



UNITED FEIST REGISTRY

OFFICIAL RULE BOOK



2026 EDITION

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INHERENT RIGHTS & POWERS OF UFR

United Feist Registry holds and has reserved to itself certain inherent rights and powers in connection with conducting its business, registering litters, transferring registrations of dogs, licensing events, and awarding titles. These inherent rights and powers include but are not limited to the following:

United Feist Registry has the right to inspect all reports, scorecards, and documents related to UFR events. Some, but not all, of the items subject to inspection are:

- a. scores;
- b. disqualifications of dogs for fighting or other reasons;
- c. errors by the recording person; and
- d. documentation excluded for any reason. UFR reserves the right to correct any mistakes found during such inspection, whether or not the document has the signature of a judge or club officer. UFR reserves the right to itself, and in its sole judgment and discretion, to take such actions and impose such sanctions as would:
 - a. Bar an individual from entering or participating in any way in any UFR licensed event.
 - b. Bar an individual from transferring or registering any pups or dogs in that person's name (joint or full registration) or to any member of that person's family.
 - c. Bar an individual from receiving Championship wins for any dog registered in that person's name (joint or full registration).

By way of illustration, the following constitute some, but not all, of the situations calling for the above sanctions:

- a. Falsification or alteration of a UFR Registration Certificate, Pedigree, or any other UFR document.
- b. Falsification or alteration of any reports of wins issued to UFR
- c. Falsification or alteration of receipts issued by UFR Judges.
- d. Switching, wrongfully using or attempting to use a UFR Registration Certificate, Pedigree, UFR or any other UFR document.
- e. Selling or attempting to sell a dog with false or incorrect UFR Registration Certificate or Pedigree.
- f. Intimidating, threatening, or injuring a Judge, Club/Association member or official, event participant or spectator, or UFR representative.

The six illustrations given above are only by way of example and UFR reserves to itself its inherent right and power to impose such sanctions in any other circumstances deemed appropriate by UFR.

Any individual who is found guilty by a court of law of a crime involving dogs will be barred from United Feist Registry for an indefinite period. A person shall be considered guilty in a criminal proceeding if they are convicted by a judge, jury, or if they enter a plea bargain or other arrangement to plea to a lesser offense, or if their case is disposed of by any form of deferred adjudication; a person shall be considered guilty in a civil proceeding if they are held responsible or liable by a judge, jury, or if a compromised settlement is reached between the parties.

EVENT INFORMATION

ENTERING DOGS IN UFR LICENSED EVENTS

THE REGISTERED OWNER

The registered owner is the individual whose name and address appears on the front of the registration certificate. The registered owner may utilize the registration certificate to enter an event, provided that the back of the Registration Certificate is blank.

1. THE “NEW OWNER”

The new owner is an individual who has purchased a dog from the registered owner. The new owner may enter the dog in an event. The new owner will enter the dog listing it in its registered name, registered owner (seller) as the owner and the new owner as the handler.

PENDING SINGLE REGISTRATION

Dogs may be entered as “pending” only if the dog is single registered the day of the event in which they wish to enter, or if single registration application has been sent to United Feist Registry within 45 days prior to the date of the event they wish to enter. Once permanent registration papers are received by registrant, that dog can no longer be entered as pending.

THE PAPERS REQUIRED FOR ENTERING EVENTS

Registration Certificate (not required to reflect Champion or Grand Champion).

ENTERING IN NEXT HIGHEST CATEGORY

Dogs which fulfill the requirements for a UFR Champion or Grand Champion degree in a Squirrel Hunt or Bench Show may be entered in the higher category. Neither UFR nor the host club are responsible for any mistakes made by, or on behalf of, the owner concerning the dog’s degree. If it is found that the owner’s records were in error, and the dog had not fulfilled the requirements for a Championship title, any win(s) attained by that dog in the higher category will be considered void.

THE RIGHT TO REFUSE ENTRY

The local club management has the right to refuse entry to any dog or handler. However, no handler shall be refused or barred on basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age, or gender.

TITLES OF EXCELLENCE FROM UFR AND REQUIREMENTS TO EARN THEM

The rules, regulations, classifications, classes, and Championship wins as recognized by the United Feist Registry are uniform throughout the United States . They are not given on a local or geographical basis.

Definition of Classes: Males and females are shown separately.

- **Puppy Class:** Shall be for dogs six (6) months to one (1) year of age. The winner of this class will be awarded ten (15) points.
- **Junior Class:** Shall be for dogs one year of age and under two years of age. The winner of the class will be awarded ten (15) points.

- Senior Class: Shall be for dogs two years of age and over. The winner of this class will be awarded ten (15) points.
- Best Male or Female of Show: Shall be selected from the Best of Class winners. The winner shall be known as Best Male or Female of Show and awarded ten (20) points.

Points Awarded:

Class Winner-Males: 15 Points; Class Winner-Females: 15 Points; Best Male of Show: 20 Points; Best Female of Show: 20 Points

- a) A Show Champion will be a dog that has earned a minimum of 100 UFR recorded Championship wins and one win with competition while showing for Best Male or Best Female. Male and Female Show Champions are shown together.
- b) UFR GRAND SHOW CHAMPION (GRCH) — earned by winning five (5) Champion of Champions show classes in at least five different UFR Licensed Bench Shows. Male and Female Grand Show Champions are shown together.

UPCOMING UFR LICENSED EVENTS

To aid clubs and provide one complete source of upcoming event advertising information, UFR requires that a club provide UFR with complete information about their events. The information will then appear on the UFR Website.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Unless otherwise indicated in the Upcoming Events Listing, all casts will have Hunting Judges. The degrees of excellence as issued and recognized by the United Feist Registry are:

1. UFR SQUIRREL CHAMPION (SQCH): requires five cast wins in the registered portion of a UFR Licensed Squirrel Event: To be declared an official Squirrel Champion, a dog must have five cast wins (3 must be with competition recorded on the records in the UFR Championship Office in a UFR Licensed Squirrel Event). A dog must have a total score of plus points before they can be considered a cast winner, unless otherwise noted for specific events.
2. UFR GRAND SQUIRREL CHAMPION (GRSQCH): earned by winning eight (8) Champion wins (4 must be with competition at UFR Licensed Squirrel Events). In this portion of the event, Champions and Grand Champions are drawn out when possible.

CLUB OFFICERS GUIDELINES

1. REQUIREMENTS FOR UFR APPROVED CLUBS

In addition to UFR rules and policies, clubs must ensure that all Federal, state, and local laws are followed. It is the club’s responsibility to be aware of all applicable laws and regulations.

Sample: All licensed events sponsored by the club will be run in accordance with the rules and policies set forth by the organization for which the license has been issued. The club shall also be aware of any and all Federal, state and local laws and are responsible to ensure that applicable laws and regulations are followed.

Note: The UFR Field Ops Department will review not only your club’s location, but the number of clubs that are within approximately 100 miles of your club actively holding UFR Licensed Events.

It is possible that your club will not be approved to hold UFR Licensed Events based on club density.

2. SCHEDULING YOUR UFR DATES

Contact the Field Ops Department at United Feist Registry to determine if the requested date is available and does not conflict with another club's event.

3. ADVERTISING YOUR EVENT

- a) Advertising other than that appearing in UFR's free upcoming events listing is not required.
- b) If club does decide to advertise, the information in the advertisement must be the same as the information in the UFR's Upcoming Events listing. If information in an advertisement for an event disagrees with the information found in the Upcoming Events list, then the Upcoming Events list is considered correct and what the club must go by. Further, the "Upcoming Events" listing on the UFR website shall be the final authority.
- c) Events must be scheduled and confirmed no less than 30 days prior to the event date and will be advertised and appear on the UFR website Event Calendar. Club officials shall check the Upcoming Events Listing as soon as it appears to be assured the information is correct.
- d) A club may not change the location of an event without contacting UFR at least 30 days prior to the event. UFR reserves the right to grant or deny approval.

