

## **General Notes about Chintimini Kennel Club Coursing Ability Tests (CAT) Events**

**During a CAT event a dog is given one run on the course to demonstrate its coursing ability.**

**What Must A Dog Do To Pass The C.A.T.?** The Coursing Ability Test (C.A.T.) is a pass/fail. During a Test the dog runs the course once without any other dogs. Because safety is of the utmost importance, the C.A.T. takes into consideration the individual dog pursuing qualification and therefore has two different course lengths to accommodate the type and size of the entrant. In either case, dogs will chase a lure made of plastic strips.

**Dogs Less Than 12” Tall & “Flat Faced” Dogs.** Any entrant that is less than 12” tall at the withers and/or brachycephalic will run a 300-yard course with turns no more acute than 90 degrees. *For a 300-yard course, a dog must complete the test in less than 1 ½ minutes.*

**Dogs More Than 12” Tall.** Any entrant that is taller than 12” at the withers and not brachycephalic shall run a 600-yard course (or as close to 600 yards as possible) with turns no more acute than 90 degrees. *For a 600-yard course, a dog must complete the test in less than 2 minutes.*

**Veteran Dogs.** Veteran dogs are defined for this test as dogs older than 7 years of age. Veteran dogs may run two-thirds of the normal distance at the owner’s discretion. A veteran dog’s owner must declare prior to the start which distance the dog will run.

***If there is a question which course a dog should run, the judge will decide.***

*In order to pass, the dog must complete the course with enthusiasm and without interruption within the maximum amount of time for the course length. The judge keeps the official time and decides the merits of the dog’s performance.*

**C.A.T. Titles:** Three titles will be awarded for dogs that pass the Coursing Ability Test the required number of times. These are suffix titles that will appear on a dog’s pedigree with a higher-level title superseding a lower level title.

**Coursing Ability (CA)** – Awarded to a dog that passes the Coursing Ability Test three times under at least two different judges.

**Coursing Ability Advanced (CAA)** - Dog passes the Coursing Ability Test ten times.

**Coursing Ability Excellent (CAX)** – Dog passes the Coursing Ability Test 25 times.

**Coursing Ability Excellent 2 (CAX2)** – Dog passes the Coursing Ability Test 50 times. A higher numbered title will be awarded for every additional 25 passes.

### **Check In and Running Order**

Handlers who have pre-registered will be checked in at the Inspection Station. Please provide your dog's name and breed to the inspector to be marked off the running order list. Handlers who plan to enter the day-of need to first turn in entry forms and fees at the Event Secretary's table before proceeding to the Inspection Station.

Running order will be based on the time/date of receipt of entry. Pre-entries will be taken first and running order will be assigned on date entry was received in the mail. Then day-of-entries will be placed in the running order based after pre-entries. The running order will be posted on white-boards. Note we run approximately 20 tests per hour.

### **General:**

1. All entries must be one year of age or older on the day of the test or trial.
2. Hounds not present at the time of roll call will be scratched after a five (5) minute grace period.
3. Each entry will be examined and may be measured with a wicket at inspection. Inspection shall take place prior to any form of wrapping being applied to the dog. In the opinion of the inspection committee, any entry found to be lame, unfit to compete or a female in season shall not be allowed to enter and entry fees shall be refunded.
4. Dogs will be inspected before each Event.
5. Entry fees shall be refunded for any entry that is withdrawn before entries close. No refund will be given for dogs withdrawn after the close of entry.
6. For safety reasons it is preferred that dogs run "naked" without collars or harnesses. A flat collar with no tangling tags is acceptable. Muzzles are allowed.
7. Electric continuous loop machines will be used. Backup systems will consist of a gasoline and/or electric powered drag lure machines. Lure will consist of white plastic bags.
8. The field committee reserves the right to alter the course plan as required by weather and/or field conditions on the day of the trial.
9. The field committee reserves the right to bar known aggressive hounds from the event site.
10. There will be a \$5 fine assessed for any loose hound not taking part in the course in progress, or for anybody caught not picking up after their dog or leaving garbage on the field.
11. NO ONE will be allowed on the field without the express permission of the field chairman, except the appointed field committee.
12. Anybody exhibiting unsportsmanlike behavior will be excused from the field and may be subject to further disciplinary action.
- 13. Control of dogs strictly enforced, on leash at all times except when running.**
- 14. Clean up and carry out all trash.**
- 15. Please pick up all dog feces and remove with trash or put in receptacle provided at site.**