

# Professional Kennel Club®

## SQUIRREL HUNT RULES

### 1. DEFINITIONS

- A. **PROFESSIONAL KENNEL CLUB, LLC**, referred to as PKC, will license all events, and keep record of winnings, issue championship degrees, and World Championship qualification. PKC will have no responsibility for accounting for and disbursing of proceeds, appointing judges, or determining winners of events. PKC reserves the right to withhold recognition of winners and may decline to license a club for future events at their sole discretion. PKC reserves the right to appoint a member of PKC management to serve as Hunt Director and/or manage any event it deems necessary.
- B. **SPONSORING CLUB** - A club licensed by PKC to conduct events. The club will have complete authority to conduct events, determine winners and disburse awards. The club will appoint a certified Hunt Director who will have full authority over the event. The club will rule on all questions concerning an event, including rule interpretation.
- C. **HUNT DIRECTOR** - The club will appoint a "PKC Certified Hunt Director" who will have responsibility for selecting judges, guides and conducting events. (See Hunt Director Instructions for further information.) PKC shall have the authority to correct gross errors by Hunt Directors at its' discretion.
- D. **GUIDE** - Will be a responsible person who is an active hunter and is able to keep the cast in the best possible hunting grounds. Person shall be able to guide cast without assistance from another individual. Clubs should provide "hunting guides" if at all possible. If there are not enough hunting guides entered in the event, non-hunting guides will be used. The casting ground should be an area where the cast can compete safely. In major events, where a non-hunting judge is used along with a non-hunting guide, the guide can score a tree plus for a timbering squirrel in a split tree situation.
- E. **JUDGE** - Will be selected by the Hunt Director from the entries he feels are most qualified to conduct the cast. He should have a good knowledge of the sport and the ability to honestly conduct the cast according to PKC rules. If possible, use judges who are not members of the sponsoring club. The Judge will have complete control of the cast and will make all decisions. Any Judge found to have unjustly scored any situation to the benefit of any individual or dog shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- F. **NON-HUNTING JUDGE** - A non-hunting judge may be assigned any cast at the discretion of the Hunt Director. The final cast must be assigned a qualified non-hunting judge. He will be an additional voting member of a cast and will have the same authority as a hunting judge. The judge must be a current PKC member.
- G. **QUESTION PANEL** - After the judge has made his decision, any member of the cast may question it. The remainder of the cast will serve as a Question Panel. Any cast member who will not cast his vote concerning a question may be scratched from the cast. Any question that cannot be resolved by a majority vote of the cast will be brought to the clubhouse and presented to a panel. Any panel required for a question or disciplinary problem will be selected by the Hunt Director. Panel members should be current PKC members. However, the best-qualified personnel available who have no interest in the outcome of the cast should be used even if they are not PKC members.

- H. **NON-HUNTING CAST MEMBER** - A Non-hunting Cast Member may be assigned any cast, including the final cast. He will be an additional voting member of a cast in the event of a question. The additional cast member should be a current PKC member, but it is not required. The cast may be assigned a "Hunting Judge" and/or a "Non-hunting voting cast member".

### 2. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. **Hold Harmless Clause** - By your entry in a PKC event you agree to hold PKC, the Club, Judge, Guide and Hunt Director harmless in the event of accident, error, or misapplication of the rules. Any owner or handler may file a written complaint concerning actions of the sponsoring club. PKC will investigate the complaint and take necessary action, including, but not limited to withholding recognition of winners, and/or refusing to license the club for future events.
- B. **SIZE CATEGORIES** -  
Dogs will hunt in two (2) size categories as follows :  
(1) Up to 35 Lbs  
(2) 35 Lbs and Over

#### **SPECIAL NOTE:**

*In Open Events and Non-Major Events when there is a single dog in a class, the entrant has the option of moving up or down in class in order to compete.*

