

**UK SIGHTHOUND**

**SPORT**

**REGULATIONS**

**VALID FROM JANUARY 2022**



## **1. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

These Regulations apply to all authorised Lure Coursing Competitions, except where indicated.

### **1.1. Welfare of Dogs.**

A competitor whose dog is entered at a lure coursing event should take all reasonable steps to ensure the needs of their dog(s) are met, and should not knowingly put their dogs' health and welfare at risk by any action, default, omission or otherwise.

### **1.2. Eligibility/Licensing.**

- a. Lure Coursing Competition authorisation will only be issued to Registered or Affiliated Societies or other organisations approved by UK Sighthound Sport.
- b. On the day of the event a current Public Liability Insurance Document must be held.
- c. Dogs entered in Lure Coursing Competitions must be registered at the Kennel Club in the breed register. Breeds not listed in the breed register must be registered in the activity register. For Greyhounds, registration with GBGB is acceptable for UK competitions.
- d. Only dogs of 12 calendar months of age on the day of competition are eligible for competition at Lure Coursing Competitions. However, Societies may accept Not For Competition entries at their discretion. Dogs aged four calendar months and over are eligible to enter Not For Competition.

- e. If in the opinion of the Organisers a dog is deemed to be of a savage disposition it shall be ineligible for entry at any Lure Coursing Competitions held under UK Sighthound Sport regulations
- f. No activity shall be conducted which permits, encourages or develops aggression in a dog.

### **1.3. Documentation**

At every Lure Coursing Competition the following documents must be available:

- a. The current Public Liability Insurance Documents, which must be clearly displayed.
- b. A copy of the Schedule for the Competition.
- c. The completed entry forms for the Competition. All entry forms must be preserved by the Committee for at least 12 months from the closing date of entries. A list of results for each class must be retained by the Society for at least 12 months from the date of the Competition.
- d. An Incident Book, containing details of all incidents occurring at the competition.

### **1.4. Schedule.**

- a. The organisers must issue a schedule for the event.
- b. A copy of the Schedule issued for each event must be retained by the organisation for at least one year from the date of the event.
- c. Contents of Schedule:

On the front outside cover or title page, the name of the Society, the type, venue and date of the Competition and any additional title; the Secretary's name, address

and telephone number where appropriate, and the name of the Competition Manager, and the date of closing of entries.

- a) The names of the Judge(s) with the name of the class.
- b) All offers of sponsorship or donations with the names of the sponsors.
- c) The amount of entry and other fees.
- d) The nature of prizes where offered.
- e) The time of opening of the Competition.
- f) An entry form, which must include a box for the Kennel Club Registration Number of the dog .
- g) A statement if applicable on details of how entries can be made via the internet.
- h) Definitions of classes.
- i) Lure Coursing is a competitive and physically strenuous activity. It is the responsibility of the owner / handler to ensure their dog is 'fit for function'. By signing the entry form you confirm that to the best of your knowledge your dog is fit and able to take part in Lure Coursing on the day of the Competition.
- j) A statement that no bitch in season is allowed to compete.
- k) A statement that the Committee reserves to itself the right to refuse any entries.
- l) A statement that should a Judge be unable to fulfil the appointment to judge the Committee reserves the right to appoint another judge.
- m) A statement that should circumstances so dictate the Society, in consultation with the Judge, may alter arrangements as necessary.
- n) If applicable a statement that; 1. Not For Competition entries will be accepted for dogs aged four calendar months and over. 2. Not For Competition entries are not accepted.

## **1.5. Entry For Competition**

- a. Entries for the event must close at the time indicated in the Schedule, which must be no later than 14 days before the event opens.
- b. Entries received by post bearing the Post Office postmark of the date for closing of entries or before must be accepted
- c. Entries from competitors claiming that undelivered entries have been correctly posted must be accepted on the day of the Competition, if proof of postage is provided.
- d. A dog must at the time of entry for a Competition be registered in the owner's name (or registration or transfer applied for). In the case of joint registered owners the full name of every registered owner must be given. Where an owner makes an entry on behalf of another joint registered owner(s) or where an agent enters on behalf of a single or joint registered owner(s) such person must have the authority and consent from the single or joint registered owner(s) to sign the entry form on their behalf. A dog acquired subsequent to entry having been made at a Competition may compete as the new owner's property provided that an application for the transfer has been forwarded to the Kennel Club before the Competition, and the new owner has undertaken to abide by the Regulations and conditions of the original entry form (and in accordance with the conditions set out above)
- e. A separate application for entry must be made by each owner and acceptance of the entry declaration must be given in accordance with the provisions specified thereon - whether in writing or via the internet. Entries cannot be accepted without the appropriate fees or acceptance of the entry declaration.
- f. If a competitor reports before competition that a dog has been entered which is ineligible, the dog must be withdrawn from competition, except in the event of a control

measurement deeming a dog ineligible for Standard class, in which case the dog shall be moved into a Sprinter class.

### **1.6. Control of Dogs**

The owner, handler or other person in charge of a dog at Kennel Club authorised events must at all times ensure that the dog is kept under proper control whilst at the authorised venue, including its environs, car and caravan parks and approaches. This Regulation applies before (at any time during the set up period at the venue), during the event and afterwards (at any time during the breakdown of the event). The mating of bitches within the precincts of the competition, as stipulated above, is forbidden.

