

HOUND TRAILING ASSOCIATION LIMITED – 2021- updated version

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[NOTE - not part of the Articles and Rules: The Rules governing the affairs of the Association fall into two parts. Firstly, the Articles of the Association Part I - which can only be altered by the procedure laid down in the Companies Act 1985, and, secondly, the Rules, Part II which can be altered by the Committee subject to procedure set out in the Articles. The Articles are amended from the edition dated 17th January 1972]

PART I - ARTICLES OF THE ASSOCIATION

Definitions

1.1 In these Articles and any rules made thereunder the words standing in the first column in the table in Clause 1.2 shall bear the meaning set opposite to them in the second column of such table if not inconsistent with the subject or context: -

1.2 First Column Second Column

WORDS

MEANINGS

The Act The Companies Act 1985, including any statutory reenactment thereof and for the time being in force.

The Association The above-named Company.

The Committee The Committee for the time being of the Association.

The Area Committee Any one of the Committees referred to in Clause 12 of these Articles and when reference is made to an Area Committee and an owner, a trail or a hound, the expression "Area Committee" shall refer to the Area Committee for the area in which an owner has his Registered Address, a trail takes place or a hound has its Registered Kennel as appropriate, such further expressions being defined by the Rules.

Member A Member of the Hound Trailing Association Limited.

The Office The registered office of the Association.

The Seal The common seal of the Association.

The Rules Any rule made under Clause 13 for the time being in force.

A Representative Member A Member of the Committee elected under 12.3.1

The Annual Area The meeting provided for in Clause 3.6.

Committees Meeting

The Registered Address A Member's address as recorded in the Register of Members notified under Clause 2.1.

- 1.3 Words importing the singular number only shall include the plural number and vice versa.
- 1.4 Words importing the masculine gender only shall include the feminine gender.
- 1.5 Words importing persons shall include corporations.
- 1.6 Subject as aforesaid, any words or expression defined in the Act or any statutory modifications thereof in force at the date on which these Articles become binding on the Association shall, if not inconsistent with the subject or the context, bear the same meaning in these Articles.

MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Every Member of the Association shall sign a written consent including his address to become a Member and shall be deemed thereby to have agreed to be bound by the provisions of these Articles and by the Rules.
- 2.2 Such persons as the Committee shall admit to Membership in accordance with the provisions hereinafter contained or referred to shall be Members of the Association.

GENERAL MEETINGS

- 3.1 The Association shall hold a General Meeting in every calendar year as its Annual General Meeting at such time and place as may be determined by the Committee, and shall specify the Meeting as such in the notices calling it, provided that every Annual General Meeting except the first shall be held not more than fifteen months after the holding of the last preceding Annual General Meeting and that so long as the Association holds its first Annual General Meeting within eighteen months after its incorporation it need not hold it in the year of its incorporation or in the following year.
- 3.2 All General Meetings, other than Annual General Meetings, shall be called Extraordinary General Meetings.
- 3.3 The Committee may whenever they think fit convene an Extraordinary General Meeting and Extraordinary General Meetings shall also be convened on such requisition, or in default may be convened by such requisitionists, as provided by Section 368 of the Act.

(Note: not forming part of these Articles: 1/10 of Members to sign resolution(s) for requisition of EGM; 21 days notice to be given; 75% majority of those attending needed to pass resolution).

- 3.4 At least twenty one days notice shall be given of every Annual General Meeting and of every Meeting convened to pass a special resolution, and fourteen days notice in writing at least of every other General Meeting (exclusive in every case of both the day on which it is served and of the day for which it is given), specifying the place, the day and the hour of the Meeting, and in the case of special business the general nature of that business, in a manner hereinafter mentioned to such persons (including the Auditors) as are under these Articles or under the Act entitled to receive such notices from the Association, but with the consent of all Members having the right to attend and vote thereat, or of such proportion of them as is prescribed in the Act in the case of Meetings other than Annual General meetings, a Meeting may be convened by such notice as these members may think fit.
- 3.5 The accidental omission to give notice of a Meeting to, or the non-receipt of such notice by, any person entitled to receive notice thereof shall not invalidate any resolution passed, or proceeding had, at any Meeting.
- 3.6 In December of each year, the Secretary shall call a Meeting by written notice to Members of all Area Committees in order to transact such business as the Committee shall from time to time determine.

PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

- 4.1 All business shall be deemed special that is transacted at an Extraordinary General Meeting, and all that is transacted at an Annual General Meeting shall also be deemed special, with the exception of the income and expenditure account and balance sheet, and the reports of the Committee and of the Auditors, the election of Committee in the place of those retiring, and the appointment of, and the fixing of the remuneration of, the Auditors.
- 4.2 No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum is present when the Meeting proceeds to business. Save as herein otherwise provided twenty Members personally present shall be a quorum.
- 4.3 If within half an hour from the time appointed for the holding of a General Meeting a quorum is not present, the Meeting, if convened on the requisition of Members pursuant to Article 3.3, shall be dissolved. In any other case it shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place, or at such other place as the Committee may determine, and if at such adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for holding the Meeting the Members present shall be a quorum.
- 4.4 The Chairman of the Association shall preside as Chairman at every General Meeting, but if at any Meeting, he shall not be present, the Vice Chairman of the Association, or if he is not present, the Members present shall nominate a Member of the Committee who shall be present to preside.
- 4.5 The Chairman may, with the consent of any Meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the Meeting) adjourn the Meeting from time to time, and from place to place but no business shall be transacted at any adjourned Meeting other than the business which might have been transacted at the Meeting from which the adjournment took place. Whenever a Meeting is adjourned for thirty days or more, notice of the adjourned Meeting shall be given in the same manner as of an original Meeting. Save as aforesaid the Members shall not be entitled to any notice of adjournment, or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned Meeting.
- 4.6 At any General Meeting a resolution put to the vote of the Meeting shall be decided upon on a show of hands, or any method as the Chairman shall then decide and a declaration by the Chairman of the Meeting that a resolution has been carried, or carried unanimously or by a particular majority, or lost, or not carried by a particular majority, and an entry to that effect in the minute book of the Association, shall be conclusive evidence of the fact without proof of the number of the votes recorded in favour of or against the resolution.
- 4.7 In the case of equality of votes, the Chairman of the Meeting shall be entitled to an additional or casting vote.
- 4.8 Save as herein expressly provided, no Member other than a Member duly registered, who shall have paid every subscription and other sum (if any) which shall be due and payable to the Association in respect of his membership and who is not suspended from membership shall be entitled to be present and vote on any question at any Meeting.

THE COMMITTEE

5. Until otherwise determined by a General Meeting, the number of Members of the Committee shall not be less than twelve nor more than twenty-eight, made up as follows: Chairman and Vice Chairman, five life Members, fourteen Representative Members, five co-opted Members, and the former Chairman and Vice Chairman holding office in accordance with Clause 6.3.3.

CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

- 6.1 When the Office of Chairman and Vice Chairman is vacant a Chairman or Vice Chairman shall be elected by the Annual Area Committees Meeting.
- 6.2 The Chairman and Vice Chairman provided they are not thereafter disqualified as Members of the Association shall hold office each for three years and shall thereafter be eligible for re-election. When the Chairman and Vice Chairman have served three years their office will be deemed vacant and they shall be available for re-election at the Annual Area Committees Meeting.

- 6.3.1 The Chairman and Vice Chairman must be elected from Members of the Committee but must not be Life Members.
- 6.3.2 The Chairman and Vice Chairman, after election, shall not continue to serve as Area Committee Representatives, so if their election creates a vacancy for an Area Committee Representative, this position to be filled by nomination from amongst Members of that Committee by the Area Committee formerly represented.
- 6.3.3 When a Chairman or Vice Chairman cease to hold office, they shall continue as Members of the Committee until the following Annual General Meeting provided they are not otherwise disqualified as Members.

