

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL KENNEL COUNCIL LTD

ATTACHMENT 5c – DOGS QUEENSLAND

Rules for the conduct of Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events

(Effective from 1st January 2025)

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

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#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. [Introduction 4](#_TOC_250016)
2. [Decisions 4](#_TOC_250015)
3. [Purpose, Fields, Course Design and Equipment 4](#_TOC_250014)
4. [Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events 5](#_TOC_250013)
5. [Eligibility for Dogs 5](#_TOC_250012)
6. [Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event Requirements 6](#_TOC_250011)
7. [Excusals, Dismissals and Disqualifications 7](#_TOC_250010)
8. [Lure Coursing Titles and Awards 7](#_TOC_250009)
	1. Sighthounds and Eligible Breeds 7
	2. Titles for All Other Dogs 10
9. [Officials 10](#_TOC_250008)
	1. [Secretary 10](#_TOC_250007)
	2. [Gate Steward 11](#_TOC_250006)
	3. [Huntmaster 11](#_TOC_250005)
	4. [Lure Operator 12](#_TOC_250004)
	5. [Judges 12](#_TOC_250003)
10. [Conduct of the Open Stakes 13](#_TOC_250002)
11. [Judging 13](#_TOC_250001)
12. [Glossary of Terms 15](#_TOC_250000)

Appendices

Sighthound Stream Title Progression 16

CA Stream Title Progression 17

# INTRODUCTION

Where referred to in the Rules, the words

## Member Body shall mean the Australian National Kennel Council Ltd Member Body in each State or Territory of Australia.

## Affiliate shall mean an Affiliated member body of Member Body conducting Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events ~~Trials and Tests~~.

## These Rules are binding on Member Bodies of the ANKC Ltd.

## 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.

# DECISIONS

## The Member Body at its discretion, may grant permission to an Affiliate to hold Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events and they are to be conducted in accordance with the Rules set down by the Member Body and applicable ANKC authorised Rules.

## 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.

## The Rules of the Australian National Kennel Council shall apply to all Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events. In the event of any inconsistency, the Rules of the Member Body shall prevail.

## Anyone taking part in a Lure Coursing 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.

## Any person participating in any form of Lure Coursing 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.

## QLD: Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events ~~tests and trials~~ are sports, and all participants must be guided by the principles of good sportsmanship both on and off the field. ~~Lure Coursing tests and trials are sports, and all participants must be guided by the principles of good sportsmanship both on and off the field.~~

Rationale: Keep consistent with terminology.

# PURPOSE, FIELDS, COURSE DESIGN AND EQUIPMENT

## 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. It tests 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 sport is a test of the physical capabilities of the dog. The sport is not a test of scenting ability or trainability.

3.2   The lure coursing field is the area that contains the physical course the dog is being Judged on. The lure coursing 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 lure coursing 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 lure coursing field size should be no less than 5 acres.

QLD: The Lure Coursing Field **~~lure coursing field~~** is the area that contains the physical course the dog is being Judged on. The Lure Coursing 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 Lure Coursing 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 Lure Coursing Field size should be no less than 5 acres.

Rationale: changing “lure coursing field” to “Lure Coursing Field”

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, 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 the judging sheet. 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 judging sheet. Course layouts must contain turns in both directions and straight sections that demonstrate the dogs’ lure coursing capabilities. The lure line must be securely anchored to the ground to minimise the risk of dogs becoming entangled by the line.

## 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, 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 the judging sheet~~. ~~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 judging sheet~~. ~~Course layouts must contain turns in both directions and straight sections that demonstrate the dogs’ lure coursing capabilities~~. ~~The lure line must be securely anchored to the ground to minimise the risk of dogs becoming entangled by the line~~.

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 unless a shorter course is later approved as a contingency. QLD: Dogs under the height of 30cm at the withers, may be judged on completion of a minimum 300m of the course.

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 the judging sheet. 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 judging sheet. Course layouts must contain turns in both directions and straight sections that demonstrate the dogs’ lure coursing capabilities. The lure line must be securely anchored to the ground to minimise the risk of dogs becoming entangled by the line.

Rationale: This addition provides a provision for shorter course for smaller breeds of dogs.

## The lure coursing machine powers the lure around the course by a motor. It must ideally 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 white unscented plastic material which is to be replaced as necessary to ensure that it remains clearly visible to dogs, Judge/s and Lure Operator. 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

## The lure coursing machine powers the lure around the course by a motor. It must ideally 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 QLD: ~~white~~ 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. QLD: A minimum of two (2) lures must be used and a maximum of three (3) lures are to be used. The distance between each lure must not be more than one (1) metre. The lure colours must be approved by the judge ~~The lure is to be made from white unscented plastic material which is to be replaced as necessary to ensure that it remains clearly visible to dogs, Judge/s and Lure Operator.~~ 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.

Rationale: White does not work as a good contrast in muddy conditions or on very dry / dead grass. A combination of a light bag on one loop and a dark bag on another loop will help contrast for Judges, dogs and Lure Operator. As the purpose of the sport is to test the dog’s ability to hunt not all animals hunted by dogs were pure white.

# LURE COURSING SANCTIONED EVENTS

## ~~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~~.

## Lure Coursing QLD: Sanctioned Events ~~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. QLD: A Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event is an event at which Junior Courser, Single Stakes, Open Stakes, Field Champion Stakes, Veteran Stakes, Veteran Field Champion Stakes, Coursing Ability Stakes, Associate Stakes and Associate Sighthound Stales are conducted. ~~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.~~

Rationale: Keep terminology consistent. Addition of extra Stakes as proposed in 5.6 and 5.7

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

QLD: A qualification in a Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event consists of an average passing score of 100 across two (2) runs at the same event, QLD: with a minimum score of 40 in each run.

## QLD: The Junior Courser Class and Qualifying Class are not scored, however received a qualification based on the dog’s ability to display the required criteria.

