

Stockdog Program Rules

June 2022



Established 1957

These rules were last updated:

Date of Change	Section Changed	Related Motion
9-27-2022	18.5.2 Moving Up	SD.22.17
June 2022	6.3.2 60-Day Rule	SD.22.08
June 2022	24.1.4 Take Pens moved to 24.2.1 Take Pens	SD.22.03
June 2022	New Chapter 24.7 Courses	SD.22.01
June 2022	24.9.1 Selection of Judges for Each Class of Stock	SD.21.08
June 2022	26.1.5 Judge's Test	SD.21.07
June 2022	Delete Appendix 6: Stockdog Judge Discipline and Procedure for Reinstatement	SD.21.06
June 2022	New 26.16 Stockdog Judge Discipline and Procedure for Reinstatement	SD.21.05
9-9-2021	24.3.2 Entry Deadline	BD.21.91
8-27-2021	24.5 Awards	BD.21.75
8-1-2021	Stockdog Judge Directory replaced with the report from Business Office	
5-15-2021	Changes for June 2021 edition	

Shaded and ~~strikethrough~~ areas indicate rule changes with **effective date** listed.

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Found at the Back of These Rules:

Directory of ASCA Stockdog Judges
 Stockdog Trial Program Official Judging Score Sheet (Courses A, B, C)
 Stockdog Trial Program Official Judging Score Sheet (Courses D, E, F)
 Stockdog Trial Program Official Judging Score Sheet (Courses G, H)
 Working Junior and Novice Handler Score Sheet
 Farm Trial Program Official Judging Score Sheet
 Ranch Dog Inspection Evaluation Form
 Ranch Trial Program Official Judging Score Sheet
 ASCA's Code of Ethics for Judges
 ASCA's Dog Aggression Rules & Incident Report Form
 ASCA's Conflict Resolution Protocol & Request Form

ASCA Stockdog Rules and Regulations

Chapter 1 Purpose and Objectives

The objectives of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA) Stockdog Program shall be:

Section 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Stockdog Program is to preserve the inherent working ability of the Australian Shepherd as described in the Working Description (see [Appendix 1](#)).

GUIDELINE: IDEAL STOCK DOG

The purpose of a stockdog is to take the place of a person's work, accomplishing what is needed without damage, undue stress, or danger to the stock. The proper frame of reference for judges and exhibitors evaluating the dog's work should be "what is best for the stock."

Section 1.2 Purpose of the Program

The purpose is to stimulate interest in and recognize the working ability of the Australian Shepherd and other breeds by use of the Certification program.

Section 1.3 Objective

The objective is to keep a permanent record of the working dog's accomplishments as a resource for improving breeding practices.

Chapter 2 The Sanctioned Trial

Section 2.1 The Sanctioned Trial

2.1.1 What is Required of the Club

The ASCA Sanctioned Trial will require the use of approved Stockdog Courses, its score sheet, and all other Stockdog Program criteria, including the sanctioning fee of \$25.00 per trial with a maximum of two trials per day by a host club.

2.1.2 Dogs That May Earn Certification

The ASCA Sanctioned trial is the only trial in which Australian Shepherds, with ASCA individual registration numbers or LEP numbers, can apply their qualifying scores towards Certification. Other breeds and non-ASCA registered Australian Shepherds may apply their qualifying scores towards Certification at ASCA Sanctioned Trials providing they have received a QTracker Number from the Business Office (see [Section 4.13.2](#); [Section 2.2](#)).

2.1.3 Who May Judge

All ASCA Sanctioned Trials are required to use ASCA Approved Judges (see [Appendix 4](#)). Apprentice Judges may work for credit (see [Chapter 29](#)).

2.1.4 Who May Sanction a Trial

Official ASCA Stockdog programs that require sanctioning and award points or qualifying scores that lead to an ASCA title shall not be conducted by any individual(s), non ASCA Affiliated corporation(s) or business(s). Affiliate Club(s) in good standing with ASCA will have the exclusive right to schedule, sanction and conduct Official ASCA programs. No individual(s), non ASCA Affiliated corporation(s), or business(s) shall realize any monetary profit, or any other benefit as a result of any connection with an ASCA sanctioned event. Normal event sponsorship or advertisement by any individual(s), corporation(s), or business(s) shall not be considered to be in conflict with this rule. Individuals, corporations, or businesses that enter into an agreement with Affiliate Clubs to supply materials, services, facility rentals, livestock rentals or any other need required for the conduct of sanctioned events shall not be considered to be in conflict with this rule. The use of the Club's name for event purposes cannot be transferred.

Section 2.2 Herding Breeds Other Than Australian Shepherds

2.2.1 Certification of Other Breeds

ASCA will certify herding breeds other than Australian Shepherds providing they have an ASCA QTracker Number (see [Section 4.13.2](#)).

2.2.2 Eligible Breeds

Herding breeds eligible to compete in the ASCA Stockdog trials are listed in [Appendix 5](#).

2.2.3 Australian Shepherds Not Registered with ASCA

Australian Shepherds NOT registered with ASCA will be considered "other breeds" for all ASCA Stockdog sanctioned programs and must have an ASCA QTracker Number for certification.

2.2.4 Other Breed Entrants

Other breed entrants, with or without a QTracker Number, must follow the rules and regulations as outlined herein.

2.2.5 Eligible Cross-Bred Dogs

Cross-bred dogs of herding origin listed in [Appendix 5](#), may compete in ASCA Stockdog trials.

2.2.6 Gaining Breed Eligibility

Any breed club wishing to participate in the ASCA Stockdog trials that are not listed in [Appendix 5](#), may petition ASCA for admittance.

The request will be reviewed by the Stockdog Committee for recommendation to the Board of Directors. The request must come from the parent club or controlling entity for the breed applying. Upon request the parent club or controlling entity may be asked to supply video of various dogs working stock in either a trial or home environment.

All requests must include the following:

1. A petition letter requesting participation in the ASCA Stockdog Program, which must include contact information for the parent club or controlling entity of the breed.
2. A history of the breed along with the official breed standard demonstrating the original intent of the breed applying and how it was meant to be used with livestock.

Section 2.3 Sanctioning of Trials

2.3.1 Sanctioning Out of Area

ASCA Affiliate Clubs shall not request sanctioning for any event to be held outside of their state/area that is already served by at least one Affiliate Club without permission.

A. If an Affiliate Club wishes to sanction an event at a site that is outside of their state/area, they must first secure written permission from all the Affiliates in that state/area. This written permission shall be submitted to the Business Office with the Sanction Request before sanctioning can be granted.

B. If an Affiliate Club does not serve a state/area, an Affiliate Club from another state/area may sanction events there on a first come basis.

C. If an Affiliate Club organizes in a state/area that formerly did not have an Affiliate Club, then the new Club shall have primary sanctioning authority. Out of state/area Affiliate Clubs must follow the procedure as outlined in [Section 2.3.2](#).

D. Affiliate Clubs who sanction pre-national events to be held in the state/area of the National Specialty event are exempt from the provisions of this section.

2.3.2 Including Other Applicable Rules

Any ASCA Affiliate Club requesting ASCA sanctioning for any event shall, when making application for said event, include any applicable county, state, country or any other bylaws, rules of conduct or associated restrictions regarding dogs, their exhibition, and the holding of said event and shall include a list of such rules, bylaws, or restrictions in the premium list. Such rules, restrictions, bylaws etc., shall be printed in English and in the language of the country where said event will be held, listing all pertinent information.

2.3.3 Where to Get Sanctioning Applications

Applications for sanctioning trials are available from the Business Office or on the ASCA Website.

2.3.4 What is Included in Sanctioning Request

The application for sanctioning of a trial by a Host Club will contain the following information:

1. Host Club, location, and date(s) of trial(s).
2. Course Director's name, address and ASCA membership number.
3. ASCA Stockdog Judge(s) and judging assignments. ASCA Apprentice Judge(s) should be listed, if known.
4. Number of Australian Shepherd or All-Breed entries, which will be accepted.
5. Whether bitches in season will be allowed to run.
6. How the draw for run order will be done (day of trial or prior to trial by the Trial Committee).
7. Total number of livestock and ducks/geese to be on hand, their breed, weight and/or age.
8. Livestock and duck/geese arena size, fence type and height, and the location of watering equipment. The take pen size for the Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Duck/Geese arenas must be given. All areas need to be sketched showing the exact location of the take pen and re-pen.
9. Which course(s) will be used. The same course must be used for all divisions.
10. Opening and closing pre-entry dates.

2.3.5 Sanctioning Deadline

The completed application for sanctioning of a working trial must be received by the Business Office postmarked 60 days prior to the date of the proposed trial.

2.3.6 Flyer

The Host Club must send a completed flyer to the Business Office along with the sanctioning forms. Once sanctioning is approved the Business Office will then place the flyer on the ASCA Web page.

2.3.7 Late Sanctioning Fees

Sanctioning requests received between 45-60 days prior to an event will be accepted upon payment of a fine of \$50 per day past the 60-day postmark deadline.

- A. Sanctioning request received by the Business Office less than 45 days prior to a sanctioned event will not be accepted under any circumstances.
- B. Clubs submitting delinquent sanctioning requests three times will lose all late sanctioning privileges for a period of two years. It is recommended Clubs retain proof of mailing for all sanctioning requests. The Business Office will not accept responsibility for sanctioning requests lost in the mail.
- C. All sanctioning requests sent after the 60-day postmark deadline must be on original forms (no faxes or e-mails) and must have all required signatures and fees. If the Host Club with the preexisting dates postmarks their sanctioning request form past the 60-day deadline and it is not received 45 days prior to the event, they will lose first right to this date for that year.

2.3.8 Contracts with Judges

Whenever an ASCA Affiliate Club is responsible for making arrangements with and paying for the services of an ASCA Stockdog Judge, the Affiliate Club is encouraged to execute a contract with each Judge they hire so both the club and the Judge have a clear understanding of the financial agreement. The contract should include but is not limited to transportation, lodging, meals and Judge's fee or honorarium.

2.3.9 Sanctioning Approval

The Business Office shall have the responsibility of approving all ASCA Sanctioned Working Trials, except for the ASCA National Specialty and the ASCA Stockdog Finals, which will be approved and scheduled by the Board of Directors. Any changes made other than those approved by the Business Office may void sanction, except in the event of an emergency when the Senior Judge and the Course Director can approve changes occurring the day of the trial due to necessity or valid hardship, and providing an explanation is included with the Judge's course verification report. The Business Office will notify the host club and Judge(s) when sanctioning of a trial is approved.

Chapter 3 Host Club

Section 3.1 Host Organization

3.1.1 Number of Sanctioned Events Allowed

Only ASCA Affiliate Clubs in good standing may sanction ASCA events. Only one type of event may be held in each state or area (in those states divided into areas). A “type of event” is defined as a Conformation Show, Obedience, Tracking, Agility, or a Stockdog Trial. The same “type” of event would not be allowed to occur, such as more than one Conformation event per day per area.

A. California is divided into three areas: from the Mexican border north to the city of Ventura, from Ventura north to San Jose, from San Jose north to Oregon. Nevada is divided into two areas: From the southernmost border north to Highway 6, and north to the Oregon and Idaho borders.

B. Alaska affiliates may have more than one type of event per day from October 1 through March 30.

3.1.2 Claiming Dates

Each Host Club that holds a sanctioned event at least once in every two consecutive years shall have first right to claim the corresponding dates or holiday weekend for its event to be held in the next succeeding two years.

A. If the Club having first right to the date does not host a sanctioned event on that date in the following year, another Club may use the preexisting date for an event. The original Club shall still have first right to the date on the second year following their original event. If they do not host a sanctioned event on that date in the second year, they lose the first right to the date.

B. The Business Office will hold paperwork from any other Club wishing to use a preexisting date until the Business Office has been notified that the Host Club with the preexisting date will not use the event date that year. If paperwork must be held pending receipt of the notification from the Host Club with the preexisting date, the Business Office will notify the second Club within 14 days upon receipt of the Sanctioning Request Form.

C. To facilitate timely receipt of materials, Clubs wishing to use a preexisting date should contact the Host Club and request notification be sent in writing to the Business Office stating the preexisting date will not be used that year. If the Host Club with the preexisting date does not use that date on the second year following their original event, first claim to that date will pass to a second Host Club if there is one.

D. If a date has not been previously claimed, the Host Club whose sanctioning is postmarked first shall be awarded the date.

Section 3.2 Submission of Trial Records to ASCA

3.2.1 Records

After each sanctioned trial, a Trial Result Form marked with the armband number, individual registration number or QTracker Number, class and division, score, placing, dog's registered name and name of handler, certified by the Course Director of the trial, must be sent to the Business Office postmarked no later than 14 days after the end of the trial. Penalty for non-compliance shall be \$10.00 per day as well as other penalties as may be imposed by the Stockdog Committee and Board of Directors.

3.2.2 Gross Receipts and Entry Forms

A gross receipts statement and all entry forms, or a copy thereof, must be sent to the Business Office after each trial.

3.2.3 Collected Fees Per Run

Event Membership dues of one dollar (\$1.00) per run will be collected with the entry fee by the Host Organization and forwarded to the Business Office with the Trial Records.

Section 3.3 Trial Score Sheets

All originals must be mailed to the Business Office by the Host Club, postmarked no later than 14 days after the trial. All apprentice score sheets from the trial must accompany the originals. The Apprentice Judge comparison report must be completed and returned with the score sheets when an Apprentice Judge works a trial for credit.

Section 3.4 Trial Officials

3.4.1 Course Director

The Course Director must be a member of ASCA. The Course Director, along with the Trial Committee, will be responsible for making complete arrangements and shall have on hand any ASCA forms, which might be required by owners. The Course Director and Trial Committee will be responsible for enforcement of all rules and regulations relating to the trial and must provide themselves with a copy of the ASCA Stockdog Program Rules for reference. The Course Director will be held accountable for the maintenance of clean and orderly conditions throughout the precincts of the trial during all hours when dogs are permitted to be present. Course Director shall be responsible for completing the paperwork as required by ASCA. It is the responsibility of the Course Director to see to the welfare of the livestock before, during, and after the trial. This includes ending a trial run that falls under [Chapter 27](#).

3.4.2 Scorekeeper/Timer

There will be a minimum of one Scorekeeper/Timer per arena. The Scorekeeper/Timer will be responsible for totaling all points noted by each Judge on each score sheet, carefully noting any instructions for the 50% penalty on Advanced Trial Dogs or the 15-point penalty on Open Trial Dogs. Termination of the run resulting in a zero (0) score shall be noted as well. They will also be responsible for timing each trial run which commences when either the gate is opened when a take-pen is used or when the dog moves away from the handler when the gather is used, and for giving the time warning before the end of each run, for calling "time" when the total allowed time has elapsed, the contestant has completed re-penning (time stops when the gate is closed) or "called time" himself. There will be two stopwatches used for each run to ensure a time if one watch fails. Two timekeeper-scorers are preferred.

Chapter 4 General Trial Information

Section 4.1 Entry Form

The official ASCA Entry form must be used.

Section 4.2 Acceptance of Entries

4.2.1 Breed Entry Restrictions

Pre-entries and day of show entries may be restricted to Australian Shepherds or open to all herding breeds.

4.2.2 Early Entry for Australian Shepherds

A trial Host Club may accept Australian Shepherd entries, before the entry date published for other breeds, if they so choose.

4.2.3 Other Conditions for Entry

With the exception of the above, no entry shall be made, and no entry shall be accepted which specifies any condition as to its acceptance.

4.2.4 Determining Entries

The entry limit per Judge will be accepted in postmark order. In case of duplicate postmark entries, a random draw will be conducted to determine the order of acceptance. Each draw will entitle the dog to be entered in each of the classes available. If the class of stock is full, the dog's entry (for that class of stock) will be put on a waiting list in order of receipt. If an envelope drawn has entries for more than one dog, each dog will compete for entry separately in the draw order.

4.2.5 Late Postmark Date

An entry received more than 10 days after the postmark date will be accepted by receipt date.

4.2.6 Refusal of Entry for Cause

The Trial Committee may decline any entries or may remove any dog(s) or person(s) from its' trial for cause, but in each instance shall file good and sufficient reasons for so doing with the Business Office within 14 days of the close of the trial.

4.2.7 Substitutions of Entries

A Host Club must allow substitutions of another dog owned or co-owned by the same owner who originally entered the dog.

Section 4.3 Waiting List

Additional entries can be made from a waiting list established in order of receipt by the host club if this is announced in the premium list or flyer. Additions must be made prior to the start of the trial and are at the discretion of the host club. Fees will be refunded to the original entrant by the host club before close of entries only if a replacement dog is entered in place of the absent dog. Once entries close, entry fees do not need to be refunded by the Host Club.

