

REMODELING THE NITE HUNT HONOR RULES

Todd Kellam

Can you imagine how nervous I was when I made a suggestion three years ago to the UKC chartered coonhound breed associations that we re-write the UKC nite hunt rules? I mean, that's like tampering with the Holy Grail of our sport! Who messes with something that has been as successful as the UKC Nite Hunt Honor Rules? I was simply asking for their blessing and support in allowing the UKC staff to modernize and re-organize a set of rules which hadn't seen a complete update in more than 50 years.

I'm sure all of you have seen these small, older farmhouses that have been added onto over and over again. Though still functional, they can often end up being a cobble-d-up mess. While that may be kind of strong wording to describe the current state of the nite hunt rules, they would certainly benefit from being torn down and rebuilt. But doing so without changing the intent of any of the rules would be no small challenge.

Three years ago this project was approved by the coonhound breed associations. Three years would certainly be enough time to get that project done. Do you remember what happened when given an assignment in school or chores around the house and an ample deadline? When did you eventually start working on it? Correct; some things never change! Allen Gingerich, Paul Frederick and myself finally started working on this project about the first of July this year. We had to actually schedule a weekly meeting to make sure we committed time to get it done! We did get it done, and we did present it to the breed associations at Autumn Oaks and I was even more nervous than I was three years ago when we were simply thinking about doing it.

I can tell you that I now consider this rules re-organization one of the most gratifying projects I've worked on over the years. It sure has been a relief to learn that every hunter who has had a chance to look it over up to this point feels like it is a big improvement. No, it's not as profound as sending a man to the moon, but for a bunch of old country boys, I think Allen, Paul and myself hit a home run with this project. We hope you agree.

I am going to offer below in list form some of the major changes you will first notice. Please, before forming an opinion or heading to a UKC Licensed Nite Hunt, read the new version of the rules in their entirety, as space here does not permit an explanation of all changes.

- The word count for the nite hunt honor rules was reduced from approximately 4,100 words to approximately 3,300 words.
- Rules containing changes from the most recent rule change session will no longer be indicated with an asterisk. Rule changes will be identified and discussed at length in the Coonhound Advisor column and may also be included on the MOH/HD checklist. Instead, an asterisk will be used

to indicate that a definition pertaining to a rule can be found at the end of the nite hunt rules.

- All rules broken out into bullet points to make individual rules easier to find.

- We incorporated those items previously found in policy boxes at the end of the rules into the appropriate portion of the rules.

- **Rule 1** was made into a category specifically for deadlines. We moved portions of the previous Rule 1 into the rulebook under the Club Officer's Guidelines For Conducting Events because they did not deal specifically with a nite hunt cast.

- We moved the previous **Rule 7** (Non-Working Dog Rule) into Rule 2 (Point System) because it deals with the fact that points will be open to other dogs after one hour of hunting time has elapsed.

- We removed from **Rule 3** the clarification that only one tree is counted even if more than one coon is up tree because that is common sense and unnecessary wordage.

- We took the clarification that coon must be seen during shining time out of previous **Rule 8** (Time Out) and included it in Rule 3 (Points Will Be Plus).

- **Rule 4** (Points Will Be Minus) was divided into subsections for strike, tree and other for a more logical order and quicker reference.

- **Previous Rule 4(e):** "When dog quits trail that is being worked..." becomes Rules 2(d), 4(a) and 4(b) because it was one rule that dealt with many different situations.

- **Previous Rule 6** (Dogs Will Be Scratched) has been renamed "Scratching Offenses" and has been categorized into subsections "Dog Violations" and "Handler Violations" for quicker reference.

- All items found throughout the old rules that were previously referred to as "Implied Scratches" have been moved to Rule 6 (Scratching Offenses).

- Definitions of terms found throughout the rules have been categorized and moved to the end of the rules to rather than repeating the definition from rule to rule.

