



Australian National Kennel Council Ltd ABN 77 151 544 679 trading as Dogs Australia

RULES FOR THE CONDUCT OF LURE COURSING COMPETITIONS (Encompassing Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events and Lure Pursuit Sanctioned Events)

(Effective from 1st January 2026)

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National Kennel Council Ltd 2014**

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**Adopted by the Member Bodies of the
Australian National Kennel Council Limited**

(Australian National Kennel Council Ltd trading as Dogs Australia)

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Dogs ACT
PO Box 815
DICKSON ACT 2602
Phone: (02) 6241 4404
Email: admin@dogsact.org.au Website: www.dogsact.org.au

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Dogs West
602 Warton Road
SOUTHERN RIVER WA 6110
Phone: (08) 9455 1188 Fax: (08) 9455 1190
Email: k9@dogswest.com Website: www.dogswest.com

QUEENSLAND

Dogs Queensland
PO Box 1136
MT OMMANEY QLD 4074
Phone: (07) 3252 2661 Fax: (07) 3252 3864
Email: info@dogsqueensland.org.au Website: www.dogsqueensland.org.au

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Dogs NT
PO Box 37521
WINNELLIE NT 0821
Phone: (08) 8984 3570 Fax: (08) 8984 3409
Email: info@dogsnt.com Website: www.dogsnt.com.au

NEW SOUTH WALES

DOGS NSW
PO Box 632
ST MARYS NSW 1790
Phone: (02) 9834 3022
Email: info@dogsnsw.org.au Website: www.dogsnsw.org.au

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Dogs SA
PO Box 844
PROSPECT EAST SA 5082
Phone: (08) 8349 4797
Email: info@dogssa.com.au Website: www.dogssa.com.au

TASMANIA

Dogs Tasmania
PO Box 116
GLENORCHY TAS 7010
Phone: (03) 6272 9443 Fax: (03) 6273 0844
Email: admin@tasdogs.com Website: www.tasdogs.com

VICTORIA

Dogs Victoria
Locked Bag K9
CRANBOURNE VIC 3977
Phone: (03) 9788 2500 Fax: (03) 9788 2599
Email: office@dogsvictoria.org.au Website: www.dogsvictoria.org.au

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1. INTRODUCTION

Where referred to in the Rules, the words

- 1.1 Member Body shall mean the Australian National Kennel Council Ltd (ANKC) Member Body in each State or Territory of Australia.
- 1.2 Affiliate shall mean an Affiliated member body of Member Body conducting Trials and Tests.
- 1.3 These Rules are binding on Member Bodies of the ANKC Ltd.
- 1.4 Interpretation of these Rules should not be necessary; however, should there be a need for individuals to seek clarification, application must be made by the Member Body to the ANKC, whose decision shall be binding.

2. DECISIONS

- 2.1 The Member Body at its discretion, may grant permission to an Affiliate to hold Sanctioned Events and they are to be conducted in accordance with the Rules set down by the Member Body and applicable ANKC authorised Rules.
- 2.2 Decisions of the Committee of the Affiliate conducting a Sanctioned Event shall be subject to appeal to the Member Body in the State or Territory in which the Sanctioned Event is conducted.
- 2.3 The Rules of the Australian National Kennel Council shall apply to all Sanctioned Events. In the event of any inconsistency, the Rules of the Member Body shall prevail.
- 2.4 Anyone taking part in a Sanctioned Event that openly impugns the actions or decisions of the Judge/s shall render themselves liable to be debarred from further participation in the Sanctioned Event, and may be ordered from the grounds and further dealt with at the discretion of the Member Body.
- 2.5 Any person participating in any Sanctioned Event does so at their own risk and no Member Body or Affiliate shall be responsible for any injury or damage to any person, dog or property.
- 2.6 Lure Coursing and Lure Pursuit are sports, and all participants must be guided by the principles of good sportsmanship both on and off the field.

3. PURPOSE, FIELDS, COURSE DESIGN AND EQUIPMENT

- 3.1 The purpose of Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events is to preserve and assess the lure coursing skills inherent in Sighthounds and to demonstrate their ability to perform the function for which they were originally developed. Lure Coursing is a simulation of the way a hare or rabbit might run in the open field, with the course pattern being irregular and varied with every event. Lure Coursing is a test of the dog's ability to work by sight without showing signs of undue stress or lack of fitness. The purpose of Lure Pursuit Sanctioned Events is to provide an opportunity for Non-Sighthounds to participate in lure sport, and to test their fitness, soundness and drive. Both Lure Coursing and Lure Pursuit test the dog's instinct, physical structure and temperament. Judges assess performance by observing the dog's agility, enthusiasm, endurance, speed and follow through the course. The sports are a test of the physical capabilities of the dog. The sports are not a test of scenting ability or trainability.
- 3.2 The field is the area that contains the physical course the dog is being Judged on. The field entry may be defined by fences and gates or ropes or other markers. Slightly sloping or somewhat hilly terrain is appropriate to reflect a natural coursing environment, providing that the full course can be seen by lure operator and Judge/s. If natural or pre-existing obstacles are present the course must be laid so that they do not constitute any danger to the dogs. The field must be free from holes which could present a danger to the dogs. Artificial obstacles must not be introduced to the path of the dog on the course. The preferred minimum field size should be no less than 5 acres.

- 3.3 The Affiliate is responsible for grounds safety, course design and the laying of the course. The Affiliate may assign this responsibility at its discretion. The course must be between 600 metres to 1000 metres long for Lure Coursing, and between 500-1000 metres for Lure Pursuit, unless a shorter course is later approved as a contingency. A single laid course must be used for the entire event unless equipment failure or field conditions on the day otherwise require. The course must be measured by measuring wheel or GPS based app under the supervision of the Judge/s and course length recorded on official course length form at Appendix D. Course lengths may vary dependent on field and weather conditions on the day. A course may only be shortened below 600 metres to account for field or weather conditions on the day, with the approval of the Judge/s. Any decision to shorten the length of the course must be recorded on the official course length form. Course layouts must contain turns in both directions and straight sections that demonstrate the dogs' capabilities. The lure line must be securely anchored to the ground to minimise the risk of dogs becoming entangled by the line.
- 3.4 The lure machine powers the lure around the course by a motor. It must be capable of running for a full Sanctioned Event, in all conditions, without breaking down or overheating. The Affiliate is responsible for providing back up event equipment that enables all runs to be completed. The lure is to be made from unscented plastic material of contrast to the background and is to be replaced as necessary to ensure that it remains clearly visible to dogs, Judge/s and Lure Operator. The lure colours must be approved by the judge. Three (3) lures are to be used. There must be a visible gap between each lure to a maximum of two metres between attachment points. No other object is to be affixed to the line. The lure is to be attached to a line made of cord with a minimum diameter of 2mm. A sufficient number of pulleys and tie-downs should be used to maximise the safety of the dogs on the course. Plastic cones may be used outside the path of the dog to indicate location of pulleys to driver and Judge.