- C. **HUNTING TIME** - All casts will hunt 90 (ninety) minutes, except in the final cast where a majority of cast members may agree to hunt only one (1) hour. All events with over three (3) casts must hunt 90 (ninety) minutes in the first round to be considered for placement. In all events with three (3) casts or less, individual casts are permitted to hunt 1 (one) hour if all cast members agree. All Sunday events will be one-hour hunts, unless it is a major event.
- D. **TIME KEEPING** - Judges should insure that all time keeping is accurate and that all cast members are informed concerning all time.
- E. **CALL ACKNOWLEDGMENT** - The judge should acknowledge a handler's call by responding the dog's name and number of points received for the call.
- F. **STAYING WITHIN HEARING DISTANCE** - When the dogs are turned loose, the cast is to walk slowly in the direction the guide wishes to hunt. The cast will make every effort to remain within hearing distance of all dogs. If they are unable to keep all dogs within hearing range, the judge may apply the time out rule by majority vote. The cast should stay as close to the dogs as possible at all times.
- G. **CAST SHOULD STAY TOGETHER** - The cast must stay together and all cast members will go to all trees unless dogs are treed in different places. A handler may leave the cast to go to a split tree when time is up or all dogs have been declared treed. Each tree must be scored by a majority of the cast.
- H. **CAST SHOULD GO IN TO TREE TOGETHER** - The cast should go to the tree together to determine if all dogs called treed are treeing. Every effort should be made to allow Judge to reach tree first. Dogs declared treed must be showing tree. (Note: Dogs or dogs declared treed will be allowed to re-check the tree, meaning the dog will be allowed to drop down off of the tree, re-check and then go back to showing tree). A dog will be allowed to recheck the tree within an

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area of ten (10) steps (30 feet) from the tree. A dog called treed must have shown tree, to the satisfaction of the judge or majority of the cast, to be scored on tree.

- I. **NUMBER OF CAST MEMBERS** - All three (3)-cast members must sign scorecard certifying it to be accurate. No handler can be considered for placement in the event if his scorecard has not been certified by at least three (3) signatures. Casts with only two (2) cast members may be certified by only two (2) cast members.
- J. Anytime more than one dog is scratched from a cast at the same time, they will place in the order of their score at the time they were scratched. No dog scratched for fighting may advance as a cast winner.
- K. No dog will be allowed to compete wearing a muzzle during a cast.
- L. **ABUSE OF DOGS** - Abuse of any kind shall not be tolerated while participating in a PKC sanctioned event, inclusive of time outs.

### 3. **SCORING TREE**

- A. Tree points awarded will be:  
1st - 100, 2nd - 50, 3rd - 25.
- B. A dog must bark to be declared treed.
- C. When dogs are declared treed, cast may move at a moderate pace close enough to see dogs working, but not closer than twenty-five (25) steps or seventy-five (75) feet from declared tree. Cast must wait two (2) minutes after dog(s) are declared treed before going to the tree, unless all dogs are declared treed or hunt time expires. Dog(s) will be led away from scored tree for thirty (30) seconds before being recast.
- D. One Minute Rule - One (1) minute after the first dog is called treed, the second tree will be closed. After second tree (50 points) is closed, third tree (25 points) is available for final minute.
- E. After arriving at tree and leashing dogs, five (5) minutes will be allotted to search the tree and other trees within twenty-five (25) steps or seventy-five (75) feet of the tree that squirrel could have "timbered" to. The full five (5) minutes does not have to be used if handlers are in agreement on the scoring. These five (5) minutes will be allotted even if hunt time has expired.
- F. Dogs will be awarded split tree points when dogs are treed more than 25 steps apart from base to base. Plus points will be awarded to dogs that are treed within the 25-step area and squirrel is found in each tree dogs are treed on. Squirrels must be seen in trees dogs are actually treed on for dog to receive split tree points.
- G. Dogs treeing on split trees within the 25 step area will be scored as one tree when only one squirrel is seen in the 25-step area.
- H. Dogs returning to previously scored tree will be led away with no points awarded. If dogs were declared treed on scorecards, delete points.
- I. Dog(s) coming into closed tree shall be tied to prevent interference with treed dog(s).
- J. A dog will be recast after scoring tree unless all dogs are declared treed. Separate trees should never be scored out of order unless all dogs are treed or handled.
- K. Dog(s) treeing "tree game" other than squirrel will be led away with

points deleted. "Tree game" will be defined as follows: any game capable of climbing shall be considered "tree game". Any type of fowl should not be considered as "tree game". If dog(s) were declared treed on scorecard and only large fowl is seen, delete points.

