

15A NCAC 10B .0114 DOG TRAINING AND FIELD TRIALS

(a) Except as provided in Paragraphs (b) and (c) of this Rule, each person engaged in training or running a dog or dogs and each active participant in a field trial shall have obtained a North Carolina hunting license. The term "active participant" as used herein includes each person who owns or handles dogs, carries a firearm, or is a member of an organized group engaged in the conduct of a field trial, but does not include a person who is observing a field trial incidentally or who has stopped to witness a part of it.

(b) A person serving as judge of a commission-sanctioned field trial and any nonresident participating therein may do so without having a North Carolina license, provided the nonresident has in his possession a valid hunting license issued by the state of his residence. A "commission-sanctioned" field trial is one which, pursuant to a written request from the sponsoring organization, has been authorized in writing and scheduled for occurrence by an authorized representative of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

(c) Persons without license may participate in commission-sanctioned field trials for beagles conducted without firearms on private field trial areas which are fenced in accordance with G.S. 113-276(k).

(d) Except as allowed by rules pertaining to authorized field trials, and handguns carried by individuals with valid concealed handgun permits, it is unlawful to carry firearms, axes, saws or climbing irons while training or running dogs during closed season on game animals.

(e) Except as authorized in this Paragraph, no firearms, except handguns carried by individuals with valid concealed handgun permits, or other hunting weapons may shall be possessed or used during any field trial for foxhounds or any field trial conducted during the closed hunting season for any other species of wildlife serving as the quarry or prey. On a commission-sanctioned field trial for retrievers or bird dogs, shotguns containing live ammunition or firearms using only blank ammunition may be used only when the application for and the authorization of the field trial so provide. No wild waterfowl, quail or pheasant shall be used in field trials when shotguns with live ammunition are permitted. All waterfowl, quail and pheasants so used shall be obtained from a licensed game bird propagator. Each specimen of waterfowl so obtained shall be marked by one of the methods provided by 50 C.F.R. 21.13. Each pheasant or quail so obtained shall be banded by the propagator prior to delivery with a leg band that is imprinted with the number of his or her propagation license. The purchaser of the birds shall obtain a copy of the receipt from the propagator showing the date and the number and species of birds purchased. The copy of the receipt shall be available for inspection by any authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission during the time and at the place where the trial is being held.

(f) Applications for authorization of a field trial shall be submitted in writing to a Wildlife Enforcement Officer at least 30 days prior to the scheduled event.

(g) Pursuant to G.S. 113-291.1(d), hunters may train dogs using shotguns with shot of number 4 size or smaller during the closed season using domestically raised waterfowl and domestically raised game birds. Only nontoxic shot shall be used when training dogs using domestically raised waterfowl. All domestically raised waterfowl shall be individually tagged on one leg with a seamless band stamped with the number of the propagation license for the facility from which the domestically raised waterfowl originated. All other domestically raised game birds shall be individually tagged on one leg with a band indicating the propagation license number for the facility from which the birds originated.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-276; 113-291.1; 113-291.5; 50 C.F.R. 21.13; Eff. February 1, 1976; Amended Eff. January 1, 2012; May 1, 2006; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994; July 1, 1991; May 1, 1990.