4. ELIGIBILITY FOR DOGS

- 4.1 There are two Streams. The Sighthound Stream for dogs recognised as Sighthounds under sections 4.3 and 4.4 and the Lure Pursuit Stream for all other participating dogs.

In the Sighthound Stream, the following Classes are offered: Junior Courser, Single, Qualifying Course, Open and Field Champion (Field Champion being for Open dogs that have achieved their Field Champion title). Within the Open and Field Champion Classes, each individual brace or trio that is drawn for the allocation of blankets has historically been known as a stake. For the avoidance of confusion, rather than describing the Open and Field Champion Classes as "Stakes" they are treated as Classes in the rule book. Field Champions can only compete in the Field Champion or Singles Classes.

In the Lure Pursuit stream, the following Classes are progressively offered: Junior Pursuit, Lure Pursuit, Lure Pursuit Advanced, Lure Pursuit Excellent, and Lure Pursuit Master.

- 4.2 The Junior Courser and Junior Pursuit Classes are the entry level classes. 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. A dog must be assessed over two runs in the same Sanctioned Event and a pass will be awarded a Qualifying Certificate. All dogs must qualify with a minimum of two Qualifying Certificates in the Junior Courser or Junior Pursuit Class to be eligible to compete in Sanctioned Events. Dogs who possess two Qualifying Certificates in the Junior Courser or Junior Pursuit Class are eligible to apply for the title Junior Courser if they are Sighthounds and Junior Pursuit if they are Non-Sighthounds. The Junior Courser and Junior Pursuit titles must be applied for before progressing to a higher class.

A dog with a Field Champion title from an international affiliate registry recognised by the ANKC is not required to complete the Junior Courser title prior to competing in the Open Class.

- 4.3 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: Afghan Hound, Azawakh, Borzoi, Cirneco dell'Etna, Deerhound, Greyhound, Ibizan Hound, Irish Wolfhound, Italian Greyhound, Pharaoh Hound, Saluki, Sloughi and Whippet.
- 4.4 Although not recognised as Sighthounds in Australia, Rhodesian Ridgebacks and Basenjis are considered eligible breeds for the purposes of 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.

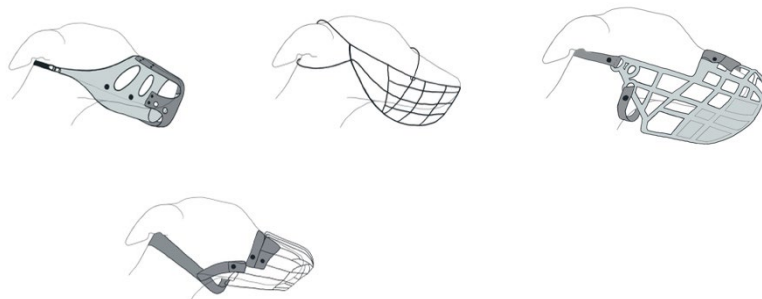
- 4.5 As other Sighthound breeds become recognised by the ANKC, these may be added to the list of Sighthound breeds.
- 4.6 All other dogs registered with the Member Body are eligible to participate in Lure Pursuit Tests (LPT) and earn the titles of LP (Lure Pursuit), LPA (Lure Pursuit Advanced), LPX (Lure Pursuit Excellent), LPM (Lure Pursuit Master and Lure Pursuit Champion)
- 4.7 Any dog with ANKC Ltd registration aged 15 months and over shall be eligible to compete in 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.
- 4.8 For the purpose of the awarding of a Dual Champion or other multiple discipline Champion, only the Field Champion title counts towards the awarding of a Dual Champion title by the ANKC.
- 4.9 At any Sanctioned Event, a Sighthound may only compete in one Class, either the Single, Open or Field Champion Class. However, the dog can be used in a Qualifying Course as well as their entered Class at that Sanctioned Event.

5. SANCTIONED EVENT REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1 Lure Coursing Tests and Trials and Lure Pursuit Tests are conducted by an Affiliate after obtaining the approval of the Member Body. A test is an event at which Junior Courser, Singles Sighthound and Lure Pursuit tests are conducted. A trial is an event at which Open and Field Champion Classes are conducted. A Sanctioned Event is an event at which both tests and trials may be conducted.
- 5.2 The protection and welfare of dogs must always be observed at Sanctioned Events. The health and safety of the dogs must always guide all officials and participants during Sanctioned Events.
- 5.3 To compete at Sanctioned Events, owners of competing dogs must be current financial members in good standing with their Member Body.
- 5.4 The owner entering a dog in a Sanctioned Event does so at their own risk. The owner agrees to abide by the rules of the Member Body. If a dog has more than one owner, permission must be granted in writing by all owners before entering a dog in a Sanctioned Event.
- 5.5 Lure Coursing and Lure Pursuit is a competitive and physically strenuous activity. It is the responsibility of the owner/s to ensure their dog/s are fit for the activity of Lure Coursing and Lure Pursuit.
- 5.6 By submitting an entry form, the exhibitor confirms that to the best of their knowledge that their dog is fit and able to take part in the Sanctioned Event.
- 5.7 If in the Judge/s opinion a dog is unfit to run, the dog will be ineligible to compete at that Sanctioned Event. Any official may refer a dog that they suspect is not fit to run to the Judge/s for assessment. In this situation the decision of the Judge/s is final. Where a club employs the services of a qualified Veterinarian to conduct soundness examinations, the Committee may determine that the dog is ineligible for competition on the basis of advice from the Veterinarian.
- 5.8 Effective 1 January 2026, all hounds competing in the Open or Field Champion Classes in a Brace or Trio are required to wear a muzzle. Muzzles must be firm and with sufficient strength to prevent injury, A correctly fitted muzzle should be 2-2.5cm clear of the nose and with a depth sufficient for breathing and panting. Muzzles can be made from plastic, nylon or similar material. (Added 01/01/25, Effective 01/01/26)

- 5.9 An affiliate club can request that the owner of a dog that is running in other Classes, and which has a history of interfering with the field equipment, wear a muzzle to prevent damage to the field equipment and to the dog itself. Should an affiliate request a handler to muzzle their dog under this provision, the handler has a grace period of 3 months to muzzle train the dog.