Rationale: Under current rules a dog may have an excellent first run and a poor second run which scores under 40, however the average is over 100. If a dog fails in its second run, it still must be judged on what it displays on the field, regardless of their first run score.

# ELIGIBILITY FOR DOGS

## The Junior Coursing (JC) Test is 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).

## The Junior Coursing (JC) Class is 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. QLD: A dog must be assessed over two runs in the same lure coursing sanctioned event and pass to be awarded a qualifying certificate.

## All dogs must qualify with a minimum of QLD: two Qualifying Certificates in the Junior Courser Class to be eligible to compete in Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events. Dogs who possess QLD:  two Qualifying Certificates in the Junior Courser Class are eligible to apply for the title Junior Courser (JC). The Junior Courser title must be applied for before progressing to a higher class.

Rationale: 2 runs resulting in a pass at a lure coursing sanctioned event are required for a qualifying certificate and 2 cerificates are required for the JC title.

## 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.

## 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.

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

## ~~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)~~.

## QLD: All other pedigreed dogs on the Main or Limited Register with the Dogs Australia ~~dogs registered with the Member Body~~ are eligible to participate in the Coursing Ability Stream and earn the titles of CA (Coursing Ability), CAA (Coursing Ability Advanced), CAX (Coursing Ability Excellent) and CACh. (Coursing Ability Champion – Prefix title). ~~CAM (Coursing Ability Master).~~

Rationale: The ANKC / Dogs Australia identity statement is “Dogs Australia is a not-for-profit organisation advocating for the preservation of purebred dogs through ethical breeding”. This does not align with mixing Associate and Sporting Registered dogs in with Main / Limited Register dogs. Single running dogs in the Sighthound Stream are able to achieve Prefix titles.

Coursing Ability dogs are also running by themselves, exactly the same as the Singles Stakes dogs.

Lure Coursing is the only all breed sport where not all pedigreed dogs are able to achieve a Prefix title.

## 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.

QLD: All other dogs registered with the Member Body shall compete in the Associate Stakes. This includes Associate Register dogs and Sporting Register dogs ~~Any dog with ANKC Ltd registration shall be eligible to compete in Lure Coursing Sanctioned Even~~.

## Associate Register dogs may earn the titles of AR.CA (Associate Coursing Ability), AR.CAA (Associate Coursing Ability Advanced), AR.CAX (Associate Coursing Ability Excellent) and AR.CAM (Associate Coursing Ability Master). Associate Register dogs are not eligible for Prefix (Champion) titles.

## Sporting Register dogs may earn the titles of SR.CA (Sporting Coursing Ability), SR.CAA (Sporting Coursing Ability Advanced), SR.CAX (Sporting Coursing Ability Excellent) and SR.CAM (Sporting Coursing Ability Master). Sporting Register dogs are not eligible for Prefix (Champion) titles.

Rationale: The ANKC / Dogs Australia identity statement is “Dogs Australia is a not-for-profit organisation advocating for the preservation of purebred dogs through ethical breeding”. This does not align with mixing Associate and Sporting Registered dogs in with Main / Limited Register dogs.

## Associate Register dogs of Sighthound type (including “Lurchers”, may apply to be assessed by three judges with a Group 4 Championship Licence (any cost of assessment to be borne by the owner). If the Judge deems the dog to be of Sighthound type, the dog will compete in the Associate ~~Stream~~ *Sighthound* *Stakes*but may earn the title of AR.LC (Associate Lure Courser), AR.LCA (Associate Lure Coursing Advanced), AR.LCX (Associate Lure Coursing Excellent) and AR.LCM (Associate Lure Coursing Master).

Rationale: The Associate Register has dogs of all type with Sighthound type being one of them. Around the country there are many Associate Registered Sighthounds whether appearing to be purebred or a cross of two or more Sighthounds (also known as a “Lurcher”). These breeds have caused controversy and the result in many upset exhibitors over the years and have caused a division resulting in some clubs awarding them separately.

## ~~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~~.

## QLD:For the purpose of the awarding of a Dual/Triple Champion or other multiple discipline Champion, only the Field Champion (FCh) or the Veteran Field Champion (vFCh) Lure Coursing Champion (LCCh) and Coursing Ability Champion (CACh) titles count towards the awarding of a Dual/Triple Champion title by the ANKC. ~~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.~~

Rationale: remove “Open Stakes” for consistency. Dogs may also already have a dual title from another sport hence allowing Triple to be included. Added prefix title options for Single running dogs regardless of breed to give all exhibits the opportunity to receive a prefix title if they have proven to be worthy of the title.

# LURE COURSING SANCTIONED EVENT REQUIREMENTS

## To compete at Sanctioned Events, owners of competing dogs must be current financial members in good standing with their Member Body.

## To compete at QLD: Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events, owners of competing dogs must be current financial members in good standing with their Member Body.

Rationale. For consistency

## . .

QLD: The owner entering a dog in a Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event ~~Test or Trial~~ 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 Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event.

Rationale: Covers all Lure Coursing events. Keeps consistency on the word “Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events” throughout the rules.

## QLD: A Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event must not continue past an average temperature of thirty (30) degrees Celsius. It is the responsibility of the Affiliate, to carry a thermometer and display at the Trial Secretary desk for all exhibitors to see.

The average temperature is calculated by the addition of the temperature in the sun, temperature in the shade and divided by two.

If the average temperature exceeds thirty (30) degrees Celsius, the Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event shall either be postponed for thirty minutes (30) minutes or closed.

In the event that the Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event is closed, with the exception of the Junior Courser Class, the dog’s first run scores shall be doubled. In the case of the Junior Courser Class, any dog who ran in the first course but did not pass, shall be entitled to receive a refund from the Affiliate. Any dog who has not had a chance to run in the first course, shall be entitled to a refund.

Rationale: A temperature policy is important across the country for the safety and welfare of the dogs. Using weather stations which may be several km away from the Trial Precinct, is not an accurate way of measuring the temperature at the Trial Precinct.

