

**AMERICAN BLOODHOUND CLUB**  
**TRAILING TRIAL EVENT STANDARD**

**INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of a trailing trial is to certify the bloodhound's abilities for trailing, scent discrimination and correctly identifying a specific person in a field setting. When participating in a trailing trial, the bloodhound should show willingness and aptitude for the exercise, and the handler should demonstrate competence and naturalness in handling the bloodhound. To earn a qualifying score, the field performances of both bloodhound and handler, as demonstrated in a trailing trial event, must conform to the trailing trial regulations and standards described in this document.

Three levels of certification, each with its own abbreviated title, are described in this standard:

- Mantrailer (MT);
- Mantrailer Intermediate (MTI); and
- Mantrailer Excellent (MTX).

Each title, as awarded, specifies the level of certification for which the bloodhound has qualified.

Levels of certification, as described in this standard, are for the sole purpose of titling a bloodhound in a sporting event and should not, in any manner, be considered a qualification for police or search and rescue work. All trailing trial participants should be guided by the principles and regulations of teamwork between handler and hound and by good sportsmanship.

## **CRITERIA FOR PASSING PERFORMANCE**

- 1.) Successful completion of a trail requires that a dog find the correct runner at the end of the trail and that the handler indicates to the judge that the trail has ended.
- 2.) Prior to the start of testing, a judge will ask an exhibitor how the dog indicates a find (i.e. sitting, jumping up on the find, barking, etc.), ID must be consistent with the handler response. It is preferred but not required, that the dog make contact with the runner.
- 3.) Dogs are not required to follow the exact trail.

## **CRITERIA FOR NOT PASSING**

### **Disqualifications and Failing Performance**

- 1.) an exhibitor's failure to report for the assigned trail within ten minutes of the scheduled starting time;
  - 2.) an exhibitor's leading, directing, or guiding of the dog; guiding is defined as behavior by the handler that influences or determines the dogs direction. Repeated restraint may also result in failure.
  - 3.) a harness must be used and a lead of sufficient length for handler to remain behind the hound at all times during the trail
  - 4.) handlers are not permitted to work their dogs off-lead while running trails. If entanglement occurs, the lead may be dropped briefly and unsnapped if necessary, but must be retrieved and re-attached as soon as possible. In cases of entanglement, the dog must be under control and in close proximity of the handler.
  - 5.) a dog's menacing, attacking, snapping, growling, lunging, or attempting to bite or attack any exhibitor, judge, event staff, or spectator;
  - 6.) a dog that appears injured or lame or a dog that becomes injured or lame during the trail; if in the opinion of the judges, the dog is in any distress due to the conditions, the trail may be stopped.
  - 7.) the team's failure to correctly identify the runner
  - 8.) there is a one hour time limit for completing the trail but, if the opinion of both judges, the dog is not working, the trail can be called and the team will fail. If, in the opinion of both judges, the team has passed the runner(s) and shows no indication of returning, the team will fail.
  - 9.) only water will be allowed to be carried on the trail; toys, food or any other motivational items will cause a dog to fail
- a.) Trails may be restarted one time, whether by exhibitors' request or judges' direction. No more than one restart per trail is permitted. The team must return to the starting point for a restart. If, in the judges' opinion, a dog is 180 degrees off the trail, judges may direct exhibitors to restart at the starting stake.
- b.) The scent article is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor. It may be carried by the exhibitor or left at the starting stake. Exhibitors may re-scent their dogs at any time along the trail at their discretion.

## **TESTING REQUIREMENTS**

**The EECT will be judged by one ABC approved judge**

**The MT, MTI, and MTX will be judged by two ABC approved judges**

### **Event Entry Certification Test (EECT) General Guidelines**

1.) The EECT will consist of a trail that is approximately one-quarter mile (440 yards) long and at least one hour old and no more than 2 hours old.

2.) There is no expiration date on the EECT however, should the dog be unsuccessful after three attempts at the MT level, the dog shall have to be retested and be successful at the EECT level.

3.) EECT trails will have one runner, will follow a “natural wandering path” with no abrupt or about-turns, and no water crossings, will be located in an area with light vegetation, and will not be laid totally on a paved roadway. EECT trails should be roughly in the shape of a “J,” using the terrain features as a guide. Runners are not to cross moderately heavy or heavily traveled roadways and should not include steep climbs or areas of poor footing in EECT trails.

### **Mantrailer Test General Guidelines**

1.) The MT will consist of a trail that is approximately one-half mile (880 yards) long and no more than three-quarters mile (1320 yards) long. MT trails will be at least four hours old but no more than six hours old, follow a natural wandering path and will include one change of direction in the form of a turn or curve that is no less than 90 degrees.

2.) MT trails will have only one runner. The runner will stand or sit in plain sight and is not allowed to be partially or totally obscured by brush or debris.

### **Mantrailer Intermediate Test General Guidelines**

1.) The MTI will consist of a trail that is approximately one-half mile (880 yards) long and no more than three-quarters mile (1320 yards) long. Trails will be run in an area of moderate contamination (school yard, parking area, etc.) that has moderate access during all phases of the test (laying and running of trails). MTI trails will be at least eight hours old but no more than eighteen hours old and will follow a “natural wandering path,” including two changes of direction, one of which must be a turn of at least 90 degrees.

2.) MTI tests will have two runners. The cross runner will cross the trail. Both runners must be at the end of the trail before the dog is started. The runners will stand or sit in plain sight at the end of the trail and is not allowed to be obscured behind brush or debris. The crossing runner will be stationed at the end of the trail parallel to the primary runner and separated from the primary runner by fifteen feet.

### **Section 1: Mantrailer Excellent Test General Guidelines**

1.) The MTX will consist of a trail that is approximately one-half mile (880 yards) long and no more than three-quarters mile (1320 yards) long. Trails will be run in a heavily contaminated area (mall, school yard, public park, forest, industrial area or similar heavily used area) that has unlimited access and heavy traffic during all phases of the test (laying and running of trails). MTX trails will be at least twenty-four hours old but no more than thirty-six hours old and will follow a “natural wandering path,” including two changes of direction, one of which must be a turn of at least 90 degrees. MTX trails will also include no more than three obstacles consisting of roads, a water crossing (water that can be walked through), a bridge, cross tracks, a contaminated area with another person in it, or a terrain change.

2.) MTX tests will have two runners. The two runners will walk parallel, split and return to the same trail prior to the end. Both runners must be at the end of the trail before the dog is started. The runners will stand or sit in plain sight at the end of the trail and is not allowed to be obscured behind brush or debris. The crossing runner will be stationed at the end of the trail parallel to the primary runner and separated from the primary runner by fifteen feet.

