



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB™

Performance Events Department

July 2023

To: **All Clubs Licensed to Host Pointing Breed Hunting Tests and Field Trials**

Subject: **Tracking Devices**

This is to inform your club of three changes to the *Regulations Governing the Use of Tracking Devices*, found in both the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Pointing Breeds* and in the *Regulations for AKC Hunting Tests for Pointing Breeds*. The following three changes become effective August 1, 2023:

- 1) AKC Performance Events will no longer review individual makes and models of hand-held receivers for approval. However, collars will continue to be reviewed for approval.
- 2) Scouts may not use other devices that are paired to the tracking device such as a watch to gain tracking information.
- 3) Further clarification that receivers when left in various locations on the grounds cannot be turned on during an event.

The exact wording of these changes are underlined and in bold and will appear in the next printing of the rules and regulations as follows:

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF TRACKING DEVICES IN AKC POINTING DOG EVENTS

The use of tracking devices is solely for locating the dog once the dog is no longer under judgement. Information obtained through the use of a tracking device must not be used to aid the handler, scout or judges. If the host club allows tracking devices, the following regulations on their use will apply:

1. AKC Approved – Only tracking **collars** approved by the AKC Performance Events Department will be permitted. The collar must be used as received from the manufacturer. No modifications may be made other than name tags may be added. The collar surface against the dog's neck shall be flat. See approved tracking collars [online](#).
2. Carrying Receivers – The scout may not carry a receiver **or device capable of receiving a tracking signal, wireless or hardwired, from a receiver**. The handler may carry a receiver with the permission of the Judges. The receiver **tracking the dog** MUST be turned off while the dog is under judgment.
3. Receivers **at any other locations such as the gallery, clubhouse, campsite, vehicle, trailer, etc.** MUST be turned off. No one in the gallery shall track the dogs while the dogs are under judgment. **This includes receivers in the parking area.**

This regulation/rule update has been posted to the Rule and Regulation Resource webpages for pointing breed [field trials](#) and [hunt tests](#) as well as the [Tracking Devices](#) webpage. Please send any comments or questions to: pointingbreeds@akc.org.