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**Constitution of the New Zealand  
Sheep Dog Trial Association Incorporated**

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**CONSTITUTION OF THE NEW ZEALAND SHEEP DOG TRIAL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**  
**RULES AND BY-LAWS**  
**Revised and Adopted 2011**

**RULE 1 – NAME**

The name of the society shall be the NEW ZEALAND SHEEP DOG TRIAL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED.

**RULE 2- DEFINITION**

“The Association” means “the New Zealand Sheep Dog Trial Association Incorporated”.

“Council” means the body of Councillors elected in accordance with Rule 5.04 together with the President.

“General Meeting” means either:

The Annual General Meeting; or

A Special General Meeting called in accordance with Rule 7.03(a)

“Governing body” means the Council or the Executive Committee.

“Provincial Centres” mean those Provincial Centres specified in Rules 5.02 hereof.

“Member” means any member of Association, including individual members, member clubs and life members.

“The Rules of the Association” means these rules and any associated by-laws and appendices.

“Sheep Dog Trials” includes “Dog Trials”, “Trials” and “Championships”.

“Sheep Dog Trialing” means the sport of competitively working any farm livestock by dogs in competition.

**RULE 3- OBJECTS**

01 The objects for which the Association is established are to:

(a) Promote and govern the sport of sheep dog trialing in New Zealand.

(b) Foster in stockmen and the wider community a full understanding of the skills of handling working sheep dogs.

- (c) To encourage the improvement of working sheep dogs through breeding and training.
- (d) To foster goodwill and social interaction between members of the sheep dog trialing community.
- (e) To foster high standards of sportsmanship and ethical behavior in members of the sheep dog trialing community.
- (f) To promote good standards of animal welfare and to ensure that dogs involved in sheep dog trialing in New Zealand are healthy and humanely treated.

02 In support of its principal aims the Association shall:

- (a) Co-operate with and represent the interests of the Association to any organization with aims compatible with the objects of the Association.
- (b) Negotiate with any person or organization and/or its individual members on any matter which may benefit the Association and its individual members.
- (c) Take any action it considers necessary to protect its interests and those of its members.

#### **RULE 4- MEMBERSHIP**

(a) The Association consists of:

- (a) Provincial Centres.
- (b) The Member Clubs of those Provincial Centres.
- (c) The individual members of those Member Clubs.

Except for life members, persons shall only become, and shall only remain members of the Association as a consequence of membership of a Member Club.

02 Provincial Centres:

- (a) New Zealand shall be divided into 13 Provincial Centres, each composed of such number of Clubs as the Council approves.
- (b) The Provincial Centres are:

North Island

Northland

Waikato

King Country

Taranaki

Poverty Bay

Wanganui

Hawke's Bay

Wairarapa/Southern Hawke's Bay

South Island

Marlborough/Nelson

Canterbury

North Otago

Otago

Southland

(c) Provincial Centres shall act on behalf of the Association, controlling dog trials in accordance with these Rules.

03 Member Clubs:

- No less than 12 persons, having received the prior approval of the appropriate Provincial Centre, may apply to the Council for permission to form a club.
- The Council may, at its absolute discretion, grant or refuse any application for membership.
- Providing that a Club complies with the requirements of these Rules it shall become a Member Club of the Association and Provincial Centre may require.
- Clubs shall have the right to grant or refuse membership to any individual.

04 Individual Members:

- (a) Persons shall become members of the Association as a consequence of being a member of a Club; which in turn must be a member of a Provincial Centre of the Association.

- (b) Every member of a Club shall be a member of the Provincial Centre in whose district that Club is situated; irrespective of where that person resides.
- (c) Individual members may be members of more than one Club, but only a member of one provincial centre each season.

05 Life Members:

- (a) The title of Life Member may be bestowed on members who have made an outstanding contribution of service to the Association at National level.
- (b) A Life Member shall have all the privileges of an individual member and shall be entitled to attend functions of the Association as an honoured guest.
- (c) An Annual General Meeting may elect Life Members, however nomination for Life Membership may only be made following a resolution of the Council to that effect.
- (d) Nomination must be made to an Annual General Meeting on the Council's behalf, generally by the President.

06 Termination of Membership:

- (a) Any person who ceases to be a member of a Club, and any Club which ceases to be a member of a Provincial Centre, shall immediately cease to be members of the Association, but shall remain liable for any fees due up to the time they cease to be a member.
- (b) Any Club whose fees are more than 6 months overdue shall be automatically suspended from membership and, if those fees remain unpaid after 9 months may be expelled by the Council.
- (c) Membership of the Association may be suspended or terminated as a result of disciplinary action.

**RULE 5- PROVINCIAL CENTRES**

- Provincial Centres shall consist of their Member Clubs.
- Provincial Centres may make regulations to control their affairs, providing that those regulations do not conflict with any of the Association's Rules.



- Provincial Centres and their Member Clubs shall ensure that the Rules of the Association are upheld.
- Each Provincial Centre shall annually elect from its membership –
  - (a) Two Councillors who shall represent the Provincial Centre at Council meetings, plus one reserve councillor who will shall act instead of a councillor in any case of absence.
  - (b) A Judge’s Selection Panel.
  - (c) A Stud Register Representative.

**RULE 6- GENERAL MEETINGS**

01 General Meetings of the Association:

- (a) General Meetings of the Association are the supreme governing authority of the Association. They are the instrument by which the activities of the Association are regulated and the rules of the Association are enforced or changed.
- (b) General Meetings shall be open to all members, but only Councillors and the President have voting rights.
- (c) Motions and amendments to motions may only be moved and seconded by the President and/or Councillors.
- (d) The right of members of the Association who are not Councillors to speak at General Meetings is at the discretion of the President.
- (e) The President shall chair all General Meetings and in his absence the Vice President act as chairperson.
- (f) General meetings are either:
  - (a) The Annual General Meeting;
  - (a) Any Special General Meeting Called in accordance with the rules.

02 Annual General Meetings of the Association:

- (a) An Annual General Meeting shall have the same authority as other General Meetings.

(b) The Annual General Meeting of the Association shall be held each year at a time and venue to be set by the Council. All costs connected with this meeting shall be borne by the Association.

(c) The agenda of an Annual General Meeting must include:

(a) Approval of the minutes of the preceding General Meeting.

(b) Annual report of the President.

(c) Consideration and adoption of the financial statements of the Association for the preceding year.

(d) The election of:

A Patron

An Auditor

(e) Consideration of notices of motion, remits and any special business as provided in the Rules.

(f) General Business.

03 Special General Meetings of the Association:

(a) If at least half of the Provincial Centres make written request, the Rules of the Association dictate, or if the President considers it necessary.

(b) A Special General Meeting must be held within 1 month of:

(a) Receiving a formal request.

(b) An event which the Rules require a Special General Meeting to rule on.

(c) A Special General Meeting must consider the business stipulated by those requesting the meeting but shall not consider any matter not shown on the agenda circulated with the notice called the meeting except by the unanimous agreement of the Councillors and President present at such a meeting.

(d) The decisions of a Special General Meeting shall have equal authority to, and be legislated under the same conditions as those of any other General Meeting.

04 The Council:

- The Council shall be charged with the overall management of the Association, and the overall enforcement of its Rules.

- The Council shall comprise the following:
  - (a) President
  - (b) 26 Councillors, one of whom shall also be the Vice President.
- Each Provincial Centre shall be represented on the Council by two Councillors who shall be elected by the membership of that Provincial Centre.
- Motions and amendments may only be moved and seconded by the President or Councillors.
- The Council will ensure full minutes and reports of its meetings are kept and the Executive Secretary will ensure that these are regularly made available to Council members.
- A quorum for any General Meeting or Council Meeting shall be not less than 14 Councillors plus the President, or in the President's absence the Vice-President.
- A quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be four (4) of its members.

### **Procedures Relating To General Meetings**

#### 05 Calling of Meetings:

- (a) General Meetings shall be called by the Secretary on the instruction of the President or over half of the Councillors or as otherwise provided in the Associations' Rules.
- (b) At least 1 calendar months' notice of an Annual General Meeting or 2 weeks' notice of every Special General Meeting of the Association (exclusive in every case of the day for which the meeting is called) specifying the place, the day and the hour of the meeting, and in the case of special business, the general nature of that business, shall be given.
- (c) The notice calling General Meeting shall be sent by mail to the last known address, or may be delivered by personal service, to the Officers and Life Members of the Association and the Secretary of each Provincial Centre and Member Club.
- (d) Any notice shall be deemed given on the date such notice is post marked or delivered personally.
- (e) The Annual General Meeting shall not be called before the expiration of 11 calendar months from the date of the previous Annual General Meeting and not

more than 13 months subsequent to the date of the previous Annual General Meeting.

06 Chairing of Meetings:

- (a) At any General Meeting the President shall preside.
- (b) In the absence of the President, or at the President's request the Vice President shall assume the Chair.

07 Voting:

At any General Meeting of the Association each Councillor shall be entitled to one vote.

The President shall have the casting vote in the event of a tie.

Any election required by these Rules shall be by way of secret ballot.

Voting on any other matter may be by:

- (a) Voices.
- (b) Show of hands.
- (c) Voting card.
- (d) Secret ballot.

Whichever of the above methods the meeting directs, or in the absence of such direction as directed by the President.

Proxy voting shall not be permitted.

08 A copy of the minutes of each General Meeting of the Council shall be sent to:

- (a) Councillors.
- (b) Life Members.
- (c) The Secretary of each Provincial Centre.
- (d) The Secretary of each Member Club of the Association.

**RULE 7 – OFFICERS**

01 President:

- (a) The President represents the Association and shall maintain a position independent of the interests of any individual Provincial Centre.

- (b) The President and Vice President shall be elected by the Council from amongst the Councillors (or the incumbent); and shall hold office until the end of the next Annual General Meeting. There shall be no restriction on the number of terms (consecutive or otherwise) that a President may serve if so elected.
  - (c) A Councillor elected to the office of President shall cease to act as Councillor of his Provincial Centre and other Councillor shall be appointed in his place by the Member Clubs of the Provincial Centre from which the President comes.
- 02 The Vice President assists the President and acts in the President's stead as required by the Association's Rules and the President.
- 03 A Patron shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting of the Association. This office shall have no voting entitlement at meetings of the Council or of the Association.
- 04 A Reviewing Accountant shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting. That Reviewing Accountant must be a member of the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants.
- 05 Filing vacant offices:
- (a) In the absence of the President, whether because of resignation or for any other reason, the position shall be assumed by the Vice President until the next Council Meeting, or if the absence is for a reason other than resignation, until the President's resumption of duties.
  - (b) Should any of the Association's other offices become vacant between Council Meetings the Management Committee may appoint a replacement to fill that position.

## **RULE 8 – FINANCES**

- 01 The Council shall control the finances of the Association. It may borrow and secure the repayment of money in the Association's name, (this includes bank overdraft, mortgages, bonds, debentures and other securities or charges on any or all of the assets of the Association) and may purchase, redeem and pay off any such securities.
- 02 Accounts:
- (a) The financial year of the Association shall end on 31 January of each year.

- (b) A Statement of Accounts shall be reviewed annually by a Chartered Accountant and presented at the next Annual General Meeting for consideration and approval. A full audit of the accounts can be requested by the Council.
- (c) Following the adoption of such financial statements by an Annual General Meeting, a copy shall be forwarded (as required by the Incorporated Societies Act) to the Register of Incorporated Societies.

03 Fees:

- (a) An annual fee shall be paid by every Member Club as set by a General Meeting.
- (b) Other fees may be authorized by Governing Bodies of the Association.