## Lure Coursing 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.

## 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.

## ~~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.~~

QLD: Dogs must enter the field on a slip lead only, no smaller than 25mm (2.5cm) wide around the neck of the dog. 10mm minimum diameter on a round slip lead. ~~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~~

Rationale: This removes questions about any further items that may become available in the future. It also makes it very clear and simple as to what is allowed on the field and saves time on the field in releasing and restraining the dog. We have seen dogs come out onto the field on slip leads that are 6mm diameter and cut across the dog’s neck tightly. This is inhumane.

6.7 ~~Dogs may only have one handler on the field. With the Judge/s permission, handlers with a disability may have an assistant to help bring the dog onto the field but only one person may release the dog.~~

##  QLD: Dogs may only have one handler on the field. Handlers with a disability may have an assistant to help bring the dog onto the field but only one person may release the dog.

Rationale: A person with a disability should not have to apply to the Judge to be able to have someone walk the dog onto the field for them. This is discriminatory and may lead to further action via the Disability Discrimination Act.

## Bitches in season showing a discharge characteristic of being in season must not be in the trial precinct and are not eligible for any Sanctioned Event.

## Bitches in season showing a discharge characteristic of being in season must not be in the trial precinct and are not eligible for any QLD: Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event.

Rationale: For consistency

## 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.

## QLD: Bitches in whelp are not permitted to compete at any Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event. Bitches must be at a minimum 10 weeks post whelp to compete in any Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event.

Rationale: For consistency

## Owners of dogs must apply to the ANKC Member Body for pre-requisite titles before entering their dogs in a higher class. Substitutions or upgrades of dogs are not permitted. At the discretion of the Secretary, a competitor who completes the necessary passes to a title and has applied for that title, after the closing of entry, may request and be transferred to the next higher class.

## If in the Judge/s opinion a dog is unfit to run the dog will be ineligible to compete at that Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event. Any official may refer a dog that they suspect is not fit to trial 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.

Rationale: For consistency

## The wearing of muzzles is not compulsory, however, hounds that have been disqualified for interfering with other hounds or aggression towards another hound whilst lure coursing shall wear a muzzle at all times on the field.

## QLD: Handlers:

* must be a minimum of 16 years of age.
* must be capable of keeping the dog under control in the entire trial precinct.
* must have closed in shoes.
* must follow any direction given by officials.

Rationale: There is currently no requirement for handlers participating in the event.

## QLD: Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events shall run all dogs entered once, prior to any dog running a second run.

Rationale: If the event is cancelled due to weather or equipment failure, it is unfair that one stream of dogs might have completed two runs and other streams have not. It also affords all dogs the opportunity to run in the cooler weather. There have been numerous trials around the country that have had to be abandoned due to weather, equipment failure, or the time constraints.

# EXCUSALS, DISMISSALS AND DISQUALIFICATIONS

## 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 course.

Handlers who attempt to direct their dogs during the course.

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

## QLD: 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 course.

Handlers who attempt to direct their dogs during the course.\*\* \*\*\*

\*\*Does not apply to Junior Courser class

\*\*\*Handlers may give a single verbal cue when releasing their dog

Rationale: Junior Coursers are generally new to Lure Coursing and may need some encouragement to run. Competitors are often excited when their dogs run and should not be penalised on their first two runs for being excited for a new sport.

Some dogs are obedience trained to not leave their handler without a cue. The handler should be allowed to release the dog with a single command.

Consequence: The dog does not get a score but may run in the second run ~~if excused in the first run~~ at the end of the Sanctioned Event. Excused dogs may run at the end of the trial at the discretion of the Affiliate.

Rationale: For dogs past Junior Courser, running the dogs at the end of the Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event allows for occasions where the Sanctioned Event ends prior to completion of the Second Run.

## Dismissals

All dogs:

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

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

*Dogs in QC/Open/Veteran:*

Dogs who playfully interfere with the course of another dog.

Dogs who course another dog rather than the lure.

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

## Disqualification

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.

# LURE COURSING TITLES AND AWARDS

## 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.

### 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.

QLD: The QC dog is an experienced dog of the same breed, or another dog of similar running style (having received at least six (6) Qualifying Certificates after obtaining their Junior Courser Title). 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.

Rationale: There is no definition of “experienced dog”. There may be a dog of similar running style that is not in the Sighthound Stream due to lack of pedigrees or the breed of dog being QC’d.

QLD: The Qualifying Course may be held at the start or the end of the Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event. It is at the discretion of the Affiliate.

Owners wishing to run their dog against an experienced dog in order to obtain its Qualifying Course Certificate, must arrange the experienced dog themselves. The experienced dog does not need to be entered in the Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event.

In the instance where there are two experienced dogs (via the Singles Class) wishing to obtain their Qualifying Course Certificate, they may run together for the purpose of qualifying each other.

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

The dog seeking to be qualified, must wear a blanket.

Rationale: There is no definition of when the Qualifying Course is to be run. Some Affiliates have always run it at the start, some have always run it at the end. There is no right or wrong in either option.

Some owners will choose to run their dogs in the Singles Stakes first to gain experience and confidence coursing. Where these dogs qualify for the definition of “experienced dog”, they should be able to run together to prove that both dogs can run cleanly.

Up to 3 dogs can run in an Open stake but it is important that, as the judge is assessing the dog’s ability to run “clean” they should be easily identifiable.

Subject to dismissal provisions, if the dog does not pass, the owner may choose to run the dog in another QC class at subsequent Sanctioned Events.

Subject to dismissal provisions, if the dog does not pass, the owner may choose to run the dog in another QC class at subsequent QLD: Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events~~.~~

Rationale: For consistency

A dog that successfully passes a QC shall be issued with a Qualifying Certificate. This Certificate shall be produced, if requested, to any Secretary who seeks to verify a dog’s eligibility to compete in the Open or Veterans Stakes.