### **1.7. Free Passes**

The organising Committee of an Lure Coursing Competition shall provide all competitors with a free pass enabling them to enter the event at any time of the day their competition is scheduled, but in the case of a dog owned in partnership only one such free pass need be issued. Additional free passes may be issued at the organising Committee's discretion.

### **1.8. Removal of dogs from Competition**

Following discussion between the event management and/or a veterinary surgeon, a dog shall be prevented from competing and/or removed from Lure Coursing Competition if it is:

- a. A bitch which is in season.
- b. Suffering from any infectious or contagious disease.
- c. Interfering with the safety or chance of winning of an opponent.
- d. Of such temperament or is so much out of control as to be a danger to the safety of any person or other animal.

e. Likely to cause suffering to the dog if it continues competing. The circumstances of such a removal shall be recorded in the competition incident Book.

#### **1.9. Competition of Dogs Suffering from Contagious or Infectious Disease**

No dog suffering from any infectious or contagious disease or having been exposed to such disease during the period of 21 days prior to the Competition may compete.

#### **1.10. Animals Allowed in The Event**

No animal other than one officially entered shall be brought into the precincts of the event during its continuance, except any dogs registered to assist the disabled.

However, at the discretion of the event organisers, a dog brought to the Competition by a spectator may be admitted into the precincts of the dog Competition, with the proviso that those in charge of the dog sign a declaration confirming the dog is free from disease and that the dog will be kept under proper control at all times.

#### **1.11. Veterinary Support**

The Secretary of a authorised Lure Coursing Club is required to arrange veterinary support compatible with the arrangements for the Competition and anticipated entries. The name, address and telephone number of the Veterinary Surgeon, Practitioner or Practice supporting the Competition is to be available.

#### **1.12. Judging Contracts.**

a. Invitations to judge must be made by organising societies in writing and they must ensure that written acceptances are received. Written acceptance must be followed by written confirmation of the appointment by the Society upon which a judging contract will be deemed to have been formed.

b. Societies are required to include the following wording in Judges' invitation letters: "In accepting this invitation you confirm that you are qualified to judge. In doing so you also recognise that you are obliged to notify us in writing of any change in

personal circumstances which will affect your ability to fulfil this judging appointment. You should also note that we reserve the right to cancel the contract before the date of the appointment if there is a change in your circumstances, which in our reasonable opinion would adversely affect your ability to fulfil the appointment.”

### **1.13. Approval of Judges**

Only those named on an approved list of Lure Coursing Judges may judge a authorised event. On a person’s first appointment to judge a Championship Lure Coursing Competition the minimum conditions which apply are: Criteria On application a person must:- (1) have a minimum of 5 years’ experience of competing at Lure Coursing Competitions, and (2) have a minimum of 3 years’ experience of judging at Lure Coursing Competitions, and (3) have judged at a minimum of 3. Lure Coursing Competitions in that time.

### **1.14. Judges and Judging.**

- a. Organisers of Lure Coursing Competitions must ensure that those invited to judge are competent to fulfil their engagement taking into account the nature of the competition.
- b. Judges at a Lure Coursing Competition may not enter for competition a dog which is recorded in their ownership or part ownership; or handle a dog at the Competition at which they are judging.
- c. Judges are not permitted to make a public commentary on the dogs whilst judging.
- d. The Committee shall have the power to grant, withhold, suspend or cancel the appointment of any Judge.

### **1.15. Dog Fouling.**

- a. Any owner, competitor, handler or other person in charge of a dog is required to remove, as soon as possible any fouling caused by their dog(s) at any event within the venue and within the environs of that event including car and caravan parks and approaches
- b. Any organisation holding a UK Sighthound Sport event is required to provide an adequate number of receptacles for the disposal of such fouling.

### **1.16. Sponsorship and Donations**

No offer of sponsorship or donation may be made on condition that a specified person is appointed to judge.

### **1.17. Disqualification and Forfeit of Awards**

- a. A dog may be disqualified from any award whether an objection has been lodged or not, if proved amongst other things to have been;
  - Not entered on an approved entry form in the name and with the details which are recorded with the Kennel Club.
  - Entered after the date announced for closing of entries.
  - Suffering from an infectious or contagious disease.
  - In competition in a class for which it was not entered.
  - Entered for competition by a judge at that Competition.
  - Registered or recorded as owned by the scheduled Judge within a period of 12 months prior to the Competition.
  - Handled by the scheduled judge's spouse, immediate family or is resident at the same address as the scheduled judge. This shall not apply to a judge appointed in an emergency.

- Not correctly registered and recorded in the name of the owner at the Kennel Club.
- To have been the subject of any other default, omission, action or incident occurring at or in connection with the Competition rendering it unfair that the award should be allowed to stand.

b. The owner of a dog disqualified for any of the above reasons is liable to forfeit all entry fees paid, and all prizes won by such dog.

#### **1.18. Delivery of Prizes and Awards.**

- a. All prizes and awards must be available for collection at the Competition.
- b. Prizes and awards, except special awards, not collected on the day, must be claimed not later than 31 days from the close of the Competition, otherwise they will be forfeited.
- c. In the event of the disqualification of an award winner subsequent to the receipt of any prize, such prize must be returned at once on receipt of a demand from the Competition organisers.

