner.

The following points and classes have been established for the placement of a UKC registered dog to earn Show Championship points.

Definition of Classes: Males and females are shown separately except in the Best of Winners, Champion, and Grand Champion categories.

- a. **Puppy Class:** Shall be dogs at least six months of age and under one year of age. The winner of this class will be awarded ten points.
  - b. **Junior Class:** Shall be for dogs one year of age and under two years of age. The winner of this class will be awarded ten points.
  - c. **Senior Class:** Shall be for dogs two years of age and under three years of age. The winner of this class will be awarded ten points.
  - d. **Best Male and Female:** Shall be selected from the winners of the Puppy, Junior, Senior and Veteran classes. Best Male and Best Female will be awarded 15 points.
  - e. **Best of Winners:** Shall be awarded to the winner of Best Male shown against Best Female. The winner will be known as Best of Winners and will be awarded ten points. If no competition in Best of Winners class, Best of Winners points will be withheld.
5. **UKC GRAND SHOW CHAMPION (GRCH)** - A Grand Show Champion will be a dog that has won five Champion classes under at least three different UKC licensed Show Judges. Winning may be over a period of years at any UKC licensed show. Degree of Grand Show Champion will be awarded to the registrant. Male and Female Grand Show Champions are shown together. NOTE: A dog is not an official Champion or a Grand Champion until the records of the dog in the UKC Registration Office indicate same.

**NOTICE** - Dogs which fulfill the requirements for a UKC Hunting Beagle Champion or Grand Hunting Beagle Champion may be entered in the next level of competition even though they have not been officially notified of their new title by United Kennel Club.

**NOTE** - This is contingent on the condition that the records kept by the dog's registrant are in accordance with those kept by UKC. Neither UKC nor the host club is responsible for any mistakes made by the registrant of these dogs concerning the dog's degree. If it is found that the registrant's records were in error, and the dog had not fulfilled the requirements for a Championship title, all points attained by that dog in the higher level will be considered void.

## UPCOMING LICENSED EVENTS

Revised January 1, 2025

To aid clubs and provide one complete source of upcoming event advertising information, UKC requires that a club provide UKC with complete information about their events. The information will then appear in the online event listing, also known as the "Events Calendar" containing the following information: location, directions, date, licensed events held, entry deadlines, entry fees, and who to contact and their phone number. The information is organized first by state and then by date within that state. If information in an advertisement for an event differs, the "Events Calendar" listing on the UKC website is the final authority and what the club must go by.

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## CLUB OFFICERS

Revised January 1, 2025

The club must designate the following positions and forward any position updates or changes immediately after. All positions are determined and to serve their specific roles as outlined in the club's Constitution & Bylaws.

1. President:
2. Vice-President:
3. Secretary: Per UKC's requirements, this individual may be the same as the Treasurer.
4. Treasurer: Per UKC's requirements, this individual may be the same as the Secretary.
5. Corresponding Officer: This position may be any or none of the above with emphasis towards the following.
  - a. Access to laptop or desktop computer and internet service.
  - b. Correspond efficiently with UKC Hunting Ops on all club and event-related items.
  - c. Print event-related forms.
  - d. Submit Essential Data information online for each event the club will be hosting on their scheduled event date.
  - e. Submit Official Event Results online, as noted and provided by the Event Official.
  - f. Pay associated fees online at the time when event details and results are submitted.

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## CLUB OFFICERS GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING LICENSED EVENTS

Revised January 1, 2025

### Scheduling Your UKC Dates:

1. The club determines and sets the entry deadlines and fees (event details) for all their reserved dates. Once details are confirmed and processed, they will appear on UKC's Event

Calendar on the website. Additionally, if the club submits the event details at least 90 days prior to the event date, the event ad will appear, at no charge, in the Upcoming Events Section of available sources the month prior to the event being held. If all event details are not included or submitted to UKC within 30 days of the event date, the event will not be approved to be held at all. If the confirmation is not received 30 days prior to the event date, that date will not be held for the following year unless the club contacts UKC requesting to hold the date.

2. Clubs may choose to hold one bench show in conjunction with their hunts.
3. The club has various options for their hunts as follows:
  - a. **Regular:** This hunt has one entry deadline ("a" deadline only).
  - b. **Split Entry:** This is one hunt that has two separate entry deadlines ("a" and "b"). Participants may enter one or the other portion of the hunt or enter and hunt one dog in "a" and a different dog in "b". The same dog may not be entered in both "a" and "b". The club submits the results of both (a) and (b) in one separate Hunt Report to UKC.
  - c. **Double Header:** This is two separate hunts held on the same day. The club would schedule an entry deadline for Hunt #1 ("a") and a separate entry deadline ("a") for Hunt #2. The same dog may be entered and hunted in both hunts. The club submits two separate Hunt Reports to UKC, one for Hunt #1 and a second report for Hunt #2.
  - d. **Split Entry/Double Header:** This is two separate hunts where one or both hunts may have a "b" entry deadline, as determined by the club and the event details that were submitted to UKC. Again, the same dog entered in the "a" portion of the same hunt may not be entered in "b". Hunt # 2 of the Double Header may have a "b" entry deadline also, but it is not required to. A popular option for clubs holding a World Qualifying Event is where Hunt #1 is a Split Entry Hunt ("a" and "b"), but Hunt #2 is "a" only. The event official completes and submits two separate Hunt Reports to UKC, one report for Hunt #1 and a second report for Hunt #2.
  - e. **Elimination:** This is a regular hunt with one entry deadline. Cast winners advance to subsequent rounds until all dogs have been defeated except for the overall winner. First round cast winners are the only dogs to receive credit for their cast win towards their degree, unless otherwise indicated as approved by UKC. "Elimination" must be indicated in the event details.
  - f. **Slam:** All categories draw out together regardless of category. Monetary awards are presented to the winners per the Payout Schedule based on the number of dogs entered. Slam must be indicated in the event details.
  - g. **Youth Only:** Dogs are drawn out together regardless of category. Handlers 17 years of age and under only.

Casts are drawn out in two separate divisions. Those handlers 12 and under draw out together in the Junior division and those handlers 13 to 17 draw out in the Senior division. License and recording fees are waived by UKC for Youth only events.

4. **Event License Fees:** Contact the UKC Hunting Ops for a current license fee schedule
5. **Advertising Your Event:** Advertising other than those free ads appearing in UKC outlets or the website Events Calendar is recommended but not required. If a club does decide to advertise, the information in the advertisement must be the same as the information in the Event Calendar listing. If information in an advertisement for an event disagrees with the information found on the website Event Calendar listing, then the website listing is considered correct, the final authority, and what the club must go by. Clubs shall be responsible and accountable for conducting any event they have scheduled and shall be advised that UKC has a no-cancellation policy for any event already advertised. Any events that are approved for cancellation by UKC may not include refundable license fees.

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## How to Conduct your UKC Licensed Event.

Revised January 1, 2025

In addition to UKC rules and policies, clubs must ensure that all Federal, state and local laws must be followed. It is the club's responsibility to be aware of all applicable laws and regulations, and a statement to this effect must be included in the club Constitution and By-Laws. Sample: All licensed events sponsored by the club will be run in accordance with the rules and policies set forth by the organization for which the license has been issued. The club shall also be aware of any and all Federal, state and local laws and are responsible to ensure that applicable laws and regulations are followed.

1. **Event Supplies:** Most event-related materials are now designed to be print-friendly and available on UKC's website. Clubs are encouraged to maintain their supplies by printing those materials to help sustain their costs despite increases in costs of goods and services. Otherwise, those materials are available directly from UKC, as needed, but may be subject to an additional fee. Any such materials needed shall be ordered 30 days prior to the event date by contacting UKC at (269) 343-9020 or [huntingops@ukcdogs.com](mailto:huntingops@ukcdogs.com).
2. **Master of Hounds:** All clubs holding UKC licensed events must check to see that the person serving their event as Master of Hounds has a current UKC license. If the person does not have a current license in their possession, DO NOT schedule them to serve as the event official. You have the right to request to see the license, or you may contact UKC for verification. If the individual serves your event in the capacity of Master of Hounds without a current license, the club will be responsible and may lose approved

status for future UKC licensed events. This policy will be rigidly enforced. If you have difficulty obtaining a licensed individual to officiate your event, check the UKC website for a list of licensed judges in your region. Please confirm the status of the license well in advance of the event.

3. **Hunt Director:** Clubs have the option of using a Hunt Director to serve as the official for the hunt. The Hunt Director is not required to be a licensed Master of Hounds but must be well-versed in entry requirements, cast draw-out procedures and conducting the event appropriately. For more information on the Hunt Director's authority and responsibilities, refer to the Master of Hounds / Hunt Director Responsibilities section. Note: A Hunt Director may not be used to judge a bench show. The bench show judge must be a licensed Bench Show Judge.
4. **Guides and Judges:** Club is responsible for having an adequate number of qualified guides and judges on hand.
5. **Taking Entries:** Carefully follow the procedures outlined under the "Master of Hounds/Hunt Director Guidelines" and "Entering Dogs in UKC Licensed Events".
6. **Official Event Results:** The event official is responsible for noting and signing off on each specific winning dogs' win(s) on that specific portion of the dogs' entry form, that now also becomes part of the Event Report. Additionally, they are responsible for completing and signing off on the Official UKC Event Report cover form noting complete event details including the number of dogs entered in each category etc. The Event Report shall include the cover form and the entry form of each dog that earned any type of win in the event and submit the complete results to the club's Corresponding Officer. The report consisting of one cover sheet noting the date of the event, club name and club ID number, number of entries, event official information along with the completed entry form of each winning dog in the event; shall be filed together as the official result that can easily be referenced as needed. Any changes made to any portion of the Official Event Results Report must be approved and made by the Event Official.
7. **Reporting the Results of Your Event to UKC:**
  - a. The club's designated Corresponding Officer shall carefully submit the results online using the information in the Official Event Results Report provided by the event official. It is imperative that the information submitted to UKC by the Corresponding Officer accurately reflects the information as noted on the Official Event Results forms. Any information submitted that is found to not reflect the actual report may result in the club no longer being approved for UKC licensed events.
  - b. Any changes found to be necessary in the Official Event Results Report must be approved for consideration by UKC and made accordingly by the Event Official.
  - c. Event per-dog recording fees must be submitted at the time the results are submitted to UKC online.
  - d. Event Results must be submitted to UKC within ten days after the event date. The club will accrue a late

fee for each ten-day period after the event date. This will be rigidly enforced.

