



**AFFILIATED WITH  
UNITED KENNEL CLUB,  
INC.**

**An International  
Organization**  
*"Conceived by Hunters for  
Hunters"*

# HRC NEW CLUB

**Guidelines, Requirements and Policies**

The philosophy of the Hunting Retriever Club, (HRC) is "To test the Retriever in true to life hunting situations, and to evaluate them as useful Hunting companions". The purpose of the Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. (HRC) is to provide the most realistic hunting situations for both the Hunter and his/her Hunting Retriever. Keep this philosophy in mind when you set out to create an HRC approved, UKC recognized Club. We, the HRC and the UKC, desire Clubs that strive to improve and enhance the natural hunting abilities of the Hunting Retriever.

The following policies and procedures will be used in the process of formation, and eventual approval of new HRC Clubs.

1. Contact the **HRC Field Representative (FR)** for the region that the club will be forming. You can contact the Administrative Secretary for contact information, etc. [Secretary@H-R-C.org](mailto:Secretary@H-R-C.org) 269-364-2054.
2. When the FR approves the club, the FR will contact UKC and request a new club packet be sent to the person designated by the new club.
3. **Elect a minimum of three different persons to your Executive Committee.** (All must be members of HRC, Inc.) In cases where more than one person that resides in a household, (a spouse or child) is accepting an office, that membership may be a family membership. HRC recommends that you elect four officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer may be combined and held by one person. Complete addresses (not just a P. O. Box) must be supplied so UPS packages can be sent.

Clubs that are now, or become affiliated with another group or association are ADVISED that it is in the best interest of the new HRC Associated Club to elect a separate slate of officers. Separate bank accounts should also be established.

The President of your Club will automatically become a voting member of the HRC Board of Directors, which meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in June for the Board of Directors annual meeting. HRC is affiliated with UKC as our registry. HRC is a non-profit organization owned and governed by its members through the Board of Directors and the elected Executive Committee.

#### **4. Determine the Clubs' name**

UKC/HRC has no policy regarding the selection of a Club name as long as it is in good taste. HRC requests that you conclude it with "Hunting Retriever Club" (HRC). A complete list of existing [Clubs is on the HRC Website](#)

or you may contact the HRC Administrative Secretary for a list.

**5. Submit for approval the Club's Constitution & By-Laws or complete the template provided on the CD or website.**

The following statement must be a part of the Club's Constitution and By-Laws.

- a) "The Club is affiliated with Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. (HRC) and United Kennel Club, Inc. (UKC). All HRC and UKC rules and policies will be followed at all UKC licensed, HRC Hunts sponsored by this Club. HRC Club Officers must be members in good standing with HRC, Inc."
- b) "Per HRC, Inc C&B, with which this club is affiliated, all members of this club must be members in good standing with HRC, Inc."

The Clubs' Constitution and By-Laws must be signed by all of the Club's Officers. ALL CLUB OFFICERS MUST BE MEMBERS OF HRC, INC. To join HRC officers can go on UKC's website and order the HRC Magazine [http://store.ukcdogs.com/index.php?dispatch=categories.view&category\\_id=254](http://store.ukcdogs.com/index.php?dispatch=categories.view&category_id=254) or call UKC at 269 343-9020 and ask for the magazine department.

**6. Complete the Associated Club application form (sent from UKC). - Submit the following to the HRC Administrative Secretary:**

- **The completed HRC Associated Club Application Form**
- **The Club application fee of \$25.00 (make checks payable to Hunting Retriever Club, Inc.)**
- **A COPY of the Club Constitution and By-Laws**

Upon approval of your Club's application and the Constitution & By-Laws by HRC and UKC, you will be mailed a letter of Approval of the Club and a Club Charter.

**PRELIMINARY HUNT** - Once you have received notification of the approval of your new Club, contact your Field Representative (listed on the cover letter) once approval has been received and he/she will assist you in scheduling your required Preliminary Hunt. A Field Representative or HRC Executive Officer must attend your Preliminary Hunt, so scheduling a date with him/her is of utmost importance.