**RULE 9 – DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS**

Local Level Disciplinary Matters:

- 01 Complaints of misconduct or behavior will be dealt with by the Executive Committee of each Provincial Centre. The exceptions will be:
  - (a) Allegations of misconduct which is said to have occurred at a national or international event.
  - (b) Allegations of misconduct which the Executive Committee of the relevant Provincial Centre considers to be too serious to be dealt with at a local level.
- 02 Provincial Centres will deal with disciplinary matters in accordance with the rules of natural justice. In particular they will ensure that -
  - (a) The person complained against is made fully aware of the allegations against them.
  - (b) The person complained against has fully opportunity of responding to the allegations.
  - (c) Matters will not be predetermined.
  - (d) The complaints process will be fair and as open and transparent as the various parties' privacy rights allow.

National Level Complaints:

- 03 Misconduct includes contravention of any of the statutes or rulings of the Association or any form of conduct which is may be detrimental to dog trialing as a competitive sport. This particularly includes (but without limiting the generality of

the above) abusing a judge, improper, unfair or unsportsmanlike conduct, causing a disturbance at any dog trial, the theft or misappropriation of any of the Association's property, any physical or sexual assault or any other criminal offence committed at any dog trialing event (whether in New Zealand or overseas), the use of abusive or intemperate language against any judge, association member, competitor or spectator at any dog trialing event (whether in New Zealand or overseas), and the mistreatment of any dog at any dog trialing event (whether in New Zealand or overseas).

- 04 On receipt of a complaint against a member the Council will deal with the matter in the following way:
- (a) All complaints will be required to be in writing.
  - (b) A copy of the complaint will be forwarded to the member complained against and he/she will be invited to provide a written response within the following 7 days.
  - (c) On receipt of the response the Executive Committee will then decide whether disciplinary proceedings are required, the Executive Committee will notify the complainant and the member complained against either that:
    - (a) The complaint has been considered but that no further action is to be taken in respect of the complaint; or
    - (b) The complaint has been considered, and the member complained against is officially reprimanded, but that no further disciplinary action will result. The member complained against will be advised that any such reprimand will be recorded in the Association's files and will remain so recorded for a period of two years and may be taken into account in the event of any further complaint being received in that time.
  - (d) In the event that the Executive Committee decides that further disciplinary action is required, it shall inform the Council to that effect, which shall appoint a Judicial Committee comprising of a minimum of 3 Councillors plus the power to co-op a solicitor.
  - (e) In exercising its function the Judicial Committee will:
    - (a) Inquire into the factual background of the complaint. The Judicial Committee may receive statements in writing from witnesses to the behavior complained of, and a copy of any such statements received will be forwarded to the member complained about.

- (b) Convene a hearing at a suitable time and place giving the member complained of at least 7 days' notice of the meeting.
- (c) Advise the member complained against that they have the right to appear at the hearing and the right to be represented at the hearing by a support person or a lawyer.
- (d) Generally ensure that the rules of natural justice are observed including:
  - (a) The right to a fair hearing.
  - (b) The right for the accused member to be aware of the allegations made against him/her.
  - (c) The right to appear and to present their version of events and to make submissions as to possible penalty.
  - (d) The right not to have the case predetermined.

(f) A member who is found to be guilty of misconduct may be:

- (i) Expelled from membership of the Association.
- (ii) Suspended from membership of the Association for a period not exceeding 5 years; and/or
- (iii) Censured; and/or
- (iv) Ordered to pay a fine:
  - (a) In the case of an individual member or life member not exceeding \$500;
  - (b) In the case of a member club not exceeding \$5,000, and/or
- (v) Ordered to reimburse the Council for any disbursements incurred by the Judicial Committee hearing.

For the avoidance of doubt any member found guilty of misconduct and dealt with short of expulsion may in addition to any other penalty be ordered to reimburse the Council for all or part of the cost of the Judicial Committee hearing.

05 No suspended or expelled individual member or life member may act as a club or send a delegate, or enter any trial held under the Rules and By-laws of the Association or enter any ground or enclosure.



06 The members of any club which is suspended or expelled from membership of the Association shall lose all the rights of membership of the Association.

07 The imposition of any fine, or suspension or expulsion from membership of the Association shall be notified promptly in writing to the member whose conduct is complained of by registered mail and to all member clubs of Association.

08 Appeals Against Disciplinary Action:

(a) Any member who is found guilty of misconduct by the Judicial Committee may appeal to the Council against the outcome of the Judicial Committee hearing, either in respect of the finding of misconduct or in respect of the penalty or both, such an appeal to be filed with the Council within 21 days of receipt of the Judicial Committee's decision.

(b) Every appeal shall be accompanied by a deposit to be set by the Council from time to time, but to be not less than \$250.

(c) All appeals must:

(i) Be made out in writing.

(ii) Set out in full the grounds of appeal.

(iii) Be delivered by registered mail or personally to the President of the Council.

(d) All appeals will be dealt with by the Council at a General Meeting.

(e) The appellant shall be notified in writing of the date of the meeting at which the Council will determine the appeal, and with appropriate modification a similar protocol to that pertaining to the Judicial Committee hearing will be observed by the Council in determining the appeal.

(f) The Judicial Committee members who determined the appeal at first instance shall absent themselves during the appeal hearing, and they shall not play any part in the appeal hearing.

(g) The Council's decision shall be final and without further right of appeal.

## **RULE 10 – CLUB AND PROVINCIAL CENTRE APPEALS**

01 The Council shall not interfere in the internal affairs of Provincial Centres or Clubs unless the Association's Rules are contravened.

02 Disputes arising in any way relating to the Association's Rules may be appealed:

- (a) In the case of an action or ruling by a Club, to the relevant Provincial Centre.
  - (b) In the case of an action or ruling by a Provincial Centre, to the Council.
- 03 Arbitration of disputes while the Association cannot interfere in the internal affairs of Provincial Centres and Clubs; the Council may appoint a suitably qualified person to arbitrate in any dispute between Members.
- 04 Unless specifically accepted by the affected party the Council must not rule in a manner which interferes with any decision made by a Provincial Centre or Club and which that body has authority to rule on.

#### **RULE 11- THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

- 01 Each year the Council will appoint an Executive Committee consisting of 5 members being:
- (a) The President.
  - (b) The Vice President.
  - (c) Three other Councillors.
- 02 At least two members of the Executive Committee must come from each of the North and South Islands.
- 03 The Executive Committee may meet in person or may utilize any other means to meet and communicate including telephone and/or video conferencing and/or any other electronic or written communication medium.
- 04 The function of the Executive Committee is to run the day-to-day affairs of the Association.
- 05 The Executive Committee will keep full minutes and reports relating to its activities and the Executive Secretary will ensure that these are regularly made available to Council members.
- 06 A quorum for any meeting of the Executive Committee shall be no less than 4 members including either the President or the Vice President.

#### **RULE 12- BY-LAWS**

- 01 The Association may approve By-laws considered necessary to clarify the policies of the Association and provide legislation which is in support of the general aims of its Constitution.
- 02 The By-laws are an integral part of the Association's Rules.

### **RULE 13- REGISTERED OFFICE**

- 01 The Registered Office of the Association shall be situated at such place in New Zealand as may from time to time be determined by the Council. Generally this shall be at the residence of the Secretary.
- 02 Any change of Registered Office shall be notified promptly to the Register of Incorporated Societies.

### **RULE 14- COMMON SEAL**

The Common Seal of the Association shall be kept in the custody of the Secretary but shall only be affixed to any document following a resolution to that effect by an Annual General Meeting or the Council. Such a resolution shall specify 2 members of the Council (one of whom should generally be the President) to witness the affixing of the Seal.

### **RULE 15- ALTERATION OF THE RULES AND BY-LAWS**

- 01 Notices of Motion to amend or revoke these Rules may be given to the Secretary by any Council Member or by any Provincial Centre.
- 02 The Secretary shall circulate any Notice of Motion which relates in any way to a change of the Association's Rules or By-laws to the Provincial Centres, Member Clubs and Councillors, not less than 12 days prior to the General Meeting at which the Notice of Motion is to be discussed.
- 03 At a General Meeting of the Association the Notice of Motion shall be debated and may be amended to achieve clarification but not voted on until the Association's next General Meeting.
- 04 At the next General Meeting of the Association the proposal (now referred to as a "Remit") shall be debated and may be amended to a minor degree only.
- 05 If the Remit is supported by a majority of the eligible votes these rules shall be amended or revoked and notice given to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies of the changes.
- 06 Any renumbering of this Constitution or the By-laws of the Association consequential to any correctly legislated alteration may be made without resolution.

## **RULE 16- WINDING UP OR RECESS**

- 01 Notice of Motion must be given as required for an Alteration to the Constitution before a proposal to wind up the Association may be considered.
- 02 The Association may be wound up or dissolved voluntarily if such a resolution is passed by a simple majority at an Annual General Meeting.
- 03 A resolution to wind up the Association must be confirmed by a resolution passed a majority of the votes cast at a subsequent Special General Meeting called for that purpose. Despite the provisions of these Rules referring to the call of Special General Meetings, this meeting shall be held not earlier than 30 days after the meeting at which the resolution to be confirmed is passed.
- 04 The surplus assets of the Association, after payment of all costs, debts and liabilities, shall be disposed of as directed by the Special General Meeting which confirms the resolution to wind up the Association.

## **RULE 17- MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR**

Any matter not provided for may be determined by an Annual General Meeting or by the Council.



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**Rules and By-Laws**  
**Revised and Adopted**  
**2012**

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# **GENERAL BY-LAWS OF THE NEW ZEALAND SHEEP DOG TRIAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

## **BY-LAWS SECTION 1**

### **A AUTHORITY AND INTERPRETATIONS**

#### **A-1 Authority:**

- (a) The provisions of these By-laws and the Associations other statues shall apply to all of its Centres, Clubs and Members.
- (b) All Standard Events of the Association and of its Centres and Clubs shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Rules of the Association and these By-laws, including particularly the Schedule of Standard Events.
- (c) Non Standard Events which advance the aims of the Association, may be run under rules appropriate to the needs of the event. However the relevant Centre must approve the event and, if it is to be controlled by other than affiliated club, a permit must be obtained.
- (d) The Council has authority to deal with, and may rule on any matter not provided for in these By-laws.

#### **A-2 Alteration of By-laws:**

- (a) These By-laws may be repealed, altered or added to as provided in the Constitution of the Association.

#### **A-3 Interpretations:**

In addition to the interpretations defined by the Association's Constitution:-

- (a) "Organizers" means a group or committee (regardless of the nature of its formation) which organizes a Trial.
- (b)A "Standard Event" is an event conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Schedule of Standard Events.
- (c) An "Open Trial" is a competition of Standard Events which is controlled by an affiliated club, approved by the appropriate Centre and the Association, and open to entry from dogs and competitors of any status.

#### **A-4 Definitions of Status:**

- (a) A “Maiden” competitor or dog is one that has not won any Standard Event whether Open, Intermediate or Maiden.
- (b) An “Intermediate” competitor or dog is one that has won a Standard Maiden Event but has not won a Standard Open Event.
- (c) An “Open” competitor or dog is one that has won an Open Standard Event or has been placed at an Island or New Zealand Championship or has won a Centre championship.
- (d) The status of competitors and dogs in Huntaway events is independent of status in Heading events and vice-versa.
- (e) Competitors and dogs retain their status throughout a trial. When two or more trials are run concurrently the status remains unaltered for runs taken before the first trial is completed.
- (f) It is deemed that, where a competitor enters an eligible maiden dog only in a higher grade and is placed in such, then the maiden status has expired and that dog is no further eligible for maiden status.

## **B ADMINISTRATION OF THE ASSOCIATION’S AFFAIRS**

### **B-1 Council:**

The Council shall, in addition to the duties provided for elsewhere in the Statutes:-

- (a) Ensure that proper Minutes recording decisions of the Governing Bodies, Books of Account recording the transactions of the Association, and other appropriate records are kept.
- (b) Consider the Rules of Centres or Clubs and, if appropriate require them to make any amendment which it considers necessary to protect the interests of the Association.
- (c) Rule on the interpretation of duties or the Statues of the Association and may, as provided in the Constitution, arbitrate in any dispute which arises in connection with a trial, or the conduct of a Centre, Club or individual.
- (d) Appoint and if necessary dismiss a Secretary or any other officer or official and define the duties of any official not provided for in the Association's Statutes.
- (e) Appoint Grounds Inspection Committees.