#### **1.19. Order of merit when dogs are disqualified.**

If a dog be disqualified, the prize to which it would otherwise have been entitled shall be forfeited. The Committee may at its discretion move up the dog or dogs next in order of merit to take the prize or prize(s).

## **2. GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR SIGHTHOUND SPORT**

### **2.1 Aim of Regulation**

This regulation aims to standardize the elements of Lure Coursing events governed by UK Sighthound Sport.

### **2.2 Protection of animals**

2.2.1 Lure Coursing is a competitive activity for handlers and their dogs, for which the dogs must be fit and healthy. It is designed for the enjoyment of competitors, their dogs and appeal to spectators.

2.2.2 The safety and health of the animals must always guide all officials and participants during Lure Coursing events. The notion of the animal's protection must always be observed. Consequently, the owner of a dog is always free to withdraw his dog from the Sporting event.

2.2.3 Nothing may be included in Lure Coursing Competition which could endanger the safety of the dogs competing, the handlers or the spectators.

2.2.4 The organiser will have a veterinary surgeon on stand by for the entire event. If a surgery cannot be engaged within a reasonable radius of the event, a surgeon shall be employed on site.

2.2.5 If a veterinary surgeon so requests, the officials must exclude a dog from continuing the competition if the dog's health is endangered.

2.2.6 If an Officer of the organisation has any concern regarding a dog's health or welfare they must exclude the dog from the competition.

2.2.7 The use of a muzzle is compulsory for all breeds.

2.2.8 Collars shall be removed before start.

## **2.3. Authorised Lure Coursing Competitions**

Authorised Competitions held under UK Sighthound Sport Rules and Regulations are:

2.3.1. Championship Lure Coursing – Open to competitors over 15 months (whippets, Italian Greyhounds & Cirneco) and 18 months (all other breeds) and not exceeding the maximum age as stated under 2.4.2. Lure Coursing Champion Certificates are on offer. These are qualifiers for FCI World Championships.

2.3.2. Open Lure Coursing – Open to all competitors over 12 months. Any number of standard or special classes may be scheduled, (for example Puppy 12 – 24 months, Veteran 7+).

2.3.3. Limited Lure Coursing – Competitions at which the entry may be limited by numbers or class entries, overall numbers of entries, specific breeds, residence of competitors, membership of societies or organisations or in any other manner at the discretion of the organisers.

2.3.4. Club Coursing – Registered clubs competitions for its membership which may use alternative rules and judging methods which must be publicised in advance.

## **2.4 Admission, authorisation to start**

### 2.4.1 Admittance

In principle, all the following Sighthound breeds are admitted:

Afghan Hound

Saluki

Borzoi

Deerhound

Irish Wolfhound

Greyhounds

Whippet

Magyar Agar

Italian Greyhound

Azawakh

Sloughi

Chart Polski

Spanish Galgo

Pharaoh Hound

Cirneco dell'Etna

Ibizan Hound

Podenco Canario

Clubs may include 'friendly competition' classes for other sighthounds not listed above.

These will not be eligible for titles or entry into FCI competitions.

## 2.4.2 Start requirements

The following requirements must be met for Sighthounds to start:

- 4.2.a. The dog must be registered in the breed register of the Kennel Club of the Studbook of a recognised National Organisation. For any of the breeds listed under rule 2.4.1 not listed by the Kennel Club Breed Register, dogs must be registered on the Activity Register. For Greyhounds only, registration with the GBGB is accepted.
- 4.2.b. The dog must have a valid UKSS or FCI lure coursing licence.
- 4.2.c. Minimum age: At Champion Competitions, for Whippets, Italian Greyhounds and Cirneco dell'Etna: 15 months. For all other breeds: 18 months. For Open and Limited Competitions all breeds 12 months.
- 4.2.d. Maximum age: At Champion Competitions, until the end of the Sporting season during which the 8th year is completed.
- 4.2.e. Entered under the name of the owner indicated on the licence card.
- 4.2.f. The maximum height at the withers is for Whippets (Standard): 51 cm for dogs, 48 cm for bitches. The maximum height of a Whippet (Sprinter) is 56 cm for dogs, 52 cm for bitches.
- 4.2.g. The maximum height at the withers is for Italian Greyhounds (Standard) 38 cm. The maximum height of an Italian Greyhound (Sprinter) is 41 cm.

## 2.5 Measurements of sizes, Whippets and Italian Greyhounds

Whippets and Italian Greyhounds can be measured at the withers at an age of at least 12 months. All dogs must be (re)measured before the beginning of the Sporting season which follows the completion of its second year of life. The result of this

measurement must be noted in the licence card. If the owner fails to present his dog for this (second) measurement, the licence becomes invalid and must be withdrawn. The measurements at the withers can be performed and confirmed only by the Officers of a recognised organisation and only in accordance with the following procedure:

- a. The dog is properly identified.
- b. The dog's age when measuring its height shall follow what is stated above.
- c. The dog must be calm when it is measured. It must stand on a smooth and non-slip platform or sufficiently large table. The dog will show correct angulation of the legs and naturally raised head (throat at the same level as the top of the withers). The environment shall be calm, without excessive people/dogs.
- d. After measurement 1, 3 and 5 the dog must be moved on the ground. It shall be handled by its owner or by any person appointed by the owner (handler). The measuring person can correct the dog's position only if the owner/handler consents to it.
- e. The measurement can be carried out when the dog stands correctly. The dog will be measured at the withers or at the spinal process of the first vertebrae if it extends above the top of the shoulder blades. Should it be impossible to place the dog correctly, the measuring must be stopped and declared invalid. If the measuring process is stopped on the owner's/handler's initiative he/she accepts that the result of the measuring is declared to be exceeding the limits.
- f. The measuring device is rigid and can be equipped with an electronic sensor. It shall have two legs to allow the measurement to be true and easy to read.
- g. The measuring persons and the secretary cannot be the owner or the breeder of the dog.

h. The measurement team consists of two measuring persons and a secretary for the report. The measuring persons measure alternately. The secretary supervises the measurements and writes down the results.

i. The dog shall be measured six times. The most frequent result will be recorded on the dog's documents. If after 6 measurements, 3 results over and 3 results under the maximum size allowed are obtained, then a 7th measurement must be made and recorded as the final and correct size.

## **2.6 Control measurements Whippets and Italian Greyhounds**

These measurements can be conducted at Championship events, under the supervision of the Organiser for this event. Since the control will take place under unusual circumstances – on a coursing field and in the presence of many other dogs – a tolerance of 1 centimetre must be allowed.

## **2.7 Licence cards**

A UKSS licence can only be issued to a dog registered as resident in the UK.

### **2.7.1 Licence card information**

It must give the following information: Breed, sex, dog's name, Stud Book/Registration number, date of birth, microchip number, name and correct address of the owner. For Whippets and Italian Greyhounds, certified attestation of the height at the withers. For use at international competitions, UKSS Licence must show CSS/CACIL Class status, for further information see appendix.

### **2.7.2 Lure Coursing Proficiency**

A valid licence card for Lure Coursing can only be issued when it is proved that the dog does not attack other dogs and chases the lure together with them.

## **2.8 Announcement of events and schedule**

2.8.1 The organisers must issue a schedule for the event, such schedule to follow the layout of the specimen schedule provided by UK Sighthound Sport and conform with these Regulations. No modifications may be made to the schedule except by permission of UK Sighthound Sport.

2.8.2. A copy of the Schedule issued for each event must be retained by the organisations for at least one year from the date of the event.

### **2.8.3 Contents of Schedule**

8.3.a. On the front outside cover or title page, the name of the Society, the type, venue and date of the Competition as described on the licence; the names and addresses, or email addresses, of the Guarantors of the Competition, and the Secretary's name, address and telephone number where appropriate, and the name of the Competition Manager, and the date of closing of entries.

8.3.b. An announcement that the Competition is held under UK Sighthound Sport Regulations.

8.3.c. The names of the Judge(s) with the name of the class.

8.3.d. All offers of sponsorship or donations with the names of the sponsors.

8.3.e. The amount of entry and other fees.

8.3.f. The nature of prizes where offered.

8.3.g. The time of opening of the Competition.

8.3.h. An entry form, which must include a box for the Kennel Club

Registration Number of the dog.

8.3.i. A statement if applicable on details of how entries can be made via the internet.

- 8.3.j. Lure Coursing is a competitive and physically strenuous activity. It is the responsibility of the owner / handler to ensure their dog is 'fit for function' . By signing the entry form you confirm that to the best of your knowledge your dog is fit and able to take part in Lure Coursing on the day of the Competition.
- 8.3.k. Information about the coursing field (length, shape, radius of curves, nature of the ground, type of lure technique).
- 8.3.l. A statement that no bitch in season is allowed to compete.
- 8.3.m. A statement that the Committee reserves to itself the right to refuse any entries.
- 8.3.n. A statement that should a Judge be unable to fulfil the appointment to judge the Committee reserves the right to appoint another judge.
- 8.3.o. A statement that should circumstances so dictate the Society, in consultation with the Judge, may alter arrangements as necessary.
- 8.3.p. If applicable a statement that; 1. Not For Competition entries will be accepted for dogs aged four calendar months and over. Details of each dog so entered must be recorded on the entry form or 2. Not For Competition entries are not accepted.
- 8.3.q. Definitions of classes.

## **2.9 Excusing dogs and officials**

### 2.9.1 Excuse of dogs

Information about any dog for which there is a problem preventing it from participating must be given to the event management before the beginning of the event. In all cases, the entry fees have to be paid.

### 2.9.2 Excusing of officials

The officials, who are on duty for an event are bound to inform the event

management of any problem causing a delay or permanent absence before the beginning of the event. An early departure from the agreed duty may only take place after informing the management and with the agreement of the event Director.

## **2.10 Dismissal and Disqualification**

### 2.10.1 Reasons for dismissal

The officials may dismiss for the day dogs which:

- a. Stop during a course.
- b. Must be encouraged to commence running or cross the finish by calling, gestures, whistling or another handling.

### 2.10.2 Reasons for disqualification The officials must disqualify dogs which:

- 10.2.a. Attack or try to attack other dogs
- 10.2.b. Want to escape
- 10.2.c. Impede the progress of the course.

Attacking dogs are dogs that do not devote their attention to the lure, but attack or try to attack other dogs in order to prevent them from pursuing the lure normally.

