



AMERICAN  
KENNEL CLUB™

## Retriever Field Trial Advisory Committee Rule Proposal

### 2023 BALLOT

From: John Russell, Chair of the Retriever Field Trial Advisory Committee

#### DISCUSSION

We recently did a sample survey in the northwest and got great support to make the rule on rotation for the minor stakes mandatory for all stakes. The need to do something is partially driven by the fact that clubs have been somewhat inconsistent with their ability to match their intent with that of the contestant base. We have had complaints that the club secretaries don't always understand the direction of the board or the application process well enough to make it happen. There have been various other reasons that have come forward. The result is confusion and controversy at a number of trials.

The Committee believes spreading the burden of running early is most important and this proposal would provide a consistent system.

#### **BALLOT PROPOSAL**

The proposed rule change is for: **Chapter 14, Section 4** (2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, p.18) of the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers*. This change would read as follows with the removal of the first two sentences and addition of a new sentence:

~~In any stake carrying championship points the Judges shall impose a system of rotation that will be applicable to all contestants and will take effect immediately following the completion of the first series. Stakes not carrying championship points (Derby and Qualifying) may also implement this rule if the trial giving club opts to do so and has clearly advertised its intention in the trial's premium list.~~ **In all stakes the judges will impose a system of rotation.** The objective of the rotation is to spread the burden or benefit of running early equitably among the competing dogs. The Judges shall select the particular system of rotation to be used, and the system selected shall be publicly announced by the Judges and/or Marshal before the commencement of the stake to which the rotation will apply. If any dog, by consequence of the rotation, is designated to run first twice in the same stake, at the same field trial, he should be exempt from that obligation. In such an instance, said dog will be passed over and the next number in the callbacks shall be first. For example, if #22 had started a previous series and by some chance came up again to be first on a subsequent series in the same stake, at the same field trial, he would be passed over and the next dog in the sequence would be first (#23 or the next number in the callbacks).

**PROVIDE VOTE BELOW AND RETURN BY BALLOT DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 6**

For your convenience, ballots can be completed electronically by going [here](#) or by mailing to:  
AKC Performance Events, Caroline Murphy, 8051 Arco Corporate Drive, Raleigh, NC 27617

**Is your club in favor of having a system of rotation be used for all stakes as stated above?** ☐ YES ☐ NO

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Club Name

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Printed Name of Authorized Representative

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Signature of Authorized Representative