



AFFILIATED WITH
UNITED KENNEL CLUB, INC
An International Organization

Conceived by Hunters for Hunters™

HUNTING RETRIEVER CLUB, INC.

POLICY / PROCEDURES CHANGE PROPOSAL FORM

DATE: 3/16/2023

SUBMITTED BY: Mark Morten

CLUB NAME: Please see list of clubs in the attached document REGION: _____

(Submitted by - Please include Club or Homeclub if individual)

CURRENT POLICY/PROCEDURE RULE - REFERENCE - PAGE AND PARAGRAPH NUMBER IN THE CURRENT HRC RULEBOOK:
Definition of Licensed Hunts - Page 6 paragraph 5.

All

CURRENT POLICY/PROCEDURE WORDING:

All three categories (Started, Seasoned and Finished) must be offered at every regular licensed hunt other than the International Grand Hunt.

PROPOSED CHANGE:

An approved UKC/HRC club may host one or more regular licensed hunt tests that have only one category (Started or Seasoned or Finished) as long as they also host one or more Full Hunt tests with all three categories within the same calendar year.

JUSTIFICATION:

Please see attached document.

(If additional space is needed, please attach, following the same format as above.)

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTAL: JUNE 1ST PRIOR TO NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

SUBMIT TO: HRC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

06/07/2021

HRC Rule Change Request

Mark Morten, mortenmarkj@gmail.com, 308-991-2807

Great Plains HRC

Kearney, NE

3/16/2023

To HRC Board of Directors

This justification is on behalf of all HRC clubs listed at the end of the document. We as a group request an official rule change to HRC hunt test policy. The popularity of our sport has greatly increased over the last 10 years. This has resulted in an increase in hunt test participation, but not necessarily an increase in the number of hunt tests being held. In fact, in the state of Nebraska the number of clubs has decreased in the last few years. Concurrently, this has led to HRC clubs trying to increase the number of entries in a single hunt test i.e. multiple flights of a single series (mostly multiple Finished flights). This has helped allow for more entries, but it is still woefully inadequate in comparison to the current demand. Almost every hunt test, the signees of this letter participate in, have long waiting lists within days of opening for entry. Having multiple flights of individual series has indeed helped this but it is not enough and it is not feasible to rely on this method alone. Most clubs do not have the manpower (bird techs, judges, marshals, etc.) or grounds to supply more than two flights of any series in a single test. But, what most clubs do have is the ability to host a test with only one series/category (Started or Seasoned or Finished) multiple times per year with their current grounds and manpower. This rule change would allow flexibility for each club to adjust to the current demand for hunt test opportunities. Some years there is a surplus of seasoned entries and others there is a surplus of Finished or started. By increasing our flexibility, we will create more opportunities for licensed hunt tests and therefore continue to help our sport grow.

We ask that you consider this rule change while keeping in mind that this is a nationwide sport and, as such, covers very diverse geographies and demographics. Not all areas have the same amount of grounds available for tests nor do they have the same access to the manpower required to host large tests with multiple flights. Please allow us the opportunity to continue to enjoy and grow our sport.

Great Plains HRC – Kearney, NE

Southern Colorado HRC - Pueblo, CO

Boom Town HRC – Casper, WY

Elkhorn Valley HRC – Norfolk, NE

Salt Valley HRC – Unadilla, NE

Western Colorado HRC - Grand Junction, CO

P.S. This postscript is written by Mark Morten and has been added after the clubs agreed to support the letter and therefore should be viewed as my opinion only.

Some concerns that have been raised over this rule change proposal is that it would be cater toward professional handlers. That is not the objective of this rule change. There is already a large HRC event, The Grand, that is attended by mostly professional handlers because most amateur handlers do not have the resources or time to attend this event. We want to increase accessibility to the amateur. I request a stipulation to this rule change be that these single series hunt tests be only held on the weekend, therefore maximizing accessibility to the amateur handler.