- (f) Appoint Stud Register Keeper and Committee.
- (g) Appoint Judges Selection Panel.
- (h) Appoint the Promotions Officer.
- (i) Appoint the Newsletter Editor.
- (j) Appoint the Archives Co-ordinator.
- (k) Make appointments to the Official List of Judges.
- (l) Appoint the judges for Island, New Zealand and any other National or International events.
- (m) Approve Championship dates and venues.
- (n) Appoint a National Competitors Selection Panel when required.
- (o) Oversee the scheduling of Open Trials.

**B-2 Grounds Inspection Committees:**

- (a) A Grounds Inspection Committee must consider the location and facilities of a proposed Championship venue and approve each course and the maximum time allowed for it.
- (b) Grounds Inspection Committee shall include at least three members of the current grounds inspection panel.

**C FINANCIAL**

**C-1 General Provisions:**

- (a) The Secretary shall keep records of the assets, liabilities and financial transactions of the Association.
- (b) Reports on these matters shall be presented to the Council from time to time and Financial Statements, prepared in such form as the Council may require, shall be presented to each Annual General Meeting of the Association.
- (c) All funds of the Association shall be paid into the banking account of the Association as soon as possible after receipt.

**C-2 Annual Accounts:**



- (a) The Association's Financial Year is from February 1 to January 31 of the following year.
- (b) The Secretary shall present to each Annual General Meeting a Statement of Accounts detailing:-
- The income and expenditure of the Association during its last Financial Year.
  - The assets and liabilities of the Association at the close of that year.
  - All mortgages, charges and securities affecting any of the property of the Association at the close of the Financial Year.
- (c) The Report and Annual Statement of Accounts of the Association for the year ending on the preceding January 31 shall be forwarded to each Centre and Club at least one (1) calendar month before the Annual General Meeting; however any failure to comply with this requirement shall not invalidate the proceedings of the meeting.

C-3 The signatories for cheques drawn on the Associations Accounts and for the approval and disbursement of Association funds shall be the President and the Secretary.

C-4 Conflicts of Interests:

- (a) No member of a governing body or sub-committee may vote, or take part in the discussion, of any matter in which he or his immediate family have any direct or indirect pecuniary interest, except as an interest in common with the general membership of the Association.
- (b) When an item of business is commenced any pecuniary interest must be declared at once and affected person/s withdraws from the table.
- (c) Any income or benefit paid to members or Associates of members shall be reasonable and relative to that which would be paid in an arms length transaction (being the open market value).

C-5 Clubs:

- (a) Each Club shall pay fees to the Association as set by a General Meeting from time to time.
- (b) In particular a club shall pay:-

- A Joining Fee upon approval by the Council of a Club's application for membership of the Association.
- An Annual Subscription fee, which must be paid to the Association before July 31 of each year.
- A levy on each run at their trials, which must be paid to the Association within one month of a trial, including Yarding Challenge and Handy Dog events.

## **D CENTRES**

### **D-1 Required Actions:**

(a) Each Centre shall elect or provide for the appointment of an Executive Committee and a Centre Secretary.

(b) Each Centre shall advise the Association, following that Centre's Annual General Meeting, no later than midnight of the first day of the Island championships preceding the Association's Annual General Meeting, of:-

- An audited Statement of Accounts or reviewed accounts for the preceding year.
- The names, addresses and telephone numbers of the two councillors.
- The name, address and telephone number of the Secretary of each Club in the Centre.
- The name, address and telephone number of the Centre's President, Secretary, Stud Register Representative and Archive Officer.
- Any further information the Council may require.
- Any matters to be considered by any of the Governing Bodies of the Association including:
  - Nominations for Office.
  - Notices of Motion.
  - Recommendations to the Council.
  - Recommendation for Appointment to the Associations Official List of Judges.

- A full list of the Nominees from that Centre for Selection as Championship Judges.

(c) Each Centre shall advise the Association not later than September 30 of each year of the dates on which Clubs in their Centre have scheduled Open Trials to be held in the subsequent season.

## **E THE STUD REGISTER**

### **E-1 The Stud Register Committee:**

(a) The Stud Register Committee shall oversee the operation of the Association Stud Register and make recommendation to the Council regarding it functioning.

(b) The Committee shall comprise five (5) members, including a Councillor and the Keeper of the Register.

(c) It shall report annually to the Council regarding its activities and shall provide to the Secretary any financial records necessary for the preparation of the Association's Annual Statement of Account.

### **E-2 Registration of Dogs:**

(a) All dogs which have won a standard open event, or enter for an Island or New Zealand championship must be registered in the New Zealand Sheep Dog Trial register.

(b) Application for registration in the New Zealand Sheep Dog Trial's Stud Register must be made through the Stud Register representative for the centre of domicile and must be in the hands of the National Stud Register within 28 days of winning a standard open event. Failure to do so will result in the dog not being allowed to compete in any further standard open trials until registration takes place.

(c) No qualified dogs entering a New Zealand or Island championship will be eligible to compete without an official stud book registration or receipt number.

(d) Registered dogs which have changed ownership must have the ownership transferred in the New Zealand Sheep Dog Trial register to be eligible to compete.

## **F THE ORGANISATION OF TRIALS**

### **F-1 General:**

- (a) Trial dates for the following year must be approved by the relevant Centre, which will advise the Association before September 30, in order that the event may be included in the Association's list of "Trial Dates" - which shall list the dates scheduled for the trials of Member Clubs only.
- (b) The Council or Emergency Committee may deny the right to hold a trial or may, in consultation with the Organizers and their Centre, reschedule the date/s when a trial will be held.
- (c) Organizers must display (generally in the programme of events) appropriate acknowledgment of affiliation to the Association, and the authority of its Rules.
- (d) Organizers have absolute authority to organize and control trials in any way which does not conflict with the rules of the Association. The authority of Organizers includes the right to deny entry, postpone the trials and order any competitor or dog from the grounds.
- (e) Organizers have the right to abandon an event should weather or other conditions be unfavorable, providing they refund all entry fees received from competitors who have not run in the event.
- (f) In any situation where entry fees are not refunded to all entrants the organizers must pay the full advertised prize money.
- (g) Organizers shall set time limits for runs in each event.
- (h) Any member or club who fails to discharge financial obligations related to a trial may be disciplined as provided for in the Associations rules.
- (i) Organizers shall pay prizes or provide trophies as specified on their entry schedule or programme within one (1) month of the event.
- (j) Organizers shall generally make provision for the accommodation of judges officiating at their trial, and should provide compensation for other expenses incurred by them.

#### F-2 Permits to Conduct Non-Affiliated Trials:

- (a) Permits to conduct trials may be granted to unaffiliated bodies by Centres.
- (b) The issue of Permits shall be dependent on any conditions the Centre and/or the Council may require, and on payment of a fee which shall be set and retained by the Centre issuing the permit.

### F-3 Officials:

- (a) Organizers may appoint official/s (such as timekeepers, clerks and stewards) to assist the Judge in ensuring that rules are complied with, and to facilitate the smooth conduct of the event, however any such appointment will be subject to the Judges approval.
- (b) Officials must preserve an attitude of strict neutrality, not divulge information concerning the Judge's points or comments and should protect the Judge from any distraction.
- (c) Officials should maintain a reasonable standard of dress code while officiating at trials.

### F-4 Island and New Zealand Championships:

- (a) North and South Island Championships shall be hosted by the Centres of the relevant Island in rotation, subject to approval of the proposed arrangements by the Council, and particularly the Grounds Inspection Committee.
- (b) A New Zealand Championship shall be contested annually in each of the Standard Events by the seven (7) highest placed dogs in an Island Championship. The Championships shall be hosted in alternate years by a North and a South Island Centre and run in conjunction with the appropriate Island Championship.
- (c) New Zealand Championships, and Island Championships not run in conjunction with New Zealand Championships, shall be decided on the basis of the aggregate of the points gained in the preliminary round and the Run-off.
- (d) Island Championships which are run in conjunction with New Zealand Championships shall be decided on the basis of the preliminary round only.
- (e) The Council may from time to time set minimum qualifying criteria for entry which shall generally be based on points acquired from placings in Standard Events at Open Trials.
- (f) Points qualifying a dog for entry to Championships shall relate to the owner and dog which gained them and shall affect that dog's eligibility to compete at a Championship.
- (g) Competitors and dogs not resident in New Zealand may enter Championships without qualifying points and shall not be required to be a member of a Club.

- (h) A draw shall be made to establish the order of the runs in each event. This must ensure that dogs drawn to run in the first half of Events 1 and 3, will be drawn to run in the last half of Events 2 and 4 and vice versa. Should a dog be drawn in the same half of both events, the competitor has the right to notify the organizers, who shall correct the mistake.
- (i) Dogs must run in the order drawn unless otherwise approved by appropriate official or organizing committee.
- (j) Dogs which qualify after the closing date for postal entries must enter with the organizers before noon on the first day of competition.
- (k) Any competitor more than five minutes late after being called to the mark shall forfeit that run unless actually competing or called by the organizers to prepare to run in another event. Provided the competitor has reported to the course prior to them being due, any competitor unable to run when drawn because of competing at another course, has half an hour after completing that run to report to the next course. On arrival competitors shall be allowed to wait up to two runs before having their run.
- (l) Judges appointed to officiate at Island and New Zealand Championships will not be permitted to compete at that particular championship.
- (m) At any Championship where a run-off has been halted and it is unable to recommence by the end of the day, the initial run or runs will be cancelled. There must be a re-draw for running order and the run-off will re-commence the following day.
- (n) In the event of any competitor/s withdrawing from a run-off no replacement shall be made and the run-off shall continue with the reduced number of competitors.
- (o) The Judges' score cards should be put on display following the qualifying runs and before the commencement of run-offs.
- (p) Organizers shall pay run levies on all runs at Championships.
- (q) The Organizers shall pay Judges officiating at Championships the fee set from time to time by the Council.
- (r) Dogs competing at Island or New Zealand Championships found to be unqualified shall forfeit all rights to any prize money, trophies or certificates.

## F-5 Results:

The following information shall be provided to the Association's Secretary within one (1) month of every Open Trial, signed by the Organizer's Secretary and President.

- (a) A list of the first five placed dogs in the Open Events at Standard Open Trials shall be advised by Organizers.
- (b) A list of the first five Open placings and first Maiden in each event must be sent to the NZSDTA Promotions Officer within 48 hours of the completion of the trials. The Promotions Officer will register these results on the website.
- (c) The results of the Open events at Centre Championships shall be advised by each Centre. These results must include a record of all competitors and dogs who have gained "Qualifying Points" at that Championship.
- (d) The number of runs in each Event shall be advised by the Organizers of trials.

## G THE JUDGING OF EVENTS

### G-1 Selection and Appointment of Judges:

- (a) Judges of Standard Open Trials must be Official Judges approved by the Association and listed on its "List of Official Judges"; except when the Judges Selection Panel of a Centre authorizes a person who is not on the Association's Official List to Judge a particular event in their Centre.
- (b) In exceptional circumstances only, a Judge who is not on the Official List of Judges may be appointed.
- (c) Each Centre shall appoint a Judges Selection Panel, consisting of no less than three persons thoroughly experienced in dog trial judging.
- (d) Judges Selection Panels shall oversee and make recommendation to their Centre on all matters related to judging by members of that Centre and particularly shall examine and recommend candidates for appointment to the Association's Official List of Judges.
- (e) No persons name shall be submitted to the Council for approval without their consent.
- (f) Persons nominated by their Centre Judges Selection Panel and approved by their Centre shall have their name included on the Associations List of Official Judges if approved by the Council.