A dog that successfully passes QLD: the Qualifying Course ~~a QC~~ shall be issued with a Qualifying Certificate. This Certificate shall be produced, if requested, to any Secretary who seeks to verify a dog’s eligibility to compete in the Open or Veterans Stakes.

Rationale: Grammar

All rules relating to the conduct of Lure Coursing trials apply to the conduct of both dogs in a QC.

All rules relating to the conduct of Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events apply to the conduct of both dogs in a QLD: Qualifying Course ~~QC~~.

Rationale: Making the name the same as the rules.

### Open and Veteran ~~Class~~

### QLD: Open and Veteran Stakes

Rationale: Making the name the same as the rules

To qualify as a Field Champion Sighthounds running in Open Stakes 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.

To qualify as a Veteran Field Champion Sighthounds running in Veteran Stakes must:

* + be 7 years of age or over except in the case of Irish Wolfhounds who must be 5 years of age or over.
	+ earn 75 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.

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

QLD: Dogs who transfer to the Veteran Stakes, must receive at least one (1) Qualifying Certificate in the Veteran Stakes Class in order to qualify for their Veteran Title.

Dogs who have obtained titles in the Open or Singles Stakes prior to transferring to the Veteran Stakes, shall not lose their Open or Singles Stakes Titles.

Dogs who transfer to the Veteran Stakes, must not be penalised in any way i.e: a dog who has it’s FCh or above title, upon transferring to the Veteran Stakes would be competing for the next qualification e.g. the Veteran Lure Courser of Merit title (vLCM) or above.

Rationale: There is no clarity on the requirements for Veteran Titles after transfer, nor is there clarity of dogs keeping their Open Stakes Titles. There is no Field Champion Stake. It is a class.

Sighthounds and eligible breeds who have gained their FCH 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 FCH title and have received one first or two second placings to achieve the LCM.

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

*Rationale: Change “gained” to “applied for” / “applying for” to match glossary*

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.

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

*Rationale: Change “gained” to “applied for” / “applying for” to match glossary*

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

Sighthounds and eligible breeds who have their vFCH title are eligible to compete for the Veteran Lure Courser of Merit (vLCM) title. They must have gained an additional 30 breed points after ~~gaining~~ their vFCH title ~~and have received one first or two second placings to achieve the vLCM~~.

QLD: Veteran Sighthounds and eligible breeds who have applied for~~gained~~ their FCH/vFCH title are eligible to compete for the Veteran Lure Courser of Merit (vLCM) title. They must have gained an additional 30 breed points after applying for their FCH/vFCH title ~~and have received one first or two second placings to achieve the vLCM.~~

Sighthounds and eligible breeds who have gained their vLCM are eligible to compete for the Veteran Lure Courser Excellent (vLCX) title. They must have gained an additional 20 breed points after gaining their vLCM title.

Veteran Sighthounds and eligible breeds who have applied for ~~gained~~ their LCM/vLCM title are eligible to compete for the Veteran Lure Courser Excellent (vLCX) title. They must have gained an additional 20 breed points after applying for ~~gaining~~ their LCM/vLCM title.

A higher numbered title will be available for every additional twenty (20) breed points (vLCX2, vLCX3 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 excused, dismissed or disqualified count do not count towards points.~~

Rationale: If the dog has entered the field to compete should therefore count as competition. Dogs who receive Qualifying Certificates should not be penalised for dogs who have been Excused, Dismissed or Disqualified. If you enter the show ring, the dog counts towards challenge points even if withdrawn or excused once in the ring. Take out the placing requirements for veterans.

QLD: The accrual of points is set out in the table below. To earn points the dog must achieve a qualifying score.

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. The four classes are Open Class, Field Champion Class, Veteran Class and Veteran Field Champion Class.

An overall Best of Breed (from the four 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, Field Champion Class, Veteran Class and Veteran Field Champion Class.

Rationale: There are dogs who are achieving a higher score in their class, but they might have less dogs in their class compared to another class that has more dogs but lower scores. Dogs should be rewarded for achieving Best of Breed.

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

Rationale: It is entirely possible that the situation may arise where two or more dogs scores are still tied after the countback of the two runs. It also allows for dogs who have achieved the same score to be rewarded for doing so.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1Dog | 2dogs | 3dogs | 4dogs | 5dogs | 6dogs | 7dogs | 8dogs | 9dogs | 10dogs | 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 | 15 |
| Third |  |  | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 14 |
| Fourth |  |  |  | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 12 |
| All other entrants that pass |  |  |  |  | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |

~~Eligible str eams for the Best in Field award are Open, FCh, Veteran and vFCh as the streams where Sighthounds compete against other Sighthounds in the field.~~

Best in Field shall be determined on the basis of scores awarded alone and not involve run offs between Sighthounds.

QLD: Best in Field shall be determined on the basis of scores awarded alone and not involve run offs between different Sighthounds breeds.

*Rationale: Clarification*

Along with the first place points for its breed, the Best in Field is eligible for additional points for Sighthounds beaten to a maximum of 16 total points for the Sanctioned Event. No more than 16 points may be earned by any Sighthound in a Sanctioned Event.

QLD: Along with the first place points for its breed, the Best in Field is eligible for four (4) additional points for Sighthounds beaten to a maximum of 20 total points for the Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event. No more than 20 ~~16~~ points may be earned by any Sighthound in a Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event.

*Rationale: Add “Lure Coursing” to “Sanctioned Event” and due to the proposal of Best of Breed, give Best in Field and additional four points.*

QLD: ~~Only one Best in Field may be awarded per Sanctioned Event across all four streams. Where there is a tie in scores for Best in Field, it will be awarded on a count back. Only the winner of the Best in Field award is eligible for additional points.~~

Rationale: It is possible that the situation may arise where two or more dogs are still tied after the countback of the two runs. It also allows for dogs who have achieved the same score, to be rewarded for doing so.