- e. If possible, submitting results on the day of the event is preferred if there is internet service at the location of the event and the Corresponding Officer is so capable.
  - f. After submitting the results, an official summary of that report is emailed to the Corresponding Officer that should be saved electronically for quick review purposes and club record keeping.
8. **Retain Official Documents:** Clubs must retain their Official Event Results Report Forms and scorecards for a period of one year. This is rigidly enforced.
  9. **Responsibilities:** The club will be responsible for following the above rules. Failure to do so will result in the loss of approval of future licensed events and winning placements may be affected.

**THE LOCAL CLUB MANAGEMENT HAS THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ENTRY TO ANY DOG OR HANDLER. HOWEVER, NO HANDLER SHALL BE BARRED ON BASIS OF RELIGION, RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, AGE OR SEX.**

**ANY PERSON CAUGHT ADMINISTERING UNPRESCRIBED DRUGS TO ANY DOG WILL BE BARRED FROM REGISTERING DOGS AND PARTICIPATING IN UKC EVENTS.**

**ABSOLUTELY NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR UNPRESCRIBED DRUGS WILL BE ALLOWED ON THE GROUNDS OR WHILE PARTICIPATING IN THE HUNT OR IN THE BUILDINGS THE DAY OF A UKC LICENSED EVENT.**

**PARTICIPANTS 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER HANDLING A DOG IN THE HUNT MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT OTHER THAN CAST MEMBERS THEY DRAW OUT WITH.**

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## **REGISTERED, HUNTING BEAGLE & GRAND HUNTING BEAGLE CHAMPIONS**

Revised January 1, 2025

1. Unless otherwise indicated and approved by UKC, each hunt must be open to two classes. The Open Class is one category, and the Champions Class is the other. The open class is for dogs that have not yet earned a UKC Hunting Beagle Champion degree. All Hunting Beagle Champions and Grand Hunting Beagle Champions are drawn out together and compete in the Champions' Class.
2. To receive credit towards their degree, a dog must have a total score of plus points, unless otherwise indicated for certain events, and hunt the entire hunt. This applies even if only one dog is entered in the class or remains in the cast.
3. If five dogs are entered in one class, divide into a three-dog and a two-dog casts. A non-hunting judge must be assigned to any one-dog cast.

4. A Hunting Beagle Champion or Grand Champion may not compete in open class competition. They must hunt in the Champion Class, not lower. A dog found to have entered in the wrong class is ineligible for credit towards their championship degree.

**NOTICE** - Dogs which fulfill the requirements for a UKC Hunting Beagle Champion or Grand Hunting Beagle Champion may be entered in the next level of competition even though they have not been officially notified of their new title by United Kennel Club.

**NOTE** - This is contingent on the condition that the records kept by the dog's registrant are in accordance with those kept by UKC. Neither UKC nor the host club is responsible for any mistakes made by the registrant of these dogs concerning the dog's degree. If it is found that the registrant's records were in error, and the dog had not fulfilled the requirements for a Championship title, all points attained by that dog in the higher level will be considered void.

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### Dogs entered in UKC Beagle Hunts may not be muzzled.

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## SCRATCHED FOR FIGHTING POLICY

Revised January 1, 2022

1. UKC will notify the registrants of dogs "Scratched for Fighting" after the dog has been Scratched for Fighting twice within a two (2) year period. The third time a dog is Scratched for Fighting within two (2) years, the dog is barred from participating in UKC events for two (2) years.
2. When three (3) reports - Bench Show or Hunt - have been received by UKC indicating a dog has been "Scratched for Fighting" or attempting to fight within a two (2) year period: the registrant of the dog will be sent a certified letter advising them of the dates and the names of the clubs that have reported their dog "Scratched for Fighting." The name of the dog, the registrant's name, address and the time barred for fighting will be published.
3. They will be requested to return their UKC Registration Certificate and UKC Easy Entry® Card by a specific date (approximately 30 days). The Registration Certificate will be stamped BARRED FOR FIGHTING UNTIL \_\_\_\_\_. It will then be sent back to the registrant. The UKC Easy Entry® Card will be retained by UKC.
4. The dog will be barred for two (2) years from the date of the third "Scratched for Fighting" offense. At the end of two (2) year period, the registrant of the dog can return the Registration Certificate, along with the proper fee, to the UKC Registration Office for the issuance of a new Registration Certificate and UKC Easy Entry® Card. All reference to fighting will be removed, and the dog will once again be allowed to enter UKC licensed events.

5. If the registrant of the dog does not send in the UKC Registration Certificate and UKC Easy Entry® Card by the deadline indicated in the notification letter, the following actions will be taken.
  - a. Transfer of registration will not be allowed.
  - b. The dog will not be allowed to be used in a breeding program. No litters will be registered where the dog is the sire or dam.
  - c. The dog will be barred from receiving all UKC Championship wins.
6. If the UKC Registration Certificate and UKC Easy Entry® Card is returned after the notification deadline they will be reviewed on an individual basis as to what actions will be taken.
7. Dogs already reported as "Scratched for Fighting" will still retain their records.
8. United Kennel Club has the right to inspect all reports, scorecards and documents of UKC events and to review those documents for any reason. Some, but not all, of the items reviewed are: A) scores; B) dogs scratched for fighting; C) errors by the recording person; and D) documentation excluded for any reason. UKC reserves the right to correct any mistakes found. Even though the report or other documentation might not have the signatures of a Judge of a cast or the Master of Hounds/Hunt Director, UKC reserves the right unto itself to make the necessary corrections and adjustments in line with our Inherent Rights and Powers.

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## REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW CLUBS

Revised January 1, 2025

Please read the following outline of the requirements carefully. If you have any questions, please contact UKC's Hunting Ops department.

1. The club's name submitted to United Kennel Club will be considered your club's official name and will be utilized by UKC unless otherwise notified by your club in writing. The application shall include the specific location where licensed events will be held, along with the names, complete addresses, and telephone numbers of new officers.
2. Additional club requirements: UKC recommends a membership that includes enough active members to conduct an event efficiently without relying on outside help.
3. Constitution and bylaws must be submitted (sample copy available upon request.)
4. The club must provide a complete membership list of all the active members.

**Rules concerning dates for UKC licensed events:** Clubs must contact Hunting Ops at the United Kennel Club at (269) 343- 9020 or at [huntingops@ukcdogs.com](mailto:huntingops@ukcdogs.com).

1. The club may schedule any available date that does not



conflict with another club's event. To avoid conflicts, clubs are not advertently granted a date within 100 miles of another club's date or as deemed within a reasonable distance by UKC.

2. UKC endeavors to maintain the same dates for the club from year to year; however, they may vary a week or so, depending on the change in the calendar. An abbreviated number of events will be granted for new clubs during a probationary period. A maximum number of dates may be granted thereafter, provided the club draws a reasonable number of entries. These dates cannot be changed without approval from the United Kennel Club.
3. Your club's dates should be confirmed with UKC approximately four months prior to the event date, to meet all publication deadlines. Confirmed is defined as the club submitting their desired entry fees, entry deadlines, and any other special event related details. Incomplete details may result in no license being granted. Be sure details are complete, accurate, and on time. Otherwise, the event may not be scheduled.

#### **Suggestions for Successful Events:**

1. Practice or "buddy" hunts should be conducted to familiarize members with the UKC Honor Rules.
2. Contact your state corporation office in order to make the club a non-profit corporation. It is suggested that you purchase a liability insurance policy before conducting events.
3. Periodic rule seminars should be held to update members on rule changes.
4. Appoint separate committees for all aspects of your event. Committees for the hunt, bench show, kitchen, membership, awards, or any other club activity will spread the workload around and ensure success.
5. **Do not accept late entries!** Doing so will void the entry at your UKC licensed event, and the club will be subject to not be approved for any further licensed events.
6. Read program related publications and check the UKC website for updates on UKC rules and policies.
7. Contact Hunting Ops with any questions pertaining to your club or its events.
8. Any advertising your club wishes to do in a publication is optional and does not cover the requirements for obtaining a license in accordance with UKC policy.

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## **BENCH SHOW INFORMATION**

Revised January 1, 2025

### **1. Entry Requirements**

All registrants or handlers wishing to enter a Beagle Bench Show must meet one of the following requirements in addition to meeting proof-of-registration requirements.

- a. The dog must have a minimum of two cast wins in the hunt portion of a previous UKC Licensed Hunting Beagle Event.
- b. The dog must have been entered in and completed the designated hunt time in the hunt portion of the UKC Licensed Hunting Beagle Event, the day of the show.

Dogs withdrawn by handler or scratched for not hunting or any action deemed to be an intentional scratch are not eligible to be shown that day. It will be the club's responsibility, as part of their entry procedure, to see that the above requirements are met.

### **2. Bench Show Rules**

- a. Only UKC registered dogs may compete in a UKC Licensed Beagle Bench Show. Non-registered dogs may not be entered in a UKC Licensed Beagle Bench Show.
- b. UKC licensed shows **MUST** appear in the "Events Calendar" listing on the UKC website for the event to be approved and Championship points awarded.
- c. The local club management has the right to refuse entry to any dog or handler. However, no handler shall be barred on basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age or sex.
- d. No Bench Show entries are to be taken after the advertised deadline for any reason. The show shall start as soon as possible after the advertised deadline.
- e. See "Entering Dogs in UKC Licensed Events" in this rulebook for entry requirements. These rules are to be strictly followed. Clubs found to be accepting Bench Show entries without the approved items required are subject to lose approval to hold UKC licensed events.
- f. Only one UKC Licensed Bench Show Judge shall judge a UKC Licensed Beagle Bench Show. A panel of Judges cannot be used. The Judge will follow the rules and regulations covering the show. Judges shall be familiar with UKC Beagle Bench Show procedures (listed elsewhere).
- g. Dogs must be benched. The bench on which the dogs shall be shown must be two (2) feet high and eighteen (18) inches wide with the top covered with indoor/outdoor carpeting or some similar non-slip surface. (Dogs stand well on rough material while they tend to "cow down" on a slippery or smooth surface). Individual benches of a minimum length of 44 inches are recommended. If the benches do not meet these standards, the Judge shall still allow the show to be held but should instruct the club to correct the problem and notify UKC that the benches do not meet the standards.
- h. The Judge's decision is final. Any exhibitor entering dogs in any show is, in effect, asking the Judge for their personal opinion and decision. Any exhibitor may question the Judge concerning their decision at the time the decision is made immediately after the completion of the class in which the exhibitor's dog is entered. Such questions shall be presented in a sportsmanlike manner. It is suggested that the Judge

give oral comments after selection of Best Male/Best Female winners and above. In doing so, the judges' remarks should reflect the positive attributes of the winning dog opposed to the negative attributes of other dogs.

