

“National Rules”
FIELD TRIAL RULES and REGULATIONS

ARTICLE I
Master of Hounds

- (a) The Master of Hounds shall be appointed by the president, subject to the approval of the board of directors.
- (b) Master of Hounds shall call all meetings of the judges and act as their secretary. The President, at his option and under his power of appointment, may appoint a qualified person to assist the Master of Hounds in the Judges Meeting. Such person shall work only under the specific instructions of the Master of Hounds.
- (c) The Master of Hounds shall give the handlers any information they may need as to direction to enable them to keep within reasonable distance of the hounds. He shall instruct handlers and outsiders not to converse with, or in the hearing of judges, about the work done, or the merits or demerits of any of the competing hounds. It shall be the duty to report any and all infringement of this rule to the President. The offenders will be subject to a fine or an expulsion from the grounds in the discretion of the Directors. The M.F.H. may ride to the hounds, and shall direct the handler and assist the judges in every proper way possible.
- (d) It shall be the duty of the Master of Hounds to notify, by conspicuously posting at headquarters, the evening before, the hour and place of starting the following day. He shall blow his horn at the end of each day's hunt signaling that the hunt is called off according to the rules governing same. (See (k) Judging in the Field, page 25).
- (e) The Master of Hounds shall have the authority to order removed from the hunting ground, any hounds affected with a contagious disease or bitches in season.
- (f) In case some judge's mount is disabled or becomes unfit during a days trial, the Master of Hounds shall provide a mount as soon as possible.
- (g) He shall see that the numbers are painted or dyed distinctly on the entries and shall call off the number, or have them checked in by the judges under his supervision at or before each cast.
- (h) He shall strictly prohibit all persons from blowing horns on any pretext whatsoever, until the hunt is called off.
- (i) He shall place the judges to the best advantage in his discretion.
- (j) The Master of Hounds shall have no voice in any question in regard to scores or eliminations in the meeting of the judges. He may be consulted on all questions in general but shall not offer any suggestion in any particular case until after the score is given and no score shall be changed on his account.
- (k) The Master of Hounds must not allow judges to compare notes one to another at any time. Any discussion of hounds must be after number is called in the meeting by the Master and no hound shall be discussed by the judges before this.
- (l) The Master of Hounds must be accurate in setting down scores at the meetings.
- (m) The Master of Hounds may score hounds in the field, but he shall not enter hounds in either stake nor be interested in any way in any hounds so entered.
- (o) It shall be the duty of the Master of Hounds to see that these rules are strictly followed and trials shall be judged under these rules and not what any Master or judge feels the rules should be. It shall be mandatory for the Master of

Hounds to review the running rules and regulations at a judges meeting prior to the beginning of a field trial.

(p) In case of extreme emergency such as hounds on dangerous highways or irate landowners which endanger the safety of a large number of hounds or the safety of the general public, the Master of Hounds and the president of the association may jointly order the hounds picked up under the supervision of the Master and recast at that days casting grounds under the Master's supervision.

(q) No game shall be released at that days cast after the cast has been made.

(r) The Master of Hounds may order crated a scratched hound in the immediate are of major highways, railroads or a population center that could endanger the lives of other hounds or people.

ARTICLE II Assistant Masters of Hounds

The Master of Hounds at his option may appoint two Assistant Masters of Hounds whose duties shall facilitate in every way the running of the field trials and they shall work on specific instructions from the Master of Hounds. Assistant Masters of Hound shall further have the duties and rights accorded judges in scoring or eliminating hounds.

ARTICLE III Field Trial Judges

(a) Judges: Each year the directors of the affiliated associations through their president shall submit names of three (3) judges to act at the National and the National Field Judges shall be selected each year by the National Executive Screening Committee and presented to the board of directors for approval from the names submitted by the affiliated Associations. No president of any hunt will be allowed to recommend himself or herself or any member of his immediate staff to judge the National trials (excluding directors of his association).

(b) The President of the Association may appoint from day to day one or more Field Masters, whose duties it shall be handle the field hunters to the best advantage of the Hunt.

(c) The judges shall not be less than five. No field judge can enter hounds in either stake nor be interested in anyway in any hound so entered.