4. HOW TO CONDUCT YOUR UFR LICENSED EVENT

a) Event Supplies:

1. The event supplies will be mailed approximately three (3) to four (4) weeks prior to the event to the corresponding officer currently on file at UFR.
2. Upon receipt of the package, the corresponding officer should check to make sure they have received all needed materials. If not, contact UFR Field Ops immediately.
3. If the package is not received two weeks prior to the event, contact Field Ops immediately.

b) Licensed officials: All clubs holding UFR licensed events must check to see that the person serving their event as Hunt Master (if an HM is required) or Bench Show Judge has a current UFR license. If the person does not have a current license in his possession, DO NOT schedule him or her to officiate the event. You have the right to request to see the license or you may check the official's listing on the UFR website or contact Field Ops for verification. If the individual serves your event without a current license, the club will be responsible and may lose approved status for future UFR licensed events. This policy will be rigidly enforced. Please confirm the status of the license well in advance of the event.

c) Things to do the Day of the Event:

1. Club is responsible for having an adequate number of qualified guides on hand. Club is also responsible for guides they use having permission to hunt where they take their casts.

d) Taking Entries: Carefully follow the procedures outlined under the "Hunt Master Guidelines" and "Entering Dogs in UFR Licensed Events".

e) Reporting the Results of Your Event to UFR:

1. Complete the official UFR report forms. Be sure that the UFR number and the registered owner's name for each dog is correct. Other than the title, use dog's complete registered

- name on reports. The report must also include the accurate number of dogs entered in each category. Otherwise, the report is held up and cannot be processed until any such missing information is received by UFR.
2. All report forms MUST be thoroughly checked and signed by the Hunt Master/HD or Bench Show Judge.
 3. Clubs MUST retain copies of their event reports and scorecards for a period of a year.
 4. Completed and signed reports are then to be returned to UFR's Field Ops Department, along with the appropriate fees each dog entered in each licensed event. Reports must be submitted to UFR within ten (10) days of the event, or a penalty charge will be assessed to the club. An additional charge for each passing month will be made for reports that are thirty (30) days past due. Late fee amounts are available by contacting UFR but are subject to change, with or without notice.
 5. If event is a Top Dog Qualifier, scorecards must also be sent to UFR.
 6. The club will be responsible for following the above rules. Failure to do so will result in the loss of approval of future licensed events and winning placements may be affected.

5. SENIOR'S CASTS

Individuals aged 55 or older are entitled to be drawn to a Senior's Cast at UFR Licensed Feist Events. Senior Casts will not be run at the World Championship and or any other event that is advertised as such.

At the individual's option and request, they may be drawn into a Senior's Cast under the following rules:

- Proof of age: driver's license, hunting license, birth certificate, etc. must be presented to entry takers.
- Registered, Champion/Grand Champion Casts. A minimum of two (2) individuals, age 55 or older, must participate for a Senior's Cast to be drawn.
- The score of the Senior's Cast(s) will compete with the scores of all other casts in a particular division; Registered, Champion/ Grand Champion, for placement in the UFR Licensed Feist Event.
- Individuals, age 55 or older, do not have to compete in the Senior's Cast. They may choose to compete in the all-age casts if they so choose.
- Senior's Casts will compete under the same UFR Feist Event Honor Rules as do all other casts in their division with no exceptions.
- Any handler unable to complete their hunt may be replaced by a back-up handler, who is also 55 or older. Otherwise, the dog is no longer eligible to compete in the cast.

6. APPEAL PROCEDURE FOR SITUATIONS HAPPENING DURING A UFR LICENSED HUNT

This procedure applies for all situations arising during the time that the Judge's authority is in effect. Authority of the Judge begins when he is officially designated and receives the scorecard. The authority of the Judge ceases when the scorecard is turned in to the Hunt Master or the Event official. The Appeal Procedure does not apply to the World Squirrel Dog Championship. The Hunt Masters' decision will be final in all situations pertaining to activities during the actual hunt. This Appeal Procedure does NOT apply to situations arising that deal with intimidating, threatening, or injuring a Hunter, Judge, Hunt Master, Hunt Director, Club official, or a UFR Representative.

The following steps must be followed:

STEP 1. Attempt to resolve the question with the licensed Hunt Master, the handler raising the question, the Judge of the cast and the other members of the cast that are available. The Hunt Master will make a decision based upon the statement of the case provided by the handler, Judge, and the other members of the cast. No complaints will be considered by the Hunt Master after a period of thirty (30) minutes has elapsed from the time that the scorecard has been turned in.

STEP 2. If the question is not resolved at Step 1, request that a Panel be formed. A Panel Fee of \$10 must accompany your request. The Hunt Master/HD will then assemble a panel of three responsible, impartial individuals who are familiar with UFR policies and procedures. (This is the first step taken when using the Hunt Director Format.) If Panel rules with handler, fee will be refunded; if they disagree, the Panel fee will be retained by the Host Club. The Panel meeting must be held within one (1) hour after the deadline for the return of scorecards.

STEP 3. The Panel will hear all sides. At the conclusion of all testimony, the Panel will make a ruling. The Event Report shall reflect the Panel's decision.

STEP 4. If the question is not resolved at Step 3, a handler must immediately request a UFR Appeal Form while the Panel is still assembled. The form must be filled out by the handlers on the cast, the members of the Panel, and the Hunt Master/HD. A fee of \$20 must accompany the appeal when sent to UFR. The Appeal Form must be included with the Event Report mailed to UFR.

STEP 5. UFR will investigate the matter and make a final ruling. If the UFR supports the individual filing the appeal, the fee will be refunded. A written statement reflecting the final ruling will be mailed to those involved. The UFR reserves unto itself, in its sole judgment and discretion, the right to make corrections it deems necessary.

7. PANEL RESPONSIBILITIES

A panel of qualified event participants needs to be formed in two situations:

1. in the event a handler is not satisfied with the Hunt Masters' ruling in a Hunt Master Format event and;
2. When a question is placed on the card in a HD Format event. Complaint panels should consist of three individuals who are current on all Squirrel Hunt rules and policies. They may or may not be club members with primary concern going towards finding individuals that are knowledgeable, honest and impartial. A panel must be formed of individuals that can remain totally objective in concerns to cast members and dogs on the cast in question. Individuals who have a dog in contention to place in the event should not be used on a panel. The panel will hear all viewpoints of cast members and come to a consensus decision regarding the final scoring of the cast. Should a panel's decision support the complainant, the \$10 will be refunded. Should the panel's decision go against the complainant, the \$10 will be retained by the Host Club.

8. HEARING DEVICES IN UFR LICENSED EVENTS

Individuals who have been professionally diagnosed as being hearing-impaired may utilize an auxiliary hearing device in UFR licensed Feist Events. Common types of auxiliary devices are the Bionic Ear, Hound Sounder and Action Ear. These devices are electronic sound amplifying devices.

UFR policy has always been such as to permit the use of normal hearing aids of the type prescribed by

physicians for everyday use by individuals with hearing problems. Procedure for obtaining permission to use an auxiliary hearing device:

- Obtain a statement, signed by a licensed physician on his or her official stationery, indicating the need for such auxiliary hearing device in order to improve impaired hearing.
- Submit the statement to UFR Feist - Field Ops. Upon receipt of the doctor's statement, UFR will issue a Letter of Permission to Utilize an Auxiliary Hearing Device to the individual. Note: Device may only be used by the actual handler of the dog, not a backup handler or spectator.
- The individual must submit the Letter of Permission to Utilize an Auxiliary Hearing Device for inspection by the Entry Takers and to the Judge of the cast as proof of permission to use the Auxiliary Hearing Device. The Letter of Permission to Utilize an Auxiliary Hearing Device must be on official UFR stationery. Club officials must not accept any other form of permission.
- Individuals who: 1. Fraudulently obtain the physician's statement, 2. fraudulently utilize the Auxiliary Hearing Device or, 3. use the Auxiliary Hearing Device without following the steps of this procedure, will be dealt with under the Inherent Rights and Powers of UFR.
- Undue violations or abuses of this policy will result in resumption of the former policy which permits the use of "normal" hearing aids only.

UFR LICENSED HUNT FORMATS

Dogs entered in UFR Feist Events may not be muzzled. United Feist Registry offers clubs the option of a Standard or Elimination hunt format, as outlined below. Unless specifically noted in the advertising or listing of an event, all events will be run under the Standard Hunt format.