Section 4.4 Day of Show Entries

If the entry limit is not reached at all trials, including Specialties, day of show entries may be taken at the option of the Host Club. If day of show entries are to be accepted at a Specialty, it must be announced on the premium list or flyer.

Section 4.5 Owner Entry

Every dog must be entered as registered, listing the owner. A registered dog which has been acquired by a person other than the recorded owner must be entered in the name of its new owner at any trial for which entries close after the date upon which the dog was acquired.

Section 4.6 Bitches in Season

Bitches in heat may be barred from the trial arena during regular competition at a sanctioned trial.

A. At the option of the host club, bitches in season may be permitted to compete in order or after the last run in the last regular class and division of the day.

B. The host club must stipulate in the premium list or flyer and in their sanctioning request whether bitches in heat will be allowed to compete.

C. If the host club elects not to permit bitches in heat to compete, they must permit, at the owner's option, either a refund of the entry fee or substitution of a dog owned or co-owned by the owner of the bitch in heat.

Section 4.7 Discrimination

4.7.1 Eligibility

No Host Club shall accept an entry fee other than what is published in the premium list or flyer, nor shall they in any way discriminate against owners or handlers.

4.7.2 No Inducement

No Host Club shall offer to any owner or handler any special inducement, such as trophies, reduced entry fees, rebates, additional prize money, or any other concession, for entering any dog in the trial.

4.7.3 No Special Consideration

No Host Club shall accept a fee from any owner or handler in exchange for special consideration for any dog entered in the trial. No Host Club shall accept a fee from any owner or handler in order for a dog to be eligible for special awards. Special awards include but are not limited to High in Trial, and High Combined Score.

4.7.4 Junior and Novice Fees

At the discretion of the Host Club, entry fees may be reduced for all owners or handlers competing in the Working Junior Handler and Novice Handler Dog Divisions as published in its premium list or flyer.

Section 4.8 Dogs That May Not Compete

An ASCA Stockdog Judge cannot compete, nor can any dog owned or co-owned by that Judge compete, at the same sanctioned trial he/she is officiating.

A. The Judge shall not judge any dog that he/she or member of his/her immediate household or immediate family owns, co-owns, or is currently handling.

B. The Judge's immediate family include spouse, father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, or any person residing with that individual. Immediate family members of an officiating Judge may show under another officiating Judge at the same trial.

C. Any dog that has been exposed to a communicable disease, shows clinical symptoms of a communicable disease, or has been confirmed by a veterinarian to have a communicable disease will not be allowed to compete or to be on the trial grounds (see [Appendix 9](#)).

Section 4.9 Draw for Order of Run

The order of runs will be determined by random drawing. The drawing may be done the day of the trial or in advance of the trial. The method must be announced on the premium list or flyer.

Section 4.10 Armbands

The host club must provide each contestant with armbands or pin-on numbers.

Section 4.11 Dogs in Arena

4.11.1 Competing Dogs in the Arena or Pen Area

No competing dogs will be allowed in the trial arena during a trial day except during their run(s). The trial arena includes all areas where dogs are competing, and all areas used for handling, moving, or gathering trial livestock. A trial begins on the day of the scheduled sanction date and ends when awards and score sheets have been handed out. At any time, a non-competing dog may be used to set or move stock in the trial arena at the discretion of the Course Director and Judge. When the trial ends, there will be no limitations or restrictions on any dogs or handlers.

4.11.2 Confinement of Dogs

All competing and non-competing dogs except those in the trial arena and those authorized to assist the stock handler(s) will be required to be confined in such a way so as not to disturb other dogs, stock, contestants, or spectators. The Course Director and host club will be responsible for enforcement.

Section 4.12 Verification of Scores or Inspection Results

Certification will be awarded only after all trial judging material, trial result forms, score sheets, working trial forms, ranch dog inspection forms, and required fees have been received and recorded by the Business Office, and all other conditions have been met. If a dog, according to the owner's records, has received two qualifying scores under two different judges in a particular class and division, the dog may be advanced to the next higher division, subject to verification of all scores by the Business Office.

Section 4.13 Claiming Certification

4.13.1 Claiming Certification

Certification cannot be claimed by the owner of a competing or inspected dog until all conditions are met and the Business Office has recorded the certification, and the owner of a dog has received official notification.

4.13.2 Certification of Non-ASCA Registered Dogs

All dogs not registered with ASCA must have a QTracker Number to receive certification.

Section 4.14 Ribbons and Prizes

Four official placing ribbons and all prizes offered for competition within a single class at a sanctioned trial will be awarded only to dogs that earn a score. However, full discretionary power is given to the Judge to withhold any or all prizes in a class(s) for lack of merit. The host club shall pay or distribute all prizes offered at its trial within 30 days after the Business Office has checked the results of the trial. All prizes and their stipulations shall be advertised prior to the trial. The ASCA logo may be used in awards offered by an ASCA affiliate hosting a sanctioned show, trial, or agility competition.

Section 4.15 Trial Photography

All posed pictures of any contestant(s) and dog(s) should be taken after all trial classes have been run. No delay in the trial program will be permitted for photography. Pictures taken during the run must not interfere with the run.

Section 4.16 Code of Personal Conduct

According to ASCA's By-Laws, one of the objectives and purposes of the Club is to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the Australian Shepherd as a purebred dog and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, working and obedience trials, tracking tests/trials and at any other event where Australian Shepherds participate. Contestants, event workers, judges, and visitors are expected to maintain a family-oriented, sportsmanlike atmosphere. Judges and workers are expected to exhibit professionalism and courtesy. Competitors are expected to conduct themselves at the highest level of sportsmanship. For more information see [Appendix 8](#).

Chapter 5 Handler Responsibilities

Section 5.1 Handlers

For all classes and divisions of stock, only one handler is allowed in the arena during the course of a trial run.

EXCEPTION: In the case of a disabled person, an assistant will be allowed to help in the arena if/when necessary.

Section 5.2 Promptness

Judges are not required to wait for dogs and handlers. It is the responsibility of each Contestant to be ready with their dog at the arena.

***GUIDELINE:** It is up to the contestant to make sure the judge has his correct armband number and division in which he is trialing before he starts the run.*

Section 5.3 Use of Lead

All dogs will work off lead. The handler must have the dog on lead when entering the arena and will remove the lead prior to the start of the run and when the Judge is ready. Upon completion of the run, the handler shall put the dog on lead before leaving the arena. Restraining the dog by the collar or body will be considered on lead. If the handler takes hold of the dog to restrain him during the run, the Judge will tell the handler to release the dog. If the handler takes hold a second time, the Judge will stop the run and no score will be given.

EXCEPTION: The handler may take hold of and restrain the dog to check for injury, soundness, or foreign objects in the foot.

Chapter 6 Arena Trial Classes, Divisions, and Progression

Section 6.1 Trial Classes

6.1.1 Classes in Each Division

Each division will be divided into three different classes of livestock. The classes are as follows: Ducks/Geese, Sheep/Goats, and Cattle.

A dog may enter in multiple divisions in the same sanctioned trial.

EXAMPLE: Post Advanced Sheep/Goats, Open Cattle, and Advanced Ducks/Geese.

A dog may only enter once in each class of livestock per sanctioned trial.

EXCEPTION: Junior Division (see [Section 6.2.1.D](#)).

6.1.2 Non-Regular Classes

Non-regular classes may be offered to encourage beginners or promote the Advanced Trial Dog, as long as sufficient stock is available. Non-regular classes will not count towards the sanctioned trial entry limit. Non-regular classes should be run after the regular classes.

***GUIDELINE:** The ideal herding dog is one that can handle the stock in the best and most efficient way for that particular stock while working in harmony with the handler. To minimize stress and weight loss, the best pace for stock is a walk or jog; therefore, the ideal dog will adjust his pace to the stock and not push them unduly. It is understood that sometimes stock will run upon finding themselves loose in an arena with a dog. The dog must then work to establish control to get and keep the stock bunched. When control is established, the dog should back off and give the stock a chance to slow their pace. Dogs that charge, chase, stampede, and continually split the stock are to be excused. The ideal dog is alert to every move of the stock but is responsive to the handler's commands. He should display a natural concern for keeping the stock together and, therefore, will remain in contact with the stock at all times. Being in contact with the stock does not necessarily mean gripping. The dog will show a calm self-confidence, and the ability to employ an appropriate amount of force for each situation, such as gripping heads or heels, when necessary.*

- **Cattle:** The ideal cattle dog works closer to the cattle using wear, correct positioning, power, and grip to keep them grouped and moving. More power (not to be mistaken for unnecessary gripping) is usually needed to move or stop cattle. Cattle should not be run through the course, but neither should they be allowed to drift at their leisure by a dog out of contact due to lack of power.
- **Sheep:** The ideal sheep dog should work sheep cautiously and with as little physical contact as is necessary. The degree of lightness of the sheep will determine how far off the dog should be working. The lighter the sheep, the

further off the dog should be, the stickier the sheep, the closer the dog will have to work. With sticky sheep, a grip on the heels may be necessary. If a dog encounters fighting sheep, which do not yield when the dog stands his ground, then a head grip may be justified. In most cases body biting or wool pulling are unnecessary and can result in time being called on the contestant.

- **Ducks:** *The ideal duck dog works well back off the ducks and moves them slowly and smoothly. Gripping, running over, or pouncing on ducks is unnecessary and is grounds for excusal. Nudging a duck with the nose is acceptable in a case where the duck refuses to move for the dog.*

Section 6.2 Trial Divisions

6.2.1 Divisions

The host organization is required to offer the following divisions without priority to any division with the exception of the Post Advanced Division.

- A. **Started Trial Dog** is for dogs six months of age or older on the day of the trial that have not earned a Started, Open or Advanced Trial Dog certification for the class being entered.
 1. Any dog that has received two qualifying scores in the Started Division may continue to compete for Merit points in this division for up to a 60-day period after earning the second qualifying score regardless of whether the certificate has or has not been received.
 2. Prizes, placements, and Merit points are still awarded during this 60-day period.
 3. Any dog may continue to compete for prizes and placements beyond 60 days until the criteria in 6.3.2 a-c are attained. Once any of those criteria are met the dog must move up to the Open division at the next trial weekend.
- B. **Open Trial Dog** is for dogs that have been certified or have qualified for Started Trial Dog for the class being entered but have not been certified for the Open or Advanced Trial Dog for the class being entered.
 1. Any dog that has received two qualifying scores in the Open Division may continue to compete for Merit points in this division for up to a 60-day period after earning the second qualifying score regardless of whether the certificate has or has not been received.
 2. Prizes, placements, and Merit points are still awarded during this 60-day period.
 3. Any dog may continue to compete for prizes and placements beyond 60 days until the criteria in 6.3.2 a-c are attained. Once any of those criteria are met the dog must move up to the Advanced Division at the next trial weekend.
- C. **Advanced Trial Dog** is for dogs that have been certified or have qualified for Open Trial Dog for the class being entered. Any dog certified Advanced Trial Dog may continue to compete in the Advanced Trial Dog division for that class.
- D. **Working Junior Handler** is open to all juniors up to 17 years of age.
 1. Handlers may use any dog in this division, titled or non-titled.
 2. All open rules except the open handler's Line will be used.
 3. Placing for this class will be given, but scores from this class are not eligible towards certification or special awards such as High Score Aussie, Ducks/Geese, Sheep/Goats, Cattle or High Combined. Host clubs may offer their own special handler's awards for this division.
 4. Dogs entered in the Working Junior Handler Division may compete in any other division on the same class of livestock in the same trial. **NOTE:** Points for ASCA's Open Working Junior are awarded from scores earned in Started, Open, and the Advanced Divisions using the Official Stockdog Trial Program Judging Score Sheet. Points for the ASCA's Working Junior Handler are earned from the Working Junior Handler division, using the Working Junior Handler Score Sheet.
- E. **Novice Handler** is open to all handlers over 17 years of age who have not completed an OTD in the class of stock entered.
 1. Handlers may use any dog in this division, titled or non-titled.
 2. All open rules except the open handler's Line will be used.
 3. Placing for this class will be given, but scores from this class are not eligible towards certification or special awards such as High Score Aussie, Ducks/Geese, Sheep/Goats, Cattle or High Combined. Host clubs may offer their own special handler's awards for this division.
 4. Dogs entered in the Novice Division may not compete in any other division on the same class of livestock in the same trial.
- F. **For Exhibition Only "FEO"** - An exhibitor may run in any division at any time, with or without a title, for Exhibition Only. No placements, points, or prizes will be awarded for dogs running "FEO". The owner or exhibitor must note on the entry form "FEO" and inform the Judge they are running "FEO" before the start of their run.

G. **Post Advanced Trial Dog** is for dogs that have been certified or have qualified for the Advanced Trial Dog for the class being entered.

1. The Post Advanced Division is an optional division for Sheep/Goats and Cattle classes. Host clubs do not have to offer this division if no facility is available. Advanced Trial dogs do not have to compete in this division if they feel unprepared for the division.
2. Qualifying scores can be earned according to [Section 21.1.5](#). The title earned shall be PATD-class used at the end of the dog's name.
3. Merit points may be earned according to [Section 23.2](#).

A Host Club may not sanction different courses per division (Started, Open, Advanced) but can sanction different courses per class of stock in a trial. All courses in each arena must be the same for all divisions.

EXAMPLE: Sheep may be Course A, Cattle Course D, Ducks Course C, but all divisions must have the same course for each class of stock.

EXCEPTION: When Post Advanced is sanctioned with an arena trial, the Post Advanced course does not have to be the same course as the arena trial.

GUIDELINE: Below are general guidelines of what is expected of Started, Open, Advanced, Post Advanced, Novice and Junior dogs. Keep in mind that the stock will play a major role in the smoothness of the run. The more difficult the stock, the rougher the run may look.

- **The Started Dogs:** The Started Dog has had little or no trial experience, though they should have control over their stock and be under the control of the handler. The Started dogs should have the beginning of side commands, a walk on, and a stop. This division is not intended for testing a dog's instinct. Dogs entered in this division with little or no control do great harm to themselves, the stock, and to those who have to work after them and try to gain control over stressed stock. Handler lines were added to the program to show both fetch and driving work by the dog. The Started dogs do not have a handler's line. Therefore, the started dog is allowed to work the course in whatever way is advantageous for the dog and handler. They may either drive or fetch the course (or a combination of both), with no point losses as long as the dog is in control of the stock and under control of the handler.
- **The Open Dogs:** These dogs should be able to control and rate their stock. The commands for left, right, slow down, and stop should be solid. These dogs should have a parallel drive, the start of a drive, and a good fetch. Response to commands should be smooth, and the dog should be working at a greater distance from the handler.
- **The Advanced Dogs:** The Advanced dogs should be able to work efficiently at any distance from the handler. The handler and dog should be exhibiting good teamwork with the dog showing proper responses to commands and the handler allowing the dog to take the initiative to think on its own. These dogs should have a cross-drive, drive, and take any necessary commands to get the job done. These dogs should be able to handle all types of stock from light to heavy with maximum control and minimum stress.
- **The Post Advanced Dogs:** The Post Advanced dogs should be able to work efficiently at any distance from the handler without the aid of a fence line. These dogs should be able to handle all types of stock from light to heavy with maximum control and minimum stress.
- **The Junior Handler:** This class is for juniors up through 17 years of age using any dog from an untitled dog to a Working Trial Champion (WTCH). The handler is judged on his/her ability to control the dog, course knowledge, ability to read livestock, dog and handler teamwork, and attitude. Ringside coaching is allowed, but points will be deducted.
- **The Novice Handler:** This class is for adults over 17 years of age using any dog from an untitled dog to a Working Trial Champion (WTCH). The handler is judged on his/her ability to control the dog, course knowledge, ability to read livestock, dog and handler teamwork, and attitude. Ringside coaching is allowed, but points will be deducted.

Section 6.3 Progression

6.3.1 Order of Progression

All dogs, competing for certification (excluding "For Exhibition Only" - FEO), must enter in the Started Division and progress through Advanced. Titles are earned in a division when two qualifying scores are received under two different Judges in each division and class AND when official notice is received from the Business Office.

- A. Started Trial Dogs must earn 69 or more of a possible 100 points to earn a qualifying score.
- B. Open Trial Dogs must earn 88 or more of a possible 125 points to earn a qualifying score.
- C. Advanced Trial Dogs must earn 88 or more of a possible 125 points to earn a qualifying score.
- D. Post Advanced Trial Dogs must earn 88 or more of a possible 125 points to earn a qualifying score.