(d) No person shall act as judge at the field trial of the National Foxhunter Association unless he or she has formerly acted as judge at a field trial run under the rules of the National Foxhunters Association.

(e) The judges will be subject to the general rules of the Association and report for duty each day to the Master of Hounds.

(f) Should an appointed judge be unable to fill his engagement or become disabled, the president may or may not fill the vacancy, as he sees fit.

ARTICLE IV Running Rules and Regulations

(a) The stakes and the order of their running shall be as follows: A Derby and an All-Age stake.

(b) No entries can be made except by a member of the Association in good standing.

(c) Any person owning an interest in any hound entered must be a member of the National Foxhunters Association, Inc.

(d) All entry fees must be paid at time of entering hound.

- (e) Every hound entered at any trial held under these rules must be the bona fide property of the person or partnership making such entry.
- (f) No change in a hound's name, number, or breeding shall be permitted after the first days cast of any stake.
- (g) The breeder of a hound is in the individual or partnership owning or leasing the dam at time of her being bred.
- (h) Each entry shall be issued a collar with a nameplate attached. The same name and address must appear on the collar of every entry. A red collar will be used for the All-Age and a blue collar will be used for the Futurity, with a \$2.00 charge to be made on each collar. A personal collar may also be run with a National collar.
- (i) All hounds must carry plainly painted or dyed numbers on both sides with number corresponding with that drawn at entry desk.
- (j) As soon as the final entries for the field trial close, the secretaries shall make up a numerical list of the entries.
- (k) Objections, or protests, to any hound entered must be made to the directors in writing. Should any objections be made that cannot at the time be sustained or disproved, the hound may be allowed to run under protest, the Association retaining his winning, if any, until the objections has been decided. Should the hound be disqualified, the others shall be placed the same as if the hound had not been in the stake. Any person making false charges against officials, members of hounds shall be fined or suspended by the Board of Directors at their discretion. The fine is to be not less than \$5.00 or more than \$25.00.
- (l) The Board of Directors may refuse any entry they think proper to exclude in any manner in connection with the National Foxhunters Association, Incorporated, shall be allowed to compete in any trials that may be held under the auspices of the Association, or shall become a member in good standing, unless apology is made, then the Board of Directors has discretionary power to reinstate each member.
- (m) Any member of the National Foxhunters Association who approaches a judge or judges and recommends certain hounds should be scored or eliminated, such action will be considered misconduct and said member shall be fined or suspended at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- (n) No hound can be withdrawn without the express permission of the Master of Hounds. Any hound withdrawn or crated without his permission forfeits his score in the field and his winning on the bench.

THE DERBY

The Derby stake for Affiliated Associations or any association running under National Rules is for hounds under 2 years of age. The Chase Futurity is for hounds whelped on or after the first of January of the year preceding the field trial.

- (a) The Board of Directors shall have power to substitute the Chase Futurity in place of the Derby in any year.
(Note: See page 55)
- (b) The winner of this stake shall be the hound receiving the highest general average in the four classes.

THE ALL-AGE

The All-Age stake is for hounds of any age. Any hound scratched in the Derby for interfering with the chase will not be permitted to compete in the All-Age stake at the same trials. Persistent rabbit running is considered one form of interfering with the chase. Any hound is eligible for this class whether registered or not.

- (a) The entry fee will be \$35.00 for each hound entered.
- (b) Upon the winner of the highest general average in the four classes of the All-Age Championship Stake will be conferred the title of National Field Champion.

ROLL CALL

Any hound failing to answer Roll Call on the first day of any stake, Derby or All-Age shall be eliminated. The Daily Score Sheets to show—"Failed to Answer."

On second day, ALL hounds must answer Roll Call or make a satisfactory report to Master of Hounds at Roll Call. If no report is made at Roll Call, they will be marked as Failed to Answer and eliminated. Any hound reported LOST on the second day will retain his score and remain eligible to compete.

On the third or last day, all hounds must answer Roll Call or they will be eliminated. All hounds that answer or report LOST to the Master of Hounds will be eliminated, showing LOST in the Notes Column.

This does not apply to derby stake of Affiliated Associations running only 2 days. A hound reported lost to the Master of Hounds on 2nd day of a two day derby shall retain any score of previous day and if such hound joins in the chase, may be scored.