1. STANDARD FORMAT

Dogs are drawn out into two separate categories when possible based on their current Championship wins standing at United Feist Registry. Registered dogs draw out together in one category, and Champions and Grand Champions draw out together in a second category. Dogs entered in the wrong category are not eligible for championship wins. Event placements are awarded based on plus-point cast winner scores in one round of competition, regardless of category, in accordance with the UFR Licensed Feist Honor Rules.

NOTE: Consideration for drawing all dogs out in one category in this format **MUST** be requested and per-approved by UFR. If approved, information as such must be included in the event details.

2. ELIMINATION FORMAT

All three categories (Registered, Champions, and Grands) are drawn out and compete together. First round plus-point cast winners are drawn into a second round. Plus-point cast winners from the second round will advance to the next round, and so on. All dogs advancing to subsequent rounds must be present when cast is assembled or be scratched. No Placement may be awarded until the final cast has been assembled. Dogs in the final cast will be placed according to highest total score in final cast, even if the points are minus. In the event one dog remains in the final cast, the hunt will end, and the remaining dog shall be declared the winner. The 2nd-10th place dogs, regardless of category, will be placed according to score. Placement is determined first by order of non-cast win scores in the final cast. Next, by order of semi-final round non-cast win scores. If there aren't enough semi-final round dogs to fill out 4-10th place, previous round plus point dogs will be placed accordingly. **TIEBREAKERS:** Rule 20 shall be used to break ties except for

flipping a coin, if previous round scores are available to use in place of 20 (e). Also, hunting in sudden death, Rule 20 (d), applies to unbreakable ties for the win in the same cast but is not an option for breaking ties in different casts. Hunt Master, or spouse, conducting the world event isn't allowed to enter a dog even with the use of a handler. Hunt Master ruling is final at the UFR world event.

MEASURING DOGS

The act of measuring dogs is important in two different situations at all UFR Feist events. First, any dog single registered on the day of the event must be measured prior to entry of the hunt. Second, all dogs, except those that are permanently measured, must be measured the day of the event prior to entry of hunt or show. Those dogs measuring over 18 inches will not be eligible to be hunted or shown that day. If a dog meets the measurement requirement in the morning prior to the hunt, that same dog need not be measured for the show. The registrant/handler of a dog that is measured over 18 inches by one of the entry takers may appeal to have the dog measured by the Hunt Master/Hunt Director or Bench Show Judge. Their decisions are final.

A drop bar type measuring stand or a rigid, one piece, wicket- type stand set for 18 inches are both acceptable types of measuring devices. A tape measure is not an acceptable means of measuring dogs at events. Dogs must be measured at ground level. The height of the dog is the distance from the ground to the top of the shoulders or withers. This point at the top of the shoulders is where the neck appears to meet the shoulders. The dog's legs should be directly under him and not leaning forward or backward. The registrant/handler may assist in posing the dog and steadying him. No physical alterations may be made to dogs to comply with height restrictions.

PERMANENT MEASUREMENTS

Owners have the option to have their dogs permanently measured at designated events by a UFR designated official..Dogs must be a minimum of 18 months of age to be eligible for a permanent measurement. Dogs measuring over the maximum height of 18", according to the official measurement, will be recorded as such and will no longer be eligible to enter a UFR Licensed Event.

CAST BREAKDOWN INFORMATION

Cast will be 3 dogs when possible. Champions/Grand Champions and Registered dogs will draw out separately when possible. For example: if you have two registered dogs and one Champion/Grand Champion, they will draw together.

HUNT MASTER (HM)/HUNT DIRECTOR (HD) GUIDELINES

UFR Feist events must be listed on the UFR website Upcoming Events Listing. The listing must indicate a time deadline for closing entries. No entries will be accepted after the listed deadline for any reason. If a Club's event listing does not appear in the Upcoming Events Listing as specified, the UFR Licenses for the event will be withdrawn and no UFR Championship wins will be awarded.

1. EVENT OFFICIAL FORMAT

The club to which the event license is issued has the option of running their event under Hunt Master or Hunt Director Format, unless otherwise restricted by the UFR. The procedures immediately following are relevant to both formats. Procedures and policies relevant specifically to the HM or HD format will follow.

2. HM/HD CHECKLIST

When you arrive at the club check to see that the following are posted:

- HM/HD checklist.
- Entry deadline time.
- Time deadline for returning scorecards.
- Telemetry Rules.

3. HOW TO TAKE ENTRIES

Give an entry slip to each participant and have them fill it out clearly and completely. If an individual attempting to enter a UFR Licensed event appears, in your judgment, to be under the influence of alcohol or non-prescribed drugs, do not accept their entry. Notify the appropriate club individual or officer of what you are doing and why. Be sure to follow entry requirements outlined under Entering Dogs in UFR Licensed Events.

Note: No entries are to be taken after the advertised deadline for any reason.

4. SELECTING JUDGES

Club officials and the Event official shall work together in selecting qualified individuals only to serve as judges. The judge must have a good understanding of the official Feist Rules and be capable of applying them accordingly. He/she must be honest and trustworthy and know the proper procedures that are to be followed if a question arises. They should also be willing to judge the cast for the duration of the hunt. When hunting judges are used, the number of judges needed in each category shall be per-selected from that pool of entries.

5. SELECTING GUIDES

The Host Club is responsible for selecting qualified guides. In the event available guides are not needed, the host club has the final decision on which ones will be used. The guide shall be a responsible individual who has permission to hunt on the property(s) they take their cast. The guide shall be willing to guide the cast for the duration of the hunt. All cast members shall be considerate of the crops, fences, and trees or otherwise on the property being hunted.

6. SEPARATING ENTRIES FOR CAST DRAWING

Start your judge and guide selection process for each category when you begin taking entries. You should have four separate pools of entries for each category as follows:

1. An entry serving as a hunting judge and a guide.
2. An entry serving as a hunting judge.

3. An entry serving as a guide.
4. All remaining entries.

7. DRAWING CASTS

Do not start drawing out casts until after entries are closed at the advertised deadline time. The drawing of entries must be done publicly. Announce that you are ready to start drawing entries so anyone wanting to watch has the opportunity. As a matter of courtesy, draw the Champions category first followed by the Registered category. If a state requires a license or permit number, make certain that it appears on each scorecard.

UFR approves any draw system that is fair and impartial such as the following methods:

1. Based on the entry, determine the number of judges and guides you need for a specific category. Remove and place any per-selected judge or guide entries not needed into pool 4 (Separating Entries for Cast Drawing).
2. Determine how many two-dog casts will be in the category. If any, add that amount of blank entry forms into pool 4. This allows having three entry slips to be drawn to each scorecard, eliminating any perception of manipulating the draw in any manner.
 - a) Draw an entry to each scorecard from pool 1 and 2 until all scorecards have a hunting judge. These entries may be turned up and stuck to the scorecards.
 - b) For any scorecards still needing a guide, draw a hunting guide from Pool 3. These entries shall be turned face down on the scorecard.
 - c) Complete your draw using the remaining entries from Pool 4. These entries shall be turned face down on the scorecard.
 - d) Each scorecard now has three entries on it. Before sticking the entry to the scorecards check for any multiple owners or more than one blank on the same scorecard.
 - e) Publicly read the Hunt Master/Hunt Director Checklist that is included in the Event Packet, before calling out casts.

8. WHILE CASTS ARE IN THE WOODS

The Hunt Master must remain at the hunt headquarters during the course of the hunt. No questions, pertaining to scoring during the hunt, may be called in to the HM/HD. The HM/HD may not accept any information pertaining to final score via a phone. The scorecard must be returned by the deadline in order for the winning dog to be considered for placement.

9. AFTER THE SCORECARDS ARE TURNED IN:

- a) Note the time received. Recheck each dog's score. HM/HD has the authority and shall make corrections to any mathematical errors. Check to see that handlers signed the scorecard. Any handler that does not sign the scorecard shall be given the opportunity and may do so in view of the official. Otherwise, that dog is scratched. Check to see if handlers, having left the cast for any reason, have indicated hunt time used and other dogs' scores at the time they left the cast.
- b) Any questions must be notated with a question mark (?) on the scorecard.