- (g) The Secretary of the Association shall each year, forward to every Centre and Club a revised Official List of Judges.
- (h) Any person appointed to the Official List of Judges who, without reasonable excuse, fails to act as Judge, may be removed from the Official List of Judges by the Council.

#### G-2 Judges for National and International Events:

- (a) The appointment of Judges for Island and New Zealand Championships and other National and International events shall be made by the Council on the recommendation of the National Selection Panel.
- (b) The panel shall select Judges from the candidates nominated by Centres each year, unless it considers that those nominees are not of sufficient standard.
- (c) The Council may reject nomination/s made by the Selection Panel and require the Panel to nominate replacement/s.
- (d) The Association's Selection Panel comprises four (4) members from each Island.
- (e) One member from each Island shall retire from the Association's Selection Panel in rotation each year (but may be re-nominated) and the Council shall elect a replacement.

#### G-3 Authority:

- (a) The Judge shall have control of the course at all times during a trial.
- (b) The Judge shall penalize, and may call off or disqualify any competitor or dog who does anything which gives an unfair advantage, wastes time or infringes any rule.
- (c) Only the Judge, or an official on the judge's instructions, may interfere directly with, or instruct a competitor while he is working his dog. However, the judge may permit a competitor with impaired eyesight to be accompanied by a "spotter" and may allow any other minor variation of the rules that enables a physically handicapped competitor to compete on a fair basis.
- (d) If a competitor loses sight of his dog, it will not be the duty of the Judge (or Stewards) to instruct the competitor as to the dog's whereabouts, however they may do so where appropriate.



#### G-4 Judges Points:

- (a) Judges shall penalize appropriately any dog whose work is imperfect in any way.
- (b) The Judge must award appropriate points for any uncompleted section (except in situations where the rules provide otherwise) but must not award points for any stage of the course which has not been reached. No dog may be awarded full points for uncompleted work.
- (c) A Judge is not permitted to penalize any dog for an offence which he has not personally seen.
- (d) Judges must ensure that no two placed dogs are awarded equal points. i.e. "Ties" are not permitted.
- (e) A dog may be excused for biting a sheep's head if the sheep charges it or bails up and refuses to move, but the dog must not be severe or the Judge may call it off, or penalize it as he believes appropriate. However, if the dog bites the body or legs of a sheep, the Judge may call the dog off and may disqualify it from that event.
- (f) (1) Any competitor moving outside the quad or ring while competing should be cautioned by the judge, who if he believes the competitor has gained an advantage by this act will penalize him appropriately.  
  
(2) Any competitor who moves outside the defined drives while driving, or moves backwards, or gets in front of his lead sheep, or prematurely crosses the 10 metre lines will be penalized. If the offence is repeated they may be called off or disqualified.
- (g) The points awarded by Judges shall be final and may not be appealed.
- (h) Judges shall put results out in metric – but not necessarily judge in metric.

#### G-5 Disqualification:

- (a) Disqualification is a severe penalty which should not be confused with the termination of a run (or "calling off") by the Judge.
- (b) A competitor who is disqualified shall have no right to any trophy or prize money from that event.
- (c) The Judge may disqualify a competitor for an infringement of the rules occurring before or after a run.

- (d) Organizers may disqualify any competitor who disobeys their instructions or severely infringes any of these By-laws, from any or all events at a trial.
- (e) Any person using obscene language may be disqualified by the Judge of the course and/or disqualified from all events at the trial by the organizers.
- (f) Any competitor who is disqualified must be informed of the disqualification and the reason for it.

## **H CONDITIONS OF ENTRY TO TRIALS**

### **H-1 Eligibility To Enter:**

- (a) Organizers have the absolute right to accept or decline entry to any event.
- (b) Organizers may prescribe their own qualifications for entry to events other than Standard Events.
- (c) Competitors must accurately answer any questions related to their entry or eligibility.
- (d) If a competitor fails to provide proof to the satisfaction of the Organizers within two (2) weeks of demand, that he and/or his dogs are qualified to compete in an event or events he may be disqualified.
- (e) No person may compete in an event which he is judging.

### **H-2 Entry Fees:**

- (a) Full entry fees must be paid before a competitor starts his dog.
- (b) If a dog is scratched before an event starts, no more than half of the entry fee may be charged.
- (c) A dog shall not be liable for any entry fee if it is debarred from competing because of infectious disease, injury or in the case of a bitch, being in season.

### **H-3 Ownership:**

- (a) A dog must be the bonafide property of the competitor and to compete at any trial must be registered in accordance with the Dog Control Act 1966.
- (b) Dogs must be worked by their owner.
- (c) Partnerships are not permitted.

#### H-4 Club Membership:

Every competitor in an Open Trial must be a member of a Club

#### H-5 Failure To Fulfill Obligations:

Any competitor who fails to fulfill the obligations assumed by entry to an event, particularly any requirement to compete in a run-off shall, at the discretion of the Organizers, forfeit all prize money/prizes from that event.

### **GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CONDUCT OF EVENTS**

#### I-1 Sheep:

- (a) Three sheep shall be used in each Standard event.
- (b) The sheep must be in a condition and liberated in a manner which gives fair and equal opportunity to each competitor.
- (c) The sheep are at the risk of the competitor once he starts his dog, and he shall not, except in extraordinary circumstances, be entitled to another run.
- (d) The sheep must be removed if a competitor's dog has made contact with them and the run is subsequently terminated for any reason.
- (e) In the event of a dog not heading the sheep, the next dog drawn will be required to head them. If the second dog fails, the sheep will be replaced at the judge's discretion.
- (f) At New Zealand and Island Championships each lot of sheep within an event shall be of the same gender and from the same mob.
- (g) At an Island or New Zealand Championship, sheep should only be used once on each course.

#### I-2 Dogs:

- (a) Dogs may not wear chains, or collars of any type when competing.
- (b) All dogs must be chained up or held on a lead while not competing, and no dogs except those competing or necessary for the management of the event will be allowed on, or in the vicinity of a course.
- (c) Competitors must prevent their dogs from making noise on or near the trial ground or in any way interfering with the competition work.

- (d) No in-season bitch, or dog suffering from any infectious diseases may be brought to a trial ground.
- (e) Any competitor ill-treating a dog on or near the trial ground including the practice grounds shall be disqualified and may be subject to further disciplinary action.
- (f) No competitor may run a dog which is injured or distressed.

#### I-3 Control of Runs:

- (a) The competitor may lead his dog to the starting point, but must release it immediately on reaching that point, from which time he may touch but not physically restrain the dog.
- (b) In all events the Judge shall tell the competitor when to start his dog by calling "Time".
- (c) The competitor must start his dog from inside the ring or quad, or from such other point as the organizers may specify.
- (d) Should the judge, for any reason, order a re-run, the initial run shall be cancelled and the judging shall be confined to the re-run, which shall be taken as required by the judge. (If there has been a significant amount of work done by the dog this will generally be after a rest of two runs).

#### I-4 General Obligations:

- (a) No whips, electric collars or devices for punishing dogs may be used on or near a trial ground.
- (b) No stick more than 1 metre long may be used.
- (c) The organizers and particularly course stewards, must ensure that the course is kept clear of anything which may unfairly interfere with a dog's run.
- (d) Liberators (slippers) must ensure that every competitor is given sheep that are sound and in good order.

#### 1-5 Health And Safety:

- (a) Healthy and safety is the responsibility of every individual.
- (b) Entry onto trial grounds is at the pleasure of property owners who shall accept no responsibility for individual's health and safety.

(c) NZSDTA condemns the use of performance enhancing drugs and doping practices in sport.

## **BY-LAWS SECTION 2**

### **SCHEDULE OF STANDARD EVENTS OF THE NEW ZEALAND SHEEP DOG TRIAL ASSOCIATION INC.**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This section of the By-laws of the N.Z. Sheep Dog Trial Assn Inc defines the format and competitive rules of the Association's Standard Events.

It is established to ensure a consistent basis for the contesting of Standard Open Events and Championships and to ensure that competitors and Judges have access to the same rules of competition.

The Schedule should be read in conjunction with the other Statutes of the Association; particularly Section 1 of the By-laws (General By-laws of the Association).

***NOTE: All events have general references to "Guidelines" to judging and competing later in the book.***

#### **EVENT 1 – The "Long Head" or "Long Pull"**

Consisting of Outrun to Head, Pull, and Hold in the Ring.

##### **Outrun to Head:**

Both the competitor and the dog must be in the ring before starting except where a different starting point is allowed by the organizing committee and judge.

The competitor may start his dog from any position he chooses in the ring. The head shall be judged from the starting position. The pull line shall always be from where the sheep are headed to the centre of the ring. There is no relevance between the cast line and the pull line.

The dog may be cast out to the right or left and should run purposefully to head the sheep.

Heading shall be completed when the dog has cast to the far side of the sheep and is in a position from where it could be expected to control them.

##### **Pull:**

The dog should lift the sheep, and pull them steadily and evenly, in as direct a line as possible to the ring. If a drift occurs the sheep should be pulled directly towards the ring from the point where the drift is corrected and should generally not be returned to the line from where the drift began.

The pull is completed when the 3 sheep enter the ring.

**Hold In Ring:**

The ring shall be suitably marked circle of 20 metres diameter, however for special conditions a ring of 30 metres diameter is permissible.

Before a hold may be granted, the sheep, dog and competitor must all be in a position of control to the Judges satisfaction and the sheep should preferably be facing the dog.

The Judge's ruling that a hold has been secured shall be indicated promptly by calling "right".

**Judging:**

Points: Outrun to Head 48      Pull 48      Hold in Ring 4      Total: 100 points

The Judge shall not be required to award points unless the dog heads the sheep.

The competitor may move about within the ring to assist and work his dog.

If, after the sheep have entered the ring, the competitor loses all of his allotted 4 points the judge shall terminate the run by saying "thank you" and no points shall be given for that section.

**EVENT 2 – The "Short Head and Yard" or "Yarding"**

Comprising Outrun to Head, Pull, Drive, Hurdles, Drive, and Yarding.

**Outrun to Head:**

As for Event I the role of the quad replacing that of the ring.

**Pull:**

As for Event 1, to a "quad" 20 metres wide and 5 metres deep, shall be defined by suitable markers.

On a course where the drive is at an angle to the pull, the depth of the "quad" should be increased to 20 metres, i.e. that is when the sheep enter through the front markers and turn to be driven through the side markers.

The competitor is free to move about within the "quad" during the Outrun and Pull.

Should the sheep not pass between the front markers of the "quad" they may be worked back by any route until clear of the front line.

The pull shall be completed when the sheep enter the "quad" by crossing the line between the front markers at which point the first drive starts.

**First Drive:**

A clearly defined, 20 metre wide course, including the “quad”, and to a line 10 metres in front of the hurdles (B-B to C-C in the following diagram).

The “quad” should be defined by the markers clearly different from those identifying the boundaries of the drives.

The competitor must not get in front of the leading sheep during the drive, except in the “quad” where moving in any direction to work or assist the dog is permitted but not necessarily without penalty.

If the sheep break back, the competitor must make the dog bring them forward again and may not go back to assist (except in the “quad”).

The first drive shall end at a line 10 metres in front of the hurdles (C-C in the following diagram). This line shall be identified by, and extend from, distinctive markers on each side of the drive.

The 10 metre line shall be further defined by a small peg in the middle of the drive.

**Hurdles:**

Two parallel hurdles, each at least two metres long, and placed 3 metres apart; in line with, and placed centrally in relation to the drive.

Clubs may arrange the hurdles in a straight line and set them at right angles to the driving course, however this provision must not apply to Centre, Island or New Zealand Championships.

All three sheep must be clear of the “10 metre line” before the competitor is permitted to cross it, however after the last sheep crosses this line the competitor must go forward into the “working area” ([D] in the following diagram).