### 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).

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).

QLD: 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 Lure Courser (SLC), Singles Lure Coursing Advanced (SLCA), Singles Lure Coursing Excellent (SLCX), Singles Lure Coursing Master (SLCM) and Lure Coursing Champion (LCCh.) titles.

### **Lure Courser (LC)** – 8 passes (after applying for the Junior Coursing title) 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 two different fields.

### **Lure Coursing Advanced (SLCA)** – 8 passes (after applying for the Lure Courser title) 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 on two different fields.

### **Lure Coursing Excellent (SLCX)** – 8 passes (after applying for the Lure Coursing Advanced title) 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 on two different fields.

### **Lure Coursing Master (SLCM)** – 8 passes (after applying for the Lure Coursing Excellent title) 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 on two different fields.

### **Lure Coursing Champion (LCCH)** – 8 passes (after applying for the Lure Coursing Excellent title) 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 on two different fields.

~~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).~~

~~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).~~

Rationale: Dogs entered in the Singles Stakes run under the same conditions as dogs running in the Coursing Ability Stakes and should receive equivalent titles. Rather than a prefix title with 10 qualifying scores.

*Removed “points may not be transferred” as there are no points anymore in the Singles Stakes*

**Transition**: Dogs currently with sFCh titles will lose the sFCh title when their next title is gained. Eventually it will be replaced by LCCh which is to be eligible for Dual / Triple Champion (or Multi Sport Dog Champion) recognition.

### 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, Open or Veterans streams at a Trial where the dog has accrued a minimum total score of 100 per Trial (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.

**Senior Courser (SC)** - 6 Passes (after applying for the Junior Courser title) are required to be earned. Passes can only be accumulated in the Open or Veterans Stakes at a Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event where the dog has accrued a minimum total score of 100 per Trial (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. The points gained on the 6 passes will still contribute towards the titles of FCH and vFCH.

~~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, Open or Veterans streams at a Trial where the dog has accrued a minimum total score of 100 per Trial (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.~~

Rationale: Single Stakes dogs do not have the challenges that Open and Veteran dogs face in achieving titles. A dog in the Singles Stake, has only four (4) more passes until they have achieved their first title post Junior Courser.

Titles shall only be replaced for the Stakes in which they are running ie: upon transferring to the Open/Veteran Stakes, Singles Stakes dogs will not lose any of their titles achieved in the Singles Stakes. Similarly dogs who have competed in the Open Stakes, shall not lose any of their previously earned titles when transferring to the Veteran Stakes.

Rationale: Currently there is great confusion in the Member Bodies when awarding new titles for dogs and as a result, titles have been removed that should have been retained. Owners then need to contact their Member Body to have this corrected. There are many dogs who have incorrect titles. Some owners are aware they’re incorrect and have tried without success to have them corrected and others do not realise they require correction.

## Titles for All Other ~~Breeds~~ QLD: Titles for All Other Dogs

Rationale. Some dogs participating in the sport are not purebred.

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

QLD: All other dogs registered with the Australian National Kennel Council are eligible to participate in the Coursing Ability Stakes, Associate Stakes, Associate Sighthound Stakes ~~coursing ability stream~~

## Coursing Ability ~~Stream~~ QLD: Coursing Ability Stakes

### **Coursing Ability (CA**) – 8 Passes QLD: (after applying for the Junior Courser title) 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.

### Coursing **Ability Advanced (CAA)** 8 Passes QLD: (after applying for the Coursing Ability title) 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

### **Coursing Ability Excellent (CAX)** 8 Passes QLD: (after applying for the Coursing Ability Advanced title) 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.

### **Coursing Ability Master~~s~~** (**CAM**) 8 Passes QLD: (after applying for the Coursing Ability Excellent title) 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~~.

### Passes must be given by a minimum of four different Judges or judging combinations on two different fields.

### *Rationale: Keep consistent with previous classes.*

### **Coursing Ability Champion (CACh)** 8 Passes (after applying for the Coursing Ability Master title) 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.

Rationale: A pedigree dog of any breed with this many passes (42 in total) should be eligible for a Prefix Title. The dog has proven that it is worthy of a prefix title.

### *The change of “Breeds” to “Dogs” incorporates the Associate and Sporting Register dogs are not recognized ANKC breeds.*

Coursing Ability Stakes is to keep consistency. Two extra stakes added as per proposals above.

### *Reinforcing the need to apply for titles.*

Associate Stakes

### **Associate Coursing Ability (AR.CA**) – 8 Passes (after applying for the Junior Courser title) 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 two different fields.

### **Associate Coursing Ability Advanced (AR.CAA)** 8 Passes (after applying for the Associate Coursing Ability title) 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 on two different fields.

### **Associate Coursing Ability Excellent (AR.CAX)** 8 Passes (after applying for the Associate Coursing Advanced title) 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.

### **Associate Coursing Ability Masters** (**AR.CAM**) 8 Passes (after applying for the Associate Coursing Excellent title) 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.

### **Sporting Coursing Ability (SR.CA**) 8 Passes (after applying for Junior Courser title) 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 two different fields.

### **Sporting Coursing Ability Advanced (SR.CAA)** 8 Passes (after applying for the Sporting Coursing Ability title) 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 on two different fields.

### **Sporting Coursing Ability Excellent (SR.CAX)** 8 Passes (after applying for the Sporting Coursing Ability Advanced title) 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.

### **Sporting Coursing Ability Masters** (**SR.CAM**) 8 Passes (after applying for the Sporting Coursing Ability Excellent title) 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.

### Associate Sighthound Stakes

### **Associate Sighthound Lure Courser (AR.LC)** – 8 passes (after applying for the Junior Courser title) 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 two different fields.

### **Associate Sighthound Lure Coursing Advanced (AR.LCA)** – 8 passes (after applying for the Associate Sighthound Lure Courser title) 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 on two different fields.

