



QUEENSLAND LURE COURSING ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED IA05669

ABN 23 309 329 683

MEMBERS' HANDBOOK



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Introduction

Welcome, to the Queensland Lure Coursing Association Incorporated (QLCAI). This Members' Handbook is designed to assist and guide you through your introduction to the Club. It contains useful information about lure coursing in general, how the club is run, when it was formed, and of course, why it was formed. You will also find our rules and regulations in this handbook, and information designed to help you enjoy this sport with your dog.

What is Lure Coursing?



Coursing "...the sport of pursuing hares, etc with hounds that follow by sight rather than by scent..." [*Macquarie Dictionary*] is a very ancient sport. The modern version – Lure Coursing – is the sport of coursing using an artificial lure. *No live game is used either in training or in racing.*

Hunting with dogs goes back to antiquity, as can be seen by pictures and tapestries in art museums. In 124 A.D., the Greek historian, Arrian wrote, "The true sportsman does not take out his dogs to destroy the hares, but for the sake of the course, and the contest between the dogs and the hares, and is glad if the hare escapes."

Lure Coursing is usually limited to sight-hounds, that is, dogs that use their eyes rather than their noses for hunting (for example - Afghans, Borzois, Deerhounds, Greyhounds, Irish Wolfhounds, Ibizan Hounds, Pharaoh Hounds, Salukis, Whippets and Rhodesian Ridgebacks). Any other dog, pure bred or not, that has a penchant for the chase, may compete.

Lure coursing, as conducted in Queensland, includes not only sight hounds but also all breeds of dogs, including non pedigree and mixed breeds – making us quite unique compared to other parts of the world where lure coursing is open **only** to sight hounds. Nevertheless, "the preservation of the functional hound" is one of the stated aims behind the introduction of lure coursing to Queensland.

Lure coursing, a sport that is extremely popular in England, Europe and the U.S.A., came to Australia in the early eighties in the form that we practice now. It came first to Queensland and now NSW and Victoria enjoy the sport. **Lure Coursing** tries to stimulate the hound's natural instincts for coursing. The "Lure", (a bunch of plastic strips or a plastic bag) is tied to a rope that is pulled around spindles and pullies by a motorcycle especially designed for this purpose. The course pattern is irregular and somewhat similar to the way a hare might run in the open field, and varies from meet to meet. The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) has fully endorsed our sport and has commended our efforts for promoting responsible dog ownership.



In an official lure coursing field trial, the dogs are released on the Huntsmaster's call and they follow the lure around the course. Each dog is scored on its enthusiasm, follow, agility, speed and endurance. After the scores are totalled at the end of the day (each dog is run twice), place cards are awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place-getters in each breed, with the overall winner of each group getting special recognition. These points allotted go towards the title of "Field Champion" for pedigreed dogs, and "Companion of the Course" for unregistered and mixed breed dogs.

We use the grounds at Wally Tate Park, Kuraby under a rental agreement with the Brisbane City Council (BCC) and we keep bags, scoops, and bins and so forth on hand for cleanliness. The grounds are fully fenced and we are very proud to leave the area in perfect condition for our next lure coursing meet. As these are Council grounds, the rules regarding the consumption of alcohol on public grounds apply.

QLCAI lure coursing meetings are held at Wally Tate Park at Kuraby, usually once a month, starting at 9.30am. Puppy runs and introductory runs for new dogs are held prior to racing, at 9.00am. This is followed by the veterans and breed category runs.

A person considering taking up the sport may bring his or her dog to trial runs, held over a short, straight course on each coursing day, before the commencement of the day's formal competition. If the dog shows an interest, the newcomer may then enter the day's competition. To continue running the dog however, the owner should, after three meets, become a financial member of the lure coursing club. **Coursing entries thereafter must be lodged no later than ten days prior to the race day.** A short period of summer lure coursing – December, January and February – involves the dogs in one run only at each meet. From March to November a meet involves dogs running twice in the day, with ample time between the runs. These are the runs that count toward the dog's lure coursing titles and the end of year trophies.

Additionally, lure coursing is conducted at the Warwick club which is affiliated to the QLCAI. The Warwick Club meets are held at Henry Joppich Park, Warwick, usually on the last Sunday of the month.

Club Meetings

Our lure coursing meetings are run by the QLCAI and by the affiliated body, the Warwick Lure Coursing Club Incorporated (WLCCI).

General meetings are held several times during the year at the lure coursing grounds. EVERYONE IS WELCOME! Come and have a say in the running of your club.

Committee meetings are held monthly.

The Management Committee consists of:

Executive Committee:

President	Vice President
Secretary	Treasurer

Other Committee members:

Racing Secretary	Editor
Point scorer/Trophy Officer	Webmaster
Committee members x 3-4	Fundraiser
First Aid Officer	Safety Officer
Public Relations	



Committee members and Office Bearers are listed in the Association's newsletter "The Pursuit" together with their contact details.

Please be aware that the QLCAI is a not for profit organisation and all roles and positions are filled by volunteers.

The Clubs' Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held in April each year.

Pursuit – Club magazine

The Pursuit is usually published monthly. It contains a list of QLCAI Committee members, general information and articles of interest. Results from previous meets, grade changes coursing dates and general safety reminders are also included. At the back of the magazine are a number of official forms.