All new Hunting Retriever Clubs must have a Preliminary Hunt **within 12 months of becoming a HRC Club**, to demonstrate that the members understand and comply with HRC and UKC rules and policies. There is no difference between a Preliminary Hunt and a Licensed Hunt except no fees are paid to HRC at the Preliminary Hunt and the Field Representative an/or HRC Executive Committee Officer must be present to approve the Club. Championship points earned at Preliminary Hunts DO count toward titles.

All HRC Hunts are scheduled and approved by UKC. Upon confirmation, your date(s) will be listed in the Hunting Retriever Magazine, Upcoming Events section and on the HRC Website.

The Field Representative for your area must approve your preliminary hunt dates and then contact Sarah Bonnema at UKC at (269) 343-9020 or [sarabonnema@ukcdogs.com](mailto:sarabonnema@ukcdogs.com) for approval.

**JUDGES** - The HRC Administrative Secretary licenses and approves all HRC Judges.  
[Secretary@H-R-C.org](mailto:Secretary@H-R-C.org) 269-364-2054.

A New Club is allowed to 'Grandfather' a Judge in Started and a Judge in Seasoned. The Judges must apprentice at the Preliminary Hunt. These two Judges become Licensed Judges after successful Apprenticeship at the Preliminary Hunt, thus providing a Judge's pool for the new Club. See the Judges qualifications in the Rulebook.

The New Club will provide the HRC Secretary [secretary@h-r-c.org](mailto:secretary@h-r-c.org) the names and information on those selected to become Grandfather Judges for their Club so that they can be approved for judging at the Preliminary Hunt.

A complete list of Licensed, Licensed Upland and Approved Apprentice Judges is kept current on the [HRC Website](#)

Your Field Representative will also be able to assist you in securing Judges for your Hunts. Requirements for Judges are printed in the HRC Rule Book and are on the [HRC Website](#)

**INSURANCE** - It is recommended that you obtain a Liability Insurance Policy in the Club's name as soon as possible. Many State or local Field Trial Associations or Sportsmen's Groups offer group Insurance policies. A provider for a number of Clubs is Sportsman's Insurance, A source for insurance is:

Dennis Stowers  
Mourer-Foster Inc  
1-800-686-2663  
[dstowers@mourerfoster.com](mailto:dstowers@mourerfoster.com)

**OTHER INFORMATION** - The following are policies that have been initiated by HRC and/or UKC, adopted by the Board of Directors or established by a Running Rules Committee review, and apply to all HRC events.

1. HRC Hunts must be conducted in a sportsmanlike manner. Remember HRC was "Created by Hunters for Hunters", so good sportsmanship is the standard. All State and local laws will be followed.
2. Live birds, EXCEPT for shot flyers in Regular Hunt Tests and/or birds for Upland Hunts, are prohibited. Game used for the Hunt test should reflect the type of hunting being simulated, i.e. ducks for water tests, pigeons for simulated dove hunts and Chukar, quail and/or pheasant for Upland Tests, etc. All Local, State and Federal laws must be followed.
3. Financial assistance in the form of a loan of up to \$500, may be available (if funds are available)

to new Clubs for their Preliminary Hunt upon written request to the HRC Treasurer. The New Club loan is interest free to be repaid within 2 years of the Preliminary Hunt.

4. A Club may hold as many Hunts per year as it wants, as long as all other requirements for Licensing are met and there is not a conflict with another Club within a 200-mile radius. The Field Representative for your area must approve any new dates. The FR contacts UKC Field Operations, (269) 343-9020 Sara Bonnema [sarabonnema@ukcdogs.com](mailto:sarabonnema@ukcdogs.com) to schedule your Preliminary and Licensed Hunts.
5. Clubs must limit the number of entries per handler to a maximum of twelve (12). A Club may be more restrictive if it chooses.
6. All hunting tests should be at least far enough apart so that one test does not distract another. REALISM must be retained to simulate as nearly as possible, actual hunting conditions.
7. Safety of dogs, handlers, Judges, bird technicians and gallery are of utmost importance in the HRC Program. Remember and practice good gun safety.
8. The established fees per dog, must be forwarded to the HRC Treasurer and UKC with a postmark of within 15 business days of the completion of all Licensed Hunts.
9. An optional Puppy test (not licensed) may be run for young/inexperienced dogs. Non-Licensed events shall not delay the Licensed events. It is encouraged that you have a Puppy test as this a good way for new members and very young dogs to participate and win a ribbon. There are no written guidelines for a Puppy Test; however, your Field Representative or other knowledgeable person can give you simple guidelines.
10. The practice of using callbacks (defined as running dogs in contention ahead of dogs not in contention) is not allowed. The Running Rules Preamble states that: "Hunting Retrievers will be able to compete in all tests at each level of competition without being eliminated".
11. Non-UKC Registered dogs are allowed to participate in Upland, Started, Seasoned or Finished, however, the dog must be registered within 60 days of the test in order to be awarded any Championship Points earned, AND there is an additional entry fee of \$3 per non-UKC registered dogs participating.

Non-HRC Members dogs may participate in HRC events, however an additional \$5 fee will be charged for entries whose owners are not members of HRC – this applies to each dog entered for each event under a non-HRC member owner. This DOES NOT APPLY to the Started category entries. There are no fees to HRC for a Preliminary Hunt, but at a Regular Licensed Hunt, \$2.50 of the \$5 non member fees are sent to HRC along with the appropriate per dog fee and \$2.50 of the \$5 is retained by the Club.

12. All entries will be treated fairly and equally in every respect throughout all tests regardless of their pass or fail status. i.e. Entries that are judged to have failed prior to completion of any remaining tests will not be prevented from participating in any subsequent tests, nor will running order be

affected by such a judgment. Judges must continue to judge every dog's performance, all throws and birds will be of equal quality, and every effort shall be made to ensure that participants are treated exactly the same as if they were still in contention.

13. In unavoidable situations such as might occur with severe storms and hunt disruptions that are beyond human control, it is understood that strict adherence may not always be possible. In such circumstances, the Hunt Committee and Judges may (by unanimous vote) permit the use of alternate or "callback" procedures to allow participation in an event that could not otherwise be completed. In such situations, the Judges will explain the situation to the gallery and handlers, and the Hunt Secretary will note on the HRC & UKC Hunt Report forms which tests were affected with a short description of the problem. Every reasonable effort must be made to provide all dogs that may have their tests delayed, in favor of those dogs that are still in contention, with an opportunity to complete their tests.

**POPPERS/SHELLS** - The HRC Board of Directors has voted to allow individual Clubs to choose whether to use Factory - Loaded Poppers or Factory - Primer (only) shells. All categories at the Hunts must use either ALL Poppers or ALL Primer only shells. Gun Safety is of utmost priority to HRC, Inc., HRC Clubs and HRC members.

**UKC POLICY RE COMPETITIVE EVENTS:** Competitive Hunt Tests, dog and handler against dog and handler, will not be held on the same day as a Licensed UKC/HRC event. Judges sheets and any information recorded by a judge for the evaluation of a hunting retriever during a UKC licensed HRC Hunt test may not be used to evaluate, place, or score a dog in any non-UKC/HRC sponsored event. Fund raising or entertainment side events such as, but not limited to, super singles, bumper toss, pigeon scramble, are allowed so long as they do not interfere with the licensed UKC/HRC event of that day.

**RULEBOOK** HRC Rule Books are provided to all members of HRC and the cost is included in the membership fee. These are sent by UKC along with the new member packet.

Additional hard copies of Rulebooks may be obtained from UKC.

<http://www.ukcdogs.com/Web.nsf/WebPages/HRC/Rules>

It is also available on line at

<http://huntingretrieverclub.org/PDF/2017-hunting-retriever-rulebook.pdf>

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