Suitable Muzzle Styles



- 5.10 Dogs must enter the field on a flat collar and lead, a martingale and lead and/or or a slip lead, the slip lead being no smaller than 25mm wide around the neck of the dog or 10mm minimum diameter on a round slip lead. Two pieces of equipment may be used to facilitate getting the dog to the start line. Only one item of equipment may be on the dog for release. A leash should not be used to mimic any other form of restraint, for example, being wrapped around the head or body. The item of restraint including any collars must be removed prior to the start of the course or in the case of a slip lead being used, at the time the "Tally-Ho" instruction is given. Prior to dogs entering the field, dogs wearing muzzles and blankets will be checked to ensure that muzzles and blankets are appropriate and correctly fitted. The affiliate will arrange for the checking of these items.
- 5.11 Bitches in season must not be in the trial precinct and are not eligible for any Sanctioned Event. At the request of the Secretary, any bitch present within the trial precinct may be swabbed.
- 5.12 Bitches in whelp are not permitted to compete at any Sanctioned Event. Bitches must be at a minimum 10 weeks post whelp to compete in any Sanctioned Event.
- 5.13 A qualification in a Sanctioned Event consists of minimum total score of 100 across two (2) runs at the same event, with no score being below 40 in either run.
- 5.14 The only classes to be offered in a Sanctioned Event schedule are those provided for in the National Rules. The running of try outs or fun runs at a Sanctioned Event is a matter for the Affiliate.
- 5.15 Owners of dogs must apply to the ANKC Member Body for pre-requisite titles before entering their dogs in a higher class. At the discretion of the Secretary, a competitor who completes the necessary passes for a title and has applied for that title, after the closing of entry, may request and be transferred to the next higher class.
- 5.16 Apart from dogs in the Open or Field Champion classes, where a competitor has multiple dogs entered in the same Class, every endeavour will be made to separate their entries in the catalogue.
- 5.17 Reasonable and necessary modifications can be made for participants living with disabilities. The Secretary is to be notified prior to the close of entries. It is the responsibility of the Secretary to advise relevant officials of the necessary accommodations on the day of the Sanctioned Event.
- 5.18 With the affiliate's permission, handlers with strong dogs that they are not able to handle individually without risk to their and the dog's safety may have an assistant to help bring the dog onto the field. Only one person may release the dog.

- 5.19 Mobile phones and similar portable electronic devices are not to be used on the field except in the case of emergency, medical reasons, or as part of the running of the Sanctioned Event, e.g. time keeping, scoring, measuring the course, calculations or consulting the rules. As a general principle, the only officials who should be routinely using portable electronic devices during the running of a Sanctioned Event are the Judge and Secretary.
- 5.20 Sanctioned Events shall run all dogs entered once, prior to any dog running a second run.
- 5.21 In the event that a Sanctioned Event is abandoned after the first runs, but before the conclusion of the second runs, due to circumstances outside the affiliate's control such as dangerous conditions, field deterioration, catastrophic equipment failure or medical emergency, scores from the first runs will be doubled. In the case of the Junior Courser and Junior Pursuit classes passes are at the judge's discretion. If the Sanctioned Event is abandoned prior to the conclusion of the first runs, no qualifications will be awarded and it is up to the affiliate whether it seeks approval from the Member Body to reschedule the Sanctioned Event.
- 5.22 The handler is responsible for the recall of the dog. The handler should not assume that officials will assist, and if they think they will need assistance they should arrange for that assistance. Only people who have an existing relationship with a dog should touch the dog, others may be used to block or guide the dog towards its handler. Vehicles (for example, bicycles, motorbikes, e-scooters) must not be used while a dog is on the field.
- 5.23 Handlers must be 16 years old to participate.
- 5.24 Handlers must ensure that their dog is under control in the trial precinct.
- 5.25 Handlers must wear closed in shoes .
- 5.26 Handlers must follow directions.

6. EXCUSALS, DISMISSALS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

6.1 Excusals

Dogs who fail to run after the Tally-ho.
Dogs who leave the field during the course.
Dogs who delay the course by 5 minutes or more.
Dogs who foul the field while offlead.
Handlers who attempt to direct their dogs during the course.
Handlers that fail to release properly resulting in entanglement in a slip lead and/or the dragging of a lead for any or all of the course
Dogs who run with any form of restraint

Consequence: The dog does not get a score but may run in the second run if excused in the first run.

6.2 Dismissals

All dogs:

Dogs who invade the field at any time during the Sanctioned Event.

Consequence of field invasion: The dog may not participate for the rest of the Sanctioned Event.

Dogs in QC/Open/Field Champion:

Dogs who playfully interfere with the course of another dog.

Dogs who course another dog rather than the lure.

Consequence of interfering or coursing a dog: The dog may not participate for the rest of the Sanctioned Event and must requalify for the Qualifying Course.

6.3 Disqualifications

Dogs who fight on the field.
Dogs who aggressively interfere with the course of another dog.

Consequence: ANKC Member Body dog aggression procedures are invoked and the dog must requalify for the Qualifying Course.

7 TITLES AND AWARDS

Dogs entered in a 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.

7.1 Sighthound Stream

a) Qualifying Course

A Qualifying Course (QC) 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 Class.

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. 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.

The Qualifying Course is run during the Sanctioned Event, the timing is at the affiliate club's discretion.

Subject to a member body's insurance requirements, the experienced dog being used for a QC does not need to be entered in the Sanctioned Event; however the dog being QC'd must be entered in the Sanctioned Event in a Qualifying Course class.

There shall be no more than two dogs in a Qualifying Course.

The dog seeking to be qualified must wear a blanket.

All rules relating to the conduct of Sanctioned Events apply to the conduct of both dogs in a Qualifying Course.

A dog with a Field Champion title from an international affiliate registry recognised by the ANKC is not required to complete a Qualifying Course prior to competing in the Open Class.

b) Open Class

To qualify as a Field Champion (FCh) Sighthounds running in the Open Class must:

- earn 100 points under at least 4 different Judges or judging combinations on 2 different fields;
- obtain a minimum of one (1) first placing or two (2) second placings in their class.

Sighthounds and eligible breeds who have gained their Field Champion title are eligible to compete for the Lure Courser of Merit (LCM) title. They must have gained an additional 80 breed points after gaining their Field Champion title and have received one first or two second placings to achieve the LCM.