Tail gaiting or casting from trucks and trailers shall be permitted at the National Foxhunters Association Trials and at affiliated association trails all days excepting the last day, which must be cast from a leash.

ARTICLE V

Hound Owners and Handlers

Any member allowing a hound to get loose and join in a chase in which he has not been entered, or from which he has been eliminated, may be fined at the discretion of the Board of Directors, not less than \$5.00 or more than \$25.00 for each offense.

Any owner or his handler may handle a hound but it must be one or the other. When the owner has deputized another person to handle for him he must not interfere.

All damage done by a hound, or by a rider to hounds, at any field trials held by this Association, must be made good by the owner of such hound or by the individual doing such damage; but in the event of the owner, or individual in question, refusing or neglecting to make good such damage, the Directors shall if convinced of the facts, expel the member from the Association, and direct the Treasurer to make good the damage.

When hounds are entered at the National Field Trials, the owner of hounds or handlers of such hounds will be issued their numbers at the entry desk before midnight. Numbers will be obtained by drawing and shall not be in sequence unless drawn. No numbers shall be reserved at the National. Numbers may be reserved at affiliated association at the option of the President.

The owner of handler hunting a hound must not speak to or urge him on in any manner.

Should any owner or his handler inure or purposely interfere with an opponent's hound, he will be expelled from the Association and all his entries barred.

ARTICLE VI

Challenge Cups

All challenge cups not won outright must be returned to the Secretary on or before the first day of the Stake. Members shall have the cups properly marked at their own expense, and it must be uniform engraving.

ARTICLE VII

General Rules

There must be no hunting of any description by the members of this association other than the trials during the week of the trials within the limits of the field trail territory.

Lunch wagons, luncheons, or picnics of any description are forbidden on the hunting grounds during the trials. Cooking on the hunting grounds is prohibited.

ARTICLE VII

Judging in the Field

- (a) Hounds will be allowed five minutes after the cast on the first day, three minutes after the cast on the second day, and two minutes after the cast on the third day in each stake before any may be reported by the judges for babbling.
- (b) A hound left on a "jump" or thrown out "on a loss" shall not be penalized if it works diligently to "get in" and succeeds in a reasonable time.
- (c) Every All-Age hound mouthing tracks other than fox, deer, bobcat or wolf tracks shall be reported by the judges at their meeting. Hounds may only be eliminated by a majority vote of the judges.
- (d) Persistent rabbit running shall be classed as one form of interfering with the chase.
- (e) A "gun-shy" hound shall not be penalized for being cowed by gunfire.
- (f) Any hound shall be scratched for babbling. Babbling is defined as giving false tongue to the extent of interfering with the chase. In case of a hound babbling to the extent of interfering with hounds or the chase and seen by two or more judges who agree that such is the case, that hound can be ordered tied up or crated by such judges. A hound shall not be considered as babbling should he be running as much as thirty yard down-wind from a track; or should he continue to give tongue a few times on a run over; or should he give one or two eager mouths at a bad fence when harking to running hounds. Except that, if a hound remain at a fence and continue to give tongue, the, he shall be scratched. Hounds guilty of such actions as running stock, stock paths, hound or horse tracks, back-tracking, or running a covered track, babbling at a stream or indiscriminate babbling, shall be scratched. Hounds running deer must not be scratched nor can they be scored. Judges must do all within their power to break up a deer race. Hounds must be given reasonable time to hunt on after being scolded when spectators or judges are breaking up a deer race.
- (h) A hound that shows no inclination to hunt may be reported for loafing by the judges at their meeting.
- (i) In conjunction with the rules specifically mentioned herein, a hound may be eliminated for any misbehavior in the field when in the opinion of the judges such misbehavior is a fault which would mar the characteristics of an ideal field champion or which might become detrimental to the chase.
- (j) Judges shall use due discretion in scoring or scratching hounds and where reasonable doubt arises of either the good work or faults of hounds, shall question the score of such hounds until such time as the judges may become convinced of the value of the work. At no time should more than two judges ride together, unless following a pack of hounds running in full cry.
- (k) The hunt must be called off automatically after running a minimum of five hours hunting each day or sooner upon vote in the field of the Master of Hounds and majority of judges. If, before the five hours are up, the M.F.H. finds that due to unfavorable conditions, hounds cannot trail or ran a fox, he should try to contact a majority of the judges and call off the hunt.
- (l) Judges' watches must be synchronized with that of the M.F.H. each day (preferably at the time of the cast).
- (m) When work or faults in the field are observed by a judge the exact time must be recorded and reported along with his recommendations based on these observations. The importance of recording correctly both the exact time and the quality of the work observed cannot be overstressed.
- (n) Should a pack become divided, the judges must separate and carefully note the work of each pack.
- (o) The judges should follow the hounds after the cast as closely as they can but they must not carry the hounds off or out of the territory, they wish to hunt.
- (p) When a hound cries a cold track, other hounds that cast wide, hunting for the warmer scent of the fox may be scored for Hunting. The judge must give time when recording a hound's work.

