



AMERICAN SIGHTHOUND FIELD ASSOCIATION

Judges Reimbursement - Options for the Host Club

Individual clubs may have their own policies for reimbursing people who judge at their trials. These work well and are in keeping with current rules and procedures. We submit these ideas for those clubs that do not have a policy in place and may benefit from considering the options.

In a deliberate effort to keep "professionals" off the lure coursing field and maintain ASFA's reputation as a volunteer, not-for-individual-profit organization, the following rule was adopted when licensing of judges was first approved:

"No person shall accept a fee for judging, but may accept reimbursement from the host club to defray expenses." (Chapter XI, Section 6, ASFA Running Rules.)

Keeping the above rule in mind, the judge(s) should know the reimbursement policy for the host club at the time the assignment is considered. This could be a "thank you" or "all expenses covered", or anything in between those extremes. At no time shall reimbursement exceed the judge's expenses.

Most judges have come to expect some financial help from the club. Based on the host club's treasury and the expected trial entries, any number of combinations of the following options may be considered:

1. Travel expenses
 - a. mileage at the current IRS rate
 - b. gas and toll receipts
 - c. airfare and all ground expenses (parking, taxi, etc.)
2. Lodging
 - a. motel (one, two or three nights)
 - b. club member's home (one, two or three nights)
 - c. campgrounds
3. Meals and beverages
 - a. provided by the club on the trial site
 - b. dinners at the club member's home
 - c. reasonable restaurant charges
4. Miscellaneous expenses (park entrance fees, etc.)
5. A percentage of some or all of the expenses
6. Some or all of the expenses, up to a maximum limit
7. None of the expenses

You may offer gas expenses and meals on the trial site only; or lodging at a club member's home, food on the trial site and all mileage, gas and toll expenses; or no monetary reimbursement at all but free meals and board. To avoid misunderstandings, the judge should know what to expect from the club *before* the premium list is sent in.

(Over please)

Provisional judges or judges that are only licensed for one or two breeds will probably judge fewer hounds than the all-breed-licensed judge is. Your club may choose to reimburse differently. Your club may also have a different policy if only two judges are required to handle the entire trial versus needing to have 3 - 6 judges to cover all the breeds. You also may choose to reimburse all expenses to a person who enters no hounds to run but only 50% to the judges who also enter the trial.

Reimbursement for expenses could be pro-rated based on the percentage of the total hounds judged. For example, if 60 hounds were competing in the trial and one person judged 40 of them (65% of the total entry), the club would pay 65% of the judge's expenses.

Your club may choose to put upper limits on what a judge can expect, regardless of the judge's expenses. Example: the judge may have bona fide air travel expenses for \$300, but the club was expecting to pay gas and mileage receipts totaling \$75. Avoid misunderstandings by discussing the arrangements in advance.

Judges should provide receipts for all of the allowable expenses; these should be given to the Field Secretary for the club's records.

Within the framework of the rules, whatever your club chooses to do for judges at your trials is between your club and the judge. Upon acceptance of the judge/assignment both the club and the judge should know exactly what the reimbursement arrangements would be.