- We removed the phone-use scratch from **Rule 6** as it becomes a UKC policy situation in which communicating scores is considered event related misconduct and dealt with through misconduct procedures. Removing phone use from Rule 6 **will** permit use of time keeping cell phone applications.

- We moved the 10-minute shining time allotment out of previous **Rule 8** and into Rule 11 (Scoring Dogs; After Arriving At Tree).

- We removed from what was previously **Rule 9** and previous **Rule 17** the clarification that handlers must inform Judges of a dog's peculiarities in order to prevent a dog from being minused in the event it comes a short distance off tree to greet handler.

- **Previous Rule 17** (General Information) becomes Rule 11 (Scoring Dogs) and is broken out into subsections (a) Prior To Arriving At Tree, (b) After Arriving At Tree, and (c) Split Trees, for quicker reference.

Competition: Remodeling the Nite Hunt Honor Rules

FOLD
FOLD

UNITED KENNEL CLUB SCORECARD


Cast No. _____ Judge _____
 Guide _____ Club _____
 UKC License No. _____ Date _____
 Return Deadline: _____ Time Received: _____

SPLIT POINTS

STRIKE:
 $1 + 2 = 87\frac{1}{2}$
 $1 + 2 + 3 = 75$
 $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 = 62\frac{1}{2}$
 $2 + 3 = 62\frac{1}{2}$
 $2 + 3 + 4 = 50$
 $3 + 4 = 37\frac{1}{2}$

TREE:
 $1 + 2 = 100$
 $1 + 2 + 3 = 83\frac{1}{2}$
 $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 = 68\frac{1}{2}$
 $2 + 3 = 62\frac{1}{2}$
 $2 + 3 + 4 = 50$
 $3 + 4 = 37\frac{1}{2}$

This space provided for time-keeping notes.



2013 UKC World Coonhound Championship Winner
 WLDNTECH GR NITE CH PR Main Street John The Baptist, owned
 by Kerry Rooks of Fort Valley, Georgia, handled by Randy Leonard.

Judge's Signature _____
 Coon Seen _____ Coon Scored _____
 County Hunted _____

To be completed if handler leaves cast.

		STRIKE	TREE	+POINTS	-POINTS	SCORE	TOTAL SCORE/SIGNATURE	
Dog A	1. REGISTERED <input type="checkbox"/> 2. CHAMPION <input type="checkbox"/> 3. GRAND <input type="checkbox"/> DOG _____ BREED _____ AGE _____ SEX _____ UKC # _____ OWNER _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ HANDLER _____ HANDLER'S PHONE # _____	1.					Dog A Total Score	HUNT TIME USED _____ SCORES A. _____ B. _____ C. _____ D. _____ INITIALS _____
	2.							
	3.							
	4.							
	5.							
	6.							
	7.							
						Handler's Signature _____		
Dog B	1. REGISTERED <input type="checkbox"/> 2. CHAMPION <input type="checkbox"/> 3. GRAND <input type="checkbox"/> DOG _____ BREED _____ AGE _____ SEX _____ UKC # _____ OWNER _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ HANDLER _____ HANDLER'S PHONE # _____	1.					Dog B Total Score	HUNT TIME USED _____ SCORES A. _____ B. _____ C. _____ D. _____ INITIALS _____
	2.							
	3.							
	4.							
	5.							
	6.							
	7.							
						Handler's Signature _____		
Dog C	1. REGISTERED <input type="checkbox"/> 2. CHAMPION <input type="checkbox"/> 3. GRAND <input type="checkbox"/> DOG _____ BREED _____ AGE _____ SEX _____ UKC # _____ OWNER _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ HANDLER _____ HANDLER'S PHONE # _____	1.					Dog C Total Score	HUNT TIME USED _____ SCORES A. _____ B. _____ C. _____ D. _____ INITIALS _____
	2.							
	3.							
	4.							
	5.							
	6.							
	7.							
						Handler's Signature _____		
Dog D	1. REGISTERED <input type="checkbox"/> 2. CHAMPION <input type="checkbox"/> 3. GRAND <input type="checkbox"/> DOG _____ BREED _____ AGE _____ SEX _____ UKC # _____ OWNER _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ HANDLER _____ HANDLER'S PHONE # _____	1.					Dog D Total Score	HUNT TIME USED _____ SCORES A. _____ B. _____ C. _____ D. _____ INITIALS _____
	2.							
	3.							
	4.							
	5.							
	6.							
	7.							
						Handler's Signature _____		