THE FOUR CLASSES

(a) The four classes for scoring hounds may be defined as follows:

1. **Hunting:** Hound that persistently hunts a fox or a wolf as the case may be.
Note: A harking, following or drifting hound should not be scored as a hunting hound.
2. **Trailing:** When a trail is struck and the hounds start working the line, hounds must give tongue. No hound should be scored for trailing a track without crying it and steadily progressing on track. Hounds shall be scored for hunting if it quits tonguing the track and hunts for warmer scent.
3. **Speed and Driving:** When fox is started and the pack is running, the judges should endeavor to get to the pack and score all hounds showing Speed and Driving
4. **Endurance:** Endurance is one of the important characteristics of a good foxhound.

HOME PLATE JUDGE

The Executive Committee shall select from the list of proposed judges a Home Plate Judge, to be approved by the Board of Directors. This judge is to take the number of any hound returning to the casting grounds, the time it came and how long it stayed. He should take notes on the actions of such hounds and report same to the judges in their meeting. Should a hound return to the casting ground before the hunt is called off, it should be the duty of this judge to urge such a hound to continue hunting. The judge should in all fairness to the hound and owner, call the hound away from the crowd and horses and give him every opportunity to recast. If the hound then refuses to hunt, it is the duty of the Home Plate Judge to recommend to the judges that the hound be scratched.

The Home Plate Judge shall score hound work which comes under his observation in the field.

The Home Plate Judge shall kennel in a truck provided for that purpose, or turn over to their owners, all hounds loafing around the casting grounds, when said judge becomes firmly convinced that such hounds shall be eliminated for loafing.

ARTICLE IX Judge's Meeting

(a) The judges shall hold their meeting daily as soon as possible after each hunt. No person other than the judges and the Master of Hounds shall be present at their meeting unless specifically authorized by the President of the Association, as provided in Article I (b) Page 15.

(b) The majority rule shall apply in all cases. The M.F.H. shall preside as secretary at judges' meetings. He shall keep in his possession the score sheet, one other than the one that is posted. His private score sheet should be scored with indelible pencil. The M.F.H. shall call for scores and register on score sheet the majority vote of the judge. There shall be kept an individual daily score sheet, upon suitable forms provided by the Secretary of the Association, showing the number of the hound, the name of the judge, or judges, who scored or scratched the hound, the various times the hound was scored, his total possible score and the score finally voted by the judges. These sheets shall be kept by the Master of Hounds in his custody and confidential. Immediately upon the posting of the final score sheet, he shall deliver all such sheets to the Secretary, who must also keep same confidential. If, within twenty-four hours from the time of posting the final score sheet, no formal protest has been filed with the Secretary then the Secretary shall destroy them; otherwise they shall be preserved for such action as the Board of directors may take.

The final decision must be rendered in writing to the President and Secretary, who shall announce the result and make awards.

(c) When the Dailey Score sheet is finished the Master of Hounds shall post it on Bulletin board at Headquarters after the judges' meeting each day. This sheet must state the score of each hound up to that time.

SCORING IN THE JUDGES' MEETING

DECISION: The decisions on both stakes are to be made under four headings, as follows: Hunting, Trailing, Speed and Driving, and Endurance. Ten places are to be awarded in each of these four classes. (In case of tie see pages 33-34-35).