- c) If there is a question noted, get the cast off by themselves to discuss the situation and make your decision. Only individuals directly involved in the dispute should be included in any of the discussions. Wait until the scorecards are returned before discussing a situation that arises in the woods. Members of the cast have thirty (30) minutes to make a complaint after the scorecards are turned in.
- d) If a question is not satisfactorily resolved, any owner or handler has the right to request a panel. Refer to the rule book in the section under “Appeal Procedures”.
- e) Keep scorecards confidential until deadline, or until all scorecards have been returned. **THIS MUST BE RIGIDLY ENFORCED.** Scorecards must then be made available for review. Any owner or handler questioning a dog’s score, or event placement, must do so not later than thirty minutes after the posted deadline to return scorecards.

10. REPORTS

Remind all club officials that the scorecards and their copy of the report must be kept for one (1) year.

11. GENERAL INFORMATION

- a) Encourage clubs to educate their members on the rules and conduct rules seminars for Judges, Hunt Masters, Hunt Directors and participants.
- b) Study rules on the back of the scorecard and any revisions published on the website.
- c) Remember to use good judgment. You are the person responsible to see that the hunt is run in a manner that is fair to all and that everyone is treated in a fair and impartial way.

12. POLICIES SPECIFIC TO HM FORMAT

- a) All Hunt Masters must be licensed by UFR.
- b) A Hunt Master may have a dog, registered in their name (full or joint ownership), entered in the event, but the Hunt Master **MUST** stay at the club at all times and is not permitted to handle the dog in the hunt.
- c) Hunt Masters will listen to and rule on all questions brought in from the woods, provided the cast has indicated the situation with a question mark (?) on the card. Remember that situations not questioned and notated at the time of the matter in question cannot be heard. If question is not satisfactorily answered by the Hunt Master, a panel may be requested. Refer to Rule 17 for more information on requesting a panel.

13. POLICIES SPECIFIC TO HD FORMAT

- a) Hunt Directors are not required to be licensed by UFR.
- b) A Hunt Director may be the owner, and/or the handler, of a dog entered in the event.
- c) A Hunt Director will not rule on questions brought in from the woods. The Hunt Director will be responsible for forming a panel to rule on all questions. If qualified, the HD may serve on a panel.

14. HUNT MASTER REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSING

Following are the procedures and requirements for an application to be considered:

- The applicant must be a member of an approved club and be recommended by officials of the club. It is felt that the club will know the background and qualifications of the applicant through club activities.

- The applicant’s character, honesty, and integrity must be above reproach.
- They must have a thorough knowledge of UFR’s rules and policies and have demonstrated good judgment.
- The applicant must be at least twenty-one (21) years old.
- They must completely fill out the application and pass the test covering UFR Feist Event rules and policies, which may be obtained from UFR.
- An applicant, having met the requirements of items above, must serve an apprenticeship under one (1) UFR Licensed Hunt Master, and be recommended by him/her in order to be considered for a license. No more than two (2) apprentices may serve under a Hunt Master at an event. Apprentices are subject to the same restrictions as the Hunt Master concerning entering their dogs in the events where they serve. However, all decisions must be made by the licensed Hunt Master.
- Once a Hunt Master is approved, the license is issued indefinitely. However, licenses are subject to review and may be withdrawn by UFR at any time.
- All licenses for UFR Hunt Masters shall be granted or withheld at the sole discretion of United Feist Registry.
- The licensed Hunt Master must remain up to date with the rules and policies. Otherwise, they will place themselves in jeopardy of losing their license.

UFR FEIST SQUIRREL HUNT HONOR RULES

1. HONOR RULES

Before beginning a hunt, a deadline time for completion of hunt will be announced and time posted in plain view of all hunters. The deadline time of hunt and return of scorecard to Hunt Master/HD shall be indicated on the scorecard. Host club has the option of conducting 60 or 90 minute hunts. Hunting time must be the same for all casts and must be announced. All hunters, judges, and/or guides must be drawn publicly for their cast. Owners having multiple entries will have dogs drawn on separate casts if possible. Dogs are to be drawn to the fewest casts possible. All dogs, including Champions, are to hunt entire hunt time unless scratched. Casts are not to be drawn until after entries close at the listed deadline. Those in entry line at deadline time will be entered.

All events will be run as a combined entry, unless specified to be a breed specific hunt. Any one-dog cast requires a non-hunting Judge be assigned to that cast.

2. HANDLERS

The handler’s duties are to know their dog’s voice and nature. Also, to advise Judge of any of the dog’s peculiarities before hunt begins and to tell Judge when dog trees.

- a) It is the handler’s ultimate responsibility to know the rules, and abide by rules and the decisions of the Judge, Hunt Master, Hunt Director, and Question Panel.
- b) A handler must always conduct himself/herself in a sportsmanlike manner. A handler becoming loud, aggressive, or belligerent may be scratched regardless of the merit of his/her argument. A handler displaying unsportsmanlike conduct or failing to abide by these rules shall be reported to the hunt director.
- c) Any handler found guilty of interfering with another handler’s dog in any way that would affect

their ability to compete may be subject to disciplinary action.

- d) A handler may not encourage, discourage, scold, or discipline their dog during the cast. This includes the use of hand signals to control the dog. Following behind hunting dogs is not considered encouraging. Praising a handled dog is not considered encouraging.
- e) A handler may not leave the cast without permission from the judge for any reason. The judge may give a handler permission to leave the cast to search for their dog during time-out. Judge may grant permission for handler to go to their dog on a separate tree after the tree is closed or if all dogs are declared treed, handled, or hunt time expires. EXCEPTION: Handlers may not be granted permission or leave the cast, while search time is running during the scoring of a tree, to go handle a dog on a split tree, unless the split tree is inside the search area being searched.
- f) Each handler is encouraged to remain with the cast for the entire hunt even though his/her dog may not be a part of the cast. Cast members retain voting obligations if dog is withdrawn or scratched. EXCEPTION: If handler is scratched for misconduct, that handler loses all voting privileges.
- g) If permitted, a handler is allowed no more than three spectators. See Rule 5 and 14S. Handler's dog(s) will be scratched for rule violations by their spectators.
- h) It is the handler's responsibility to check time and score before signing scorecard.

3. JUDGES AND GUIDES

Clubs have the option to use non-hunting judges for any or all categories. One or the other must be used on all casts within a given division. Non-hunting Judge may be assigned to any cast at the discretion of Hunt Master and/or club officials, if deemed necessary. Cast members do not have the authority to designate or assign a non-hunting judge to their cast. The authority of the Judge ceases when the scorecard is turned in to the Hunt Master.

NON-HUNTING JUDGES

1. The Non-Hunting Judge has complete authority and is responsible for making all decisions, including the scoring of all trees, calling time out and whether or not a tree has been previously scored.
2. The decision of the Non-Hunting Judge may be questioned in the field at the time the decision is made, or a call that is not being made. It will be scored with a question mark (?) and taken to the Hunt Master/Hunt Director after the hunt is over, unless it involves a dog being scratched from the hunt. The Non-Hunting Judge's decision cannot be overturned in the field by a majority vote of cast members. If a question has not been satisfactorily resolved by the decision of the Hunt Master, a Panel may be formed for a \$10 fee (this is the first step when utilizing the HD Format). If a handler is still not satisfied the Appeal procedure must be followed. All Appeals must be filed immediately after the Panel has ruled and must be accompanied by a \$20 fee.

HUNTING JUDGES

1. When a non-hunting judge is not utilized, a hunting judge will be appointed to each cast. This person must have knowledge of the rules and be able to interpret and apply them in a fair manner. Authority of the Judge begins when he is officially designated and receives the scorecard.
2. They will show no favors to any dog or hunter and will inform handlers of score and time recorded,

if requested.

3. If hunting Judge scratches his dog he should continue to judge the cast as a hunting Judge. The following procedure must be followed when using Hunting Judges:
 1. The host club must designate a Hunting Judge for each cast from the entries received [see procedure for selecting hunting judges under Hunt Master/HD Guidelines (Drawing Casts)].
 2. The Hunting Judge has complete authority and is responsible for scoring all situations with exception to three situations only.