- The wordage "A scorecard may be signed still with the right of protest" was removed from **Rule 13** (Scorecards) as it is unnecessary wordage due to the last rule change session which allowed for scorecards to be signed in front of MOH/HD.
- We removed from **Rule 13** the stipulation that required clubs to keep their scorecards on file for one year to be made available to UKC and participants. This policy was unnecessary wordage for the scorecard and has been moved to the Club Officer's Guidelines for conducting events in the Coonhound Rulebook.
- All references to Formal Complaints have been removed. The Formal Complaint process has been revised.

The Scorecard

Quite honestly, that was all we intended to do, but it's

like any other re-modeling project, the deeper you get into it; the harder it is to stop! A question came up concerning the front of the scorecard. Was it perfect? Could we make changes to make it more user-friendly?

1. REGISTERED ☐ 2. CHAMPION ☐ 3. GRAND ☐
 DOG _____
 BREED _____ AGE _____ SEX _____ UKC # _____
 OWNER _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____
 HANDLER _____
 HANDLER'S PHONE # _____

The newly-designed sticky.

Competition: Remodeling the Nite Hunt Honor Rules

OFFICIAL NITE HUNT HONOR RULES

Effective January 1, 2014

*** Indicates a definition found at the end of the Nite Hunt Honor Rules**
In addition to the rules on the scorecard, the Official UKC Coonhound Rulebook and the most recent Coonhound Advisor columns in COONHOUND BLOODLINES contain additional 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 in its sole judgment and discretion.

All hunters, judges and/or guides must be drawn publicly for their cast. Owners having multiple entries will have dogs drawn to separate casts if possible. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages, firearms or illegal drugs will be allowed on the grounds or while participating in a UKC licensed event, or in the buildings the day of a UKC licensed event. Participants 13 years of age and under entering a nite hunt must be accompanied by an adult other than the cast members they draw.

1. DEADLINES

All deadlines must be strictly followed; no exceptions.

- a) No entries will be accepted after the UKC listed entry deadline.
- b) No scorecards will be accepted after the posted deadline to return scorecards.
- c) Deadline may only be extended if one handler is required to go to MOH/HD for a non-hunting judge to finish cast.
- d) An Appeal must be requested and filed immediately following the panel's ruling, while panel is still assembled.

2. POINT SYSTEM

- (a) 100 points for dog that opens first; 75 points second; 50 points third; 25 points fourth.
- (b) 125 points for dog declared treed first; 75 points second; 50 points third; 25 points fourth.
- (c) If a dog holds his strike position for one hour, all strike positions will be open to other dogs.
- d) If a dog is turned in on a trail that is being worked, it gets the next available position. A dog cannot be struck in over a position that is being held (except 2(c)). Multiple dogs may occupy fourth position. Once a position has been scored it becomes available again.
- (e) Points may be split for position when call positions cannot be determined.

3. POINTS WILL BE PLUS

- (a) When dogs strike and tree and coon is seen during shining time only:
 - (1) by a non-hunting judge; or
 - (2) by a majority of the cast when hunting judge is used.
- (b) When dog is declared struck and treed and coon is seen other than in tree, dog declared treed to receive strike and tree points. Dogs not declared treed, strike points only.
- (c) If dog catches coon, strike points only.
- (d) One set of strike points in case of split tree, and each will be counted as separate trees for tree points.
- (e) Dog(s) that are shut out* must still be declared struck. They are eligible for tree points if they are declared treed within five minutes. If they are at tree shut out on when judge arrives, strike points are deleted. For all other situations they are accountable for their strike points.