The Pursuit is available on the official web site. Members who pay to receive a hard copy when paying their membership fee, can collect their magazines at race day. Otherwise, the magazine will be posted to them.

Website

The official website, www.qldlurecoursing.com is managed by the Webmaster. This website contains an amazing amount of information about the Club and includes a photo gallery, electronic entry and membership forms as well as many other interesting items. Go and explore it.

How the Club was formed

In 1984 Steve and Sabine Mueller arrived from Germany, bringing with them their Afghan hounds. They were involved in lure coursing in Germany, and after racing their afghans on the greyhound tracks with the Afghan Hound Club for a few months, decided there was a need to find a more natural form of chasing for the dogs. Steve and Sabine floated the idea of lure coursing, however nobody here knew what this was, so with a lot of explaining decided to try it.

A small group of people got together to try and figure out how to make this happen. After many attempts and many hours of building machines and rollers and holding fun days, trying to get equipment to last the day without blowing up, we finally in 1990, had equipment good enough to form a club.

In 1990 Steve and Sabine called for people interested in forming a lure coursing club to meet at Ian Smith's house. Well, so many people turned up that we had to move into the double garage, and a club was formed that night.

At that first meeting it was decided the club would run all breeds in competition, but also be 'dedicated to the preservation of the functional hound' – which became the club's motto. It was also decided to have a section where dogs without papers could run, as most breed clubs had a rescue arm and this section would allow the people who took these dogs into their homes, something that they could take part in with their dogs. We also decided that there would be no interbreed running – allowing each breed to show it's full potential while on the coursing field.



With the starting of a new sport and the forming of a new club, many things had to be put into place, like rules being formulated, how to actually run a competition, how to judge all breeds; the list just went on and on. As you can imagine the first elected committee was meeting every week late into the night trying to put this together. We relied heavily on Steve and Sabine Mueller's experience with lure coursing to put a system in place that people would be happy with.

The first competition meeting was held in late 1990. This was a very nervous moment for the hard working committee but it proved to be very successful with people having a very enjoyable day. As the months passed we learnt a lot and improved with every meeting. A grading system was finally worked out that suited all breeds and the judging was fine-tuned so all breeds were on equal terms. This has worked really well; as we have had everything from a Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, to Greyhounds, getting best in field.

One of our big problems was getting somewhere to hold meetings. Steve and Sabine had 5 acres, which we used but now they had to move. A pony club came to our rescue and allowed the club to use their grounds, which proved unsuitable as the horses cut up the ground rather badly, which is not good for fast running dogs. So a decision was made to get our own grounds.

We approached the BCC for land and after a lot of meetings (and I mean a lot) the Council granted us a lease on 15 acres of land, a great step forward for the club. With the help of some great sponsors we put up a dog proof fence around the running area and around the spectator area to keep the people separated from the dogs running. We previously had to walk a fair distance to the toilets but now we have toilets on the grounds.

The Club is now holding meetings once a month and sometimes twice a month, during winter months, and running a Summer Cup during the hottest months of the year – in the coolest part of the day. Our championships (Invitation Races) are held in August, where after qualifying during the year, the top three dogs of every breed are invited to run a 550m course twice in 15 minutes with vet checks before, in-between, and after. If the dog does not recover sufficiently it is vetted out at the Vet's discretion. This is an endurance event and a good meeting to watch.

Well, that's a brief outline of how lure coursing started and progressed up to the present day.

Ian Smith



Lure Coursing Code of Ethics

- 1) Subject to Clause 8b(iv) of the Constitution - Any member found guilty of baiting a dog with live game shall be immediately banned for life from the QLCAI or an affiliated club or association.
- 2) It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that the dog is in good health. And uninjured. All dogs must have **not**, within the period of three months prior to each meet, been in contact with any dog or kennel affected with Distemper, Canine Hepatitis, Parvovirus or any other contagious or infectious disease.
- 3) Bitches in season must not be coursed during their season and from (6) six weeks from the onset of season - for the bitch's welfare.
- 4) No puppies under the age of nine months to be coursed in competition.
- 5) Instructions and directions of the Officers of the Day, Huntsmaster, Judges, Chief Steward, Lure Operator, Safety Officer, and Racing Secretary must be respected and obeyed.
- 6) Dogs must be kept under control on a suitable leash (no extenda leads) or crated at all times for public safety and animal welfare.
- 7) Cleanliness of the grounds - including removal of dog droppings - is the responsibility of the dog's owner or agent.
- 8) No "Interbreed – different breeds" runs during competition.
- 9) "Interbreed" runs during training runs and fun runs will be at the discretion of the Huntsmaster of the day.
- 10) It is recommended that dogs run in pairs whenever possible.
- 11) That all dogs on the lure coursing grounds be under control of an adult at all times, with the definition of an adult to be eighteen years of age or over.
- 12) Adults only to be in catching pen during races or at Huntsmaster's discretion.
- 13) Only officials or other authorised persons to be allowed on the field during coursing runs.
- 14) In the case of disputes; the decision of the President, Secretary and other authorised persons will be final.



How a dog is Judged

Your dog is evaluated on the following points as it is not just a test of speed.

