



Isle of Man

Ellan Vannin

AT 20 of 1971

GAME (HARES) ACT 1971



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GAME (HARES) ACT 1971

Received Royal Assent: 28 July 1971
Passed: 19 October 1971
Commenced: 19 October 1971

AN ACT to remove protection from certain hares.

GENERAL NOTE: The maximum fines in this Act are as increased by the *Fines Act 1986* and by the *Criminal Justice (Penalties, Etc.) Act 1993 s 1*.

1 Blue or mountain hares to cease to be ‘game’

For the purposes of the Game Acts 1882 to 1958, blue or mountain hares shall cease to be classified as game.

2 Power of the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture to remove protection from brown or common hares

- (1) The Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture may by order provide that the distinction made by this Act between the blue or mountain hare and any other variety of hare named in the order shall cease to exist and thereupon the Game Acts 1882 to 1971 shall apply to such named variety or varieties of hare as they apply to the blue or mountain hare.¹
- (2) Any order made by the said Department under this section shall not take effect until approved by resolution of Tynwald.²

3 Prohibition of competitive coursing

- (1) The competitive coursing in the Isle of Man of hares of any variety whatsoever is hereby declared to be illegal and any person who takes part in the same shall be guilty of an offence.
- (2) A person who is guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £2,500.
- (3) For the purposes of this section —

- (a) the coursing of hares shall be deemed to be competitive coursing if any of the following circumstances are applicable: —
 - (i) the coursing is done by two or more dogs for the purpose of ascertaining the comparative merits of those dogs in the coursing of hares whether for the purpose of betting or wagering thereon or otherwise, or
 - (ii) the public is invited, whether directly or by implication and whether on payment or otherwise, to the venue of the coursing;
 - (b) “competitive coursing” includes such coursing by whippets and other dogs which hunt by sight as well as coursing by greyhounds.
- (4) A person shall be deemed to take part in competitive coursing if he participates in any capacity in the organisation, promotion or administration thereof, attends the venue thereof as a spectator or lays or accepts any bet or wager thereon:

Provided that a person shall not be guilty of an offence of attending the venue of competitive coursing as a spectator if he satisfies the court that he attended there for the purpose of obtaining evidence for a prosecution under this section or for any other lawful purpose.

4 Amendments of enactments, etc

The enactments mentioned in the Schedule to this Act shall have effect subject to the amendments specified in the third column of that Schedule, and may be further amended by any order made under section 2 of this Act for the purpose of conforming to that order.

5 Short title and commencement

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Game (Hares) Act 1971 and shall be construed as one with the Game Acts 1882 to 1958, and those Acts and this Act may be together cited as the Game Acts 1882 to 1971.
- (2) This Act shall come into operation when the Royal Assent thereto has been by the Governor announced to Tynwald and a certificate thereof has been signed by the Governor and the Speaker of the House of Keys.

SCHEDULE

SECTION 4

Sch amends the following Acts —

Game Act 1882 q.v.

Prevention of Damage by Agricultural Pests Act 1956 q.v.

ENDNOTES**Table of Legislation History**

Legislation	Year and No	Commencement

Table of Renumbered Provisions

Original	Current

Table of Endnote References

¹ Subs (1) amended by SD155/10 Sch 3.

² S 2 amended by SD155/10 Sch 3. Subs (2) amended by GC121/86.