4. POINTS WILL BE MINUS

- Strike Minus:**
 - (a) When a dog quits a trail that is being worked and comes in. Exception: 5(b)
 - (b) If none of the declared struck dogs open within 8 minutes.
 - (c) Dog(s) declared struck and determined to be babbling*.
- (d) First offense failure to strike a dog on or before the third bark, after the first minute each time dog(s) is released will result in those points being awarded and minused.
- (e) For calling dogs off trail.
- (f) If dog declared treed, after five minutes has elapsed no additional dog can be declared treed at that particular tree but if they come in to tree will get minus on track and nothing on tree if coon is seen.

Tree Minus:

- (g) When dogs tree and (1) a non-hunting judge or (2) a majority of the cast when hunting judge is used, can plainly see no coon strike and tree points are minused.
- (h) After a dog is declared treed, at least one of the dogs declared treed must bark at least once every two minutes until cast arrives at the tree, or all dogs declared treed at that tree will be minused and the tree will be open again.
- (i) When a dog that is declared treed leaves that tree the dogs tree points are minused. If dog returns to tree within five minutes he will receive the next available position on tree, unless all dogs have been declared treed.
- (j) If dog declared treed, after five minutes has elapsed no additional dog can be declared treed at that particular tree but if they come in to tree will get minus on track and nothing on tree if coon is seen.
- (k) Dogs treed but not declared treed, when judge arrives, will be minused on tree points on "off" game or slick tree. Points will be determined by next available position in the case of one dog, or split available tree points in the case of two or more dogs. Dogs shut-out* on strike on slick tree or "off" game will receive minus tree points only.
- (l) Any dogs declared treed after five minutes expires and tree is closed; call will be accepted as a split tree. If dog is on closed tree when judge arrives, strike and tree points are scored as if it had left a split tree and moved to closed tree.

Other:

- (m) In First Category for running, treeing or molesting off game.
- (n) Registered offense if a handler calls the wrong dog, the judge will award points called and minus them.

5. CIRCLED AND DELETED POINTS

Circle points:

- (a) When dog strikes and trees on a tree or a hole in the ground where there could be a coon, yet judge does not see coon and no off game is seen. NOTE: In case of running coon in a hole or place of refuge other than a tree, handler may call dog treed. However, if not called treed, cast may proceed to general area, and track can be considered finished if dogs, by actions either tree barking or otherwise, show to the satisfaction of the judge, coon to be there. One dog must show end of trail. For dogs declared treed in a hole or tile, see Rule 3(b) or 4(g), if applicable.
- (b) No dog to receive minus points for coming into tree after judge arrives unless a coon is seen and the dogs treed are awarded plus points.
- (c) If half the cast votes to plus and half the cast votes to minus or circle a tree.

Delete points:

- (a) If half the cast votes to circle and half the cast votes to minus a tree.
- (b) If dogs are trailing when time is out.
- (c) If judge has to call time out in accordance with Rule 7.
- (d) When dog trees on a tree or coon previously scored. (Cast may go to tree without dogs being declared treed, if majority of cast agree, when hunting judge is used.)
- (e) When that is shut out* comes into tree shut out on. Refer to 3(e).

6. SCRATCHING OFFENSES

Dog Related Offense:

- (a) If a dog has accumulated a total of 400 minus.
- (b) For fighting or attempting to fight* during the authority of the judge. When the aggressive dog is known, scratch the aggressor only. If not known, scratch dogs involved. Withdrawing to avoid dog being reported for fighting is not permitted.
- (c) Failing to make an attempt to hunt within any 15 consecutive scored minutes.
- (d) Bitches smelling strong enough to attract dogs, or a dog that is just bad to bother* other dogs
- (e) If dog is continuously silent on trail.