6.3.2 60-Day Rule

After receiving two qualifying scores in a division, regardless of whether the certificate has or has not been received from the Business Office, the dog may move up immediately to the next division in the same class of stock, ~~OR continue to compete in that division for up to 60 days, OR may continue to compete in that division until the following criteria have been met.~~ If the owner does not feel ready, or does not believe their dog is ready for the next division level, they may remain at the level in which they are comfortable for as long as necessary. Prizes and placements are still awarded to these dogs while competing in the division and class entered. ~~Merit points are not earned beyond 60 days after earning the second qualifying score (see Section 6.2.1.F for FEO exceptions).~~

A. Most Promising Started awards and High in Trial Open or Non-WTCH are club awards and a stipulation of time to be eligible to win these awards after earning their title may or may not be written in the premium. EXAMPLE: A Most Promising Started award is limited to dogs who have not earned their title in the Started Division or a dog who has earned the title in the Started Division within 60 days of the trial offering the award. Dogs who have earned their title in the Started Division outside of 60 days of the trial are ineligible for this award. A club may not make this or any requirement if they choose. ~~If at any time after 60 days, a Started dog receives two scores in a division and class of stock of 80 points (80%) or more, the dog must move up to the Open division before competing in the next trial weekend (This refers to move ups and is not required during the same trial weekend when a c is reached).~~

B. Merit points are not earned beyond 60 days after earning the second qualifying score (see Section 6.2.1.F for FEO exceptions). ~~If at any time after 60 days, an Open dog receives two scores in a division and class of stock of 100 points (80%) or more, the dog must move up to the Advanced division before competing in the next trial weekend.~~

C. Once a dog has run in the Open or Advanced division, they may not move to a lower division. ~~After competing in Started or Open for one year after earning the second qualifying score, and not satisfying a or b above, the dog must move up to the next division at the next trial weekend. This rule is intended to allow contestants with limited trial opportunities the option to continue in a division for the purpose of gaining experience in the arena.~~

~~D. All dogs may continue to compete in a division and class for 60 days after earning the second qualifying score regardless of the number of wins or scores earned but may move to the next division at any time. After 60 days, only those dogs who have failed to meet the criteria listed in a or b above may remain in the same division and class. Any dog that satisfies the requirements of a, b, or c after 60 days, must move up before entering the next trial weekend.~~

Changes effective 4-1-2022.

Chapter 7 Livestock

Section 7.1 Livestock

7.1.1 Water and Feed

Water should be available to all animals as needed. Feed must be supplied if the animals are held overnight.

7.1.2 Number of Head and Mixing of Stock in a Class

The number of Sheep/Goats or Cattle allotted for each run will be 3 to 10 head. The number of Ducks/Geese allotted for each run will be 5 to 10 head.

- A. Either Ducks or Geese may be used, but the species must not be mixed, either by set or by class.
- B. Either Sheep or Goats may be used, but the species must not be mixed, either by set or by class.
- C. The class of stock for titling purposes will be recognized as Cattle, Sheep, or Ducks.
- D. The number of head allotted for each run must be announced on the premium list or flyer. Extra animals should be on hand for replacement of those injured, judged unsatisfactory, or unsound.

7.1.3 Number of Runs Allowed for Each Head of Livestock

The number of runs permitted per head of all livestock, Cattle, Sheep, or Ducks, will be a maximum of 4 runs per day.

7.1.4 Stopping a Run Due to Health of Livestock

The Judge has the authority to stop a run and request that stock be checked for soundness at any time during or prior to a run. Time will be stopped if stock is replaced and, at the option of the Judge, restarted with a full-time allotment if a re-run is given. The Judge may decide to continue the run at the point time was stopped, without restarting and without a full-time allotment.

Chapter 8 Arenas and Obstacles

Section 8.1 Arena Conditions, Size, and Run Times

8.1.1 Fencing

All arenas must be adequately fenced, with suitable surface material to permit animals and dogs to work without hazard.

8.1.2 Size of Cattle and Sheep Arena and Time Allowed Per Run

The arena size for a Course A, B, D, E, F, G, or H Cattle or Sheep/Goats will be a minimum of 100 x 200 feet. The arena size for Course C for Cattle and Sheep/Goats will be a minimum of 150 x 225 feet.

- A. 10 minutes will be allotted for each run, with a 3-minute warning.
- B. For arenas larger than 200 feet by 500 feet, 15 minutes will be allotted for each run, with a 5-minute warning.
- C. A variance for an arena that does not meet the minimum size is allowed but cannot exceed 5 feet in combined directions. **EXAMPLE:** 96 x 199 (5') is allowed but 95 x 199 (6') is not.

8.1.3 Size of Duck/Geese Arena and Time Allowed Per Run

Duck/Geese arenas shall measure a minimum of 60 x 90 feet up to a maximum of 100 x 100 feet.

- A. 7 minutes will be allowed for each run, with a 2-minute warning.
- B. A variance for an arena that does not meet the minimum size is allowed but cannot exceed 5 feet in combined directions. **EXAMPLE:** 56 x 89 (5') is allowed but 55 x 89 (6') is not.

GUIDELINE:

Equipment:

- **Panels** - All panels shall be readily visible and made of sturdy material.
- **Gates** - All gates must hinge allowing for easy swing of the gate.
- **Fencing** - All fencing shall be made of suitable material to permit the livestock to work without chance of injury.

Section 8.2 Progressing Through the Course

8.2.1 Beginning and Ending Time for Each Run

Time and scoring for all runs will begin when the handler opens the take pen gate or when the dog begins the gather on courses without a take-pen. Time stops when the re-pen gate is closed at the completion of the run or when time has expired.

8.2.2 Using the Take Pen

The take pen is designed to test the dog's ability to lift the stock out of a confined area.

- A. In any division the handler may enter the take pen with the dog off lead to remove the stock. Control points will be deducted.
- B. In any division the handler may station the dog in the arena and go into the take pen to remove the stock without the dog. Control points will be deducted.
- C. In any division the handler may allow the stock to come out of the pen on their own stationing the dog in the arena to take control of the stock as they exit the pen. Control points may be deducted.

8.2.3 Sequence

For all ASCA courses, obstacles must be attempted in numerical order. For Course A, Course B, and Course C obstacles 1 and 2 must be attempted in order before attempting the freestanding pen, or center chute. For Course D, Course E, and Course F obstacle 1, obstacle 2, obstacle 3, and obstacle 4 must be attempted in order before attempting obstacle 5. For Course G and Course H, obstacle 1, obstacle 2 and obstacle 3 must be attempted in order before attempting obstacle 4. For ALL ASCA courses, obstacles must be attempted in numerical order.

- A. A handler and dog must move, or attempt to move, the livestock through all obstacles in the correct numerical order for the Judge to consider an attempt has been made on any obstacle.
- B. No control or course points may be earned for any obstacle other than the take-pen or gather and re-pen without attempting or completing the previous obstacle in the correct numerical order. Each out of order obstacle will receive a zero (0) for both control and course points.
- C. No additional points will be earned for repeating any obstacle that has already been accomplished with one or more head of stock.

- D. Re-pen points may be earned at any time during the run.

8.2.4 Started Dogs

- A. No points will be earned by started dogs for Course A on the center chute, Course B on the center pen, Course C on the chute, Courses D, E, and F on obstacle 5, Courses G and H on obstacle 4.
- B. All obstacles required for Open and Advanced Divisions must be in place in the arena as described in each course description, regardless of the division being judged.

8.2.5 Attempts

A maximum of two attempts are allowed at each obstacle in any of ASCA's approved Stockdog Courses. A handler may choose to move on to the next obstacle after only one attempt, in which case, the handler must inform the judge of their decision to move on. It is up to each Judge to determine if part of the work a dog does near an obstacle is to be counted as an attempt at that obstacle. When the Judge has determined that two attempts have been made, the handler must move on to the next obstacle. In the following situations, the Judge must inform the handler of his decision or judgment call:

- A. A handler considers his first effort toward an obstacle an attempt and moves on. If the Judge does not feel that an attempt has been made, he must advise the handler immediately.
- B. The handler has not moved on after two attempts. The Judge must inform the handler that two attempts have been made and the handler should move on to the next obstacle. The two attempts would be either:
 1. The dog had twice moved the stock near the obstacle.
 2. Two or more head of stock crossed a "runaway line" two different times.
- C. After a reasonable length of time with no progress being made toward an obstacle, the Judge must advise the handler to move to the next obstacle.

8.2.6 Runaway Lines

The runaway line for obstacles 1 and 2 for Course A, B, and C will be the Advanced Handlers line and for the center obstacle, chute, or pen it will be the back fence at the re-pen end of the arena. On Courses D, E, and F the Runaway Lines for obstacles 2 and 3 will be the Advanced Handlers Line. For obstacles 1, 4, and 5 the Runaway Line will be the back fence on the re-pen side of the arena. On Course G the runaway line for obstacles 1, 2 and 3 will be the Advanced Handlers. For obstacle 4 the Runaway Line will be the back fence on the re-pen side of the arena. On Course H the Runaway Line for obstacles 2 and 3 will be the Advance Handlers Line. For obstacles 1 and 4 the Runaway Line will be the back fence on the re-pen side of the arena.

Each time two or more head of stock breaks back over a runaway line, it is considered an attempt for the obstacle that was being worked on. If two or more head of stock breaks to the back fence twice while working the center obstacle, the attempt is over, and the dog must move on to the re-pen.

8.2.7 Earned Points

- A. **Course Points:** Course Points may only be earned for each head of livestock that successfully completes an element or passes successfully through the entrance then consecutively out the exit of an obstacle.
- B. **Control Points:** Control Points are points awarded for the dog's ability and instinct in controlling the livestock on each section of the course.
- C. Both Course Points and Control Points may be earned for each element, the gather, the take pen, the re-pen and for each obstacle of the course. Points may only be earned if the prior element or the prior obstacle has either been attempted or completed. Each obstacle must be attempted in order as stated in rule 8.2.3.
- D. Judging begins as the gate opens on the take pen or the dog begins the gather. The judging of each obstacle of the course will begin immediately upon the completion of the previous element or obstacle. Completion of an obstacle is when the livestock have successfully cleared the exit of an obstacle or when two attempts have been completed or when the handler has decided to move on after one attempt. The take pen and re-pen are complete when the gate closes.

8.2.8 Re-Pen

Once the handler begins to open the re-pen gate judging will stop on any previous obstacles. If not completed, Course points will only be awarded for those livestock that had successfully completed the previous obstacle prior to the handler opening the re-pen gate. Control points will be awarded for the work done at the previous obstacle prior to the handler opening the re-pen gate. No further points may be earned on any other part of the course other than the re-pen.

8.2.9 Daylighting

Each Obstacle making up each different course has an entrance and an exit through which the livestock is to move. The entrance and exit of each obstacle are an imaginary line either connecting two panels or from the corner of a panel to the

fence or edge of the course as described in each course description. To receive course points, at least one head of livestock must pass through the entrance before exiting the obstacle. If the livestock enters the obstacle through the exit, they must either be moved through the obstacle and clear of the entrance before being turned around and moved through the obstacle in the correct direction or moved away from the Obstacle and then progress through the entrance and out the exit in the correct direction. Failure to move through both the entrance and the exit of an obstacle in the correct direction will result in no course points awarded.

A. **Course A:** Obstacle 1 and Obstacle 2 have an entrance different than the exit. An imaginary line is drawn from the end of the inside panel closest to the center line of the arena to the back fence and, depending on the direction the course is to be run, will be either the exit or entrance of the obstacle. Only those head of livestock that clear the entrance before being turned around will be counted as completing the obstacle.

1. **Obstacle 3 (Center Chute):** If the livestock enters the chute in the wrong direction, at least one head of stock must be moved through the chute and out the entrance before being turned around and moved through the center chute in the correct direction. The entrance of the center chute is an imaginary line across the wings of the chute furthest from the re-pen end of the arena.

B. **Course B:** Obstacle 1 and Obstacle 2 have an entrance different than the exit. An imaginary line is drawn from the end of the inside panel closest to the center line of the arena to the back fence and, depending on the direction the course is to be run, will be either the exit or entrance of the obstacle. Only those head of livestock that clear the entrance before being turned around will be counted as completing the obstacle.

C. **Course C:** Obstacle 1 and Obstacle 2 have the same exit and entrance. The plane of the two panels is the exit and entrance. If the livestock enter in the wrong direction, they must clear the panel, turned around, and move through the obstacle in the correct direction to be counted.

D. **Course D:** Obstacle 1, 2, 3, and 4 have the same exit and entrance. The plane of the two panels is the exit and entrance. If the livestock enter in the wrong direction, they must clear the panel, turned around, and move through the obstacle in the correct direction to be counted.

E. **Course E:** Obstacle 1, 2, 3, and 4 have the same exit and entrance. The plane of the two panels is the exit and entrance. If the livestock enter in the wrong direction, they must clear the panel, turned around, and move through the obstacle in the correct direction to be counted.

1. **Obstacle 5:** Obstacle 5 has an entrance different than the exit. The entrance is the opening between the panel closest to the center line of the arena and the end of the panel used for Obstacle 1 and Obstacle 4. The exit is an imaginary line across the end of the two parallel panels closest to the re-pen side of the arena. The livestock move in an "L" through Obstacle 5. If the livestock enters the obstacle anywhere other than the entrance, the livestock must be moved back through the entrance before being turned around and moved through the obstacle in the correct "L" pattern to be counted.

F. **Course F:** Obstacle 1, 2, 3, and 4 have the same exit and entrance. The plane of the panels is the exit and entrance. If the livestock enter in the wrong direction, they must clear the panel, turned around, and move through the obstacle in the correct direction to be counted.

G. **Course G:** Obstacle 1, 3, and 4 have the same exit and entrance. The plane of the panels is the exit and entrance. If the livestock enter in the wrong direction, they must clear the panel, turned around, and move through the obstacle in the correct direction to be counted.

1. **Obstacle 2:** Obstacle 2 has an entrance different than the exit. An imaginary line is drawn from the end of the panel closest to the center line of the arena to the back fence and is the entrance for obstacle. Only those head of livestock that clear the entrance line before being turned around will be counted as completing the obstacle.

H. **Course H:** Obstacle 2 and Obstacle 3 have an entrance different than the exit. An imaginary line is drawn from the end of the inside panel closest to the center line of the arena to the back fence and, depending on the direction the course is to be run, will be either the exit or entrance of the obstacle. Only those head of livestock that clear the entrance before being turned around will be counted as completing the obstacle.

1. **Obstacle 1 (Center Chute):** The entrance when working Obstacle 1 is an imaginary line across the wings of the chute closest to the re-pen end of the arena. The exit is at the opposite end of the entrance. If the livestock enters the chute in the wrong direction, at least one head of stock must be moved through the chute and out the entrance before being turned around and moved through the center chute in the correct direction in order to earn course points.
2. **Obstacle 4 (Center Chute):** The entrance when working Obstacle 4 is an imaginary line across the wings of the chute furthest from the re-pen end of the arena. The exit is at the opposite end of the entrance. If the livestock enters the chute in the wrong direction, at least one head of stock must be moved through the chute and out the entrance before being turned around and moved through the center chute in the correct direction in order to earn course points.

- I. **Post Advanced A and B:** Obstacle 1 and Obstacle 2 have an entrance different than the exit. An imaginary line is drawn from the end of the inside panel closest to the center line of the course and away from the re-pen area of the course. If the livestock enters the obstacle in the wrong direction, the livestock must break the plane of the panels and then turned around and moved through the obstacle in the correct direction. The livestock must exit toward the center line of the course. Only those head of livestock that clear the entrance and break the plane of the exit created by the imaginary line will be counted as completing the obstacle.

8.2.10 Failure to Complete the Course

Points will not be deducted if the course is not completed. A dog which fails to complete the work in the time allowed shall not be penalized for points earned on work done up to the expiration of the time limit. The Handler may stop the run and withdraw at any time after the start and will be awarded zero points.

***GUIDELINE:** Any contestant may call time on themselves at any time and it is highly appreciated if the situation warrants it. Once a handler calls time on their run, the dog is immediately put back on leash and handler and dog should exit the arena. The Judge will assign this run a "no score" and write on the score sheet "HCT" (Handler Called Time). All contestants may re-pen at any time and receive a score.*

Our different courses offer a variety of ways to begin the run: Course B has the Gather, Course A has the Take Pen, Course C, D, E, and F may use either take pen or gather.