- i. If a dog is shown in the wrong class, no Championship points will be awarded. It is the responsibility of the registrant to see that their dog has been entered and shown in the correct class. Dogs must compete in each class as they advance unless scratched by the Bench Show Judge.
- j. The handler may not withdraw the dog at any point throughout the show, except for health reasons. Dogs withdrawn for health reasons will be subject to verification by a licensed veterinarian.
- k. Notice - Dogs which fulfill the requirements for a Champion or Grand Champion may be entered in that next level of competition even though they have not been officially notified of their new title by the United Kennel Club. NOTE: This is contingent on the condition that the records kept by the dog's registrant are in accordance with those kept by UKC. Neither UKC nor the host club are responsible for any mistakes made by the registrants of these dogs concerning the dog's degree. If it is found that the registrant's records were in error, and the dog had not fulfilled the requirements for Championship title, all wins attained by that dog in the higher level will be considered void.
- l. The Judge shall have the right to disqualify any registrant or handler for misconduct, or any dog for growling, snapping or fighting. If a dog is disqualified for growling, snapping and fighting, it must be reported and sent along with the Bench Show report to UKC. Read detailed policy "Disqualified for Fighting - UKC Beagle Bench Show Policy," in the rulebook.
- m. Spectators and/or handlers must remain away from the show ring at all times and dogs must be kept away from the show ring until that dog is called for showing.
- n. It is the responsibility of the registrant or handler to listen to the secretary or ring steward of the show so that they will be ready to enter their dog in the correct class. If a dog is not shown due to neglect of the registrant or handler, there is no way to enter that particular dog in that show.
- o. Registrants, handlers, and spectators may not interfere with the Judge in any way during the judging of a show. A Judge has the right to request that a handler or spectator be removed from the show site for unsportsmanlike behavior.
- p. Handlers are responsible for their conduct and personal appearance.
- q. Dogs shall not be judged on handlers' showmanship.
- r. No grooming devices (such as combs, brushes, cleaning cloths) are to be used while dog is on the bench.

- s. Baiting of dogs is not allowed in show rings.
- t. Working dogs are not to be penalized for scars or injuries caused by hunting.
- u. Female dogs in season shall not be shown.
- v. Dogs will be disqualified if male is castrated, or female is spayed.
- w. A male is disqualified if monorchid or cryptorchid (lacking two normal descended testicles in the scrotum.)
- x. A dog is disqualified if it is deaf or blind.
- y. A dog is disqualified if overshot or undershot.
- z. Dogs will be evaluated both while gaited and shown on the bench.

A Bench Show report shall be filled out and signed by the Bench Show Judge. The report must then be mailed to UKC immediately after the event. A copy of that report shall be retained by the club for one year. The host club and Judge are responsible for the report being accurate, neat and properly filled out, showing the complete names of the dogs, correct UKC registration numbers, and owner information. The United Kennel Club accepts the report of each show as an accurate and true report of the Bench Show.

The club sponsoring the show will forward with the report along with the per-dog UKC event recording fees associated with the licensed event. Event Reports must be submitted to UKC within ten (10) days of the event or a penalty charge will be applied. An additional charge will be applied per month will be made for reports that are thirty (30) days past due.

**Any person intimidating, threatening or injuring a Bench Show participant, Judge, club officer or UKC representative, will be barred for one year up to life from any UKC licensed event.**

**Any person caught administering unprescribed drugs to any dog will be barred for life from registering dogs and participating in UKC events.**

**Absolutely no alcoholic beverages, unprescribed drugs or firearms will be allowed on the grounds or while participating in the show or in the buildings during the hours of the event.**

### 3. Official Event Report

- a. Immediately after the show, the judge will note and sign off on the specific wins awarded to each dog on the designated portion of their entry form. The judge's signature on those noted wins will validate the win. The Judge must then also complete the Official Events Report Form with all the required details and attach the entry form of each winning dog. The judge's signature on this Official Event Report confirms that the report is true and accurate, and the results noted therein are to be submitted as such to UKC.
- b. The report must be submitted to UKC immediately after the event. If the Official Events Report form is not completed and signed by the licensed judge, the event results may not be submitted to UKC.
- c. A copy of that report shall be retained by the club for one year. The host club and Judge are responsible for

the report being accurate, neat and properly filled out, showing the complete names of the dogs, correct UKC registration numbers, and owner information.

- d. The United Kennel Club accepts the report of each show as an accurate and true report of the Bench Show.
- e. The club sponsoring the show will submit the results along with the per-dog UKC event recording fees associated with the licensed event.
- f. Event Reports must be submitted to UKC within ten (10) days of the event, to avoid applicable late charges. Additional late charges will be applied for each additional 10-day period they remain. Refer to UKC Hunting Ops for the current amount of a late fee.

#### **4. AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BENCH SHOW JUDGE:**

- a. Bench Show Judges should pay particular attention not to penalize a dog that has been hunted. A Hunting Beagle shown on the bench should be in field ready condition and have the strength and endurance to compete according to the Hunting Beagle rules.
- b. The Judge is in charge of the show, and their decisions are final.
- c. Judge may disqualify any dog for unsportsmanlike actions by the handler.
- d. Judge has the right to withhold giving an award and/or UKC Championship points if, in their opinion, the dog fails to meet the UKC Official Breed Standard.
- e. A Judge may not be called upon to fault any dog after the show is over and winners are announced. They have the right to refuse.
- f. Judge has the right to split or divide classes when considered necessary.

#### **5. RESPONSIBILITIES:**

A Guideline for Judges. To standardize the procedures of a Bench Show, and to avoid inconsistencies and errors, the following procedure has been provided.

- a. The Judge must be UKC licensed for the year in which they are judging and should have their current Judge's card with them at the time of the show. No Championship points will be awarded otherwise.
- b. Neither UKC Judges nor apprentice Judges are to enter their dogs in any UKC Licensed Beagle Bench Show that they are judging in whole or in part. Their dogs cannot be entered by a handler. Nor can any member of a Judge's or apprentice Judge's immediate family show under that Judge. Immediate family is considered spouse, father, mother, brother, sister, son or daughter. Dogs housed (even though not owned) by an immediate family member shall not be entered.
- c. A UKC Judge is responsible for his/her own conduct and appearance, which should always be becoming to a Judge.

- d. UKC Judges are to keep up to date on any changes in the standards.
- e. A Judge must see that all handlers walk or gait dogs. Dogs must be gaited for Judge to determine to its locomotion and what degree each dog conforms to breed standard. Dogs must be evaluated equally when shown on the bench.
- f. A Judge shall have handler open dog's mouth for Judge to check dog's bite (for dog's health reasons).
- g. A Judge must physically check all dogs' bone structure and conformation.
- h. A Judge will remove from the bench any female dog in season.
- i. A Judge shall give equal time in examining each dog they are judging. Every dog warrants a Judge's complete inspection.
- j. A Judge shall not ask individual handling dog: (1) who owns dog; (2) who dog was purchased from; or (3) what line the dog is out of while judging the dog.
- k. A Judge shall not remove an "off" standard dog from the bench. The Judge will consider the "off" standard dog when making their ultimate decision, unless it is a disqualifying fault. In that case, the dog is not to be considered for judging. If a Judge determines a dog to have a disqualifying fault, they must submit to UKC the dog's name, UKC number and description of the fault along with the show report.
- l. A judge shall not carry-on conversations with spectators while show is in progress. Judge is not to be influenced by any person or that person's actions.
- m. A Judge must accurately report his/her decisions to the recording secretary and sign off as such on each winning dogs' entry form.
- n. A Judge must complete and sign the Official Event Report Forms for Championship points immediately following the show.
- o. A Judge must never sign any blank show report forms or receipts.
- p. UKC has the right to suspend or revoke any Judge's license.

#### **6. BENCH SHOW PROCEDURES**

A Guideline for Judges. To standardize the procedures of a Bench Show, and to avoid inconsistencies and errors, the following procedure has been provided.

- a. When the Bench Show Judge arrives at the club grounds, they should remind each person taking entries for the show, of the requirements for accepting entries. See "Entering Dogs in UKC Licensed Events," in this rulebook.
- b. No entries shall be taken after the published closing time. There are no exceptions. The points will not be honored if either of these rules are violated.

- c. You, as the Judge, are responsible for the rules being enforced and the correct information being provided to be submitted to the United Kennel Club.

## **7. JUDGING SEQUENCE**

The following procedure and sequence of judging UKC Licensed Beagle Bench Shows must be followed at all events.

- a. Judge Male Puppy Class (six months of age and under one year)
- b. Judge Male Junior Class (one year and under two years)
- c. Judge Male Senior Class (two years and older)
- d. Call the winner of each class back for judging. The winner of this judging is awarded Best Male.
- e. Judge Female Puppy Class (six months of age and under one year)
- f. Judge Female Junior Class (one year and under two years)
- g. Judge Female Senior Class (two years and older)
- h. Call the winner of each class back for judging. The winner of this judging is awarded Best Female.
- i. Call the winners of Best Male and Best Female back for judging. The winner of this judging will be awarded Best of Winners.
- j. Champion Class is next to be held. Male and Female Champions are shown together. The winner is awarded a win in the Champion Class.
- k. The Grand Champion Class is the next class to be held. In the Grand Champion Class, males and females are judged together. The winner is awarded a win in the Grand Champion Class.

