

The Association of Bloodhound Breeders

Procedures to be followed at working trials to reduce the risk of spreading Covid 19

On the 15th August the Kennel Club issued its operational plan for the resumption of licensed events. The committee met by Zoom to discuss if the October working trials could be managed under these guidelines and the current government restriction. Providing the following conditions are met then trials can proceed.

The continually changing regulations both nationally and locally means some extra and flexibility and adaptability will be key to hold a safe event.

In addition to our normal risk assessment the following additional conditions will apply.

Please read the following carefully.

Before leaving home

All competitors, officials, volunteers and spectators must undergo a self-assessment for any COVID-19 symptoms. No-one should leave home if they, or someone they live with, has symptoms of COVID -19 or tested positive, they should self-isolate in line with government advice.

Currently recognised symptoms are any of the following:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss of, or change to, their sense of smell or taste
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Competitors not able to attend due to Covid restrictions will receive a full refund of entrance fee

Over 70's

The advice for clinically vulnerable groups has changed. If you are in this group you could be at higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus. Although you can meet people outdoors and indoors, you should be especially careful and be diligent about social distancing and hand hygiene.

The risk assessment considers the number of people involved in trials and the potential of person to person contact and person to object contact. The following changes will be made to mitigate these.

At the meet for each stake

- The road marshal is the Covid safety officer and responsible for ensuring the guidance is followed.
- To support the NHS test and trace scheme everyone's details will be recorded and kept for 21 days.
- Temperature will be checked and a series of Covid related questions will be asked.
- Social distancing of 2m must be observed. Where this is not possible mask must be worn. **Everyone must provide their own masks and sanitiser.**
- Vehicles must be parked at the meet and in the convoy to allow social distancing to be observed.
- Attendees should travel to starts and finish of lines in their own vehicles whenever possible.

Stake managers and road marshal

- Wipes and hand cleanser to wipe door handles and hand services between transporting judges/competitors. Face coverings should be worn in these instances as per government guidelines.
- Maps should be prepared well in advance and kept in a sealed folder until needed.
- Plastic bags will be provided for handlers to put scent articles in.
- Only one person should open the gate to the start of a line. Spectators should avoid leaning on gates etc.
- Lunches and refreshments will not be served.
- Flags will be used once and then placed in the used bag. Once the hound has left the field the flags should be collected wearing gloves.
- Field gates should be opened by one person.

Line Walkers.

Scent articles should not be handkerchiefs or gloves and not kept in pockets where they may come in contact with tissues or handkerchiefs. They should be disposable. Strips of fabric will be available for line walker during the week.

Judges and assistants

- Observe social distancing,
- Sanitise before writing out certificates. Not handle trophies.
- Lunches will not be provided.
- The summing up will be in an outdoor space.
- The trophies will be displayed after being wiped with sanitiser and collected by the winner from the table.
- No shaking hands.

Spectators

- Observe social distancing of 2m
- Avoid leaning on gates etc

Hunt Supper will not happen.

To help manage the trials safely number of people attending will be limited to 30.

The Kennel Club required a number of these points to be included in the schedule. As these have already been sent out the catalogues will contain them.