Neither the center chute nor the free-standing pen needs to be completed in order to receive a qualifying score in any division. The center obstacle is for Open and Advanced dogs only.

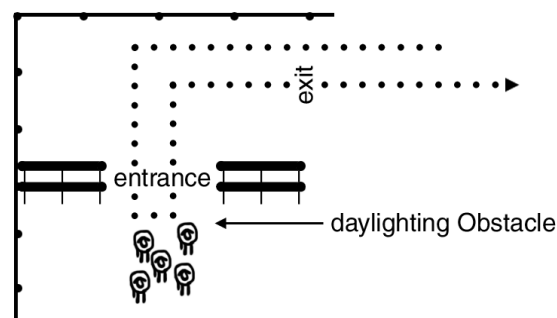
Runaway Lines: Each time two or more head of stock break back over a runaway line, it is considered an attempt for the obstacle being worked.

A maximum of two attempts are allowed at each obstacle no matter what course is being used. A handler may move on to the next obstacle after one legitimate attempt. Before moving on, it is advisable to inform the Judge that you are doing so. If the Judge does not believe that a "legitimate" attempt was made at the obstacle, he may immediately ask the handler to reattempt that obstacle. If the stock never goes through the obstacle, it is up to the Judge to determine if the work the dog does near an obstacle is to be counted as an attempt at that obstacle. When the Judge has determined that two attempts have been made, he will inform the handler, and the handler must then move on to the next obstacle. It may be considered an attempt when:

- *The dog is working, and the stock just slip by the obstacle.*
- *The stock only makes it to the Advanced Handler line before they sneak around the dog and return to the re-pen end of the arena.*
- *If the stock have gone up the wrong side of the arena twice.*
- *Two or more head of stock crossed a "runaway line."*
- *The Judge may also move a handler on to the next obstacle when:*
 - *The handler has not moved on after two attempts.*
 - *After a reasonable length of time has passed with no progress being made toward the obstacle.*

Warnings: A three-minute warning before the time ends will be given for sheep and cattle and a two-minute warning before the time ends will be given for ducks. When a warning is given by the Judge or timekeeper, the handler must acknowledge that they have heard the warning by raising their hand. Judges may ask a contestant to re-pen stock rather than call time and still give a score.

Daylighting: If for some reason the stock goes into the obstacles through the exit, they must be brought clear out of the obstacle and back into the obstacle through the entrance in order to receive Course points (see illustration). This includes all the obstacles, including the center chute. At least one head of stock must clear the entrance of the obstacle before being turned back around for Course points to count. However, only those head of stock that clear the daylight line will count for Course points.



Examples of Possible Point Losses for Ability to Control Stock:

- Splitting stock
- Leaving one or more head of stock behind
- Excessive weaving of stock
- Circling stock

- *Excessive running of stock*
- *Excessive barking*
- *Dog keeps looking at handler*
- *Purposely driving stock to the back fence before starting the lift and fetch (on a gather)*
- *Undue stress to stock caused by dog or handler*
- *Losing control of stock*
- *"Drift" - when dog is out of contact with the stock and the stock wander through the obstacle(s) despite the dog*
- *Dog sniffing ground or eating grass, dirt, etc., and avoiding working*

Chapter 9 Arena Trial Course A

Section 9.1 Course A

9.1.1 Course A Arena

A. **Set-Up:** This course may be run in either direction by reversing the placement of obstacles 1 and 2. The arena will be set up with panels and center chute positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section.

B. **Sequence:** The sequence of events shall be as follows: take pen, obstacle 1 (single panel obstacle), obstacle 2 (two panel obstacle), center chute, and re-pen. Obstacles 1 and 2 must be attempted before attempting the center chute as described in [Section 8.2.5](#). No points will be awarded for the center chute for started dogs.

C. **Panels:** Cattle and sheep/goats arena panels will be 8-12 feet in length and will be at least 4 feet high. Duck/geese arena panels will be 4-5 feet in length and at least 2 feet high.

D. **Take Pens:** Course A must use a Take Pen. The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena.

1. All take pens must be placed on the outside of the arena, along the fence opposite obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena, it must be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two, with consideration for the advanced handler line taken into account.
2. The take pen gate for Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese must be no less than 8'.
3. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena.
4. The take pen size and location must be stated in the sanctioning request form. The Duck/Geese arena take pen size must be a minimum of 8' x 8' and a maximum of 16' x 16'. For Cattle and Sheep/Goats, a take pen must be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet.
5. Course A may not be run without the use of a take pen. If, on the day of the trial, the take pen is determined to be unsafe or insufficient by the Trial Committee and Judge, a course not requiring a take pen must be used. This may be done without pre-approval from the Business Office. Any course changes must be submitted to the Business Office with the Trial Report. At no time is livestock to be set out when using Course A.

E. **Obstacle 1:** This obstacle consists of a single panel, positioned at a 90-degree angle to the side fence. The Duck/Geese arena obstacle 1 shall be 8 feet from the rear fence and 4 feet from the side fence. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle arena obstacle 1 shall be 10 feet from the side fence and 24 feet from the rear fence. Obstacle 1 is considered passed when at least one head of livestock passes an imaginary line drawn from the end of the panel nearest obstacle 2 and the rear fence line. If the stock are driven from the area of obstacle 2 around to obstacle 1 and toward the take pen, at least one head must pass an imaginary line which extends from the end of the first panel (nearest the side fence) to the side fence so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between this line and the stock (this imaginary line is known as the daylighting line) and then the stock must be turned around to attempt the obstacle. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

F. **Obstacle 2:** This obstacle consists of two panels positioned against the side fence creating a 90-degree angle. Both panels shall be parallel to, and at the same distance from, the rear fence and in line with one another. The Ducks/Geese arena obstacle 2 shall be 8 feet from the rear fence with a 4-foot exit. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle arena obstacle 2 shall be 24 feet from the rear fence with a 10-foot exit. If the stock enters the obstacle through the narrow exit, at least one head must be driven so that they pass a line drawn from the inside end of the second panel and the rear fence so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. The stock must then be turned around to pass the obstacle. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movement around the obstacle was executed.

G. **Center Chute:** The center chute consists of four panels. The Ducks/Geese arena center chute shall be 2 feet wide at the exit. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle arena center chute shall be 4 feet wide at the exit. The center of the chute is positioned in the lengthwise center of the arena. The wing ends shall be positioned midway of the width of the arenas, with the wings

positioned at a 45-degree angle to the center of the chute. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which movement through the obstacle was executed.

H. **Re-pen:** The re-pen may be the same pen as the take pen. When the re-pen gate is opened, no further points can be earned on any other part of the course. Points for the re-pen may be earned at any time during the run.

I. **Handler Lines:** For Cattle and Sheep/Goats the Advanced Handler Line is an imaginary line drawn across the entry wings of the center chute or the gate of the free-standing center pen to the fences on either side of the arena. The Open Handler Line is an imaginary line drawn across the width of the arena; 26 feet from obstacle 1 and 2. For Ducks/Geese the Advanced Handler Line is an imaginary line drawn across the entry wings of the center chute or the gate of the free-standing center pen to the fences on either side of the arena. The Open Handler Line is an imaginary line drawn across the width of the arena, 12 feet from obstacle 1 and 2. These lines shall be adequately marked with something visible to both handler and Judges and shall not interfere with the movement of the stock.

COURSE A GUIDELINE: The following guidelines were made with the ideal run of the Advanced Trial Dog in mind and with absolutely no consideration given to the degree of difficulty of the stock. Obviously, the judge will have to modify his expectations of the Started and Open dogs and take the nature of the stock into consideration.

THE START: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 15

TAKE PEN: Course A has a Take Pen. Scoring begins from when the handler opens the gate and ends when the stock successfully clears the opening of the take pen and the take pen gate is closed.

Course points are earned for the number of head (or %) brought out the first time. The handler may enter the take pen with the dog and earn course points. If the handler takes the stock out of the pen without the dog, course points may still be earned. Control points are earned for how the work was accomplished. Taking stock out of the take pen should be smooth and easy with the dog going to the fence line to allow the stock maximum opportunity to find the opening. The dog should have a confident approach to the stock and show an understanding of bringing the entire herd out of the pen. Control points may be lost for:

- Handler taking stock out of the pen without the dog.
- Handler entering the pen to assist the dog.
- Dog holding the stock in the take pen.
- Dog busting through the middle of the herd while they are still in the pen or as they come out of the pen.
- Not bringing all the stock out of the pen at the same time.

DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 1: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 20

Obstacle 1: Scoring begins at the completion of the take pen and ends when the stock exits the first obstacle or after two attempts have been made. Course A is a counterclockwise course and should have stock moving towards obstacle 1 on the right side of the center chute. Scoring begins when the take pen gate is closed and ends when at least one (1) head of stock passes through an imaginary line which is drawn from the end of the panel nearest obstacle 2, to the back fence.

Course points are earned for the number of head (or %) that complete the drive/fetch and obstacle 1. **Control points** are earned for how the work was accomplished but may be lost if the stock are driven/fetched down the left (wrong) side. The dog may either start the drive/fetch immediately after taking the stock from the take pen or may hold up the stock while the handler closes the gate and then start the drive/fetch. The drive/fetch should show control by the dog over the stock as the dog takes the stock directly from the pen to obstacle 1. The dog's awareness of the entire herd and its ability to control the stock when deviating from this pattern is essential. Appropriate force should be used to keep the stock moving in the proper direction. The dog's ability to turn back animals breaking away and keep his herd together at the beginning of his run is important. The stock should go through obstacle 1 in a counterclockwise direction with minimum stress to the stock. The dog's ability to keep all the stock on the fence and moving at the entrance is important. His ability to keep the drive/fetch going at this point will prevent the stock from stopping at the corner. He should be able to turn back stock trying to go on the wrong side of the obstacle.

EXAMPLE of point losses on the drive/fetch:

- Losing control after the stock come out of the pen.
- Stopping the drive by turning them around and heading them back to the pen.
- Out of contact with stock/drift.

The stock continues in a counterclockwise direction from obstacle 1. Scoring begins as the stock exit panel 1 and ends when at least one (1) head of stock passes through an imaginary line which is drawn from the end of the panel nearest obstacle 1, to the back fence.

CROSS-DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 2: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 25

Scoring starts when the stock exit obstacle 1 (as described above), and ends when the stock exit obstacle 2, or after two attempts have been made. Course points are earned for the number of head (or %) put through the obstacle by the dog the

first time they go through and Control points are earned for how the work was accomplished. Ideally, the stock should go from the exit of obstacle 1 directly to obstacle 2 and through the obstacle with minimum stress to the stock. The dog's ability to make a cross-drive from obstacle 1 to obstacle 2 exhibits his ability to prevent problems from occurring when daylight is seen between the stock and the obstacle after exiting obstacle 1. This task often involves actions of turning stock back that break away down the arena. The dog should be able to control these animals without simply following them to the other end of the arena and bringing them back again. After entering obstacle 2, it is important the dog show control and obedience to allow the entire herd to progress through the exit, rather than part of them breaking back around the ends of the obstacle. The stock continues in a counterclockwise direction from obstacle 1. Scoring begins as the stock exit panel 1 and ends when at least one (1) head of stock passes through an imaginary line which is drawn from the end of the panel nearest obstacle 1, to the back fence.

SET-UP AND WORK AT CENTER OBSTACLE: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 30

Neither the center chute nor the free-standing pen needs to be completed in order to receive a qualifying score in any division. The center obstacle is for Open and Advanced dogs only. Scoring begins when stock exit obstacle 2 and ends when at least one (1) head of stock passes through an imaginary line which is drawn at the exit of the chute or after two attempts have been made.

Course points are received for the number of head (or %) the dog put through the chute the first time through. **Control points** are earned for how the work was accomplished.

Ideally, the stock should go from obstacle 2 directly to and through the chute. Additional control point losses may result for excessive handler assistance such as too much use of crook or pushing stock.

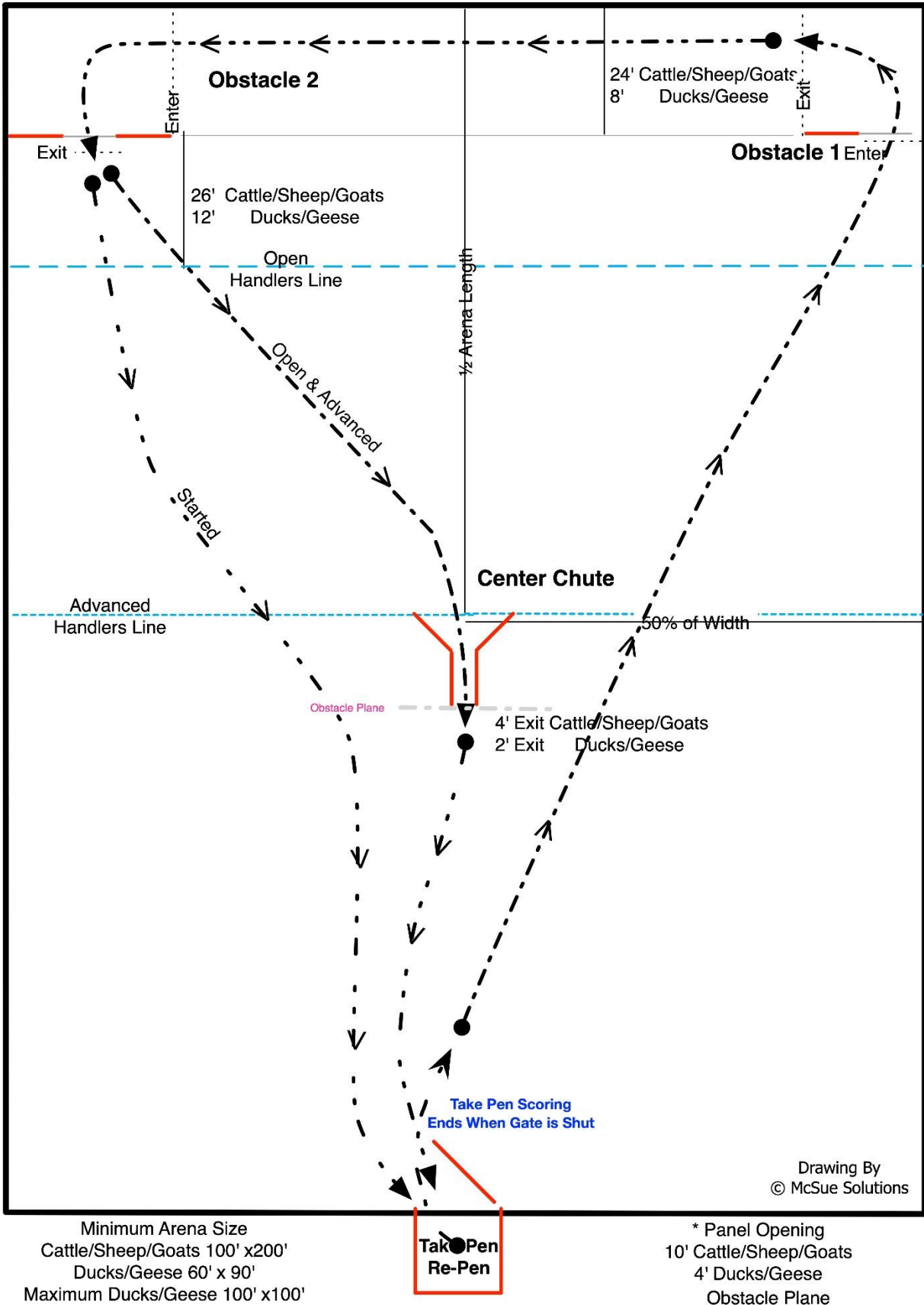
CONTROL TO AND RE-PEN: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 10