## CHAPTER 1

### GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR ABC-SANCTIONED TRAILING TRIAL EVENTS

#### Section 1: Making Application for Trailing Trial Events

##### 1.1 Groups Eligible to Make Application

Only Regional Clubs belonging to the American Bloodhound Club (ABC) may request and be granted permission to hold a trailing trial event. The trailing trial event may be held in conjunction with a National Specialty or Regional Specialty or held as an independent event.

##### 1.2 Paperwork Required to Make Application

A sponsoring individual or group that is interested in holding a trailing trial event must request an application packet from the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson. Forms used for making application, and during the course of the trailing trial event, must be forms previously approved and recognized by the ABC Trailing Trial General Committee.

Requests to hold trailing trial events must be submitted to and approved by the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson at least **six months (180 days)** prior to the first-choice date selected for the event. The number of trails requested on the application cannot be changed and should reflect the site and number of judges selected. The completed application packet must contain:

- a. a clear general map of the site; tentative locations of trails; number of trails offered for each trailing level;
- b. the number of judges needed for the trial; signed judges agreements
- c. a draft copy of the premium list with participant information;
- d. the name, address, and phone number of the Trailing Event Chairperson and Event Secretary (see section 2)
- e. budgetary information.

The ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson will review all submitted documents and application information to determine whether the planned event meets all requirements of this standard.

##### 1.3 Grounds for Disapproval of Application

An application for a trailing trial could be rejected, returned for additional or missing information, denied sanctioning, or otherwise disapproved if any one of the following conditions occur:

- a. the site for the event is not specified;
- b. the site chosen for the event is not appropriate for the event as planned;
- c. the number of judges needed is not included or is insufficient to judge the number of trails offered;
- d. a person is selected to judge who is not currently an ABC-approved trailing judge;
- e. a person is selected to judge who is not qualified for the level assigned;
- f. the number of trails offered is not specified;
- g. the names of the Trailing Event Chairperson and Event Secretary are not specified;
- h. the planned event does not conform to the requirements of the standard;
- i. the application for the event is submitted too late.

#### Section 2: Duties and Responsibilities of Sponsoring Individuals / Groups

##### 2.1 General Duties of the Sponsoring Individual / Group

The sponsoring individual or group will be responsible for all costs and equipment as specified (see Section 2.2). The group should designate sections of the event site for each level offered, ensuring sufficient space for that level's requirements. The sponsoring individual or group will ensure that judges selected are currently approved to judge in accordance with the rules and regulations. The sponsoring individual or group will appoint a Trailing Trial Event Committee, a Trailing Event Chairperson, an Event Secretary, and a Transportation and Logistics Chairperson.

## 2.2 Event Equipment Required

The sponsoring group must provide a judging packet for each trial containing the following:

- a. judges' worksheet;
- b. scent articles;
- c. packaging materials for scent articles;
- d. a map of the area to be used

Sponsoring groups are **strongly** encouraged to provide the following additional equipment:

- a. two-way portable radio or working cell phone for the event base; and for each judging team per trail
- b. beverages and water for event participants and staff;
- c. basic first aid kit;
- d. table and chairs for judges to complete reports;
- e. flags should be available and may be used at the judges discretion
- f. extra copies of each trail map;
- g. extra scent article kits (clean article / material packaging elements);
- h. additional judges' worksheets, pens, pencils, blank paper, clipboards.

## 2.4 Event Staff and Duties: Trailing Event Chairperson, Event Secretary, Transportation and Logistics Chairperson

A sponsoring group will be required to appoint one person for each of the following responsibilities:

- Trailing Event Chairperson;
- Event Secretary;
- Transportation and Logistics Chairperson.

The Trailing Event Chairperson is responsible for overseeing the entire event, including making sure that judges and runners have been assigned to each trail, that each trial adheres to the requirements of this standard, and that all selected judges have been approved by the ABC. During the event, the Trailing Event Chairperson is also responsible to confer with judges in cases of hounds' lameness or injury (see Section 12.6) and to preside over any hearings concerning issues that might arise during the course of the trailing trial event (see Section 12.9 and Chapter 2).

The Trailing Event Chairperson is also responsible for fully documenting the trailing event and for completing and submitting a final event report, which must be received by the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson no more than 30 days after the event takes place. If the report is not received by the deadline, a fine of \$50 + \$5/day will be assessed against the sponsoring group or individual until such time that the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson receives the report. The event report will include copies of all entries, copies of all judges' sheets and trial maps, signed judges' agreements for every judge, a financial report with all expenditures and income, and the original of any Event Entry Certification Test certificates along with the proper fees.

The Event Secretary is responsible for all moneys received and disbursed and will ensure that all entries are accounted for, will receive all entries and send out entry confirmations, will ensure that the premium list is accurate, will ensure that all trophies, ribbons and certificates are on hand, and will distribute and collect all trail maps, scent articles, and judges' worksheets. The secretary also must ensure that the event agenda is posted, and that judges have been confirmed and accounted for prior to the event.

The Transportation and Logistics Chairperson is responsible for obtaining all event equipment, including stakes, flags, radios, etc., and for ensuring that the event equipment is accounted for and in good working order. The Transportation and Logistics Chairperson will also arrange for transportation needs and schedule vehicles so that runners, judges, hounds, and handlers will be transported to the start of assigned trails and picked up at the trails' end.

### **Section 3: Levels of Titling Offered at Trailing Trial Events**

#### **3.1 Three Levels of Trailing Titling**

Three levels of trailing titles are offered at trailing trial events:

- Mantrailer (MT)
- Mantrailer Intermediate (MTI)
- Mantrailer Excellent (MTX)

#### **3.2 Mandatory Number of Mantrailer-Level Trails**

Every ABC-sanctioned trailing trial event must offer at least two Mantrailer-level trails.

### **Section 4: Determining Eligibility to Enter Trailing Trial Events and Specific Trailing Levels**

#### **4.1 Event Entry Certification Test Required**

All hounds must pass the Event Entry Certification Test, (EECT) to be eligible to enter the Mantrailer test. The EECT must be staged and judged in strict accordance with the rules of this standard. The minimum age for hounds entered in an EECT will be six months on the date of the event. Hounds determined to be less than six months old on the date of the event will be prohibited from competing, and the EECT will be canceled immediately.

#### **4.2 Event Report Required for Titles to Be Valid**

Any title won during an event will not be registered or valid until a completed trailing trial report has been received and accepted by the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson. Therefore, any hound that has not yet passed a given certification level may not be entered prematurely in the next higher level. A hound must pass the MT level to be eligible for the MTI; a hound must pass the MTI to be eligible to enter the MTX level. All such successful trails are required to be passed at ABC-sanctioned trailing trial events. All hounds must pass each level in the order prescribed; no hounds will be permitted to skip a level for any reason.