Scoring: The scoring must begin with a minimum of 10 points and may be increased consistently in multiples of five (5). Scores shall be called for by the M.F.H. on hounds in the order of roll call as follows:

"No. 1. Is there any reason why you judges would eliminate this hound?"

If the majority of the judges vote to eliminate No. 1, M.F.H. rules a line across score sheet.

The cause for elimination is recorded in the column for that purpose. In case No. 1 is not scratched M.F.H. then asks for this hound's score in Hunting.

The number of points in each hound's score is determined by a majority vote of the judges. Each judge's vote is not necessarily added to the other. Each judge having observed the hound, recommends the highest score he thinks this hound should have, and the highest score agreed upon by the majority of the judges will be the hound's score in the Hunting Class for that day. Trailing, Speed and Driving scores are then take up in the order mentioned and decided in an identical manner.

No one judge can give a merit or demerit to any hound in any class. It takes the majority vote of the judges to score either way.

HUNTING CLASS. No hound, during the first hour of Hunting in any one day's hunt shall be voted more than 10 points for his work done within that hour; no more than 15 points for Hunting during the second hour; no more than 20 points for Hunting during the third hour; no more than 25 points for Hunting during the fourth hour, and no more than 30 points for Hunting for any succeeding hour during the day's hunt. The perfect hound can score only 100 points in Hunting in any one day.

TRAILING. Hounds shall not be scored in Trailing more than thirty points in any one interval of twenty minutes. No hound shall receive maximum of 30 points at any one interval unless it produces fox or wolf.

Speed and Driving and Endurance are scored in the following manner.

SPEED AND DRIVING. The hound leading the pack shall be scored 35 points, the second hound shall be scored 30 points, the third hound shall be scored 25 points, the fourth hound shall be scored 20 points. Other hounds in the pack shall be scored fifteen points each. No hound shall be scored more than 35 points in any one interval of ten minutes.

Hounds shall only be score for their best position during a ten minute interval.

A hound running a fox alone may be scored a maximum of 20 points if so recommended.

If at any time a judge fails to get the first hound running a fox at a crossing he must disregard that crossing and ride to score the hounds at another crossing.

When the Derby and All-Age Stakes are run together, hounds must be scored in Speed and Driving on any corssing exactly as if running in a separate stake.

1. Only one All-Age and one derby running a fox. Each only gets 20 points.
2. Two or more All-Age and one derby running a fox. All-Age hound scored according to position. Derby hound gets only 20 points.
3. One All-Age and two or more derby hounds running a fox. All-Age hound gets only 20 points. Derby's scored according to position.
4. Two All-Age hounds and two derby or futurity hounds are caught at a crossing. The first derby or futurity hound gets 35 points, second derby or futurity hound gets 30 points; first All-Age hound gets 35 points and second All-Age hound gets 30 points, etc.

ENDURANCE. All hounds that finish a field trial and that have scored in either Hunting or Trailing AND have also scored in Speed and Driving during the entire hunt, with a sum total of 40 points or more, will automatically earn an Endurance Score of 1/4 of his or her total score across the board, beginning with ten points, adding in multiples of five where

permissible--to be computed only on the final day on the hounds that have finished the trials. Each day's score will count, but figured only on the last day. The Endurance score will be figured on the last day and the total posted on the Daily Sheets in the Endurance column before making sum total of all scores and before starting to figure the Highest General Average.

The results: Each hound getting an Endurance score will have received it from his other classes. No hound, therefore, can have an Endurance score, he or she has not earned from other scores.

To get an Endurance score, hounds must have scored in either Hunting or Trailing, as well as, having scored also in Speed and Driving, during the entire trial. No hound, therefore, can have an Endurance score, which he or she has not earned.

EXAMPLES

Hound No. 5 - 10 in Hunting, 10 in Trailing, 15 in Speed and Drive. This hound has scored across the board but he has less than the sum total of forty (40) points, so is not eligible for an Endurance Score.

Hound No. 20 could have no Hunting, no Trailing, 200 points in Speed and Driving, therefore he could have no Endurance score.

