

**Dog Scouts of America
BARN HUNT CHECK-OFF SHEET**

- _____ **Handler knows the Barn Hunt rules and performs the badge requirements in accordance with the official rules.**

- _____ **Dog demonstrates the ability to distinguish the difference between an empty tube, a tube with recently used rat bedding, and a tube with bedding and a live rat in it when the tubes are placed side by side 12"-15" apart without the handler knowing at the start which tube has the rat.**

- _____ **Dog can remain in the start box with the handler until the Judge or evaluator gives the "go" signal and while leash, collar, harness, etc. is removed and handed to a helper. Handler may restrain the dog but not hold the dog by its hair, skin, leg or tail.**

- _____ **Handler can "read" the dog to know when the dog finds the live rat in a tube and correctly indicate the find to the evaluator or judge without first indicating an incorrect location. Handler should be able to indicate right where the tube is located, not just a general area.**

- _____ **Dog actively hunts among straw bales going around, under and on top of them looking for the quarry (rat in a tube). Handler may not touch the bales at any time during the hunt.**

- _____ **Dog will remain under the handler's control at all times and can be leashed within 30 seconds of the end of the exercise. It is expected and hoped that the dog will get excited about the rat(s), but the dog should not become so excited that it shows aggression or tries to bite a person that might remove the rat tube or restrain the dog while the tube is removed.**

- _____ **Handler (without knowing where in the ring the rat/hide is located when hunt starts) can help the dog to hunt while not impeding them or directing them right to the hide (if it becomes visible during the hunt) and within 2 min. can tell when dog has found the quarry and indicate that to the evaluator/judge. Course must include a climb and a tunnel and be worthy of a qualifying run per the rules.**

Ideally a dog should never leave its quarry when hunting, but because in Barn Hunt a dog may find more than one quarry it is useful to be able to redirect the dog after a find to either hunt more or do some other task.