Sighthounds and eligible breeds who have gained their LCM are eligible to compete for the Lure Courser Excellent (LCX) title. They must have gained an additional 50 breed points after gaining their LCM title.

A higher numbered title will be available for every additional fifty (50) breed points (LCX2, LCX3 etc).

The accrual of points is set out in the table below. To earn points the dog must achieve a qualifying score. Dogs that are withdrawn after the first run, excused, dismissed or disqualified count towards points.

	1 dog	2 dogs	3 dogs	4 dogs	5 dogs	6 dogs	7 dogs	8 dogs	9 dogs	10 dogs	11 or more dogs
First	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	16
Second		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	14
Third			5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	12
Fourth				4	5	6	7	8	9	10	10
All other entrants that pass					4	4	4	4	4	4	4

Points are calculated based on the Class that the dog is entered in, and the number of dogs of the same breed in their Class. Dogs may earn a maximum of 16 points in their class. The two Classes are Open Class and Field Champion Class.

An overall Best of Breed (from the two Classes) shall be determined and the dog will be eligible for additional points (to the maximum of 16 points) based on the number of dogs of breed in the Open Class and Field Champion Class

In the instance of a tie between two or more dogs with the same score, following the application of the countback procedure, they will all receive the same placing / award. This includes Best of Breed and Best in Field.

Along with the first place points for its breed, the Best in Field is eligible for additional points for Open and Field Champion Sighthounds beaten to a maximum of 20 total points for the Sanctioned Event. No more than 20 points may be earned by any Sighthound in a Sanctioned Event.

Ties will be decided on a count back of scores. Whichever dog has the highest scores in the second run in the following three categories will be awarded the higher placing. The first criterion is Follow, the second is Agility, the third is Endurance. If all three scores are the same for the second run, the scores for the first run will be taken into consideration.

c) **Singles Class**

Singles Class is 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 Class and the Open/Field Champion Classes.

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

Sighthounds and eligible breeds who have gained their sFCH title may be eligible to compete for the Singles Lure Courser of Merit (sLCM) title. They must have gained an additional 8 qualifications after gaining their sFCH title.

Sighthounds and eligible breeds who have gained their sLCM may be eligible to compete for the Singles Lure Courser Excellent (sLCX) title. They must have gained an additional 8 qualifications after gaining their sLCM title.

A higher numbered title will be available for every additional 8 qualifications (sLCX2, sLCX3 etc).

d) Senior Courser Title

To be eligible for the title of Senior Courser, 6 Passes after the award of the JC are required to be earned. Passes can only be accumulated in the Singles or Open Classes at a Sanctioned Event where the dog has accrued a minimum total score of 100 per Sanctioned Event (two runs). To be eligible to apply for the title, passes must be given by a minimum of four different Judges or judging combinations on 2 different fields.

e) Transitional Arrangements for the ceasing of the Veteran Classes

All qualifications accrued prior to 31 December 2024 in the Veteran or Veteran Field Champion Classes, which have not already been used in a title application, can be used as follows:

1 - Points that have not already been used in a title application can be transferred towards the award of Open or Field Champion titles.

OR

2 - Each Veteran qualification certificate that has not already been used in a title application can be used as one "pass" towards the award of a Singles title.

Applicants must select one option or the other. The same qualification certificate cannot be used for both a Singles title and an Open/Field Champion title.

7.2 Lure Pursuit Stream

All other dogs registered with the Australian National Kennel Council are eligible to participate in the Lure Pursuit Stream.

- a) **Lure Pursuit (LP)** – 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.
- b) **Lure Pursuit Advanced (LPA)** 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
- c) **Lure Pursuit Excellent (LPX)** 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.
- d) **Lure Pursuit Master (LPM)** 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.

- e) **Lure Pursuit Champion:** on completion of the LPX title a dog can acquire 4 passes towards a Lure Pursuit Champion title. Passes must be a score of 140 or above and must be from 4 different Judges on two different fields. Passes less than a score of 140 can count towards a LPM title, but not towards the Champion title. Any scores achieved after the awarding of Lure Pursuit Champion can be counted towards a LPM title. A Lure Pursuit Champion title does not count towards the awarding of a Dual or Triple Champion title by the ANKC. At least one of the qualification certificates for the Lure Pursuit Champion title must have been awarded after the implementation date of 1 January 2026.

- 7.3 Titles shall only be replaced for the Class in which dogs are running, e.g. upon transferring to Open, Singles dogs will not lose any of their titles achieved in the Singles Class. Appendix C sets out the proper application of titles.

8. **OFFICIALS**

All Sanctioned Events shall have the following officials:

Secretary
Gate Steward
Huntmaster
Lure Operator
Judge/s

They shall be responsible for the following duties which may be delegated as appropriate.

8.1 **Secretary**

- Checks in all dogs that are present on the day before the start of the Sanctioned Event and marks off those that are scratched, absent or on time on the check-in sheet.
- Prepares judging sheets, distributes them to the Judge/s, collects the completed score sheets, collates the scores and determines placings on the day.
- Conducts and displays the public draw of blanket colours.
- Liaises with the Judge/s appointed for the day immediately if there are any inconsistencies with the scoring.
- Compiles the required paperwork for the Member Body and submits it.

8.2 **Gate Steward**

The Gate Steward is the intermediary between those competing on the field, and those waiting to enter the field. The Gate Steward has responsibility for:

- Giving adequate notice to handlers that their dogs are due to run.
- Ensuring that safety precautions are observed (e.g. covered shoes for handlers).
- Ensuring dogs enter the field with only one or two items of permitted restraint attached.

- Ensuring that a handler only brings one dog per run on to the course.
- Ensuring that only one handler enters with the dog unless sections 5.17 or 5.18 apply
- Ensuring that each handler is wearing the correct number and that it will be visible to the Huntmaster.
- Checking, if applicable, each dog is wearing an approved blanket of correct colour.
- Marking off each dog as it enters the field and recording those that are absent for both courses/runs of the day.
- Controlling the marshalling area.

The onus is on the handler to be at the field gate when required. If the handler is not present when the previous dog has completed its run, and has not acknowledged the gate steward after three calls, the dog may be marked absent.