ENTHUSIASM: (Max 15 Points) Lively, single minded, showing great eagerness and determination in regard to the lure, after the start and until the lure returns to the catching pen for the course.

FOLLOW: (Max 15 Points) Chasing the lure with the intent of taking it, while maintaining a path of reasonably close proximity to the lure's course, considering the relative positions of the dogs to the lure and to each other. Keeness is exhibited when the dog reacts immediately to any change in the motion of the lure. A dog that becomes unsighted for some good reason and yet attempts to find the lure again is not severely penalised, depending on how hard it works at trying to find the lure again, and how soon it does so.

SPEED: (Max 25 Points) Rapidity in moving, the rate of moving or progress. Credit goes to the dog that levels out low, stretching and really drives. Since timing is not used to measure speed, the dog's manner of "putting out" is an important means of assessing its ability to cover ground.

AGILITY: (Max 25 Points) The ability to move quickly and easily; nimbleness in negotiating terrain, which may cause a dog to slip or slide; turning without going wide or cutting or breaking stride; co-ordination of movement.

ENDURANCE: (Max 20 Points) Lasting quality, stamina of physical and mental concentration. Credit is given to the dog, which does not fade, or pull up or slacken.

In the event of tied scores, a countback will be held to determine the winner from the Senior Judge's sheets. The countback will commence with speed score followed by agility, endurance, follow and enthusiasm. If the tied scores cannot be separated, then the dogs will be declared equal winners. The rule only applies to routine coursing meets.

PENALTIES:

Loose dogs penalty: 25 points

The penalty of twenty-five [25] points shall be given against a dog that is found loose anywhere on the grounds on the day. It will have no effect on the dog's overall yearly rating or grading

Pre-slip penalty: 5 points

For dogs whose handlers start their dogs before the Hunts Master has given the "Go" command.

Course delay penalty: 5 points

Dogs which delay their course or whose handlers delay the course may be penalised, but not through trying to retrieve the lure upon completion of the course.

This is how a judge assesses the performance of your dog. Even though a judge's decision is final you are welcome to discuss your dog's performance or ask for help in case of non-performance, with any of the judges present on the day.



How Are Different Breeds Judged?

An often-heard comment from members is that “The greyhounds are so fast, they always win. How can other dogs compete against them?” Firstly, no dog is judged against another dog. Every dog is scored according to its own performance against the scoring criteria. Even when two dogs run a course together, each dog is scored against the criteria and not against the other dog running with it.

Lure coursing was originally developed to give sight hounds an opportunity to do what it was originally bred for when live game coursing was no longer possible. In some states, lure coursing is still only held for sight hounds. When the founders of our club started coursing using an electric motor and only a couple of bends, all dogs owned by these people were coursed. This meant that as judges were trained, they learned to judge all breeds of dogs not just their own breed and not only sight hounds.

Each dog is judged on its performance. When judging the different breeds, we consider what that breed function was. For example, those Jack Russell Terriers (JRT) were bred to catch rats, Border Collies herded sheep and Kelpies herded cattle. GSP are gun dogs and Rottweilers and Doberman are guard dogs.

Kelpies are fast and chase the lure, watching that it doesn't stray and trying to keep it on a fairly straight line. Border Collies are used to keeping sheep in a mob. They will often run ahead of the lure and wait to push a stray back into the mob. If it goes past, then the Collie chases to try and catch and turn it back to that imaginary mob. Although the follow is not good, the Collie is working that lure and cannot be scored down for poor follow. However, it may score lower on agility if it cuts corners to get ahead of the lure.

GSP are not fast dogs and so should not be expected to race at a high speed. They should show that they are trying to get to the lure and retrieve that bird. They should follow the lure well and show agility on the corners, as their speed is not so great that they would run past the corner. Rottweilers and Doberman should show a good pace and some can show a good turn of speed. They should show a good follow of the lure and have reasonable turning ability on corners. The heavier Rottweiler may slightly over-run the corners depending on the amount of speed.

JRT will chase forever and show good speed. They will cut a corner if the lure is too far ahead and that is sensible. A dog that follows the rope along the course even though the plastic bag is heading off in another direction is not showing that it is chasing the lure, as much as following the rope.

Finally, Greyhounds and Whippets are sprinters and are expected to show great speed, so this would not earn them higher points. They need to show that they have the agility to turn the corner quickly at speed and not have to do a great circle to get back onto the lure. Speed for them could be a slight disadvantage. Some of our retired racing Greyhounds do not have good cornering ability as they have been trained to race on an oval track at very great speed with no corners to turn. They have to learn to turn corners.

These are just a few impressions from this judge.

Carol Cameron



LURE COURSING Day Plan

8.30 to 9.00am

Late entries and payments accepted at desk.

9.00 am

Puppy and novice runs prior to start of competition runs. These are for puppies between 4 months and nine months of age as well as dogs new to the sport. This is a short straight run only. Cost: 50 cents per dog. Get your tickets for this at the desk.

9.30 am

Lure coursing commences. Each dog has one run before we take a lunch break of a half hour. After lunch each dog has a second run. Same running order applies as in the morning. Judges' dogs are run first.

At completion of racing

Weather permitting and at the discretion of the volunteer Lure Controller, there are fun runs at the cost of \$1 per dog. Get your tickets for this at the desk.

