

General Notes about Chintimini Kennel Club FASTCAT Events

What is a FASTCAT?

The Fast CAT Test is a timed 100-yard dash for dogs. During an event the dog is given one run along the 100 yard course. It is meant to be fun and healthy activity of interest to any dog owner. The following is a summary of how the event is structured.

How Does Fast CAT Work?

1. Fast CAT is a timed straight race of 100 yards.
2. Dogs run singularly.
3. The dog's time to complete the 100-yard dash is converted into MPHs.
4. A handicap system is applied to a dog's MPH to determine the number of points earned. The handicap system is based on the height of the dog at its withers:
 - a. 18" or greater = handicap is 1.0.
 - b. 12" up to less than 18" = handicap is 1.5.
 - c. Below 12" = handicap is 2.0.
5. Points = MPH multiplied by the dog's handicap
6. Fast CAT titles suffix titles are earned at designated milestones:
 - d. BCAT = 150 points
 - e. DCAT = 500 points
 - f. FCAT = 1,000 points
 - g. FCAT# = every additional 500 points
7. Top 20 by Breed by Year: The AKC Fast CAT website will feature the Top 20 Fastest Dogs by Breed by Year national standings. The standings will be updated as event results are processed.
8. An inspection committee shall inspect each entry for lameness, fitness to compete and females in season. If necessary, the inspection committee is responsible for measuring dogs to determine their height at the withers.
9. Prior to moving the lure to position it for the start, the lure operator shall announce "hold your dogs" in order to caution owners.
10. The Start: Dogs may start up to 10 feet behind the starting line.
11. The Finish: The dog is timed from crossing the start line to the finish line. The owner/agent should have someone to release and catch the dog at the finish line.
12. Timing Devices: The time to complete the 100-yard dash is recorded to the nearest 1/100th of a second.
13. Lure Equipment: Clubs may use either a drag or continuous loop system. If a continuous loop system is used the "return" string must be set outside of the running course. The lure operator and the lure equipment shall be safely positioned in a manner that does not interfere with the retrieval of the dog at the end of the course.
14. Lure: A white plastic bag and a squawker may be used for the lure.
15. Course: The course must be essentially flat.
16. The huntmaster has control of the course. In summary, the huntmaster is in charge of all dogs and handlers on the field, shall ensure handlers understand safe release and

retrieval procedures, shall ensure the lure is properly positioned, shall ensure the lure operator, timers and starting line signal person are ready, shall signal the lure operator to start the lure and shall give the verbal signal “tallyho” to release the dog.

General:

1. All entries must be one year of age or older on the day of the test or trial.
2. Hounds not present at the time of roll call will be scratched after a five (5) minute grace period.
3. Each entry will be examined and may be measured with a wicket at inspection. Inspection shall take place prior to any form of wrapping being applied to the dog. In the opinion of the inspection committee, any entry found to be lame, unfit to compete or a female in season shall not be allowed to enter and entry fees shall be refunded.
4. Dogs will be inspected before each Event.
5. Entry fees shall be refunded for any entry that is withdrawn before entries close. No refund will be given for dogs withdrawn after the close of entry.
6. Run order will be based on order of the receipt of entry. We will separate the running of multiple dogs handled by a single handler. If a dog is late for their run time they will run at the end of the running order.
7. For safety reasons, it is preferred that dogs run “naked” without collars or harnesses. A flat collar with no dangling tags is acceptable. Muzzles are allowed. Please no metal collars and retractable leads.
8. Electric drag machines will be used. Lure will consist of white plastic bags and a squawker.
9. The field committee reserves the right to alter the course plan as required by weather and/or field conditions on the day of the trial.
10. The field committee reserves the right to bar known aggressive hounds from the event site.
11. There will be a \$5 fine assessed for any loose hound not taking part in the course in progress, or for anybody caught not picking up after their dog or leaving garbage on the field.
12. NO ONE will be allowed on the field without the express permission of the field chairman, except the appointed field committee.
13. Anybody exhibiting unsportsmanlike behavior will be excused from the field and may be subject to further disciplinary action.
- 14. Control of dogs strictly enforced, on leash at all times except when running.**
- 15. Clean up and carry out all trash.**
- 16. Please pick up all dog feces and remove with trash or put in receptacle provided at site.**

NOTES FOR FIRST TIME COURSERS AND HANDLERS

WHAT ARE PRE-ENTRIES? - Entries made before the closing date. If your entry is mailed in time yet due to the failure of the postal service it is not received in time for the Test Secretary to have it at the Event, then you will have to fill out day of entry forms on the day of the trial. Always have your dog's registration materials with you when you go to a test.

WHAT ARE “DAY OF” ENTRIES? - Entries accepted after the closing date for pre-entries are considered Day of Entries. The deadline for Pre-entries is typically two days before the event. “Day of” entries are usually more expensive because the Field Test Secretary (FTS) must take

extra time to add those entries to the record sheets the morning of the test, which delays the start of the trial. If you are entering on the day of the test, you **MUST** have your completed entry to the Test Secretary **BEFORE** Roll Call.

SLIP LEADS - There is a type of collar for coursing called a slip lead, which is worn only to control the dog prior to release. The collar drops away as the dog is released to chase the lure and they run without anything around their necks that could be dangerous. **Use of a slip lead is recommended but not required. What is important is that, for the safety of your dog, there are no objects on the dog that can be caught by the string or lure.**

INSPECTION - Dogs will be inspected by a designated Inspection Committee consisting of at least two persons who are members of the Field Committee and who shall inspect each entered dog for lameness, fitness to compete and female estrus (in season). Inspection shall take place prior to any form of wrapping being applied to the dog. In the opinion of the Inspection Committee, any entry found to be lame, unfit to compete or in season shall not be allowed to enter and the applicable entry fees shall be refunded. Dogs must be inspected before each event to assess whether an injury occurred since the last inspection.

ROLL CALL - The time, prior to the commencement of coursing, by which you are supposed to have your dog ready for inspection by the Inspection Committee. At roll call the dog is examined for lameness, and breed disqualifications (where applicable). Unspayed bitches are examined to see if they show any evidence of being in season. After roll call the list of passed hounds is taken to the Field Test Secretary so that the run order can be prepared.

RUN ORDER LIST - The run order list is a posted list of the running order for the dogs participating in the event. Always check the record sheet after the Roll Call to confirm your dog's Run Order.

WARM-UP, COOL-DOWN—It is highly recommended that all dogs running are walked out for about 10-15 minutes prior to and after their runs to get them warmed up and to cool them down. The warm up help reduce pulled muscles. The cool-down is very important to allow the dogs heart rate to slowly come to normal and because it helps prevent lactic acid build-up in the muscles that leads to soreness.

For Experienced Handlers

Pre-entered dogs can go directly to the Inspection Committee on the announcement of Roll Call. "On-site" entry dogs can go to Inspection after entries are received. Upon completion of Inspection, the Run Order list will be posted.

WHAT MUST MY DOG DO TO PASS A Fast CAT? - Fast CAT, unlike the CAT, is not a pass/fail, but a timed 100-yard dash after a lure through a start gate and a stop gate. The time is converted over to MPH and then multiplied by a potential handicap based on the dog's height to award points.

CAN MY DOG EARN AN AKC TITLE FOR Fast CAT?- Titles are earned by accumulating points. The following titles will be awarded: BCAT = 150 points; DCAT = 500 points; FCAT =

1,000 points; and FCAT followed by a number (e.g. FCAT2) for every additional 500 points. These suffix titles will appear on a dog's pedigree, with a higher level title superseding a lower level title.

ALL DOGS RUN AT OWNER'S SOLE RISK