Proposed Rule changes 2024

Stolen Retrieve

If in circumstances occurs were a dog is disadvantaged by its brace mate stealing the retrieve, and is unable to get a retrieve in that round (due to lack of game or other reasons) it should be given a chance to retrieve as per Rule 44 at the conclusion of the round. At the judges discretion

Rule 44: Paragraph 18

Change the wording Shotgun Distance, to between 30 metres and 50 metres

Rationale

Shotgun Distance is too open to interpretation, which could be anywhere from 10 metres to 70 metres

Nominated Shooter

Area of concern Part 5 Clause (E) Add a new clause to make it fairer for everybody

A person nominating a shooter on their application form must have blanks in their gun when competing.

**ADD**

If a person/competitor who is granted a shooter (steward) by the judge must have Blanks in their gun

**Rationale**

But if the judge nominates a steward to shoot for a competitor.

1. The competitor would be expected to shoot at the bird thus having a slight advantage over a person who nominated a shooter ( 4 shoots to for a nominated shooter nominated by the judge and 2 shoots for a competitor who nominates a shooter on their application form)

Part 9 Rule 45

At the Competitors discretion they be allowed to use a neoprene vest on their dog to complete the water work.

Rationale

Welfare of the dog

A dog that has been running in the field competitively over an extended period of time and then rested, is then asked to enter cold water, to complete a retrieve. A shock to any system

**NEW RULE**

At the end of each round or the completion of the trial, the judge will give a summation of the trial up to that point, commenting on the performance of each dog and informing the competitors of the reason why the dog have been eliminated or retained.

Rationale

To improve communication between newcomers to the sport and the judge, to explain the reason for the judge’s decisions which may not be obvious to the trailers.