Following packing up of all equipment, there is the presentation of place cards and prizes. In the event of tied scores at a normal coursing meeting, a count back will be used to determine the winner. The count back commences with Speed followed by Agility, Endurance, Follow and Enthusiasm.











Due to the unpredictable nature of the days' events it is impossible to state a finishing time.

What do I need to Bring?

- ✓ Some money if you wish to enter, purchase Club raffle tickets or make a purchase. **Please note** only QLCA held raffles are conducted at the race meets unless the Committee has given permission for other organisations or clubs to hold a raffle.
- ✓ Your dog on a strong fixed collar or harness – no extension leads. Some dogs get very excited when they see the lure. A good lead that you can easily hold onto if your dog pulls. (There is a 25-point penalty for all dogs off leash).
- ✓ A bowl for water and some shade for you and your dog if it is hot. A chair can be useful.
- ✓ A crate or something secure to leave your dog tied to for when you need to leave it.
- ✓ Poop bags.
- ✓ As there are ants on the ground maybe some spray if you are leaving your dog tied on the ground.
- ✓ Food and drink for you. We do have tea, coffee and cold drinks for sale and you can purchase a BBQ lunch. Otherwise, BYO
- ✓ Good sportsmanship, a sense of humour and an open mind.






Group Categories

-  Toys
-  Terriers
-  Gundogs
-  Hounds
-  Working Dogs
-  Utility
-  Non Sporting
-  Other Breeds (which can be made up of the above ANKC groupings)
-  Unregistered and Mixed Breeds
-  Veteran



Points and Grading ~ Field Champion Title

Is your dog registered? (Not your Local City Council registration). In order to compete in the breed categories, a photocopy* of your dog's pedigree papers is required. This means your dog has a registration certificate (pedigree) from:

-  Australian National Kennel Council (ANKC)
-  Canine Control Council of Queensland (CCCQ)
-  The Greyhound Racing Authority or sighting and recording ear tattoos for ex-racing greyhounds.

*Please also include your dog's call name on the copy.

No gradings or title will be recognised without a filed copy of pedigree papers.

Novice: For dogs that have failed to score more than **145 points** in three events in which they were entered.

Intermediate: For dogs in the Novice Class who have scored **150 points** or more in two consecutive courses or three courses with a minimum score of **145 points** in each event.

Open: For dogs in the Intermediate Class who have scored **160 points** or more in two consecutive courses or three courses with a minimum score of **155 points** in each event.

Field Champion: For dogs in the Open Class who have scored **170 points** or more at any three courses in any twelve month period or a minimum score of **165 points** at any five courses in any twenty-four month period. ***Please note:** Championship points can only be accumulated within the Open Class.

Regrading: Any dog in Open Class that scores below the qualifying score for the class in which it is entered at three consecutive courses will be downgraded.

Field Champions will not be downgraded. Intermediate will not be downgraded back to Novice.

Lure Courser of Merit: For dogs who are Field Champions and have scored a minimum of 175 points at any three courses or a score of 173 or more at any five courses. There is no time limit.





Q.L.C.A. Scores and Gradings for Field Champion

Legend

Grading System

Novice:	144 or less	144 or less	144 or less		
	: Dogs in Novice (need to score...)				
Intermediate:	150 or more	150 or more			(Consecutive)
	145 or more	145 or more	145 or more		
	: Dogs in Intermediate (need to score...)				
Open:	160 or more	160 or more			(Consecutive)
	155 or more	155 or more	155 or more		
	: Dogs in Open (need to score...)				
Field Champion:	170 or more	170 or more	170 or more		(Over 12 months)
	165 or more	165 or more	165 or more	165 or more	165 or more (over 24 months)
Downgrade if: (Open only)	Below Qualifier (155)	Below Qualifier (155)	Below Qualifier (155)		(Consecutive)
Lure Courser Merit:	175 or more	175 or more	175 or more		(No time limit)
	173 or more	173 or more	173 or more	173 or more	173 or more

Field Champion Points CAN ONLY BE ACCUMULATED IN OPEN CLASS. i.e. Novice or Intermediate dogs are ineligible to accumulate points.

Lure Courser of Merit Points CAN ONLY BE ACCUMULATED IN FIELD CHAMPION CLASS.



Points and Grading ~ Companion Of The Course Title

This system of points and gradings is applicable to dogs competing in the unregistered and mixed breed class.

Beginner

For dogs that have failed to score **145** points in three events in which they were entered.

Junior

For dogs in the Beginner class who have scored a minimum of **145** three times – non consecutive.

Advanced

For dogs in the Junior class who have scored a minimum of **155** four times – non consecutive.