### **Associate Sighthound Lure Coursing Excellent (AR.LCX)** – 8 passes (after applying for the Associate Sighthound Lure Coursing Advanced title) 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 on two different fields.

### **Associate Sighthound Lure Coursing Master (AR.LCM)** – 8 passes (after applying for the Associate Sighthound Lure Coursing Excellent title) 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 on two different fields. A higher numbered title will be awarded for every 8 additional passes.

### *Rationale: Explain the titles and progression for the Associate / Sporting / Associate Sighthound Stakes*

# OFFICIALS

All Lure Coursing Field Tests and Trials shall have the following officials:

All ~~Lure Coursing Field Tests and Trials~~ Lure Coursing Sanctioned Events ~~Field Tests and Trials~~ shall have the following officials:

*Rationale: For consistency*

* Secretary
* Gate Steward
* Huntmaster
* Lure Operator
* Judge/s

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

## 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.
* QLD: Updates the score board to show scores from Run 1 and Run 2.

Upon request from the owner, give the owner the breakdown of total score for each run across the five categories.

Rationale: Occasionally a score is entered incorrectly on the judge’s record and currently the owner is unaware of this. An owner cannot dispute a score, if they do not know what the score actually is.

## Gate Steward

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, no check chains, head-collars or harnesses on dogs).

QLD: Ensuring that safety precautions are observed (e. g. covered shoes for handlers, slip leads ~~no check chains, head-collars or harnesses~~ on dogs, all dogs under control).

*Rationale: as the equipment has been reduced, this removes the requirement for this statement. It is imperative for safety that the handler is able to keep their dog under control.*

* Ensuring dogs enter the field with only one item 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 prior permission has been obtained from the Judge/s.
* 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 ~~is~~ enters the field and recording those that are absent for both courses/runs of the day.
* Controlling the marshalling area.

## Huntmaster

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

* Call up each new dog as each previous dog completes their run.
* QLD: Stand behind the dogs at the start of the course.

*Rationale: For the safety of the Huntmaster.*

* 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).
* 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.

## Lure Operator

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

QLD: The Lure Operator must be recognised as a qualified Lure Operator by their Member Body or a Trainee Lure Operator undergoing Lure Operator training. The Member Body must keep and publish a list of recognised Lure Operators.

Rationale: The Lure Operator holds the safety of the dogs in their hands as well as the potential performance of the dogs. Unskilled drivers can cause serious injuries to dogs, simply by not having the knowledge to drive the lure correctly.

~~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, FCh, Veteran or vFch. Changes to Lure Operators must be approved by the Judge/s.~~

QLD: One Lure Operator shall drive the lure for each stake 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 Veteran Stakes. Changes to Lure Operators must be approved by the Judge/s.

Rationale: Fch, vFCh etc are classes within the Open and Veteran Stakes. Remove classes for simplicity.

Their duties are to:

* walk the course prior to the commencement of the trial with the Judge/s.
* make QLD: at least one test run of the lure before the first course is run. Where possible a reliable lure coursing 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 QLD: (unless due to a mistake from the Lure Operator), the lure must continue in the planned direction until completion of the course.

QLD: If the lure becomes unsighted due to Lure Operator error, the Lure Operator shall ask the Judge if they may bring the lure to a certain position close to where the dog lost it. This may involve bringing the lure in the opposite direction to the course.

Rationale: It has happened in many trials over the years that the dogs lose the lure due to operator error. Sometimes the dog might be much further away than where it was lost (on their pursuit to find the lure) and keeping the lure forward means the dog can lose a lot of points. If the dog cuts the course and is not watching the lure, then the lure doesn’t go back. It only exists in Lure Operator error at the direction given by the Judge.

* stop the lure on a signal from the Huntmaster or Judge/s, but shall automatically stop the lure any time a dog becomes entangled in the lure string or when in their opinion a potentially dangerous situation may develop.
* QLD: shall inform the judge of any factors that may have affected the dog’s ability to course, as soon as possible.
* shall be listed in the schedule approved by the Member Body.

*Rationale: Judges and Lure Operators are identified in the schedule so that competitors can make an informed decision as to whether they enter the Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event.*

## 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 Lure Coursing 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 stakes which the dog is entered are to be Judged by an alternative Judge. The same judging combination shall Judge Open, FCh, Veteran and/or vFch.
* 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 coursing their dogs at that event.

QLD:

* Judge/s officiating at ~~Lure Coursing Tests or Trials~~Lure Coursing QLD: Sanctioned Events ~~tests and 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 QLD: Sanctioned Event ~~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 Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event, the stakes which the dog is entered are to be judged by an alternative Judge. The same judging combination shall Judge the Open and ~~FCh~~ Veteran Stakes
* No Judge shall perform any other on field ~~meet~~ duties during ~~his/her~~ their judging assignment, except for possible involvement in laying the course.
* Each Judge, before the Lure Coursing 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 coursing their dogs at that event.

Judges cannot enter their dogs in the Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event where they are judging.

Rationale: Consistency of “Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event”. Simplification of Stakes rather than classes. When a judge enters their dog in a Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event, it must be judged by another judge. This means that exhibitors in the same Stake (for Open and Veteran) or Class (all other dogs) will have a different judge they are not made aware of until they reach the grounds.

Change of terminology to be gender neutral.

# CONDUCT OF THE OPEN STAKES

## The order and arrangement of dogs competing in Open & Veteran Stakes (including Field Champion stakes for these 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 order and arrangement of dogs competing in Open & Veteran Stakes QLD: ~~(including Field Champion stakes for these classes)~~ shall be determined by a random drawing by breed at the beginning of the QLD: Lure Coursing Sanctioned Event ~~trial~~. The draw shall be after check-in and shall be made in full public view.

## If, by dismissal, disqualification or withdrawal, the number of dogs in stakes 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.

## Upon request from an owner on the entry form, multiple entries from an owner shall be divided as evenly as possible between each course.