8.3 Huntmaster

The Huntmaster is in control on the field. Their duties are to:

- Familiarise themselves with the course; they may walk the course before the event commences.
- Call up each new dog as each previous dog completes their run.
- Ensure that where multiple dogs are running that they are positioned correctly at the start according to blanket colour.
- Ensure that safety precautions for slipping dogs are observed (e.g. slip lead is held correctly).
- Stand either behind or to the side in close proximity to the handlers at the time of release, ensuring neither the Lure Operator's nor Judge's view of the dogs and lure is obscured.
- Before each run, check in the following order: Judge/s ready, lure operator ready, handler/s ready. Brief the handlers "do not release your dogs before the "T" in Tally-ho". After affirmative answers, provide a hand signal to the lure operator to start the lure.
- Give the verbal signal "Tally-ho" to release the dogs for each course, and "Retrieve your dogs" at the end of the course when appropriate.
- Notify the handler of a pre-slipped dog and also the Judge/s immediately after the course is complete. If the Huntmaster fails to notify the Judge/s of a pre-slip, the Judge/s shall have the prerogative to question the Huntmaster if in their opinion the release seems questionable. If neither Huntmaster nor Judge/s deem there to be a pre-slip the dog will not be penalised.
- Direct the handler of a dog that fails to run at the "Tally-ho" or returns to its handler while the course is in progress, to immediately retrieve the dog. In the case of an immediate retrieval, it will be the Judge/s who determines whether a retrieved dog shall have a restart.
- Notify the Judge/s of any occurrence that happens during the course which might be grounds for excusal, dismissal or disqualification. Appropriate action shall be at the sole discretion of the Judge/s.
- Inform the handlers immediately of all dogs in a course that is called a no-course or a course in which a dog is dismissed or disqualified.

8.4 Lure Operator

The Lure Operator is responsible for operation of the machine that drives the lure around the course.

The Lure must only be run by a recognised Lure Operator or a trainee Lure Operator under the guidance of a recognised Lure Operator. The Member Body must keep and publish a list of recognised Lure Operators.

One Lure Operator shall drive the lure for each Class to ensure consistency for all dogs in competition. Due to the requirements for the Best in Field award one Lure Operator must drive for Open and Field Champion Classes. Changes to Lure Operators must be approved by the Judge/s.

Lure Operator duties are to:

- walk the course prior to the commencement of the Sanctioned Event with the Judge/s.
- make one test run of the lure before the first course is run. Where possible a reliable Sighthound or large and fast Lure Pursuit dog should be used to test the flow of the course.
- start and stop the lure on the signal from the Huntmaster.
- keep the lure a reasonable distance in front of the dog/s at all times. In the event the lure becomes unsighted by the dog, the lure must continue in the planned direction until completion of the course.

stop the lure on a signal from the Huntmaster or Judge/s, but shall automatically stop the lure any time a potentially dangerous situation may develop.

8.5 Judge/s

In addition to those rules and procedures set out elsewhere in these rules, as they relate to Judges, the following shall apply.

- Judge/s officiating at Tests or Trials must be registered with a Member Body list of eligible Judges.
- An Affiliate may, at their discretion, use up to three Judges for any given meet.
- If a dog owned or part-owned or leased or part-leased by a Judge or immediate family of such Judge, irrespective of where they are domiciled or any other person normally domiciled with the Judge, is entered in a Sanctioned Event, the Class in which the dog is entered is to be Judged by an alternative Judge. The same judging combination shall Judge the Open and Field Champion Classes.
- No Judge shall perform any other field meet duties during his/her judging assignment.
- Each Judge, before the Sanctioned Event commences, shall walk the course set out.
- Where a Judge is billeted with an exhibitor, that exhibitor shall not be excluded from entering and running their dogs at that event.

9. CONDUCT OF THE SANCTIONED EVENT

- 9.1 a) Dogs shall be called in run order
- b) Upon signal from the Huntmaster, the handler(s) must bring the dog(s) onto the course and to the start line as assigned by the Huntmaster.
- c) The lure will be placed no more than 2 meters in front of the dog(s) at the start line.
- d) The Huntmaster will ask the handler(s) if they are ready and upon receiving a clear affirmative answer from each handler, will signal the lure driver to commence movement of the lure away from the dogs.
- e) Handlers must not release their dogs before the "T" of TALLY-HO. If they do so a pre-slip penalty is applied (see 10.5)
- f) The Huntmaster will give a clear signal of TALLY-HO when the lure is at a safe distance to release the dogs.
- g) Once the course is finished, the lure has been stopped and the Huntmaster has given the direction of "retrieve your Dog(s), the handler(s) must move purposefully to securely leash their dogs and remove them from the course as quickly and safely as possible.
- h) Handlers must follow any other direction given to them by the Huntmaster while on the field
- 9.2 The order and arrangement of dogs competing in Open and Field Champion Classes shall be determined by a random drawing by breed at the beginning of the trial. The draw shall be after check-in and shall be made in full public view. The judge/s shall have the option of attending the draw, the judge will be consulted on whether they wish to attend the draw prior to the draw.
- 9.3 If, by dismissal, disqualification or withdrawal, the number of dogs in the stakes within a Class become unbalanced, the Judge/s may direct that a second random public draw be made to redistribute dogs before the commencement of the second course. On completion of any second draw, the blanket numbers for dogs are to be publicly displayed prior to the commencement of the second course. No other reassignment of blanket colours or changing of dogs between stakes is permitted.
- 9.4 Upon request from an owner on the entry form, multiple entries from an owner shall be divided as evenly as possible between each stake. In the event that the only two Opens or Field Champions of a breed are housemates, the owner may elect to run them individually.
- 9.5 If only one dog of a breed is entered, that dog may be run with another breed of similar running style if all handlers and the Judge/s agree. The dogs will be scored separately.
- 9.6 A dog that is dismissed or disqualified will not be permitted to run in the second run.
- 9.7 Sighthounds may be run as singles, or braces. Sighthounds shall be designated by colours according to their draw number. A trio shall only be run to prevent a Sighthound of the same breed from running alone. A Sighthound may only run as a single where no suitable Sighthound of its breed is entered to run with.
- | | | | |
|------------------|---|--------|------------------------------------|
| 1st number drawn | - | Yellow | (placed on left) |
| 2nd number drawn | - | Pink | (middle or on the right in braces) |
| 3rd number drawn | - | Blue | (placed on right) |
- 3rd is only to be used in the case of a trio being run to complete an odd numbered entry.
- Blankets are to be plain, non-reflective, with no visible identifying marks and are to be provided by the handler.
- 9.8 Best in Field contenders are those who have competed in Open or Field Champion Classes only.