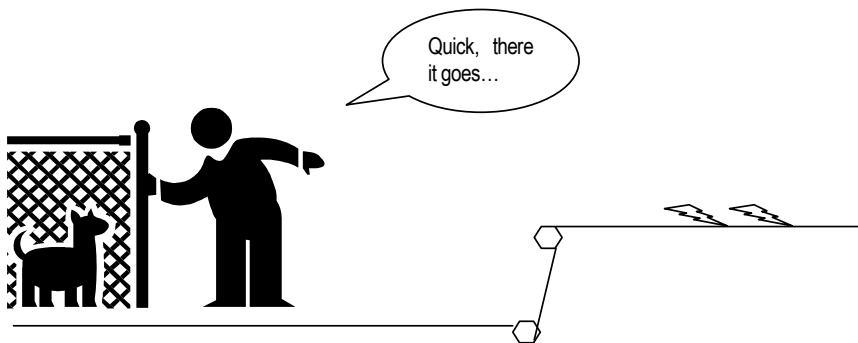
Companion of The Course

For dogs in the Advanced class who have scored **165** four times – non consecutive.

Please note: Companion of the Course points can only be accumulated within the Advanced class.

Companion Courser of Merit:

For dogs who are Companions of the Course and have scored a minimum of 173 points at any three courses or a score of 170 or more at any five courses. There is no time limit.





QLCAI Scores and Gradings for Companion of the Course

Legend

Grading System

Beginner:	144 or less	144 or less	144 or less	[No time restriction]
	: Dogs in Beginner (need to score...)			
Junior:	145 or more	145 or more	145 or more	[No time restriction]
	: Dogs in Junior (need to score...)			
Advanced:	155 or more	155 or more	155 or more	[No time restriction]
	: Dogs in Advanced (need to score...)			
Companion of the Course:	165 or more	165 or more	165 or more	[No time restriction]
	: Dogs in Companion of the Course (need to score...)			
Companion Courser of Merit:	173 or more	173 or more	173 or more	[No time restriction]
	170 or more	170 or more	170 or more	

Companions of the Course Points CAN ONLY BE ACCUMULATED IN ADVANCED CLASS. i.e. Beginner or Junior Dogs are ineligible to accumulate points.

Companion Courser of Merit Points CAN ONLY BE ACCUMULATED IN COMPANION OF THE COURSE CLASS.

Please note: all dogs start in beginners grade and will remain there when scores are 144 or less.

Points and Grading ~ Show and Field Champion

This system of points and gradings is applicable to dogs competing in the show ring as well as on the lure coursing field.

Dogs must be awarded eighty [80] points at confirmation shows and eighty [80] points from lure coursing events. There is no time frame.

Points awarded:

Shows:

Best of Breed: four [4] points Challenge: three [3] points Reserve Challenge: two [2] points

Show points cannot be accumulated e.g. Best of Breed cannot add Challenge points.

Lure coursing:

Scores of 157 - 160:	two [2] points	161 - 163:	three [3] points
164 - 166:	four [4] points	167 - 169:	five [5] points
170 - 172:	six [6] points	173 - 175:	seven [7] points
176 or more:	eight [8] points.		



How to Apply for Titles

Members are to keep a record of their dog's scores towards achieving a Field Champion or Companion of the Course title.

Members are responsible for their own record keeping for the Show and Field Champion title and may apply for the title upon producing copies of their conformation show results cards and lure coursing scores.

On achievement of qualifying scores for the appropriate title, members wishing to receive a certificate must apply to the Club Secretary (application in back of handbook) and submit the application fee. The current fee at the time of printing the handbook is \$7.00.

Lure Courser of Merit and Companion Courser of Merit certificates are awarded by the Club. No application for these awards are required.

The Secretary's address is as follows;

QLCA Incorporated
Attention: The Secretary
PO Box 249
Acacia Ridge LPO Qld 4110



Special Coursing Events

Irvine Fordyce Summer Cup: Over the summer months, three lure coursing meetings are held in November or December, January and February. The dogs compete for two lovely trophies - one for the Registered section winner and one for the Unregistered section winner. The winners are judged over three meets with the final results being taken from the two highest scores of each dog. Owners must be financial members and dogs must attend at least two of the three meetings to be eligible to compete for the trophies. Dogs must be registered by 8.30am and the meetings start at 9.00 a.m. each day. The dogs only run once - not the usual twice - and fun runs are offered if weather and time permit.

Entry fees for the Summer Cup are \$3.00 per dog. Entries must be received no later than ten days prior to meeting day. Volunteers are needed for the positions of Huntsmaster and Gate Steward, and Lure Controller. Place cards are not awarded at any of the Summer Cup meetings.

The Summer Cup trophies are kindly donated by Mr Irvine Fordyce.

What are those Invitation Events that are held in August and September?

Hope Island Cup: This is an endurance event for sight hounds. Originally, the dogs were required to run a course of at least 550 metres three times with a ten minute break between runs. This has now been reduced to two runs.

Shanett Trophy: This endurance event is for all registered breeds other than sight hounds.

Rouge et Noir Cup: This endurance event is for unregistered dogs.

Fun is a Terrier Trophy: This endurance event is for all terriers.

The **Hope Island Cup** event was introduced when the majority of dogs were sight hounds. Its purpose was to give sight hounds an event, which would really test their stamina as these hounds are expected to be able to hunt over great distances. A normal lure-coursing day does not really challenge their staying power.

As more and more breeds joined the club, it was decided that these dogs should also be given the opportunity to compete so the additional events were introduced. After all, why should the sight hounds have all the fun?

To be eligible for these events, dogs must attend three of the six qualifying meetings. A dog must have a minimum score of 150 in each of the qualifying meetings. The top three qualifying dogs (on the top three scores) will compete with the next two qualifying dogs being reserves.