### 4. **QUESTIONS**

- A. Any handler has the right to question the scoring of any dog in the cast. Questions must be placed on the card at the time the dog is scored or should be scored. Questions must be submitted to the remaining cast members and resolved by a majority vote. If a handler is dissatisfied with the majority decision, that decision may be appealed to the Hunt Director to be heard after the cast is finished by placing a deposit of \$25. The deposit must be placed with the Judge in the woods at the time of the question. The deposit will not be refunded later in the cast if the handler changes his mind. However, the handler may choose to drop the question and forfeit the deposit at the end of the cast. Handler may sign an IOU on back of scorecard. If IOU is not paid, handler is automatically suspended from entering other events until question fee is paid. No deposit is required when cast has voted but does not have a majority.
- B. **QUESTION PRESENTATION** - A cast should not return to the clubhouse to have a question heard until hunting time is completed, unless the question pertains to a dog or handler being scratched from the cast.
- C. **PANEL HEARING** - The Hunt Director will assemble a panel of three (3) qualified people to hear the question. If the panel finds in favor of the question, the deposit will be returned and the scorecard changed to reflect the change. If the panel finds against the question, the deposit will be forfeited with half going to the club and half going to PKC. The panel's decision is final and cannot be appealed.

### 5. **DISCIPLINARY REPORTS**

Any handler may be reported to the Hunt Director by another cast member, Judge, Guide, or club member for misconduct. The Hunt Director will send report to PKC with other hunt results. Misconduct report will be handled by PKC. Issue will be investigated and charges may be brought on others involved as well as member charged.

### 6. **HANDLER**

- A. **MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT** - Must be a current member, or guest of PKC and be in good standing. It is the handler's responsibility to know the rules contained herein and agree to abide by them. The handler also agrees to accept and abide by the decision of the Judge and Hunt Director.
- B. **GUEST HUNTERS** - Guest hunters shall be permitted to enter events without PKC membership. However, dogs handled by "guest hunters" will not receive any credit for earnings. Refer to Hunt Director Instructions.
- C. **HANDLER CONDUCT** - A handler must conduct himself as a gentleman and sportsman at all times. A handler becoming loud, aggressive or belligerent may be scratched regardless of the merit of his argument. A handler displaying un-sportsman like conduct or failing to abide by these rules should be reported to the Hunt Director for a disciplinary hearing. The disciplinary committee may fine, place on probation, or suspend any member.

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- D. **HANDLER INTERFERENCE** - Any handler found guilty of interfering with another handler's dog in any way that would affect his ability to compete may be subject to disciplinary action.
- E. **DISCIPLINING OF DOGS** - A handler may not scold, encourage, or punish his dog during the cast.
- F. **HANDLER LEAVING CAST** - A handler may not leave the cast for any reason except to go to his dog on a separate tree after the tree is closed. The Judge may give a handler permission to leave the cast to search for his dog during time-out.
- G. **INSPECTION OF SCORECARD** - A handler may inspect the scorecard at any time, provided Judge is not in the process of scoring dogs.
- H. **SPECTATOR PARTICIPATION** - The local club may decide and announce if spectators will be allowed on casts, if agreeable with cast members. Handler shall be responsible for the conduct of spectators accompanying them on casts.
- I. **SCORECARD CERTIFICATION** - Each Handler is responsible for the honesty of the scorecard and will sign the scorecard certifying it upon completion of the cast. Any handler who feels the scorecard is not accurate should make note of the reasons in the appropriate place on the back of the card and sign his comments. Very Important: Handler must notify Hunt Director of the circumstances leading him to sign in gray area. Hunt Director may sign certifying card for any handler signing gray area that does not give a reason to the Hunt Director. A member who believes that the scoring of a cast is drastically wrong and cannot be corrected by bringing a question must inform cast at the time of the scoring of his intention to sign in the gray to disqualify the cast. If the cast is completed, any other handler may question the disqualification. Hunt Director panel will hear reason for disqualification and may reinstate cast if handler did not have a justifiable reason. PKC reserves the right to review any scorecard submitted with signature(s) in the gray area for possible misconduct charges against any and/or all members of the cast.
- J. **REMAINING WITH CAST** - Each handler shall be required to remain with the cast for the entire hunt even though his dog may no longer be a part of the cast, unless all remaining handlers agree to his leaving, or he will be subject to disciplinary charges.
- K. **SIGNATURE REQUIREMENT** - Any cast considered for placement in an event must have the signature of all cast members certifying it to be accurate. All casts must be completed with at least three (2) members to certify the scorecard. (refer to Rule # 6-J) The Hunt Director may sign the card on behalf of a handler if a question is brought before Hunt Director. Hunt Director may also sign on behalf of any handler who has not signed a scorecard due to negligence.
- L. **SIGNING FRAUDULENT SCORECARD** - Any handler found to have signed a fraudulent scorecard may be suspended from all PKC activities and barred for life from registering dogs.
- M. **UNDESERVED CREDIT** - Anyone found guilty of accepting credit for a different amount than he actually earned in a PKC event may be subject to disciplinary action.
- N. **INTENTIONAL MISHANDLING** - A handler must compete to the best of his and his dog's ability. Any handler intentionally handling his dog in such a way as to allow another dog or handler to win may be subject to disciplinary action.