Within this area the competitor may move about to assist and work his dog but excessive movement and assistance will be penalized.

The “working area” is generally bounded by a line extending from the entrance to the hurdles, the sides of the drives and the “10 metre line”, but may be defined by other appropriate markers on some courses.

If the sheep go through the hurdles in the wrong direction they must clear the hurdles, then be driven through in the correct direction.

The competitor (but not necessarily the dog) must go through the hurdles.



**Second Drive:**

As provided for the First Drive and to a line 10 metres in front of the yard. (E-E in the following diagram).

The drive shall end when the last sheep has crossed a line 10 metres in front of the yard.

This “10 metre line” shall be identified by, extend from, distinctive markers on each side of the drive and shall be further defined by a small peg in the middle of drive.

**Work At Yard:**

When the last sheep has crossed the “10 metre line” in front of the yard the competitor must immediately go to the head of the gate and (after removing the fastener) place his hand on the handle and open the gate of the yard so that it forms a straight line with the side of the yard.

The competitor must keep the gate open and stationary, and must not, at any time, come forward of a line extending along the gate with any part of his body or stick, nor remove the hand originally placed on the handle until the gate is closed.

The competitor may help to prevent the sheep from passing him, and may move behind the gate to work his dog, but must always keep the same hand on the handle of the gate.

The yarding must be primarily accomplished by the dog. The competitor must not assist by excessive amounts of movement or any artificial or unfair means and must not move the gate until the sheep are completely in the yard.

The competitor shall shut the gate as soon as the sheep are in the yard.

Should the sheep escape from the opening while the competitor is attempting to close the gate the run may be continued. If this option is taken the gate must be promptly returned to the fully open position.

In case of doubt the competitor may appeal to the judge to rule whether the sheep are in the yard or not.

Yarding is not complete until the gate is shut.

**Judging:**

Points: Outrun To Head 22	Pull 22	First Drive 8	Work at Hurdles 8
Second Drive 8	Work at Yard 22	Yarding 10	Total: 100 points

The Judge shall not be required to award points unless the dog heads the sheep.

The competitor must stay within the defined quad, working areas or drives at all times.

The restriction of competitor's movement during the drives DOES NOT APPLY within the "quad" and in the "working area" preceding hurdles.

i.e. A competitor who gets in front of the leading sheep or who moves backwards in these areas are not contravening the rules.

Throughout this event the sheep should be primarily worked by the dog, and although the man may assist his dog, excessive running or other over-assisting will be penalized in a similar manner to other imperfect work.

When sheep are yarded full actual yarding points must be awarded.

Any competitor using unfair or artificial tactics in yarding may be penalized or called off at the discretion of the judge.

### Equipment:

Hurdles: Two Hurdles, each at least two metres long.

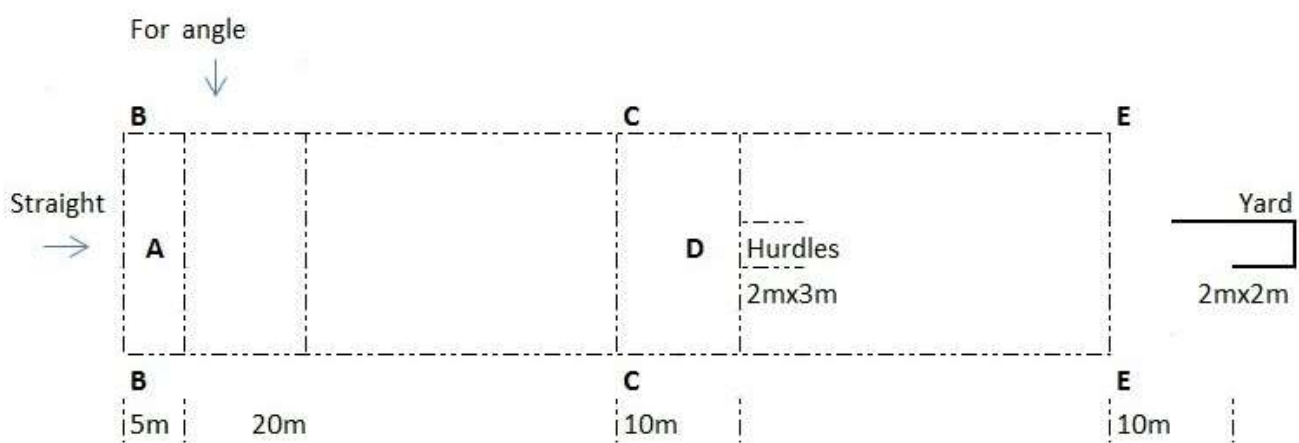
Yard: Standard – 2 metre square.

(For special conditions a yard of up to 2.5 metre square is permissible).

The gate will normally be open to the left, to a stop which allows it to form a straight line with the side of the yard, however it may be hung on the right-hand post to meet unusual features of a course. It shall be fastened in a suitable manner and must be hinged to swing clear of the ground at all times.

The head of the gate shall be extended upwards to provide a suitable handle about 150mm high.

### Diagram and Summary:



Drives should be laid out to best compliment the contour of the ground and assist the control of the sheep and are not required to be straight.

The competitor may move about within the “quad” [A] to work his dog during the outrun, head and pull, to allow the sheep to enter between points B-B (where the pull ceases and the first drive commences) and while the sheep are in the “quad”.

The first drive ends at the line between, and extending from, points C-C on the diagram above, which is 10 metres from the front of the hurdles.

The competitor may move about to assist and work his dog within the “working area”, from the 10 metre line preceding the hurdles, to the hurdles (the oblong marked [D] on the diagram).

The second drive ends at the line between, and extending from, points E-E.

### **EVENT 3 – Zig-Zag Huntaway**

The course shall be divided by markers into three “sets”, arranged in a Zig-Zag formation. Each pair of markers shall be 20 metres apart. (There should be an additional and smaller marker placed centrally between the top pair of markers).

The dog shall hunt the sheep from the point of liberation, steadily and evenly in as direct a line as possible, up to and through each set of markers in turn, finishing through the top set.

Should a drift occur after the hunt has commenced, the sheep should be hunted in as straight a line as possible from where it is corrected, to the centre of the next pair of markers.

The competitor and dog must start from within the pegged “quad” generally 20 metres wide by 10 metres deep; though this may be extended where appropriate.

The competitor may move about within the “quad” to work his dog.

The working quad should be plainly defined; with pegs clearly different from any through which sheep are liberated.

### **Judging:**

Points: First Set 33 Second Set 33 Third Set 34 Total: 100 Points

The sheep must pass between each set of markers in turn.

If the sheep fail to pass between any set of markers judging of the run will cease.

The judge shall not award points unless the dog barks before the sheep pass through the second set of markers and is not required to award points unless the sheep are hunted through the first set of markers.

The Judge shall call “right” to indicate that the sheep have completed the course.

#### **EVENT 4 – Straight Huntaway**

The dog must hunt the sheep steadily and evenly, in as direct a line as possible from the point of liberation, up to and pass between two markers which shall be 20 metres apart. (There should be an additional and smaller marker placed centrally between these markers).

Should a drift occur after the hunt has commenced, the sheep should be hunted in as straight a line as possible from where it is corrected, to the centre of and through the top markers.

The competitor and dog must start from within a pegged “quad” generally 20 metres wide by 10 metres deep; though this may be extended when appropriate.

The competitor may move about within the “quad” to work his dog.

The working quad should be plainly defined – with pegs clearly different from any through which sheep are liberated.

#### **Judging:**

Points: Total: 100 Points

The Judge shall not award points if the dog has not barked when the sheep have covered half of the course.

The Judge shall call “right” to indicate that the sheep have completed the course.

*These rules were adopted by a resolution of the 1991 Annual General Meeting of the Association following recommendations by a Rules Revision Sub-committee comprising Messrs:*

*John Bartlett (Chairman), Colin Bond, Ellis Child, Bruce Drown, Mike Ensor, John Gordon, Dereck Haines, Blair McLeod and Tony Sheild.*

*These rules were reviewed in June 2011.*

***Reviewing Committee: Merv King (Canterbury), John Harvey (Wairarapa/Southern Hawke's Bay), Tony Hargreaves (Northland), Merv Williams (Wanganui) and Colin Gibbs (Marlborough/Nelson)***

***These rules were updated and adopted by the New Zealand Sheep Dog Trial Association Inc in May 2012.***



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## **Guidelines To Judging**

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## **GUIDELINES TO JUDGING**

### **POINTS:**

Being appointed to the “Judges List” is both a responsibility and a privilege. Abusing this through unwise personal behaviour or careless judgment demeans an important position.

It is essential to maintain an impartial stance and not allow either your own, or the sports, integrity to be compromised in any way.

Your dress should befit your position. This, along with your punctuality and general behaviour, should be at least as good as you would expect from those who run on the course you are judging.

It is an honour to be invited to judge at a trial. Please show consideration to your host club and the people you will stay with.

It is essential you know the rulebook well and interpret it fairly and consistently. Keep up with changes that may occur after each Annual General Meeting of the Association.

The Judge’s Selection Panel in your Centre is there to help. If you are having problems with your judging or interpreting the new laws, don’t hesitate to approach them.

If, in time, you find that you are avoiding judging jobs because the task has become onerous and concentration difficult, you should seriously consider transferring to the officially retired list.

### **PREPARATION FOR A JUDGING JOB:**

When invited to judge, ensure you receive an official written request. Whether you accept or decline, always reply. If you have not heard from the club, you should contact them at least a week before the trial; this protects both you and the club.

Arrive on time and report to the Secretary’s office immediately.

Talk to your Course Marshall as soon as possible and discuss how the liberation works and any features peculiar to that course.

Talk to all the liberators, especially on a hunt course and explain how and where you want each trio presented to competitors and emphasize the importance of their role. Listen to what they say about how the sheep were released in previous years.

Walk the course or, at least, scrutinize each of its sections thoroughly so you are able to judge the first run as fairly as the last.

The club sets the course and a judge can't change it, unless it contravenes the Association's rules. If change is necessary, use tact.

Make sure you see all the important features of the course from your position. In drives, check the angles that may become critical if competitors look as if they're getting in front of their sheep.

Ensure that your timekeeper understands their role, and that no scores or current placings are to be divulged during the trial.

Bring your own writing equipment and a standby supply of stationery. At least one stopwatch is essential. The countdown style with an alarm is recommended.

### **JUDGES RESPONSIBILITIES:**

A judge must give all competitors a fair and equal opportunity and only judge that run; any previous knowledge or feelings towards a trialist or dog must be put aside.

The club decides when to start and stop an event. The judge starts and controls each individual run.

If you feel that poor light or other factors have made it unfair for those about to run it is your responsibility to stop the event until you decide that conditions have improved sufficiently to continue.

Check that the dogs are in a fit condition to run before they start. During a run, if there is anything about a dog's gait or performance that suggests unfair practice; inspect the dog after the run.

When each trio is released, ensure they are free of lameness or any other physical weakness or inconsistency.

As judge, you control the liberation. Ensure the liberators know exactly where you intend giving starts. It is far better to communicate with your helpers, rather than attempting to "work" them like dogs.

If the start, the sheep, sudden fog, or any other situations, such as stray sheep, mean that a competitor is not given an equal opportunity, the dog should be called off and given a re-run. Do not give re-runs as a reflex action but, indicate your decision promptly.

Huntaways' usually take their re-run immediately and heading dogs have a delay sufficient to rest the dog.



Unless the problem that has led to the re-run occurs early on in the run out, heading dogs should be allowed to complete the head before being called off.

If a change is made to a course, after the trial has begun, all previous competitors must be given a re-run.

During a run ensure that no one speaks to or, in any other way, breaks a competitor's concentration.

If sheep are being knocked about by a rough dog, or become distressed from aimless chasing, call the competitor off immediately.