## ~~If only one dog of a breed is entered, that dog may be run with another breed if all handlers and the Judge/s agree. The dogs will be scored separately.~~

*Rationale: Sighthounds all have slightly different running styles and different breeds should not run together as it will always show favour to one dog and disadvantage the other dog.*

## If only one dog of a breed is entered in a Class (eg Open, Fch), it may run with entrants of the other class at the discretion of the owners and judge.

## *Rationale: This addition to the rules for open stakes will give breeds of low entry number the chance to run with other dogs of the breed in a trial where there may be multiple individuals of a breed entered, but split up in different classes.*

## A dog that is dismissed or disqualified will not be permitted to run in the second course~~, and will not be counted as having been in competition when calculating the points.~~

Rationale: The dog entered the field in the first course. It should count towards total points. Dogs receiving Qualifying Scores, should not be penalised as the result of other dogs.

## Dogs may run as singles, pairs or trios. Dogs shall be designated by colours according to their draw number. It is preferable to run in pairs where possible.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1st number drawn | - Yellow | (placed on left) |
| 2nd number drawn |  Pink | (middle or on the right in pairs) |
| 3rd number drawn | - Blue | (placed on right) |

~~Blankets are to be plain, non-reflective, with no visible identifying marks and are to be provided by the handler~~. Blankets must have no visible identification such as the dogs/owners name or prefix. They may have pattern or alternative colour trim, providing the blanket is easily identifiable as yellow, pink or blue. Hi-Vis Green can be worn as a yellow jacket as visually the colour appears to be yellow.

In the instance that the judge is colourblind or has a vision impairment in relation to colours, adjustments must be made to accommodate. E.g.: dogs run in pairs only with only one dog wearing a blanket.

Positions are assigned by the Huntmaster standing behind the dogs and handlers.

Rationale: Dogs running in pairs are easier to judge than a trio, easier to run the lure for and allows for dogs to perform better. In trios, often one or two dogs can end up with much lower scores than the other dog.

*If the blanket is distinctly yellow, pink or blue, as long as no identification of the dog’s name, prefix or owners name is displayed, it does not matter if it has a pattern or a different colour trim.*

## Best in Field contenders are those who have competed in the Open and Veteran Stakes ~~Open and Field Champion stakes only.~~

Rationale: Correcting classes vs stakes.

## The wearing of muzzles is optional, however, hounds that have been disqualified for aggression towards another hound whilst lure coursing shall wear a muzzle at all times on the field. Muzzles must be correctly fitted and of a basket type that allow the dogs to open their mouth. Muzzles must be supplied by the exhibitor.

## QLD: Examples of acceptable muzzles

    

# JUDGING

## While on the field during the judging assignment, no Judge shall discuss anything relative to the judging assignment with any handler or owner.

## 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.

## A Judge shall be able to call a “no course” for any of the following reasons:

### The dogs are interfered with or disrupted or the Judge cannot fairly score the course.

### When a segment of the lure falls off and any dog reacts to said segment, but only if the course cannot be fairly scored.

### 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. Any time a dog becomes entangled in the string, the Judge/s shall order the lure stopped and may declare a no course.

### The lure does not operate in a manner that allows the Judge to score the dogs.

## 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:

Enthusiasm — 15 Points

Follow — 15 Points

Speed — 25 Points

Agility — 25 Points

Endurance — 20 Points

Total — 100 Points

**Less: Pre-slip penalty** minus 1 to 10 points

**Less: Course delay penalty** minus 1 to 10 points

QLD: 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:

Enthusiasm — 20 Points

Follow — 20 Points

Speed — 20 Points

Agility — 20 Points

Endurance — 20 Points

Total — 100 Points

*Rationale: Make each category the same weight to avoid confusion and also align with FCI.*

**Less: Pre-slip penalty** minus 1 to 10 points

**Less: ~~Course~~** Trial**delay penalty** minus 1 to 10 points

Rationale: delay penalties exist outside of the course. The most common delay is the exhibitor unable to catch their dog after the Huntmaster calls “retrieve your dog”

## 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.

##  QLD: 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 be carried over in the case where a no-course is called on the course in progress

Rationale: A pre-slip and Trial delay receive penalties. Both should have the same consistency to either carry over or not carry over. By not carrying over, the owners of hounds who have not pre-slipped or delayed the course, are disadvantaged by the owners of hounds who did pre-slip or delay the course.

## When a **course delay** of less than five minutes occurs, the Judge shall levy a 1 to 10 point penalty for that course. 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.

##  QLD: When a Trial~~course~~ delayof less than five minutes occurs, the Judge shall levy a 1 to 10 point penalty for that course. Point Penalties shall be determined by the time taken to catch the dog. Each 30 (Thirty) Seconds equals 1 (one) point. For example: A dog that takes 2 minutes and 13 seconds, shall be penalized 5 points. 4 for the 2 minutes and 1 for the 13 seconds.

## 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 return the dog during the first five minutes but may be used to help catch the dog once it has been dismissed.

## In the first five minutes, the handler must attempt to catch the dog by themselves and on foot. Once the five minute mark is passed, the owner may request for others to help come catch the dog or use mechanical equipment (bicycle, electronic scooter etc) to return to the dog quicker. The judge must announce the dog is dismissed in order to allow additional catchers, the use of the lure, or other equipment to catch the dog.

Rationale: We only allow one handler per dog. This should include one catcher per dog for the first five minutes. Trial Delay given clearer information of how the penalty is calculated.

## The score given to the dog at the end of the Lure Coursing 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.

## ~~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~~.

## 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.

## *Rationale: This should not be in the Judges section.*

## 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.

## 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 trial in the case of score- adding arithmetical or blanket colour error. Changes must be initialled by the Judge.

