**ATTACHMENT 5a - Approved DOGS ACT Submission – 2023 Lure Coursing Rules Revision**

Current rules

**4. LURE COURSING SANCTIONED EVENTS**

4.1 Lure Coursing Tests and Trials are conducted by an Affiliate after obtaining the approval of the Member Body. All ANKC registered dogs aged 15 months and over who are eligible may participate. A test is an event at which Junior Courser, Singles Sighthound and Coursing Ability tests are conducted. A trial is an event at which Open, Veteran, Field Champion and Veteran Field Champion stakes are conducted. A Sanctioned Event is an event at which both tests and trials may be conducted.

4.2 A qualification in a Sanctioned Event consists of an average passing score of 100 across two runs at the same event.

**4. LURE COURSING SANCTIONED EVENTS**

(ACT proposed change)

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ACT Rationale

4.1 Delete the reference to age of eligibility (15months) and Move to Section 5 Eligibility for Dogs. It is talking about the eligibility of dogs and is better place in this section. It would become 5.1 so easier to find and all the other paragraphs in section 5 will be renumbered.

(ACT proposed change)

4.2 A qualification in a Sanctioned Event consists of an average passing score of 100 across two runs at the same event, apart from Junior Courser class which is not scored.

ACT Rationale

4.2 Add ‘apart from Junior Courser class which is not scored’ to clarify that the runs in this class are not scored unlike all other classes. This does cause some confusion to new exhibitors.

Current rules

**5. ELIGIBILITY FOR DOGS**

5.1 The Junior Coursing (JC) Testis the entry level to the sport of lure coursing. The dogs are not scored, but rather the Judge decides on a pass or fail based on the dog’s attributes against the five scoring criteria. All dogs must qualify with a minimum of two JC qualifications to be eligible to compete in Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events. Dogs who possess two JC qualifications are eligible to apply for the title Junior Courser (JC).

5.2 The following Sighthounds registered on the Main or Limited Register with the Australian National Kennel Council Ltd are eligible to participate in the Sighthound Stream of Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events: Afghan Hound, Azawakh, Borzoi, Deerhound, Greyhound, Ibizan Hound, Irish Wolfhound, Italian Greyhound, Pharaoh Hound, Saluki, Sloughi and Whippet.

5.3 Although not recognised as Sighthounds in Australia, Rhodesian Ridgebacks and Basenjis are considered eligible breeds for the purposes of Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events and shall be eligible for the Sighthound titles. For the purposes of interpretation a reference to Sighthounds shall be taken as a reference to the eligible breeds noted above.

5.4 As other Sighthound breeds become recognised by the ANKC, these may be added to the list of eligible breeds.

5.5 All other dogs registered with the Member Body are eligible to participate in Coursing Ability Tests (CAT) and earn the titles of CA (Coursing Ability), CAA (Coursing Ability Advanced), CAX (Coursing Ability Excellent) and CAM (Coursing Ability Master).

5.6 Any dog with ANKC Ltd registration shall be eligible to compete in Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events. It is important that dogs be sound enough to compete. Dogs with fewer than four legs shall be considered lame or unsound and therefore ineligible to participate.

5.7 For the purpose of the awarding of a Dual Champion or other multiple discipline Champion, only the Open Stakes Field Champion (FCh) or the Veteran Field Champion (vFCh) titles count towards the awarding of a Dual Champion title by the ANKC.

(ACT proposed changes)

**5. ELIGIBILITY FOR DOGS**

**New rule - 5.1 All ANKC registered dogs aged 15 months and over who are eligible may participate.**

ACT Rationale – New 5.1 as the age of eligibility fits better in this section Eligibility for Dogs, than the previous section. It will be easier for people looking up the rules to find. All para’s are then renumbered.

~~5.1~~ 5.2 The Junior Coursing (JC) Testis the entry level to the sport of lure coursing. The dogs are not scored, but rather the Judge decides on a pass or fail based on the dog’s attributes against the five scoring criteria. All dogs must qualify with a minimum of two JC qualifications to be eligible to compete in Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events. Dogs who possess two JC qualifications are eligible to apply for the title Junior Courser (JC).

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~~5.4~~ 5.5 As other Sighthound breeds become recognised by the ANKC, these may be added to the list of eligible breeds.

~~5.5~~ 5.6 All other dogs registered with the Member Body are eligible to participate in Coursing Ability Tests (CAT) and earn the titles of CA (Coursing Ability), CAA (Coursing Ability Advanced), CAX (Coursing Ability Excellent) and CAM (Coursing Ability Master).

~~5.6~~ 5.7 Any dog with ANKC Ltd registration shall be eligible to compete in Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events. It is important that dogs be sound enough to compete. Dogs with fewer than four legs shall be considered lame or unsound and therefore ineligible to participate.

~~5.7~~ 5.8 For the purpose of the awarding of a Dual Champion or other multiple discipline Champion, only the Open Stakes Field Champion (FCh) or the Veteran Field Champion (vFCh) titles count towards the awarding of a Dual Champion title by the ANKC.