Judges play an important role in the smooth running and progress of a trial. To avoid delays between runs, develop a judging system that is easy for both you and your clerk/timekeeper to follow.

Before they are entered in the official score sheet, always double check each runs points with your clerk. The safest method is the judge and clerk adding the selection points independently, then comparing the totals.

It's your responsibility to give the final points and placings to the club. Don't inform anyone else, until the club announces them.

### **JUDGING AN EVENT:**

Judging must be based on practical stock work. If you are in doubt about penalizing any part of the run, think of how the work relates to stock handling on a farm. Don't get "hung up" on theory or technicalities; that approach leads to bad decisions.

Leave good runs alone. Don't go looking for things to niggle at. Remember that a fault in a good run always looks worse than the same fault in a rough run. Rough runs can only be estimated but, make sure you downgrade heavily.

When a dog has a small, but noticeable flaw in its work, penalizing it each time the fault occurs can mean that a well-controlled run will end up with low points. If the flaw is in the dog's style, it should incur an overall "style" penalty.

Complete consistency throughout the trial is vital. Avoid starting hard, then easing off, nor should you change your standard during either good or rough patches of work.

Penalties for dog faults are difficult to standardize. In general penalize obvious loss of interest heavily. Using sniffing as an example, a fleeting dip of the head would not attract nearly the same penalty as a dog leaving its sheep to concentrate on smelling part of the ground for some time.

A completed run, or section, should be worth more points than an uncompleted one, unless the work is very rough. You need a consistent system that deducts the same amount of points for runs that are incomplete to comparable stages of a course.

Develop a judging method that suits you and doesn't prevent you from following the action. Having a record of each run in the form of a diagram, or notes, is vital. So too is the development of a personal "shorthand" for different faults and penalties. Don't however, clutter your map with trivia only note important details. Using a simple sketch, with symbols for the various faults, is regarded as essential.

Never take your eyes off the course during the critical stages of a run. For example when heading, entering the quad, at 10 metre pegs, the hurdles; wait until the competitor has gone through, opening and closing the yard gate, all hunt course markers.

In the short head and yard from the pull the sheep must enter the quad between the pegs at the front; "the front door". At this point, the first drive commences and the competitor is able to move about to assist the dog, but not necessarily without penalty. Once the sheep have left the quad the competitor should not get in front of the lead sheep nor; if they stop or turn backwards; walk backwards in any marked drive.

The standard approach to driving is one dog side, trialist the other, combining to control and drive the sheep quietly and steadily through this section.

If you do miss a fault, you cannot penalize it in hindsight. Judging on hearsay or spectator comments is a recipe for disaster.

Once a trial is underway, list your top runs separately, for immediate reference. This allows you to split ties, while the run that's just created the tie is still fresh in your mind. It also allows you to get out the daily call or final results quickly.

Any judge's ultimate penalty is disqualification which should not be confused with "calling off". Be absolutely sure you are right and in the correct position to make that judgment before you act. You must inform a disqualified competitor at the earliest possible opportunity and give them a reason why.

If you know what you are doing and are honest to yourself above all your results will be right.

*Updated March 2018*



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## **Guidelines For Competitors**

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## **GUIDELINES FOR COMPETITORS**

Sheep dog trialing is a sport which, after more than a century of activity throughout New Zealand, has well defined rules and judging standards. The following guidelines should not be interpreted as rules or regulations, but as basic information to assist new competitors.

Over the years certain practices have evolved that in many ways preserve the sport's traditions of stockmanship, assist the smooth running of the trials, and make them more enjoyable. Some of these procedures may seem a little puzzling. If you are unsure about what you should do, where you should go, or who to see, ask another competitor or a local organizer. They, in the nicest way possible, will tell you where to go.

### **DRESS:**

A tidy standard of dress is welcomed by club committees. It could be said that a thoughtful approach to clothing indicates a competitor's approach to trialing.

### **TRIAL DATES BOOKLET:**

This annual publication lists every open trial in the country, with a selection for each of the 13 Centres as the regional bodies are known. This is an important reference book. It includes all trial dates, Club Secretary's addresses and entry forms for that year's Island and New Zealand Championships. This is available from Club Secretaries, Councillors or the National Secretary, P.O.Box 42, Waipukurau, 4242. Email [NZSDTA@xtra.co.nz](mailto:NZSDTA@xtra.co.nz)

The booklet states if a trial is closed entry, entries and fees mailed in by a certain date. When a trial listing doesn't have an entry closing date, it is post entry at the trial itself.

### **ENTERING A TRIAL:**

Arriving at a trial ground, your first call should be to the Secretary's office. Here you enter, pay entry fees, present a Hydatid clearance certificate for each of the dogs you have on the ground, and get advice, or clear direction, on which course to run on first.

At closed entry trials, you will have already entered and paid the entry fees. You still need to report to the Secretary to confirm your arrival and check on the draw; with last minute withdrawals this can change dramatically, so be on the ground at least an hour before the time given for your first run.

Generally, clubs with post entries don't welcome unannounced competitors after mid-morning. There are exceptions though, especially if those who know they are going to be late, have had the courtesy to ring the Secretary the night before.

In different regions there are variations in entry closing times, even days. These details should be listed in the Trial Dates Book and may indicate that different events will be run on different days. If you are going to that trial for the first time, ring the Secretary.

Hard seasons and stock conditions can lead to cancellations and it is wise to check on the running of the trial, especially if you have to travel some distance. Make sure you know where the ground is too as many clubs don't bear the name of the district their grounds are now in.

### **ENTERING AT A COURSE:**

Once you have entered at a trial, it is up to you to put your name down at the courses you are going to run on. Closed entry trials will have sent you a draw and some post entry trials make up a draw on the day, or give you the order of courses they want you to run on.

When you arrive at a course, report to the Call Steward, whose job it is to organize the running order. The steward keeps competitors and the judge informed of this, and any changes, and will want to know your dog's name and probably its status – Maiden, Intermediate or Open – as well as your own.

The system for deciding the running order on a course can vary from trial to trial. If unsure, check what it is. Generally, once you have put your name down you should stay at that course. If you do leave advise the Steward, otherwise you may return to find your name has gone to the bottom of the list.

When a long competitor list already exists, your name will be taken, though the Steward may suggest that you go and run on a less busy course.

Invariably, the course with the greatest pressure on it is the short head and yard; therefore, a sensible first port of call. Some clubs draw this event in the order competitors entered with the Secretary that morning.

When your run is the next up, ensure both you and your dog are ready, and as close to the quad or ring as possible – without interfering with the run in progress. In the short head it's a big help if you get into the quad while the other competitor is on the latter stages of the course. Stewards generally ask you to do this, please oblige.

There is an approach to putting your name down to run on a course that is considered unsportsmanlike and, therefore, frowned on. This entails going to a course; avoiding the Steward; watching a run or two; deciding the sheep could be better, and disappearing;

hoping they'll improve later. Trialists who do this will soon become known as "run dodgers" and become intensely disliked.

### **COMPETING:**

Because of their contour and variations such as tracks, roads, gullies and creeks, every course on every trial ground is different. Arriving in time to watch some runs before your own is a big help.

In heading events, look for any sections of a run out where you may not be able to see your dog and pinpoint landmarks that you want your dog to run by, or areas you want to avoid. Look closely at the liberation area for features like fences or a gate release, which could affect your dog or the sheep.

With a heading dog new to trialing, get it to focus on the hill during the runs before yours. Try to prevent it from watching sheep from the previous run, you won't want it to head them when the judge calls "time".

Studying the country is just as important on hunt courses. Look carefully at where the centre line in some of the slews might be. Though, on some courses the centre line between the poles is not always the best, safest or most sensible track for the sheep to take. Watch how the sheep are released and their reaction when dogs begin using their noise.

Even with standard events, I to IV, there can be variations in the courses basic design that lead to "local rules". On some hunt courses you may not have to go into the quad until your dog has control of the sheep. In others because they are steep or have a last set that's hard to see competitors may be able to walk back from the quad as sheep and dogs progress up hill.

In some heading events there may be a casting pole, where you stand for the run out and, once the head is over, walk into the ring or quad. In others because of a steep gully you may stay until the sheep have been pulled, almost to that point, then move into the quad or ring. The drives on some yarding courses have very sharp turns of 90 degrees to 180 degrees. When negotiating these it is very easy to get ahead of the lead sheep. Take care.

On any adapted course, check with the Steward, watch how other competitors handle it, and don't be afraid to ask for advice.

In huntaway events few competitors feel there is a need to use a stop watch. But, in heading events, being aware of time is vital. The time allowed for each event varies from

course to course and if it's not on a sign by the course, or in the programme, ask the Steward. In some regions, judges do not give a two minute warning. Again, if you are unsure, ask the Steward.

If the judge comes to you or calls you over at the end of a run, don't worry, you're probably not about to be told off. No one watches a run more closely than the judge; who can give you a lot of help with interpreting the rules and working your dog.

During your run, you may find that your dog is simply not listening to you. If this is the case, you're doing yourself and the dog no good. In these cases it's sensible to just acknowledge the judge and call your dog off.

When a run is over it is your responsibility to clear the course. On a hunt, always ensure that the course is cleared to the Steward's satisfaction. On a heading course, put your sheep into the designated paddock or "spent pen" quickly and quietly. Feel free, though, to ask for assistance if you are having trouble with your dog, or can't handle the sheep.

What you can and cannot do within each section of a course is clearly stated in the rule book. However, you must not abuse your dog, either verbally or physically, on a trial course or ground. When driving sheep don't get in front of the shoulder or the leader, or walk backwards. During a run, don't step outside any quad, ring, marked drives or free working areas.

## **THE FOUR STANDARD EVENTS:**

### **EVENT I:**

#### ***Long Head or Long Pull:***

Competitor and dog start in a marked ring, where the competitor stays until the run is over. On the judge's call of "time", the dog runs out to the head of the three sheep waiting at the liberation point some 300 to 600 metres away. The widest part of the run out should be the point where the dog is level with the sheep and at a distance to curve round behind them and stop on balance with the sheep and the competitor.

Next comes the lift – when the dog begins to move the sheep, to begin the pull. The pull should be at a pace which shows that the dog has control and should follow a line as direct as possible down to the ring. Trialists often talk of "the flow of the run"; which means that steady progress is made throughout without it turning into a woolly waterfall!

When the sheep have entered the ring, the next and last task is to hold: sheep, trialist and dog all stationary and "on the balance". A good hold has the dog round to stop the

sheep, with the sheep facing the dog. When appealing for a hold, put both arms out; if it's to the judges satisfaction, the call "right" confirms the run is over.

## **EVENT II:**

### ***Short Head and Yard:***

Competitor and dog start in the marked quad, where the trialist stays until the pull is over and the first drive has begun. As for Event I, the dog heads and pulls the sheep some 150 to 300 metres; with the same requirement for line and control in the pull.

From the pull the sheep must enter the quad between pegs at the front – "the front door". At this point, the first drive commences and you are able to move about to assist the dog, but not necessarily without penalty. Once the sheep have left the quad you should not get in front of the lead sheep nor if they stop or turn backwards, walk backwards in any marked drive. The standard approach to driving is one dog side, trialist the other, combining to control and drive the sheep quietly and steadily through this section.

Once all the sheep have crossed the line between the pegs, 10 metres from the hurdles, you are in a "free working area", and may move about and assist the dog. When the sheep have negotiated the hurdles you, but not the dog, must follow the sheep through the hurdles and onto the second drive.

When the last sheep has crossed the 10 metre line by the yard, go to the gate and open it. Hold onto the head of the gate throughout yarding, don't move in front of the gate, or excessively behind it. Once all the sheep have crossed the line across the mouth of the yard, close the gate. At this point, most judges call "right" but if you are confident the sheep are completely in, it's not necessary to wait for the call.