#### **4.3 Thirty Days of Continuance in Entering Trailing for Titles Awarded**

With the exception of the EEC, a hound may continue to be entered in any one level for 30 days after the owner and/or handler has been notified that the hound has successfully completed a qualifying trail in that level.

#### **4.4 Judges, Hounds, and Handlers Who Are Ineligible to Compete**

No person selected and approved to judge at a specific trailing trial event will be permitted to enter any hound in that event. No person selected and approved to judge at a specific trailing trial event will be permitted to handle any hound in that event. No hound bred by or belonging, either wholly or in part, to a judge may be judged by that judge at any level, including the Event Entry Certificate Test. The Trailing Event Chairperson and the Event Secretary are prohibited from entering or handling a hound in the trailing trial event

### **Section 5: Selecting Judges**

#### **5.1 Minimum Number of Judges**

The sponsoring group will select the minimum number of judges. Selection will be made only from the approved judges' list, which is available on the ABC website, [www.bloodhounds.org](http://www.bloodhounds.org) or from the Trailing Trial Chair Person.

The minimum number of judges will be requested and scheduled based on the total distance of trails offered, the number of trails offered, and the level of trails offered

#### **5.2 Approval of the Judging Slate**

The Event Secretary will document the names of those judges selected and send a copy of the slate to the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson for final approval. The Trailing Event Chairperson is responsible for ensuring that judges selected are approved to judge at the levels needed. No judge will be assigned to judge more than four miles of trails per event day.

### 5.3. If Additional Judges are Needed

If, after the entries have closed, due to extenuating circumstances such as a judge's inability to fulfill his or her judging assignment, the sponsoring group must immediately contact the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson and request permission for the selection of additional judges or for assistance in locating additional or substitute judges for the event.

If no additional judges are available, the sponsoring group will determine the number of trails and levels that can be judged and notify the entrants of the limitation. A lottery will be conducted to choose entrants (see Section 9); those entries not drawn for available trails will be used to establish a list of alternates. Limiting the number of previously published trails offered, although permitted, should be done only as a last resort.

5.4. Judges will be assigned to each trail with designation of a primary judge and secondary judge. The primary judge has the sole responsibility of plotting the trail, walking with the runner(s), and insuring that the runner(s) are in place before the trail starts.

5.5 Judges are limited to not judging the same hound on more than two successful trails, not including the EECT. A judging team shall not judge the same hound on more than one successful trail.

If there are any changes to the approved application, prior to the trial, the sponsoring group must immediately contact the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson.

## **Section 6: Notifying the ABC Board of Directors**

TTC receives the completed Trailing trial Application, reviews and sends it to the Trailing Committee for approval/disapproval/approval with conditions.

Upon approval by the Trailing Committee, the TTC sends the Trial information to the Newsletter editor for inclusion in the Vote-By-Mail section of the next available Newsletter.

After the mandated 30 days, the Recording Secretary shall notify the TTC of the results of the ABC Board decision to approve/disapprove/or table the proposed event and the results of the vote will appear in the next Newsletter.

## **Section 7: Creating Premium Lists — General Contents**

### 7.1 Premium Lists

The premium list will specify the dates and times when entries for the trailing trial event will open and close. The premium list will specify the names and addresses of the Trailing Event Chairperson and Event Secretary, who will be responsible for receiving entries. The premium list will include the names and addresses of judges scheduled. The premium list may not be released, mailed out, or given to handlers more than sixty days prior to the event.

### 7.2 Limitation of Number of Trails Offered

The ABC Trailing Trial General Committee strongly encourages trailing trial event sponsors to limit, based upon the site and resource capacity, the number of trails offered in trailing levels and events. Prominent notice of such limited entry must appear on the title or cover page of the trailing trial event's premium list.

### 7.3 Fees

Entry fees will be determined by the Trailing Event Chairperson and the sponsoring group. Entry fees will be set to defray the actual costs of the event. Checks for entry fees are to be made payable to the sponsoring group.

Each entry for the Mantrailer (MT), Mantrailer Intermediate (MTI) and Mantrailer Excellent (MTX) will include a \$5.00 (U.S.) Each Event Entry Certification Test will include a \$10.00 (U.S.) fee. All fees will be forwarded to the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson, within 30 days, who will then forward them to the ABC Treasurer to be deposited into the trailing trial fund.

### 7.4 Trailing Awards

The premium list will list all trophies, ribbons, prizes, and certificates to be awarded to successful entrants. Should any award, ribbon, or prize be donated by a specific person(s), such donation will be noted in the

premium list. The ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson will provide rosettes to the Event Secretary. Signed American Bloodhound Club trailing certificates will be issued by the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson once all the required paperwork is received and recorded. The sponsoring group or committee may elect to award special prizes.

## **Section 8: Entering Trailing Trial Events — Forms, Contents, and Regulations**

### **8.1 Official Entry Forms**

To be acceptable, entries must be submitted with the entry fee on the official trailing trial entry form.

### **8.2 Eligibility for Entry**

As used in these regulations the word “hound” refers to either sex but applies only to the bloodhound that is purebred and eligible for registration in the American Kennel Club (AKC) Stud Book or for an Indefinite Listing Privilege ILP/PAL with the AKC.

### **8.3 Entry Deadlines**

The closing date for a trailing trial event will be no later than thirty days prior to the event. The closing time will be no later than 5:00 PM on the closing day. No entry will be accepted unless it is received by the Event Secretary prior to the closing date and hour as published in the premium list

### **8.4 Changes In or Cancellations of Entries**

No entry will be changed or canceled unless notice of the change or cancellation is received, in writing, by the Event Secretary prior to the closing date and hour as published in the premium list except that a correction may be made when the hound has successfully completed the level entered at another sanctioned event held prior to the closing. Such exception will be made only if the change or move-up is received in writing prior to the close of the entries as specified above. Facsimile(fax) and email changes are acceptable. No fees will be refunded for hounds withdrawn from the trial(s).

### **8.5 Submittal of Entry Information for Verification of Eligibility**

Within one day of the trailing trial event’s closing date, the Event Secretary will send an email or copy of all entries received by the deadline to the Trailing Event Chairperson for verification of eligibility for all levels except the Event Entry Certification Test. The email/copy will list level entered, dog’s name, and handler/owner.

## **Section 9: Assigning Trails by Lottery**

### **9.1 Trail Assignment by Lottery**

Trailing assignments will be determined by conducting a lottery when the number of entries in a given trailing level exceeds the number of trails available for that level.

### **9.2 Lottery Procedure**

After the event entry closing date has passed, the Trailing Event Chairperson will separate the entries received into their respective categories: Mantrailer (MT), Mantrailer Intermediate (MTI), Mantrailer Excellent (MTX), and Event Entry Certification Test (EEC: if offered).

