

**RULES  
OF  
TENNESSEE WILDLIFE RESOURCES AGENCY  
WILDLIFE RESOURCES**

**CHAPTER 1660-01-04  
RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR FIELD TRIALS AND DOG TRAINING**

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**1660-01-04-.01 RACCOON DOG FIELD TRIALS.**

- (1) Organized raccoon dog clubs may run field trials provided they justify, in writing, to the Regional Manager of the TWRA region where the trial is to be held a minimum of fifteen (15) days prior to the opening of the trial. No club will be permitted to conduct more than seven (7) field trials during the closed season on raccoons of any one calendar year.
- (2) A minimum of 12 entries are required before a trial may be held and grounds where dogs are to be released shall be clearly outlined in the written notice given the Wildlife Officer.
- (3) The Secretary or other official of the Club sponsoring the field trial shall maintain a list of the names and addresses of the persons who have dogs participating in the field trial for a period of thirty (30) days after the close of the trial. Such list must be available and open for inspection by any representative of the Wildlife Resources Agency at all times.
- (4) All such trials must be sanctioned or recognized by the United Kennel Club or other chartered clubs, and must be conducted in accordance with the rules of the sanctioning organization.
- (5) No raccoon or other game may be killed except during the regular season when it is legal to do so.
- (6) No person attending or participating in a raccoon dog field trial shall use or carry any firearms, axes, saws, climbing instruments, or devices capable of driving a raccoon from any den or tree.
- (7) The Wildlife Resources Agency reserved the right to prohibit any and all such field trials when same are deemed not to be in the best interest of the public or are deemed to be detrimental to the native wildlife of the area where the trial is to be held including when it is determined by the Agency that the raccoon population is declining in that area to the extent that the field trials would be detrimental to the resource.

**Authority:** T.C.A. § 70-1-206. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified May 8, 1974. Amendment filed October 6, 1980; effective November 20, 1980. Amendment filed July 19, 2001; effective October 2, 2001. Amendment filed January 5, 2009; effective March 21, 2009.

**1660-01-04-.02 OTHER TRIALS.**

- (1) Organized bird dog clubs, rabbit dog clubs, retriever dog clubs, foxhound clubs, and other organized clubs as recognized by proclamation, may run field trials provided they justify, in writing, to the Regional Manager of the TWRA region where the trial is to be held a minimum of fifteen (15) days prior to the opening of the trial.

(Rule 1660-01-04-.02, continued)

- (2) The Wildlife Resources Agency reserves the right to prohibit any and all such field trials when same are deemed not to be in the best interest of the public or are deemed to be detrimental to the native wildlife of the area where the trial is to be held.
- (3) Game birds released in bird dog and/or retriever dog field trials must have been artificially propagated or otherwise legally obtained and may be released only on the dates of the trial and on the trial grounds. Game birds released on Agency-controlled lands shall bear a leg band approved by the Wildlife resources Agency.
- (4) All shoot-to-retrieve field trials shall be required to establish trial grounds as private wildlife shooting preserves and therefore shall abide by all regulations of Rule 1660-1-11.02, except for trials not operating under a private wildlife shooting preserve permit shall abide by all regulations pertaining to that season.

**Authority:** § 70-1-206. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified May 8, 1974. Amendment filed August 9, 1993; effective October 23, 1993. Amendment filed July 19, 2001; effective October 2, 2001.

**1660-01-04-.03 REPEALED.**

**Authority:** § 70-1-206. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified May 8, 1974. Amendment filed June 8, 1977; effective July 8, 1977. Repeal filed July 19, 2001; effective October 2, 2001.

**1660-01-04-.04 RELEASE AND RECAPTURE PENS.**

- (1) Pen-reared Bobwhite quail may be released and recaptured for the purpose of training bird dogs on a year-round basis.
- (2) All bobwhite quail released shall bear a leg band approved by the Wildlife Resources Agency.
- (3) Shooting of released quail is allowed only during the open statewide quail season or during the shooting preserve season if released on a licensed shooting preserve.
- (4) Each release and recapture pen must be identified with the name and address of the person attempting to release or recapture pen-reared quail.
- (5) Release and recapture pens may be used only with landowner approval.
- (6) The dog trainer must show the location of all release and recapture pens to the wildlife officer on request.
- (7) All species of wildlife other than the banded quail which may be trapped in the pens must be released unharmed immediately.
- (8) All release and recapture pens must be checked daily to insure proper maintenance.

**Authority:** T.C.A. § 70-1-206. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified May 8, 1974. Amendment filed August 2, 1982; effective August 31, 1982. Amendment filed August 9, 1993; effective October 23, 1993. Amendments filed September 21, 2016; effective December 20, 2016.