## **EVENT III:**

### ***Zig Zag Hunt:***

Competitor and dog start at the marked quad at the foot of the hill. Three sheep are liberated in front of them and the judge calls "time" to start the run. Using its noise, the dog hunts the sheep uphill to pass between three sets of 20 metre apart markers; taking as direct a line as possible between the centres of each set. These are offset to test the dog's ability to slew sheep; that is to force a change of direction. When the sheep cross the line between the top markers, the judge calls "right" to indicate the run's completion.

Remember, a huntaway's role is to shift sheep with its noise directed at the sheep. It should not repeatedly turn off towards the trialist or, in any way, take its attention off



the sheep. Any hunt run should be controlled and progressive, demonstrating the dog's ability to "hunt".

#### **EVENT IV:**

##### ***Straight Hunt:***

The same conditions apply, though there is just one set of markers. The aim is to hunt the sheep in as direct a line as possible from where they were picked up at the start of the run to the midway point between the 20 metre apart markers at the top of the course.

#### **DOGS ON TRIAL GROUNDS:**

The Association's By-Laws make it clear that dogs should not run freely round the grounds or be let loose, unattended. When not running on a course, or about to, they should be tied up at a fence or a ground peg. Having a set of short chains is important. Any collar and chain must, however be taken off before a dog competes.

Whenever possible exercise your team before you arrive at the trial and give them a chance to relieve themselves.

Leaving dogs in a vehicle or trailer can be alright but, there may be risks; such as heat exhaustion or fighting. When parked near a course the noise from a dog fight will upset both the sheep and trialist camaraderie; to say nothing of the risk of injury.

When a dog is untied prior to a run, please remember that it can annoy other trialists even more than it does their dogs. There are often signs near the cookhouse, bar and Secretary's office saying "dogs keep out". These are not written for dogs to read, but to remind their owners.

If you tie dogs up round the rear of a vehicle it is a good practice to leave your keys in the back of the ute, trailer or dog box. This should eliminate the risk of driving off with the dogs dragging behind.

Many grounds or courses do not have troughs and, especially in autumn, the creeks are often dry. Therefore, you should bring a water container and drinking bowl for your team. Dog trialing is a thirsty sport; for canine competitors too.

If you have a bitch on heat, please do not bring her near a trial ground. This includes bitches that may not be on heat sufficiently to take a dog but will distract other dogs.

On no account should a bitch on heat be run on any trial course. The Association's rules are very explicit on this matter.

**GENERAL:**

As well as being a competitive sport, dog trialing is a gathering of people who share a similar interest. From this there's a definite form of fellowship, built on trust. In line with this, Club Secretaries are generally very good about cashing cheques for competitors. Some clubs, however, have a policy of pinning any dishonoured cheques to the office or bar wall; there they can stay for some years.

The sheep are someone else's livelihood and have been loaned for the trial. Do not manhandle them during a run, or no matter how tempting it may be after it.

Clubs run trials for trialists to participate in and enjoy. You can help by reporting to courses on time and making yourself available to run at all times.

If a run turns into a disaster and you are in a hopeless position, please think of your dog, the sheep and the competitors who are waiting, and retire. This not only shows good stockmanship but consideration for others.

If, in an early – or first – trial you have a disastrous run that embarrasses you, stay by that course and watch for a few more runs. You may well see the same thing happen to a New Zealand Champion. "That", as they say, "is dog trialing"!

*Updated March 2018*



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## **Guidelines For Club Secretaries**

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## **GUIDELINES FOR CLUB SECRETARIES FOR CLUB TRIALS**

In many respects the Secretary is the club's key administrator. Having a competent and conscientious secretary is the basis of any successful club trial.

### **PRE-TRIAL DUTIES:**

Some months in advance, confirm with your Club President that owners of both the land and sheep have agreed to their use. Judges must be appointed well in advance – at least six months beforehand. Any verbal invitation should be followed up by a written one. At least two months before the trial, your club must hold a meeting to draw up a programme and confirm judge's appointments. Working bees should also be arranged, as well as catering and prizes. Ensure that you have sufficient liberators and sheep to liberate.

Arrange the judge's accommodation.

Ring all your judges ten days before the trial; not only as a reminder, but to tell them where they are staying.

For clubs that have a printed programme, the sponsors, judges and stewards should all be confirmed well before a copy goes to the printer.

If it is normal practice, arrange advertising for the trial in the local media.

Send programmes to likely competitors. If you have recorded each competitor's postal address in the previous year's entry books, you have a convenient mailing list/database.

Make sure you have suitable stationary for your own use and for judges and clerks; including unlined pads, pencils and erasers. Where a blackboard is not used on each course, notebooks should be provided for the Course Marshalls.

The New Zealand Association has results sheets that must be on hand for the trial and used. These, along with club receipt books and judge's score sheets, are readily available from the National Secretary.

If there is to be a licenced booth on the grounds, make sure your application for a liquor licence is applied for at least three months before the trial. Ensure that the liquor licence is displayed behind the bar during the trial along with the appropriate certificates regarding underage drinking etc.

### **DURING THE TRIAL:**

Please ensure that you are in your office and ready to take entries at least half an hour before the first runs are scheduled to start. Often the first to arrive will be those who

have travelled the furthest; a closed door does not create a good impression. Providing facilities for an early morning 'cuppa' is always welcomed.

At the completion of each event, try and announce the Open and Maiden placings as soon as possible. Each judge should have handed you a list of the open placings – at least – so they can be announced as soon as you have checked them.

Prompt announcements are a courtesy to travelling competitors. As a rule, local competitors stay on the grounds the longest. Therefore, local results should be a second and separate phase of checking and announcement.

Give each of your judges their travelling expenses, before they leave.

### **POST TRIAL:**

Immediately after the trial has finished the results are to be sent by e-mail through to the New Zealand Promotions Officer so that the results can be displayed on the New Zealand Association's website. It is also important to supply the results to the local media and any other national magazine that regularly publishes dog trial results. It is preferred that the results are typed up correctly and sent out by e-mail. Please check the correct spelling of the names.

Pay out all prize money and ensure that all 'product' prizes have been sent to the respective winners. This should be done well within a month of the trial.

The national levy on each run should also be sent to the National Secretary, within a month, along with a completed official result sheet. Please ensure that the result sheet is signed by your Club President or Club Secretary. A GST invoice will be returned to you by the National Secretary.

Arrange engraving of the club's trophies. It is unwise to release trophies to winners before they are engraved.

Ensure that letters are written – not necessarily by you, but others delegated to the task – to the judges, the landowner/s, suppliers of sheep, and any other individuals or companies who contributed to the trial, particularly sponsors and donors of prizes and prize money.

A "washing-up" club meeting should be called after the trial so that any problems can be discussed while they are still fresh in members' minds. All worthwhile suggestions should be recorded and brought up for adoption at your Annual General Meeting. This is the time to discuss judges' appointments for next year's trial.

## **CLUB ANNUAL MEETING:**

Confer with your Club President as to a suitable date to hold your A.G.M. Once you have a date, notify all members at least two weeks prior to the meeting. The agenda should include:

1. President's Report
2. Presentation of Annual Accounts
3. Election of Officers
4. Election of Honorary Offices and Life Members
5. Recommendations From Your Last Trial
6. Delegate's Reports From Centre and Association Meetings
7. Matters To Be Referred To The Centre:  
    Judge's List Appointments & Remits To New Zealand Association
8. Consider Any Remits and Notices of Motion From The New Zealand Association
9. Set Date For Next Year's Trials
10. Merit Awards Nomination

## **OTHER DUTIES:**

An annual subscription fee must be paid to the National Secretary before July 31<sup>st</sup> each year.

Centre subscriptions must be paid annually. You can check with the National Secretary for the correct amount of subscription which is due for payment along with your levies. Once your levies and subscription cheque is received the National Secretary will issue your club with a GST invoice and will record your payment.

Any remit from your club to the Centre should be sent to the Centre Secretary in sufficient time to allow all clubs to discuss it before the next Centre meeting.

Remits from other clubs, along with proposals from your Centre and the National Body, should always be read out and discussed at club meetings. You should always present and read the latest information from the National Secretary and Centre Secretary at each meeting.

Each Club Secretary should be fully acquainted with the Rules and By-Laws of the Association. Copies are readily available from the National Secretary.

The following Articles and By-Laws are particularly relevant to Club Secretaries:

Rules:       04-04 Individual Members

05-06 Termination Of Membership

By-laws:

C-5 Clubs (Fees)

F-1 Organization of Trials (General)

F-3 Trial Officials

F-5 Trial Results

H-1 Eligibility For Trial Entry

H-2 Entry Fees

H-4 Club Membership

H-5 Failure To Fulfil Entry Obligations

***Please note the document “Guidelines For Running An Island and New Zealand Championship” is available from the National Secretary.***

*Updated March 2018*



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## **Rules & Guidelines**

### **Tux Handy Dog**

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**RULES & GUIDELINES FOR**  
**TUX NEW ZEALAND HANDY DOG SERIES**  
**AS AT JUNE 2015**

**Event Rules:**

In order to achieve uniformity all heats, all organisers and secretaries must read and clearly understand the rules for the event. They are as follows:

**Entry:** \$16.00 per dog. A levy of \$1.50 per run is to be paid to the New Zealand Association.

**Judging & Competing:**

**Time:** Suggested time for the competitor is 10 minutes. The time should be set on the trial run prior to the event. This trial run is to be used to check siting of the hurdles. Badly sited hurdles will result in a disproportionate number of incomplete runs.

**Sheep:** Where possible sheep should be worked prior to the event to the point whereby they respond but still present a challenge.

**Section One – 30 Points:**

1. Competitor to stand at starting peg or ring which can be marked on the ground with spray paint.
2. Ten sheep released to point on fence as in diagram 1.
3. Judge to call "time" to start the run. Once the dog has contacted the sheep the competitor may leave the starting point.
4. Competitor and dog move the sheep towards drenching race, "shepherding" with focus on nicely bunched sheep moving at a constant pace with a smooth turn into the obstacle. Competitor may choose to be behind or alongside the sheep during the "shepherding".
5. Competitor may assist dog to yard sheep but can only obtain full points if dog forces sheep into race unassisted. Gate cannot be shut until sheep are completely in race. There is a five point deduction for shutting the gate early.

**Notes:**

This obstacle is to have a minimum three metre wing with a gate inside it at the back of the drenching race. The drenching race should be of a size to contain ten sheep and the dog.

6. This section is complete when the gate is closed.

**Section Two – 40 Points:**

1. Sheep released from drenching race are moved towards the drafting race using the method “shepherding” as in Section One. The drafting race gate will be opened by a steward prior to the start.
2. To obtain full points the dog must move sheep out of drenching race by barking at least once.
3. Ruling for work at entrance to drafting diamond is the same as Section One.
4. At commencement of draft three options, all penalty free:
  - a. Dog left outside pen.
  - b. Dog inside pen.
  - c. Take dog to draft gate and put down race.

Sheep drafted – five for truck and five for discard pen. Two lots of two plus one each way. Two points to be deducted for each drafting error.

**Notes:**

To make up the correct numbers a drafting mistake may be corrected by the competitor lifting or walking a sheep or sheep into the correct pen.

If sheep jam in race to obtain full points the dog must be used to clear the blockage. If dog cannot clear the blockage the competitor may clear it manually with the consequent loss of points. One point to be deducted for handling sheep. The exception being General Rule 13. If sheep jam due to excessive use of force by the dog, points are to be deducted at judge’s discretion. Competitor may elect to fill the race before going to the drafting gates with a standard penalty of four points. The competitor who goes directly to the drafting gates and uses the dog to fill the race is in a position to obtain full points.

If it is obvious that backing is required to fill the race the dog must be penalised if it will not do so.

If the dog has the power and ability to move sheep up the race from the outside it should NOT be penalised.

A good steady flowing run with noise used in appropriate places is ideal.

5. Load five sheep onto the truck, then recall dog and shut gate to indicate truck loaded. Minimum penalty three points for failing to shut gate. Unload sheep.