When all entries have been separated into their respective categories, the Trailing Event Chairperson and the Event Secretary will determine if there are any excess entries for a specific category. If there are more entries than available trails, the Event Secretary will conduct a lottery for the available trails. Those entries left after all trails in the level have been assigned will become alternates and eligible, in lottery order, for a trail should one of the selected entries cancel, withdraw, or fail to appear at the time of the event. No more than three alternates will be drawn for each trailing level.

The Event Secretary will notify all entrants of their standing (confirmed entry vs. alternate status). All entries over and above confirmed and alternate status will be returned to those persons submitting the entries, after the trial.

## **Section 10: Preparing and Distributing Event Judging Schedules**

Any group granted permission to hold a sanctioned event must prepare, after the entries have closed, an event judging schedule showing the time scheduled for judging each trail. The Event Secretary will mail/email a copy of this schedule to the owner/handler of each entered hound and to each judge prior to the event date. The schedule will also be printed in the event catalog. The trailing event judging schedule will be based on each judge's judging of no more than four miles of trails per event day. No judge will be scheduled to exceed this daily total.

## **Section 11: Preparing to Stage Trailing Trial Events**

### **11.1 Risk and Hold-Harmless Agreements**

Owners, agents, handlers, event staff and event participants or observers who enter, judge, or otherwise participate in any sanctioned trailing trial event do so at their own personal risk. Such participation will require the signing of an agreement to abide by all rules and regulations of the event and all rules and regulations pertaining to trailing trial events.

### **11.2 Trail Conditions**

Trails used in this event will conform to these rules and regulations and will not contain known hazards or dangerous obstacles that could endanger any hound, handler, runner, observer, or assigned judge. Dangerous obstacles include, but are not limited to, busy roadways, unstable surfaces, electric fences, and ground that has been treated with any pesticide or related chemicals.

### **11.3 Runners**

Trail runners are selected by the sponsoring group. Runners must follow the specific direction of the primary judge assigned to the same trail. Runners may alter a trail only with the primary judge's explicit permission. Runners are not allowed to give any information or instructions to any handler, owner, or spectator. Handlers will not be given any information about runners or cross-runners for the assigned trails.

Runners will be responsible for obtaining, wearing, and packaging their scent articles. The runner will be given two "Ziploc" bags. The scent article will be placed in one "Ziploc" bag; then, that bag will be placed inside the second bag (see Section 11.5).

### **11.4 Marking and Mapping Trails**

Each trail will be assigned two markers, stakes, stationary objects, or flags: one to be placed at the start of the trail and the other at the finish. Trail markers must be clearly visible from a short distance away (10-20 feet); markers will not be placed under debris, ground cover, or other cover. Maps will be plotted clearly, indicating the entire path of the trail from start to finish.

### **11.5 Scent Articles**

Scent articles for a trailing trial event will be of a consistent for all trails offered. The specific scent article choice will be one of the following:

- a sterile gauze pad, 4" x 4", worn by the runner, next to the skin, for at least one hour; OR
- a sheet of clean cotton cloth, 4" x 4", worn by the runner, next to the skin, for at least one hour.

The primary judge will be responsible for marking each outer bag with number of the trail to which it corresponds. Bagged scent articles will not be tampered with in any manner. The Trailing Event Chairperson will be responsible for securing the articles until they are given to the trail judge(s) for a specific trail. Judges will give handlers their scent articles at the starting time for the specific trail.

## **Section 12: Staging Trailing Trial Events**

### **12.1 Un-entered Hounds Prohibited in the Field**

No un-entered hounds will be permitted in the field at the event site; they must be confined to a crate or vehicle for the duration of the event. Un-entered bitches in season will not be permitted on the grounds until the trial has ended.

## 12.2 Confining Entered Hounds

Handlers, event staff, and observers are required to confine their hounds at all times to a vehicle, crate, building, or other structure, except during the running of their assigned trails. No hound will be tied to a fixed object, structure, or vehicle. At no time may anyone permit a hound off lead for any reason until the event has ended. When exercised, all hounds will be on lead and under the direct control of the owner, handler, or designated person.

## 12.3 Bitches in Season

Bitches in season are not permitted to begin a trail until the other entered hounds have finished running their trails and the last trail of the event. The handler of a bitch in season will confine the bitch away from the event grounds until 15 minutes before the scheduled trail's start time.

## 12.4 Other Disturbances, Abuses, or Interference

In collaboration with the Trailing Event Chairperson, judges must disqualify from competition any hound whose handler cannot control the hound, any handler who abuses a hound, or any handler who interferes with any entered hound or any trail. Excused hounds will be removed from the event area immediately. In all such instances, entry fees will not be refunded. (See Chapter 2 for additional information.)

## 12.5 Catalog Order

Hounds will be judged in catalog order within a particular level to the extent that it is practical. A handler may request a later starting time, providing that the requested start time is within the time allotted for the type of test scheduled. Such a request to delay a starting time must be made in writing, and such a request must be received by the Trailing Event Chairperson at least thirty minutes prior to the opening of the trial. A judge will not hesitate to disqualify any hound that does not appear within ten minutes of the expiration of the designated time for that level of testing.

In the event of a no-show, disqualification, excused hound, or withdrawal on an entry, the entry fees will be forfeited without recourse, and the judging form for that test will be marked accordingly.

## 12.6 Disqualifications

A hound will be disqualified from a trailing trial event if:

- a. The person(s) listed as the owner(s) of any hound is not the person(s) who actually owns the hound at the time of the trial and is not listed as agent(s) for the owner.
- b. A hound is run on a trail for which the hound was not entered.
- c. The entry form is deemed invalid by the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson due to inaccurate or incorrect information.
- d. A hound is judged at any trailing level by a person who bred, owns, co-owns, or who, at any time, owned or co-owned the hound.
- e. A hound is disqualified or failed by the judges during their trail.

In all such instances, entry fees will not be refunded.

## 12.7 Ineligibility / Inability to Compete

A hound that is lame, limps, or appears injured at the time of the assigned trail may not be permitted to compete. Before the start of a trail, it is the assigned judges' responsibility, in collaboration with the Trailing Event Chairperson, to determine if a hound is lame. A veterinarian's evaluation is not required. If, in the judges' and chairperson's opinion, the hound is lame and unable to start or complete the trial, they will mark the judges' report as "Hound unable to compete due to lameness / injury."

If, in the process of working the assigned trail, a hound becomes injured or lame and is unable to complete or should be prevented from completing the assigned trail, the judges will stop the trail, and after noting the time the trail was stopped, mark the judges' form to indicate the reason the hound was not permitted to continue.