The immediate defensive reaction on the attack is permitted. It is not considered a scuffle when a dog, with no intention of fighting, interferes due to its interest in the lure in order to give itself a clear view during the course.

### 2.10.3 Notification of disqualification

The disqualification must be clearly noted in the licence card. For recording the following abbreviation must be used: disqualified = disqu.

2.10.4 Disqualification elimination - If a dog is disqualified its license will be suspended indefinitely. The suspension will be lifted by fulfilling the standard requirements again. If, however, it has its licence suspended again after 3 disqualifications, the license will be permanently revoked.

#### 2.10.5 Misconduct by owners or handlers

The Lure Coursing Director, jointly with the Jury or the judges, are authorized to exclude and dismiss from the event venue anyone who does not abide by the orders of the officials, who insults them or behaves improperly.

### **2.11 Doping**

#### 2.11.1 General doping statement

All kinds of doping are forbidden. At any Lure Coursing event doping tests may be implemented. When a dog owner enters a dog to an event, the owner also agrees that the dog may be tested for doping.

2.11.2 Dope testing at the events If there is a suspicion of doping, the event officials, jointly with the veterinary surgeon on duty, may order a doping test. The dog's owner is bound to make his dog available for this test. If a positive doping case is detected, the owner must meet the expenses.

### **2.12 Responsibility disclaimer**

Neither the organiser, nor the officials are responsible for injuries incurred by the dog owners, the dogs or the officials. Likewise, they accept no responsibility in case of lost dogs. The owner of a dog is not responsible if his dog injures another dog during a course. In all other cases the dog owner has the full responsibility for the dog.

## **2.13 Disputes**

The judging is definitive and cannot be appealed.

## **2.14 Officials ethics**

### **2.14.1 Integrity**

All officials must show a high standard of integrity. All participants must be treated on equal terms and with adequate respect. To give dishonest favours to dogs is forbidden (e.g. tactical scoring). Officials (members of the Jury, course observers, judges) whose dogs participate in a course may not perform their duties during that class/sex, they must be replaced and stay in the area open to the competitors.

### **2.14.2 General behaviour**

All officials shall show a friendly but firm appearance towards the event participants. Officials shall have high knowledge about the rules and regulations in this Rule Book.

## **2.15 Human First Aid Resources**

Lure Coursing events often gather hundreds of people in areas where emergency services cannot easily be reached. It is therefore strongly recommended to have first aid resources at the event premises.

### **3. REGULATIONS SPECIFIC TO LURE COURSING**

#### **3.1 List of officials - role of the officials**

- 1.1. Judges
- 1.2. Lure Coursing Director
- 1.3. Field observers
- 1.4. Starter
- 1.5. Lure operator technical service
- 1.6. Local veterinary surgeon

##### **3.1.1 Judges**

The judges are the superior institution of the event. Their decisions are final in the cases of disputes or doubts. In case of technological matters they have to talk with the Lure Coursing Director.

Before the event begins the judges have to take care that the directives in paragraphs 3.2, 3.3, 3.4 and 3.6 are respected and that the health of the dogs is assured.

##### **3.1.2 Lure Coursing Director**

The Lure Coursing Director must be a specialist with experience. He/she is the supervisor of the technology and organisation. The Lure Coursing Director manages all the technical and organising services. All questions relating to the technical or organisational problems of the courses are subject to his/her decisions during the event.

##### **3.1.3 Starter**

At the start the Starter checks:

1. Owner/handlers get dogs to the start in time.

2. The dogs are in the correct starting position.
3. The muzzles are of a suitable type and correctly fitted.
4. The jackets are of a suitable type and correctly fitted..

#### 3.1.4 Lure Operator and technical service

The lure machine operator receives instructions from the Lure Coursing Director and the judges.

The location of the lure machine should be such that the Operator has a clear view of the whole course.

The Operator must operate the lure at the correct distance in front of the dogs.

Preferred distance is 10 to 15 meters. This requires great competence and excludes any inexperienced operator.

Lure Operator must together with the judges make sure that the lure size and quality is acceptable (see also 3.6) during the whole event.

#### 3.1.5 Restrictions on officials

Officials whose dogs participate in a coursing event may not perform their duties during the courses for the breed (when males and females run together) or sex (when males and females run separated) concerned, they must be replaced.

### **3.2 Guidelines with respect to the terrain, surface and course length**

#### 3.2.1 Terrain

A large meadow comes closest to the ideal coursing field. A slightly sloping or somewhat hilly terrain is also highly acceptable. A few bushes as well as some trees are desirable as long as they do not constitute any danger to the dogs.

#### 3.2.2 Surface

The ground should not be too slippery and must be free from stones and holes.

Some natural obstacles are highly recommended, but not compulsory. They must be clearly visible from the dogs' viewpoint from a distance of at least 30 metres, particularly when there are depressions in the ground. Grass length should not be longer than approx. 10 cm.

### 3.2.3 Course length

The course length should be:

From 400 to 700 metres for Whippets, Italian Greyhounds and Cirneco dell'Etna, or at Championships up to 800 meters. For all other breeds 500 to 1000 metres.

## 3.3 Distance between pulleys

The distance between the pulleys is important, it must be adapted to the condition and elevations of the terrain.