**Notes:**

There must always be a closed gate at foot of ramp to prevent sheep from loading themselves.

6. Some venues will not have access to enough sheep to use ten fresh sheep for each run. If this is the case five sheep will have to be marked prior to start and drafted according to marks and used ONCE more only.
7. Section Two ends when gate at foot of ramp is closed after truck is unloaded.

**Notes:**

For standardisation all arenas to have gates as per diagram.

**Section Three – 30 Points:**

1. Release sheep from discard pen and shepherd them through hurdles. Competitor may assist dog, but points will be deducted for over assistance. This section is a free working area with regards to the competitor.
2. Hurdles are to be set away from and at an angle to the fence. Competitor does not have to walk through the hurdles.
3. Sheep to be shepherded into put-away pen to complete run.
4. Competitor and dog gate to open inwards.
5. The section is completed when the gate is closed with the dog and competitor still in the arena.

**General Rules:**

**Noise is a requirement. "Dog must bark at least three times in each section".**

1. Rough handling of sheep is not to be tolerated. If this occurs judge must terminate run. This includes biting, except on sheep's top-not.
2. Competitors wasting time with an ineffective dog should be called off.
3. All gates to be shut as competitors go around course.
4. No sticks.
5. No collars at all.

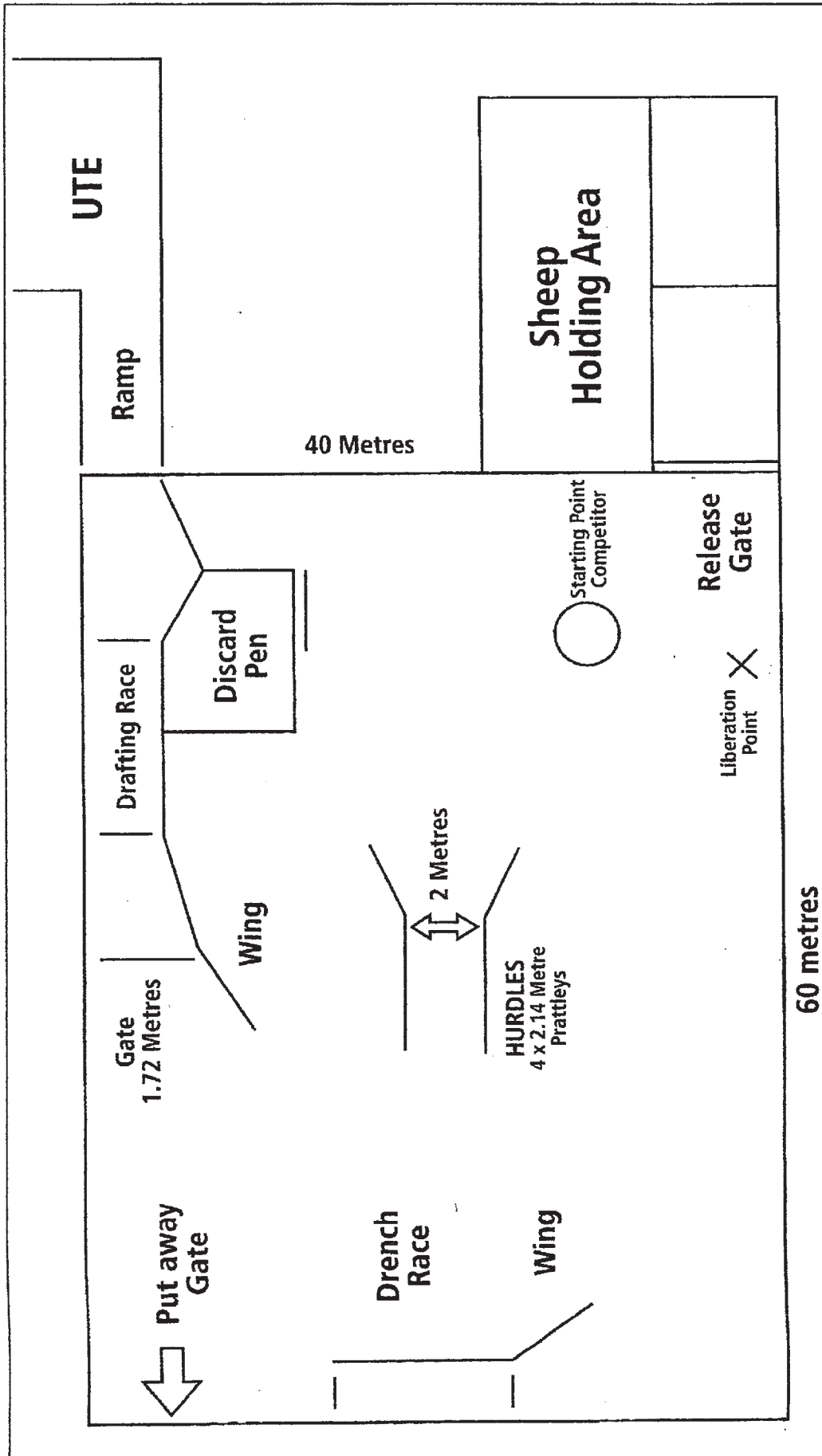
6. If a sheep jumps out of a pen or the arena due to no fault of the dog or competitor the clock shall be stopped until it is returned or if it is impractical to return the sheep, a re-run will be given.
7. Dogs must be owned by the competitor.
8. All venues are to conduct a run-off of five minimum and ten dogs maximum. This number may be determined in proportion to the number of entries each day. The top "X" number of qualifiers from each day to be in finals "run-off".
9. Run-off dogs will start on scratch.
10. Judges to walk course with competitors prior to the event to explain rules.
11. Ovis certificates for all competing dogs as well as liberator dogs must be produced to organisers.
12. Prattley yards should be raised by using 4' x 4' blocks under bottom rail. This greatly reduces the number of sheep jumping out.
13. One point to be deducted for the handling of sheep on any part of the course.  
  
This rule is to encourage competitors to show the skills of their dogs but NOT at the expense of rough treatment of the sheep. The exception to this rule is when sheep either jam or pile up at the actual drafting gates. A competitor may choose to use his hand to push a sheep back without penalty.
14. Any dog leaving working area at draft, load or arena shall be penalised a minimum of two points.
15. Status – Open and maiden competitors can enter dogs of any status.

**Open** – All competitors that have won a maiden event, be it Yard Dog or standard dog trial event.

**Maiden** – All competitors that have NOT won a maiden event, be it Yard Dog or standard dog trial event.

**Note** – The status is on the competitor not the dog.

To assist the sponsors' profile it is suggested a minimum of 40 dogs to contest each event.





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## **Rules & Guidelines**

### **Tux Yarding Challenge**

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**RULES & GUIDELINES FOR**  
**TUX NEW ZEALAND YARDING CHALLENGE**  
**AS AT JUNE 2015**

1. **Area:** The fenced off enclosed area to be a **minimum** of 45 metres square. Course layouts to be the same at each event. Tee and cross to be 1200mm wide and suggest a dummy hurdle be put against the scrim at the gap (1<sup>st</sup> obstacle) to help make start easier and quicker. **Yard is 2.4 square metres.** (8ft Prattley hurdles).
2. The tee to be bought away from the corner and angles slightly to make it more flowing.
3. Time will start when sheep are released and will be 11 minutes for each run. Judge may use discretion if sheep play up. Judging will start once the sheep go through the gap.
4. Sheep to be driven between obstacle one (the gap), two (the bridge) and three (the tee). There will be a 5 metre free working area before the bridge and the tee.
5. Competitor must walk through obstacle one (the gap) and three (the tee). At the second obstacle (the bridge), competitor may clear sheep off bridge either by walking onto bridge or walking alongside of bridge. If sheep touch with stick during run competitor **will** be penalised. The bridge and the U may be headed without penalty.
6. After the tee (third obstacle) and up to Maltese X competitor has freedom of movement between obstacles, i.e. drive or pull between obstacles or do both drive and pull.
7. At the U (fourth obstacle) dog and competitor must have all sheep in the U before competitor can move to open the gate to release sheep. The organising committee will ensure there is a handle on the gate and the competitor's hand must be on the handle and remain there until the gate is closed. (The gate may be swung at the discretion of the organising committee running the event off either **left or right** post but must be opening out from the U). The width the gate may be opened is at the discretion of the competitor. If one or more sheep exit the rear of the U the competitor must close the gate and place all three sheep back in the U before run can continue.

8. The Maltese X must be entered and exited by the sheep as the course map defines. The competitor has freedom of movement at Maltese X, **but must stay in front half of cross as approached from U. (Refer to dotted lines on map of course layout). Competitor may use stick over the hurdles in the Maltese X but must not touch the sheep.**

9. When sheep clear of Maltese X competitor must go directly and without stopping stand in the ring at head of yard gate. The ring is 1 metre in diameter and to be placed 1.5 metres from head of gate. (The gate must be swung off the **left** post of the yard by the organising committee). **Work at yard will be judged under standard New Zealand rules. Competitor may move in ring but may not use movement to assist in yarding the sheep. If a stick is started with it must be held at all times.**

10. Sheep are only yarded when all three sheep are in the yard to the **judge's** satisfaction and the judge calls right, competitor then must shut the gate **in a measured fashion** to complete the run. **Dog to show control as gate is shut. Dog may move out of the road in the last stages of closing gate.** After the completion of each run the gate to the yard is to be left opened for the next run.

11. **Points:**

1 <sup>st</sup> Section – The Gap	No Points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Section – Drive & Bridge	20 Points
3 <sup>rd</sup> Section – Drive & Tee	20 Points
4 <sup>th</sup> Section – Drive/Pull & U	20 Points
5 <sup>th</sup> Section – Drive/Pull & Maltese X	20 Points
6 <sup>th</sup> Section – Pull & Yard	20 Points
Total:	<u>100 Points</u>

12. **Semi-Finals & New Zealand Final:** Judges will be appointed by the organising committee in consultation with the Centre selection panel for the Island.

13. Payment for judges will be \$100 per day plus accommodation.

14. **A levy of \$1.50 per run is to be paid to the New Zealand Association.**

15. A competitor can only run in the Island semi-final if they have qualified in that Island. (If a North Island competitor qualifies at a South Island heat they are **ONLY** eligible to run at the South Island semi-final). A competitor cannot run in both North and South Island semi-finals; the first semi-final qualification will count.

16. The status for the Maiden is on the **competitor not the dog.** Remember we are trying to encourage people into the sport! Once the competitor has won a maiden in the Tux Yarding Challenge they no longer qualify as a Maiden in these



events **only**. Should a maiden competitor be first or second in the qualifying events of the Open they become the qualifiers for the **Open semi-final** and the next place getter in the Maiden will be eligible for the semi-final of the Maiden.

17. **A run off** of a minimum of 5 dogs will be held at every Tux Yarding event (**no exceptions**). The organising committees of each event will have the option if the run offs will be an aggregate or from scratch, but must be from scratch if fresh sheep have not been used each day. An equal number of competitors must be taken from each day for the run off, given that there is a similar number of runs each day or be worked out by a similar percentage each day.

18. From each heat two competitors from the Open will qualify for the semi-final event at a venue to be notified each year. (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> but if 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> have already qualified at another venue, then the next unqualified dog will qualify). At any event that has over 200 runs then the first 3 unqualified dogs qualify for the Island semi-final. A competitor can have a maximum of 2 dogs at the semi-final or New Zealand final. Should a competitor qualify more than 2 dogs for the semi-final and either qualified dog becomes injured or comes into season that dog can be replaced with the next qualified dog. If this scenario happens a **vet certificate must be produced giving the reason for the change of dog and the next qualified dog to be notified immediately**.

19. Three open dogs plus 1 novice competitor from each Island to go to the New Zealand final to be held at an appointed venue each year.

Updated June 2015

# TUX NEW ZEALAND YARDING CHALLENGE

