Summary of Changes to the Tracking Rules and Regulations Effective Jan. 1, 2017

1. **The entry system has been completely revised (6.5 and 6.6**). Entries received up to the closing date will be placed into a random draw(6.6.1) for places in the test and on the alternate list. Only one entry per dog per level will be allowed in the draw (6.5.1), as all other duplicate entries will be set aside. There is no longer an Acceptance or Opening date. Premium lists must be available 30 days before the closing date (4.1). The closing date must be at least 10 days prior to the test (6.1.17), but can be earlier if the club choses. Limited tests will close on the published closing date and not before, even if more entries are received than places available in the test. The entry draw will take place within 48 hours of closing (6.6.1). The time, date and location of the entry draw must be published in the Premium List (4.1(p)) so that interested parties can witness the draw (6.6.1). The secretary will notify the entrant on the day the entry is received (6.5.1) and will notify the entrant of his/her position in the test or on the alternate list within 24 hours of the entry draw at closing (6.6.3).
2. **The “Entry Draw” may end up as a series of draws, depending on what options the club has chosen (worker draw, specialty with options for other breeds, mixed/non-recognized breeds allowed).** However, in all cases, purebred dogs are to be given priority over non-purebred dogs (2.2.4) and untitled dogs are to be given priority over titled dogs (2.2.4). Hence, if there is a worker draw, then non-recognized worker dogs will be drawn after the titled non-worker dogs have been selected, but before the non-purebred titled dogs, etc. (see attached sheet).
3. **A host club has the option of setting aside up to ¼ of the tracks (rounded down) in any level in a test for entrants that have worked at a previous test (6.6.2).** This must be stated in the Premium List, with the number of tracks at each level set aside for workers (6.6.2). The worker draw will take place immediately before the main entry draw for tracks and any unsuccessful worker entrants will have their entries added to the main entry draw. The definition of a worker is left up to the host club, but must be for workers in **previous** tests only.
4. **A host club has the option of opening their tests to mixed breeds and unrecognized breeds (2.2.4).** However, it must be announced in the Premium List (4.1(q)) and purebred dogs, both untitled and titled will have priority over mixed and unrecognized breeds in the draw for places in the test. Mixed breed and non-recognized breed dogs must have a Canine Companion Number (CCN) to enter a test (6.1.1(f)). This requires the dog to be neutered.
5. **A new title, Master Tracking Champion (MTCh), has been added (8.1.4).** A dog that is already a Tracking Champion (TCh) must pass an additional TDX under a different judge from the judge which it passed its TDX for its TCh title. Likewise, it must pass an additional UTDX under a different judge from the one it passed its UTDX for its TCh title.
6. **The maximum number of dogs that a judge may test in one day at the UTD level is increased to 10 UTDs from 9 (3.2.1).** The limits on the number of dogs judged for all other levels remains the same as before (12 TDs, 6 TDXs, 5 UTDs).
7. **The majority of the vegetated portions of the UTD and UTDX tracks should be on ground cover that is regularly maintained for example, by mowing as would be typical of lawns in urban areas (10.5.1).** This change allows some short portions of urban tracks to cross higher cover that might be encountered in urban settings. In addition, the definition of vegetated surfaces has been broadened beyond simply “cut grass”.
8. **The event hosting club is responsible for providing appropriate sites for all tracking tests (10.1.7).** If a site is unsuitable and no alternative can be provided by the club, the judge may cancel that portion of the test and must submit a report to the CKC within 21 days. If the problem with sites is of a permanent nature (i.e. not due to an unusual or temporary problem) the CKC may refuse future applications from the club until it is satisfied that suitable sites will be provided.
9. **Tests are open to disabled handlers and assistance to handlers due to a physical disability may be provided (2.7 and 10.5.1(b))**. This has been the case since 2009, but was not included in the Rules and Regulations and appeared to conflict with the previous wording of 10.5.1(b) which has now been clarified.
10. **The parameters defining the amount of veg and non-veg track on a UTD have been redefined (10.9(d))**. The total of the veg portion is between 200 and 270m and the portion of non-veg is between 100 and 140 m, with the total track length being between 300 and 400 m. This change allows tracks to have ratios of veg to non-veg to deviate somewhat from the 2/3 to 1/3 previously, but maintains the minimum and maximum distances allowed on either type of surface. This change was made so that UTD tracks could be plotted more easily without adding unnecessary extra length of one or the other type of surface just to maintain the correct ratio.
11. **The “narrow opening” rule has been removed**. Tracks can be plotted through openings narrower than 48”.
12. **There are new rules about disqualification of dogs for biting or viciousness (6.10) that apply to all CKC performance events.**
13. **The CKC has added/changed the wording of the Protests section (12.1(a), (b) and (c)).** This change deals encourages protests to be lodged prior to the closing of the event and outlines the circumstances under which protests may be delayed.

**How these changes will affect judges:**

Judges may judge up to 10 UTDs in one day.

Judges may plot urban tests that go across ground cover that isn’t strictly “cut grass’ and they can plot **short** sections through longer vegetation as might be encountered occasionally in urban settings, such as along temporary drainage ditches or on steep slopes or in naturalized areas, etc.

Judges may allow modifications to accommodate a handler with disabilities providing that such modification does not aid the dog’s performance or inhibit other dogs and the dog is required to perform all exercises/routines. Handlers with disabilities may be aided where necessary due to physical disability.

When plotting a UTD judges no longer have to balance the distance on non-veg with the distance on veg such that a 1:2 ratio is maintained. Instead there are upper and lower limits for each type of surface, with the same upper and lower limits for the total track length as previously. This change will not substantially change the nature of the UTD tracks plotted.

Judges can plot tracks through openings narrower than 48”. As with all other aspects of the track, however, be aware of the physical difficulties that very narrow openings may impose on larger dogs or handlers.

Judges have the authority to excuse or disqualify a dog which menaces, threatens, attempts to bite or bites the judge, another person or another dog anywhere on the tracking test grounds. When a dog is twice excused on this account, it shall have the status of a disqualified dog (6.10.2). Judges also have the authority to permanently disqualify a dog which bites the judge or another person anywhere on tracking test grounds. Dogs disqualified under this provision will not be eligible for reinstatement (6.10.3).

**How these changes will affect clubs:**

Clubs should decide if they want to have a worker draw option and if so, how many tracks they wish to set aside for workers and how they will define workers.

Clubs should decide when they want the test to close. If 10 days is insufficient for planning reasons, then they may want to publish an earlier closing date.

Clubs need to decide if they want to let mixed/non-recognized breeds into your test. Remember than purebred dogs will **always** have priority over mixed/non-recognized breeds, even purebred dogs with titles. Potentially, this option will allow clubs to fill tests if there are insufficient purebred entries.

Clubs are responsible for ensuring that they have sufficient, suitable sites available for the test. A club that provides inadequate sites may be barred from holding tracking tests until the CKC is satisfied that their sites are sufficient. It may be prudent for a club to have ‘spare’ sites available in case of unforeseen problems.

Protests against a dog should be lodged before the end of the event, unless this is not possible due to circumstances requiring medical and/or veterinary attention or because the dog has been removed from the grounds or if the owner and dog leave the grounds immediately following the incident. In this case the protest can be submitted directly to the CKC within 10 days.

**How these changes will affect test secretaries:**

Secretaries will see the biggest changes.

Premium lists no longer will give an Acceptance Date for entries, but instead will need to state the date, time and location of the entry draw.

If there is to be a worker draw, then this needs to be stated in the premium list along with the number of each level of test tracks that will be set aside for workers. It should also state how workers will indicate that their entry should be considered for the worker draw (e.g. a separate box to check on the entry form labelled ‘Do you wish this entry to be entered in the worker draw? Yes No’).

The premium list should clearly state if the test is open to mixed/non-recognized breeds.

The premium list needs to be available for potential entrants 30 days before the closing date of the test. The closing date needs to be at least 10 days before the test.

As entries are received, the secretary needs to open them, sort them according to test level, worker/non-worker (if that option is exercised by the club), purebred/mixed and non-recognized breed (if that option is exercised by the club), titled /untitled, specialty breed/non-specialty breed, etc (see attached protocol). All duplicate entries need to be set aside as only one entry per dog per level is allowed in the entry draw. Entrants should be informed promptly upon receipt of their entry that the entry has been received.

Once the test has closed, the entry draw should be done at the time, date and location advertised in the premium list. (see attached protocol). It is recommended that a witness be present for the draw.

Once the draw has been completed, entrants should be notified of their place in the draw or on the alternate list within 24 hours of the draw.

**How these changes will affect entrants:**

Entrants need to send in their entries to be received by the secretary no later than closing. It is no longer necessary to try to time your entry to arrive on opening day, as all entries received prior to closing will be included in the entry draw at closing.

Premium lists should be available from the club at least 30 days prior to the closing date.

If the premium list states that there will be places set aside for workers, then an entrant should determine if they qualify to be included in the worker draw. If the entrant is eligible for the worker draw, then they should indicate that they wish to be entered in the worker draw.

If the entrant wishes to enter a mixed/non-recognized breed in a test accepting such dogs, the entrant should get Canine Companion Number (CCN) for the dog.

The test secretary should inform the entrant that their entry has been received and after the entry draw, what their position in the test or alternate list is.

Entry fees will only be refunded if an entry is withdrawn before the closing date OR if it is withdrawn after the closing date and an alternate agrees to take their place OR if the entrant was placed on the alternate list in the entry draw and never agrees to replace an entrant in the test.

For entrants that have a TCH and wish to obtain a MTCH, note that the judges for the two TDX passes (the original for the TCH and the second for the MTCH) must be different. Likewise the two UTDX passes must be under two different judges.

For urban tests, the definition of vegetated surfaces is more broadly defined as vegetation that is ‘regularly maintained’ and can include short sections of longer vegetation.

If you have a physical disability and require assistance to participate in the test, this is allowed so long as it doesn’t alter the dog’s performance or interfere with other dogs, etc.

There is no longer a restriction on the width of opening that a track can be plotted through.

The parameters defining the amount of vegetated and non-vegetated surfaces in the UTD track have been slightly modified but this shouldn’t affect the track very much. Theoretically, the ratio of non-veg to veg can range from about 24 to 37% (a change from 33% for all tracks), but the maximum and minimum amount of each type of surface remain substantially the same as they were under the previous rules, as do the maximum and minimum total track length.

Disabled handlers can have assistance where necessary, so long as it doesn’t aid the dog’s performance or inhibit other dogs. The dog must perform all parts of the test.

Be aware that the judge can excuse/disqualify a dog that menaces, threatens, attempts to bite or bites the judge, another person or another dog on test grounds. A twice excused dog is disqualified and cannot be entered in a test until reinstated by the CKC. A judge can permanently disqualify a dog for biting a judge or other person on the test grounds. Such a dog cannot be reinstated and cannot enter any other CKC event.

Also be aware that protests against a dog may be made by exhibitors, handlers, CKC members, club members, etc. should be lodged before the closing of the event, unless it cannot be lodged due to circumstances requiring medical/veterinary care, or the dog and/or owner have left the test grounds. In those cases, it must be lodged with the CKC within 10 days and reasons should be provided for the delay in lodging the protest.