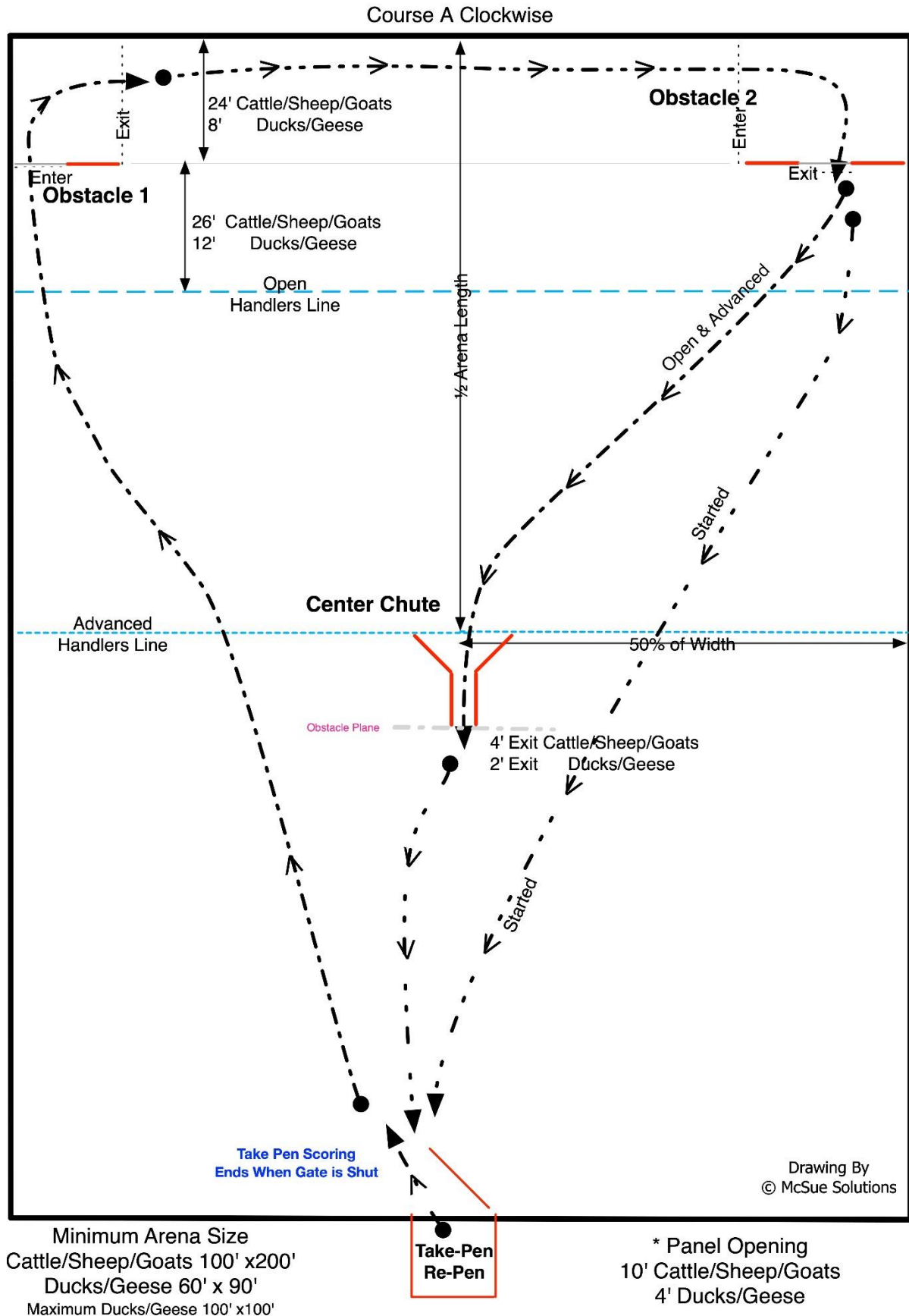
Scoring begins after the last attempted obstacle and ends when the handler closes the re-pen gate. Once the re-pen gate is open no further points can be given on any other part of the course and the dog should move the stock as efficiently as possible to the re-pen.

Course points are earned for the number of head (or %) that dog put into the re-pen. Control points are earned for how the work was accomplished. **Control points** are earned for how the work was accomplished.

Ideally, the stock should go from the last attempted obstacle, center chute or free-standing pen directly to the re-pen with minimum stress on the stock. It makes sense to move the stock away from the gate before opening it.

Course A





Chapter 10 Arena Trial Course B

Section 10.1 Course B

10.1.1 Course B Arena

A. **Set-up:** This course may be run in either direction by reversing the placement of obstacles 1 and 2 and reversing the free-standing pen gate so the opening faces obstacle 2. The arena will be set up with panels and free-standing pen positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section.

B. **Sequence:** The sequence of events shall be as follows: gather, obstacle 1 (two panel obstacle), obstacle 2 (single panel obstacle), free-standing pen and re-pen. Obstacles 1 and 2 must be attempted before attempting the free-standing pen as described in [Section 8.2.5](#). The free-standing pen will not count for started dogs.

C. **Free-Standing Pen:**

1. Ducks/Geese: The free-standing pen must be made up of panels at least 2' high, be a minimum of 4' by 4' and a maximum of 6' by 6', and with a gate of at least 4'.
2. Sheep/Goats and Cattle: The free-standing pen must be made up of panels at least 4' high, be a minimum of 12' by 12' and a maximum of 16' by 16', and with a gate of at least 12'.

C. **Gather:** The livestock will be released into the arena and positioned by the stock handler(s) until settled. The dog is sent to make contact with the stock and then must bring the stock in the direction of obstacle 1. Started and Open dogs may begin their gather from a comfortable distance from the stock. The handler decides the starting position according to the dog's abilities. In the Advanced Division, the handler and the dog must begin the gather next to the free-standing pen, either side. Once the dog has been sent, the Advanced Handler is free to move in the re-pen side of the arena. After the stock has passed the free-standing pen going in the direction of the first obstacle, the drive begins. The Open Handlers Line rule is in effect for the gather in the Open Division. The Advanced Handler must remain behind the Advanced Handler's Line at all times except while penning (see [Section 10.1.1.G](#)).

D. **Obstacle 1:** This obstacle consists of two panels positioned against the side fence creating a 90-degree angle. Both panels shall be parallel to, and at the same distance from, the rear fence and in line with one another. The Duck/Geese arena obstacle 1 shall be 8 feet from the rear fence with a 4-foot entrance. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle arena obstacle 1 shall be 24 feet from the rear fence with a 10-foot entrance. Daylighting rules as described for obstacle 2 of Course A will apply.

E. **Obstacle 2:** This obstacle consists of a single panel, positioned at a 90-degree angle to the side fence. The Duck/Geese arena obstacle 2 shall be 8 feet from the rear fence and 4 feet from the side fence. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle obstacle 2 shall be 24 feet from the rear fence and 10 feet from the side fence. Daylighting rules as described for obstacle 1 of Course A will apply.

- a. If the gate to the center pen is opened prior to the livestock clearing Obstacle 2 judging of Panel 2 will stop. Only those head that have already cleared the Obstacle will earn course points. If no head have cleared Obstacle 2 the course points earned for Obstacle 2 will be zero. Control points will be awarded for the work accomplished.

F. **Free-Standing Pen:** The free-standing pen is made up of three sides and a gate located so that the opening of the pen is positioned at one-half the length of the arena. It is set so the pen gate opens towards obstacle 2 and is located equal distance from both side fences. The pen must be made of slatted material (no solid pens). The gate must be hinged to allow for free swinging. The dog is to put the stock into the pen and the handler is to close the gate in order to receive course points. Obstacles 1 and 2 must be attempted before attempting the free-standing pen as described in [Section 8.2.1](#). The handler may assist the dog in bringing the stock out of the free-standing pen. Handlers are not required to stay at the gate while penning. Advanced handlers must, while attempting the free-standing pen, stay behind the Open Handler's Line, otherwise the 50% Advanced Handler's penalty will be applied. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which this pen was completed.

G. **Re-pen:** The re-pen may be the same pen as the take pen. When the re-pen gate is opened, no further points can be earned on any other part of the course. Points for re-pen may be earned at any time during the run.

H. **Handler Lines:** For Cattle and Sheep/Goats the Advanced Handler Line is an imaginary line drawn across the gate of the free-standing center pen to the fences on either side of the arena. The Open Handler Line is an imaginary line drawn across the width of the arena; 26 feet from obstacle 1 and 2. For Ducks/Geese the Advanced Handler Line is an imaginary line drawn across the gate of the free-standing center pen to the fences on either side of the arena. The Open Handler Line is an imaginary line drawn across the width of the arena, 12 feet from obstacle 1 and 2. These lines shall be adequately marked with something visible to both handler and Judges and shall not interfere with the movement of the stock.

COURSE B GUIDELINE: The following guidelines were made with the ideal run of the Advanced Trial Dog in mind and with absolutely no consideration given to the degree of difficulty of the stock. Obviously, the judge will have to modify his expectations of the Started and Open dogs and take the nature of the stock into consideration.

THE START: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 15

Course B has a Gather. **GATHER:** Scoring begins when the dog is released and ends when the dog moves the stock past the Advanced Handler's line. **Course points** are earned for the number of head (or %) completing the gather. **Control points** are earned for how the work was accomplished.

The gather should show the ability of the dog to put all the stock together into a controlled bunch. The dog should come around the stock as wide as necessary to keep the stock calm and quiet. If the stock is on the fence line when the dog is sent on the gather, and it is necessary to bring them off the fence, the dog should demonstrate the ability to go between the fence and the stock in a controlled manner. Once the dog has put all the stock together into a controlled bunch the handler will start the drive/fetch to the first obstacle. The stock does not need to be brought directly to the handler but may be brought in a straight line toward obstacle 1. Control points may be lost for:

- Splitting stock
- Excessive weaving of the stock
- Leaving some stock behind
- Circling stock
- Excessive running of stock
- Excessive barking
- Dog keeps looking at handler
- Holding stock on the back fence
- Deliberate driving of stock to the back fence before setting up the stock for the drive/fetch (shows no gather)

Handler's Position:

- **Started:** There are no restrictions. A handler may start their gather from whatever position or distance is best for their dogs. A handler may leave their dog anywhere in the arena and reposition themselves before they send their dog. The dogs may be left on lead until the stock is settled in the arena for the gather. Once the handler feels they are ready to start the leash must come off the dog.
- **Open:** At no time can the Open Handler cross the Open Handler's line without a 15-point loss. A handler may start their gather from whatever position or distance is best for their dog on the re-pen side of the Open Handlers Line. A handler may leave their dog anywhere (as long as the handler and dog are on the re-pen side of the Open Handlers Line) in the arena and reposition themselves before they send their dog. The dog may be left on lead until the stock is settled in the arena for the gather. Once the handler feels they are ready to start, the leash must come off the dog.
- **Advanced:** For Course B, the handler must stand next to the free-standing pen on the re-pen side of the Advanced Handler's Line when sending the dog on the gather. Handlers may stand on either side of the pen. On any course if the handler does cross the Handler's Line, he will lose 50% of his total score. Once the dog has been sent, the advanced handler is free to move about on the re-pen side of the Advanced Handler Line.

DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 1: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 20

This is a clockwise course and should have stock moving towards obstacle 1 on the left side of the center pen. Scoring begins when the stock crosses the Advanced Handlers Line and ends when at least one (1) head of stock passes through an imaginary line which is drawn from the end of the panel nearest obstacle 1, to the back fence.

Course points are earned for the number of head (or %) that complete the drive/fetch and obstacle 1. **Control points** are earned for how the work was accomplished but may be lost if the stock are driven/fetched down the right (wrong) side.

Ideally, the dog should have control of the stock at the end of the gather and take the stock directly to obstacle 1 (see Course A Drive/Fetch description). The stock should go through obstacle 1 in a clockwise direction with minimum stress to the stock. The dog's ability to keep all the stock on the fence and moving at the entrance is important. His ability to keep the drive/fetch going at this point will prevent the stock from stopping at the corner. He should be able to turn back stock trying to go on the wrong side of the obstacle.

EXAMPLE of point losses on the drive/fetch:

- Losing control after the stock come out of the pen.
- Stopping the drive by turning them around and heading them back to the pen.
- Out of contact with stock/drift.

The stock continues in a clockwise direction from obstacle 1. Scoring begins as the stock exit panel 1 and ends when at least one (1) head of stock passes through an imaginary line which is drawn from the end of the panel nearest obstacle 2, to the back fence. Advanced: Course points will be awarded only for the stock completing the obstacle prior to the handler crossing over the Advanced Handlers line to open the center pen's gate.

CROSS-DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 2: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 25

Scoring starts when the stock exit obstacle 1 (as described above), and ends when the stock exit obstacle 2, or after two attempts have been made. **Course points** are earned for the number of head (or %) put through the obstacle by the dog the first time they go through and **Control points** are earned for how the work was accomplished.

Ideally, the stock should go from the exit of obstacle 1 directly to obstacle 2 and through the obstacle with minimum stress to the stock. The dog's ability to make a cross-drive from obstacle 1 to obstacle 2 exhibits his ability to prevent problems from occurring when the stock has cleared the exit of obstacle 1. This task often involves actions of turning stock back that break back down the arena. The dog should be able to control these animals without simply following them to the other end of the arena and bringing them back again. After entering obstacle 2, it is important the dog show control and obedience to allow the entire herd to progress through the exit, rather than part of them breaking back around the ends of the obstacle.

SET-UP AND WORK AT CENTER OBSTACLE: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 30

The free-standing pen does not need to be completed in order to receive a qualifying score in any division. The center obstacle is for Open and Advanced dogs only. Scoring begins after at least one head of stock passes obstacle 2 and ends when one or more head of stock enters the pen and the gate is closed, or until after two attempts have been made.

Ideally, the stock should go from obstacle 2 directly into the freestanding pen with minimum stress to the stock. The handler may not open the center pen gate until obstacle 2 has been attempted or completed. While working on the free-standing pen, a handler may move around the arena, but may never cross over the Open Handlers Line without a score deduction (50% for Advanced, 15 points deducted for Open). There are no restrictions on where a handler must stand while working the center pen, nor must a handler maintain a hold on the gate.

The stock should be brought up to the mouth of the pen and allowed to settle while entering, with the dog holding one side and the handler the other. Once the free-standing pen is completed, the dog and/or handler will remove the stock from the pen, but this will not be scored as part of the Course points for the Free-Standing pen. However, time may be called for any abuse to the stock while this is being done and additional control points may be lost as a result for excessive handler assistance such as too much use of crook and/or pushing stock (when the stock is either entering or exiting the pen).

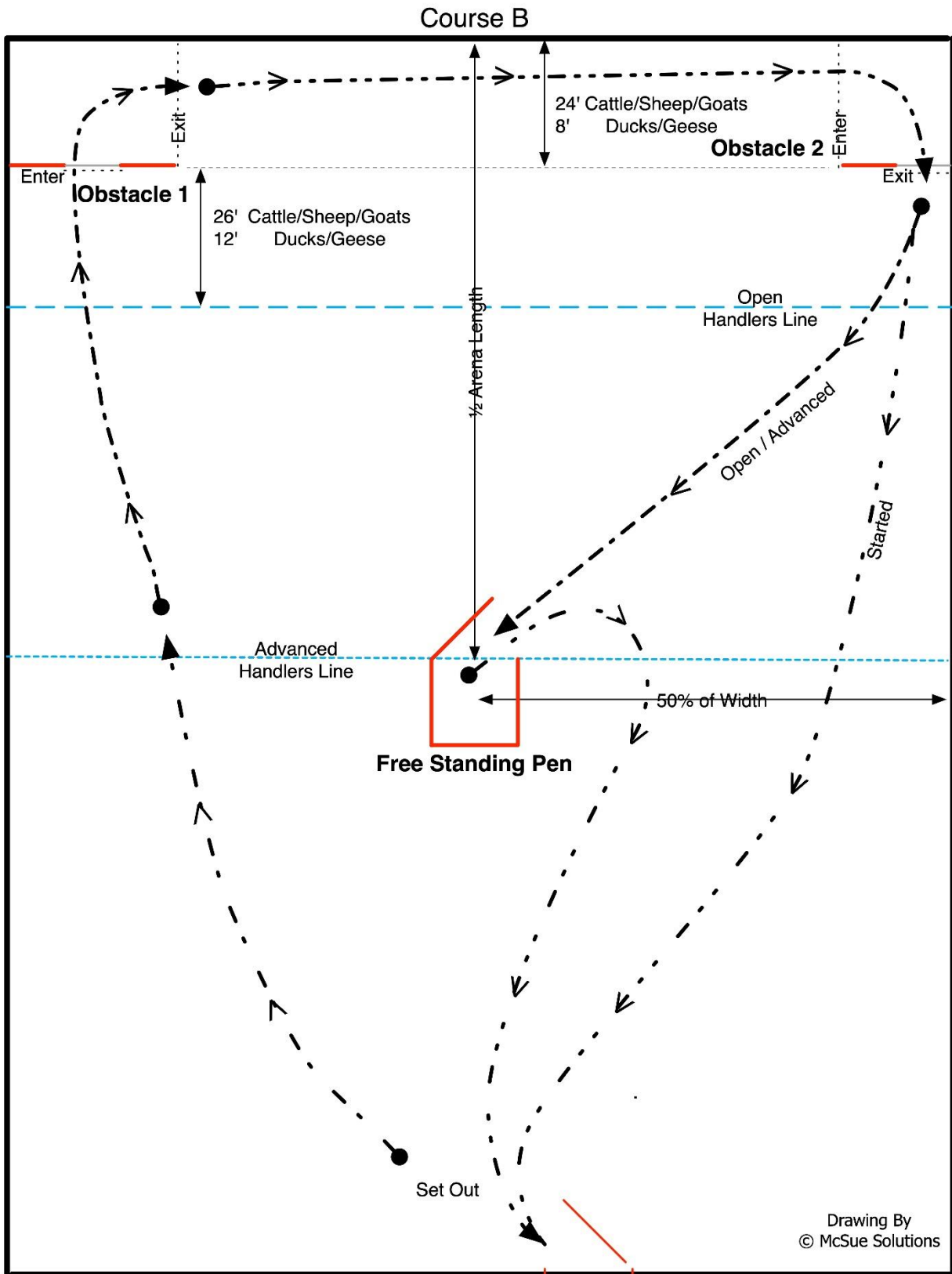
Course points are received for the number of head (or %) the dog puts into the pen. **Control points** are earned for how the work was accomplished.