CO-OPTION

- 7 The Committee may co-opt as Members of the Committee such members as they shall think fit but such Members shall hold office only until the next Annual General Meeting provided that there shall not at any time be more than five co-opted Members and the number of Committee Members does not exceed twenty-eight. A Bookmaker may be one of the five co-opted members of the committee. However, he may not participate in any appeal or similar meeting in which he has a financial interest.

POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

- 8.1 The business of the Association shall be managed by the Committee who may pay all such expenses of, and preliminary and incidental to, the promotion, formation, establishment and registration of the Association as they think fit, and may exercise all such powers of the Association, and do on behalf of the Association all such acts as may be exercised and done by the Association, and as are not by statute or by these Articles required to be exercised or done by the Association in General Meeting subject nevertheless to any regulations of these Articles, the Rules, to the provisions of the statutes of the time being in force and affecting the Association, and to such regulations, being not inconsistent with the aforesaid regulations or provisions, as may be prescribed by the Association in General Meeting, but no Rule or regulation made by the Association in General Meeting shall invalidate any prior act of the Committee which would have been valid if such Rule or regulation had not been made.
- 8.2 The Committee for the time being may act notwithstanding any vacancy in their body, provided always that in case the Committee shall at any time be or be reduced in number to less than the minimum number prescribed by or in accordance with those present, it Shall be lawful for them to act as the Committee for the purpose of admitting persons to membership of the Association, filling up vacancies in their body or of summoning a General Meeting, but not for any other purpose.

THE SECRETARY

- 9.1 The Secretary shall be appointed by the Committee for such time, at such remuneration and upon such conditions as they may think fit, and any Secretary so appointed may be removed by them. The Committee may from time to time by resolution appoint an Assistant or Deputy Secretary, and any person so appointed may act in place of the Secretary if there be no Secretary or no Secretary capable of acting.
- 9.2 The Secretary shall also be the Secretary of each Area Committee and may attend either by himself or by duly authorised deputy but not vote at any Meetings.
- 9.3 The Secretary shall keep a register of members, including each Member's Registered Address.

DISQUALIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

10. A Member of the Committee shall vacate his office: -
 - 10.1 If a receiving order is made against him or he makes any arrangement or composition with his creditors.
 - 10.2 If he becomes of unsound mind.
 - 10.3 If he ceases to be a Member of the Association.

- 10.4 If by notice in writing to the Association he resigns his office.
- 10.5 If he ceases to hold office by reason of any disqualification order.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

- 11.1 The Committee may meet together for the despatch of business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their Meetings as they think fit, and determine the quorum necessary for the transaction of business. Unless otherwise determined, nine shall be a quorum. Questions arising at any Meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In case of an equality of votes the Chairman or the person appointed in his absence under Clause 11.3 shall have an additional or casting vote.
- 11.2 On the request of a Member of the Committee, the Secretary shall, at any time, summon a meeting of the Committee by notice served upon all the Members of the Committee. A Member who is absent from the United Kingdom shall not be entitled to notice of any Meeting.
- 11.3 The Chairman of the Association shall be entitled to preside at all Meetings of the Committee at which he shall be present, but if at any Meeting, the Chairman be not present, the Vice Chairman shall preside or if he is also absent, the Members of the Committee present shall elect one of their number to be chairman of the Meeting.
- 11.4 A Meeting of the Committee at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all the authorities, powers and discretion by or under the regulations of the Association for the time being vested in the Committee generally.
- 11.5 The Committee may delegate any of their powers to Sub-Committees consisting of such Members of the Committee as they think fit, and any Sub-Committee so formed shall, in the exercise of the powers so delegated, conform to any regulations imposed on it by the Committee. The Meetings and proceedings of any such Sub-Committee shall be governed by the provisions of these Articles for regulating the Meetings and proceedings of the Committee so far as applicable and so far as the same shall not be superseded by any regulations made by the Committee.
- 11.6 All acts bona fide done by any Meeting of the Committee, or of any Sub-Committee, or by a person acting as a Member of the Committee shall be valid notwithstanding it shall be afterwards discovered that there was some defect in the appointment or continuance in office of any such Member of the Committee or person acting as aforesaid, or that they or any of them were disqualified and shall be as valid as if every such person had been duly appointed or had continued in office and was qualified to be a Member of the Committee.
- 11.7 Any Committee Member suspended from Membership of the Association shall not be entitled to attend or vote at meetings of the Committee during such period of suspension.

AREA COMMITTEES, MEMBERSHIP AND ROTATION OF AREA COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- 12.1 There shall be seven areas within the Association, namely:
- a. Aspatria and Wigton
 - b. Carlisle and Penrith
 - c. Cockermouth and Workington
 - d. Keswick
 - e. Ulverston
 - f. Westmorland
 - g. Whitehaven

- 12.2 The Committee may from time to time fix or alter the boundaries of such areas or may amalgamate or sub-divide them or create new areas as shall seem to it to be fair and reasonable provided that the number of areas shall not exceed seven.
- 12.3.1 The Area Committee for each of the seven areas administered by the Association shall elect two persons from the Area Committee to be Representative Members of the Committee.
- 12.3.2 Every Representative Member shall serve as a Member of the Committee until the next Area Annual General Meeting following his appointment and shall then be eligible for re-election.
- 12.3.3 If a Representative Member shall cease to be a Member of an Area Committee, that Member shall cease to be a Member of the Committee.
- 12.3.4 The Rules shall provide for the membership and election of Members to each Area Committee.
- 12.3.5 The Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the time being and all life Members of the Association shall be ex-officio Members of each Area Committee.

RULES

- 13.1 The Committee may from time to time make such Rules as they may deem necessary expedient or convenient for the proper conduct and management of the Association and for the purposes of prescribing the classes of and conditions of Membership, and in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, there shall be such Rules to regulate: -
 - 13.1.1 The admission and classification of Members of the Association, the rights and privileges of such Members, the conditions of Membership and the terms on which Members may resign or have their Membership terminated and the entrance fees, subscriptions and other fees or payments to be paid by Members;
 - 13.1.2 The conduct of Members of the Association in relation to one another, and to the Association's servants;
 - 13.1.3 The setting aside of the whole or any part or parts of the Association's premises at any particular time or times or for any particular purpose or purposes;
 - 13.1.4 The procedure at General Meetings and Meetings of the Committee, Sub-Committees and Area Committees of the Association in so far as such procedure is not regulated by these Articles;
 - 13.1.5 The sport of hound trailing under this Association's authority, AND generally all such matters as are commonly the subject matter of Rules and Bye-Laws
- 13.2 Any alteration, repeal or addition to the Rules shall take effect only until the next Annual General Meeting unless having being laid before such Meeting it is approved by a majority of those present and voting.
- 13.3 The Committee shall adopt such means as they deem sufficient to bring to the notice of Members of the Association all such Rules which so long as they shall be in force, shall be binding on all Members.
- 13.4 Provided nevertheless that no Rule or Bye-Law shall be inconsistent with, or shall affect or repeal anything contained in the Memorandum or Articles of the Association and where these Articles and any Rules conflict, these Articles shall prevail.

ACCOUNTS

- 14. The Committee shall from time to time allow accounts of the Association to be open to inspection of Members not being Members of the Committee, and no Member (not being a Member of the Committee) shall have any right of inspecting any account or book or document of the Association except as conferred by statute or authorised by the Committee or by the Association in General Meeting.

NOTICES AND SERVICE

- 15.1.1 A notice may be served by the Association upon any Member, either personally or by sending it through the post in a prepaid letter, addressed to such Member at his Registered Address.
- 15.1.2 When any notice is required by the Rules or resolution of the Committee to be served on a Member personally then such service must be made by two Members acting together.
- 15.2 Any Member described in the register of Members by an address not within the United Kingdom, who shall from time to time give the Association an address within the United Kingdom at which notices served upon him, shall be entitled to have notices served upon him at such address but, save as aforesaid and as provided by the Act, only those Members who are described in the register of Members by an address within the United Kingdom shall be entitled to receive notices from the Association.
- 15.3 Any notice, if served by post, shall be deemed to have been served on the day following that on which the letter containing the same is put into the post (first class), and in proving such service it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter containing the notice was properly addressed and put into the post as a prepaid letter except where the Rules require notices to be served by recorded delivery.

HEADINGS

- 16.0 In these Articles and in any rules made thereunder the Clause Headings shall not be taken as part of them or in any way affects the interpretation or construction of the same.

DEFINITIONS

- 17.0 In these rules any words defined in Clause 1.1 of the Articles of the Association shall bear the meaning assigned by that Clause unless inconsistent with the subject or context and the provisions in 1.3 to 1.6 (inclusive) of the Articles shall apply in interpretation of the Rules.
- 17.1 In these Rules the Words set out in the first column in the table below shall bear the meaning set out opposite in the Second Column, unless inconsistent with the subject or the context:

First Column

Second Column

WORDS

MEANINGS

Disciplinary Sub-Committee

The Sub-Committee appointed under Rule 32.1

Rules

These Rules and the Articles of the Association

Hound

Any Hound registered with the Association under these Rules including Puppy except where stated

Puppy

As defined by Rule 46

PART 11 - HTA RULES

In these rules any words defined shall bear the meaning assigned unless inconsistent with the subject or context and shall apply in interpretation of the Rules.

Definitions:

Hound Attendant: A Member of the Association being the owner present at a trail, or the person with the permission of the owner bringing the hound to a trail, slipping or recovering it.

Bookmaker: A bookmaker registered under Rule 75.2.

The Season: The trailing season, which is from 1st April (or Easter Saturday, if earlier) to 31st October in any year.

Trail Official: Any of the Starter, Judge or Timekeeper appointed under Rule 54.2.

Trainer: Trainer of hounds as named on the kennel form under rule 48.

Advertisement: The advertisement under Rule 60, and any reference to advertising shall be construed accordingly.

Trail: A trail licensed in accordance with the Rules.

Trial Trail: A trail not so licensed, as defined in Rule 72.

Promoter: A person organising a trail meeting in accordance with the rules defined in rule 54.

License: The permission to hold a trail meeting given under Rule 55, and the expression "license" shall be construed accordingly.

CLASSES OF MEMBERS

18.1 Life Members: The Association may in a General Meeting elect Life Members from among members who have given exceptional service to the Association (provided there shall not at any time be more than 5 such members). Such members shall be ex-officio Members of the Committee and of all Area Committees.

18.2 Junior Members: Persons under the age of 18 may be elected Junior Members by an Area Committee on being proposed by their parent or legal guardian (who must be members), or by a Member accompanied by the written consent of the parent or legal guardian. Junior Members shall not be entitled to vote or speak at Meetings of the Association, shall have only such privileges as the Committee grant to them, and shall pay such subscription as shall be fixed by the Committee. No Junior Member may be the sole owner of a hound. The parent, legal guardian or nominator is responsible for a Junior Member in all dealings with the HTA.

18.3 Honorary Members: Area Committee Members attending the Annual Area Committees Meeting may elect Honorary Members who have given exceptional service to the Association, such Members to have free membership for life but no other rights and privileges, including clause 18.1.

REMOVAL OR SUSPENSION OF MEMBERS

19.1 The Disciplinary Sub-Committee or an Area Committee may remove the name of any Member of the Association from the Register of Members in the following circumstances, and thereupon such person shall cease to be a Member of the Association:

- a) Members who have failed to pay their annual subscription.
- b) Members who have committed a breach of the Articles of the Association or of these Rules.
- c) Members whose conduct renders them unfit to be Members of the Association.

19.2 The Disciplinary Sub-Committee or an Area Committee may suspend a Member from the privileges of Membership for a period of up to 5 years, during which period the suspended Member shall not be a Member of the Association, and will not be entitled to attend any Association meeting. This applies in the following circumstances:

- a) Members who have committed a breach of the Articles of the Association or of these Rules.
- b) Members whose conduct renders them unfit to be Members of the Association.

20.1 When the Disciplinary Sub-Committee or Area Committee intends to consider suspending or removing a Member, it shall give that Member 14 days notice in writing of the date, time and place of the meeting at which it will consider the reasons for suspension or removal.

20.2 Any suspension or removal shall be subject to appeal to the Committee under clause 38.

20.3 A Member whose membership has been suspended or removed shall not in any way be concerned with the training and running of a hound, and any member or suspended Member being so concerned shall themselves be in breach of these Rules.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

21. Every Member and Junior Member shall pay the Association an annual subscription by 1st January. Members who have not paid by that date shall be excluded from all privileges of Membership until payment has been made. All new members must in addition purchase a rule book at a price fixed by the Committee.

Subscriptions are:

Under 18 - £5

18 to 64 - £20

65 and over - £15

Trail layers with no connection to any HTA kennel or hounds – £2

Re-joining fee for former Members who have become Members of another Association - £25 (or as decided by the Committee)

All subscriptions shall be fixed by the committee subject to approval at the AGM.

REGISTERED ADDRESS OF MEMBERS

22 The address notified under clause 2.1 of the Articles shall be the registered address of each Member. Any permanent change of address shall be notified to the Secretary within 14 days.

AREA COMMITTEES

23.1 Members whose registered addresses are in each area as defined by the Committee under the provisions at clause 12.2 of the Articles shall hold an annual meeting in November of each year (Area Annual General Meeting) at which they shall elect from amongst their Members a Committee to manage the affairs of hound trailing in that area under the Rules and Articles of the Association. An Area Committee Member who moves to live in another area may continue to serve on that Area Committee and shall be eligible for re-election under Rule 25 (rotation of members), but shall not be eligible for Rule 23.3 (co-opted Members) or Rule 25.1 (proposal of Members).

23.2 The Area Committee so elected shall elect a Chairman (Area Chairman) and a Vice-Chairman (Area Vice-Chairman) every year at a meeting immediately following the Area Annual General Meeting, and at the same meeting shall elect their Representative Members of the Committee, as provided for in clause 12.3.1. Each Area Committee shall consist of not more than 12 elected Members, plus ex-officio the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Life Members of the Association. Any Member of the Area Committee (not ex-officio) who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of that Committee, without reasonable excuse, shall cease to be a member of that Committee.

23.3 An Area Committee may co-opt Members entitled to vote for that Committee under Rule 23.1 to serve as Members of that Area Committee for one year only, provided that the number does not exceed 12 (plus NFU and ex-officio Members).

23.4 Three Members shall constitute a quorum. In a tied vote, the Chairman will have the casting vote. When the Chairman is not present, the Vice-Chairman will preside, and if both are absent the Committee will choose a Chairman. If there is no quorum, the meeting will be deferred to a later date, but not later than 14 days.

23.5 The Secretary will notify Area Committee Members of meetings.

23.6 Disqualified or suspended Area Committee Members will cease to be Members of that Area Committee, and in the case of suspension, such cessation will continue after the period of suspension has expired.

SECRETARY

24 The Secretary of the Association shall be the Secretary of each Area Committee ex-officio.

ROTATION OF MEMBERS

25.1 At each Annual Area Meeting the three longest-serving Members shall retire but shall be eligible for re-election.

25.2 The names of the persons nominated as Members of the Area Committee must be submitted to the Secretary at least 14 days prior to the Annual Area Meeting duly proposed and seconded by Members (clause 23.1) who must attend the Annual Area Meeting.

VOTING

26 At the election of Members of the Area Committee each Member with a registered address in that area attending the meeting shall have as many votes as there are vacancies to be filled, and those persons duly nominated who receive the most votes shall be deemed to have been elected.

BOOKMAKER MEMBERS

27 Only one bookmaker may be elected onto each Area Committee (not the Committee). He may not participate in any dispute in which he has a financial interest.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

28 Notice of Area Annual Meetings shall be placed on the official HTA website at least 7 days beforehand, stating date, time and place.

NOTICES OF MOTION

29.1 All notices of motion for consideration at the Area Annual Meeting shall be in the hands of the Secretary, in writing, at least 3 clear days before the Meeting, duly proposed, seconded and signed by Members eligible under clause 22.

29.2 The wording of Motions, and of Recommendations from the floor at Area Annual Meetings, which have been carried forward as Recommendations to the December Meeting, may be amended by the Committee to make the meaning clear. The members proposing and seconding these Motions and Recommendations (or their appointee in writing) must attend the HTA Annual General Meeting.

N.B. For the avoidance of doubt, Motions carried by the Area AGMs go straight to the AGM. Recommendations go to the December Meeting.

POWERS OF AREA COMMITTEES

30 The Area Committee shall have full power for the following:

- a) to enquire into, determine and regulate, and have full control over, every Trail and Trial Trail held in its Area, as defined by the Committee under Rule 12.
- b) to have free access to places used for such trail meetings, and without prejudice to the generality of such powers.
- c) to enquire into and determine any complaints arising out of matters occurring in the area of that Area Committee of fraudulent, discreditable or mischievous conduct which in its own opinion may be calculated to injure the Association or

to be prejudicial to the sport of hound trailing, or which may, in its opinion, be a breach of any of the Rules of the Association.

d) to make, and if necessary to vary, all arrangements for the conduct of hound trailing in its Area.

e) in exceptional circumstances to abandon or postpone any trail at a meeting, the Secretary to be informed immediately.

f) to regulate, control, take notice of and adjudicate upon all officials, owners, hound attendants, Members and other persons frequenting the places used for the purpose of a hound trail meeting.

g) to announce at the trail meeting if there is an objection, the nature and subject of the objection, and their decision given within their jurisdiction.

h) to determine all questions arising with reference to trailing at a meeting.

i) to determine that no disqualified hound is entered.

j) to inspect any hound entered for a trail either before or after competing.

31. Any decision of an Area Committee will take effect immediately, but may be set aside or modified by resolution of the Committee passed within 6 months of the decision of the Area Committee. All decisions taken by the Area Committee at a trail shall be reported to the Secretary within 48 hours for consideration by the Committee.

DISCIPLINARY SUB-COMMITTEE

32.1 When necessary, and for each enquiry, the Committee shall appoint 7 of its Members as a Disciplinary Sub-Committee, and shall appoint a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from those 7. The Secretary shall be the Secretary for this Sub-Committee.

32.2 The Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall have full power to enquire into and determine all complaints of fraudulent, discreditable or mischievous conduct in connection with hound trailing which in their opinion may be calculated to injure the Association or to be prejudicial to the sport of hound trailing, or which in their opinion may be a breach of any Rules.

32.3 The Committee, Area Committee and Disciplinary Sub-Committee shall consider any complaints they receive, but may investigate and deal with matters under these provisions without a formal complaint.

PENALTIES

33 The Committee, Area Committee and Disciplinary Sub-Committee, exercising its function, may, if a Member is found guilty by them:

a) impose such penalties set out in Rule 19.

b) impose such fines as it thinks appropriate to be paid to the Association; non-payment of any fine shall automatically suspend a Member until paid, unless otherwise directed when such fine is imposed, and the provisions in Rule 19.2 relating to the duration of the suspension shall not apply.

c) cancel the registration of any hound.

d) suspend the right for a hound to run in trails.

e) disqualify a hound from a particular completed trail.

YELLOW CARDS

35. An Area Committee may, after enquiry, give a yellow card to any hound for vice, cutting or interference. This card will state the reason for the penalty, the date and place where the incident happened, and the number of times the hound is to run marked.

a) A senior hound receiving a third yellow card for cutting shall have its registration cancelled.

b) A senior hound receiving a third yellow card for interference shall have its registration cancelled and must be sterilised at the owner's expense.

c) Puppies receiving three yellow cards for cutting and/or interference are automatically suspended until 31st December of the year the cards were issued.

d) A hound receiving a yellow card for cutting and/or interference is automatically disqualified.

e) A hound receiving a yellow card after crossing the finishing line will not be disqualified.

f) A hound which receives a yellow card for interference, which has already received three yellow cards as a puppy, shall have its registration cancelled and must be sterilised at the owner's expense.

g) A hound which receives two yellow cards for interference, which has already received two cards as a puppy, shall have its registration cancelled and must be sterilised at the owner's expense.

RUNNING WHEN INELIGIBLE

36. A hounds competing in a trail for which it is ineligible will be suspended from participating in trails for a minimum of 28 days from when the offence was proven to the satisfaction of the Area Committee or Disciplinary Sub-Committee.

NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION

37. Before any complaint is investigated (apart from those dealt with at trail meetings), the Secretary shall give at least 14 days' notice in writing to any persons implicated or liable to penalty, stating the time, date and place where the Area Committee or disciplinary Sub-Committee will investigate such complaint. If any persons appear in pursuance of such notice they will be given the opportunity of being heard in their defence and of calling witnesses.

LEGAL REPRESENTATION AND APPEALS

38. The Committee, Disciplinary Committee and Area Committees may permit any persons under investigation to be legally represented if application is made to the Secretary at least 2 days before the date fixed for the hearing, stating the grounds for such application. The committee dealing with the hearing shall decide beforehand whether such representation will be permitted. If such legal representative attends without first being informed that he will be heard, then such attendance is at his own and the Member's risk.

39.1 Appeals against the decision of the Area Committee or the Disciplinary Sub-Committee, or reviewable by the Committee under these Rules may be made by the original objector or by any person affected by the decision.

39.2 In the case of any decision of an Area Committee the appeal shall be made to the Committee. In the case of any decision of any Disciplinary Sub-Committee the appeal shall be made to the Committee, but excluding those Members of the Committee who formed the Disciplinary Sub-Committee when the decision was reached.

39.3 Appeals must be placed in the hands of, or posted to, the Secretary within 48 hours of the appellant being notified of the decision appealed against. If posted, the time will be determined by the postmark. An appeal shall not be withdrawn without the consent of the Committee.

39.4 The notice of appeal must state the basis on which the Area Committee or Disciplinary Sub-Committee is alleged to be wrong, and must include the names and addresses of any witnesses.

39.5 The appeal must be accompanied by a deposit of £30, or such sum as the Committee directs. If the appeal is unsuccessful, the deposit shall be forfeited. If the original decision is varied on appeal, the Committee shall decide whether the deposit is forfeited or not.

39.6 Every appeal shall be heard by the Committee within 14 days (excluding Sundays) after the Secretary receives notice, the time and place to be decided by the Chairman. Notice of the appeal hearing shall be given by the Secretary to any person implicated or liable to penalty to their registered address.

39.7 After hearing the appeal, the Committee may confirm, reverse or vary the decision of the Area Committee or Disciplinary Sub-Committee, and this decision of the Committee shall be final and conclusive and binding of all Members.

40.1 The decision of the Committee on appeal shall be reached by secret ballot.

40.2 Any decision of the Committee, Disciplinary Sub-Committee or Area Committee under the provisions of these Rules shall be communicated either verbally at the meeting or in writing to the Members concerned by recorded delivery within 5 days of the meeting.

40.3 Any person calling witnesses to any disciplinary meeting or appeal shall be responsible for the behaviour of those witnesses.

TRAILS WITHOUT LANDOWNER'S PERMISSION

41. If it is the opinion of either the Area Committee or Disciplinary Sub-Committee, after investigation, that any Member has been knowingly involved in a trail run over land where permission has not been granted by the owner or tenant, as appropriate, then the above committees shall suspend their membership for 12 months.

OBJECTIONS AND APPEALS AT TRAILS

42.1 Any owner or hound attendant of a hound competing in a trail shall be entitled to make an objection relating to matters which have occurred during the trail.

42.2 Every objection must be made in writing on the trail-field to the Judge, Promoter or any Area Committee Member for the relevant Area. The objection must be made within 10 minutes from the declaration of the result, and must be accompanied by a deposit of £5, or such sum as decided by the Committee. If an announcement is made that the result will be declared elsewhere, then the objection must be handed in within 10 minutes of that announcement.

42.3 Such objection shall be immediately referred to the Area Committee and dealt with by them. If insufficient Area Committee Members are present to form a quorum, they may co-opt Members of other Area Committees to form a quorum.

42.4 The owner or attendant of a hound suspected of vice, cutting or interference shall have the right to call for an identification parade of all competing hounds, and the Area Committee shall have the same right.

42.5 If an objection is unresolved, the Area Committee will meet within 14 days to make a decision.

42.6 Appeals may be made against decisions made by the Area Committee as in Rule 39.1.

REGISTRATION OF HOUNDS

43.1 Registration of a hound will be affected by the owner(s) notifying the Secretary on an official HTA form of their name(s) and address(es), the hound's name, date of birth, colour, ear number, microchip number and any other particulars the Secretary may require. Including current Registration fee.

43.2 Registration of puppies must be made by December 31st, and registration of non-registered senior hounds by January 31st, both dates prior to the start of the coming season.

43.3 If there are joint owners, the Association will regard the first-named as representing themselves and any other owner, and will communicate with that person alone.

43.4 The sire and dam of all registered hounds must be registered either with the HTA or with any other Association recognised by the HTA, or from foxhounds belonging to a pack recognised by the Committee.

43.5 All hounds coming from other Associations must be earmarked and micro chipped to the satisfaction of the HTA.

LITTER REGISTRATION –

44.1 Members must provide the Secretary with a mating form for all bitches which have been mated, and the owner of the dam must be a Member of the HTA. The Secretary must be informed of all litters within 3 days of birth.

44.2 All bitches mated on or before 15th November shall be inspected on 31st December by two members of the Area Committee. The Secretary must be informed of all litters within 3 days of birth.

44.3 All puppies shall be ear-marked by the Secretary (or appointed representative) within 7 weeks of birth, showing the registration number in one ear and the year of birth in the other. The owner of the dam shall be given a certificate of ear-marking. The puppies shall be regarded as the property of the dam's owner until the Secretary has received written notice of change of ownership.

44.4 All ear-marked puppies which have not been registered by 31st December must be accounted for on demand by the Committee.

INNOCULATION

45. All puppies shall be injected against parvovirus, distemper and hepatitis, and a veterinary certificate to this effect must accompany each registration form before registration is accepted.

AGE OF HOUNDS AND DEFINITION OF PUPPY

46. The age of hounds shall date from 1st January in the year in which they were born. They will be considered as puppies until 31st December of the year following the year of their birth.

CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP

47.1 On the change of ownership or name of a hound, the change shall be registered by the owner on completion of an official transfer form, given to the Secretary within 7 days of the change, together with the fee (decided by the Committee).

47.2 The Area Committee may allow late registrations at their discretion.

47.3 The registered name of a hound may not be changed during the season, nor shall any hound be registered with a name which is the same as, or too similar to, that of any existing registered hound or to any former champion or Produce Stakes winner.

47.4 The registration and transfer of registration of any hound shall be subject to approval by the Area Committee where the new owner has his registered address. The Disciplinary Sub-Committee may refuse, cancel or defer any registration or transfer of registration, following notice to the former and new owner. Any such refusal shall be subject to appeal.

47.5 Any Member who becomes the owner of a hound formerly registered with an affiliated Association must inform the Secretary within 7 days, and must supply an official clearance certificate from the other Association showing the ear number and date of birth and microchip number. Evidence of inoculation must be produced.

KENNEL REGISTRATION

48.1 Kennel forms should be in the hands of the Secretary by 3rd February, showing:
names of all hounds in the kennel (including retired hounds)
names of owner(s) and trainer(s)
address of kennel plus kennel fee if not already paid

48.2 Members in charge of kennels must inform the Secretary immediately if any hound joins or leaves their kennel, either temporarily or permanently.

49 Every registered hound must be insured with the HTA kennel insurance.

QUALIFICATION TO RUN IN TRAILS

50. No hound shall be entered in any trail unless all the following apply:

- a) It must be the property of a Member or Members who are not suspended or owe any fines.
- b) It must be registered in accordance with Rule 43.
- c) It must be included on a kennel form, and be insured.
- d) It must be entered in its registered name.
- e) It must not at any time during the preceding 3 months have been trained or kennelled by a person who was not at that time a Member of the HTA or whose membership was suspended or who had not paid an outstanding fine.
- f) It must have belonged to a Member for at least 3 months before the trail.
- g) It must not at any time have run in an unlicensed open trail or one not approved by the Committee.
- h) It must not have been exercised over the first or last quarter of a trail in the 14 days prior to the trail taking place.
- i) It must have been marked to the satisfaction of the Starter.

- j) It must not have completed a trail that day, or have returned to the start after “Trail” has been called in a previous trail for which it was entered that day.
- k) It must not have been moved from its registered kennel without prior consent of the Area Committee of the Area to which it has been moved, except to travel to the trail on the day of that trail. Prior consent is within the absolute discretion of the Area Committee, and can only be given if the change of kennel has been notified to the Secretary 48 hours beforehand, with reason therefore being given.
- l) Its entry must not have been refused under the orders of the Area Committee.
- m) It must not, after entry, have been disqualified by the Area Committee for vice, reported sheep-worrying, disease or coughing, such disqualification to apply only for the trail in question. Bitches found to be “in season” may not run in licensed trails for 21 days.
- n) It must not have been suspended.

CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION

51.1 The Disciplinary Sub-Committee or an Area Committee shall cancel the registration of any hound found guilty of sheep worrying or vice, and thereupon, unless an appeal is entered, the hound shall be destroyed by a veterinary surgeon and a certificate of its death showing its ear number and/or microchip number shall be sent to the Secretary within 28 days of the cancellation. The veterinary surgeon’s fees shall be paid by the Association.

51.2 If the owner appeals against this decision and the decision is upheld, the certificate shall be sent within 28 days after notification of the appeal decision to the owner.

51.3 A Member failing to comply with this rule within the allowed time shall be suspended for the lifetime of that hound, and Rule 19.2 shall not apply.

ACTS PROHIBITED

52.1 No Member shall directly or indirectly assist or interfere with the running of any hound during a trail, or shall interfere with any trail laid by the trailers, or be party to or be concerned in any way with such conduct.

52.2 No hound shall before being slipped on a trail, be fed or injected with any drug, dope, injurious substances or liquid, or be treated with any smelling substance.

52.3 No hound running in a trail shall wear a muzzle or any similar device.

52.4 No towels or rags of any description may be waved at the finish of trails.

VETERINARY EXAMINATION

53. Upon request being made at any time by a Member of the Committee or an Area Committee, or at any time on the day of the trail by a Trail Official, then any owner, trainer or handler shall produce a hound for veterinary examination. If on examination there is found a substance of any kind that is not normally found in the system of similar hounds, then the owner or trainer shall be required to explain the presence of such substance to the Disciplinary Sub-Committee or Area Committee, who will take appropriate action under the Rules.

PROMOTER’S RESPONSIBILITIES

54.1 The Promoter shall be responsible to the Area Committee for the trails, the venue and the observance of the Rules. He shall be present at the meeting, or an authorised deputy shall be appointed and the Area Committee notified.

54.2 The Promoter shall organise the following officials, with the approval of the Area Committee:

- a) Starter
- b) Judge
- c) Timekeeper and deputy
- d) Two trailers per trail. If 3 trailers are needed, this must be advertised, and must be agreed by the Area Committee.

54.3 The Promoter shall be liable to make such compensation as the Area Committee decides (subject to appeal) for all damage caused by any hound to stock or to any land on which a trail or trial trail is run, also for any other damage done to

property consequent to such trail or as a direct or indirect result of the trails. He shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Association, its Members and officials against any claim made against them or any one of them.

54.4 The Promoter shall pay an insurance fee for every licensed trail.

54.5 The Promoter shall provide free parking at or adjacent to the trail-field for all hound attendants.

54.6 Admission shall be free for all hound attendants, Members of the Area Committee and the Committee, and Life Members, but this does not apply to “all to pay” trails. Agricultural and horticultural shows, and shows with classes for foxhounds from local packs, may charge full admission, but entries must be free, and there must be no charge for cars containing running hounds. If all trails have prize money of £150 or more, it shall be “all to pay” and entries free.

54.7 Every trail meeting must include trails for open hounds and open puppies. The first trail must not be slipped before the advertised time.

TRAIL LICENCES

55.1 The Promoter, with the approval of the Area Committee, must apply to the Secretary for the trails to be licensed, and must include such classes of trail as are allowed by these Rules. The Secretary shall be responsible for applying to the local authorities for the licences.

55.2 October trails must be approved by the Area Committee four clear weeks in advance, and no more than one meeting may be held on weekdays in October.

55.3 Established agricultural and horticultural shows where trails are held shall have a clear day.

PRIZE MONEY

56. The minimum prize money for each grade of trail will be £30 for senior length trails and £25 for puppy length trails; these may be varied by the Committee. The Promoter is responsible for paying the prize money. If a trail is void, the entry fee for each hound entered may be claimed back within 1 week from the Promoter.

TIME LIMITS

57.1 The Committee will from time to time lay down maximum and minimum times for each grade of trail. Outside these times the trail will be declared void. Over a new trail, 5 minutes extra will be allowed.

57.2 If a hound finishes under the minimum time and is subsequently disqualified, the time of the second hound will be the official time. If more than one hound is disqualified, the time of the first qualified hound will be recorded.

57.3 Time limits for Shepherds' Meets trails will be 15 – 30 minutes.

PROMOTER'S RETURNS

58. Within 3 days the Promoter shall make a return to the Secretary of the full result and the names of all officials at the meeting, and shall include all necessary fees. Levy fees are 20p for every hound entered and 60p for every All-In entry, insurance £5.50 per trail (or as decided by the Committee) (no levy fees for Shepherds' Meets).

ENTRY PROCEDURE

59.1 Entry fee shall be £1 per hound (£2 per All-In entry), or as decided by the Committee, but under Rule 54.6, entry is free.

59.2 Entries shall be taken on the trail-field at a place appointed by the Promoter, and will close 10 minutes before the advertised slipping time. All hounds entered must be present on the trail-field at the time of entry. No entry may be withdrawn after the closing time without the consent of the Area Committee. Entries are to be on official entry forms, 2 copies to be made, one for the runner or announcer, one for use by the Starter to check entries. The entry clerk shall sign the list after the last entry for each trail.

59.3 Any hound may, after entry, be disqualified from competing by the Area Committee due to vice or reported sheep worrying; any bitch found to be in season may not run in licensed trails for a further 21 days. All entries shall, if required, be made available for inspection by the Area Committee.

ADVERTISING

60.1 All trail meetings shall be advertised on the official HTA website by the Secretary, on the instruction of the Promoter, at least one week prior to the meeting, stating the name of the Promoter, the grades of trail and slipping times. No additional grades of trails may be included unless advertised 7 days in advance. No trail shall be advertised before licence is given under Rule 55, and full permission from land owners and other persons affected must have been obtained. The Fixture List, showing all trails meetings at least 1 clear week in advance, must appear on the official HTA webpage.

60.2 For October meetings, all advertisements must appear no later than the last Thursday in September, and no additional grades of trail or alterations in grades may take place after then.

60.3 A notice shall appear on the official HTA webpage at the start of each season stating that all trails are guarded and held under HTA rules.

60.4 Any confusion or dispute over advertising shall be decided by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary.

TIMES OF TRAILS

61. No trail between 1st March and 31st October may start any later than 30 minutes before sunset, unless agreed by the Area Committee, and the latest slipping times shall be advertised by the Secretary on the official website.

ALTERATION TO TRAIL ARRANGEMENTS

62 With the consent of the Area Committee the arrangements for a trail may be altered as follows:

- a) In an emergency, a trail venue may be changed provided that the new venue is adequately signposted, and the starting times may be adjusted accordingly.
- b) The venue may be changed to a new one within the same area provided 3 clear days' notice is given.
- c) Starting times may be changed provided they do not conflict with another trail in a neighbouring area.
- d) Apart from in October, a trail meeting may be brought forward from Saturday to Friday.
- e) The Secretary must be notified of all changes, and they must all be advertised on the official HTA website.

STARTING PROCEDURE

63.1 The hounds must be started by the Starter, or in his absence an approved deputy, who must ensure that all hounds are present at the slip. The hounds must be available to start at the Starter's discretion after entries have closed, apart from the first trail. Any hound not present shall be disqualified.

63.2 A sufficient gap must be left in the starting line-up for the incoming trailer to walk up to or through, at the discretion of the Starter. The Starter must raise and lower his flag in one movement as a signal to start the hounds.

63.3 For betting purposes hounds do not come under starter's orders until they have been officially marked. The Starter must not bet at trails where he officiates.

JUDGING

64.1 The Judge must be at the finishing line, and must announce his decision immediately. Such decision shall be final, unless there is an objection.

64.2 The Judge shall judge the first 6 (or more as required) hounds to pass the finishing line within the boundaries of the finishing area, which is defined as being from hedge to hedge or its equivalent, or, if on open ground, a practicable distance in front of or behind the Judge.

64.3 The Judge may call upon the camera to help him arrive at a decision. He has 5 minutes to correct any error at the end of each trail.

64.4 No hound shall be judged to have completed the trail after the minimum time for the next advertised trail has elapsed. For the last trail of a meeting, no hound shall be judged after 15 minutes have elapsed from the maximum time limit.

64.5 The Judge must not bet at trails where he officiates.

DEAD HEATS

65 Prize money shall be equally shared among tied hounds. Any trophies involved will be decided by lot.

TIMEKEEPER

66.1 The Timekeeper shall be responsible for overseeing the call of "Trail" when the minimum time is reached and "Void trail" when hounds beat the minimum time or exceed the maximum time.