On the day of the event, all dogs entered are vetted by a vet before and after the first run and again after the second run. The vet may withdraw a dog from the event at any time if it does not recover well following either run or it appears to be stressed.

Three judges score each dog and the dog with the top aggregate score in each section is the winner.

Joshua Cup: This cup is named after Joshua, a Saluki owned by Maureen and Greg Mannix. Joshua was the first dog to obtain the Lure Courser of Merit title and was an outstanding courser. Joshua has taught a number of dogs to course over the years and was used to help teach some of Maureen's young Salukis. Sadly, Greg and Maureen lost Joshua in 2002 at the age of 15.

This is an event for all dogs that are Lure Coursers of Merit. These dogs must have gained this title in the years **prior** to the year in which the competition is held. The only requirement for these dogs to be eligible to compete is that the owner is still a current member of the club. The event is held on a normal coursing day but a longer course is set for that day. The dogs run twice and are scored as for a normal coursing day with the top scorer winning the event. The scores for those dogs are used for the end of year points scores, as we do not expect the dogs to run again in the normal day's coursing. Again, a vet check of the dog is carried out for this event as quite a number of our Lure Coursers of Merit are now veterans. Entry into this event is at the discretion of the dog's owner.

End of Year Trophies

At the end of year dinner, the Club presents trophies for 1st 2nd and 3rd placings in each Breed group, and also for the Veteran and Unregistered groups. To be eligible, the owners must be financial members of the QLCA. Dogs must attend at least 50% of meetings from March to November, and score a minimum of 144 in any three meetings. The average of the highest 50% of scores for each dog is used for working out the placings.

The club also has a number of Perpetual Trophies, as listed below:

PRESIDENT'S TROPHY:

TOP AVERAGE SCORE - *Donated by QLCAI*

IAN SMITH TROPHY:

TOP OVERALL SCORE - *Donated by QLCAI*

SARONA TROPHY:

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS (Open only to Field Champions) - *Donated by M.Bennett/T. Lance*

AHMADI TROPHY:

TOP SALUKI - *Donated by I. Rassmussen/P. Bennett*

MAUREEN MANNIX MEMORIAL TROPHY:

TOP SALUKI BITCH – *Donated C. McDonald*

TOOMBA TROPHY:

TOP RHODESIAN RIDGEBACK - *Donated by T. Newman*

ARISTAT TROPHY:

TOP OTHER REGISTERED BREEDS - (NO HOUNDS) - *Donated by C. Thomas*

BUNYA KENNELS TROPHY:

TOP TERRIER - *Donated by G. and R. Tanis*

PEPSI MEMORIAL TROPHY:

TOP OVERALL SCORE – TERRIER – *Donated H. Meharg*

SARONET TROPHY:

MOST IMPROVED NOVICE (OWNER) - *Donated by M. Bennett/T. Lance*

TOTLEA PARK SHIELD:

MOST IMPROVED UNREGISTERED/MIXED BREED - *Donated by I. Shaw*

KURABY TROPHY:

TOP UNREGISTERED/MIXED BREED – *Donated by QLCAI*

LUKE MEMORIAL TROPHY:

TOP VETERAN

DANIEL MEMORIAL TROPHY:

TOP DOG IN SHOW AND FIELD – *Donated by S. and Y. Mueller*





The trophies from the Invitation and Joshua Cup events are also perpetual, and are presented at the end of the year:

HOPE ISLAND CUP:

TOP HOUND OF THE DAY - *Donated by K. Airens/M. Burridge*

FUN IS A TERRIER:

TOP TERRIER OF THE DAY - *Donated by D. and B. Wilkinson*

SHANETT TROPHY:

TOP OTHER BREEDS OF THE DAY - *Donated by M Bennett/T Lance*

ROUGE ET NOIR:

TOP UNREGISTERED OF THE DAY - *Donated by S. and S. Mueller*

THE JOSHUA CUP:

AWARDED TO WINNER OF THIS ENDURANCE EVENT (Open only to pedigree dogs that have attained the title "Lure Courser of Merit") - *Donated by G. and M. Mannix.*

Please note: All perpetual trophies must be returned by a specified date each year, to the Trophy Officer. A smaller replica as a memento replaces all perpetual trophies not retained by the previous winner.

Other Useful Information

Dog safety first !

For safety reasons, the only dogs and handlers permitted within three metres of the assembly area are those participating and about to enter the grounds to run their dog. Please leave through the exit gate, and keep the area around the gates clear for safety reasons. We thank you for your cooperation.

**For safety reasons the Racing Secretary's table is also a
DOG FREE ZONE.**

Bitches in Season Reminder

Bitches in season are NOT TO BE COURSED during their season and from six weeks from the onset of their season – for the bitch's welfare.

Volunteers Please?!

Help to lay the course out and set up the judges' shelter.

Learn to be a Gate Steward, Huntsmaster, or Lure Controller – any of the Committee members will show you what to do. The more help we have the smoother the day will run. Even if you can only help for half an hour – it will be greatly appreciated, and you will certainly

see and learn a great deal! On race days, presentation doesn't start until all equipment is packed away. So the more hands to help, the sooner the day's scores are announced.