The show is not to be interrupted for any activity, unless it is a large show, and the Judge requests a rest break.

## **8. DISQUALIFICATIONS**

If a Judge determines a dog to have a Disqualification, as listed in the official breed standard, that dog may not be considered for placement in a bench show/conformation event, and the judge must submit to UKC the dog's name, UKC number and description of the Disqualification along with the show report.

## **9. HANDLERS AND SPECTATORS**

- a. Spectators and handlers must remain away from the show ring at all times and dogs must be kept away from the show ring until they are called for showing.
- b. It is the responsibility of the handler to listen to the secretary or ring steward of the show so that they will know what classes are being called. It is the responsibility of the handler that the dog is shown in the correct class. If a dog is not shown in the correct class championship points will not be awarded to that dog.
- c. Registrants, handlers and spectators may not interfere with the Judge in any way during the judging of a show.

- d. A Judge may disqualify any dog for fighting or attempting to bite another dog or person.
- e. The Judge may disqualify an exhibitor for any unsportsmanlike action. A Judge has the right to request that a handler or spectator be removed from the show site for unsportsmanlike behavior.

## **10. REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR LICENSING JUDGES**

- a. Persons interested in becoming a UKC Licensed Beagle Bench Show Judge should: 1) complete the application (available on UKC website and to submit online); 2) if approved, UKC will email link to take online test; 3) If applicant passes the test a license will be issued.
- b. The applicants must be known for their honesty, integrity, impartiality, and their interest in the improvement of the Beagle breed.
- c. The Judge's personal appearance and habits should be above reproach and befitting a UKC Licensed Beagle Bench Show Judge.
- d. Applicants shall have reached their twenty-first (21) birthday before applying to UKC to become a UKC Licensed Beagle Bench Show Judge.
- e. Applicants are required to have a minimum of three years' experience showing dogs.
- f. Applicants must know the Official UKC Beagle Bench Show Rules.
- g. Applicants must know the official UKC Beagle breed standard.
- h. The applicants must know and understand structure and the anatomy of the dogs they are judging.
- i. The applicants must understand that they are, at all times, to judge the dog and not be influenced by who the registrant or handler is.
- j. The applicants must be willing to accept the responsibilities of discussing their decisions, if asked to do so by the handler, prior to the next class being shown.
- k. No applicant for a UKC Beagle Bench Show Judge's license will be denied on basis of religion, race, color, national origin or sex.
- l. Each applicant must pass a test to become a UKC Licensed Beagle Bench Show Judge.
- m. Once acquired a Judge's license is valid indefinitely, provided the individual is not inactive for a period of two years.
- n. All licenses for UKC Beagle Bench Show Judges shall be granted or withheld at the sole discretion of United Kennel Club.



# HUNT INFORMATION

Revised January 1, 2025

## 1. Appeal Procedure for Situations Happening During a UKC® Licensed Beagle Hunt

This procedure applies for all situations arising during the time that the Judge's authority is in effect.

The authority of the Judge begins when he is officially designated and receives the scorecard. The authority of the Judge ceases when the scorecard is turned in to the event official. This Appeal Procedure does NOT apply to situations arising under rules that deal with intimidating, threatening or injuring a Hunter, Judge, Master of Hounds, Club Official or a UKC Representative.

### The following steps must be followed:

**STEP 1.** Attempt to resolve the question with the licensed Master of Hounds, the handler raising the question, the Judge of the cast and the other members of the cast that are available. The Master of Hounds will make a decision based upon the statement of the case provided by the handler, Judge and the other members of the cast. No complaints will be considered by the Master of Hounds after a period of thirty (30) minutes has elapsed from the time that the scorecard has been turned in.

**STEP 2.** If the question is not resolved at Step 1, request that a Panel be formed. A Panel Fee, in the amount noted on the MOH/HD Checklist, must accompany your request. The MOH/HD will then assemble a panel of three responsible, impartial individuals who are familiar with UKC policies and procedures. (This is the first step taken when using the Hunt Director Format.) If Panel rules with handler, fee will be refunded; if they disagree, the Panel fee will be retained by the Host Club. The Panel meeting must be held within one (1) hour after the deadline for the return of scorecards.

**STEP 3.** The Panel will hear all sides. At the conclusion of all testimony the Panel will make a ruling. The Event Report shall reflect the Panel's decision.

**STEP 4.** If the question is not resolved at Step 3 a handler must immediately request a UKC Appeal Form while the Panel is still assembled. The form must be filled out by the handlers on the cast, the members of the Panel and the MOH/HD. A fee, in the same amount as the panel fee, must accompany the completed appeal form submitted to UKC.

**STEP 5.** UKC will investigate the matter and make a final ruling. If the previous steps were not followed the appeal may not be considered. If the UKC supports the individual filing the appeal, the fee will be refunded. A written statement reflecting the final ruling will be mailed to those involved. The UKC reserves unto itself, in its sole judgment and discretion, the right to make corrections it deems necessary.

## 2. Panel Responsibilities

- a. A panel of qualified event participants needs to be formed in two situations. 1) in the event a handler is not satisfied with the Master of Hounds ruling in a MOH Format event and 2) when a question is placed on the card in a Hunt Director Format event.

- b. Complaint panels should consist of three individuals who are current on all rules and policies. They may or may not be club members with primary concern going towards finding individuals that are knowledgeable, honest and impartial. A panel must be formed of individuals that can remain totally objective in concerns to cast members and dogs on the cast in question.
- c. The panel will hear all viewpoints of cast members and come to a consensus decision regarding the final scoring of the cast. Should a panel's decision support the complainant, the panel fee will be refunded.

## 3. NON-HUNTING AND HUNTING JUDGES CLARIFICATION

Clubs have the option to use non-hunting judges for any or all categories. The event official has the authority to assign a non-hunting judge to any cast deemed necessary.

**a. Non-Hunting Judges:** The Non-Hunting Judge has complete authority and is responsible for making all decisions. The decision of the Non-Hunting Judge may be questioned in the field at the time the decision is made, or a call that is not being made. It will be scored with a question mark (?) and taken to the Master of Hounds/Hunt Director Panel after the hunt is over, unless it involves a dog being scratched from the hunt. The Non-Hunting Judge's decision cannot be overturned in the field by a majority vote of cast members. If a question has not been satisfactorily resolved by the decision of the Master of Hounds, cast member may request a Panel (this is the first step when utilizing the HD Format). A panel fee must be submitted at the time the request for a panel is made. If a handler is still not satisfied the Appeal procedure must be followed. All Appeals must be filed immediately after the Panel has ruled and must be accompanied by an additional fee (fee is same amount as panel fee).

**b. Hunting Judges:** The following procedure must be followed when using Hunting Judges: The host club must designate a Hunting Judge for each cast from the entries received (see procedure for selecting hunting judges under MOH/HD Guidelines (Drawing Casts)). The Hunting Judge has complete authority and is responsible for scoring all situations. Any cast members, though scratched, retain all voting privileges. If only one dog remains in the hunt, other cast members are encouraged to stay with cast. If a Hunting Judge scratches their dog, they are encouraged to stay with the cast and continue to judge the duration of the hunt as designated by the club. However, they may designate another qualified member of the cast to complete the hunt as Hunting Judge, if needed. If only one cast member remains, handler must return to Master of Hounds/Hunt Director for a Non-Hunting Judge to complete cast. Deadline may be extended, if necessary, for this cast.

Should a situation arise where a handler questions a call that was made, or a call that should have been made but wasn't, that handler may ask to have his question voted on by all cast members that remain with the cast at that time.

Majority of cast rules. Each handler must vote, or their dog will be scratched. If majority decision is not reached, the call stands as it was scored by the Judge. Any handler that is not satisfied with the majority of cast decision retains the right to place a question mark (?) on the card and present his question to the MOH/HD Panel.

If the matter has not been satisfactorily resolved by the decision of the Master of Hounds a Panel may be requested (this is the first step when utilizing the HD Format). If a handler is still not satisfied the Appeal procedure must be followed, an Appeal must be filed immediately after the Panel has ruled. Any Panel or Appeal must be accompanied with the current fee. Fees are noted on a current Master of Hounds/Hunt Director Checklist.

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**Dogs entered in UKC Beagle Hunts may not be muzzled.**

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**OFFICIAL UKC® HUNTING BEAGLE HONOR RULES**

Revised January 1, 2025

In addition to the following Honor Rules and the Official UKC Hunting Beagle Rulebook, any related articles published or posted by UKC contain additional applicable rules, statements of policies, and interpretations of UKC rules pertaining to the conducting of UKC events. All event activities, rules, policy applications and interpretations are subject to the final decision by UKC and its sole judgment and discretion.

**1. POINT SYSTEM:**

- a. **STRIKE POINTS:** One set of strike points. 100 points for dog that opens and is declared struck first, 75 points second, 50 points third, 50 points fourth.
- b. **LINE POINTS:** After rabbit has been completely circled and seen by a cast member or non-hunting Judge, the first dog to trail through the line to receive 100 points, 85 second, 70 third, 55 fourth.
- c. **CHECK AND RECOVERY POINTS:** Dog(s) to be minused 20 points at each check, unless all dogs in the cast are declared struck, then no dog is to be minused at a check. The first dog to recover the check to be awarded 20+ points.
- d. **DEAD TRACK:** Unless it is determined that the track ended in a place of refuge, those dogs declared struck to be minused. If majority of the cast is not declared struck, those dogs receive their strike position minus. If majority of cast is declared struck, those dogs to each receive 50 minus points.
- e. **SWITCHING SPLIT TRACKS:** Dog(s) found to have switched tracks and joined a split track shall be minused 50 points. Unless their strike points have already been secured, those points shall be deleted and dog shall be declared struck for next available position.