- (f) For delaying completion of cast for one hour after time out is called during the hunt in accordance with Rule 7.
- (g) In Nite Champion and Grand Nite Champion casts, for running, treeing or molesting off game during shining time including any time out periods prior to the expiration of shining time. Exception: 5(b).

Handler Related Offense:

- (a) For hunting over or under the advertised hunt time.
- (b) On second offense if handler fails to strike his dog on or before the third bark, after the first minute, each time dog(s) is released.
- (c) On second offense if handler calls another handler's dog.
- (d) For use of any device used to control dog prior to cast completing hunt time.
- (e) If handler holds at or physically abuses the dog.
- (f) If handler fails to return to MOH/HD after cast becomes separated. Time period allotted is determined by MOH/HD.
- (g) If handler fails to declare treed a dog obviously treed (Judge's decision) for a period of five minutes. Dog may be declared treed while five is running but not after the five has expired. Judge must verify dog to be at a tree before it can be scratched. If the cast is in the process of shining a separate tree time shall be cancelled or not applied to another dog.
- (h) For climbing or cutting trees or disturbing a place of refuge.
- (i) For intentionally killing coon or other game.
- (j) For searching tree before the start of shining time.
- (k) For failure to stay with the cast unless given permission to leave.
- (l) For encouraging, discouraging or physically abusing a dog. Praising a handler dog is not considered encouraging.
- (m) For scuffling, tapping on trees, pulling vines, or any action deemed to be interfering with dog(s) during the first seven minutes of shining time unless all dogs declared struck are handled.
- (n) For use of scoring aids other than light or mechanical squallers.
- (o) If handler's dog will be scratched for rule violations by their spectators.
- (p) If handler displays Unsportsmanlike Conduct* towards any individual on club grounds or during the hunt.
- (q) If scorecard lacks initials and/or point values in strike and tree columns, dog(s) affected will be scratched.

7. TIME OUTS

- (a) Judge or majority of cast if hunting judge is used, may call time out in accordance with the following:
 - (i) When dogs are getting on highway, trail onto posted land or trail into a place where there is danger to dogs or hunters.
 - (ii) If dogs get with another group of dogs.
 - (iii) When dogs are on leash and have been scored.
 - (iv) In case of accident or sickness.
 - (v) When dog(s) are trailing out of hearing in different directions.
 - (vi) If all dogs are declared treed or are on leash time out shall be called after 10 minutes of hunt time has been used walking to each split tree. Time is back in during shining time or if dog leaves tree.

8. HANDLERS

- (a) It is the handler's responsibility to tell judge when dog opens and when dog trees.
- (b) It is the handler's responsibility to check their score before signing scorecard.
- (c) If dog is scratched or handler withdraws, it is the handler's responsibility to record hunt time used and other dogs' scores in the left margin of the scorecard.
- (d) Any handler unable to complete hunt must pick up his dog, or judge to give permission for another handler to complete hunt.
- (e) If only one handler remains, handler must return to MOH/HD for a non-hunting judge.

9. JUDGES

- Judges are picked by the sponsors because they believe them to be honest and capable of keeping score just as it is given to them by handlers. They will show no favors to any dog or hunter and will inform handlers of score and time recorded, if requested.
- (a) 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 MOH/HD.
- (b) Club will have the option of hunting or non-hunting judges on all casts for each decision. A non-hunting judge may be assigned to any cast at the discretion of MOH/HD and/or club officials.
- (c) Judge must maintain pace attainable by all members of cast.
- (d) Judge will be first to arrive at tree.
- (e) If hunting judge scratches his dog he can continue to judge the cast as a hunting judge or pass the card to another member of the cast. Remaining handlers, though scratched, retain all voting privileges.

10. SPECTATORS

- (a) Two spectators per handler will be allowed on all casts.
- (b) Spectators may not strike tree unless all handlers in cast agree. Decision shall be made at start of hunt and applies for duration of hunt time.
- (c) Spectators may not be included in the majority required to score trees or enter discussions pertaining to the scoring of dogs.
- (d) Spectators are otherwise held to the same rules and levels of conduct as handlers.