CONTROL TO AND RE-PEN: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 10

Scoring begins after the last attempted obstacle and ends when the handler closes the re-pen gate. Once the re-pen gate is open no further points can be given on any other part of the course and the dog should move the stock as efficiently as possible to the re-pen.

Course points are earned for the number of head (or %) that dog put into the re-pen the first time. **Control points** are earned for how the work was accomplished.

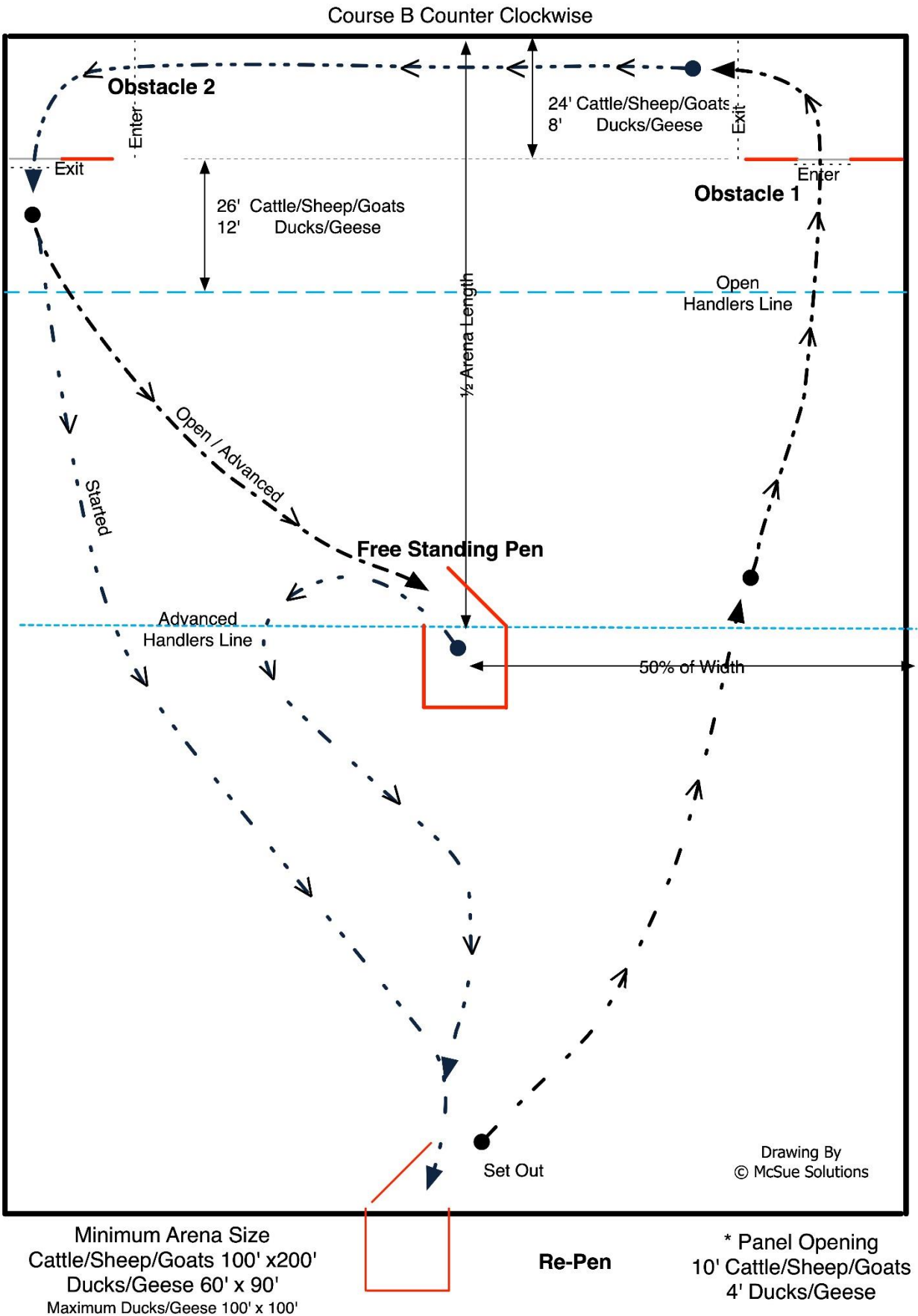
Ideally, the stock should go from the last attempted obstacle, center chute or free-standing pen directly to the re-pen with minimum stress on the stock. It makes sense to move the stock away from the gate before opening it.



Minimum Arena Size
 Cattle/Sheep/Goats 100' x 200'
 Ducks/Geese 60' x 90'
 Maximum Ducks/Geese 100' x 100'

Re-Pen

* Panel Opening
 10' Cattle/Sheep/Goats
 4' Ducks/Geese



Chapter 11 Arena Trial Course C

Section 11.1 Course C

11.1.1 Course C Arena

A. **Set-up:** The course may run in either direction by reversing the placement of the chute. The arena will be set up with panels and chute positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section.

B. **Sequence (for a right-hand chute):** The direction of the obstacles will be to move the stock up the middle of the arena until the stock is parallel to the opening of obstacle 1 then proceed through the opening in obstacle 1 in a counterclockwise circle towards obstacle 2, then proceed in a clockwise circle through the opening of obstacle 2 towards the chute. Advanced and open will proceed through the chute and to the re-pen. Started will proceed from obstacle 2 towards the re-pen. The sequence of events shall be as follows: take pen, obstacle 1, obstacle 2, chute and re-pen. Obstacles 1 and 2 must be attempted before attempting the chute as described in [Section 8.2.4](#). No points will be awarded for the chute for started dogs.

C. **Panels:** Cattle and Sheep/Goats arena panels will be 8-12 feet in length and will be at least 4 feet high. Duck/Geese arena panels will be 4-5 feet long and at least 2 feet high.

D. **Take Pens:** The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena.

1. All take pens must be placed on the outside of the arena, along the fence opposite obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena, it must be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two, with consideration for the advanced handler line taken into account.
2. The take pen gate for Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese must be no less than 8'.
3. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena.
4. The take pen size and location must be stated in the sanctioning request form. The Duck/Geese arena take pen size must be a minimum of 8' x 8' and a maximum of 16' x 16'. For Cattle and Sheep/Goats, a take pen must be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet.
5. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or livestock, the Cattle, or Sheep/Goats will be released into the arena from the take pen.
6. If the livestock is released into the arena, the Advanced Handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler line on the take-pen side of the line; wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take-pen side of the Advanced Handler line. Open and Started handlers may position themselves wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open handlers' line is in effect for the Open division.

E. **Obstacle 1:** This obstacle consists of two panels, positioned at a 45-degree angle to the upper corners of the arena in-line with each other. The panels position off the rear and side fence must be equal.

1. **The Ducks/Geese arena** - In a minimum size arena these panels shall not be less than 12 feet from the rear fence and side fence and not more than 20 feet from the rear and side fences at a 45-degree angle from the corner of the arena with a four-foot opening between the other inline panel. In a maximum size Ducks/Geese arena, the distance shall not exceed 20 feet. **NOTE:** when moving the panels off the fence more than the minimum distance the cross drive may not be less than 33 feet from the bottom corner of the panel of obstacle 1 to the bottom corner of the panel of obstacle 2.
2. **The Sheep/Goats and Cattle arena** - In a minimum size arena these panels shall not be less than 35 feet from the rear and side fence and not more than 50 feet for a larger size arena at a 45-degree angle from the corner of the arena with a ten-foot opening between the other in-line panel. To use 6-10 head of stock, the obstacle openings must be 15 feet and the minimum distance of the cross drive must not be less than 43 feet. To receive course points for obstacle 1, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane between the two-inline panels. If the stock passes through obstacle 1 from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the inline panels so that the Judge is able to see daylight between the panel and the stock. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

F. **Obstacle 2:** This obstacle consists of two panels, positioned at a 45-degree angle to the upper corners of the arena in-line with each other. The panels position off the rear and side fence must be equal.

1. **The Duck/Geese arena** - In a minimum size arena these panels shall not be less than 12 feet from the rear fence and side fence and not more than 20 feet from the rear and side fences at a 45-degree angle from the corner of the arena with a four-foot opening between the other inline panel. In a maximum size Duck/Geese arena, the distance shall not exceed 20 feet. **NOTE:** when moving the panels off the fence more than the minimum distance the cross drive may not be less than 20 feet from the bottom panel of obstacle 1 to bottom panel of obstacle 2.
2. **The Sheep/Goats and Cattle arena(s)** - In a minimum size arena these panels shall not be less than 35 feet from the rear and side fence and not more than 50 feet for a larger size arena at a 45-degree angle from the corner of the arena with a ten-foot opening between the other inline panel. To use 6 -10 head of stock, the obstacle openings must be 15 feet and the minimum distance of the cross drive must be 43 feet. To receive course points for obstacle 2 at least one head of livestock must pass the plane between the 2-inline panels. If the stock passes through obstacle 2 from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the inline panels so that the Judge is able to see daylight between the panel and the stock. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

G. **Chute:** The chute consists of four panels. The Duck/Geese arena chute shall be two feet wide at the exit. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle arena chute shall be four feet wide at the exit. The wing ends of the chute shall be positioned in a minimum size arena for the Sheep/Goats and Cattle arena 35 from the side fence and in a larger arena up to 50 feet and 12 feet for a minimum size Duck/Geese arena and for larger Duck/Geese arenas up to 20 feet. The chute is set at a distance of 125 feet down from the bottom corner of the panel of obstacle 2 exit end of the chute, for the Sheep/Goats and Cattle arena, 45 feet for the Duck/Geese arena with the wings positioned at a 45-degree angle to the center of the chute. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which movement through the obstacle was executed. **NOTE:** The distance from the side fence to obstacle 1 and 2 will be the same as the distance from the side fence to the closest chute wing.

H. **Re-pen:** The re-pen may be the same pen as the take pen. When the re-pen gate is opened, no further points can be earned on any other part of the course. Points for the re-pen may be earned at any time during the run.

I. **Handler Lines:** For Cattle and Sheep/Goats, the Advanced Handler line shall be 125 feet from the bottom corner of the panel of obstacle 1 or obstacle 2 down to the exit end of the chute. The Open Handler line shall be 25 feet from the bottom corner of the panel of obstacle 1 or obstacle 2 extending across the arena. For Ducks/Geese the Advanced Handler line shall be 45 feet from the bottom corner of the panel of obstacle 1 or obstacle 2 down to the exit end of the chute. The Open Handler line shall be 12 feet from the bottom corners of obstacle 1 and obstacle 2 towards the take pen end of the arena. These lines shall be adequately marked with something visible to both handler and Judges and shall not interfere with the movement of the stock.

***COURSE C GUIDELINE:** The following guidelines were made with the ideal run of the Advanced Trial Dog in mind and with absolutely no consideration given to the degree of difficulty of the stock. Obviously, the judge will have to modify his expectations of the Started and Open dogs and take the nature of the stock into consideration.*

THE START: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 15

Our different courses offer a variety of ways to begin the run: Courses C has a Take Pen.

TAKE PEN: Scoring begins from when the handler opens the gate and ends when the stock clears the opening of the take pen and the take pen gate is closed.

Course points are earned for the number of head (or %) brought out the first time. The handler may enter the take pen with the dog and earn course points. If the handler takes the stock out of the pen without the dog, course points may still be earned.

Control points are earned for how the work was accomplished. Taking stock out of the take pen should be smooth and easy with the dog going to the fence line to allow the stock maximum opportunity to find the opening. The dog should have a confident approach to the stock and show an understanding of bringing the entire herd out of the pen. Control points may be lost for:

- Handler taking stock out of the pen without the dog.
- Handler entering the pen to assist the dog.
- Dog holding the stock in the take pen.
- Dog running through the middle of herd either while they are still in the pen or as they come out of the pen.

DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 1: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 20

(with a right-hand chute): requires a dog to move the stock up the middle of the arena to obstacle 1. Scoring begins when the take pen gate is closed and ends when at least one (1) head of stock passes through the panels and an imaginary line which is drawn from the plane between the two in-line panels of obstacle 1.

The dog may either start the drive/fetch immediately after taking the stock from the take pen or may hold up the stock while the handler closes the gate and then start the drive/fetch. The drive/fetch should show control by the dog over the stock as the dog takes the stock directly from the pen to obstacle 1. The dog's awareness of the entire herd and its ability to control the stock when deviating from this pattern is essential. Appropriate force should be used to keep the stock moving in the proper direction. The dog's ability to turn back animals breaking away and keep his herd together at the beginning of his run is important. The stock should go through obstacle 1 in a counterclockwise direction with minimum stress to the stock. His ability to keep the drive/fetch going at this point will prevent the stock from stopping at the corner. He should be able to turn back stock trying to go on the wrong side of the obstacle.

EXAMPLE of point losses on the drive/fetch:

- Losing control after the stock come out of the pen.
- Stopping the drive by turning them around and heading them back to the pen.
- Out of contact with stock/drift.

(with a left-hand chute): requires a dog to move the stock up the middle of the arena to obstacle 1. Scoring begins when the take pen gate is closed and ends when at least one (1) head of stock passes through the panels and an imaginary line which is drawn from the plane between the two in-line panels of obstacle 1.

The dog may either start the drive/fetch immediately after taking the stock from the take pen or may hold up the stock while the handler closes the gate and then start the drive/fetch. The drive/fetch should show control by the dog over the stock as the dog takes the stock directly from the pen to obstacle 1. The dog's awareness of the entire herd and its ability to control the stock when deviating from this pattern is essential. Appropriate force should be used to keep the stock moving in the proper direction. The dog's ability to turn back animals breaking away and keep his herd together at the beginning of his run is important. The stock should go through obstacle 1 in a counterclockwise direction with minimum stress to the stock. His ability to keep the drive/fetch going at this point will prevent the stock from stopping at the corner. He should be able to turn back stock trying to go on the wrong side of the obstacle.

EXAMPLE of point losses on the drive/fetch:

- Losing control after the stock come out of the pen.
- Stopping the drive by turning them around and heading them back to the pen
- Out of contact with stock/drift.

CROSS-DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 2: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 25

The imaginary "figure 8" continues as the stock progress from the end of obstacle 1 to obstacle 2. Scoring begins after the stock exit the plane of obstacle 1 and ends when at least one (1) head of stock passes through the panels and an imaginary line which is drawn from the plane between the two in-line panels of obstacle 2.

Scoring starts when the stock exit obstacle 1(as described above), and ends when the stock exit obstacle 2, or after two attempts have been made. **Course points** are earned for the number of head (or %) put through the obstacle by the dog the first time they go through and **Control points** are earned for how the work was accomplished.

Ideally, the stock should go from the exit of obstacle 1 directly to obstacle 2 and through the obstacle with minimum stress to the stock. The dog's ability to make a cross-drive from obstacle 1 to obstacle 2 exhibits his ability to prevent problems from occurring when the stock has cleared the exit of obstacle 1. This task often involves turning back stock that breaks away down the arena. The dog should be able to control these animals without simply following them to the other end of the arena and bringing them back again. After entering obstacle 2, it is important the dog show control and obedience to allow the entire herd to progress through the exit, rather than part of them breaking back around the ends of the obstacle.

SET-UP AND WORK AT CENTER OBSTACLE: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 30

Scoring begins when stock exit obstacle 2 and ends when at least one (1) head of stock passes through an imaginary line which is drawn at the exit of the chute or after two attempts have been made.

Course points are received for the number of head (or %) the dog put through the chute the first time through.