The following three situations go directly to a majority of the cast vote:

- a) Scoring a tree (plus, minus, or circle). This does not include 1. the decision on whether or not the squirrel could cross out to an adjoining tree or scoring multiple trees as one tree or; 2). whether the game seen is a squirrel or off-game. The Hunting Judge makes those decisions, but they may be questioned by a handler as outlined below (7).
 - b) Calling time out.
 - c) Whether or not dogs are on a previously scored tree.
3. Any cast members, though scratched, retain all voting privileges. Exception: If handler is scratched for unsportsmanlike conduct, handler loses all voting privileges.
 4. In the event only one cast member remains in the hunt, handler must return to Hunt Master/Hunt Director for a Non-Hunting Judge to complete cast. Deadline may be extended, if necessary, for this cast only.
 5. Should a situation arise where a handler questions a call that was made, or where a call should have been made but wasn't, that handler may ask to have his question voted on by all cast members that remain with the cast at that time.
 6. Majority of cast rules. Each handler must vote, or their dog will be scratched. If majority decision is not reached, the call stands as it was scored by the Judge. Any handler that is not satisfied with the majority of cast decision retains the right to place a question mark (?) on the card and present his question to the Hunt Master/HD Panel.
 7. If the matter has not been satisfactorily resolved by the decision of the Hunt Master, a Panel may be formed for a \$10 fee (this is the first step when utilizing the HD Format). If a handler is still not satisfied, the Appeal procedure must be followed. All Appeals must be filed immediately after the Panel has ruled and must be accompanied by a \$20 fee.

4. GUIDES

A Guide is willing to take a cast to a location where they can hunt safely and has permission. Any member of the cast, be it a non- hunting judge, hunting judge, or handler, may be a guide.

5. SPECTATORS

- a) The Hunt Director will discuss and announce if spectators will be allowed on casts, if agreeable with the majority of cast members. Spectators should be allowed to accompany the cast if possible.
- b) There shall be no more than three (3) spectators allowed per handler on any one cast unless otherwise agreed upon by the remaining cast members.

- c) Handlers shall be responsible for the conduct of spectators accompanying them on casts. Handler's dog will be scratched for rules violations by their spectators.
- d) Spectators must follow the directions of the judges and Hunt Director/Hunt Master.

6. CELL PHONE USAGE

Cell phones may be used for keeping time and other reasonable situations during the hunt. Cast members should not be using them to contact other casts or individuals at the club to find out information pertaining to scores. Individuals found guilty of correspondence or relaying any type of electronic messaging with reference to scores, that is deemed detrimental to the integrity of event placements or the hunt, are subject to suspension from United Feist Registry.

7. TRACKING AND TRAINING COLLARS

Tracking Only Devices: The handheld of locating only devices may be carried by the handler. Device may be used during the hunt but only under strict provisions as outline below. A dog must be heard treeing before a tree call may be accepted regardless of any tree alerts on the handheld.

Tracking and Training Combo Devices: Any handheld device capable of both locating (tracking) and controlling (stimulating or toning) may not be carried by the handler during the hunt. The handheld must be left in the vehicle and may not be used by the handler or spectators during hunt time. However, the handheld may be used during time out situations during the hunt for locating purposes only.

Training Only Devices: Any handheld device capable of controlling a dog (stimulating or toning) must be left in vehicle and may not be used by handler or spectators until dog wearing device is scratched and all other dogs are recovered for re-casting. Controlling device rule violations may result in suspension.

Under no circumstances shall telemetry be used to determine the scoring of any dog(s).

If by way of telemetry a handler deems dog to be in danger, per an item outlined in Rule 15, they may ask for a cast vote to call time out. If a majority is not reached the handler may withdraw then handle the dog due to safety concerns.

At no time may a handler demand the cast walk in the direction of a dog that has not been heard opening. The judge, or majority of the cast when hunting judge is used, may agree to walk in that direction. When considering the use of telemetry during the hunt, the handler may not interfere with any handler's ability to listen for their dog. This is to be rigidly enforced. Handlers not adhering after being warned of such by the judge shall result in their dog being scratched from the cast.

A Hunt Master / Panel may not consider any debate that is based on telemetry use.

8. POINT SYSTEM

- a) No strike points will be awarded.
- b) 125 points for dog declared treed first; 50 points second; 25 points third.
- c) Points may be split for tree position when called tree positions cannot be determined.
- d) If squirrel is caught on the ground, points are received as follows: three dogs 66.6 points, two dogs 87.5 points, and one dog 125 points.

9. GENERAL INFORMATION

- a) Judge is to be informed of any dog's peculiarities before the hunt.
- b) Cast must remain together unless timeout is called, or permission has been granted by the judge.
- c) A dog must bark to be declared treed.
- d) When a dog is declared treed by the handler, the dog must hold the tree for 1 minute, unless all dogs are declared treed or handled or hunt time expires. Dog must bark at least once every minute. (If only one dog in cast or one dog remaining in cast, dog must still hold tree for 1 minute.)
- e) Any dog declared treed within hunting time will be scored.
- f) After a dog(s) is declared treed, the cast is to move at a reasonable pace towards the tree but not arriving at the tree prior to the one-minute tree time elapsing. The handler of the dog declared treed 1st will determine how close to the tree is acceptable, as long as it's not interfering with the dog treeing or encouraging the declared dog to stay treed.
- g) After the one minutes has elapsed, the tree is considered closed, and no other dog may be declared treed on that particular tree.
- h) If dog is minused for leaving or failing to bark, the tree shall be reopened and first tree position made available if no other dog was declared treed.
- i) After 1 minute and tree is closed, the judge may declare that the dogs can be handled; handlers can leash their dogs only after judge permits. See Rule 2 (e) if applicable.
- j) The Judge should observe and make sure that dog declared treed is showing treed, by either looking up or barking up, before allowing handlers to leash their dogs. Dog is not to be minused if he comes back a short distance to meet handler so long as the dog returns to the tree and trees satisfactorily. If a dog declared treed is not showing treed by ACTIVELY TREEING, dog is to be minused and tree reopened if no other dogs have been declared treed. Actively Treeing is determined by judge or, if questioned, by the majority cast vote when hunting judge is used. Once tree is declared closed and dogs are in sight dogs, are not required to continue to bark but must remain at tree or be minused.
- k) When dogs tree and squirrel to include flying squirrels (excluding ground squirrels) is seen within the 5 minutes of search time: 1. by a non-hunting Judge, or 2. by a majority of the cast when hunting Judge is used. Squirrel must be in tree dog is on or in a tree within 15 normal steps (45') of tree dog is on.
- l) Only one squirrel is counted even if more than one squirrel is up tree.
- m) When squirrel is seen timbering from tree to tree and the dog is moving with the squirrel, the tree is to be scored as plus. This applies only if squirrel is seen.
- n) Dogs coming into tree after tree is closed must be handled. Handler has the option to handle or not handle a dog in the search area.
- o) Dog must be turned loose after tree is scored. However, if another dog is already treed, handler has the option to hold onto dog or turn loose, so long as at least one dog is still out hunting.

10. SPLIT TREE

- a) If dogs tree on separate trees that are over 15 steps (45 feet) apart, this will be declared a split tree and points will be awarded separately. Separate time must be kept on each tree unless all dogs are

declared treed. In case of a split tree, the judge will go to the first dog called treed and that tree will be checked first. For the dog called treed second, handler will be allowed to go to the tree and leash his/her dog, with judge's permission, after that tree has been closed unless the cast is already in process of scoring the tree. See Rule 2 (e). Handler is to return to the cast for judging of the other dog's tree, unless non-hunting judges is being utilized.

- b) Dogs treeing on separate trees within 15 steps (45 feet) and more than 1 squirrel is found, the second squirrel must be seen in the actual tree that the second dog is treed on for the dog to receive split tree points. Split points can only be awarded if at least one of the other dogs in cast was declared treed before the tree closed and after the 1st dog's squirrel is found.
- c) Dogs treeing on separate trees within the 15 steps (45 feet) and only one squirrel is found, it shall be scored as one tree.