- 9.9 In the event that a Sanctioned Event is abandoned after the first runs but before the conclusion of the second runs due to circumstances outside the affiliate's control such as dangerous conditions, field deterioration, catastrophic equipment failure or medical emergency, scores from the first runs will be doubled. In the case of the Junior Courser class passes are at the judge's discretion. If the Sanctioned Event is abandoned prior to the conclusion of the first runs, no qualifications will be awarded and it is up to the affiliate whether it seeks approval from the Member Body to reschedule the Sanctioned Event.

10. JUDGING

- 10.1 While on the field during the judging assignment, no Judge shall discuss anything relative to the judging assignment with any handler or owner.
- 10.2 While observing the course in progress, when two or more Judges are used, the Judges shall stand apart. They shall not discuss scores or placements of dogs.
- 10.3 A Judge shall be able to call a "no course" for any of the following reasons:
- a) The dogs are interfered with or disrupted or the Judge cannot fairly score the course.
 - b) When a segment of the lure falls off and any dog reacts to said segment, but only if the course cannot be fairly scored.
 - c) If a dog or dogs touch or catch the lure and, in the Judge/s opinion/s by so doing that action causes interference with the running of the lure.
 - d) Any time a dog becomes entangled in the string, the Judge/s shall order the lure stopped and may declare a no course.
 - e) The lure does not operate in a manner that allows the Judge to score the dogs.
- 10.4 Judges are responsible for scoring all categories.

Placing of winners shall be decided on the basis of qualities evidenced by the following and shall be scored in whole numbers only and governed by the following system:

Follow — 20 Points
Agility — 20 Points
Endurance — 20 Points
Speed — 20 Points
Enthusiasm — 20 Points
Total — 100 Points

Less: Pre-slip penalty minus 1 to 10 points
Less: Course delay penalty minus 1 to 10 points

All Sighthounds must course to be scored in the above scoring categories and, if required, judging guidance may be sought from the "FCI International Guidelines for Lure Coursing Judges". The RULES FOR THE CONDUCT OF LURE COURSING COMPETITIONS (Encompassing Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events and Lure Pursuit Sanctioned Events) prevail in the event of any inconsistency.

Lure Pursuit are not expected to course to be scored in the above scoring categories. Scoring categories for Lure Pursuit are to be interpreted using the plain English meaning of the categories

- 10.5 When a **pre-slip** occurs, the Judge shall levy a penalty of between 1 and 10 points for that course. The pre-slip penalty shall not be carried over in the case where a no-course is called on the course in progress.
- 10.6 When a delay of less than five minutes occurs, the Judge shall levy a 1 to 10 point penalty for that course, proportionate to the delay. This includes when a dog is slipped when no Tally-Ho

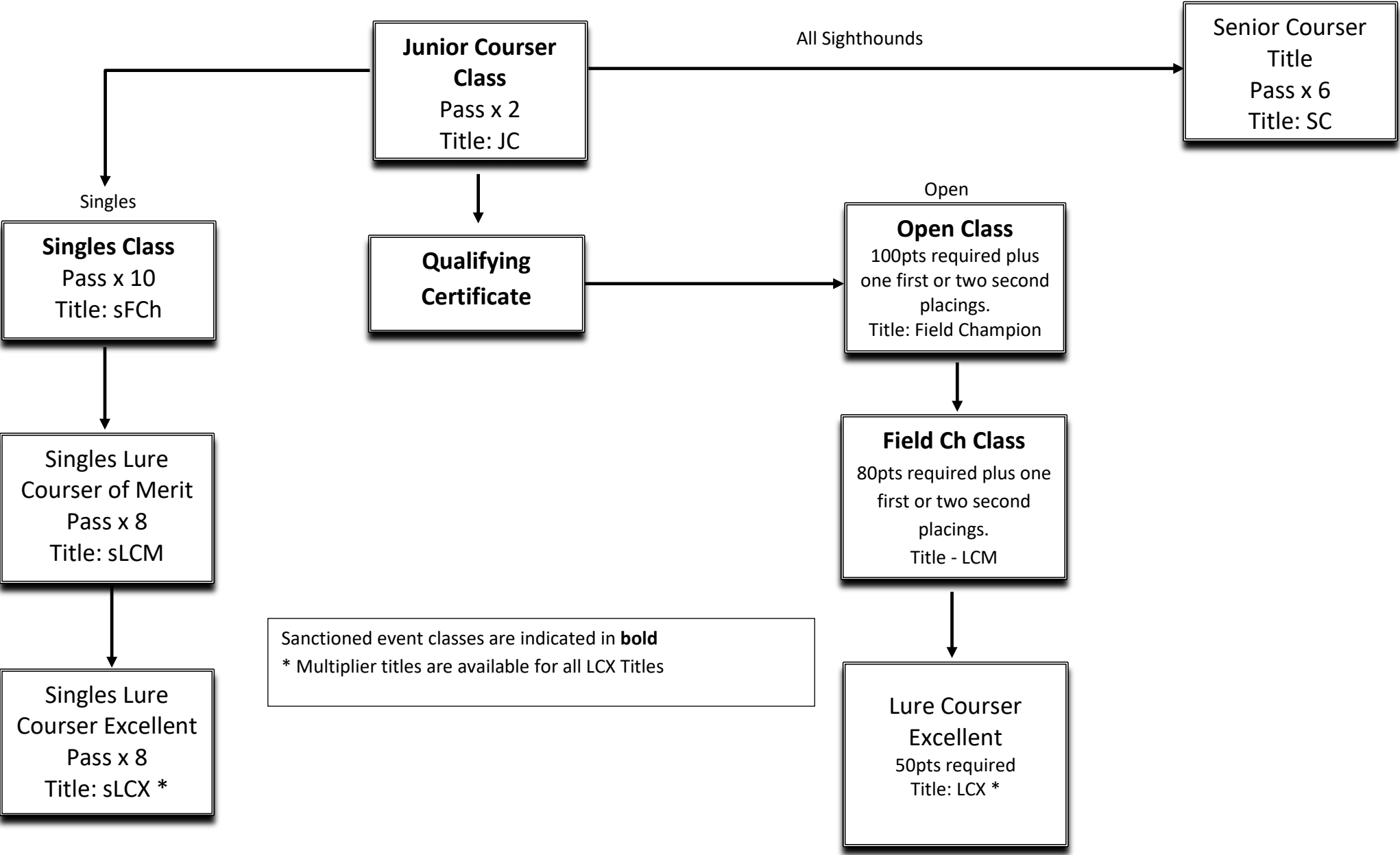
has been sounded. The course delay penalty shall be carried over in the case where a no course has been called on the course in progress and shall be cumulative in the case of repeated delays. When the course delay is longer than five minutes, the dog is to be excused. The lure must not be used to catch the dog after the course is finished, with the exception of small bag movements in the finishing area after the dog has been excused.