(ACT proposed change)

New rule - 5.9 At any Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event, a sighthound may only compete in one class, either the Single Stakes or Open / FCh / Veteran Class. However, the dog can be used in a Qualifying Course as well as their entered class of Single Stakes or Open / Veteran Stakes at that Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event.

ACT Rationale for the new rule - A dog should only be entered in one class at any sanctioned event (apart from being used to QC another dog). This is for the health and well-being of the dog, especially in a multi event weekend where there is a danger the handler may over work the dog. Dogs that enjoy lure coursing, may keep going even if they are physically stressed.

Current rules

**6. LURE COURSING SANCTIONED EVENT REQUIREMENTS**

6.5 No check chains, harnesses, head collars, prong collars and/or e-collars are permitted. Only one item of permitted restraint is allowed on to the field on the dog.

(ACT proposed change)

6.5 No check chains, harnesses, head collars, prong collars and/or e-collars are permitted. Only one item of permitted restraint is allowed on to the field on the dog. Dogs are not permitted to be wearing any collars whilst competing. All restraint must be removed from the dog at the time it is released by the handler on the Tally-ho.

ACT Rationale – Although it is accepted that dogs run naked, it is currently not in the rule book that dogs must not be wearing any collars whilst competing which may pose a hazard to the dog. Slip leads not being removed from the dog on release could be a hazard to the dog when it runs as they can hinder the dog and catch on things. Adding it to the rule book will clarify the point for exhibitors and judges.

Current rules

**8. LURE COURSING TITLES AND AWARDS**

8.1 **Sighthounds**

Dogs entered in a Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event shall be eligible to receive Title Certificates upon meeting the requirements set out below. Applications are to be made to the Member Body once requirements are met. These dogs may gain Title Certificates whether competing as a single dog on the field or lure coursing with another dog. Please see Appendices A & B for Title Progression charts.

(ACT proposed change)

**8. LURE COURSING TITLES AND AWARDS**

New rule - 8.1 Junior Courser

Junior Courser is the entry level class for all dogs competing at any Test or Trial. For dogs to progress to the next level, they must have gained two qualification certificates at two separate sanctioned events. Once the Junior Courser (JC) title has been applied for, dogs are then eligible to progress to the next class.

ACT Rationale – Add in new 8.1 Junior Courser to clarify that this is the entry level class and the first title that dogs need before progressing into either the sighthound stream or the coursing ability stream. Although it is mentioned at the current 5.1 under Eligibility For Dogs, plus in the title charts at Appendix A and Appendix B, many new competitors miss this and don’t realise they need the JC title before progressing. It also clarifies that the two qualifiers must be at two different events.

Current rules

**8. LURE COURSING TITLES AND AWARDS**

8.1 **Sighthounds**

Dogs entered in a Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event shall be eligible to receive Title Certificates upon meeting the requirements set out below. Applications are to be made to the Member Body once requirements are met. These dogs may gain Title Certificates whether competing as a single dog on the field or lure coursing with another dog. Please see Appendices A & B for Title Progression charts.

(ACT proposed change)

~~8.1~~ 8.2 **Sighthounds**

After obtaining the JC title, dogs entered in a Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event shall be eligible to receive Title Certificates upon meeting the requirements set out below. Applications are to be made to the Member Body once requirements are met. These dogs may gain Title Certificates whether competing as a single dog on the field or lure coursing with another dog. Please see Appendices A & B for Title Progression charts.

ACT Rationale –

renumber 8.1 to 8.2 to allow for new 8.1 Junior Courser.

Add in ‘After obtaining the JC title’ to clarify that the JC is the first title and is needed before progression.

Current rules

8.1 **Sighthounds**

1. **Qualifying Course**

A Qualifying Course is a single run undertaken by a Sighthound to determine if it runs cleanly with another dog of similar running style. This run is not scored, the Judge passes or fails the dog. A pass enables the dog to run in the Open or Veteran Stakes.

The QC dog is an experienced dog of the same breed, or another sighthound or eligible breed of similar running style. When a different breed is being used to QC the dog, the Judge/s must approve the combination. The identification of a suitable experienced dog is the responsibility of the owner seeking a QC for their dog.

(ACT proposed change)

1. **a) Qualifying Course**

A Qualifying Course is a single run undertaken by a Sighthound to determine if it runs cleanly with another dog of similar running style. This run is not scored, the Judge passes or fails the dog. A pass enables the dog to run in the Open or Veteran Stakes.

The QC dog is an experienced dog of the same breed, or another sighthound or eligible breed of similar running style. An experienced dog could be considered a dog that has been competing in stakes with other dogs of its breed for a period of time. ~~When a different breed is being used to QC the dog, the Judge/s must approve the combination.~~ The judge/s will have final approval of QC combinations, including if different breeds are being used. The identification of a suitable experienced dog is the responsibility of the owner seeking a QC for their dog.

ACT Rationale –

change c) to a) as it is a typo in the rule book and being the first point, it should be a)

Add in an example of what an experienced dog is into the 2nd paragraph. Some dogs that have just gained their QC are being used to QC another dog. Although this is within the rules, a dog that has just gained a QC may not have the practical experience of running with other dogs yet. Reinforce that the judge has the final approval of what constitutes a QC combination.