## 3.4 The course layout

In view of the high physical performance required of the dogs during coursing, the whole course must be clearly visible and free from any danger. The course layout must be changed for the second course of the day. It is recommended to have longer pulley distances and wider turns for the bigger breeds compared to the course layout for smaller breeds. Both course layouts must contain turns and straight sections that reveal the dogs lure coursing capabilities.

The lure line must be positioned to minimise the risk that dogs gets entangled and injured by the line. The use of a closed circuit (with closed loop string dragged along the ground) must be clearly mentioned in the Schedule.

## 3.5 The start

### 3.5.1 Jackets

The dogs will run in pairs, being slipped simultaneously. One will run in a red, the other in a white jacket. Coloured collars instead of jackets are not allowed. Text, signs or other attributes that can be identified are not allowed on the jackets.

### 3.5.2 Uneven number of entries

In case of an uneven number of entries the organisers will try to find a companion dog, where possible, to avoid a solo run which must be a authorised dog of the same breed, not participating in the Lure Coursing event .

## 3.6 Coursing equipment

The organiser is obliged to ensure that all the coursing equipment is in perfect working order so that it can run without any failures. The Lure Coursing Director has to provide back-up equipment of sufficient amount and quality to ensure a trouble free coursing event.

The lure machinery must fulfil the following requirements:

- a. Be able to accelerate the lure rapidly.
- b. Respond rapidly to any changes of speed.
- c. Have sufficient performance in reserve.
- d. The lure must be made of a plastic bag. The lure size must not be less than 40 cm during the whole event.
- e. Pulleys not of bright colours and no glittering.

## 3.7 Judging

Lure Coursing judges will judge the performance of the dogs on the basis of five (5) criteria (see below). The maximum amount of points to be given for each criterion is 20 points.

Sighthounds which do not get at least 50% of the maximum score in the first round will be excluded from the second round.

Other judging systems are not allowed for authorised Lure Coursing events.

There shall be two heats/runs, the points of which shall be added. Should there be no possibility for a second run, the points earned in the first run shall be taken into consideration for the placing.

In case two or more participants get an equal result (taking into consideration the points earned in the two runs), the dog having obtained the higher number of points during the second run will get the better placing.

However, if the result is still equal, the dog having obtained the higher number of points in the second run in the following sequence of importance: section 3.7.1 Agility, then section 3.7.2 Speed, then 3.7.3 Endurance, then 3.7.4 Follow, then 3.7.5 Enthusiasm will get the better placing.

### 3.7.1 Agility

A Sighthound's agility is shown:

7.1.a. By its rapid changes of direction, provoked by the turns of the lure.

7.1.b. By clearing obstacles.

7.1.c. At the take, and notably by a sliding tackle on the lure.

7.1.d. Dogs that are able to change direction quickly and efficiently especially evident in the turns. Dogs that run with no wasted motion in their forward drive (often low, powerful and with great force in each step).

### 3.7.2 Speed

This is shown by the rapidity with which ground is gained when dogs react to the surprise departure of the lure at the start. Sighthounds speed will be shown on the entire length of the course but especially at the take of the lure. The Judge must

reward the dog that runs low, really stretches itself and works the lure. Since timing is not used to measure speed, the dogs' manner of "giving itself" is an important means of assessing its ability to cover ground. Absolute speed is not taken into account when judging because the speed of a Sighthound must be compared to that of its competitors. When judging the speed, the breed's characteristics should be considered. All breeds do not reach as high absolute speed as the others.

A go-bye can be made when a dog in second position gives its utmost and overtakes its opponent. Overtaking can take place between two successive pulleys.

### 3.7.3 Endurance

Endurance is the ability of a Sighthound to finish its course in good physical condition. It is the end sum of its physical and mental abilities. A dog that runs the whole course with determination and does not show signs of tiredness even at the finish has good endurance.

### 3.7.4 Follow

Follow is a dog's capability to follow the lure and always have 100% attention on the lure. Good follow is characterized when a dog:

- 7.4.a. Follows the lure for the whole course and actively tries to catch the lure. Reacts quickly to the movement of the lure.
- 7.4.b. Follows the lure precisely and tries to make "jump to kill" immediately when it gets close to the lure.
- 7.4.c. Tries actively and determinedly to catch the lure throughout the whole chase.
- 7.4.d. Go after the lure without making great assumptions as to where the lure will be travelling (course wise running).

### 3.7.5 Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm in the pursuit, whatever the conditions of the ground (rough or with obstacles) and whatever incidents occur such as overshooting the turns, falling and losing sight of the lure.

A Sighthounds' enthusiasm is shown:

7.5.a. At the start: By its concentrated attention. By fixing its eyes on the lure.

7.5.b. When in pursuit of the lure: By its permanent drive on the lure, forcing the operator to accelerate the lure to avoid a take before the end of the course. By jumping an obstacle cleanly, without hesitation of an obstacle. By its desire to return to the lure if it gets left behind.

7.5.c. At the take of the lure: At full speed. By tackling the lure with a sliding take. By its attempts to catch the lure, even when it has been taken by its opponent.

### **3.8 Sanctions**

Only Judges can impose sanctions, which must be in accordance with these regulations.

#### **3.8.1 False slip penalty**

If the handler slips a dog too early, or too late, in order to gain tactical advantages the Judges may deduct 10% of the dog's total score for the course. If the same course has to be restarted, the penalty no longer applies. If there is a false start, the Judges can seek the advice of the starter.

