



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB™

Performance Events Department

August 2020

To: **All Clubs Licensed to Host Retriever Field Trials**

Subject: **First Dog to Run in a Series Cannot Be Selected Twice**

This is to inform your club of a change to the *Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedures for Retrievers*. This change originated from the Retriever Field Trial Advisory Committee and was approved by the AKC Board of Directors and Delegate body.

This change automatically exempts any dog selected as the first dog to run in a series who previously ran as the first dog in an earlier series of the same stake at the same trial. The dog having the next sequential entry number would replace the exempt dog as the first dog to run in the series. The change provides additional equality to dogs bearing the burden or benefit of running first and provides directions to clubs and judges on what to do if the same dog should be picked a second time.

The exact wording of this change is underlined and will appear in the next printing of the rules as follows:

Chapter 14. Rules for Retriever Field Trials Section 4.

(2nd paragraph)

The objective of rotation is to spread the burden or benefit of running early equitably among the competing dogs. The Judges shall select the particular system of rotation to be used, and the system selected shall be publicly announced by the Judges and/or Marshal before the commencement of the stake to which the rotation will apply. If any dog, by consequence of the rotation, is designated to run first twice in the same stake, at the same field trial, he should be exempt from that obligation. In such an instance, said dog will be passed over and the next number in the callbacks shall be first. For example, if #22 had started a previous series and by some chance came up again to be first on a subsequent series in the same stake, at the same field trial, he would be passed over and the next dog in the sequence would be first (#23 or the next number in the callbacks)”

This rulebook update has been posted to the [Retriever Field Trial Rule Updates](#) webpage. Please send any comments or questions to: performanceevents@akc.org