11. POINTS WILL BE MINUS

- a) When dog has been declared treed and dog leaves tree (dogs must be actively treeing). If dog returns to tree within the one minute, he/she will receive the next available position on tree if retreated, unless all dogs have been declared treed.
- b) If a dog declared treed is not showing treed, the judge shall allow 10 seconds for it to show treed or it is minus. (The judge must announce when the 10 seconds has started) If the dog shows treed within the 10 seconds, it shall be minus if it is over 5 steps (15 feet) from the original tree shown.
- c) When dogs tree and 1. a non-hunting Judge, or 2. a majority of the cast when hunting judge is used, can plainly see no squirrel is there.
- d) After a dog is declared treed, one of the dogs declared treed must bark at least once every minute until cast arrives at the tree or be minused. If no dog barks in one minute, tree is declared open.

12. SCORING OF CIRCLE POINTS

Points will count neither for nor against dog except when tie is to be broken.

- a) When game is treed in a hole or nest and not seen, nest or hole must be within 30 steps (90 feet) of tree that dog is treed on to be circled. Trees not containing game, and with no nest or den within 30 steps, will be deleted.
- b) When leaves or vines make it impossible to locate game.

13. SCORING OF DELETED POINTS

Points will be scored with a line through them, and count neither for nor against the dog. Deleted points will not be considered to determine tiebreakers.

- a) When Judge orders dogs to be called in because of livestock or nearness to highway, building, etc.
- b) If no majority when voting to plus, minus, or circle when Hunting Judge is used.
- c) No points, not even circled points, will be awarded when dogs return to tree that had previously been scored. Cast may go to tree without dogs being declared treed, if majority of cast agree (when Hunting Judges are used).
- d) If dog declared treed and non-target tree game is seen. Tree game is defined as any game capable of climbing a tree.

- e) Points are to be deleted if judge or majority of cast can see that the dog is obviously timbering if squirrel is not seen. NO PLUS POINTS GIVEN UNLESS squirrel IS SEEN.

14. DOGS TO BE SCRATCHED DOG RELATED OFFENSES

- a) If a dog has a total of 300 minus points, regardless of how many plus points the dog has.
- b) Fighting or attempting to fight. Attempting to fight is defined as follows: when dog(s) are interfering with other dog(s) during the authority of the Judge by aggressive behavior during the authority of the Judge.
- c) No handler will be allowed to withdraw to avoid dog from being scratched for fighting.
- d) When the aggressive dog is known, scratch the aggressor only. If not known, scratch dogs involved.
- e) Failing to make any attempt to hunt within any 15 consecutive scorecard minutes. Unless said dog has plus points.
- f) Bitches smelling strong enough to attract dogs or a dog that is just bad to bother bitches while other dogs pay them no attention.

(HANDLER RELATED OFFENSES)

- g) On second offense for declaring dog treed when dog is not treeing.
- h) On second offense if handler calls another handler's dog, the dog is to be scratched.
- i) Failure to sign scorecard after the completion of the hunt. Scorecards may be signed in the presence of the Hunt Master.
- j) For climbing or cutting trees or disturbing a place of refuge.
- k) For pulling of vines or any action deemed to be interfering with dog(s) for the first 3 minutes of the 5-minute search time. If all dogs are declared treed and handled, all 5 minutes may be used to shake and pull. However if a dog is declared treed and not handled within sight, pulling and shaking is not allowed.
- l) For intentionally killing squirrel or other game.
- m) For failure to stay with the cast unless given permission to leave.
- n) If cast becomes separated on the way to the field or during the hunt, it is the responsibility of all cast members to return to the Hunt Master at the host club. Any cast members not returning to the Hunt Master will be scratched.
- o) If a handler is drinking or using abusive language.
- p) For use of any device used to control dog prior to cast completing hunt time.
- q) For encouraging, discouraging, using hand signals, or physically abusing a dog. Praising a handled dog is not considered encouraging.
- r) Dog(s) hunting over or under advertised hunt time will be scratched.
- s) Handler's dog will be scratched for rule violations by their spectators.
- t) For discussing a (?) that has been placed on scorecard.
- u) A handler that is reported to HM/HD for nu-sportsmen like conduct will be reported to UFR. Once a handler has been reported 3 times the handler not DOG will be banned for 1 year from UFR events.

15. TIME-OUTS

Judge, or majority of cast if hunting Judge is used, may call time out in accordance with the following:

- a) When dogs are getting on highway, onto posted land, or into a place where there is danger to dogs or hunters.
- b) If new ground must be found to finish cast and more than 15 minutes is required, or have to move to new area by vehicle, call time out immediately.
- c) In case of accident or sickness.
- d) If cast becomes lost.
- e) Dog(s) declared treed before time out is called will be scored.
- f) When a dog is injured.

(NOTE: If time out is called then time is out, and if dog should tree, it will not count. When time out is called and dog(s) are still loose you have 30 minutes to recover dog(s) or the dog(s) will be scratched and the remainder of the cast may proceed to hunt. NO TIME IS TO BE CALLED OUT TO SEARCH A TREE OR WHEN DOGS ARE TIED OR TO BE LED AWAY FROM A TREE. If dog(s) declared treed, 5 minutes of hunting time may be demanded to search tree, or place of refuge, which is not a time out. No plus points will be awarded if squirrel is seen after 5 minutes searching time has elapsed.)

16. SCORECARDS

- a) Scorecards must be completed in the woods, and no changes can be made later except mathematical errors that are corrected by the official or where a question arises and is noted in the woods.
- b) Handler's signature verifies hunting time, and scores are correct. Any protest relative to time or scores must be noted with a question mark.
- c) Any handler failing to sign the scorecard in the woods may have the opportunity to sign upon returning the scorecard to, and in view of, the Hunt Master/HD.

17. PANELS

To form a panel, a \$10 Panel Fee must be paid before the question is heard.

- a) When using a Hunt Master, a panel may be formed if a handler/owner is not satisfied with the Hunt Master's ruling.
- b) When using a Hunt Director, a panel must be formed to hear any and all questions.

18. APPEALS

- a) If the matter has not been satisfactorily resolved by the decision of the panel, an Appeal may be filed.
- b) An Appeal Form must be requested and filed immediately following the panel's ruling, while panel is still assembled.
- c) Appeals must be submitted to the Hunt Master/HD with a fee of \$20.
- d) All Appeals will be investigated and ruled on by the UFR.

19. CAST WINNERS

A dog must have a total score of plus points to receive a Championship win.

20. TIES

All ties to be broken as follows:

1. The dog with the most circle points.
2. If still a tie, the dog that has the most plussed first trees.
3. If still a tie, the dog with the least minus points.
4. If still a tie, dogs involved to hunt in sudden death. First dog to receive plus, minus, or circle points, shall end the hunt and determine the winner. Points awarded shall not be reflected on original score. No more than 15 minutes shall be used. Return deadline shall be extended 15 minutes for this cast only.
5. If still a tie, flip a coin.

21. QUESTIONS

- a) Non-Hunting Judge Cast: The decision of a non-hunting Judge may only be questioned in the field at the time the decision is made. The non-hunting Judge's decision may only be overturned by the Hunt Master/panel. It may be scored with a question mark (?) and reviewed by the Hunt Master/panel. Situations not questioned and notated at the time Judge's decision is made, will not be considered.
- b) Hunting Judge Cast: The following procedure must be followed when using hunting judges on a cast, regardless of category.
 1. Should a situation arise where a handler questions a call that was made, or a call that should have been made but wasn't, that handler shall ask to have his question voted on by all cast members that remain with the cast at that time.
 2. Each handler must vote, or their dog will be scratched. It takes a majority vote to overturn judge's decision. Any handler that is not satisfied with the outcome retains the right to place a question mark (?) on the card and present his question to the Hunt Master/panel. Situations not questioned and notated at the time Judge's decision is made will not be considered.
 3. Scorecards to be carried by Judge and must be scored by Judge in plain view of all.
 4. Any owner or handler disputing event placement must address the matter with the Hunt Master/Hunt Director, within 30 minutes after the deadline to return scorecards. If the matter is not resolved, the complainant shall request an Appeal Form. They must clearly note their complaint on the form and return it to the event official to be mailed, along with the Event Report to UFR for a ruling. The Appeal must be accompanied by a \$20 fee, otherwise the matter will not be considered. The fee will be refunded if ruled in favor of the complainant.