Membership Fees

All membership fees are due and payable on 31 January, EACH YEAR.

New members who join at the Summer Cup, will be asked to join for the full year ahead and for the period of the Summer Cup. This would mean that a single member joining in December will pay \$15.00 for a full year membership that will take them until renewal in January of the following year plus \$3 membership for the Summer Cup period, at a total membership fee of \$18, family membership are \$23 under this criteria. If members wish to receive a paper copy of the Pursuit, an additional \$10 is paid with the membership fee.

Sponsorship

At all race meetings, prizes are awarded to the top dog in each group. These prizes are donated by people who are willing to sponsor a meeting. We are always looking for sponsorship for the Club. If you can help out or know any organisation willing to sponsor a meeting, please notify our Public Relations officer or the Racing Secretary.

Your Dog Is An Athlete

And just like an athlete, your dog needs to be warmed up before competition and cooled down afterwards if soreness and injury are to be avoided.

BEFORE RACING YOUR DOG:

WARM up your dog. Walk the dog at a brisk pace for several minutes to warm their muscles up, and then gentle stretching which can greatly benefit your dog by helping to prevent muscle soreness and injury. Always stretch according to the natural range of motion of body part. DO NOT take your dog straight from being constrained to run a course! **Always toilet** dogs prior to running.

AFTER RACING YOUR DOG:

COOL your dog – walk the dog for a few minutes to cool naturally. You can then wet or hose down legs and belly where the large blood vessels are near the surface.

HEAT STRESS:

If your dog becomes restless, distressed, wobbly on its feet with excessive panting, it may be showing signs of heat stress. This is a serious situation and needs to be treated. The dog needs to be cooled down and monitored. **Please seek assistance at the Racing Secretary's desk immediately.**

WATER:

AFTER running, allow your dog a small drink of water and another drink later once the dog has cooled down.

DO NOT FEED YOUR DOG:

DO not feed your dog on the morning of the race day – it can lead to stomach cramps and can be dangerous.

Please Note:

Covered shoes **MUST** be worn on the field at all times.

Feedback

The Committee would like feedback on any issues mentioned in the Minutes of the Meetings. This is the reason the minutes are published on the website or summarised in The Pursuit.

The Secretary also has them available to read at race meetings.

Feedback may be made person-to-person on race days, by phone to any Committee member, by letter to the Secretary (PO Box 249, Acacia Ridge LPO, Qld, 4110) or by email to Committee members who have that facility.

Letters are good as they come to the meeting as official correspondence and must be read, discussed and a written reply sent to the writer.

Have a say in the running of your club - members are encouraged to attend meetings in person! and to use the suggestion box at the Racing Secretary's desk. Suggestions and comments can be anonymous or with your name if a response is required,



Judges' Code of Ethics

DEFINITIONS:

- Judges Panel: The Judges' Panel consists of all senior judges.
- Trainee judges, according to their anticipated ability, are appointed by the Judges' Panel.
The selection criteria include:
 - Two (2) years continuous membership of the QLCAI
 - Has held all field positions on the coursing field during at least one (1) year season;
 - Previous experience with dogs is essential (example lure coursing, showing, breeding agility, obedience, or veterinary experience);
 - Together with a keen attitude towards the sport, the applicant needs to show a willingness to learn and apply.
- Junior judge criteria:
The following criteria will apply:
 - Has judged at Summer Cup meetings under the supervision of a senior judge.
 - The junior judge has completed trainee judge training and has been deemed competent to be awarded a certificate of achievement as a judge.
- Senior judge criteria:
The following criteria will be considered before elevation:
 - The applicant must have been judging continuously for a minimum of six (6) years. They will display a thorough understanding of all breeds, what they were bred for, running styles and typical behaviours.
 - Together with a keen attitude, they must have shown integrity and commitment throughout their time as a junior judge.

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POLICY

1. Judges shall at all times show a professional attitude towards the sport and the QLCAI as a whole and their personal appearance will be that of a representative. On and off the field, a judge will act in a responsible and respectable manner.
2. Judges require respect for their position while on and off the field and will act independently without any influence from any other person while fulfilling their judging assignment.
3. A Judge roster will be sent out in time to all judges before the start of each coursing season. The roster will be confidential to the Judges' Committee. The judge will not announce his/her appointments or that of other judges to other club officials or members.
4. Decisions, recommendations, discussions etc. that take place during meeting of the Judges Panel and during training lessons of new judges, are confidential and not to be discussed at General Meetings or with the general public. A representative of the Judges' Panel may discuss relevant issues and will report to the Management Committee.
5. While the Judges' Panel cannot restrict the use of public forums and private chatrooms (Facebook, Twitter etc), it is our policy that there will be no discussions entered into or statements made regarding other judges, members or club internal procedures. Enquiries are to be directed to the QLCAI website.
6. Judges' decisions are final and no discussion shall be entered into.

7. Judges will not judge their own dogs. Another judge will judge the Judge's dogs on a separate scoring sheet.

PROCEDURES

A. The trainee judge is mentored by the Chief Judge and senior judges.

B. Junior judges may apply to the Judges' Panel for senior status.

C. Junior judges' decisions may be reviewed by the Chief Judge. Trainee judge decisions shall be supervised by the educating judge appointed by the Chief Judge.

