

Open Class/Performance Team Rules Appendix

In response to the delegate survey the NAFA Board adopts the following rules establishing the Open Class and Performance Teams on a one year trial basis, effective October 1, 2007, as follows:

Open Class

From October 1, 2007 until September 30, 2008, NAFA restates section 6.2 of its Corporate Policies and Procedures to recognize as a fifth class of competition the Open Class. The Open Class is subject to all existing NAFA Rules of Racing and Corporate Policies and Procedures except that the 87 day rule stated in Section 7.5(a) of the Corporate Policies and Procedures does not apply to the Open Class. The Open Class is subject to the following additional specific rules:

1. Other Classes or Time Sheets

A dog that is listed on a timesheet for a team in the Open Class may be listed on the timesheet for one additional team in another Class, except in circumstances where a second entry would be prohibited by Sections 6.2(f) or (g) of the NAFA Policies and Procedures.

2. Club Affiliation

A dog's club affiliation is not affected by reason of running in the Open Class.

3. Seeding

- a. The preference for divisions comprising at least four teams shall not apply to the Open Class.*
- b. In consultation with and with the approval of the Regional Director, the host club may utilize a racing schedule that has teams in the Open Class compete with teams in the Veteran's Class. Where this occurs, competition in the Open Class shall be run subject to the false start and heat limit rules stated for the Veteran's Class in section 6.2(e)(i) and (ii) of the Corporate Policies and Procedures.*

4. *Record Times and NAFA Seed Times.*

a. *The rules governing world records stated in Section 7.2 of the Corporate Policies and Procedures do not apply to the Open Class. A team running in the Open Class is not eligible to set a NAFA world record;*

b. *Teams running in the Open Class shall be eligible for points and tournament placements within the Open Class. However, times set by a team running in a Open Class shall not be entered into the NAFA Database as club or in region times. As with the Veteran's Class, a separate roster may be established on the website to report times for teams competing in the Open Class.*

Performance Teams

From October 1, 2007 until September 30, 2008, Section 7.5 of NAFA's Corporate Policies and Procedures is further modified to permit clubs to field teams designated as Performance Teams that include dogs that otherwise would be ineligible to compete because the dog earned points on another club's team within the preceding 87 days. This exception to section 7.5(a) is subject to the following terms, conditions and requirements:

1. *NAFA Rules and Policies Apply*

Clubs, teams, dogs and participants on Performance Teams remain subject to and governed by all of the provisions of the NAFA Rules of Racing and Corporate Policies and Procedures, except as specifically set forth below.

2. *Conversion to Performance Team Entry.*

With the permission of the Tournament Director for cause shown, a team entered in a regular or non-regular class may be converted from its original status to a Performance Team entry prior to the start of the tournament. The intent of this conversion privilege is to allow teams that have already entered a tournament but who, for unforeseen reasons, find themselves unable to field a complete team, to run for points with a dog or dogs from another club. "Cause" shall include but not be limited to circumstances such as dog injury, illness,

or other unforeseen situation. A team may not enter a tournament as a Performance Team.

3. Performance Team Status Declared.

A team's status as a Performance Team entry shall be clearly shown on the team's time sheet and declared prior to the start of racing. The team's status as a Performance Team shall be disclosed on the seeding list prepared and circulated by the host club prior to the tournament and/or at the captain's meeting before the racing starts. Once a team is declared to be a Performance Team, its status does not change, even if the non-club dog(s) listed on the time sheet do not earn any points.

4. Club Affiliation

A dog's club affiliation is not affected by reason of running on a Performance Team.

5. Other Classes or Time Sheets

A dog that is listed on a timesheet for a Performance Team may be listed on the timesheet for one additional team provided the entry is on a team in another class, except in circumstances where a second entry would be prohibited by Sections 6.2(f) or (g) of the NAFA Policies and Procedures.

6. Placements and Awards

A Performance Team is not eligible for tournament awards or placements. A Performance Team will not be awarded any wins in any races or heats. A team racing against a Performance Team must complete the minimum number of heats in order to record a win. In an elimination event, Performance Teams shall be placed at the bottom of the elimination brackets, with the Performance Teams being ranked by time among themselves by seed time in the event more than one Performance Team is in the elimination schedule.

1. Record Times, NAFA Seed Times, and Championships.

- a. *A Performance Team is not eligible to set a NAFA world record. The rules governing world records stated in Section 7.2 of the Corporate Policies and Procedures do not apply to Performance Teams.*
- b. *Times set by a Performance Team shall be recorded on the time sheet for purposes of calculating points earned by the dogs on the timesheet entered into the NAFA Database but for no other purpose.*
- c. *Regardless of the regional affiliation of the club fielding the Performance Team, such teams shall be treated as out of region teams for purposes of the Rules governing Regional Championships.*