### 7. DOGS

- A. Any dog entered should be trained so as not to hinder other dogs in the cast.
- B. The dog must be PKC registered in the true owner's name. All awards will be presented to the registered owner of the dog.
- C. Anyone guilty of falsely registering or falsely entering any dog with wrong papers may be scratched, fined, and/or placed on suspension and/or probation.
- D. The handler must allow his dog to be examined by a veterinarian, if requested, or be permanently suspended.
- E. A dog may wear a tracking collar during the hunt. It can be used during any time out to return the dog to the cast. A dog may also wear an electronic training collar or dummy collar.

### 8. POINT SYSTEM

- A. **TREE POINTS**: 100 points for the dog treed first, 50 points second, and 25 points third.
- B. A dog must bark to be declared treed, and must be showing tree to the satisfaction of the Judge to get scored.
- C. **POINTS RECEIVED FOR TREE CALL** - One (1) minute after the first dog is called treed; the second tree will be closed. All dogs treed after one (1) minute will receive 25 points. After two (2) minutes the tree will be closed.
- D. **TREED ON CLOSED TREE** - Any dog declared treed after a tree is closed must receive 100 points. If the dog is actually treeing on closed tree, tree points will be deleted.
- E. **SEPARATE TREE** - The Handler should not call treed for a separate tree. The Judge should award separate tree points as soon as he is sure the dog (s) is/are on separate tree.
- F. **MOVEMENT ON TREE** - Judges will pay careful attention to the location of dogs called treed to be sure the dogs do not move. If in doubt as to whether or not the dog is moving, it is best to hold the cast in place to watch for movement.
- G. **COMING INTO SCORED TREE** - Any dog coming into a tree that is being scored will be handled.

### 9. POINTS WILL BE PLUS

- A. When a dog trees, and a squirrel (excluding flying and ground squirrels) is seen by a majority of the cast. In major events a tree will be scored plus when a non-hunting judge sees the squirrel. On split trees, where a non-hunting guide is utilized, the non-hunting guide can score a tree plus for a timbering squirrel. Guide and Cast Member are to wait for the rest of the cast at the tree.
- B. Dog(s) declared treed may receive plus points for a "timbering" squirrel or a squirrel on the ground only if squirrel is seen.
- C. When squirrel is seen in declared tree or in a tree the squirrel may have "timbered" to within twenty-five (25) steps or seventy-five (75) feet of the declared tree.
- D. Upon arrival at the tree the judge will determine what dogs are showing tree and what dogs are not and score them accordingly.

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- E. If squirrel is caught and dog(s) were not declared treed, no points will be awarded.
- F. No scoring of a mass in a tree, a dark spot or whatever "appears" to be a squirrel. It must be certain that a squirrel has been seen in order to receive plus points.

### 10. POINTS WILL BE MINUS

- A. **EMPTY TREE** - When dogs tree and the cast can plainly see that no squirrel is there, and there is no possibility that a squirrel may have "timbered" or have gone to a hole within 25 (twenty-five) steps of the declared tree.
- B. **LEAVING TREE** - When a dog(s) has been declared treed and the dog(s) leaves the tree.
- C. **NINETY SECOND RULE** - After a dog is declared treed, at least one of the dogs declared treed must bark at least once every ninety (90) second on the tree or be minused.
- D. **CALLING A DOG THAT HAS NOT OPENED** - When any handler trees his dog that has not barked or trees another handler's dog, the Judge will award points called and minus them.

### 11. CIRCLE POINTS

- A. Points will be circled when a dog trees up a tree where there could be a squirrel, every effort should be made to score a dog.
- B. If it is obvious that dogs are following a "timbering" squirrel by their actions (running along and looking up trees) and end up treed in den or large tree, and squirrel is not seen, circle points will be awarded if the other dogs were declared treed.
- C. When dogs tree in a place of refuge, other than a tree, points will be deleted if no game is seen.

