



Changes to Working Trials Regulations for 2027

The Royal Kennel Club has approved the following changes to the regulations for Working Trials.

The below amendment shortens the time frame in which societies must apply for a licence to hold a working trial from 6 months to 6 weeks.

Regulation I6. Societies are required to apply for permission to hold Special Events.

TO:

Applications should be submitted to the Royal Kennel Club by email at least six ~~months~~ **weeks** before the start of any qualifying heats for the event.

(Deletions struck through. Insertion in bold.)

Regulation I9. Application.

TO:

The application for a licence to hold a working trial must be made to the secretary of the Royal Kennel Club, and must be accompanied by the appropriate licence fee, at least six ~~months~~ **weeks** before the date of the working trial.

(Deletions struck through. Insertion in bold.)

(Effective 1 January 2027)

The below amendment relates to the removal of the objection fee as part of the complaints process.

Regulation I13.a

TO:

An objection must be lodged directly with the Royal Kennel Club within seven days after the last day of the trial and under these circumstances a copy of the objection must be sent to the trial secretary. When an objection is lodged the following information must be given;

A statement detailing the objection, quoting the relevant regulation(s).

~~The objection fee of £35, or such amount as may from time to time be decided by the Board.~~

The name and address of the objector.

The name and address of the owner of the dog (if relevant).

All relevant evidence.

~~The objection fee may be returned after consideration of the objection.~~

(deletion struck through)

(Effective 1 January 2027)



The below deletion removes an outdated regulation for unlicensed events.

Removal of regulation I18:

~~18. Unlicensed trials.~~

~~Notwithstanding the provision of these Regulations, certain events which are not licensed by the Royal Kennel Club may from time to time be recognised by the Board of the Royal Kennel Club. The Board shall have power to grant permission for Royal Kennel Club registered dogs to be entered for such events. The standing of a judge, exhibitor or promoter will not be prejudiced by participation in these special unlicensed events.~~

(Deletions struck through. Subsequent regulations to be renumbered)

(Effective 1 January 2027)

The following is an addition to the I regulations for all disciplines to clarify the position regarding refunds issued following the closing date of entries.

Addition to regulations I23.e

TO:

The closing date for entries shall form the contract between the competitor and the society. Where a dog is withdrawn from competition after the closing date for entries, no refund of fee(s) paid shall be due.

(Insertion in bold. Subsequent regulations to be renumbered)

(Effective 1 January 2027)

The following amendment to the regulations ensures that the Quartering the Ground exercise remains that of quartering the ground and not of sendaways or redirection.

Regulation I(B)12. Quartering the ground

TO:

The missing person, protected consistent with safety, must remain motionless in a seated or standing position out of sight of the handler but must be accessible on investigation to the dog when 'winded'. The protected steward must not be lying down. The judge should satisfy himself that the dog has found the person and given warning spontaneously and emphatically without being directed by the handler. A dog that bites the hidden person must be heavily penalised. **Excessive commands when the dog is quartering the ground must be penalised. The dog should have a positive attitude when searching for the protected steward/s. Dogs that do not respond to directions and return to the handler must be treated as having failed the exercise.**

(Insertion in bold)



(Effective 1 January 2027)