



How To Watch Barn Hunt



1. **Try and stay through an entire group of 5 hunts, arriving and leaving as the rat locations are changed, keeping disruption to a minimum.**
2. **Observe and admire the hunting, scenting, problem solving and teamwork skills of the dog.**
3. **Do not mention where the live rat is hidden, either to another observer or exhibitor. You could be overheard by others.**
4. **Minimize conversation during the run. Once the run is over, feel free to cheer and congratulate or commiserate with the team.**
5. **If you see a dog eliminate on course and the judge/gate steward doesn't see it, wait until after the run to tell the gate steward who will arrange for clean up.**
6. **Other than elimination in the ring, if the judge didn't see it, it didn't happen. If the judge didn't see the climb/tunnel or other non-qualifying behavior (patting bale, touching dog, etc.), it is not your job to mention it.**
7. **Please remain at least two feet from the fencing as marked for the rat wrangler's lane, and all dogs should remain at least 20 feet from the ring.**
8. **No food near the rings; beverages allowed.**
9. **Let your dog relax in the crate or car (weather permitting) while you are watching. You learn more without having to attend to your dog.**
10. **You may video or photograph, for personal use only, dogs working as long as you are not a distraction to the team; i.e., loud shutter noise, to close, or hanging over fencing, etc. No flash photography allowed.**
11. **No visiting the "Rat Rest Area" with or without your dog. Strictly enforced. Rats must be kept comfortable and stress free.**
12. **This is a high-arousal sport. Be aware of your surroundings and dogs entering and leaving the ring. Children must be attended at all times.**