- 10.7 The score given to the dog at the end of the Sanctioned Event, must be out of 200. Where two Judge/s are used, the final score for each dog shall be the total sum of all four scores, divided by two. Where three Judges are used, the final score for each dog shall be the total sum of all six scores, divided by three.
- 10.8 A Judge may score some dogs in a course and re-run other dogs from the same course. At their discretion, the Judge may score dogs which fail to complete the course for any reason.
- 10.9 After a course has been Judged, and marked score sheets turned over to the Secretary, only the Judge can change their final score and only on the day of the Sanctioned Event in case of score-adding arithmetical or blanket colour error. Changes must be initialled by the Judge.
- 10.10 If a judge has a vision impairment the judge can make reasonable and necessary adjustments to change the colour of the blanket or remove the blanket from one dog.

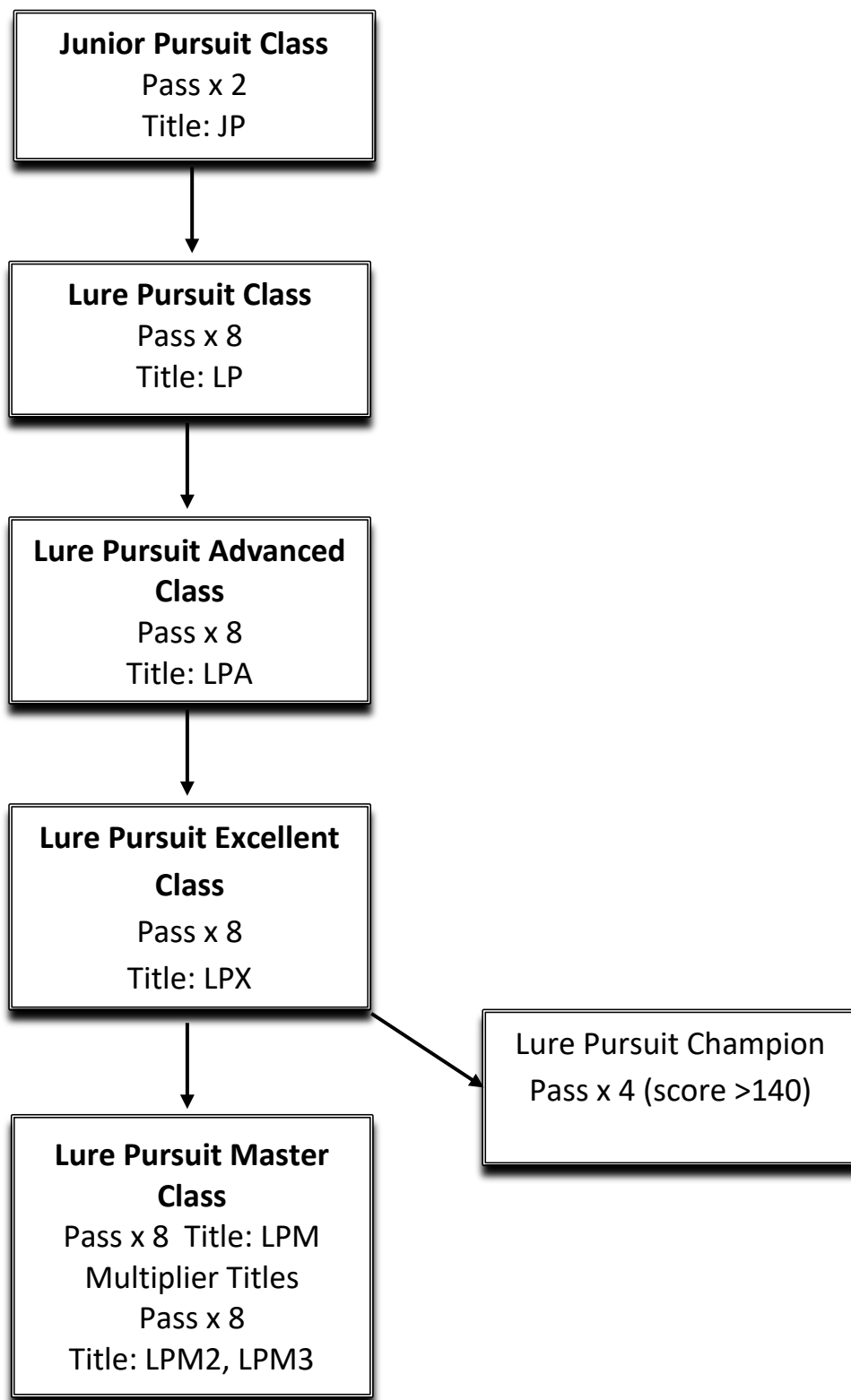
11. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Application for Title:	Owner has submitted the application for the title to their Member Body. This may be done in person / by post or any other means accepted by their Member Body. The approved title paperwork does not need to be received back prior to continuing in the next class.
Blanket:	A plain coloured (Yellow, Pink, Blue), non-reflective vest without embellishments or identifying marks provided by the competitor and worn by dogs competing in multiple dog competition.
Combination of Judges:	Where two or three Judges are judging the same classes at the same time at Sanctioned Event
Course:	Consists of 1, 2 or 3 dogs pursuing a lure over a selected course pattern. Begins with the "Tally Ho" and ends with the retrieval of dogs.
Course Delay:	Delays caused by dogs whose handlers delay the start of the run, dogs that break away from and avoid their handlers prior to the "Tally-ho" and dogs that avoid their handlers at the end of a run. Can include dogs or handlers entering the field when it is not their turn delaying the start of the catalogued dogs run.
Decision:	Any official decision of a dog by a Judge other than a score: e.g. an excusal, dismissal or disqualification.
Dismissal:	A dismissal means a dog shall be unable to participate for the rest of the day.
Disqualification:	A disqualification means a dog is unable to participate for the rest of the day and must be reported to the member body in accordance with member body requirements.
Draw:	A random draw in public, after check in has been completed, determining the order in which the dogs will run in the Open and Field Champion Classes.
Excusal:	Dogs removed from the field for remainder of the run in which they are competing, but may compete later in the day.
Fail to Run:	Any behaviour of any dog who upon "tally-ho" makes little or no attempt to pursue the lure, examples include dogs who remain standing at the start or dogs who walk or run away from the direction of the lure
Field:	The space where a course is set up on the grounds. This may be enclosed by fencing or bunting where appropriate. Dogs in this area are under the control of the Huntmaster and no dogs, except those that are currently preparing to enter the field, running the course or being retrieved after running a course are permitted in this area.
Fouling:	When a dog urinates, defecates or vomits
No Course:	Any course that a Judge determines cannot be Judged
Pre-Slip:	When a dog is slipped before the Huntmaster gives the Tally-ho signal.
Sanctioned Event:	Collective noun to describe Tests and/or Trials held by an Affiliate.
Slip:	The act of a handler releasing the dog at the start of a course on the verbal signal "Tally-Ho"
Trial Precinct:	Includes the competition field and any adjacent areas which may include marshalling areas, secretary's office, carpark, catering areas, sponsors areas, or designated exercise or offlead areas.
Under Control:	Handler must be able to keep dog restrained at all times.