66.2 The Timekeeper must not bet at trails where he officiates.

SCOUTS

67.1 Scouts must be provided by the Promoter, and all trails must be adequately scouted to the satisfaction of the Area Committee.

67.2 Scouts must be at all road crossings, and must be provided with red flags.

MARKING

68.1 The Area Committee shall have the power to order the placing of a special mark on any hound suspected of vice, cutting or interference before allowing it to be slipped in any trail. The mark shall be 4" (10 cm) long and 1" (2.5 cm) wide, and placed on a visible part of each flank of the hound.

68.2 It is the responsibility of the hound attendant to notify the marker that a hound has to be marked, and failure to give this notification shall result in a 28-day suspension of the hound.

68.3 Any hound marked under Rules 35 or 68 must run the allotted number of times marked before the penalty can be lifted. The removal of the mark shall be carried out by request to the Area Committee of the area in which the hound has its registered kennel. Written proof, signed by the entry clerks, must be produced showing that the hound has run marked on the required number of occasions. Between the completion of the required runs and the lifting of the mark by the Area Committee, the hound shall continue to run marked.

DISQUALIFICATION

69. The Area Committee shall have the power to disqualify or suspend or cancel the registration of any hound for vice, cutting, interference or any other offence they consider warrants it. This power is without prejudice to the power of the Area Committee.

TRAIL MIXTURE, RAGS ETC.

70.1 The formula for the trail mixture is:
3.5 fluid oz (100 ml) aniseed oil
7 pints (4 litres) paraffin

3.5 fluid oz (100 ml) engine oil may be added when necessary

Total for senior trail – 4 pints (2.25 litres)

Total for puppy trail – 3 pints (1.75 litres)

It is to be made up as close to the trail date as possible either by an approved chemist or by one person appointed by the Area Committee. It is to be carried in unbreakable containers.

70.2 Trail rags should be made of wholly woollen material, measuring not less than 2 feet (61 cm) in length and 6" (15 cm) in width, with not less than 6 feet (244 cm) of rope attached. Each area must have an official rag keeper, and all trails must use these rags. They must be kept in soak consisting of 1 floz (0.25 ml) of aniseed to 1 gallon (4.5 litres) of paraffin.

70.3 No more than 3 trailers shall lay each trail. They must split at the same time, and must not split or lay a trail until hounds in a previous race have passed that point. If 3 trailers are used, this must be agreed by the Area Committee and must be advertised. The Area Committee may inspect the rags and the efficacy of the trailers.

70.4 Promoters may arrange dead-rag trails, which are run on previously run trails without the trail being re-laid.

70.5 All trails should where practicable have a finish of not less than quarter of a mile (400 m). Barbed wire should be covered wherever possible on the trail.

70.6 A rope or tape shall be provided as the finishing line. It must be at least 30 yds (25 m) long and placed at right angles to the line of the trail. A hound attendants' barrier must be placed 30 yds (25 m) from the finishing line, and no hound attendant shall step in front of this barrier. A crowd barrier shall be provided by the Promoter at the request of the Area Committee.

70.7 At the finish of a trail, the only people allowed to stand with the Judge are the Timekeeper, official runner, catchers of ticketing hounds and camera operator; others at the discretion of the Judge and Area Committee.

70.8 The Area Committee may order the Promoter to reverse the trail.

70.9 At least 45 minutes shall be allowed between the start of each trail of types A, B, D, F, G and I, and 30 minutes for each trail of types C, E, H, J, K, L, M, N, O and P.

LOST HOUNDS

71.1 If a hound is missing at the end of a trail and is known to be causing damage, then no further trails shall take place until permission is given by the Committee.

71.2 When a hound does not return at the end of a trail, then the owner or hound attendant (on the owner's behalf) must report this to the Promoter of the trail before leaving the field, and must notify the Secretary of the HTA within 24 hours.

71.3 No hound registered at the same kennel as a missing hound may run for 8 days from the date the hound went missing. This restriction is to be lifted when the hound is found; if, after 8 days, the hound is still missing and has not been seen, the Area Committee may lift this restriction, but may reimpose it should there be any further sightings of the missing hound.

71.4 If any hound is known to be at large as a result of taking part in a trail and has not been found within 14 days, then no further trails shall take place until sanctioned by the Committee. This ban shall be removed by the Committee immediately the missing hound is found, and it may be lifted if the hound is still missing but has not been seen for 14 days after the imposition of the ban, or at an earlier date with the agreement of the National Farmers Union.

UNOFFICIAL PRACTICE OR TRIAL TRAILS

72.1 Any trail organised by a Member or at which Members and hounds take part but which is not licensed by the Association under these Rules shall be considered a Practice or Trial Trail. A member organising such trails shall be considered the Promoter and shall have the responsibilities of such under these Rules.

72.2 No trial trail shall be officially advertised and no betting shall be allowed there from 1st March to 31st October. Trial trails held between 2nd November and 27th February may be advertised but no betting shall be allowed. No trial trails may be advertised for the day before or the day after each Shepherds' Meet.

72.3 During a ban on trailing under Rule 71, any Member running hounds, organising or taking part in a Trial Trail shall have his membership suspended for a minimum of 28 days, subject to appeal under Rule 39.

MARCH TRIAL TRAILS

74 These Rules shall apply to trial trails held in March in any year (known as March Trial Trails) with these modifications:

- a) no minimum time limits.
- b) maximum time limits – Hounds 30 minutes, Puppies 20 minutes.
- c) puppy trails must be laid freshly for each trail with a live rag.
- d) it is not necessary to advertise these trails under Rule 60, but they must be put in the Fixture List on the official HTA webpage as March Trial Trails by the Secretary at the Promoters' instructions.

BETTING

75.1 No bookmaker shall be allowed to keep a book at any trail meeting unless he is a Member of the Association and agrees to be bound by these Rules. He must be registered with the Association by application to the Area Committee for the Area where he is licensed under the statutory provisions relating to bookmaking. Bookmakers taking bets without certain hounds shall be limited to a maximum of three hounds in any one trail, and they shall keep the names of these hounds on their boards for as long as practicable.

75.2 Each bookmaker shall apply to the Area Committee in each year for registration before the start of the season, and shall pay such fee as the Committee may determine.

75.3 No hound's name shall be put on a bookmaker's board until it is announced by the official runner, when a bookmaker chooses not to write all the hound entries on his board, or is unable to, he must quote a price bar the ones displayed.

75.4 Any dispute between a Member and a bookmaker arising out of a bet at a trail meeting shall be investigated and decided by the Area Committee, whose decision shall be binding on both parties.

75.5 No bookmaker may be a ticket catcher at a meeting where he is standing to take bets.

HOUNDS QUALIFIED ELSEWHERE

76. Hounds from elsewhere which are eligible to run in HTA trails, the owner must provide from the previous Association a record of trails won which will then be reviewed by the local Area Committee who will decide the appropriate grade that the hound will be able to run in as defined under Rule 84 (types of trail and grades of hounds).

ALLOCATION OF PRIZE MONEY

77. The division of prize money shall be made in accordance with the table prescribed by the Committee from time to time, unless requested otherwise by any sponsor or given as a special prize and agreed by the Committee:

- 1st – 4/10 of total prize money.
- 2nd – 2/10 of total prize money.
- 3rd – 6th – 1/10 of total prize money.

USE OF OLD TRAIL

78. No hound may run the same day over the route of any trail after the last advertised trail has taken place.

CLASSES OF TRAIL AND PRIZES

79. At the discretion of the Committee championship trails may be organised by the Association in conjunction with other associations having similar objects to the Association, provided that these Rules shall apply with such modification that the Committee may direct concerning the eligibility of hounds. (See Rule 83).