No bloodhound will be permitted to attempt an assigned trail if it is taped, bandaged in any way, or is wearing any device for medical or corrective purposes. In all such instances, entry fees will not be refunded.

## 12.8 Decisions

Decisions of the judge(s) are final in any matter affecting how a hound is worked by the handler. The Trailing Trial Event Committee will adjudicate other matters arising at the event, including protests regarding trail assignment and interference of hounds and handlers, subject to the regulations governing the trailing events. The Trailing Event Chairperson will preside over any hearings and will make the final decision on issues that arise (see Chapter 2).

## CHAPTER 2

### DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS / COMPLAINTS, PROTESTS, AND APPEALS

#### Section 1: Disciplinary Proceedings for Conduct Prejudicial to the Sport

##### 1.1 Conduct Prejudicial to the Sport

Persons conducting themselves a manner that is prejudicial to the sport must be dealt with promptly, preferably before the event closes. Conduct considered prejudicial includes, but is not limited to, abuse of a hound, severe punishment of a hound, subjecting a hound to a life-threatening situation, drilling of any hound whether entered or not, an handler who is under the influence of illicit or illegal drugs or alcohol, or an handler who has been charged with falsifying written protests, complaints, or entry information.

##### 1.2 Eligibility to File Complaints

Any ABC member in good standing, participant, judge, or observer attending a trailing trial event may file a complaint with the Trailing Event Chairperson concerning conduct prejudicial to the interests of bloodhounds and trailing trial events. All complaints must be in writing, must be signed by the person making the complaint, and must be received by the Trailing Event Chairperson before the close of the event. The Trailing Event Chairperson is required to accept a written complaint or protest submitted prior to the close of the event; any complaint received after the close of the event will be rejected.

##### 1.3 Complaint Investigation Required

The Trailing Event Chairperson and designated event staff will form a Hearing Committee to investigate complaints fully and actively. Such investigation will include written statements obtained from the complainant, witnesses, and the owner/handler. In addition, evidence such as photographs, videotape, drawings, or other items may be collected to assist in investigating the report. When statements and evidence have been gathered, a hearing will be scheduled to take place at the end of judging and before the event closes.

##### 1.4 Procedure for Disciplinary Hearings

Hearings will be closed to all persons except the Hearing Committee, persons lodging complaints, persons against whom complaints have been lodged, and witnesses. When the hearing has been convened and all required persons are present, the charge(s) will be read aloud. Persons lodging complaints will then present any evidence and explain the situation. Next, other statements, evidence or information will be presented. Persons charged with complaints will then present their own statements, witnesses, and evidence.

After all statements and evidence have been presented, the Hearing Committee will adjourn to a private area to deliberate. During deliberations, the hearing will be closed to all except those members of the Hearing Committee, who will determine if the subject of the complaint has or has not committed a violation. Findings will be based solely on the information and evidence presented.

##### 1.5 Hearing Committee Decisions

If persons charged with violations are found innocent, the Hearing Committee will immediately notify the accused in writing of such a decision. A written copy of the entire complaint, statements, evidence, and detailed notes regarding the evidence and decision process will be sent, within 72 hours of the hearing, to the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson for review. The ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson will forward a copy of the proceedings to the ABC Board of Directors. (See Section 3 of this chapter for disciplinary sanctions in cases involving findings of guilt.)

## **Section 2: Lodging Protests / Appeals of Trails**

### **2.1 Grounds For Protests or Appeals**

Persons filing protests or appeals of a trail or other activity directly related to a trailing trial event will be limited to the following grounds for filing:

- a. A person who judged the trail was not eligible to judge.
- b. The runner was not at the end of the trail, as designated by the judges.
- c. The crossing runner was not at the end of the MTI or MTX level trail.
- d. The trail was aged more than the level permits.

### **2.2 Eligibility to File Protests / Appeals**

Persons may file protests or appeals if they believe that grounds exist for such protests / appeals as described in Section 2.1. Protests or appeals must be in writing and must be delivered to the Trailing Event Chairperson for action before the event has closed.

### **2.3 Protest / Appeal Investigations Required**

In the event of a protest or appeal initiated by an handler, the Trailing Event Chairperson will obtain a written statement, before the close of the event, from the handler filing the protest or appeal. In addition, the Trailing Event Chairperson will contact any witnesses, judges, or other persons involved and inform them that a hearing will take place. The Trailing Event Chairperson will collect evidence, if any, as presented by either side and also will convene a Hearing Committee, comprised of the Trailing Event Chairperson, the Event Secretary, one judge not involved in the dispute, and one handler not involved in the dispute.

### **2.4 Procedure for Protest / Appeal Hearings**

Hearings will be open only to those persons directly involved in the dispute (handler, judge, witness, etc.) and will be closed to all other persons. The Trailing Event Chairperson will designate one person to take detailed notes throughout the proceedings. The Trailing Event Chairperson will then present the issue of protest or appeal, and information from both sides will be heard. After all statements and evidence have been presented, the Hearing Committee will adjourn to a private area to deliberate.

When the Hearing Committee has reached a decision, involved parties will be instructed to return, and the decision of the Hearing Committee will be announced. The decision of the Hearing Committee will be final; no further appeals are available.

## **Section 3: Disciplinary Sanctions / Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

Should a person be found guilty of an incident, the Hearing Committee will consider appropriate the following sanctions to recommend to the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson:

- a. written letter of reprimand;
- b. disqualification of the hound entered by the person and forfeiture of title or prize won;
- c. suspension of eligibility to participate in all trailing trial events for a specific period of time;
- d. permanent suspension of eligibility for participation in trailing events.

A complete written account of the hearing, including copies of all statements, judging forms, maps, or other evidence in the issue, is required as part of the final event report.

Any handler who continues to grieve, either verbally or in writing, the results of any hearing may be charged with unsportsmanlike conduct. A hearing to consider the charge of unsportsmanlike conduct may be convened at any time within 30 days of the close of the event. If found guilty, the handler will be suspended from further participation for a period of one year. A handler found to have committed unsportsmanlike conduct two times will be suspended from trailing event participation for a period of no fewer than three years; a handler found to have committed unsportsmanlike conduct three times will be suspended permanently from trailing event competition.

