



October 25, 2023



Immediate Attention to all Event Committees

As per the AKC rules governing Spaniel Events:

Please be advised there is a recent outbreak of Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease (CIRD) Canine flu and other undefined Canine illnesses. The AKC is aware of the reports of Canine Infectious Diseases that caused some dogs at recent events to fall ill. While the cause is yet to be identified, some public information has indicated that the infection is viral in nature. Symptoms include coughing, sneezing, nasal and/or eye discharge, diarrhea, appetite changes and lethargy.

ESSFTA Field Board of Governor the '2022 after action' assessment recommends:

- 1) The dogs exposed need to self-monitor and remain out of current events for 30 days or until cleared by their Veterinarian.
- 2) Follow the AKC CIRD awareness published by the AKC that notes the actions which are effective in slowing down the outbreak and its spread.
- 3) Event Committees shall ask exposed dogs to not attend their Event.

With the concern about canine virus being spread we make the following additional recommendations:

- 1) DO NOT Share kennels or shuttles with any dogs not your own
- 2) Watch where your dog drinks and monitor the process
- 3) Air your dogs away from others
- 4) Keep your distance in the gallery if you have a dog.

This will help eliminate some exposure

The health and safety of dogs at AKC events is the responsibility of all. The Event Committee must protect the safety at the event. Dog owners and handlers are responsible for monitoring the health of their dogs and should be mindful to keep any dog that has been exposed to sick dogs or that is exhibiting symptoms of illness at home.

The Field Trial Rules:

The Field Trial Committee is responsible to uphold the AKC rules at the Event. The Field Trial Secretary is provide with the current AKC Rule book for the Committees use and additional information if you have questions at a Field Trial Event.

Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Spaniels Rule Book
(Amended to 2017 Published by the AKC) Information:

CHAPTER 8 ELIGIBILITY OF DOGS FOR ENTRY,
FULL COMPLETION OF ENTRY FORMS

SECTION 8. No dog shall be eligible to compete at any field trial, no dog shall be brought into the grounds or premises of any field trial, and any dog which may have been brought into the grounds or premises of a field trial shall immediately be removed, if it:

- a. shows clinical symptoms of distemper, infectious hepatitis, leptospirosis or other communicable disease, or
- b. is known to have been in contact with distemper, infectious hepatitis, leptospirosis or other communicable disease within thirty days prior to the opening of the trial, or
- c. has been kenneled within thirty days prior to the opening of the trial on premises on which there existed distemper, infectious hepatitis, leptospirosis or other communicable disease.