**2. PLUS POINTS:**

- a. On strike for all dog's declared struck, after judge has determined rabbit is produced. Produced is defined as; 1) when the dogs have circled back and 2) at the point where the judge approves that a line may be marked as soon as the rabbit is seen.
- b. On recovery after dogs were in a check, the first dog to open honestly resulting in reasonable forward progress to be awarded 20+ points.
- c. On speed and drive, when non-hunting judge, or majority of cast if Hunting Judge is used, are present as Judge scores dogs on line at point where rabbit was seen by a Judge or cast member after completion of circle.
- d. On strike and recovery only if dog(s) catch rabbit.
- e. On strike, when rabbit is jumped and seen by nonhunting judge or majority of cast if hunting Judge is used but goes to a hole or place of refuge before completion of circle. Hole or place of refuge must be verified.
- f. On strike, if dogs are trailing a rabbit that has been seen by the majority of cast or the non-hunting judge when time runs out.

**3. MINUS POINTS:**

- a. If reasonable forward progress is not made within any three-minute period. Reasonable forward progress is defined as a track that is runnable by the majority of the pack or when it is obvious to the majority of the cast members that a dog or dogs have recovered the track to a runnable state.
- b. When it is visually evident by the majority of the cast or a non-hunting judge that dog(s) quits a trail that is being worked, he will be minused. Or, if none of the declared struck dogs open for a period of three minutes, the track will be considered lost and minused. However, if dog(s) goes back on the track, he will get the next available position. Once a position has been minused, it becomes available again. However, a dog cannot be "struck in" over a dog's position that is being held. If all positions are taken, dog will receive 50 points for going back, but these points will be minused every time he comes out. Dog is not to be tied or encouraged to go back.
- c. Each dog declared struck to be minused 20 points at each "check", unless all dogs in cast are declared struck. If all dogs are declared struck, check minuses are not issued to any dog. If check loss occurs without a recovery, delete any check points and score in accordance with 3(d).
- d. When majority of dogs are struck in on a track, and all dogs on a particular track are minused simultaneously in accordance with rule 3(a) or 3(b), draw a line through the original strike points and minus each in accordance with Rule 1(d).
- e. When handler strikes another handler's dog, they are to receive the called position minus. After minus, position becomes available. For second offense see rule 5(o).

- f. After the first three minutes of hunt, dog must be declared struck on or before the third bark. Dog not declared struck on or before third bark will receive the available strike position minused, then awarded that same strike position. For second offense see Rule 5(n).
- g. After the first three minutes of the hunt, any dog(s) failing to hunt for any continuous three-minute period will receive 100 minus points. Dog(s) are not to be moved or encouraged to hunt while on the clock. See Rule 5(b) for dog(s) failing to hunt for any continuous five-minute period.
- h. Dog(s) leaving their track to join a split track receive 50 minus points, if majority of cast is declared struck, and any unscored strike points shall be deleted.
- i. Dog(s) leaving their track to join a split track, if majority of cast is not declared struck, receive their strike position points minused, and any unscored strike points shall be deleted. If strike points are already secured (via produced rabbit), dog shall receive 50 minus points and is not eligible for a new set of strike points on split track.

#### 4. CIRCLED POINTS:

Circle points will count neither for, nor against, dog except when ties are to be broken.

- a. In case of running into a hole or place of refuge, a rabbit that has not been seen by the majority of cast or the non-hunting judge's (cast must locate hole or place of refuge).
- b. If dog(s) are trailing when hunt time expires.
- c. If Judge has to call time out because of nearness to livestock, buildings, danger, etc.

#### 5. SCRATCHING OFFENSES:

##### Dog Related Offense:

- a. Fighting or attempting to fight during the authority of the Judge. Dog's name, UKC registration number, and registrant's name will be reported to UKC on the Official Hunt Report form. No handler will be allowed to scratch their dog to avoid being scratched for fighting. When the aggressive dog is known, scratch the aggressor only. If not known, scratch dogs involved. (Attempting to fight is defined as follows: when dog(s) are interfering with other dog(s) during the authority of the Judge by aggressive behavior.)
- b. After the first three minutes of the hunt, for failing to make any attempt to hunt within any continuous five minutes of the hunt. Cast will not move with dog(s) on clock.
- c. For running or molesting stock.
- d. Bitches smelling strong enough to attract dogs, or a dog that is just bad to bother bitches, or any other dogs, while other dogs pay them no attention.
- e. If dog is continuously silent on trail.
- f. For delaying completion of cast for 30 minutes after time out is called in accordance with Rule 6.

- g. For running game other than rabbit, even if time is out. Off game does not have to be seen.
- h. After the first three minutes of the hunt, any dog that leaves the handler two times babbling. Babbling is defined as when a dog opens three times, or has been struck, where no track is evident.
- i. For backtracking on second offense.
- j. On second offense, for "rough-running," "cutting," or "slashing" on track. This rule to be rigidly enforced.
- k. On second offense, when dog(s) quits a trail that is being worked, provided remaining dog(s) circles and scores its rabbit.
- l. If dog accumulates 300 minus points regardless of how many plus points the dog has.
- m. If dog fails to pack (shall only apply at the point it has become disruptive and detrimental to the hunt).

##### Handler Related Offense:

- n. On second offense, if handler fails to declare dog struck on or before the third bark. This rule is to be rigidly enforced.
- o. On second offense, if handler calls another handler's dog.
- p. If handler hollers at or physically abuses the dog.
- q. If handler handles dog without judge's permission.
- r. If handler is drinking or seems to want to stir up trouble.
- s. Hunting over or under designated hunting times.

#### 6. TIME OUTS:

Judge, or majority of cast if hunting Judge is used, may call time out and circle any un-scored strike points in accordance with the following:

- a. When dogs are getting on road, trail onto posted land or trail into a place where there is danger to dogs or hunters.
- b. When other hunters get too close. If dogs get with another group of dogs.
- c. If new ground must be found to finish cast (no dog(s) to be called off trail without awarding minus points).
- d. In case of accident or sickness.
- e. If cast becomes lost.
- f. When dog(s) are trailing and out of hearing distance in different directions.
- g. If judge instructs all dogs to be leashed simultaneously.

#### 7. TIES:

- a. All ties to be broken for UKC points. Dog will win out over other dog; dog that has the least number of minus points;
- b. if still a tie, dog that has the most plus strike points;
- c. if still a tie, dog that has the most plus speed/drive points;
- d. if still a tie, dog that has the most recovery points;
- e. if still a tie, dog that has the most circled strike points;
- f. if still a tie, dog that has the most deleted strike points;

- g. If still a tie; dogs involved only will hunt in one 15-minute overtime. Overtime scoring to determine tie breaker only and does not change original score. Cast shall not return to club until overtime hunt is completed. Return deadline to be extended 15 minutes for any cast hunting overtime.
- h. If still a tie; flip a coin to determine cast winner.

## 8. WINNERS:

Dog must enter and hunt in correct class, otherwise, dog is considered ineligible for championship win.

Unless otherwise indicated, dog must hunt designated time and have a total score of plus points to be considered a cast winner.

## 9. GENERAL INFORMATION:

- a. All casts must hunt the complete hunting time designated for cast. Hunt time is indicated on scorecard. Casts to be run on rabbit that is native to the immediate area. All points accumulated on non-native rabbits will be deleted. This rule is to be rigidly enforced.
- b. Search and Jump: Dogs to be freely cast and walked in the general direction of the hunt. Dogs to be declared struck and recorded according to their called positions upon opening. Dog must have been heard opening immediately prior to a strike call. Otherwise, call shall not be accepted. Judge will instruct handlers to call in dog(s) when necessary to keep cast hunting together. Dog(s), not handlers or Judges, to search for and jump rabbit. In case of handlers inadvertently jumping rabbit, hounds may be released on track for split strike points. It is a majority of cast decision to split points if the rabbit is seen by the majority of cast. If the rabbit is not seen by the majority of the cast, it must be a unanimous decision to split points. Cast may not agree to put dogs on a rabbit already ran.
- c. Rough Running, Cutting, or Slashing: Dogs to pursue rabbit as fast as scenting conditions allow, but must exhibit good line control. Dog(s) observed to be "running rough," "cutting," or "slashing" on track will be scratched on second offense. Rough Running is defined as attempting to run the front of the pack faster than scenting conditions allow or without regard for the actual line. Routinely overshooting turns leading pack mates astray. Cutting is defined as attempting to run the front by leaving the trail to head off pack mates or avoiding heavy cover and other obstacles. Slashing is defined as running in a hit or miss fashion as a result of gambling and without regard for the actual line.
- d. Speed and Drive: Judge to score dogs on speed and drive as rabbit is circled and seen by a cast member. At time rabbit is seen, Judge, or majority of cast if Hunting Judge is used, must decide whether to allow dog(s) to continue on trail or pick up dog(s) in order to find new ground or another rabbit. Speed and drive points are awarded in order that dogs pass through the line, splitting points when positions cannot be determined. It must be obvious that a dog is NOT trailing in order to

deny the dog Speed and Drive points. After first dog has been scored on Speed and Drive, there is a one-minute time limit to score remaining dogs on that line. Dog(s) must be opening on the majority of circle being scored to be scored. Speed and drive may be scored three (3) times only on the same rabbit. If loss occurs before completion of any additional circle, each dog declared struck to be scored 50 minus points in the Losses/Recoveries column. No dog(s) to be called off a trail without awarding minused points.

- e. Split Tracks: In case of split tracks, score speed and drive on first track one time and recover dog(s) so they may be turned in to dog(s) running split track. However, if rabbit on split track is seen while attempting to score the first track, it may be scored one time and then dog(s) must be handled and turned in on the split track. Dog(s) already scored on strike prior to being handled and put in with other dog(s), shall not receive new set of strike points when they open. See Rules 3 (h) or (i) if applicable.
- f. Checks, Recoveries, Losses: A check is defined as a temporary loss, where none of the declared struck dogs open for a period of one minute. Judge to start time immediately after last bark. Recovery points may be split in cases where positions cannot be determined. At point where dogs lose trail and become quiet, Judge to start clock on dogs. After one minute has elapsed without any dog opening, all struck dogs to be considered at a loss (check) and minused 20 points. If all dogs are declared struck, do not award any check minuses per Rule 3(c). The first dog to open honestly resulting in reasonable forward progress to be awarded 20+ points for recovering the loss. Additional dogs opening after first dog, to receive no "recovery" points. **Any time a split track has been declared, checks or recoveries are no longer awarded to any dog(s) on either track, regardless of majority struck in or otherwise. Instead, during this time the focus should be on scoring a line, in accordance with Rule 9 (e), and then getting dog(s) back together.** A track is considered lost or dead after no dog has opened for a period of three minutes or where sufficient progress is not made within a three-minute period of the hunt. See Rule 1(d) for scoring.

