



ELECTRONIC RETRIEVAL/ RECOVERY AND COMMUNICATION DEVICES RULES

Last Updated: August 31, 2021

The sole purpose of using the retrieval/recovery device in a field trial is to assist the handler in finding a dog that may be lost or which is deemed no longer in judgment.

The rules for using the retrieval/recovery device in all recognized stakes are as follows:

1. The collar and receiver are to be used as received from the manufacturer. No modifications are to be made to the collar other than a name identification plate affixed. The collar must have a flat surface against the dog's neck. All components, including collar, are not to exceed nine (9) ounces.
2. Neither the handler nor the scout may carry a receiver while they are showing their dog in competition. All receivers are to be given to the judges or a person designated by the host club.
3. ALL receivers in the gallery, including those in the possession of the host club's designee, are to be turned OFF. (No one in the gallery shall "track" dogs while under judgment).
4. No Outside Communication – No one shall communicate in any manner with the handler, scout, judges or gallery members with any information obtained through use of a recovery device while dogs are under judgment.
5. A receiver may only be activated once judgment has concluded. If a dog is gone at time, that dog is still under judgment until such time as the judges indicate otherwise or the handler requests the receiver unit.
6. If a dog is lost from a previous brace, the handler or designee may use the receiving unit during the succeeding brace solely for the purpose of locating the lost dog. Once the dog is located the receiver is to be turned off.
7. The use of a recovery device is at the discretion of the host club. It is the handler's responsibility, if they choose to use one, to furnish the device. The running of the stake shall not be held up due to the lack of a recovery device.
8. While competing, a dog shall wear no more than two collars. If a handler elects to use a recovery unit, the collar shall remain on during the entire time the dog is under judgment. Removal of a recovery collar during competition will result in disqualification of that dog.
9. Companion collar shall be no more than two (2) inches in width and not more than five (5) ounces in weight, used as received from the manufacturer without alteration. The only addition is that of an identification name plate.
10. It is the responsibility of the handler to give the judge or club designee the receiver unit in the OFF position. A violation shall be the disqualification of the offending handler from the stake (handler's remaining dogs in that stake may be run by a handler of their choosing should they elect to do so, but the violating handler cannot participate in any way in the remainder of that stake and the dog in that brace cannot be considered for a placement in that stake).
11. It is the responsibility of the host club to report in writing all violations of these rules to the American Field/*Field Dog Stud Book*. Failure to report violations can result in suspension of a club's ability to host *Field Dog Stud Book* recognized events.
12. Any person using a receiver to locate a dog currently under judgment and prior to its use by the host club's designee shall disqualify that dog in the stake, and the offenders shall be disqualified from field trials.

Club officials are advised to make a copy of these rules for future reference.