Control points are earned for how the work was accomplished.

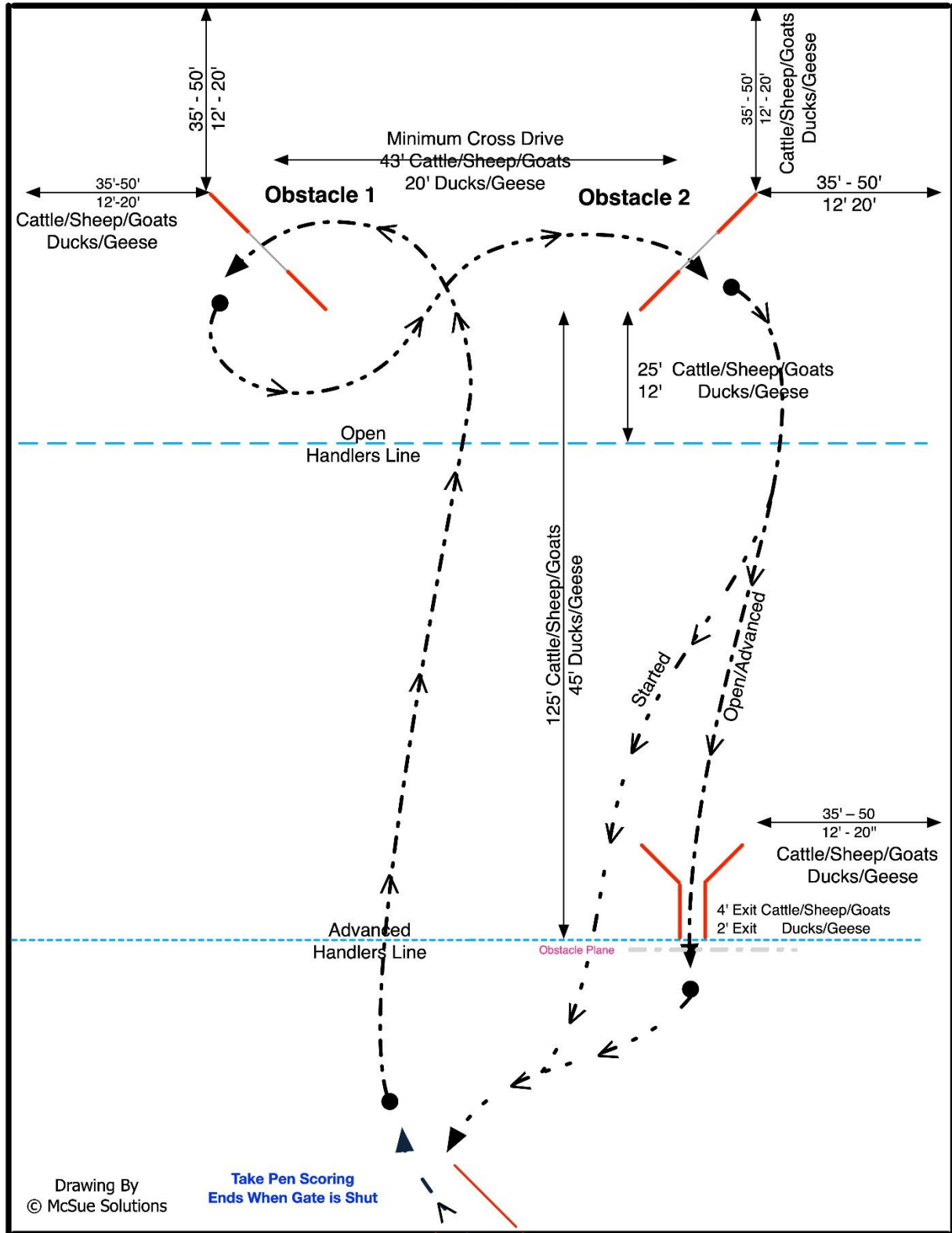
Ideally, the stock should go from obstacle 2 directly to and through the chute. Additional control point losses may result for excessive handler assistance such as too much use of crook or pushing stock.

CONTROL TO AND RE-PEN: POINTS ALLOTTED: COURSE POINTS = 5, CONTROL POINTS = 10

Scoring begins after the last attempted obstacle and ends when the handler closes the re-pen gate. Once the re-pen gate is open no further points can be given on any other part of the course and the dog should move the stock as efficiently as possible to the re-pen. Course points are earned for the number of head (or %) that dog put into the re-pen the first time. Control points are earned for how the work was accomplished.

Ideally, the stock should go from the last attempted obstacle, center chute or free-standing pen directly to the re-pen with minimum stress on the stock. It makes sense to move the stock away from the gate before opening it.

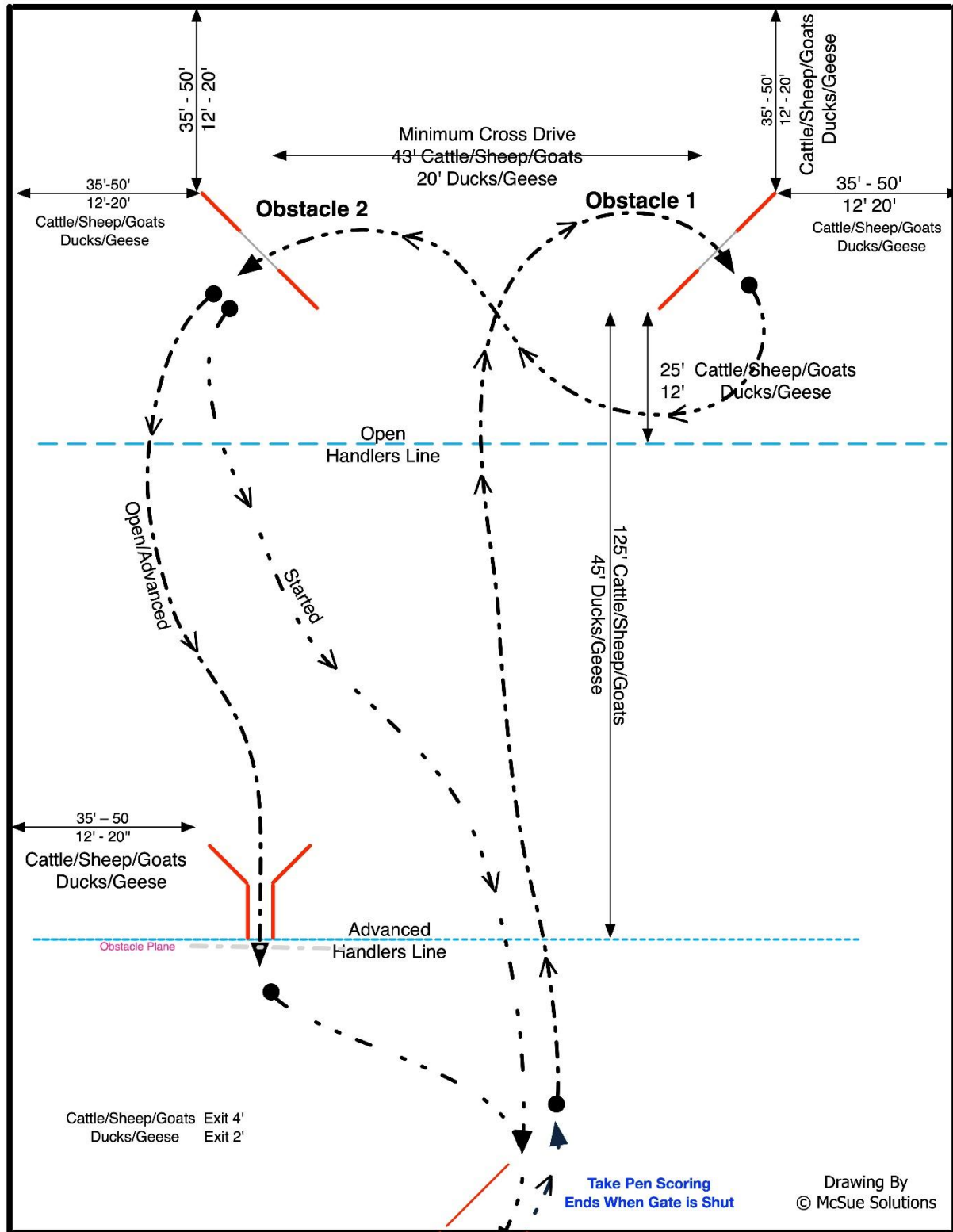
Course C (Right Hand Chute)



Minimum Arena Size
 Cattle/Sheep/Goats 150' x 225'
 Ducks/Geese 60' x 90'
 Maximum Ducks/Geese 100' x 100'

* Panel Opening
 10' Cattle/Sheep/Goats
 15' if 6-10 Head are used
 4' Ducks/Geese

Course C (Left Hand Chute)



Minimum Arena Size
 Cattle/Sheep/Goats 150' x 225'
 Ducks/Geese 60' x 90'
 Maximum Ducks/Geese 100' x 100'

* Panel Opening
 10' Cattle/Sheep/Goats
 15' if 6-10 Head are used
 4' Ducks/Geese

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Chapter 12 Arena Trial Course D

Section 12.1 Course D

12.1.1 Course D Arena

A. **Set-up:** This course may be run in either direction by reversing the placement of the obstacles and reversing the gate on the free-standing pen. The arena will be set up with panels and free-standing pen positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section.

B. **Panels:**

1. **Sheep/Cattle** panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8'-12' panels may be used.
2. **Ducks/Geese** arena panels will be 4'-5' long and at least 2' high. Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'. **EXCEPTION:** The panel length for the Free-Standing Pen (obstacle 5) for Sheep/Cattle must be 12'-16' in length and at least 4' high. 16' panels are preferred.

C. **Sequence (for a left-hand pen):** Take pen/gather (5 course points and 10 control points); drive/fetch through obstacle 1 by driving or fetching the stock up the middle of the arena to the entrance of obstacle 1 (5 course points and 10 control points). The transition from control points for take pen/gather to control points for obstacle 1 is approximately half the distance between the re-pen fence and obstacle 1. Drive or fetch the stock to obstacle 2 (5 course points and 20 control points); then cross drive/fetch the stock through obstacle 3 in a counterclockwise direction (5 course points and 10 control points). Continue to drive or fetch the stock in a counterclockwise direction to the entrance of obstacle 4 (5 course points and 10 control points). Then exit obstacle 4 and set-up and control to obstacle 5 (free-standing pen). Advanced and Open will proceed to the free-standing pen (5 course points and 20 control points, not for started); and then to the re-pen (5 course points and 10 control points. Not for started), Started will proceed from obstacle 4 exit then to the re-pen (5 course points and 10 control points, started only). The sequence of events shall be as follows: take pen or gather, obstacle 1, obstacle 2, obstacle 3, obstacle 4, pen (not for started) and re-pen. Obstacles 1, 2, 3, and 4 must be attempted before attempting the pen as described in [Section 8.2.3](#). No points will be awarded for the free-standing pen for started dogs.

D. **Take Pen:** The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena.

1. All take pens must be placed on the outside of the arena, along the fence opposite obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena, it must be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two, with consideration for the advanced handler line taken into account.
2. The take pen gate for Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese must be no less than 8'.
3. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena.
4. The take pen size and location must be stated in the sanctioning request form. The Duck/Geese arena take pen size must be a minimum of 8' x 8' and a maximum of 16' x 16'. For Cattle and Sheep/Goats, a take pen must be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet.
5. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or livestock, the Cattle, or Sheep/Goats will be released into the arena from the take pen.
6. If the livestock is released into the arena, the Advanced Handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler line on the take-pen side of the line; wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take pen side of the Advanced Handler Line. Open and Started Handlers may position themselves wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open Handlers' Line is in effect for the Open Division.

E. **Obstacle 1:** There are two panels that are in-line with each other that have a ten-foot opening. The center of the opening will be set at the center of the width of the arena and positioned on the Advanced Handler Line. The stock must move through the panel opening from the take pen end of the arena towards the top of the arena. When at least one head of stock passes through the panels, then no further course points can be counted. To receive course points for obstacle 1, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane between the two in-line panels. If the stock passes through the panels from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the in-line panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. Only those head of stock that clear the daylight line will count for course points. The

stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

F. **Obstacle 2:** Obstacle 2 is positioned 20% of the arena length measured from the top of the arena (opposite from the take pen) with the right side of the right-hand panel placed 15% of the arena width from the right-hand fence. The stock must move through the panel opening from the take pen side of the arena towards the top of the arena. When at least one head of stock passes through the panels, then no further course points can be counted. To receive course points for obstacle 2, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane of the panels. If the stock passes through the panels from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the inline panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. Only those head of stock that clear the daylight line will count for course points. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

G. **Obstacle 3:** Consists of one panel, positioned parallel to the obstacle 2 with a ten-foot opening between the left end of the panel and the left-hand side of the arena. The stock must move through the entrance from the top end of the arena towards the re-pen end of the arena. When at least one head of stock passes through the panels, then no further course points can be counted. To receive course points, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane between the in-line panels. If the stock passes through the obstacle from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the in-line panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. Only those head of stock that clear the daylight line will count for course points. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

H. **Obstacle 4:** There are two in-line panels that have a ten-foot opening. The end of the panel closest to the re-pen end of the arena will be placed 30' above the Advanced Handler Line (opposite the re-pen end of the arena). For Ducks/Geese the end of the panel closest to the re-pen end of the arena will be placed 15' above the Advanced Handler Line (opposite the re-pen end of the arena). The stock must move from left to right for the exit. To receive course points, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane between the in-line panels. Only livestock that have cleared the opening of obstacle 4 when the gate on obstacle 5 is opened will earn course points. If the stock passes through the obstacle from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the in-line panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. Only those head of stock that clear the daylight line will count for course points. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

I. **Obstacle 5 - Free-Standing Pen:** The free-standing pen is made up of three sides and a gate located so the side closest to the re-pen is positioned 12.5% of the arena length measured from the bottom (re-pen end of arena) and 20% of the arena width measured from the left side of the arena. The pen must be made of slatted material (no solid pens). The gate must be hinged to allow for free swinging. The gate may be opened when the last head of livestock clears the opening of obstacle 4. The dog is to put the stock into the pen and the handler is to close the gate in order to receive course points. Obstacles 1, 2, 3, and 4 must be attempted before attempting the freestanding pen as described in [Section 8.2.3](#). The handler may assist the dog in bringing the stock out of the freestanding pen without penalty. Handlers are not required to stay at the gate while penning. Advanced handlers must, while attempting the freestanding pen, stay behind the Open Handler's Line, otherwise the 50% Advanced Handler's penalty will be applied. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which this pen was completed.

1. If the gate to the free-standing pen is opened prior to the livestock clearing Obstacle 4, only those head that have cleared Obstacle 4 will earn course points. If no head have cleared Obstacle 4 and the handler opens the gate to the free-standing pen, the earned course points for Obstacle 4 will be 0. If the handler indicates, either verbally or by opening the free-standing pen gate, that he is moving to the free-standing pen, the handler is free to cross the Advanced Handler Line but may not cross the Open Handler Line. Advanced handlers must, while attempting the free-standing pen, stay behind the Open Handler's Line, otherwise the 50% Advanced Handler's penalty will be applied.

J. **Re-pen:** The re-pen may be the same pen as the take pen. The re-pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the take pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. When the re-pen gate is opened, no further points can be earned on any other part of the course. Points for the re-pen may be earned at any time during the run. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which movement through the obstacle was executed.

K. **Handler Lines:** The Advanced handler line shall be determined by the length of the arena with a maximum distance of 125'. Measure half the length of the arena down from obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the arena. Advanced Handlers' Line in an arena with greater than 250' length shall not exceed 125'. The Open Handlers' Line shall be 25' from and parallel to the plane of obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the arena. Both lines will

extend across the width of the arena, parallel to the fence opposite the re-pen. Started Handlers may move anywhere in the arena at any time.

1. **Ducks/Geese:** The Advanced Handler Line will be determined by the same method with a maximum distance not to exceed 50'. The Open Handler Line will be 8' from and parallel to the plane of obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the width of the arena.

***COURSE D GUIDELINE:** The following guidelines were made with the ideal run of the Advanced Trial Dog in mind and with absolutely no consideration given to the degree of difficulty of the stock. Obviously, the judge will have to modify his expectations of the Started and Open dogs and take the nature of the stock into consideration.*

This course may be run in either direction by reversing the position of all Obstacles within the arena. This course may be run with a take pen or gather. For Course D, E, and F, Advanced handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler Line on the take-pen side of the line, wherever they feel it is best to take control of the stock in order to move them up the middle of the arena. All openings are 10' wide.