## 10. SCORECARDS

- a. Scorecards must be finished in the field and signed by each handler or his/her dog will be scratched and no changes to be made later, except where a question arises and is noted in the field. Handler's signature verifies hunting time, and scores are correct. A scorecard may be signed still with the right of protest. Changes can only be made by the Master of Hounds/Hunt Director Panel.
- b. Any handler failing to sign scorecard in the field, may have the opportunity to sign upon returning the scorecard to and in the presence of the Master of Hounds/Hunt Director.



## 11. JUDGES, HANDLERS, INACTIVE HANDLERS & SPECTATORS:

- a. Individuals selected to judge must be experienced, honest, and capable of scoring all situations. Scorecard to be carried by Judge and situations must be scored in plain view of all handlers. Judge will be official timekeeper. They will show no favors to any dog or hunter and will inform handlers of score and time, if requested. Judges to keep handlers and spectators at a distance so as not to interfere with dogs. Judge will give permission to call in dog to keep the pack hunting in the same vicinity. Judge shall give permission for another handler to complete hunt if original handler is not able to finish hunt. Otherwise, handlers' dog must be picked up. If a hunting judge scratches his dog, they are encouraged to continue judging the cast. Otherwise, they may pass the scorecard to a qualified member of the cast. A non-hunting judge must be assigned to any one dog cast. A non-hunting judge may be assigned to any cast at the discretion of Master of Hounds/Hunt Director and/or club officials.
- b. One handler to each dog. It is the handler's duty to know their dog's voice and nature. Also, to advise the Judge of any of the dog's peculiarities before the hunt begins. No encouragement or discouragement of any kind to dogs. They must tell the Judge when the dog opens on strike. Handler is not allowed to call dog in unless instructed by the Judge. Handlers may not give verbal or hand commands to dog without Judge's permission. All handlers must stay with Judge at all times unless given permission by Judge to leave. A handler may have a spectator lead, release or physically handle their dog during the hunt. No holes or places of refuge to be disturbed. No rabbits or other game to be killed. It is the handler's responsibility to verify time and score before signing scorecard. In the event only one handler remains in the cast that individual must return to the Master of Hounds/Hunt Director for a Non-Hunting Judge to complete the hunt. The deadline may be extended for this reason, if necessary.
- c. If a cast member entered the event as an Inactive Handler, then he or she shall not be involved with any part of calling or scoring lines. An Inactive Handler may not be involved in any voting procedures related to scoring lines. An Inactive Handler is not included in the equation when it comes to the majority of the cast required to be present when dogs are scored on speed and drive. Example: In a four-dog cast, two out of the three active handlers are considered a majority.
- d. Spectators are allowed on all casts. They may not get involved in any part of scoring throughout the hunt, including calling lines for speed and drive purposes. Handler's dog(s) will be scratched for rule violations by their spectators.

## 12. QUESTIONS, PANELS, APPEALS & MISCONDUCT:

- a. Non-Hunting Judge Cast: A Non-Hunting Judge may score any situation without cast members being present. The decision of a non-hunting Judge may only be questioned in the field at the time the decision is made. The non-hunting Judge's decision cannot be overturned in the field. It may be scored with a question mark (?) and reviewed by the MOH/Panel. A decision made by a non-hunting Judge may only be overturned by the MOH/Panel.
- b. Hunting Judge Cast: The following procedure must be followed when using Hunting judges on a cast, regardless of category. The Hunting Judge has complete authority and will be responsible for scoring all situations. Should a situation arise where a handler questions a call that was made, or a call that should have been made but wasn't, that handler may ask to have his question voted on by all cast members that remain with the cast at that time. Situations not questioned and notated at the time judges' decision is made, will not be considered. Each handler must vote, or their dog will be scratched. It takes a majority vote to overturn judge's decision. Any handler that is not satisfied with the outcome retains the right to place a question mark (?) on the scorecard and present his question to the MOH/Panel. Unless or until it involves a dog being scratched from the hunt a question shall not be taken to the MOH/Panel until after the hunt. If there is a question noted on the scorecard all cast members MUST return to the MOH/Panel.
- c. Panels, Appeals: Requesting a panel requires a fee to be paid before the question is heard. Requesting an Appeal also requires a fee to be paid before the form is provided to make the written complaint. Current procedures Panel and Appeal fees are available in club event forms on UKC's website and should also be available by the club at the event for review. If procedures are not followed, as fully outlined, the complaint will not be considered.
- d. Misconduct: Any individual found to have demonstrated any form of misconduct shall be reported and is subject to further sanctions by United Kennel Club.

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# MASTER OF HOUNDS/HUNT DIRECTOR GUIDELINES

Revised January 1, 2025

1. UKC Licensed Hunting Beagle events must be listed on the UKC website Events Calendar listing. The listing for UKC Licensed must indicate a time deadline for closing entries. No entries will be accepted after the listed deadline for any reason. If a Club's event listing does not appear in the Events Calendar listing as specified, the UKC licenses for the event will be withdrawn and no UKC Championship points or wins will be awarded. In the event an event advertisement is not consistent with the details noted on the UKC's Event Calendar, the details on the UKC's Event Calendar are considered the final authority and what the club must go by.
2. The official is in charge of the hunt. If a question arises, the Master of Hounds/Hunt Director Panel will hear each viewpoint and have the last say. A handler may state his case plainly but if deemed the handler is being unreasonable; his dog may be scratched by Master of Hounds/Hunt Director Panel.
3. If a Hunt Director format is being used, then all questions go directly to a panel. If qualified, the Hunt Director may serve on the panel. Procedures and policies specifically related to a MOH or a HD format are as follows:
  - a. **Policies Specific to Master of Hounds Format:** All MOH must be licensed by UKC. A MOH may not have a dog, registered in their name (full or joint ownership), and entered in the event. A dog previously owned by the MOH may not be entered until it is transferred to the new owner's name. The MOH must remain at the event headquarters at all times. A MOH will listen to and rule on all questions brought in from the field.
  - b. **Policies Specific to Hunt Director Format:** The HD shall be knowledgeable all event related policies and procedures including taking entries, drawing casts, checking over returned scorecards and completing event reports. The HD is not required to be licensed by UKC. The HD may enter and handle their dog in the hunt. A Hunt Director will not rule on questions brought in from the woods. The HD is responsible for forming a panel of three qualified individuals to rule on all questions that come in from the field. If qualified, the HD may serve as one of those individuals on the panel.
4. **MOH/HD Checklist:**

When you arrive at the club, check to see that the following materials are all available. All event materials are available to print off, as needed, on UKC's website found under [www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com) Hunting Ops / Beagles / Forms and Rules.

  - a. Entry Forms.
  - b. Master of Hounds / Hunt Director Checklist.
  - c. Locating and Controlling Device Rules.
  - d. Scorecards.
  - e. Cast draw-out system.
  - f. Official Event Report Form.
5. **How to Take Entries:**
  - a. Give an entry form to each participant and have them fill it out clearly and completely.
  - b. If an individual attempting to enter appears, in your judgment, to be under the influence of alcohol or un-prescribed drugs, do not accept their entry. Notify the appropriate club individual or officer of what you are doing and why.
  - c. Be sure to follow entry requirements outlined under Entering Dogs in UKC® Licensed Events.
6. **Selecting Judges:**
  - a. Club Officers and the Event Official shall work together in selecting qualified individuals to serve as judges.
  - b. Judges shall be selected based on their integrity and knowledge of the running rules and procedures. They must be honest and capable of scoring all situations. The judge must know the proper procedures that are to be followed if a question arises. They should also be willing to judge the cast for the duration of the hunt.
  - c. When hunting judges are used, the number of judges needed in each category shall be pre-selected from that pool of entries.
  - d. Individuals entering the event as an Inactive Handler may not be used as Hunting Judge.
  - e. A Non-hunting judge must be assigned to a one-dog cast. A Non-Hunting Judge may be assigned to any cast at the discretion of Event Official or club officials, if deemed necessary.
  - f. The authority of Judge begins when he or she is officially designated and receives the scorecard. The authority of the Judge ceases when the scorecard is turned in to the Event Official.
7. **Selecting Guides**

The Host Club is responsible for selecting qualified guides. In the event there are more than enough guides that are not all needed the host club has the final decision on which ones will be used. The guide shall be a responsible individual who has permission to hunt on the property(s) they take their cast. The guide shall be willing to guide the cast for the duration of the hunt.
8. **Separating Entries for Cast Drawing**

Start your judge and guide selection process for each category when you begin taking entries. Arrange to have four separate pools of entries for each category as follows:

  - a. Pool 1. An entry serving as both a hunting judge and guide.
  - b. Pool 2. An entry serving as a hunting judge only.
  - c. Pool 3. An entry serving as a guide only.
  - d. Pool 4. All remaining entries.
9. **Drawing Casts**
  - a. Do not start drawing out casts until after entries are closed at the advertised deadline time.
  - b. The drawing of entries must be announced and conducted publicly.

- c. If your state requires a license or permit number, make certain that it appears on each scorecard.
- d. The designated hunt time and the deadline time to return scorecards shall be clearly indicated on all scorecards.
- e. It is the responsibility of the Event Official to draw any multiple same first-owner entries to separate casts, if possible. The only time it would not be possible is if there are not enough casts available to separate them. The first registered owner (Sole Signatory) only, will be considered when it comes to drawing multiple owner entries to separate casts. Co-owner (Successors) names will not be considered.
- f. UKC accepts any fair and impartial draw procedure as follows. Based on the entry, determine the number of judges and guides you need for a specific category. Determine how many three dog casts will be in the category. If any, add that amount of blank entry forms into pool 4. This allows having four entries to be "drawn" to each scorecard and eliminates any perceptions otherwise.
  - a. Draw a judge entry to each scorecard from pool 1 and 2 until all scorecards have a hunting judge.
  - b. Calling each judge up to draw the rest of their cast is a suggested procedure, as follows.
  - c. If the cast still needs a guide, draw an entry from the guide pool.
  - d. Complete the cast by drawing remaining entries from Pool 4.