**American Bloodhound Club**  
**Trailing Trial Application**

Application Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Sponsoring Group or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, City, State, Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Event Logistical Information**

Event Chair, Address, City, State, Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone, E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Contact, Phone, E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Name/Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Site/Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**Event Entry Information**

# of EECT to be Offered: \_\_\_\_\_ # of MT's to be offered: \_\_\_\_\_

# of MTI's to be Offered: \_\_\_\_\_ # of MTX's to be offered: \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum # of Judges Required: \_\_\_\_\_ Avr #/Distance of Trails per Judge: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry Fee: EECT, MT, MTI, MTX: \_\_\_\_\_

Trophies/Prizes to be offered: \_\_\_\_\_

Clinic(s) or Seminars to be Offered: \_\_\_\_\_

Speaker(s)/Presenter(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Trial Site Information**

Site owned by: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Fees: \_\_\_\_\_

Terrain Features/Size: \_\_\_\_\_

- open grass area     water crossings     creek     river     paths  
 cross country area for open trails     rolling hills     light brush  
 light woods     established trails     flat and open     medium brush  
 medium woods     mountains     dense brush     dense woods  
 game trails

Road Crossings:     paved     dirt     gravel

Site Bordered by:     roads     private property     water

Access Information:     can be closed to all others during the trailing trial  
                                   public property heavily used during trial dates  
                                   private property with limited use during trial dates  
                                   public property with limited use during trial dates



**AMERICAN BLOODHOUND CLUB  
TRAILING TRIAL JUDGE'S AGREEMENT**

---

JUDGES NAME \_\_\_\_\_ LEVELS APPROVED TO JUDGE \_\_\_\_\_

---

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

---

HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ ALTERNATE PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby certify that I have been asked to judge at a Trailing Trial Event on (date) \_\_\_\_\_, and I hereby agree to judge. I certify that I have been approved to judge the levels that I am assigned. I understand that all Trailing Events where I judge must adhere to the current American Bloodhound Club Trailing Trial Standard.

I understand that I must complete all required judges' sheets, maps, and related forms for each trail that I judge. I further understand that I am required to sign all official forms relating to the trails I judge, determine whether each bloodhound that I judge passes or fails the trail, map the path of the runner and dog on the trail map, and turn in all official paperwork before leaving the grounds of the event on the day I judge.

I further understand that the Trailing Standard requires:

- a. that I might have to arrive at the trailing site 24 hours in advance;
- b. that either my assigned judging partner or I must walk each trail with the runner and plot the trail on a map to be used;
- c. that I ensure that each trail, exhibitor, and runner adhere to the requirements of the standard;
- d. that I ensure that each exhibitor receives the proper trail briefing before the trail begins;
- a. that I will not talk to the handler during the trail unless a) the dog gets more than 180 degrees off course, at which time I will direct the handler to stop and the handler may return to the original starting point once to try again or quit the trail and receive a fail; b) the dog has ended the trail correctly; c) the dog encounters a dangerous obstacle or situation; d) the dog becomes disqualified for any reason;
- b. I must remain at least 25 feet behind the handler when at all possible;
- c. I shall not assist the handler in any way other than to stop the trail due to disqualification, the dog is off trail by 180 degrees for the second time, or the time has elapsed.

---

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

---

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**American Bloodhound Club**  
**Income & Expense form (sample)**

<u>Income:</u>	<u># trails</u>	<u>\$ per trail</u>	<u>Total</u>
EECT	4	\$25.00	\$100.00
MT	4	\$65.00	\$260.00
MTI	4	\$75.00	\$300.00
MTX	4	\$100.00	\$400.00
			\$1,060.00
			Banquet, lunches, breakfast \$650.00
			Auction \$500.00
			Donations <u>\$200.00</u>
		Total Income	\$2,410.00

<u>Expenses:</u>		
Judges travel		\$400.00
Judges accomodations		\$800.00
gauze, paper, pens		\$50.00
postage, telephone		\$25.00
		Banquet, lunches, breakfast <u>\$600.00</u>
	Total Expenses	<u>\$1,875.00</u>
		<b><u>\$535.00</u></b>

**AMERICAN BLOODHOUND CLUB  
OFFICIAL TRAILING TRIAL ENTRY FORM**

**"Event":** \_\_\_\_\_

Hosted by The American Bloodhound Club and the (hosting club/ABC member) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (location) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (date(s) of event) \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Entries OPEN on \_\_\_\_\_ and CLOSE on \_\_\_\_\_ @ 5:00pm\*\***

**NO FAX or EMAIL ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.  
ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5:00PM ON THE CLOSING DATE**

*The ABC Trailing Trial Standard approved January 2020, specifically SECTIONS 8 & 9, will be followed regarding the filling of entries for each level offered.*

*The bloodhound entered must meet the eligibility criteria as specified in the American Bloodhound Club Field Trial Standard as revised and approved January 2020.*

Please type or print plainly.  
Incomplete entries will not be accepted.  
The OPENING and CLOSING dates will be strictly observed.  
**Each entry must include the fee for that entry only**

Make entry fees payable to: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail all entries with fees to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fees: MT \$ \_\_\_\_\_ MTI \$ \_\_\_\_\_ MTX \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*A handler may enter only one hound but may request an opportunity to run a second hound if space is available, specifying preference of first choice.*

Breed: <b>Bloodhound</b>	Sex:	Date of Birth:
Registration Number:		
Level Entered: MT	MTI	MTX
<i>(The 4x6 EECT form MUST be attached for MT entry. The ABC certificate from previous level passed, <b>MUST</b> be attached for MTI/MTX.)</i>		
Registered Name:		
Breeder:		
Sire:	Dam:	
Actual(s) Owner:		
Address:	City/State:	Zip:
E-mail address:	Phone:	Cell Phone:
Handler (if different from owner):		
Address:	City/State:	Zip:
E-mail address:	Phone:	Cell Phone:

**Please note, in the event a bitch comes in season, it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to notify the Event Chair and Secretary immediately.**

**Bitches in season will be allowed to run last, only after all the other dogs have been judged.**

**Bitches in season must be kept away from all testing, staging, and other areas at all times.**

**Entry for MTI complete line #1**

**Entry for MTX complete line #1 & #2**

1.) MT Judges when I passed: \_\_\_\_\_

2.) MTI Judges when I passed: \_\_\_\_\_

**WAIVER FORM**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to hold harmless the American Bloodhound Club (ABC), and (hosting club/ABC member) \_\_\_\_\_, members of the ABC, sponsors, staff, public and private landowners, and other participants in this Trailing Trial in the event either myself, my bloodhound, or my property is lost, damaged, or injured during the Trailing Trial to be held on (dates) \_\_\_\_\_ at (location) \_\_\_\_\_.

Signature of Actual Owner: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Handler (if used): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## TRAILING JUDGES' AND JUDGING REGULATIONS

### Section 1. General Requirements for Judges

Persons interested in applying for approval as trailing trial judges are required to submit a completed application packet to the American Bloodhound Club (ABC) Trailing Trial General Committee. Applicants are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of their submission. Applicants are encouraged to submit any documents for consideration, qualification or credibility. Applicants must be a member in good standing of the American Bloodhound Club.

