

OFFICIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR LGRA SPRINT RACING

January 2001

6.1 Disqualification For Intentional Foul

A hound shall be disqualified for "intentional foul" when, **between the starting box and the finish line**, it turns its head from the lure towards another racer and either makes contact or doesn't, but obviously impedes, stops or forces the second Hound to run wide to avoid contact. Only the Foul Judges can disqualify a racer and they should do this fearlessly, but **only when sure of the identity of the Hound**. Prior to discussing the foul with other Foul Judges of the Host Race Secretary, **each Foul Judge shall write the foul on his/her foul Judge Report Form. Then each Foul Judge shall go directly to the Host Race Secretary and show the written report.** If two or more Foul Judges have written up the same foul, then the Host Race Secretary shall issue a notice of Disqualification to the Owner/Handler of the Hound stating the foul committed and race/program, that it occurred.

6.1.1 Retaliation

If a hound retaliated after being attacked, it should not be disqualified. Only the aggressor should be disqualified.

WHAT IS A FOUL?

By Doug Arthur

What is a foul? A foul is **interference**. Interference occurs when a whippet deliberately and aggressively impedes the progress of one or more whippets during a race.

What is not a foul? It is **not** deliberate interference when:

- (a) A whippet "lays on" or "shoulders another whippet while passing or being passed.
- (b) A whippet runs to its left or right; i.e., is a "wide runner". There are many "wide runners" who never turn their heads.
- (c) A strong and determined whippet shoves its way through the dogs ahead of it.
- (d) A whippet tries to jump over the whippet ahead of it.
- (e) A whippet barks or growls during a race.
- (f) A whippet retaliates when interfered with (**it is the first foul only that should be called**).
- (g) A whippet collides with another dog when breaking out of the starting box.

Some Thoughts on Bumping or Interference

By Bill Turpin, President, British Columbia Whippet Club

"4. The appointment of the foul judges is probably the most important single matter a Club is faced with, when organizing a race meeting...the Racing Secretary should advise the contestants beforehand who the judges are, and that their decisions will be final. Then if the competitor is not too happy with the selection of judges, he does not have to run his dog..."

"5. The selection of judges should be done with the greatest of care. They should be competent and completely impartial..."

"7. In any race where a judge has a dog competing, then this person automatically disqualifies himself from any opinions of this particular race. You then call in one of your spare judges, not just anybody."

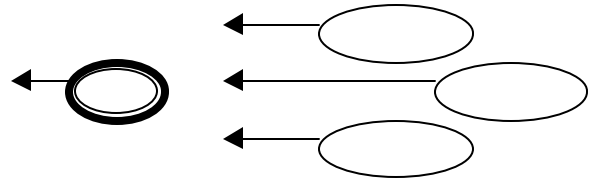
Let's Get Something Straight

By Bill Turpin

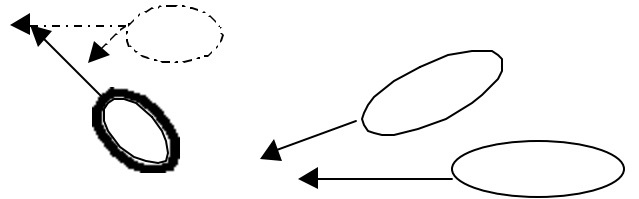
...Here is the crux of the matter then, for, while some people choose to ignore all interference short of a knock-down-drag-out brawl, others consider any form of contact one dog makes with another to be a foul. Between these two extremes lies the answer to the problem at hand. To judge whether a dog fouls is to judge whether a dog is "running the lure" or simply "running another dog". **So long as a dog chases the lure only it cannot foul another dog...**

LEGAL BUMPING

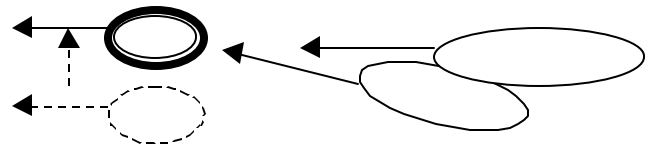
1. Dog B runs between dogs A and C in chasing the lure and, in so doing, bumps dogs A and C. However, dog B does not turn his head but simply takes the shortest route to the lure.



2. The lure bounces, as indicated in the diagram, and dog B, who was in the act of passing dog A at the time the lure moved, cuts in front of A, possibly hitting him in the process but still attempts to run the shortest path to the lure.

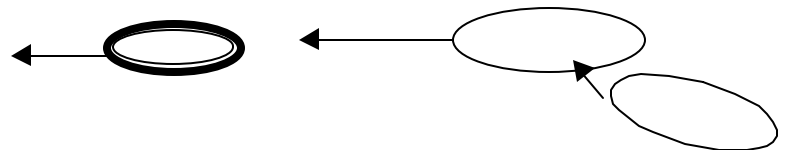


3. Dog B tries to go over dog A. This is a rare incident but it may be a legitimate attempt to catch the lure. It may be caused by a sudden shift in the direction of the lure followed by dog A, cutting front of dog B who is in mid-stride. In judging a case such as this, one should consider the collision to be “innocent” if dog B continues after the lure and ignores dog A after the collision.

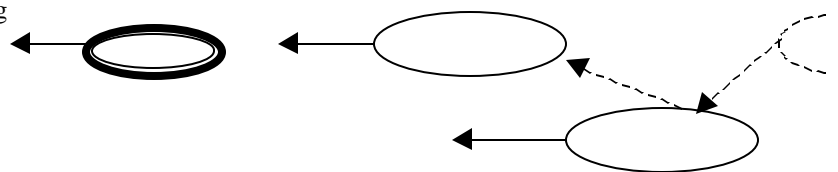


ILLEGAL INTERFERENCE

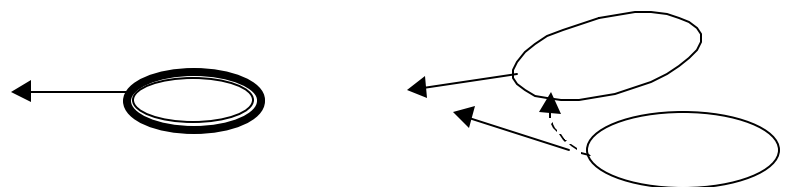
1. Dog B “rides” dog A, that is, dog B makes no attempt to pass dog A but, instead, tries to force him off the track or away from the lure thus impeding dog A’s speed and direction.



2. Dog B swerves from his path to the lure, hits dog A once or several times, then continues after the lure. This is usually obvious since the dog committing the foul will “turn his head” or look before running at and hitting the other dog.



3. Dog B attempts to pass dog A. Dog A curs in front of B hitting him once or repeatedly, to prevent B from reaching the lure first. Again, a head turn is usually obvious in such a situation.



4. While these are the most common instances of “bumping”, there is one further case which requires comment here. This is the case where a dog “turns its head” but doesn’t actually interfere with the progress of another dog. While the intent to foul may be there, **the dog should not be disqualified unless it actually interferes.**