**NOTE:** If a multiple first-owner is drawn, move that entry to the subsequent cast. Any blanks (for three-dog casts) are also considered as multiple first-owner entries. As each cast is drawn, provide the judge with a scorecard to record the call names and handlers of each dog in their cast.

#### 10. Calling Casts:

- a. IT IS MANDATORY THAT THE MOH/HD CHECKLIST BE READ PUBLICLY BEFORE CALLING CASTS. The MOH/HD checklist may be updated periodically, as deemed necessary, to inform participants. The MOH/HD Checklist available online has the most recent update date noted on it.
- b. After the checklist is read and any other related remarks are made, call out casts.

#### 11. While Casts are in the Field:

- a. No questions, pertaining to scoring during the hunt, may be called in.
- b. The scorecard must be returned by the deadline for the cast winning dog to be considered for placement.

#### 12. After the Scorecards Are Turned In:

- a. Recheck each dog's score. MOH/HD has the authority to and shall correct mathematical errors.
- b. Check to see that handlers signed the scorecard. Any handler that does not sign the scorecard, may sign the

scorecard in view of the event official. Otherwise, it results in that dog being scratched.

- c. Any questions must be notated with a question mark (?) on the scorecard. Remember the rule that states, situations not questioned and notated, may not be considered. If there is a question noted, get the cast off by themselves to discuss the situation and make your decision. Only those individuals directly involved should be included in any of the discussions. Wait until the scorecards are returned before discussing a situation that arises in the woods. Members of the cast have thirty (30) minutes to make their complaint after the scorecards are turned in. If a question is not satisfactorily resolved, any owner or handler has the right to request a panel. Refer to the rulebook in the section under; Appeal Procedure for Situations Happening During a UKC® Licensed Event.
- d. Keep your scorecards confidential until the return deadline or until all scorecards have been returned. This must be rigidly enforced. Scorecards must then be made available for review. Any owner or handler questioning a dog's score must do so not later than thirty

#### 13. Reports

- a. Do not sign a blank report. Make sure that the report is completely filled out. Then you sign it.
- b. Give completed report to the host club officer to be submitted to UKC.
- c. The original report, that includes each winning dog's entry form and the completed Official Events Report cover form, is retained by the club hosting the event. The complete report must be retained by the club for a minimum of one year and available to UKC if so requested.
- d. The club must submit the event results to UKC within 10 days or a late penalty fee will be applied. Additional penalty fees will apply for each 10-day period after that.

#### 14. General Information:

- a. Encourage clubs to educate their members on the rules and to conduct rules seminars for Judges, Masters of Hounds, Hunt Directors and participants.
- b. Study and stay current with all the rules. For official interpretation of the rules, policies or changes refer to articles written by UKC and posted on event related outlets.
- c. Remember to use good judgment. You are the person responsible for seeing that the hunt is run in a manner that is fair to all and that everyone is treated in a fair and equitable way.

## ELECTRONIC MESSAGING POLICY

Revised January 1, 2025

All handlers and spectators are advised of the UKC Electronic Messaging policy as it relates to the integrity of the event and the hunt. This includes texting, posting messages on social media sites or otherwise. Any individual found guilty of such prior to the conclusion of the event that deemed by UKC to have influenced any cast, handler, placements, winners, the integrity of the event or otherwise are subject to suspension.

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## REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR LICENSING MASTER OF HOUNDS

Revised January 1, 2025

The procedures and requirements to be considered are as follows.

1. The applicant's character, honesty and integrity must be above reproach. They must have a thorough knowledge of UKC's rules and policies and have demonstrated good judgment.
2. The applicant must be at least twenty-one (21) years old and have a minimum of three years' experience handling dogs in UKC licensed hunts.
3. The applicant must be approved by UKC and pass a test covering UKC rules and policies. Applications are available online and may be completed and submitted to UKC electronically. If approved, the applicant will receive a link to the online test.
4. An applicant passing the test will be licensed to serve at club-level events for a period of one year and must have officiated a minimum of five events before accepting any major event assignments.
5. Once a Master of Hounds is approved, the license is issued indefinitely. However, licenses are subject to review and may be withdrawn by UKC at any time.
6. UKC has the right within its sole judgement and discretion to refuse to grant, deny renewal, suspend or revoke any judge's license at any time with or without cause.
7. The licensed Master of Hounds must keep up to date with the rules and policies. If they do not, they will place themselves in jeopardy of losing their license.

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## ELIMINATION FORMAT EVENTS

Revised January 1, 2025

1. **Drawing Casts**  
Event advertisement details must indicate Elimination Format, and all dogs will run within their category, except for those approved otherwise and indicated as such.
2. **Plus-Point Requirements**  
Dog must have a total score of plus points to be considered a cast winner and to be eligible to advance to subsequent

rounds and or to earn championship wins, except for those approved otherwise and indicated as such.

### Advancing Dogs

All plus-point cast winners will advance from the first round to subsequent rounds. Casts not scoring a total score of plus points in the first round will not have a dog advance to subsequent rounds and none of the dogs participating in that cast will be considered for championship points, except for those approved otherwise and indicated as such.

### Hunt Time

The host club will be given the option of 60 or 90-minute hunts for all first-round casts of an Elimination hunt. Hunt time in subsequent rounds may differ from the first-round to be determined on the day of the event based on the total entry, consideration of the distance to running grounds, high temperatures in summer months, amount of daylight hours and availability of guides.

### 3. Placing Dogs in All Divisions of Elimination Format

- a. Only plus-point cast winners from the first round are eligible for placement, unless otherwise indicated. No placements may be awarded until the final cast has been assembled. Hounds in the final cast will be placed according to highest total score in the final cast even if the points are minus. After the first round, instead of a coin flip, any unbreakable ties shall be determined by reverting to the previous round's score of those dogs involved.
- b. Those hounds eliminated in the cast immediately prior to the final cast will be considered for placement, provided they were cast winners from an earlier round. Second-in-cast hounds from the semi-final round will be placed next, in succession according to their score in that round. After second-in-cast hounds are considered for placement, third-in-cast hounds will be placed in succession according to their score in that round, followed by fourth-in-cast etc. Any dog scratched will place fourth-in-cast, for placing purposes.
- c. If there are not enough hounds in the semi-final round to fill available placements, the same procedure may be used to revert back to a preliminary round.

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## UKC Slam Events

Revised January 1, 2025

1. Slam Events are available to all UKC approved clubs. Clubs may designate any number of their scheduled dates as a Slam Event. Simply note the Slam designation portion on the Event Confirmation form. A regular bench show may be held in conjunction with a Slam Event.
2. **Entry Fees:** See ukcdogs.com for all current fees.
3. **License and Recording Fees:** SLAM events require a UKC Hunt License fee. Regular recording fees apply and must be included with the Event Report mailed to UKC. See ukcdogs.com for all current fees.



4. **Eligibility for Events:** See Entering Dogs in UKC® Licensed Events.
5. **Running Rules:** UKC Official Hunting Beagle Honor Rules, as they apply in effect for the year the event is run.
6. **Drawing Casts:** All dogs, regardless of category, are drawn out together.
7. **Hunting Time:** Preliminary round casts will be 60 or 90 minutes in duration as decided by the host club, on the day of the event. The Final Cast will hunt 60 or 90 minutes, as determined by the club on the day of the event.
8. **Judges:** One Hunting Judge per cast in the preliminary round. The Final Cast will have one (1) Non-hunting Judges and may include one assistant judge at the club's discretion.
9. **Prize Money:** A percentage of the entry fee, based on the entry fee amount and as indicated on the Slam Prize Breakdown Form, is paid to the event winners. First, all first-round plus-point cast winners are awarded the amount of the entry fee. The remaining prize money is awarded to those dogs in the Final Cast. Prize money will be paid by the host club in accordance with the Slam Prize Breakdown Form at the conclusion of the event. The distribution of Slam prize money is strictly the responsibility of the host club and not the responsibility of United Kennel Club. UKC reserves the right to set prize amounts and control distribution of prize money at its sole judgment and discretion.
10. **Final Cast:** The four (4) highest scoring preliminary round cast winners with a total score of plus points will advance to the Final Cast. Dogs in the Final Cast will be placed according to total score, including up to 300 minus. If tie cannot be broken, dogs remaining tied will split prize money. If all dogs in Final Cast scratch, purse will be divided equally among all members of the cast. See Slam Prize Breakdown Form (provided in the event packet) for other scratched dog breakdowns.
11. **Splitting Prize Money:** Slam prize money may only be split if the majority of Final Cast agrees to do so. Otherwise, cast must hunt Final Cast round to determine prize money distribution.
12. **Championship Wins:** All hounds winning their first-round cast with a total score of plus points receive a win towards their championship.
13. **No Plus Point Cast Winners:** In the event there are no plus-point cast winners in the first round it will be considered the Final Round and prize money will be divided equally between all dogs entered in the event, and no Championship wins will be awarded.

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## HUNTING BEAGLE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Revised January 1, 2025

The UKC Hunting Beagle National Championship brings together the outstanding Hunting Beagles and handlers from across the country to participate in what is generally the largest event of the year. This prestigious multi-day event is administered directly by United Kennel Club. The location is carefully selected based on areas with good hunting territory, guides, and a facility to accommodate the hundreds that attend. The National Championship is a family affair and an event where old friends become reacquainted and new ones are made.

Special awards and National recognition are given to its winners including the prestigious degree of Junior National Champion to the overall winner of the Junior Hunt and the degree of National Grand Champion to the overall winners in the Grand Champion classes of hunt and show.

This major event is held in the spring each year. Entry to the hunt is by advanced entry reservation only. Complete details, including a schedule of events and entry forms, are posted on UKC's website at [www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com).