### Section 1a. Levels of Approval

Any person seeking approval as a trailing trial judge must first apply for approval to judge Event Entry Certification Tests. The applicant must meet all required criteria for this first level before applying. No applicant will be permitted to skip any level. Incomplete, inadequate or unreadable applications will be returned to the applicant. A judge will not be moved up to the next level without written request and submission of all additional required paperwork.

### Section 1b. All Judge Applicants:

- a. must be in good physical condition, free of illness or injury that would prohibit or inhibit a judge from walking and mapping each assigned trail;
- b. must demonstrate a basic working knowledge of maps and mapping of trails, and the use of a map and compass for land navigation;
- c. must be able to operate a two-way, hand held, portable radio;
- d. must read, write and speak the English language as necessary to communicate via radio or to complete required judging forms, maps and related paperwork;
- e. must demonstrate a working knowledge of the current ABC Trailing Trial Event Standard and have participated in multiple trailing trials in a role other than handler or observer; i.e. trail layer, logistics, Event Chair.
- f. must provide documentation of experience that clearly shows an understanding of the working patterns of a bloodhound, which may combine air scenting abilities as well as ground or tracking abilities (such experience may result from experience working with bloodhounds in criminal, search and rescue, tracking or similar activity);
- g. to move up to the next judging level (EECT to MT, MT to MTI, and MTI to MTX), applicant must have **two** trails observed and approved on the required form (attached) by two different ABC MTX approved judges who have a minimum of three years of judging experience and who has judged at least six trails, one of which must be an MTI or MTX; One of these mentored trails must be at the highest level the applicant is approved to judge, ie if moving up to MTX level, one mentored trail must be at MTI level. The observing/mentoring judge will accompany the applicant from the laying of the trail through to judging and completion of said trail. The judging sheet must be sign and approved by the applicant and the observing/mentoring judge.
- h. It is the responsibility of the judging applicant to submit the observation/mentoring forms as part of the completed Judge Application packet

### Section 1c. Additional Judge Applicant Requirements for Event Entry Certification Test

- a. In addition to the general requirements, applicants for the Event Entry Certificate Test must meet the following requirements:
- b. have qualified at least two bloodhounds to an ABC-recognized Mantrailer title (MT); and at least one bloodhound to the Mantrailer Intermediate (MTI) title at an ABC-sanctioned trailing trial.
- c. be sponsored (in writing) by an ABC MTX approved judge who has a minimum of three years of judging experience and who has judged at least six trails, one of which must be an MTI or MTX;
- d. have followed ABC approved judges on at least **four** Mantrailer-level trails at two or more sanctioned event(s). Applicants' names and signatures must appear on the judging form when turned in to the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson to receive credit for this requirement. Trails can only be counted once for use as observations.

#### **Section 1d. Additional Requirements for Mantrailer Level**

- a. have met all general requirements as stated in Sections 1, 1a, 1b, and 1c
- b. be sponsored (in writing) by an ABC MTX approved judge who has a minimum of three years of judging experience and who has judged at least six trails, one of which must be an MTI or MTX;
- c. have been approved at the previous level for a minimum of six months
- d. have judged at least ten sanctioned Event Entry Certification Tests, **two** of which must meet the requirements as listed above in section 1b, items g and h.
- e. have followed an ABC approved judge on at least **six** Mantrailer trails at two or more sanctioned trailing events where ABC-recognized titles were earned. Applicants' names and signatures must appear on the judging form when turned in to the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson to receive credit for this requirement.

#### **Section 1e. Additional Requirements for Mantrailer Intermediate Level**

- a. have met all general requirements as stated in Sections 1, 1a, 1b, 1c and 1d
- b. be sponsored (in writing) by an ABC MTX approved judge who has a minimum of three years of judging experience and who has judged at least six trails, one of which must be an MTI or MTX;
- c. have judged at least six MT trails, **two** of which must meet the requirements as listed above in section 1b, items g and h. **AND** have judged at least three or more ABC sanctioned trailing events\*
- d. have followed an ABC approved judge on at least **six** Mantrailer Intermediate trails at two or more sanctioned trailing events where ABC-recognized titles were earned. Applicants' names and signatures must appear on the judging form when turned in to the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson to receive credit for this requirement.

#### **Section 1f. Additional Requirements for the Mantrailer Excellent Level**

Judge applicants for the Mantrailer Excellent (MTX) must:

- a. have met requirements as required in Sections 1, 1a, 1b, 1c, 1d and 1e; **AND**
- b. have qualified at least one bloodhound to an ABC-recognized Mantrailer Excellent (MTX) title at an ABC-sanctioned trailing trial.
- c. have judged at least six MTI-level trails, **two** of which must meet the requirements as listed above in section 1b, items g and h. **AND** judged at least two ABC sanctioned events\*;
- d. have followed qualified judges on at least three MTX trails at two or more sanctioned trailing events where ABC-recognized titles were earned. Applicants' names and signatures must appear on the judging form when turned in to the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson to receive credit for this requirement.

#### **Section 2. Request for Application Packet**

Persons interested in applying for approval to judge at any or all levels of a trailing event may request, from the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson, a Judge's Application Packet, or they may obtain a packet on the American Bloodhound Club website. The application packet will consist of a detailed generic application form and request for information regarding the applicant, training, experience and connection to trailing.

Once completed, the application must be sent to the ABC Trailing Trial Committee Chairperson for review for completeness. Once accepted, the Chairperson will request, either by mail or by electronic mail, to each of the ABC members assigned to the ABC Trailing Trial General Committee a vote to approve or disapprove each applicant and level applied for. Each member of the committee will have one vote for each ballot.

Applicants will be notified of approval or disapproval within 45 days of the vote. Approved applicants will be given a judging packet consisting of copies of a judging worksheet and EECT forms.

Applicants that have been disapproved may reapply when the application deficiencies have been corrected.

The ABC Trailing Trial Chairperson will provide, for publication, a complete judges list consisting of name, address, phone, e-mail and approved judging level for publication in the *ABC Bulletin*.

