



# **LURE COURSING LICENCE GUIDE**

Updated June 2025



# TERMINOLOGY

## TRIAL RUN

A run for training purposes or to prove the dog can run wearing a jacket and muzzle.

## CLEARING RUN / LICENCE TRIAL

A paired run with another dog to clear the dog for a UKSS licence.

## UKSS LICENCE

A passport needed for the dog to compete at UKSS or FCI events.

## TECHNICAL RUN

A run before the start of the competition to allow the lure operator to test the layout of the course. A technical run can also be a licence trial.

## CLEARING / TRIALS CARD

A card to track and prove a dog's progress toward its licence.

## MEASURING CARD

A card to track and prove a dog's size. This is only needed for Whippets and Italian Greyhounds.



## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a UKSS lure coursing licence, your dog must be:



- **A PUREBRED SIGHTHOUND**
- **REGISTERED AT THE KENNEL CLUB IN THE BREED REGISTER**  
(Breeds not listed in the breed register must be registered in the Activity Register)
- **ABOVE THE MINIMUM AGE:**
  - **9 MONTHS FOR WHIPPETS, ITALIAN GREYHOUNDS AND CIRNECO DELL'ETNA**
  - **12 MONTHS FOR ALL OTHER BREEDS**
- **BELOW THE MAXIMUM HEIGHT**  
(Whippet - dogs: 56cm, bitches: 52cm. Italian Greyhound - 41cm)

Dogs can compete until the end of the Sporting Season during which they reach 8 years of age.



**MIN. 9 MONTHS**



**MIN. 12 MONTHS**

# STEP 1

## MUZZLE AND JACKET

Get your dog used to wearing a muzzle and running jacket.

### MUZZLES

Only certain muzzles are allowed. It must have good airflow, your dog must be able to open its mouth properly and it needs to be a good fit to ensure it does not come off during a run. If you are unsure about the fit you can contact a UKSS official for guidance. To read more about the rules regarding muzzles, see the [FCI Regulations](#) (section 7.3, p.46).



Illustration of approved muzzles - FCI Regulations for International Sighthound Racing and Lure Coursing Events §7.3

### JACKETS

You should have one red and one white jacket for your dog. Coloured collars instead of jackets are not allowed. Text, signs or other attributes that can be identifiable are not allowed on jackets.

### WHERE TO BUY

Muzzles and jackets can be found at different Sighthound gear stockists, for example [DG DogGear](#), [SOFA Dog Wear](#) or [Torshammaren](#). Jackets can be purchased from UK-based [Diane Gardner](#), [The Crafty Whippet](#) online, or at events.



# STEP 2

## RUN A COURSE WEARING A MUZZLE

Your dog must show a UKSS official that he or she can run a complete course solo, while wearing a muzzle, with full focus on the lure. This can be completed at:

- **A UKSS TRIALS DAY,**
- **SPORTING WHIPPET CLUB (whippets only),**
- **OR AT OTHER APPROVED LURE COURSING CLUBS THAT RUN TO UKSS STANDARD AND RULES AND A UKSS OFFICIAL IS THERE TO OBSERVE, AND SIGN OFF THE RUN.**

# STEP 3

## CLEARING RUN / LICENCE TRIAL

### CLEARING

Your dog will need to run **two** licence trials with another dog, preferably different dogs. The two runs will need to take place **on two separate days**. Both dogs have to be muzzled during the run and your dog will run wearing a jacket, while the already licenced dog will be running without.

### CLEARING / TRIALS CARD

To keep track of and prove your dogs progress towards its licence you will be given a Trials Card that **must be signed** by a UKSS official at the time of each cleared licence trial. **Hold on to this card as you will need it for your licence application.**

### EXAMPLE

- **TRIALS DAY MORNING:**

Your dog shows he or she can run a full course wearing a muzzle.

- **TRIALS DAY AFTERNOON:**

Your dog is paired with a licenced dog and runs a licence trial.

- **CHAMPIONSHIP:**

Your dog is paired with a licenced dog and runs a licence trial.



### PAIRING

Your dog will need to be paired with a licenced dog. UKSS will do their best to find a suitable dog to run with on the day. In numerically small breeds the licenced dog may be of a different breed of matching speed if necessary.

### WHERE?

Licence trials can be completed at a UKSS Trials Day, or sometimes UKSS Championship, and have to be pre-booked, or at an FCI lure coursing club in Europe (must be pre-agreed).

- **TRIALS DAY**
- **CHAMPIONSHIP**
- **FCI LURE COURSING CLUB**

✓ **APPLY FOR YOUR LICENCE!**



# STEP 4

## LICENCE APPLICATION

Once your trials card is completed and signed, you can apply for a licence by filling in the online Dog Registration form.

### 1. ONLINE DOG REGISTRATION FORM

You will find the Online Dog Registration form on the UKSS website under the tab "Licences". Enter the required information in the form and please check all details are correct.

<https://uksighthoundsport.com/membership-and-licences/licences>

### 2. YOU WILL NEED

The application will require you to upload scans/clear photos of the following documents:

- **CLEARING / TRIALS CARD** (Make sure this is completed and signed)
- **KC OWNER REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE** (Must show name of owner)
- **MEASURING CARD** (The measuring card is required for Whippets and Italian Greyhounds only. If you don't have a copy, contact Sporting Whippet Club. This must be signed.)
- **FCI SHOW RESULTS** (Only when applying for CACIL class)

For enquiries email: [registrar@uksighthoundsport.com](mailto:registrar@uksighthoundsport.com)

### 3. PAYMENT

Pay the one-off cost of £25 via BACS Payment (Sort code 30-96-26 Account 31362968). A licence will not be issued until payment is received.

### 4. RECEIVE YOUR LICENCE

When the required documents and payment is received we will issue the licence. This can be picked up at a UKSS event or posted to you. Once you have received the licence you will need to check that the information is correct and sign the licence. A licence that is not signed is not valid and cannot be used for competition.





## **FCI - COMPETING ABROAD**

With a UKSS licence you can enter National or International lure coursing competitions abroad. To enter an International FCI event, you will need either a OPEN or CACIL indicator on your licence depending on which class your dog is qualified for.

### **OPEN CLASS**

All that is needed to compete in the OPEN class is a valid UKSS lure coursing licence with the OPEN CLASS indicator.

### **CACIL CLASS**

To qualify for CACIL class your dog must have been graded Very Good or Excellent at a National FCI dog show and an International FCI dog show, OR at two International FCI dog shows. The grades must be given by two different judges of different nationalities.

#### **EXAMPLE 1 - CACIL QUALIFICATION** ✓

- VERY GOOD at a **National** show in the Netherlands by a German judge.
- VERY GOOD at an **International** show in France by a French judge.

#### **EXAMPLE 2 - CACIL QUALIFICATION** ✓

- VERY GOOD at an **International** show in Denmark by a Danish judge.
- EXCELLENT at an **International** show in Belgium by an Italian judge.

### **REQUEST A STICKER**

If you wish to compete abroad and there is no OPEN or CACIL indication on your licence, contact the UKSS Registrar. If you are requesting a CACIL sticker you will need to send proof of qualification.

[registrar@uksighthoundsport.com](mailto:registrar@uksighthoundsport.com)