D. Judges on the day should be on the field one (1) hour before race commencement to inspect and advise of any proposed changes to the course – before any dog enters the field.

F. Unless otherwise stated, four (4) weeks prior to the commencement of the race season, the Judge will accept their appointment according to the judges' roster. If a judge is required to change an appointment, they will arrange for a replacement judge and notify the chief Judge of the change.

G. Judging appointments outside of QLCAI jurisdiction require the expressed permission of the Judges' Panel.

H. Should any Judge become the aggrieved party in an incident, the Judges' Panel will decide the course of action and support the aggrieved Judge as much as is reasonably possible.

I. The Judges' Panel, including junior and trainee judges, will review their activities and performances at least twice a year.

S. Mueller – Chief Judge.

23rd March, 2011.

Field Position Descriptions:

CHIEF STEWARD - ROLE AND FUNCTIONS.

Role:

- To record the runs of each dog that courses on the day.
- To control movement of dogs onto the coursing field.
- To control the efficient running of the event by ensuring that the next dog is ready to go as soon as the dog from the previous run is back on leash. It is not necessary to wait for the previous dog to leave the field as this can slow down the overall day's events.

Functions:

- Calls, by breed, the dogs due to run and advises owners of other breeds to get their dogs ready.
- Marks off each dog as it runs.
 - If a dog is absent, this is recorded.
 - If a dog does not run the 2nd course of the day, this is recorded
- Sends out the next dog as soon as the dog on the field has completed its run and is back on a leash.
- Notifies the judge of each breed change and of the number of the dog that is about to run.
 - The judge is notified of which dog has an identifying collar or colour when several dogs are coursing together.
 - The judge is notified if a dog is being run as a pacer for a new or novice dog.
- The Chief Steward has the authority to permit a dog to run out of breed order under extenuating circumstances:
 - Owner has a valid reason for arriving late or leaving early.
- Organises the running of the Invitation events with dogs run in batches to enable vetting between runs and the commencement of the second runs within the 10 minute timeframe.
 - Hands the vetting card to the handler on the completion of each run, noting the time when the dog is to return for its vet check.
 - Notifies the judges if any dog is withdrawn by the Vet.



Role:

- To control the start of each course.
- To check that the dog is properly restrained and can be released safely.
- To check that the judges, lure operator and handler are all ready for the start of the run.
- To give the order for the dog to be released after the lure.
- Along with the judges, can order the lure driver to stop the lure if the dog appears to be caught in the lure rope or if the dog appears to be injured, until it gets caught.

The Huntsmaster has an important role in ensuring the safety of the dog and handler. As the lure passes, the dog exerts a great deal of pressure on the lead and the handler as it tries to get away to chase the lure. If the handler does not have the dog prepared safely for the release, both handler and dog could be injured. The handler can be knocked over and even dragged by one of the large strong breeds of dogs. The collar and lead must clear the dog so as not to tangle or strike the dog as it pulls free on the release.

If during the running of the course, the dog catches and stops the lure, the Huntsmaster must ensure that the dog is clear of the lure before re-starting the course.

Starting to course:

Checking collars and leads:

- Check that all collars have been removed.
- Check that buckles are clear of the dog.
- Check that the handler is standing on the loose end of the lead so that it will not whip out and catch on the dog.
- If a slip lead is used, check that it is threaded correctly so that the collar pulls free as the dog starts to run.
- Do not stand too close or in front of the dog.
- Ask on radio if judge is ready
- Ask handler if dog is ready
- Tell lure driver that dog and judge are ready
- Call **go** for dog to be released when the lure has passed the dog and is at the distance most suitable for that particular breed of dog.
 - Fast dogs need the lure to be approximately 5 metres ahead of them
 - Slower dogs and dogs who easily become unsighted need to be released sooner - approximately 1 – 2 metres ahead of them.

Completing the course:

- If necessary, assist handler to catch the dog.
- Once the dog is back on lead, advise the handler to leave the field as quickly as possible through the exit gate.



Role:

- Without a lure driver, there cannot be any coursing.
- To plan the course layout for the day's lure coursing.
- To drive the lure around the course for the dogs to follow.

Functions:

- Sets out the course with pulleys and cord. This must include:
 - estimating the distance of the course.
 - angles of direction changes are not too sharp.
 - checks the condition of the ground to reduce risk of injury to the dogs.
- Sets up the bike.
 - Set the tension of the cord so that it will run smoothly but not break from too much tension.
- Drives the lure when the dog is ready to run as signalled by the huntsmaster.
 - the driver needs to be aware of the running style of different breeds of dogs.
 - The lure needs to be kept in a position ahead of the dog but still within that particular breed's sighting ability. Some dogs will become unsighted and lose the lure if it is too far ahead. Other dogs such as the sighthounds will catch the lure if it is not far enough ahead.
 - Stops the lure immediately the dog appears to be caught in the cord or if the dog appears to be injured.

The position of lure driver requires training from Ian Smith. The prospective driver must learn how to prepare the bike and the pulleys and how to set out the course. There must be an awareness of the way that different breeds course and how to manage the speed and distance of the lure to suit different breeds and dogs. This takes time to learn but Ian is only too willing to teach interested members.