## HUNTING BEAGLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Revised January 1, 2022

1. **Format and Eligibility:** At all World Qualifying Events and the World Championship, dogs are drawn out together as one class. Any qualified dog must be UKC registered to be eligible to enter the World Championship.
2. **Running Rules:** UKC Hunting Beagle Honor Rules will be in effect for the year the event is run, with special revisions as required.
3. **Qualifying Requirements:**
  - a. Dogs may qualify at designated UKC Hunting Beagle World Qualifying Events only.
  - b. A dog must be a cast winner, and unless otherwise indicated, have a total score of plus points to be qualified.
  - c. Qualified dogs may be entered online on UKC's website. Advanced only entries generally open in July and close at the end of August, unless otherwise indicated in the World Championship advertisement.
4. **Dates of Events:** Designated Qualifying Events are held each year from January through the first part of September with the World Championship generally being held in October to determine the UKC Hunting Beagle World Champion. See the World Championship Event advertisement for specific dates.
5. **Location of Event:** Qualifying Events are approved for designated clubs and strategically placed throughout the regions where those clubs are located. The World Championship will be held at a location selected each year by UKC.

6. **WQE Hunt Times:** All Hunting Beagle World Qualifying casts will hunt for 90 minutes, unless approved otherwise and so indicated.
7. **Event Official:** A Master of Hounds or Hunt Director format may be used for World Qualifying Events and the World Championship.
8. **Judges:** All Judges for Hunting Beagle Qualifying Events and the World Championship must be not less than sixteen (16) years of age. Judges must be physically fit to perform all duties of a Judge. They must have served as a Judge previously in at least five (5) UKC licensed Hunting Beagle Hunts and know the UKC Hunting Beagle Honor Rules. All Judges must be approved by the Official UKC Licensed Master of Hounds/Hunt Director. The Judge and any assistants for the Final Cast will be appointed by UKC.
9. **Qualified Dog may not Enter Another WQE:** Once qualified for the World Championship, a dog may not be entered in another Hunting Beagle World Qualifying Event; except for an event that is not a WQE only. There is no limit to how many different Hunting Beagle World Qualifying Events a dog may enter to attempt to get qualified.
10. **Substitutions:** An individual can substitute a dog that has been entered in the World Championship if the dog has died, come in season, or declared to be ill and not able to participate in the hunt. The dog can only be replaced by another dog that is registered in the same registrant's name and was also qualified in the current year. The substitution must be made by the advertised deadline to confirm entries.
11. See World Championship event advertisement for refund policy. No refunds will be issued after the advertised deadline for any reason.
12. **Championship Wins:** Championship wins will be awarded to all Cast Winners as follows:
- World Qualifying Event.
  - Finals: Cast winners in each round. Refer to event advertisement or announcements for details or changes.
13. Advanced entries only will be accepted for the World Championship and must be submitted by the advertised deadline.
14. All previous UKC Hunting Beagle World Champions are not required to qualify for the World Championship. They must pay the entry fee for the World Championship by the advertised deadline.
15. The winner of the Finals will be designated the UKC Hunting Beagle World Champion and will have the following designation placed before the dog's name on their Registration Certificate, Pedigree and UKC Easy Entry® Card: WORLD HBCH
16. All dogs, regardless of Championship Degree, size and sex will run together in one class. This is a UKC administered event. The UKC Hunting Beagle Honor rules will be used, except where noted.
17. The Appeal Procedure will not be applicable during hunting time of the World Championship. The Master of Hounds/Hunt Director Panel decision will be final in all situations pertaining to activities during the actual World Championship. The Appeal procedure will be in effect for all qualifying events.
18. **The Finals:**
- All rounds will run for 90 minutes, unless otherwise indicated.
  - Using hunting or non-hunting judges in any round will be the decision of UKC.
  - Round 1(a): A maximum number of entries are accepted to participate in Round 1(a). That number is generally around 120 to 130 but may change based on the location and total number of dogs entered. Lowest entry numbers will be given the opportunity for the first round ahead of higher entry numbers. To ensure a spot in this first hunt, entrants are encouraged to enter early. Switching from (a) to (b), or vice-versa, is subject to approval and may not be permitted.
  - Round 1(b): The remaining entries will participate in Round 1(b). Dogs that did not participate in round 1(a) will run in this round.
  - All cast winners will advance to subsequent rounds in an elimination process until an overall winner is determined. At any point where four dogs or less are remaining in the hunt, the round in which they all four participate together will be considered the final round.
  - Top Ten placements will be determined after the Final Cast has been assembled. Those placements to be determined by non-cast win scores in the round prior to the Final Cast. Second-in-cast scores are considered first, followed by third-in-cast and any dog(s) withdrawn or scratched shall be considered fourth-in-cast and their previous round score be considered, if needed.
  - The winner of the Final Cast will be designated the Degree of World Hunting Beagle Champion (WORLDHBCH).
  - Unbreakable ties in any round of the World Championship will result in one (1) 15-minute overtime by those dogs involved in the tie only, except for the Final Cast as noted below. If after one (1) overtime a tie remains, the following applies:
    - Round 1 – the dogs involved advance to the next round.
    - Subsequent Rounds – Revert to previous round score.
    - Final Cast – Dogs involved will continue to hunt in 15-minute overtime intervals until winner is determined. Unbreakable ties for 3rd and 4th placements will revert to previous round scores opposed to overtime or a coin flip.
  - Final Cast: If there are no plus points at the end of the

Final Cast, dogs will be placed in the order in which they finished or in the order in which they were eliminated. If at any time only one dog remains in the Final Cast, that dog will be considered the winner. If ALL dogs are scratched simultaneously during the first hour of the hunt, all scores will revert to zero and the cast will continue to hunt for one hour. If ALL dogs are scratched simultaneously after the first hour of the hunt, all scores will revert to zero, and dogs will continue to hunt in 15-minute overtime intervals until winner is determined.

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## UKC HUNTING BEAGLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BENCH SHOW RULES

Revised January 1, 2025

The UKC Hunting Beagle World Championship Show will be held at the UKC Hunting Beagle World Championship on a day and time as advertised for the event.

1. **ELIGIBILITY:** Dog must be permanently registered and qualified for the World Championship or have proof of previous Championship hunt wins.
2. Entries are taken on the day of the show, unless otherwise indicated in the event advertisement. Refer to the World Championship event advertisement on UKC's website and other official UKC platforms or publications.
3. The first round of the UKC Hunting Beagle World Championship Show will be conducted under the regular show format, except there will not be a Best of Winners class in the Registered category and the Champion and Grand Champion classes will be separated by sex.
4. The Semi-Final Round will feature the following class winners:
  - a. Best Registered Male, Best Champion Male, Best Grand Champion Male
  - b. Best Registered Female, Best Champion Female, Best Grand Champion Female
5. The Final Round will feature the Best Overall Male and Best Overall Female. The winner of this class will be crowned World Champion and the non-winning dog will be the Opposite Sex.
6. The winner of the UKC Hunting Beagle World Show Championship will have the following designation placed before the dog's name on their Registration Certificate, Pedigree and UKC Easy Entry® Card: WSHOWCH
7. The six category winners in the show (three males and three females) will all receive a win towards their degree.

## Official UKC Licensed Youth Event Rules

Revised January 1, 2022

All UKC policies concerning entering dogs in UKC Licensed Events shall apply to all Youth Events.

1. **HUNT RULES:**

Handler Eligibility:  
Hunt - Two (2) age divisions: 5-12 years old (Junior) 13-17 years old (Senior)
2. Handler may be required to present proof of age to the entry taker. Only one handler per dog allowed. Handler must be enrolled in school or have completed the requirements for graduation from high school.
3. ALL HANDLERS 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDER MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A DESIGNATED ADULT OTHER THAN THOSE OTHER ADULTS IN THE CAST.
4. Dog Eligibility: All United Kennel Club Registered Beagles, including Hunting Beagle Champions and Grand Hunting Beagle Champions, are eligible for running in this event. They will be drawn out together as one class.
5. Format: UKC Hunting Beagle Honor Rules, as they apply in effect for the year the event is run. All dogs are drawn out together regardless of category but are drawn out based on handler age (Junior / Senior) albeit the same hunt. Hunt time period to be a 60-minute event, unless otherwise approved by UKC.
6. Judges: Only adult, non-hunting Judges, 18 years or older, will be used. Children shall not be judged by their parents or members of their immediate family.
7. ASSISTED (JUNIORS) VS NON-ASSISTED (SENIORS):
  - a. Handlers in a Junior cast may be assisted calling their dog by their parent or the designated guardian accompanying them. Otherwise, the parent or guardian may not enter any debates or discussions with the judge, other handlers, or other parents or guardians. Violations may result in the handlers' dog being scratched.
  - b. Handlers in a Senior cast may not be assisted calling their dogs or otherwise. Spectators may not get involved in any scoring debates or discussions. Violations may result in the handlers' dog being scratched.
8. CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: Dog must have a total score of plus points and be a cast winner before being considered for a championship win towards the dogs' degree.
9. EVENT OFFICIAL: There will be a UKC Licensed Master of Hounds or Hunt Director in charge of the event. The host organization will be responsible for obtaining a UKC licensed Master of Hounds or Hunt Director.

## BENCH SHOW RULES

1. Handler Eligibility: Bench Show - One (1) age division: 5-17 years old. Handler may be required to present proof of age to the entry taker. Handler must be enrolled in school or have completed the requirements for graduation from high school.
2. Championship Points: Points or wins are awarded for the Youth Bench Show in the same manner as with all UKC Licensed Bench Shows.
3. Judge: A UKC Licensed Bench Show Judge is required. UKC Beagle Bench Show Rules apply to all licensed Youth Event bench shows.
4. Benches: The height of show benches may be modified to accommodate youth handlers at the club's discretion.
5. No Assistance Permitted: All handlers are required to gait and handle the dog on the bench without assistance.

## MISCONDUCT & DISCIPLINE

For current official UKC Misconduct & Guidelines please reference the official UKC website at [www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com).

Disclaimer: Any UKC Rules and or Policies as written in this rulebook are subject to change. Any such changes will be published and or posted on the UKC website at [www.ukcdogs.com](http://www.ukcdogs.com)



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