Appendix A: Sighthound Stream Title Progression



Appendix B: Lure Pursuit Stream Title Progression



Sanctioned event classes are indicated in **bold**

Appendix C: Titles Guide

<i>Sighthound Stream (Main or Limit Registered Sighthounds only, per section 7.1 of the rule book)</i>				
JC	Junior Courser	2 passes	Nil.	Prerequisite title. Goes after dog's name.
SC	Senior Courser (Optional Title)	6 passes 4 different judges 2 fields	Replaces JC after dog's name.	For Sighthounds competing in Open Stakes, after attaining JC. Not a prerequisite for any other title.
sFCH	Singles Field Champion	10 passes 4 different judges 2 fields	Replaces JC or SC and goes in front of dogs' name (prefix)	For Sighthounds competing in the Single Stakes, after attaining JC.
sLCM	Singles Lure Courser of Merit	8 passes	Replaces nothing, added after dog's name	For Sighthounds competing in the Single Stakes, after attaining sFCh.
sLCX	Singles Lure Courser Excellent	8 passes	Replaces sLCM	For Sighthounds competing in the Single Stakes, after attaining sLCM.
sLCX2 sLCX3 sLCX4 etc	Singles Lure Courser Excellent Multiplier Titles	8 passes for each level	Multiplier title – replaces sLCX or the previous multiplier with the relevant multiplier	For Sighthounds competing in Single Stakes, after attaining sLCX or relevant multiplier
FCH	Field Champion	100 points + 1 x First Place or 2 x Second Places 4 different judges on 2 fields	Replaces JC or SC and goes in front of dogs' name (prefix)	For Sighthounds competing in Open Stakes, after attaining JC.
LCM	Lure Courser of Merit	80 points +1 x First Place or 2 x Second places	Replaces nothing, added after dog's name	For Sighthounds competing in Field Champion Stakes.
LCX	Lure Courser Excellent	50 points +1 x First Place or 2 x Second places	Replaces LCM	For Sighthounds competing in Field Champion Stakes, after attaining LCM.
LCX2 LCX3 LCX4 etc	Lure Courser Excellent Multiplier Titles	8 passes for each level	Multiplier title – replaces LCX or the previous multiplier with the relevant multiplier	For Sighthounds competing in Field Champion Stakes, after attaining LCX or relevant multiplier

Appendix C: Titles Guide (cont)

<i>Lure Pursuit Stream (all non-Sighthounds, includes all other Registered Breeds and ALL Associate and Sporting Register dogs including Associate Register ex Racing Greyhounds)</i>				
JP	Junior Pursuit	2 passes	Nil.	Prerequisite title for <u>all dogs</u> . Goes after dog's name.
LP	Lure Pursuit	8 passes 3 different judges	Replaces JP and goes after dog's name	For dogs competing in the Lure Pursuit Stream, after attaining JP
LPA	Lure Pursuit Advanced	8 passes 4 different judges	Replaces LP	For dogs competing in the Lure Pursuit Stream, after attaining LP
LPX	Lure Pursuit Excellent	8 passes 4 different judges	Replaces LPA	For dogs competing in the Lure Pursuit y Stream, after attaining LPA
LP Ch	Lure Pursuit Champion	4 passes with a score of 140 or above from 4 different Judges on two different fields.	Goes in front of dogs' name (prefix) but does not replace the LPX	For dogs competing in the Lure Pursuit Stream, after attaining the LPX title
LPM	Lure Pursuit Master	8 passes 4 different judges on 2 fields	Replaces LPX	For dogs competing in the Lure Pursuit Stream, after attaining LPX
LPM2, LPM3, LPM4 etc	Lure Pursuit Master Multiplier Titles	8 passes for each level	Multiplier title – replaces LPM or the previous multiplier with the relevant multiplier	For dogs competing in the Lure Pursuit Stream, after attaining LPM or relevant multiplier title.

Transitional Provisions for the Lure Pursuit Stream

Title names for Non-Sighthound titles have transitioned as follows from the old Coursing Ability stream

- JC to Junior Pursuit (JP)
- CA to Lure Pursuit (LP)
- CAA to Lure Pursuit Advanced (LPA)
- CAX to Lure Pursuit Excellent (LPX)
- CAM to Lure Pursuit Masters (LPM)
- CAM multipliers to LPM multipliers

Dogs who accumulate sufficient passes that have not been used already for a title can use those passes to apply for the Lure Pursuit award equivalent to the Coursing Ability title they would have been entitled to under the old scheme. For example:

- A dog with a CAA title and seven passes will be eligible for an LPX title upon their eighth pass assuming judge criterion is met.
- A dog with a CAM and 7 additional passes, will be eligible for an LPM2 upon their eighth pass assuming judge and field criteria are met.

Existing Coursing Ability titles that have already been awarded will not be converted to the new title but remain on the pedigree as is.

NB - for all awards where a certain number of judges is required, the total may be made up of single judges, or combinations of judges, per the glossary of terms in the rule book.

Appendix D: Course Length Form

This form is to be filled in by the presiding judge/s at a Sanctioned Event.

Affiliate:

Date:

Venue:

Declaration:

Per section 3.3 of the Dogs Australia RULES FOR THE CONDUCT OF LURE COURSING COMPETITIONS (Encompassing Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events and Lure Pursuit Sanctioned Events) I, _____, have supervised the measuring of the course and,

1 – the course is of regulation length at metres long

OR

2 – I have approved a course length of metres due to

.....

.....

.....

Signature:

Date: