

Hound Trailing Association

2021 Covid-19 Official Practice Trials and Championship Guidelines

Anyone who is not a member of the HTA MUST give their name and contact details on entering the trail field. This is to ensure Track and Trace can still be implemented.

Below are guidelines that must be adhered to at all official trial trails and championship trails.

ANYONE PRESENTING WITH SYMPTOMS OF COVID 19 SHOULD NOT ATTEND ANY HOUND TRAILING EVENT AND SHOULD SELF ISOLATE.

Entrance to The Field, Hound Entry and Donations

The entrance gate must have a table with 2 plastic boxes to receive the entrance fee and hound entry fee; the person manning the gate must be 1 metre from the table and will take entries for the relevant grades advertised; exact money only as no change will be given. Payment must be made with plastic notes or coins only for cleaning purposes.

Parking / Vehicles

Vehicles must be parked at least 1 metre apart, adhering to the social distancing policy; members must not enter other members' vehicles and must stay at least 1 metre apart.

The Slip

The promoter must provide a rope on the ground with tape marking every 1 metre to adhere to social distancing.

If the slip is restricted and social distancing can't be adhered to, in line with government guidelines a mask or face covering is advised to be used at the slip.

During these Covid-19 regulations there will be no 'marking' of any hound at the slip.

The Catch

Due to the frantic nature of the catch the HTA are fully aware social distancing will be very difficult so in line with government guidelines where social distancing can't be guaranteed all handlers are advised to wear a mask or face covering for the duration of the catch. The barrier should be as long as feasibly possible to accommodate the catch and must be marked with tape every 1 metre.

Ticketing Hounds

The Judge, Camera operator and catchers are advised to wear a mask or face covering and catch the relevant ticketing hounds adhering to the social distancing measures.

Prize Money

Prize money will be made available on a table in an envelope for collection after the completion of the trail, all prize money not collected by the end of the meeting will go to the promoter's balance sheet.

Book Making, Catering and other stands selling products

Bookmakers, Caterers and other stands selling products are asked to implement their own covid-19 measures in line with government guidelines, members are asked to adhere to the social distancing guidelines while in the bookies area and queuing for catering facilities.

The HTA will accept no responsibility for any measures individual bookmakers or caterers choose to implement.

Trail Layers

Those laying the trails must always wear gloves and dispose of them at the end of the trail laying.

Roads and Road Scouts

Only the road scout/s and their vehicle should be at any road crossing, strictly no other members at the road crossing.

Prize Draws

Promoters have the option to use a football scratch card to replace a prize drawing, this is similar to a 'dog board' and the winning team will receive a cash prize defined by the promoter.

The normal raffle prize process has been suspended for season 2021.

Maiden Trails& Open Restricted

These grades will revert to pre Covid-19 rules for season 2021

Other Important Information

Promoters

Promoters must disinfect all gates, fences and any other surfaces touched by members in the vicinity of the trail field when everyone has left the trail field.

Some members are in the category of over 70 and/or 'increased risk' groups, are they not permitted to attend the trail field?

The HTA is aware that some members may be at 'high risk' of coronavirus, according to the most up-to-date NHS advice. Those individuals are advised to carefully consider the latest NHS guidance throughout the above regulations, to not bring additional risks to their own health and safety. Whilst the above regulations do not require the HTA to prohibit 'increased risk' individuals from the trail field, everyone is strongly urged to act in their own best interests in line with the NHS advice.