11. SCORING DOGS

- Prior to Arriving At Tree.** Scorecards to be carried by judge (or non-hunting scorekeeper if all cast members agree) and must be scored in plain view of all. Dog must open before being declared struck or treed. Dog must hold the tree for five minutes, unless all dogs in cast are declared treed or hunting time has expired. The dog in cast, or one dog remaining in cast, dog must hold tree for five minutes. Dogs declared treed within hunting time are eligible for scoring. If at all possible be at the tree within five (5) minutes. If handlers are so far from tree that it will take more than five minutes to get to tree, they are to start walking toward tree, but stopping periodically to let other handlers see if their dog is treed. Judge is not to let any handler keep holding him away from tree just to let dog get to tree after five minutes are up.

- After Arriving At Tree.** After five minutes, first dog's tree may be scored. Dog should not be minused tree points if he comes back a short distance to meet handler if dog goes back in and trees satisfactorily. Dogs at tree must be leashed. Ten minutes of hunting time may be used to shine trees. Individual holding first tree controls shining of tree for first two minutes. Upon being scored, dog(s) must be turned loose with other dogs that are opening on trail to compete for next available strike points. However, if dog(s) are already treed, handlers have the option to hold onto or release dog(s) so long as at least one dog is not declared treed.

- Split Trees.** Where dogs split up, judge will go with handler to the dog that trees first. If a split tree is obvious (Judge's decision), split tree will be assigned. Separate time must be kept on each tree unless all dogs are declared treed. Judge shall give handler permission to handle dog on split tree unless cast is in process of shining a tree. After the split dog is handled, handler to return to cast. If all dogs are declared treed and handled, cast may score trees in most convenient order. Otherwise, trees must be scored in the order dogs were declared treed.

12. MASTER OF HOUNDS (MOH)/HUNT DIRECTOR (HD)

- (a) Scoring changes can only be made by the MOH or panel.
- (b) Math errors shall be corrected by MOH/HD.
- (c) MOH/HD must be at the headquarters at all times.
- (d) MOH/HD will keep all scorecards confidential until hunt deadline or all scorecards are in their possession.

13. SCORECARDS

- (a) Scorecards must be completed in the woods, and no changes can be made later except when a question arises and is noted in the woods.
- (b) Handler's signature verifies hunting time and scores are correct. Any protest relative to time or scores should be noted with a question mark.
- (c) Any handler failing to sign the scorecard in the woods may have the opportunity to sign upon returning the scorecard to, and in view of, the MOH/HD.
- (d) All scorecards must be made available after the deadline to return scorecards or when all scorecards are in possession of the MOH/HD.

14. WINNERS

- To be eligible for placement a dog must have a total score of plus points, and be a cast winner.

15. TIES

- All ties to be broken for placement by comparing scores in the following order:
 - (a) Dog that has the least number of minus points.
 - (b) If still a tie, dog that has the most plus tree points.
 - (c) If still a tie, dog that has the most plus strike points.
 - (d) If still a tie, dog that has the most circled tree points.
 - (e) If still a tie, dog that has the most circled strike points.
 - (f) If still a tie, dogs involved will hunt in one-hour intervals until tie is broken, or flip a coin if all parties agree.

16. QUESTIONS, PANELS, APPEALS, & MISCONDUCT

Questioning a Judge

- (a) Non-Hunting Judge Cast.** 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. Situations not questioned and notified at the time Judge's decision is made, will not be considered.

- 1. The Hunting Judge has complete authority and will be responsible for scoring all situations.
- 2. 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.
- 3. 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 card and present his question to the MOH/panel.

Panel

- 1. In order to form a panel a \$10 Panel Fee must be paid before the question is heard.
- (a) When using a Master of Hounds, a panel may be formed if a handler/owner is not satisfied with the MOH ruling.
- (b) When using a Hunt Director, a panel must be formed to hear any and all questions.