80.1 The Association Championships will be awarded to the hound and puppy winning most trails in a season. Trophies will be given to the owner of the Championship winners and runners-up.

80.2 Trophies will also be given to the points winners in the Senior and Puppy Maiden, Open Maiden, Open Restricted, Open Non-Winner and Veteran classes, points awarded being 1st – 6 points, down to 6th – 1 point throughout the season.

PRODUCE STAKES

81.1 There shall be a Produce Stakes each year for dog and bitch puppies, each owner to pay £5 (or such sum as the Committee may decide) before 31st December as an entrance fee. Should an owner decide to withdraw from the trail then his entrance fee shall be forfeited.

81.2 The breeder of the winner shall receive 15% of the fees, the rest to go in prize money split as in Rule 77.

81.3 The Produce Stakes Trails shall be held on fixed dates annually – the second Saturday in June and the first Saturday in July - the venues to be allocated to all 7 areas in turn at the Committee's discretion.

81.4 If a Produce Trail is declared void, the Area Committee shall decide when and where to hold a substitute trail.

81.5 Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 43, no entry for the Produce Stakes shall be accepted for a puppy whose dam at the time of birth is not registered with the Association.

DATES OF TRAILS AND PRIZES

82.1 The annual Association trails will be held on the first Saturday following the first Monday in August, the Committee to choose the venue from those put forward by the area committees. The annual October trails will be held on the first Saturday in October, and will be allocated by the Committee to the 7 areas in turn. The Association shall give prize money and trophies for all such trails as the Committee may from time to time decide.

82.2 The Committee shall give permission for 3 meetings per year to be made open to affiliated Associations provided that application is made by the promoter to the HTA Secretary and shall decide which hounds not qualified under Rule 50 may compete.

QUALIFICATION OF HOUNDS REGISTERED ELSEWHERE TO RUN AT HTA MEETINGS.

83.1 All hounds must be duly registered with their respective associations or clubs, and must be eligible for competition on the day of the trails.

83.2 The Area Committee reserve the right to refuse entry for the trails without specifying any reason for doing so and to disqualify any hound after entry for the trail.

83.3 In the event of any sheep chasing or vice at any trail meeting the Area Committee shall deal with the matter for the time being, and shall forward particulars to the organisation with which the hound concerned is registered.

83.4 Any owner or person in charge of a hound competing in a trail shall be entitled to make any objection relating to the trail. The objection, in writing and accompanied by a deposit of £5, must be given to the judge or Area Committee within 15 minutes of the first hound crossing the finishing line. The objection shall be dealt with by the Area Committee, and its decision shall be final. Should the objection not be sustained, the deposit shall be forfeited, unless otherwise decided by the Area Committee.

83.5 Any hound running marked for any infringement in its own association must be so marked at the trail.

TYPES OF TRAIL AND GRADES OF HOUND

84. Any reference in these Rules and in advertisements to types of trail and grades of hound is to the following: (times in brackets refer to minimum and maximum times in that order)

A. SENIOR HOUNDS – (£30 minimum prize money) Open to all hounds and puppies registered with the Association (25 – 45 minutes).

B. RESTRICTED HOUNDS – (*wins count ABCKL – these letters here and subsequently refer to eligibility for further trails – see categories of trail below*)

(£30) Open to all hounds and puppies not having won more than 3 trails in the preceding season, hound or puppy on winning its third trail in current season no longer eligible. (25 – 50 minutes).

C. OPEN RESTRICTED – (*wins count ABCKL*)

(£25) Open to all hounds and puppies not having won more than 3 trails in the preceding season, hound or puppy on winning its third trail in current season no longer eligible. (15 – 30 minutes).

D. GRADED HOUNDS – (*wins count ABCKL & EM in current season*)

(£30) Open to all hounds and puppies not having won more than one higher grade trail in the current and preceding season, only one win permitted per season. (25 – 50 minutes).

E. OPEN GRADED – (*wins count ABCKL & DM in current season*)

(£25) Open to all hounds and puppies not having won more than one higher grade trail in the current and preceding season, only one win permitted per season. (15 – 30 minutes).

F. MAIDEN HOUNDS – (*wins count ABCDEKLM & N in current season*)

(£30) Open to all hounds and puppies not having won a higher-grade trail in the current and preceding season, two wins permitted per season. (25 – 50 minutes).

G. OPEN MAIDENS – (*wins count ABCDEKLM & H in current season*)

(£30) Open to all hounds and puppies not having won a higher-grade trail in the current and preceding season, two wins permitted per season. (25 – 50 minutes).

H. OPEN MAIDENS – (*wins count ABCDEKLM & G in current season*)

(£25) Open to all hounds and puppies not having won a higher-grade trail in the current and preceding season, two wins permitted per season. (15 – 30 minutes).

I. NON-WINNERS.

(£30) Open to all hounds and puppies not having won at any time any licensed trail, excluding March Trial Trails. (25 – 50 minutes).

J. OPEN NON-WINNERS.

(£25) Open to all hounds and puppies not having won at any time any licensed trail, excluding March Trial Trails. (15 – 30 minutes).

K. PUPPIES.

(£25) Open to all puppies registered with the Association that year and born on or after 1st January the previous year. (15 – 25 minutes).

L. RESTRICTED PUPPIES – (*wins count ABCKL*)

(£25) Open to all puppies not having won more than 2 trails, on winning its third trail no longer eligible. (15 – 30 minutes).

M. GRADED PUPPIES – (*wins count ABCKL & DE in current season*)

(£25) Open to all puppies not having won more than one higher grade trail, only one win permitted per season. (15 – 30 minutes).

N. MAIDEN PUPPIES – (*wins count ABCDEKLM & F in current season*)

(£25) Open to all puppies not having won a higher-grade trail, two wins permitted per season. (15 – 30 minutes).

O. VETERAN HOUNDS.

Open to all hounds 6 years of age and over. No minimum prize money. (15 – 30 minutes). For second year (and onwards) Veteran hounds, races won the previous season of lower grade than championship standard will be disregarded when assessing hounds for competition the following season.

P. ALL-IN.

Open to all hounds and puppies registered with the Association, but no Promoter may hold an All-In trail unless he has included at least one trail in categories B – J or L – N, except up to 1st May. Entry fee £2, no prize money, and no betting allowed. (15 – 30 minutes).

CATEGORIES OR GRADES OF TRAIL.

Open – AK
 Restricted – BCL
 Graded – DEM
 Maiden – FGHN
 Non-Winner – IJ
 Others – OP

ACCOUNTS.

85.1 The accounts of the Association shall be prepared as soon as practicable after the end of the Association’s financial year on 30th November, and shall be audited by a person eligible for appointment as a Company Auditor pursuant to the provisions of the Companies Act 1989 (or any re-enactment or modification thereof) who shall be appointed at each Annual General Meeting of the Association to prepare the accounts at the next following year end.

85.2 It shall be a term of the Auditor’s appointment that he attends the next Annual General Meeting.

85.3 The Association may take advantage of any exemptions of the keeping or preparation of accounting records conferred upon Companies by the Companies Act and Auditing Practice Board.

RESCISSION OF FORMER RULES

86. All former Rules are hereby rescinded.

PRIZE MONEY TABLE PURSUANT TO RULE 77

| Total | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 5th | 6th |
|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| £25.00 | £10.00 | £5.00 | £2.50 | £2.50 | £2.50 | £2.50 |
| £30.00 | £12.00 | £6.00 | £3.00 | £3.00 | £3.00 | £3.00 |
| £50.00 | £20.00 | £10.00 | £5.00 | £5.00 | £5.00 | £5.00 |
| £100.00 | £40.00 | £20.00 | £10.00 | £10.00 | £10.00 | £10.00 |