Hound No. 30 - 10 Hunting, 20 Trailing, 15 Speed and Driving, a total of 45 points in the entire hunt. He would get the closest 1/4 of his entire score - 10 points in Endurance.

Hound No. 40 - 60 Hunting, no Trailing, 90 Speed and Driving, a total of 150 points for entire hunt. His Endurance score would be 35 points.

Hound No 50 - No Hunting, 50 Trailing, 125 Speed and Driving, a total of 175 points. The closest 1/4 in round figures - 40 points in Endurance.

Hound No. 60 - 95 Hunting, 65 Trailing, 200 Speed and Driving, a total of 360 points. This score rounds out in 1/4 to 90 points in Endurance.

All hounds get the Endurance they earn. They must earn the score they are allowed. (To be figured on the last day) This same scoring method shall be followed as many days as judges order stake to continue to final decision.

When the judges are ready for final decision the highest scored hound in Hunting is winner of the Hunting class. The highest scored hound in Trailing is winner of the Trailing class and likewise in Speed and Drive and Endurance. Hunting class shall be finished before starting on Trailing then Speed and Driving and then Endurance in this order as one class has no bearing on any other class.

IN CASE OF TIE IN CLASSES

Ties shall be untied completely through the ten place in each of the four classes. Should two or more hounds be tied with the same score in any one class, the hound having the largest total daily score in all classes shall be adjudged the winner of that class; the hound having the next largest total score shall be second, and so on. Should a tie exist between two or more hounds it shall be untied in the manner as prescribed for untying the Highest General Average. (See pages 35).

No ties shall be untied by a vote of the judges except in case of a tie where two or more hounds are tied in all four classes, then a vote of the judges shall untie the tie.

H.G.A.

After all four classes have been finished for each hound, the Highest General Average shall be figured.

The highest general averages of the hounds for the first ten places shall be determined as follows:

- The top scoring highest in each class shall receive a weight or points of 100.
- The hound scoring second in each class shall receive a weight or points of 90.
- The hound scoring third in each class shall receive a weight or points of 80.
- The hound scoring fourth in each class shall receive a weight or points of 70.
- The hound scoring fifth in each class shall receive a weight or points of 60.
- The hound scoring sixth in each class shall receive a weight or points of 50.

The hound scoring seventh in each class shall receive a weight or points of 40.

The hound scoring eighth in each class shall receive weight or points of 30.

The hound scoring ninth in each class shall receive a weight or points of 20.

The hound scoring tenth in each class shall receive a weight or points of 10.

Each hound's general average shall be arrived at by adding the points received by the hound in each class.

For example, consider the first hound on your daily score sheet. If he won Hunting he starts with 100 points. If he is second in Trailing he gets 90 points additional; third in Speed and Driving, 80 points; second in Endurance, 90 points additional. Therefore, the No 1 hound scores 360 points toward H.G.A.

The No. 2 hound perhaps scores second in Hunting and gets 90 points. He does not score in Trailing, but is second in Speed and Driving and fourth in Endurance, making him a total of 250 points toward H.G.A.

Suppose No. 3 hound scored fourth in Hunting, fourth in Trailing, first in Speed and Driving and third in Endurance. He would then receive 320 points toward H.G.A.

Thus, the scores for the H.G.A. are figured all the way through for the first ten places, the hound with the highest points given first place, next highest second place and so on to the tenth place.

Revert to Daily sheets for scores in untying all ties.

IN CASE OF TIE FOR H.G.A.

In case of tie, the highest scored hound in the Hunting class of hounds tied shall be the winner. If they remain tied in Hunting, then Trailing shall untie the tie.

In the event said hounds remain tied in Trailing, then Speed and Driving shall untie the tie.

In there event there is no Speed and Driving score, there will be no Endurance Score.

But in the event said hounds remain tied in Speed and Driving, then Endurance shall untie the tie. In the event said hounds remain tied in Endurance, the latest hound scored in hunting shall untie the tie; if still tied, the latest speed and driving score shall untie the tie.

The perfect score is 400, which means first in each of the four classes.

ARTICLE XII Bench Show

(a) The Bench Show of the National Fox Hunters Association shall be held at the discretion of the president, during the week of the annual Field Trials.