Current rules

**8.1.b) Open and Veteran Class**

(first paragraph after dot points).

All points accrued in Open/Field Champion Stakes can be transferred across when the dog starts to compete in Veteran Stakes. Once enrolled in Veteran Stakes, a dog cannot transfer back.

(ACT proposed change)

All points accrued in Open/Field Champion Stakes can be transferred across when the dog starts to compete in Veteran Stakes. Once enrolled in Veteran Stakes, a dog cannot transfer back. Dogs can be transferred at the title level they already have and use the points towards the next title level. Dogs that have a FCH do not need to gain a vFCH before working towards the next titles.

ACT Rationale – The transferring to the veterans class once the dog has its FCH and is working towards is vLXC or vLCM is confusing as to whether they need to restart and gain a vFCh first.. The appendix implies that they do not. This clarifies it and brings it in line with the appendix. It is a big task to expect a veteran dog who is already a FCH to have to gain another FCH before continuing.

Current rules

**8.1.c) Singles Stakes**

Singles Stakes are for Sighthounds that run on their own after they have titled as a Junior Courser. Sighthounds running by themselves are only eligible for Singles Field Champion (sFCH), Singles Lure Courser of Merit (sLCM) and Singles Lure Courser Excellent (sLCX) titles. Points are not transferable between Singles Stakes and the Open/Field Champion/Veteran/Veteran Field Champion Stakes.

Sighthounds and eligible breeds need ten qualifications under 4 different Judges or judging combinations to be eligible for the title Singles Field Champion (sFCH).

(ACT proposed change)

Sighthounds and eligible breeds need ten qualifications under 4 different Judges or judging combinations on 2 different fields to be eligible for the title Singles Field Champion (sFCH).

ACT Rationale – add 2 different fields to bring it in line with the other title requirements. Different fields are required for other titles ie FCH, vFCH.

Current rules

8.2 **Titles for All Other Breeds**

All other dogs registered with the Australian National Kennel Council are eligible to participate in the coursing ability stream.

1. **Coursing Ability (CA**) – 8 Passes are required to be earned to be eligible for the title. Passes can only be accumulated at a meet where the dog has accrued a minimum total score of 100 per meet (two runs). Passes must be given by a minimum of three different Judges or judging combinations.
2. **Coursing Ability Advanced (CAA)** 8 Passes are required to be earned to be eligible for the title. Passes can only be accumulated at a meet where the dog has accrued a minimum total score of 100 per meet (two runs). Passes must be given by a minimum of four different Judges or judging combinations
3. **Coursing Ability Excellent (CAX)** 8 Passes are required to be earned by to be eligible for the title. Passes can only be accumulated at a meet where the dog has accrued a minimum total score of 100 per meet (two runs). Passes must be given by a minimum of four different Judges or judging combinations.
4. **Coursing Ability Masters** (**CAM**) 8 Passes are required to be earned by to be eligible for the title. Passes can only be accumulated at a meet where the dog has accrued a minimum total score of 100 per meet (two runs). Passes must be given by a minimum of four different Judges or judging combinations on two different fields. A higher numbered title will be awarded for every 8 additional passes.

(ACT proposed changes)

~~8.2~~ 8.3 **Titles for All Other Breeds**

ACT Rationale – renumber to allow for new 8.1 Junior Courser rule.

After obtaining the JC title, all other dogs registered with the Australian National Kennel Council are eligible to participate in the coursing ability stream

ACT Rationale - Add in ‘after obtaining the JC title’ to clarify that the JC is the first title and is needed before progression.

1. **Coursing Ability (CA**) – 8 Passes are required to be earned to be eligible for the title. Passes can only be accumulated at a meet where the dog has accrued a minimum total score of 100 per meet (two runs). Passes must be given by a minimum of three different Judges or judging combinations on 2 different fields.
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3. **Coursing Ability Excellent (CAX)** 8 Passes are required to be earned by to be eligible for the title. Passes can only be accumulated at a meet where the dog has accrued a minimum total score of 100 per meet (two runs). Passes must be given by a minimum of four different Judges or judging combinations on 2 different fields.

ACT Rationale – add the requirement of 2 different fields for CA, CAA & CAX, to bring it in line with the other title requirements.

Current rules

Appendix A: Sighthound Stream Title Progression (flow chart boxes)

Lure Courser Excellent

50pts required plus one first or two second placings.

Title: LCX \*

And

Veteran Lure Courser Excellent  
20pts required plus one first or two second placings.  
Title: vLCX

(ACT proposed changes)

Lure Courser Excellent

50pts required ~~plus one first or two second placings~~.

Title: LCX \*

And

Veteran Lure Courser Excellent  
20pts required ~~plus one first or two second placings~~.  
Title: vLCX

ACT Rationale - In rule 8.1 Sighthound for the Open and Veterans Class, there is no refence to dogs needing to have gained placings to be awarded the LCX or vLCX title. Removing the reference in the Appendix will make this consistent with this rule.