#### **3.8.2 Course delay**

Absence at start time of a course shall incur a dismissal for the day.

#### **3.8.3 Excuse**

Judges may excuse a dog for the day which:

- 8.3.a. Remains near its owner after the start signal or walks off the field.
- 8.3.b. Follows its opponent and not the lure.
- 8.3.c. Does not have the necessary physical condition for competition as confirmed by the opinion of the veterinary surgeon and/or two or more officers of the organising committee.

### **3.9. Championship regulations for Lure Coursing**

#### **3.9.1 Application**

Only UK Sighthound Sport authorised events may award Champion Certificates. The organising Club must guarantee the perfect running of the event.

#### **3.9.2 Type of Lure Coursing Championship**

Any recognised club or society may apply to run a authorised Championship event.

However, no two championship events shall be permitted on the same weekend.

There shall be one National Championship per year which will be run by UKSS and open to all breeds.

### **3.10 organisers**

Championship events can only be organised by a UK Sighthound Sport authorised club or society. Clubs must submit their event proposal in writing to UKSS no later than 12 months in advance of the start of Sporting Season in which it is to be held.

### **3.11 Event field requirements**

The Championship may only be carried out on such fields, which comply with the basic requirements found in chapters 3.2 in this rulebook.

### **3.12 UKSS field inspection**

UKSS have the right to inspect the state and condition of the coursing terrain at any time between the date of authorisation and the date of the championship, and may impose modifications and/or improvements.

### **3.13. Marked Running Orders Championship Class**

The Lure Coursing Society must publish a marked running order containing the following:-

3.13.1. On the front outside cover or page, the name of the Society, the type, venue and date of the competition as described on the licence and any additional title for which prior permission has been given by the Board of the Kennel Club; the names and addresses of the Guarantors of the competition, and the Secretary's name, address and telephone number where appropriate, and the name of the Competition Manager.

3.13.2. An alphabetical index containing the names of owners, the name of each competing dog, and the number of the Class in which it is entered, giving a separate line to the name of each competitor, and the full particulars of the dog as given on the entry form completed by the competitor.

3.13.3.. Submission of Running Order - Within fourteen days of the close of the Competition, a copy of the official marked running order, containing a full and correct list of the entries in the required classes as detailed above, with all the awards correctly marked, will be submitted to UKSS.

### **3.14 Participation**

3.14.1 Registration required

14.1.a. All Sighthounds must be on the breed register of KC or of a studbook recognised by the UK KC OR:

14.1.b. Azawakh, Saluki and Sloughi's which have been imported from a recognised country of origin for the particular breed, and breeds must be registered with the Kennel Club Activity Register if they have not been accepted onto the Breed Register by the Kennel Club. Similarly, imported hounds that have registry in a recognised studbook but which are not a recognised breed for transfer into UK KC studbook must be registered with the Kennel Club Activity Register.

### **3.15 Lure Coursing Champion Certificates**

3.15.1. A Lure Coursing Champion Certificate will be awarded to top scoring dogs/bitches in each breed at a Championship Competition provided that :

15.1.a. There are at least two dogs per breed at the start.

15.1.b. If there are more than six dogs of both sexes at the start, the Certificates will be awarded separately to dogs and bitches. If there are fewer than 6 of either sex all dog and bitch classes shall be amalgamated and only one set of certificates is awarded.

15.1.c. At least 75% of the maximum points as established in paragraph 3.7 of these regulations is obtained.

3.15.2. Number of entries and number of Certificates.

a. If less than 2 dogs are participating at the start, then no Certificate shall be awarded in that class .

b. For classes with 2 – 6 participants, the Certificate shall be awarded to the top scoring dog.

c. For classes with 7 – 19 participants, Certificates shall be awarded to the two top scoring dogs.

- d. For classes with 20 or more participants, an further Certificate shall be awarded for each additional 10 dogs.
- e. If the winner is already a champion, the Certificate goes to 2<sup>nd</sup> place and so forth.
- f. Standard and Sprinter classes shall be awarded separately.

### **3.16. Awarding of Lure Coursing titles**

3.16.1 The winners of all classes with two or more at the start at the National Championships shall be awarded the title "British Lure Coursing Champion 20XX" (for example 2017) provided at least 75% of the maximum points as established in paragraph 3.7 of these regulations is obtained.

3.16.2 The title Lure Coursing Champion (LC Ch) when:

- a. Three Certificates have been received, providing at least one of the Certificates was issued for a 1<sup>st</sup> place.
- b. The Certificates were won under at least 3 different judges

### **3.17. FCI World Championships**

The scores from all Championship Competitions will be used to determine the eligibility of dogs to form a British team to compete at the FCI World Championships. See Appendix (i) for selection process.

## **4. FCI World Championships**

### **4.1 Qualification for FCI World Championships**

Based on their results, the only dogs that can be entered in the FCI World Championship are those which represent a high standard of quality for such a top competition. To be entered any Sighthound must have completed the last two lure coursing events before the deadline of the entry without disqualification. A disqualification between the entry closing date and the date of the championship precludes participation.

Dogs which are injured during the first run of a course and have to be withdrawn as a result of a veterinary surgeon's decision (proven by a written statement from the veterinary surgeon concerned), are considered to have completed the course successfully.