(b) The President shall appoint one judge, subject to the approval of the board of directors, who shall make the awards.

(c) No entrance fee is charged in the regular classes of the Bench Show. Only hounds actually competing in either the Derby (Futurity) field trial or the All-Age field trail are eligible to be shown in the Bench Show. All hounds to be shown on the bench must be duly entered in their appropriate field classes and all fees paid before being shown on the bench in their corresponding classes.

At a field trial where no Derby stake is run, but Derby Classes are included in the Bench Show, hounds shown in the Derby Class must compete in the All-Age Field.

In all open field trails only two classes can be shown on the bench; male and female. (Pertains to field trials with only one stake).

(d) Classes in the Bench Show are judged in the following order: First, Derby dogs; Second, Derby bitches; Third, All-Age dogs, Fourth, All-Age bitches; Fifth, Best Couple; Sixth, Best Two Couples; Seventh, Natural Carriage.

(e) Finally the two winners, Derby male and All-Age male, are shown together with the judge selecting the Best Male. Next the two winners, Derby female and All-Age female, are shown together, with the judge selecting the best

female. Then the Best Male and Best Female are shown together, with the judge then selecting the Best in Show and Best Opposite Sex. Best in Show shall be known as National Bench Champion.

(f) In each of the first four classes (see (d) above), the Judge shall make ten awards, if sufficient entries permit.

(g) The hounds shown as couple or as two couples must be owned entirely by the member or kennel entering them. No combinations are allowed to be made on the day of the show.

(h) In judging a couple or couples neither age nor sex is essential. The judge must take into consideration the individual excellency as compared to the bench show standard, but also the "matching-up" of the couple or couples as to type, size, etc. Award shall be made on the basis of 50% for individual excellency and 50% for the collective "matching-up."

(i) No hound, which has won the National Bench Championship, will be allowed to be shown again at any bench show of the National Fox Hunters Association or the Bench show of any affiliated association. (Exception see Special Classes).

(j) For shows where a Puppy Class is added, no entry in the Puppy Class is eligible to show in any other class.

(k) In order to receive any bench show awards earned by a hound, the hound must compete in the field trials unless permitted to be withdrawn by the Master of Hounds.

(l) The Master of Hounds may permit a hound competing in the Bench show to be withdrawn only on evidence of accidental injury or sickness, which would be detrimental to the hound if it continued in competition in the field. Disability due to a hound not being in proper running condition before being cast in the field does not constitute satisfactory reason for permission for withdrawing a hound.

Any hound that fails to answer Roll Call the first day or fails to answer or give satisfactory report to Master of Hounds at cast on any succeeding day shall forfeit all bench awards. Hounds marked Failed to Answer, Crated, or Withdrawn without permission of the Master of Hounds, shall forfeit their bench awards.

Hounds eliminated for field faults shall retain their bench wins. On the last day of the field trial for its respective class, any bench show winner that is LOST shall be so reported at the cast to the Master of Hounds. The hound will be eliminated from the field trial; showing LOST in Score Sheet Notes Column, but will retain its bench winnings. The bench show report will show "Forfeited (Reason)" where bench winner fail to meet field requirements. No hound can be removed up to replace such forfeitures.

To be eligible for a Combination Winner, a hound must place on the bench and in one or more places of the field trial. Each of the ten places on the bench and the ten places in the four field classes shall have the corresponding point as are given class winners in the field, namely 100 points for first, ninety points for second, 80 points for third and so on down through the ten places. The hound having the highest combined total points awarded from one bench class and the four field classes is the winner. In case of a tie, the hound in the tie having the highest score in the field (from H.G.A.) shall be declared the winner.

SPECIAL CLASSES

Mason Houghland or Natural Carriage Class:

There will also be a class called "The Mason Houghland" or "Natural Carriage" class, open to all hounds, male or female, entered in either Derby or All-Age Stakes. Hounds are to be shown on leash only and not to be otherwise touched or handled in the ring. The hounds are to be judged for conformation under the rules as set out in the National Fox Hunters Association Bench Standard. This special class is to be judged by the judge for the show designated under (b) above. (This class is optional with affiliated associations.)