### 12. POINTS WILL BE DELETED

- A. When dogs return to a tree previously scored on.
- B. If time out must be called.
- C. When the judge orders dogs to be called off because of livestock or nearness of a highway, buildings, etc.
- D. **Treeding on Dead Tree** - When dog is called treed after a tree is closed, he will receive 100 points. The points will be deleted if he is in fact treed on a dead tree. Other dogs treed with same dog will receive the next available position on the tree.
- E. **Dangerous Obstacle** - When dogs are treed across deep water or other dangerous obstacle, after all efforts to reach dogs have been exhausted and the cast cannot reach dogs, all points should be deleted and the time out rule applied. (Under no circumstances should any cast member attempt to cross water deep enough to require swimming).
- F. When dogs tree in a hole in the ground or a place of refuge and no game is seen, points will be deleted.

### 13. DOGS WILL BE SCRATCHED

Dogs or handlers will be scratched for interfering with another dog or handler's ability to compete. Dogs or handlers should be scratched as a last resort. Every effort should be made to allow dogs and handlers to compete. Reasons to scratch are as follows:

- A. If dog fails to hunt for fifteen (15) consecutive minutes. Dogs failing to go hunting during any fifteen (15) minute period of hunting time will be scratched. The handler has the right to walk dog in the direction the guide wishes to hunt. A dog must be actively hunting game for a period of five minutes to break the fifteen (15) minute rule, unless hunting time expires.
- B. If dog interferes with other dogs by growling, face barking, fighting, smelling females, males riding other dogs, or any other way. For fighting on first offense or additional offense if problem continues.
- C. If seen by non-hunting judge or majority of cast, chasing domestic animals or livestock.
- D. Running "non-tree game" on second offense, when seen by non-hunting judge or majority of cast.
- E. If dog trees continually for five (5) minutes and is not called by handler, on second offense.
- F. When handler calls his dog that has not opened or calls another handler's dog, on second offense.
- G. If dog becomes lost or delays cast for more than 1 hour, when time-out is called.
- H. If handler encourages, discourages, or abuses dog.
- I. If handler shows un-sportsman like conduct or uses excessive profanity.
- J. If handler is under the influence of alcohol or un-prescribed drugs. Abusive manners are not to be tolerated.
- K. Any handler caught using a "locating device" other than during time-out or when hunt is over.
- L. Any dog that continuously opens on trail for a period of three (3) minutes will be warned on first offense and scratched on second offense, unless called treed by handler. This rule is not intended to be used on the dog that occasionally barks on the ground throughout the duration of the cast.
- M. If scorecard is returned after the deadline.
- N. For going back to the same tree and handled three times on the same tree.
- O. Any dog that has been scratched for fighting three (3) times in a twelve (12) month period will be barred from ANY PKC competition events for a period of not less than one (1) year from the last offense.
- P. Any dog that continues to bark (babble) to the point of interfering with the work of other dogs will be scratched on the second offense. This is not intended to include the dog that comes off of the chain and barks a few times nor is it to include the dog that barks occasionally on track. Refer to rule 13L.

#### **SPECIAL NOTE:**

**Any dog scratched for fighting more than twice in any competition year will be suspended from participating in any PKC sanctioned squirrel hunt for a minimum of one (1) year.**

### 14. TIME-OUT

- A. Time out may be called by non-hunting judge or by the majority of the cast when dog(s) or cast members are in danger, when interference occurs, or it is required to move in order to finish the hunt.

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- B. A time out may be requested by the handler of a lost dog. If this occurs, other handlers should be cooperative and leash their dogs at the first opportunity; when they come by hunting or at the next tree, etc.
- C. A time out for a lost dog will be no more than 1 hour. If handler and lost dog have not returned to the cast within the 1-hour limit, dog(s) will be scratched.
- D. No score can be achieved during a time out.
- E. A called time-out will apply to all dogs in the cast.
- F. A time-out will not be used to search a tree.
- G. In case of accident or sickness.

### 15. TIES

All ties are to be broken for a cast winner. The proper procedure to break a tie is as follows:

- A. The dog with the most plus first trees.
- B. The dog with the most plus second trees.
- C. The dog with the most circle first trees.
- D. The dog with the most circle second trees.
- E. The dog with the least amount of minus.
- F. If still a tie then the dogs will continue to hunt until a dog is called treed or a dog is scratched or withdrawn. The tree score will determine the winner. At this point tied handlers may elect to split awards.