**\*For judging requirements only, a two or more consecutive day trailing trial(s) constitutes one trailing event\***

The American Bloodhound Club  
Application to Judge Trailing Events

**SECTION 1 - Level of Certification**

<input type="checkbox"/> Event Entry Certification (1)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mantrailer Intermediate Level (3)
<input type="checkbox"/> Mantrailer Level (2)	<input type="checkbox"/> Mantrailer Excellent Level (4)

**Section 2 - Applicant Information**

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	DATE OF BIRTH
STREET ADDRESS		CITY	STATE ZIP HOME PHONE
ALTERNATE PHONE	FAX	E-MAIL	DATE OF ABC MEMBERSHIP
OCCUPATION			

**Section 3 - General Applicant Experience**

Currently working a bloodhound  Number of years you have owned bloodhounds  Number of bloodhounds you currently own

[ \_\_\_\_\_ ] Note the date of your last mission or call out and type of mission

**Type of experience in working a bloodhound (check all that apply):**

As a *full time, sworn*, Law Enforcement/Corrections Officer  Search and Rescue (how many years? \_\_\_\_\_)

Community Volunteer  Paid Rescue Person  Hobby/pet handler

Sporting Events (trailing trials)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Areas of experience working a bloodhound (Check all that apply):**

<input type="checkbox"/> Lost Person/Missing Person	<input type="checkbox"/> Disaster Searches	<input type="checkbox"/> Water Searches
<input type="checkbox"/> Wilderness Searches	<input type="checkbox"/> Crime Scene Searches	<input type="checkbox"/> Evidence Searches
<input type="checkbox"/> Fugitive Searches	<input type="checkbox"/> Cadaver/Body Searches	<input type="checkbox"/> Searches for the Mentally Ill
<input type="checkbox"/> Trailing vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/> Line-Up Identifications	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

**Other areas of experience working a bloodhound (Check all that apply):**

<input type="checkbox"/> ABC Event Entry Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> ABC Mantrailer Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> ABC Mantrailer Intermediate Cert.
<input type="checkbox"/> ABC Mantrailer Excellent Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/> Number of ABC Titles _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other ABC _____
<input type="checkbox"/> AKC Breed Showing (# of CH.)	<input type="checkbox"/> AKC CD Title	<input type="checkbox"/> AKC CDX Title
<input type="checkbox"/> AKC TD Title	<input type="checkbox"/> AKC TDX Title	<input type="checkbox"/> AKC UD Title
<input type="checkbox"/> AKC UDX Title	<input type="checkbox"/> AKC VST Title	<input type="checkbox"/> AKC VSTX Title
<input type="checkbox"/> AKC CGC Title	<input type="checkbox"/> AKC Agility Title	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

**Type of terrain and conditions worked on a regular basis (Check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> City and heavily contaminated areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Heavily used buildings	<input type="checkbox"/> Fields and city lots
<input type="checkbox"/> Suburban neighborhoods	<input type="checkbox"/> School yards and parks	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban housing areas
<input type="checkbox"/> Orchards, groves or farmland	<input type="checkbox"/> Heavily wooded areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Heavily traveled roadways
<input type="checkbox"/> High altitude areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Mountains and technical areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Harsh winter conditions (-0 degrees)
<input type="checkbox"/> Heavy snow	<input type="checkbox"/> Rain	<input type="checkbox"/> Moving waterways (rivers, creeks, whitewater)
<input type="checkbox"/> Boat searches	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	

**Section 4 - Membership Information**

Please check all that apply regarding your active memberships and affiliations:

<input type="checkbox"/> The American Bloodhound Club	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Kennel Club	<input type="checkbox"/> State Search and Rescue Club
<input type="checkbox"/> NASAR	<input type="checkbox"/> NPBA	<input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement Group

List any breed organizations you currently belong to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 5 - Experience and Trailing References (list at least 3)**

FULL NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER
FULL NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER
FULL NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER

**Section 6 - Applicant Training Information (list any additional training received)**

COURSE NAME/TYPE	HOURS	DATE TAKEN	EXPIRATION (if any)
_____			
_____			

**Section 7 - ABC Trailing Event Experience (provide copies of certificates if applicable)**

DATE	EVENT NAME & SPONSOR	LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION (Handler, Runner, Judge)
<i>Example 11-29-97</i>	<i>ABC Turkey Vulture Classic</i>	<i>MT Trail (Humphrey Hound, MT) also a runner for MT</i>
_____		
_____		
_____		
_____		
_____		

**Section 8 - Applicant Narrative**

*Briefly state a summary of your experience and interest in trailing events, why you want to become a judge, and what skills or aspects you will bring to the judging teams.*

**Section 9 - Applicant Signature**

I hereby certify that I have read the current American Bloodhound Club Trailing Trial Standard and agree to abide by all rules, regulations, and requirements pertaining to this application, judges' responsibilities, documentation requirements, conduct, and other such practices and policies governing such events. I further certify that the information on this application is truthful and that I have furnished ALL documents required.

Applicant Signature	Date of Application
---------------------	---------------------

Send this completed application packet to: Jan Rothwell, American Bloodhound Club Trailing Committee Chair, 193 Captain Clark Hwy, Wilton, NH 03086. Applications take 8 - 12 weeks from date of receipt for processing.

AMERICAN BLOODHOUND CLUB

**JUDGING GENERAL REQUIREMENTS SIGN-OFF**

**APPLICANT NAME**

As required in the American Bloodhound Club Trailing Judges' and Judging Regulations, all persons applying for approval as trailing trial judges, besides meeting all other specific requirements, must meet the following general requirements for judges:

- a. be in good physical condition, free of illness or injury that would prohibit or inhibit the applicant, or judge, from walking and mapping each assigned trail over up to four (miles of trails on the day prior to the event and then judge the some distance the next day,
- b. demonstrate a basic working knowledge of maps, mapping trails laid and the path of the dog, and the use of a map and compass for land navigation,
- c. be able to operate a two-way, hand-held, portable radio,
- d. read, write, and speak the English language as necessary to communicate via radio or to complete required judging forms, maps, and related paperwork,
- e. read and plot trails on a topographical map,
- f. obtain, if necessary, and wear the appropriate clothing and equipment as dictated by the sponsoring group, area, weather, and terrain,
- g. demonstrate a working knowledge of the current ABC Trailing Trial Event Standard and Judges' and Juding Regulations,
- h. provide documentation of experience that clearly shows the applicant's understanding of the working patterns of a bloodhound, which may combine air scenting abilities as well as ground or tracking abilities (such experience may result from experience working bloodhounds in criminal, search and rescue, tracking or other similar activities).

**CERTIFICATION AND SIGN-OFF**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby certify I have read and understand the American Bloodhound Club Bloodhound Field Trial Standard and Judges' and Judging Regulations (as revised and approved 03/2002 and posted on the American Bloodhound Club web site). I further certify that I meet or exceed all of the general requirements as specified above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE SIGNED

**American Bloodhound Club**  
**Trailing Judging Observation & Mentoring Form**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have observed the \_\_\_\_\_ (level)  
trail as implemented by \_\_\_\_\_.

In my opinion the judging applicant:

- Fails to meet expectations
- Meets expectations
- Exceeds expectations

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Judging Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*The mentoring judge must be approved at the MTX level and have a minimum of three years judging experience and have judged a minimum of six trails, one of which must be an MTI or MTX.