## QLD: After a course has been judged, and marked score sheets (electronic or paper) turned over to the Secretary, only the Judge can change their final score and only on the day of the trial in the case of arithmetical or blanket colour error. Changes must be amended by the Secretary after consultation with the Judge. ~~Changes must be initialled by the Judge~~

## If after the trial has concluded and the Trial Secretary notices a discrepancy not picked up on the day, the Trial Secretary shall contact the judge, explain the situation and act on the response of the judge. If this results in changing scores / certificates / results, the affected exhibitors and Member Body shall be informed as soon as possible.

Rationale: With so much going on at the end of the trial, it is easy to make a mistake with so many numbers coming in at once. Many errors have been picked up after trials by either the exhibitors or the Trial Secretary.

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Applying/Applied For 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 entire paperwork does not need to be received back prior to continuing in the next class.

*Rationale: defining what it means to apply for a title and removing “gained” from the titles section of the document as this is being interpreted differently across the country. Allows the competitor to advance to the next class at the next trial.*

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.

QLD: 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.

*Rationale: simplifying to bring in line with clause 10.7*

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.

QLD: Consists of 1, 2 or 3 dogs pursuing a lure over a selected course pattern. Begins with the Huntmaster calling “Tally Ho” and ends with the Huntmaster calling"Retrieve your dogs" ~~calls~~

*Rationale: refer clause 11.6*

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

QLD: ~~Course~~ Trial 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.

*Rationale: refer clause 11.6*

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.

QLD: 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 Veteran Stakes.

*Rationale: definition required to ensure consistency of draws at trials*

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.

QLD: 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. This does not apply to dogs entered in Junior Courser.

*Rationale: Refer to clause 7.2*

QLD: Fouling the Course When a dog urinates, defecates or vomits during the course.

*Rationale: Clarifies what constitutes fouling the course*

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 lure coursing 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”.

QLD: Stake Group in which dogs compete in classes, e.g. Singles Stake, Open Stake, Veteran Stake, Coursing Ability Stake, Associate Sighthound Stake, Associate Stake.

*Rationale: Adding the definition of what a Stake is.*

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.

 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 QLD: as defined by the affiliate.

Rationale: Caters for instances where there are not fixed fences around the field.

QLD: Under Control: Handler must be able to keep dog restrained at all times. Dog must not lunge towards, and make contact with, any other person or dog.

##### Appendix A: Sighthound Stream Title Progression

**Junior Courser Class**

Pass x 2

Title: JC

**Lure Courser Class**

Pass x 8

Title: LC

**Lure Coursing Advanced**

Pass x 8

Title: SLCA

**Lure Courser Excellent**

Pass x 8

Title: SLCX

Singles Stakes

**Qualifying Certificate**

**Open Class**

100pts required plus one first, or two second placings

Title: FCH

**Veteran Class**

75pts required plus one first, or two second placings

Title: VFCH

**Senior Courser Title**

Pass x 6

Title: SC

**FCH Class**

80pts required plus one first, or two second placings

Title: LCM

Lure Courser Excellent

50pts required plus one first, or two second placings

Title: LCX \*

**VFCH Class**

30pts required plus one first, or two second placings

Title: VLCM

Veteran Lure Courser Excellent

20pts required plus one first, or two second placings

Title: VLCX\*

Open Stakes

Veterans Stakes

Sanctioned event classes are indicated in **bold**

Points earned in the Open/FCh stakes can be transferred to the Veteran equivalent where indicated by the dotted line. Points cannot be transferred back.

\* Multiplier titles are available for all LCX Titles

**Lure Coursing Master**

Pass x 8

Title: SLCX

**Lure Coursing Champion**

Pass x 8

Title: LCCH

##### Appendix B: Coursing Ability Stakes Title Progression

**Junior Courser Class**

Pass x 2

Title: JC

**Coursing Ability Class**

Pass x 8

Title: CA

**Coursing Ability Advanced Class**

Pass x 8

Title: CAA

**Coursing Ability Excellent Class**

Pass x 8

Title: CAX

**Coursing Ability Master Class**

Pass x 8

Title: CAM

Coursing Ability Champion

Pass x 8

Title: CACH

Sanctioned event classes are indicated in **bold**

##### Appendix C: Associate Stakes Title Progression

**Junior Courser Class**

Pass x 2

Title: JC

**Associate Coursing Ability Class**

Pass x 8

Title: AR.CA

**Associate Coursing Ability Advanced Class**

Pass x 8

Title: AR.CAA

**Associate Coursing Ability Excellent Class**

Pass x 8

Title: AR.CAX

**Associate Coursing Ability Master Class**

Pass x 8

Title: AR.CAM

Associate Coursing Ability Master

Pass x 8

Title: AR.CAM2, etc

Sanctioned event classes are indicated in **bold**

##### Appendix D: Associate Stakes Title Progression (for dogs on the Sporting Register)

**Junior Courser Class**

Pass x 2

Title: JC

**Sporting Coursing Ability Class**

Pass x 8

Title: SR.CA

**Sporting Coursing Ability Advanced Class**

Pass x 8

Title: SR.CAA

**Sporting Coursing Ability Excellent Class**

Pass x 8

Title: SR.CAX

**Sporting Coursing Ability Master Class**

Pass x 8

Title: SR.CAM

Sporting Coursing Ability Master

Pass x 8

Title: SR.CAM2, etc

Sanctioned event classes are indicated in **bold**

##### Appendix E: Associate Sighthound Stakes Title Progression

**Junior Courser Class**

Pass x 2

Title: JC

**Associate Sighthound Lure Courser Class**

Pass x 8

Title: AR.LC

**Associate Sighthound Lure Coursing Advanced Class**

Pass x 8

Title: AR.LCA

**Associate Sighthound Lure Coursing Excellent Class**

Pass x 8

Title: AR.LCX

**Associate Sighthound Lure Coursing Master Class**

Pass x 8

Title: AR.LCM

Associate Lure Coursing Master

Pass x 8

Title: AR.LCM2, etc

Sanctioned event classes are indicated in **bold**