UFR FEIST BENCH SHOW RULES

1. A UFR Licensed Bench Show is a distinctive gathering of UFR registered dogs of the recognized Feist breed and their owners, for the purpose of determining the winners and making an official record of such winnings. Only UFR registered dogs compete in a UFR Licensed Bench Show. Non-registered dogs cannot be entered in a UFR Licensed Bench Show.
2. The local club management has the right to refuse entry to any dog or handler. However, no handler shall be barred on basis of religion, race, color, national origin, age or sex.
3. No Bench Show entries are to be taken after the advertised deadline for any reason. The show shall start as soon as possible after the advertised deadline.
4. Dogs which fulfill the requirements for a UFR Show Champion, or Grand Show Champion may be entered in the next level of competition even though they have not been officially notified of their new title by United Feist Registry.
5. Only one UFR Licensed Bench Show Judge shall judge a UFR Licensed Bench Show. A panel of Judges cannot be used. The Judge will follow the rules and regulations covering the show and sign the official UFR report for show winners and award Championship wins. Judges shall be familiar with UFR Bench Show procedures. Judge must sign report immediately following show.
6. The Judge's decision is final. The Judge may give reasons after each class. Any exhibitor entering dogs in any show is, in effect, asking the Judge for their personal opinion and decision. Any exhibitor may question the Judge concerning their decision immediately after the completion of the class in which the exhibitor's dog is entered. Such questions shall be presented in a sportsmanlike manner.
7. Qualifications for UFR recognized Show Champion: Dog must have earned a minimum of 100 UFR recorded Championship wins and one win for "Best Male of Show" or "Best Female of Show." Dog must have competition at the Class, Breed, or Show level on the day Best of Show is won. Dog having no competition will receive Championship wins but no win toward the Show Champion Degree. Points must be earned under at least two different Judges.
8. Qualifications for UFR recognized Grand Show Champion: Dog must win five (5) Champion of Show Champions classes at five different UFR Licensed Bench Shows. These must be earned under at least three different Judges. Grand Champions shall compete in the Grand Champion class only. This class is held for the honorary title, and no UFR points are awarded.
9. A UFR recognized Bench Show Champion or Grand Champion may not compete in Registered competition once they have received their Champion or Grand Champion Degree. Champions may compete in the Champion of Champions class only. Grand Champions may compete in the Grand Champion class only.
10. The Judge shall have the right to disqualify any owner or handler for misconduct, or any dog for growling, snapping, or fighting. If a dog is disqualified for growling, snapping, or fighting, it must be reported and sent along with the Bench Show Report to UFR.
11. Any person intimidating, threatening, or injuring a Bench Show participant, Judge, club officer or UFR representative will be barred indefinitely from any UFR licensed event.
12. Any person caught administering non-prescribed drugs to any dog will be barred indefinitely from registering dogs and participating in UFR events. Club or association may require blood testing of any dog by a licensed veterinarian.

13. Absolutely no alcoholic beverages, firearms, or non-prescribed drugs will be allowed on the grounds or while participating in the show or in the buildings the day of a UFR licensed event.
14. Spectators and/or handlers must remain away from the show ring at all times, and dogs must be kept away from the show ring until that dog is called for showing.
15. Owners, handlers and spectators may not interfere with the Judge in any way during the judging of a show.
16. A Judge has the right to request that a handler or spectator be removed from the show site for unsportsmanlike behavior.
17. Handlers are responsible for their conduct and personal appearance.
18. It is the responsibility of the owner or handler to listen to the secretary or ring steward of the show so they will know what classes are being called and be ready to enter their dog in the correct class. If a dog misses its class due to neglect of the owner or handler, there is no way to show that particular dog in that show.
19. If a dog is shown in the wrong class, no Championship wins will be awarded. It is the responsibility of the owner to see that their dog has been entered and shown in the correct class.
20. Dogs must be benched. The bench on which the dogs shall be shown must be two (2) feet high and eighteen (18) inches wide with the top covered with indoor/outdoor carpeting or some similar non-slip surface. (Dogs stand well on rough material while they tend to “cow down” on a slippery or smooth surface.) Individual benches of a minimum length of 44 inches are recommended. If the benches do not meet these standards, the Judge shall still allow the show to be held but should instruct the club to correct the problem and notify UFR that the benches do not meet the standards.
21. A Bench Show Report shall be filled out and signed by the Bench Show Judge. One copy shall be retained by the club for one year and one copy sent to UFR. The host club and Judge are responsible for the report being accurate, neat, and properly filled out, showing the complete names of the dogs, correct UFR registration numbers, and owner's names. The United Feist Registry accepts the report of each show as an accurate and true report of the Bench Show.
22. The club sponsoring the show will forward with the report the applicable recording per-dog fee based on the total entry. Reports must be submitted to UFR within ten (10) days of the event, or a penalty charge will be made. An additional monthly charge will be made for reports that are 30 days past due.
23. Dogs shall not be judged on handler’s showmanship.
24. The following is NOT allowed:
 - a) Dyeing to cover faulty hair color.
 - b) Altering of nose, eye or lip pigment color, or of coat color.
 - c) Surgery to cover a genetic or structural fault, such as ears, eyes, muscular, or skeletal.
 - d) Grooming, grooming tools, spray bottles or wiping cloths are not allowed in the ring.

NOTE: If the show is held outside on an extremely hot day, a handler may spray water in the dog’s mouth to cool the dog down. This can only be done if the Judge approves prior to the dogs entering the show ring.

25. Baiting of dogs is not allowed in show rings.
26. Working dogs are not to be penalized for scars or injuries caused by hunting.
27. Female dogs in season shall not be shown.
28. Dogs must be evaluated both while gaited and shown on the bench. More emphasis must be placed on the gait. Dogs must be gaited at a natural pace.

UFR FEIST BENCH SHOW JUDGES AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

AUTHORITY

1. The Judge is in charge of the show, and his/her decision is final.
2. Judge may disqualify any dog for unsportsmanlike actions by the handler.
3. Judge has the right to withhold giving an award and/or UFR Championship wins if, in his opinion, there is not a dog submitted that qualifies or meets the UFR official breed standard.
4. A Judge may not be called upon to fault any dog after the show is over and winners are announced. He/she has the right to refuse.
5. Judge has the right to split or divide classes when considered necessary.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. The Judge must be UFR licensed for the year in which he is judging and should have his current Judge's card with him at the time of the show.
2. Once a Bench Show Judge is approved, the license is issued indefinitely. However, licenses are subject to review and may be withdrawn by UFR at any time.
3. Neither UFR Judges nor apprentice Judges are to enter their dogs in any UFR Licensed Bench Show that they are judging in whole or in part. Their dogs cannot be entered by a handler. Nor can any member of a Judge's or apprentice Judge's immediate family show under that Judge.
4. A UFR Judge is responsible for their own conduct and appearance, which should always be becoming to a Judge.
5. A newly approved Judge cannot have an apprentice serve under them until they have judged at least three shows.
6. No more than one (1) apprentice can serve under a Judge at a show.
7. UFR Judges are to remain up to date on any changes in the breed standards.
8. Judge must see that all handlers walk or gait dogs. Dog must be gaited for Judge to determine to what degree dog conforms to structural correctness. Dogs must be evaluated on the bench to determine to what degree the dog conforms to the breed standard.
9. Judge shall have handler open dog's mouth for Judge to check dog's bite (for dog's health reasons).
10. Judge must physically check all dog's bone structure and conformation.

