

USCSS Rulebook 3.1 Revision Highlights

- All levels and games will have a 30 sec warning. (Copy Cat does not need one as the judge is the one making the “alert” call.)
- Failure to call “finish” will result in a general fault at the Master level only (for Element classes) and in the optional Extreme class.
- New game added: Pairs Challenge.
- There were some title abbreviation changes to Gamer titles, to avoid confusion with the numbers used to repeat Gamer Pro titles.
 - ◆ Gamer Bronze changed from DDGA2 to DDGAB
 - ◆ Gamer Silver changed from DDGA3 to DDGAS
 - ◆ Gamer Gold was created and will be DDGAG
- There are two “new” disqualifying faults: “Destruction of Search Area” (for “damage” that would require the host to replace an item, other than a cardboard box) and “Failure to Find Two (2) Hides in Pairs Challenge”.
- Flexis ARE allowed when dogs are actively engaged in a search. The host needs to put in the premium whether or not they are allowed on the grounds when not actively engaged in a search.
- Failure to cross the designated start line no longer has the option to restart, it is a “general fault”.
- There is a clarification that food cannot be delivered to the ground, inside or outside of the search area, at any time.
- “Elimination in the Search Area” was clarified to read that eliminating anywhere/anytime during the search (between start and “finish”) is a disqualification.
- There was a line in the Rulebook 3.0 that was accidentally eliminated stating that rewarding your dog is required, or may be faulted. That line was put back in.
- Methods by which pairs/teams can be formed and how to deal with uneven numbers has been included.
- Modifications were made to the optional Extreme class:
 - ◆ # of hides changed from 7-12 to 7-10.
 - ◆ Points to qualify were changed from 85 to 75.
 - ◆ One (1) False Alert will now be allowed.

USCSS Rulebook 3.1 Revision Highlights for Hosts

There were some title abbreviation changes to Gamer titles, to avoid confusion with the numbers used to repeat Gamer Pro titles.

Gamer Bronze changed from DDGA2 to DDGAB

Gamer Silver changed from DDGA3 to DDGAS

Gamer Gold was created and will be DDGAG

There is a “new” disqualifying fault that you should be aware of. “Destruction of Search Area” has been added for teams that “damage” something such that you would need to replace an item (other than say a single cardboard box).

Flexis ARE allowed when dogs are actively engaged in a search. The host needs to put in the premium whether or not they are allowed on the grounds when not actively engaged in a search.

Items that need to be included in premiums”

Whether or not you allow Flexis (and/or other supportive equipment).

If you are giving tabs in lieu of title ribbons for repeat titles.

If you are not awarding HiT awards for less than 125 runs.

If you are awarding 2nd - 4th HiT ribbons.

If offering Team Spirit or Pairs Challenge, you need to specify how teams/pairs will be formed.

USCSS Rulebook 3.1 Revision Highlights for Judges

- All levels and games will have a 30 sec warning. (Copy Cat does not need one as the judge is the one making the “alert” call.)
- Failure to call “finish” will result in a general fault at the Master level only (for Element classes) and in the optional Extreme class.
- New game added: Pairs Challenge.
- There are two “new” disqualifying faults: “Destruction of Search Area” (for “damage” that would require the host to replace an item, other than a cardboard box) and “Failure to Find Two (2) Hides in Pairs Challenge”.
- Flexis ARE allowed when dogs are actively engaged in a search. The host needs to put in the premium whether or not they are allowed on the grounds when not actively engaged in a search.
- Failure to cross the designated start line no longer has the option to restart, it is a “general fault”.
- There is a clarification that food cannot be delivered to the ground, inside or outside of the search area, at any time. This will prevent the “scattering” of food before a search. You may fault *per item* tossed on the ground.
- “Elimination in the Search Area” was clarified to read that eliminating anywhere/anytime during the search (between start and “finish”) is a disqualification.
- There was a line in the Rulebook 3.0 that was accidentally eliminated stating that rewarding your dog is required, or may be faulted. That line was put back in.
- Methods by which pairs/teams can be formed and how to deal with uneven numbers has been included. In those cases, you may end up with one handler handling two dogs or a team of 3. All four hides must still be found. (Details are in the Rulebook.)