### 16. ENTRY REFUSAL

PKC or a sponsoring club has the right to refuse entry to any dog or handler. However, no handler will be barred on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, sex, or physical impairment. Any handler denied entry must be given a hearing if it is requested in writing before entry is refused.

### 17. CAST WINNERS

- A. The **FINAL SCORE** is determined by subtracting all minus points from all plus points. All circle points count as zero as a final score.
- B. **NO TREE POINTS** - A dog who has no tree points (circle or plus) cannot place over a dog who has treed and has received circle or plus points on tree, regardless of final score.

### 18. ORDER OF PLACEMENT

After determining the final score, the order of placement is (This pertains to placing in a cast or cast winners placing in the final three.)

- 1. **MOST PLUS POINTS**: If more than one dog has the same amount of plus points as a final score, see tie breaking rules.
- 2. **TOTAL SCORE OF ZERO**: All circle points count as zero final score. If more than one dog has a final score of zero (no plus and no minus), see tie-breaking rules.
- 3. **LEAST MINUS POINTS**:  
(Example: Dog A has 200 circle points and will have a final score of zero. Dog B has 400 circle points and 25 minus and will have a final score of 25 minus. Dog C has 200 plus, 300 circle and 275 minus for a total score of 75 minus. Dogs will place: first - dog A with 0, second - dog B with 25 minus and third - dog C with 75 minus)

- 4. In any Open Event of nine (9) entries or less any awards normally due any disqualified cast may be disbursed at the clubs discretion. However under no circumstances may awards from disqualified cast be added to other places.

### 19. OPEN EVENTS

A deadline will be announced for cast winners to be back to the clubhouse. Winners will be the top three (3) cast winners whose scorecard is back at the deadline. The final three dogs will be placed on a scorecard. Any dog not on the grounds to answer roll call will be scratched from the final cast and will receive last place. The scorecard is considered back if it is on the club grounds at the deadline. The top three (3) cast winners will recast to determine first through third places. If all winning handlers agree, they may be allowed to divide all awards equally instead of competing in the final cast. (Note: In \$10 Open Events, awards will be split unless all handlers agree to hunt. In Open Events with nine (9) or less entries, PKC awards and added purse monies (if any) will be split equally by all final cast members, unless all handlers agree to hunt. In an Open Event with ten (10) or more entries, one (1) handler may request to hunt the final cast. If agreeable with a majority of the cast members, a final cast may also be allowed to compete for only one (1) hour instead of 90 (ninety) minutes; however, should cast members decide to hunt, agreed upon hunting time must be completed in its' entirety, unless all cast members receive an equal share of the awards, unless a cast winner is determined prior to the end of the hunt by scratches or withdraws. Any handler competing in a guest status may be denied a vote concerning recasting. The Hunt Director will have the authority to set a time deadline for the final cast to be finished. The winner will be the dog winning the cast at the deadline. In case of a tie that cannot be broken, the money will be split for tied positions. Under no circumstances may the second or third place dog in a first round cast receive any credit for winning.

### 20. DRAWING OF CASTS

It is very important that all Judges, Guides, and Handlers draw for their cast. (See cast drawing instructions in Hunt Director Instructions.) Any person who owns more than one dog entered in an event may request a separate draw provided PKC registration papers and in order and are presented to the Hunt Director to prove ownership. Any member 50 years of age or older may be permitted to draw a separate cast at Open Events large enough to accommodate a "Senior Citizens Cast". (Must be three or more participants.) Hunt Director may use his discretion when implementing this policy.

### 21. GOOD JUDGEMENT RULE

These rules are written and intended to identify and reward the dog that hunts and trees a squirrel and stays until his handler comes. At times it will be necessary to use good judgment rather than a literal interpretation of these rules toward this end. It is within the scope of these rules for the Judge and/or Master of Hounds to rule on a situation not specifically covered in detail by the rules.

**USE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR UNPRESCRIBED DRUGS SHALL NOT BE PERMITTED ON THE GROUNDS OF, OR WHILE PARTICIPATING IN, A PKC SANCTIONED EVENT. ANYONE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL OR UNPRESCRIBED DRUGS WILL BE REFUSED ENTRY.**