11. Judge will remove from the bench any female dog in season.
12. A Judge shall give equal time in examining each dog they are judging. Every dog warrants a Judge's complete inspection.
13. Judge shall not ask individual handling dog: 1. who owns dog; 2. who dog was purchased from; or 3. what line the dog is out of while judging the dog.
14. A Judge shall not remove an "off" standard dog from the bench. The Judge will deduct points from the "off" standard dog in making his ultimate decision, unless it is a disqualifying fault. In that case, the dog is not to be considered for judging. If a Judge determines a dog to have a disqualifying fault, he must submit to UFR the dog's name, UFR number, and description of the fault along with the show report.
15. Judge shall not carry on conversations with spectators while show is in progress. Judge is not to be influenced by any person or that person's actions.
16. The Judge must accurately report their decisions to the recording secretary.
17. The Judge must complete and sign the official Show Report Forms for Championship wins immediately following the show. A copy of the report shall be retained for a minimum of one year by the club hosting the event. Submit UFR copy within 10 days, or a penalty charge will be made.
18. The Judge must never sign blank show report forms or receipts.

SHOW SPECTATORS, OWNERS, AND HANDLERS

1. Spectators and/or handlers must remain away from the show ring at all times, and dogs must be kept away from the show ring until that dog is called for showing.
2. It is the responsibility of the owner or handler to listen to the secretary or ring steward of the show so that they will know what classes are being called and be ready to enter their dog in the correct class. If a dog misses its class due to neglect of the owner or handler, there is no way to show that particular dog in that show.
3. Owners, handlers and spectators may not interfere with the Judge in any way during the judging of a show.
4. A Judge may disqualify any dog for fighting or attempting to bite another dog or person. The Judge may disqualify an exhibitor for any unsportsmanlike action.
5. A Judge has the right to request that a handler or spectator be removed from the show site for unsportsmanlike behavior.

UFR FEIST BENCH SHOW PROCEDURES

(A Guideline for Judges)

To standardize the procedures of a Bench Show and to avoid inconsistencies and errors, the following procedure has been provided.

1. When the Bench Show Judge arrives at the club grounds, he should remind each person taking entries for the show of the requirements for accepting entries. See "Entering Dogs in UFR Licensed Events".
2. The Judge is responsible for the rules being enforced and the correct information being sent to the United Feist Registry.

PROCEDURE AND SEQUENCE OF JUDGING UFR LICENSED BENCH SHOWS

The show is not to be interrupted for any other activity, unless it is a large show, and the Judge requests a rest break.

SEQUENCE

1. a) Judge male Puppy Class (6 mos. to 1 yr.)
 - a. Judge male Junior Class (1 yr. & under 2 yrs.)
 - b. Judge male Senior Class (2 yrs. & older)
 - c. Once all class winners are awarded, all winners will show together for best Male of show.
2. a) Judge female Puppy Class (6 mos. to 1 yr.)
 - a. Judge female Junior Class (1 yr & under 2 yrs.)
 - b. Judge female Senior Class (2 yrs. & older)
 - c. Once all class winners are awarded, all winners will show together for best Female of show.
3. The Champion of Champions class is held next. In the Champion of Champions class, males and females are shown together. The winner is declared the winner of the Champion of Champions class.
4. The Grand Show Champion class is judged next. Males and females are shown together. This is an honorary class and no UFR points will be awarded.

REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR BECOMING A UFR LICENSED SHOW JUDGE

- Applicants must be known for their honesty, integrity, impartiality, and their interest in the improvement of the Feist breeds. The Judge's personal appearance and habits should be above reproach and befitting a UFR licensed Bench Show Judge.
- Applicants shall have reached their twenty-first (21st) birthday before applying to UFR to become a UFR Licensed Show Judge.
- Applicants must know the official UFR Show Rules.
- Applicants must know the official UFR Feist Breed Standards.
- The applicants must know and understand the anatomy of the dogs they are judging, including how to properly judge the dogs' gait.
- Approved Feist clubs may grandfather in as a licensed Feist Bench Show Judge, one individual who is not currently a UFR Licensed Show Judge. The individual that the club is sponsoring will need to fill out an application, take the written exam, and submit both of these with the application. This individual will not be required to go through the apprentice program. Only one individual per club may be grandfathered in as a new Judge.
- The applicants must understand that they are at all times to judge the dog and not be influenced by who the owner or handler is.
- The applicants must be willing to accept the responsibilities of discussing their decisions, if asked to do so by the handler, prior to the next class being shown.

- No applicant for a UFR Show Judges License will be denied on basis of religion, race, color, national origin, or sex.
- Once a Bench Show Judge is approved, the license is issued indefinitely. However, licenses are subject to review and may be withdrawn by UFR at any time.
- All licenses for UFR Show Judges shall be granted or withheld at the sole discretion of United Feist Registry.

SCRATCHED FOR FIGHTING – UFR POLICY

UFR will notify the owners of dogs Scratched for Fighting after the dog has been Scratched for Fighting twice within a two (2) year period. The third time a dog is Scratched for Fighting within two (2) years, the dog is barred from participating in UFR events for two (2) years.

When three (3) reports [Bench Show, Squirrel Hunt (AM or PM)] have been received by UFR indicating a dog has been “Scratched for Fighting” or attempting to fight within a two (2) year period, the registered owner of the dog will be sent a certified letter advising them of the dates and the names of the clubs that have reported their dog “Scratched for Fighting.” They will be requested to return their UFR Registration Certificate by a specific date (approximately 30 days). The Registration Certificate will be stamped BARRED FOR FIGHTING UNTIL_. It will then be sent back to the registered owner. The dog will be barred for two (2) years from the date of the third “Scratched for Fighting” offense. At the end of two (2) year period, the registered owner of the dog can return the Registration Certificate, along with the proper fee, to the UFR Registration Office for the issuance of a new Registration Certificate. All reference to fighting will be removed, and the dog will once again be allowed to enter UFR licensed events.

If the owner of the dog does not send in the UFR Registration Certificate by the deadline indicated in the notification letter, the following actions will be taken:

1. Transfer of ownership will not be allowed.
2. The dog will not be allowed to be used in a breeding program. No litters will be registered where the dog is the sire or dam.
3. The dog will be barred from receiving any UFR Championship wins. If the UFR Registration Certificate is returned after the notification deadline they will be reviewed on an individual basis as to what actions will be taken.

Dogs already reported as Scratched for Fighting will still retain their records.

United Feist Registry has the right to inspect all reports, scorecards, and documents of UFR events and to review those documents for any reason. Some, but not all, of the items reviewed are:

- A) scores;
- B) dogs scratched for fighting;
- C) errors by the recording person;
- D) documentation excluded for any reason.

UFR reserves the right to correct any mistakes found. Even though the report or other documentation might not have the signatures of a Judge of a cast or the Hunt Master, UFR reserves the right unto itself to make the necessary corrections and adjustments in line with our Inherent Rights and Powers.

UFR POLICY FOR BENEFIT EVENTS

United Feist Registry realizes the importance of supporting charitable organizations and will help any club that is hosting a benefit event to raise money for recognized charities. UFR will donate license fees:

1. UFR must be notified at least 90 days prior to the event that the club is requesting the event to be a benefit.
2. UFR must approve the name of the organization or charity that is to receive the proceeds.
3. No less than 75% of the total profit must be donated by the club to the charity.
4. Clubs holding Annual Benefit Events must follow the procedure every year.

UFR POLICY REGARDING CELL PHONE USAGE

All event participants, including spectators, are advised of the following cell phone policy: Any individual found guilty of any electronic messaging prior to the hunt conclusion, with reference to scores that is deemed to have influenced any cast or handler or that is deemed detrimental to the integrity of all scores or the event, is subject to suspension by United Feist Registry.

MISCONDUCT & DISCIPLINE

Situations involving misconduct do not fall under the appeals procedure. Refer to the Misconduct Section in the official UFR Feist Rule book for complete procedures and instructions.

Misconduct may include, but is not limited to:

- a) Intimidating, threatening, or injuring another individual.
- b) Falsifying event related documents.
- c) Abuse, neglect, or drugging of a dog in conjunction with an event.
- d) Intentionally killing game in conjunction with an event.
- e) Use of any device used to control dog during hunting time.
- f) Relaying any type of electronic messaging with reference to scores that is deemed detrimental to the hunt.

Disclaimer: Any UFR Rules and or Policies as written in this rule book are subject to change. Any such changes will be published in the Rule Sections on the UFR website.