



AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUBSM



AKC Coonhound Events Regulation Regarding Electronic Devices including Thermals During Competition Hunts

For AKC Coonhound Events Regulation on Electronic Devices see *Section 9. Electronic Devices* and *Section 12. Plus Points* of the [Nite Hunt Regulations](#).

Section 9. Electronic Devices

- A. All casts must hunt for the entire allotted time unless all dogs scratch but one. In this case the handler has the option to quit or continue hunting the allotted time with two additional voting cast members.
- B. Tracking Systems such as those with a tracking receiver and transmitter or hand helds paired with collars that are not capable of producing any type of tone, vibration or electronic stimulation may be powered on and used during the hunt time.
- C. Audio alerts on tracking receiver must be muted.
- D. No device that is capable of producing any type of tone, vibration, or electronic stimulation may be attached to any dog during hunt time.
- E. Handlers must allow the judge to check their tracking system for any electronic stimulation, vibration or tone capacity at any time. Handlers refusing or found guilty of misuse shall be scratched with a report sent back to AKC with the results.
- F. A dog must be heard before a handler can make a call and all timing rules and requirements still apply.
- G. At no time may any electronic device be used during any scoring situation.
- H. Tracking devices shall be for the personal use of the handler. Tracking of any dog(s) other than their own in the cast is prohibited unless permission is given by the other handler(s). Handlers found tracking other hounds shall be warned and other hound(s) must be removed from the system. On a second offense the handler will be scratched and reported to AKC for handler misconduct.
- I. If, by way of telemetry, a handler deems his dog to be in danger an immediate request for time out can be made. If for any reason the cast does not agree to a time-out, the handler may withdraw, then handle the dog.

Section 12. Plus Points

A. Points will be plus when raccoon is seen in tree or in place of refuge by Judge or by majority of cast when Hunting Judge is used. Plus tree points may only be awarded if treed dogs have been handled and coon is seen during the eight minutes of regulation shining time, not before or after.

B. **Night vision and/or heat sensing scopes may be used** as an aid to determine the location of game in thick or leafy trees. The majority of the cast or non-hunting judge must agree if the game is raccoon or off-game before scoring.

C. A mirror, phone or camera may be used as an aid to score a den or other place of refuge where a visual obstruction exists. The majority of the cast or non-hunting judge must agree before scoring.

D. Dogs declared treed at place of refuge when raccoon is seen to receive plus strike and tree points. Dog(s) not declared treed but are showing hole to receive strike points only.

E. No tree points to be awarded when dog(s) catch the raccoon. If Judge sees a raccoon he will award strike points only.

F. One set of strike points in case of split trees. Score each tree individually.

For any questions email us at coonhounds@akc.org or call 919-816-3909.