



## **Barn Hunt® Association Position Statement on Competing Organizations**

As the sport of Barn Hunt® has grown across the United States, Canada, and the world, it is inevitable that other organizations holding rat hunt type competitions have sprung up and will continue to do so. When that happens, Clubs and Judges are sometimes not sure what to do or how those competing organizations may affect their ties with Barn Hunt®. The official policy of the Barn Hunt Association LLC is as follows:

- Barn Hunt® is a registered trademark. No competing sport may use the term Barn Hunt® (or any words/lettering so similar as to be mistaken for Barn Hunt®) in any name or descriptor or in any rule for that sport.
- All official Barn Hunt® documents, including but not exclusive to all rulebooks (including National, Regional, and special event rulebooks) support materials, the Barn Hunt website, handouts, illustrations, etc. are protected by copyright and registered with the U.S. Copyright office. The United States has cooperative copyright agreements with most foreign countries. Violations of a U.S. copyright can be enforced across borders and overseas. Competing organizations who plagiarize/steal Barn Hunt Association rules and/or other copyrighted materials will be prosecuted.
- Licensed Barn Hunt® Clubs may choose to also hold competing organization events, but may not promote or advertise any competing organization's event(s) in emails, discussion, or any other written materials associated with any Barn Hunt Event, or use any Club name which includes the words Barn Hunt® while running a competing organization event. Clubs may not use social media outlets established and primarily used for Barn Hunt to advertise or promote competing organizations. In simple English, that means Clubs cannot use Barn Hunt to promote a competing organization. Club officials may not display or wear the Barn Hunt logo or other official BHA insignia during any competing organization event. Any Club or Club officials openly promoting a competing organization in direct association with a Barn Hunt Event will face a range of penalties based on the infraction which could include Club dissolution and dismissal from the sport. This does not, however, prohibit Clubs from offering information about any and all other non-competing organizations (e.g. Farm Dog, CGC, conformation, agility, dock diving, etc.) in direct association with Barn Hunt.
- Competing organization events cannot be held in conjunction with (on the same weekend as, or the day(s) prior to or after) any Barn Hunt® Event without the express written permission of the Barn Hunt Association, LLC. Any such requests must be emailed to [info@barnhunt.com](mailto:info@barnhunt.com) prior to applying for the Barn Hunt Event.
- Barn Hunt® Judges may not use their Barn Hunt Judge status to promote a competing organization. Barn Hunt Judges using their position to promote a competing organization may be censured or dismissed as judges or from the sport at the discretion of the Barn Hunt Association, LLC. That does not mean that individuals who also happen to be Barn Hunt Judges may not, on their own time, promote or judge for a competing organization, but rather that they cannot use their Barn Hunt Judge status to do so, nor can they display or wear the Barn Hunt logo or official Barn Hunt insignia when operating as a representative for a competing organization.

Any Clubs or Judges with any questions about these policies may address them to [info@barnhunt.com](mailto:info@barnhunt.com).