Appeals

- 1. If the matter has not been satisfactorily resolved by the decision of the panel, an Appeal may be filed.
- 2. An Appeal Form must be requested and filed immediately following the panel's ruling, while panel is still assembled.
- 3. Appeals must be submitted to the MOH/HD with a fee of \$20.
- 4. All Appeals will be investigated and ruled on by the UKC.

Misconduct

- Situations involving misconduct do not fall under the appeals procedure. Refer to the Misconduct Section in the Official UKC Coonhound Rulebook for complete procedures and instructions.
- Misconduct may include, but is not limited to:
 - (a) Intimidating, threatening, or injuring another individual.
 - (b) Falsifying event related documents.
 - (c) Abuse, neglect or dragging of a dog in conjunction with an event.
 - (d) Intentionally killing game in conjunction with an event.
 - (e) Use of any device used to control dog during hunting time.
 - (f) Relying any type of electronic messaging with reference to scores, that is deemed detrimental to the hunt.

17. ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- Locating Devices:** The handheld of locating only devices may be carried by the handler. Device may be used during time out periods. Device may be used during the hunt but only under strict provisions as outlined in current Locating Device Rules. Locating Device Rules are provided in the host clubs Event Packet and are also available on UKC's website. Lighted collars are allowed.
- Controlling Devices:** Any handheld device capable of controlling a dog (stimulating or toning), unless controlling feature can be and is disabled while unit is in the on position, must be in vehicle and may not be used by handler or spectators until dog wearing device is scratched and all other dogs are recovered for re-casting.

18. DEFINITIONS

- Attempting to Fight:** 1) Showing aggressive behavior and 2) interfering with another dog(s) during the authority of the judge.
- Babbling:** When a dog opens three times or has been struck where no track is evident.
- Blindout:** Displaying breeding-type behavior.
- Shout:** When a dog has not been declared struck before the first dog has been declared treed. Dog is shut out only if it trees on tree it was shut out on. Otherwise, strike points remain.
- Unsportsmanlike Conduct:** Including, but not limited to, trying to stir trouble, drinking, continuously argumentative, threatening or intimidating, or any actions that reflect negatively on the UKC or host club.

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It would be nice to be able to get everything on a smaller card, but even with the reduction of words in the Nite Hunt Honor Rules, we couldn't reduce the size of the card and still make the rules legible. Since we couldn't shrink the scorecard, and since we had remodeled the rules, we decided a total revamp of the front was needed as well.

You will now find your scorecard designed to be tri-folded like a brochure, and it will be pre-folded right from the printer. **The front of the scorecard is organized into three sections. The first section** could be considered for club use. It still has places to put the entry stickies (which have also been redesigned), but now also has all the event information above the stickies, including cast number, judge, guide, club name, license number, event date, return deadline and time scorecard received. And all of that information can be recorded with the scorecard folded into a third of what was previously required. Think of how much less space that will require on a table during the draw!

The **second section** will be for judge use in the field and is primarily made up of a strike point column and a tree point column. There is also a line to write in the call name

of each dog to prevent from having to flip the card over. At the top of the strike points column, the split points breakdown is in plain view and the blank space for time-keeping notes is available. All of this was designed so that the tri-fold readily and comfortably fits in your pants, coat or bibs pocket.

The **last of the tri-fold sections** contains total score blocks, a handler's signature line, and the section to be filled out by a handler leaves the cast early. It also features the photo of the previous World Champion along with the judge's signature line and a space to record coon seen, coon scored and county hunted.

The whole project has been very well-thought-out and we are very proud of the finished product. We hope to have them to all clubs in time for their January events but are somewhat at the mercy of printers and post offices at the time of this writing. We hope that you get out to a club near you to check it out soon. It may not be the best thing since sliced bread but it's pretty darn close if you're a competition coon hunter!