4.1.2 British winners of the preceding National Championship will automatically qualify to be invited.

4.1.3 The results from all UK Championship events held between 1<sup>st</sup> May - 30<sup>th</sup> April in the year in which the World Championship are held shall be used to determine the top dogs and bitches of each breed, provided the results are submitted to UK Sighthound Sport by 1<sup>st</sup> May.

4.1.3 All qualifying competitors are responsible for ensuring they meet FCI requirements to compete prior to accepting an invitation to enter.

### **4.2 Change in ownership**

When a dog changes ownership and moves to the UK from another country, the dog may not be entered into the starting list and represent the UK unless it has been registered for at least 6 months in the Kennel Club register.

When a dog changes ownership and moves to another country, the dog may only start for the new country at FCI World Championships once he has been registered for at least 6 months in the new country's studbook/register.

## **4.3 Entry**

### 4.3.1 Entry form receiver

Entries for the FCI World Championships cannot be made directly by the owner to the organiser of the event but may only be sent by the National Organisation.

### 4.3.2 Number of dogs per country

FCI World Lure Coursing Championship: a maximum of six participants per breed and per sex. Examination on arrival must have been done the day before.

The previous year's Championship winners can defend their title and be entered in addition to the maximum permissible participants.

### 4.3.3 Reserve dogs

Substitute dogs may be appointed in addition to the number of participants set forth by paragraph 4.3.2, which may be given the opportunity of replacing any dog, eliminated from the team.

### 4.3.4 Entry form information and timing

The dogs must be entered separately, in order of their results and according to breed and sex. The entry form must include the name of each dog in accordance with its pedigree and all the necessary data for the CACIL allocation as well as the owner's name, as stated on the national coursing licence. The entry forms must reach the organiser at least three weeks before the event.

#### **4.4 Officials**

Together with the entry forms, a list of people proposed as officials must be submitted. However, it is up to the organiser to appoint the judges, jury as well as course observers.

The organiser shall confirm to the National Organisation the names of the judges and track observers at least 14 days before the championship is due to take place.

#### **4.5 Entry fee**

The amount of the entry fee is to be set by the CSS in €. This entry fee is to be paid to the organiser by each team leader.

#### **4.6 Team leader**

At the time that the National Organisation submits its entry, it must also include the nomination of its team leader.

- a. During the event, the team leader is the representative of the Kennel Club well as being coach to the members of his/her team.
- b. He/She is responsible for transmitting any instructions from the organisers to his/her team members.
- c. He/She acts as liaison officer between the individual dog owners in the team and the organisers of the event.
- d. Only the team leader has the right to discuss and settle queries, make suggestions, forward objections or put forward questions and complaints concerning his/her team, with the organiser.
- e. He/She is responsible for giving advice and answering any questions, as well as for discipline within his/her team.
- f. When the dogs are delivered to the track, he/she is responsible for the collection and checking of the licences as well as the dog passes (working books)

of his/her members, which he/she will then forward to the secretary's office.

Participants notify the team leader of withdrawals as soon as possible.

## **APPENDIX (i)**

For entry at FCI International competitions, UKSS issued licences must be officially authorised as CSS or CACIL Class by the registrar. For CACIL eligibility, owners must submit evidence of required FCI show qualifications to the UKSS registrar along with licence application or current CSS licence. For full details of current requirements please refer to the FCI Regulations: <http://www.fci.be/en/Sighthound-Races-Coursing-69.html>

### **WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP & WORLD WINNERTEAM UK SELECTION CRITERIA**

#### **Qualification Period**

Results submitted to UK Sighthound Sport by 1 May in the current year for events held between 1 May preceding year and 30 April in the current year shall be used to calculate the ranking of British dogs. Eg 1 May 2018 – 30 April 2019 is the qualifying period for 2019 European Championship. Any results received late shall be excluded

#### **Gaining Points**

During the qualification period British dogs can gain points in all Championship events.

The Top 6 placed UKSS authorised dogs in each class receive in descending order:

10 points

6 points

4 points

3 points

2 points

1 point

## **Team Selection**

Any Club that holds an authorised Championship must submit a copy of the official marked running order, containing a full and correct list of the entries for all classes with all the awards correctly marked as per 3.13.2 to UK Sighthound Sport. UKSS will collate the points and apply ranking to all dogs and bitches. British winners of the National Championships will automatically qualify for team selection. Invitations for the remaining Team and Reserve positions will be allocated to the top ranking dogs and bitches. The top 5 scoring dogs and bitches of each breed, except whippets and Italian Greyhounds. For Whippets/Italian Greyhounds, both the Standard and Sprinter winners of the National Championship shall automatically qualify and the remaining four positions shall be made up of the top 2 Standard and top 2 Sprinters for each sex.

Invitations to join Team UK will be issued no later than 21 days prior to the FCI entry closing date.

Should there be unfilled positions on the team applications may be submitted to UK Sighthound Sport for any dog providing it has achieved a score of 75% or over at any of the qualifying competitions and meets the criteria set out in current the FCI Regulations.

Selection of the Team will be based on the criteria as set out above. No preference shall be given to either CSS or CACIL class dogs. CSS class members will compete at the World Winners event, CACIL class will compete at the World Championships.