HWA Code of Conduct Agreement

The purpose of the HWA Code of Conduct is to maintain a standard of conduct that is acceptable to the organization, participants, and spectators. Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy and vigorous competition, as well as participating with grace.

One example when observing any kind of scene or altercation occurring during an event is whether a family attending an event for the first time would be likely to decide, after witnessing such an incident, that the sport is not for them. While the number of people witnessing the incident should be taken into consideration, conduct that is known to only one or two people at an event can also be prejudicial to the sport. Among the kinds of conduct that may occur are: a demonstration of dissatisfaction with a judge’s decision, including refusal to accept a ribbon or throwing a ribbon on the ground; altercations with officials or participants; abusive or foul language in public; and mistreatment of a dog. As in any sport, conduct that may, in the opinion of the Events Committee, be prejudicial to the sport can take other forms that do not fall within these descriptions.

It is the duty of HWA’s Events Committee and/or members of HWA’s Board of Directors to deal within a reasonable time frame with acts of alleged prejudicial conduct which occur during or in connection with a club’s event. Incidents should be documented in writing by witnesses. The phrase “in connection with” means any incident where the parties involved are there because of the event; for example, at a dinner connected with the event, in a parking lot adjacent to the event grounds, at a hotel facility, or abuse of a hotel facility. Incidents occurring while traveling to, from and between events are not considered to be in connection with an event.

Hunting Working Airedales’ Board of Directors reserves the right to determine appropriate penalties for misconduct or unsportsmanlike conduct at a HWA event.

Misconduct examples include physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature; inappropriate, abusive or foul language; personal property damage; impairing a club’s ability to retain a site; failure to properly control a dog at an event; disruptive behavior at an event; falsification or alteration of documentation, refusal to acknowledge wrongdoing, misconduct involving a person under the age of 18, and unauthorized removal of property at or in connection with an event. Based on the seriousness of the offense, penalties for misconduct may include censure, suspension of membership for a given time period; membership permanently revoked; and/or banning of participation and presence at future HWA events