Grand National Champion

National Show Only

After all regular classes have been shown, a class will be shown with entries limited to National Bench Champions, including the current Champion. These hounds are otherwise ineligible for any other competition. (See (1) page 40). Winner of this special class will be declared "Grand National Champion."

An entry fee of \$5.00 shall be charged for each hound in the class, with the judging to be done by the regularly appointed judge, See (b) above.

BENCH STANDARDS FOR AMERICAN FOXHOUNDS

The American Foxhound has physique and characteristics singular to its purpose. Hounds in hard running condition should be given preference over those that are soft or show too much flesh.

HEAD

Skull: The Skull should be fairly long with the cranium broad and full, slightly domed at occipital area adjoining the neck.

Defects: A very flat skull; narrow across the top; excess of dome.

Ears: Ears set on moderately low, long, reaching when drawn out nearly to the tip of the nose; fine in texture; fairly broad; with almost entire absence of erectile power; setting close to the head with the forward edge turning in slightly toward the cheek; round at tip.

Defects: Ears short; set on high, or with tendency to rise above the point or origin.

Eyes: Eyes large, set well apart; soft and hound-like; expression gentle and pleading; any color.

Defects: Eyes sharp and terrier-like or prominent and protruding.

Muzzle: Muzzle of fair length; straight and square cut; the stop moderately defined.

Defects: Muzzle long and snipey; cut away decidedly below the eyes, or very short; parrot mouth or undershot mouth; Roman nosed, or upturned giving a dishface expression.

BODY

Neck and Throat: Neck of medium length rising free and light from the shoulders, strong in substance yet not loaded. The throat clean and free from folds of skin.

Defects: A thick, short, cloddy neck carried on a line with the top of the shoulder. Throat showing dewlap and folds of skin to a degree termed "throatiness."

Shoulders, Chest and Ribs: Shoulders sloping; clean, muscular, not heavy or loaded, conveying the image of freedom of action with activity and strength. Chest should be deep for lung space, narrower in proportion to depth, 28 inches in a 23 inch hound being good. Well sprung ribs; back ribs should extend well back; a three-inch flank allowing springiness.

Defects: Straight, upright shoulders; chest disproportionately wide or with lack of depth. Flat ribs.

Back & Loin: Back moderately long, muscular and strong. Loins broad and slightly arched.

Defects: Very long or swayed or rached back. Flat, narrow loins.

FORE-LEGS AND FEET

Fore-legs: Straight, with fair amount of bone. Pasterns short and straight.

Defects: out at elbow. Knees knuckled over forward, or bent backward. Fore-legs crooked.

Feet: Fox-like, pad full and hard. Well arched toes; strong nails.

Defects: Feet long, open or spreading.

HIPS, THIGHS, HINDLEGS AND FEET

Hips and Thighs: Strong and muscled, giving abundance of propelling power. Stifles strong and well let down. Hocks firms, symmetrical and moderately bent. Feet close and firm.

Defects: Cow hocks or straight hocks. Lack of muscle and propelling power. Open feet. Any male with less than two testicles must be automatically eliminated.

TAIL

Tail: Set moderately high; well developed, strong, carried well, with slight upward curve and with good brush.

Defects: A long tail. Tea pot curve or inclined forward from the root. Rat Tail, entire absence of brush. Any hound with a docked tail shall be automatically eliminated.

COAT

Coat: A hard hound coat of medium length.

Defects: A short thin coat or a coat of soft quality.

HEIGHT

Height: It is preferred that dogs not be under 22 or over 26 inches and that bitches not be under 21 or over 25 inches. If a hound is measured, the measurement should be made across the back at the point of the withers, while the hound is standing in a natural position with his feet well under him. A foxhound within the height standard shall be given preference over a hound outside the height standard, if the two are equal in confirmation.

COLOR

Color: Any color.

SCALE OF POINTS

Head

Skull	5
Ears	5
Eyes	5
Muzzle	<u>5</u>
	20

Body

Neck	5
Chest and Shoulders	15
Back, Loins and Ribs	<u>15</u>
	35

Running Gear

Forelegs	10
Hips, Thighs and Hind Legs	10
Feet	<u>15</u>
	35

Coat and Tail

Coat	5
Tail	<u>5</u>
	10

Total 100