Panel sizes:

- 8' for 100' to 125' wide arenas is recommended.
- 8'-12' for arenas wider than 125'. **EXCEPTION:** Panels for pen must be 12'-16'.
- Obstacle 1 is on the center line based on the width of the arena and on the Advanced Handlers' Line.
- Obstacle 2 will be positioned 20% of the arena length from the back fence (opposite the re-pen) with the right side of the right-hand panel placed 15% of the arena width from the right-hand fence.
- Left side of panel is: 20% of arena length (measured from the top) and 10' from the left arena fence.
- The panels are situated 15% of the arena width (measured from the right side of the arena) with the lower edge of the lower panel (panel closest to the re-pen side of arena) positioned 30' above the Advanced Handlers' Line.
- The side of the pen closest to the re-pen end of the arena is positioned 12.5% of the arena length (measured from the bottom of the arena), with the left side of the pen positioned 20% of the arena width (measured from the left side of the arena). Pen is not for Started Division.

Advanced Handlers' Line: The Advanced Handler Line shall be determined by the length of the arena. It is not to exceed a distance of 125'. Measure half the length of the arena down from Obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena. The Advanced Handler Line extends across the arena parallel to the back fence at the point measured. Advanced Handler Line in an arena with greater than 250' length shall be 125'.

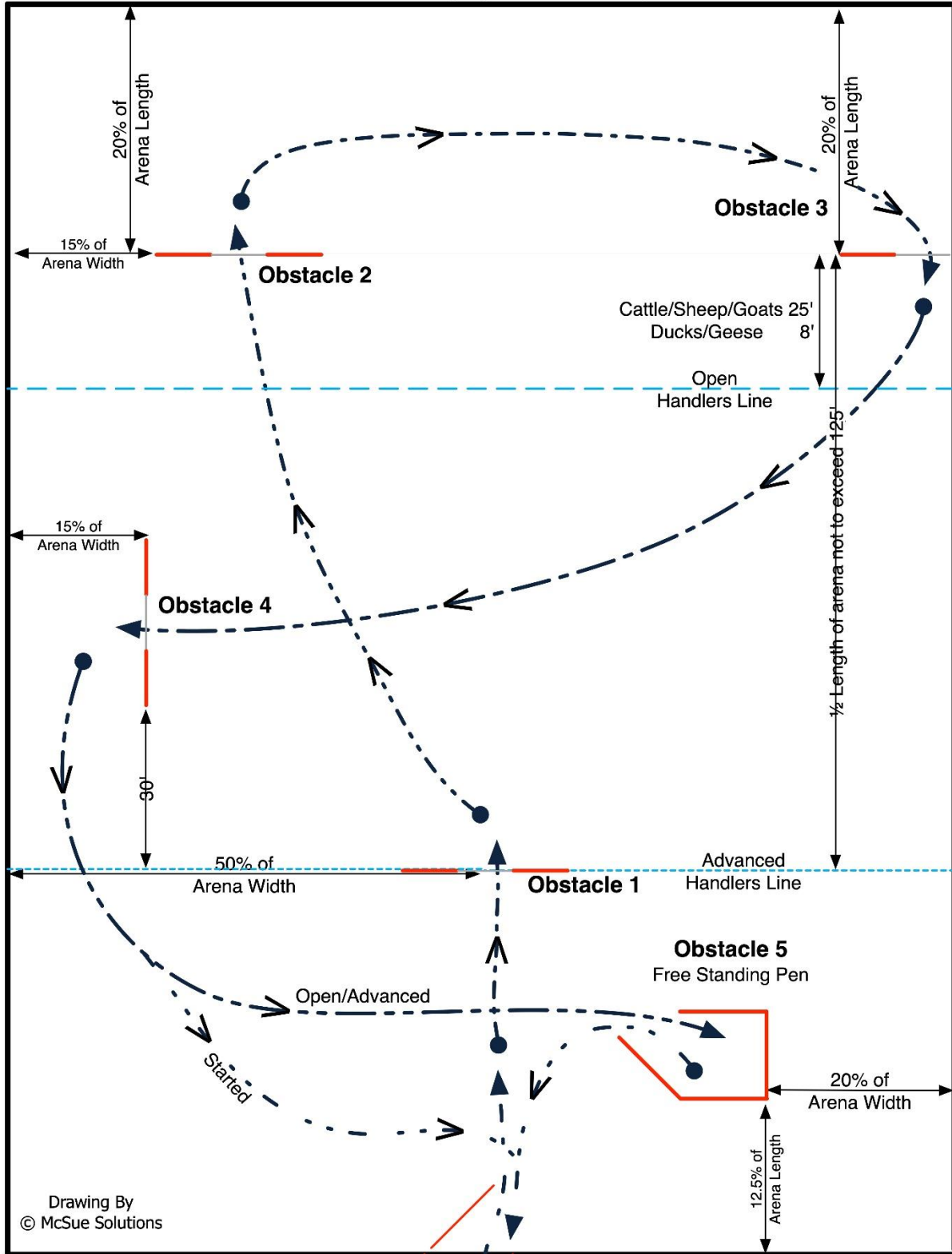
Formulas:

- #2 Multiplying the arena length by 20% will give the footage measurement to set the panels down from the top of the arena. Multiplying the arena width by 15% will give the footage from the right side of the right panel from the right fence to set the panels.
- #3 Multiplying the arena length by 20% will give the footage measurement to set the panel down from the top of the arena.
- #4 Multiplying the arena width by 15% will give you the footage to set the panels from the right side of the arena fence. The lower edge of the lower panel (panel closest to the re-pen side of arena) is positioned 30' above the Advanced Handlers' Line.

Scoring for the re-pen begins after the last attempted obstacle and ends when the handler closes the re-pen gate. Once the re-pen gate is open no further points can be given on any other part of the course and the dog should move the stock as efficiently as possible to the re-pen. Course points are earned for the number of head (or %) that dog put into the re-pen the first time. Control points are earned for how the work was accomplished.

Ideally, the stock should go from the last attempted obstacle to the free-standing pen, and directly to the re-pen with minimum stress on the stock. It makes sense to move the stock away from the gate before opening it.

Course D (Right Hand Pen)



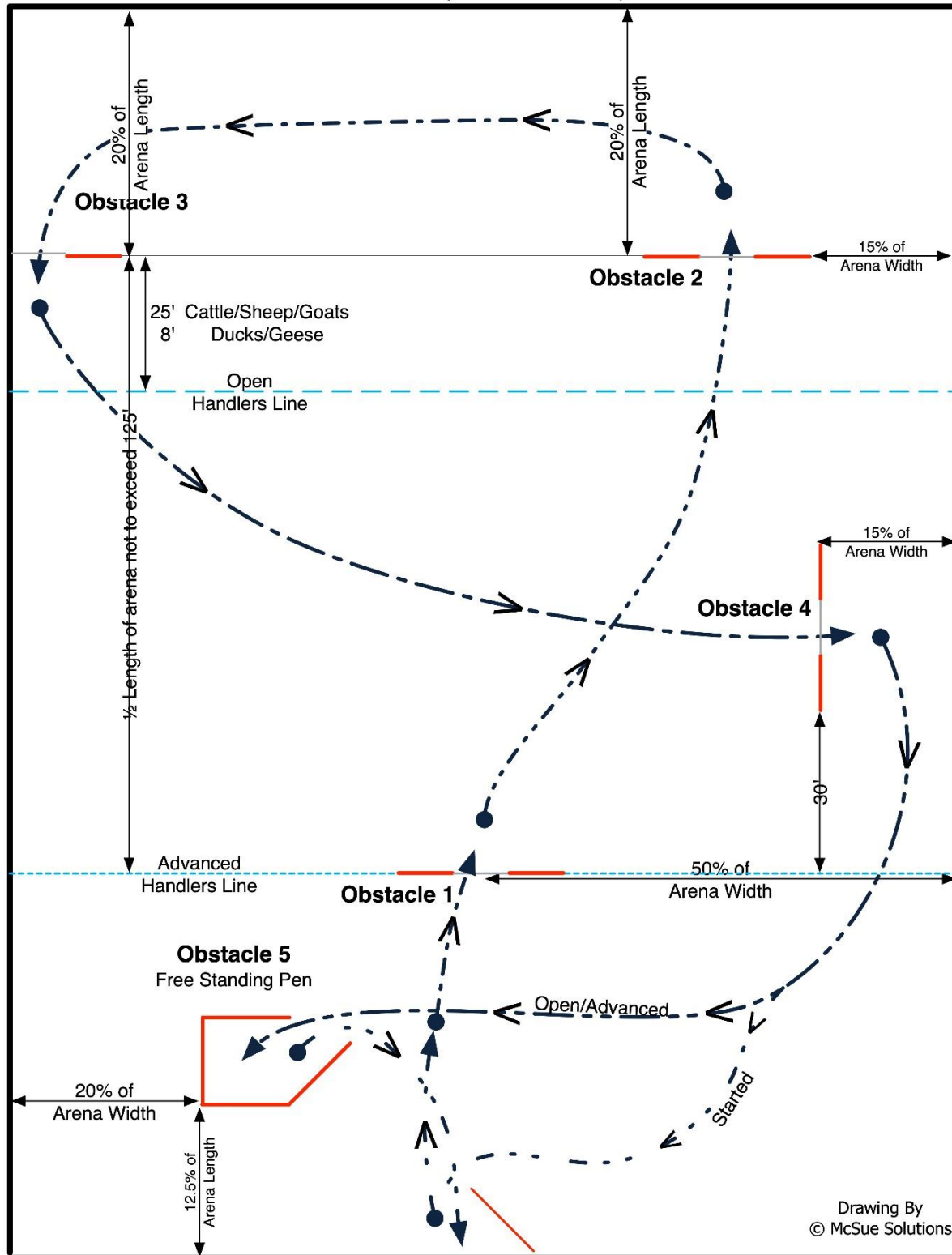
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Minimum Arena Size
Cattle/Sheep/Goats 100' x 200'
Ducks/Geese 60' x 90'
Maximum Ducks/Geese 100' x 100'

Take-Pen
Re-Pen

* Panel Opening
10' Cattle/Sheep/Goats
6' Ducks/Geese

Course D (Left Hand Pen)



Minimum Arena Size
Cattle/Sheep/Goats 100' x 200'
Ducks/Geese 60' x 90'
Maximum Ducks/Geese 100' x 100'

* Panel Opening
10' Cattle/Sheep/Goats
6' Ducks/Geese

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Chapter 13 Arena Trial Course E

Section 13.1 Course E

13.1.1 Course E Arena

A. **Set-up:** This course may be run in either direction by reversing the placement of the obstacles. The arena will be set up with panels positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section.

B. **Panels:**

1. **Sheep/Cattle** panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8'-12' panels may be used.
2. **Ducks/Geese** arena panels will be 4'-5' long and at least 2' high. Openings between panels will be 6'. **EXCEPTION:** The panel length for the elbow (obstacle 5) for sheep/cattle must be 12' in length and at least 4' high. The panel length for the elbow (obstacle 5) for ducks/geese must be 8' in length and 2' high.

C. **Sequence (for a left-hand elbow):** Take pen/gather (5 course points and 10 control points); to drive/fetch through obstacle 1 by driving or fetching the stock up the middle of the arena to the entrance of obstacle 1 (5 course points and 10 control points). The transition from control points for take pen/gather to control points for obstacle 1 is approximately half the distance between the re-pen fence and obstacle 1. Drive or fetch the stock to obstacle 2 (5 course points and 20 control points); then cross drive/fetch through obstacle 3 by cross driving or fetching the stock in a counterclockwise direction (5 course points and 10 control points); then set-up and control to obstacle 4 (obstacle 1 and obstacle 4 are the same obstacle) by setting up and controlling the stock to the entrance of the obstacle 1/obstacle 4 (5 course points and 10 control points). Exit obstacle 4 and turn in a clockwise direction, driving or fetching the stock through the opening between obstacle 4 and obstacle 5 (not for started). Advanced and Open after passing through this opening, will drive or fetch the stock in a counterclockwise direction through obstacle 5, moving toward the re-pen (5 course points and 20 control points). Advanced and Open will proceed to the re-pen (5 course points and 10 control points). Not for started), Started will proceed from obstacle 4 then to the re-pen (5 course points and 10 control points, started only). The sequence of events shall be as follows: take pen or gather, obstacle 1, obstacle 2, obstacle 3, obstacle 4, obstacle 5 (not for started), and re-pen. Obstacle 1, obstacle 2, obstacle 3 must be attempted before attempting the elbow obstacle (obstacle 4 with obstacle 5) as described in [Section 8.2.3](#). No points will be awarded for the elbow (obstacle 5) for started dogs.

D. **Take Pen:** The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena.

1. All take pens must be placed on the outside of the arena, along the fence opposite obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena, it must be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two, with consideration for the advanced handler line taken into account.
2. The take pen gate for Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese must be no less than 8'.
3. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena.
4. The take pen size and location must be stated in the sanctioning request form. The Duck/Geese arena take pen size must be a minimum of 8' x 8' and a maximum of 16' x 16'. For Cattle and Sheep/Goats, a take pen must be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet.
5. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or livestock, the Cattle, or Sheep/Goats will be released into the arena from the take pen.
6. If the livestock is released into the arena, the Advanced Handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler Line on the take-pen side of the line; wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take-pen side of the Advanced Handler Line. Open and Started Handlers may position themselves wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open Handlers' Line is in effect for the Open Division.

E. **Obstacle 1:** There are two panels that are in-line with each other that have a ten-foot opening. The center of the opening will be set at the center of the width of the arena and positioned 27 feet above the Advanced Handlers' Line. For Ducks/Geese the center of the opening will be set at the center of the width of the arena and positioned 8' above the end of the right-hand panel (edge opposite the re-pen end of the arena) of obstacle 5. This will be 12'- 13' above the Advanced Handlers' Line depending on the length of panel used (8' plus the length of panel). The stock must move through the panel opening from the take pen side of the arena towards the top of the arena. When at least one head of stock passes through

the panels, then no further course points can be counted. To receive course points for obstacle 1, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane of the panels. If the stock passes through the panels from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the inline panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

F. **Obstacle 2:** Obstacle 2 is positioned 20% of the arena length measured from the top of the arena (opposite from the take pen) with the right side of the right-hand panel placed 15% of the arena width from the right-hand fence. The stock must move through the panel opening from the take pen side of the arena towards the top of the arena. When at least one head of stock passes through the panels, then no further course points can be counted. To receive course points for obstacle 2, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane of the panels. If the stock passes through the panels from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the inline panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. Only those head of stock that clear the daylight line will count for course points. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

G. **Obstacle 3:** The entrance/exit of obstacle 3 consists of two in-line panels, positioned 45 degrees to the panels marked 2 with a ten-foot opening. The center of the opening shall be set 20% of the width of the arena measured from the left side fence, and 20% of the length of the arena measured from the back fence (opposite the re-pen). The stock must move through the entrance/exit from the top end of the arena towards the take pen end of the arena. When at least one head of stock passes through the panels, then no further course points can be counted. To receive course points, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane between the in-line panels. If the stock passes through the obstacle from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the in-line panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. Only those head of stock that clear the daylight line will count for course points. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

H. **Obstacle 4:** Obstacle 4 uses the same panels as obstacle 1. The dog is to put the stock through the entrance from the top end of the arena toward the re-pen. To receive course points, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane between the in-line panels. If the stock passes through the obstacle from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the in-line panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. Only those head of stock that clear the daylight line will count for course points. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

I. **Obstacle 5:** Once the stock has cleared obstacle 4, set up and control for obstacle 5 begins. The stock is turned toward the entrance of obstacle 5. Obstacle 5 is an "L" shaped obstacle made up of two openings which should be completed in one, single "L" shape manner/motion. The entrance is a 15' opening created by the panel closest to, and perpendicular to, the outer edge of the panel of obstacle 4. The exit is two parallel 12' panels placed 20' apart. The bottom of each panel (closest to the re-pen end of arena) will be placed on the Advanced Handlers' Line with the right-hand panel situated perpendicular to and even with the end of the left-hand side of the panel of obstacle 1 /obstacle 4. Then, turn the livestock in the direction needed to drive the stock to and through the alley and out the exit at the bottom end of alley. To receive course points, the livestock must travel through both the entrance created between obstacle 4 and obstacle 5, and the exit of the alley created by the parallel panels. If the livestock fails to move through one or both openings, course points will be deducted accordingly. Control points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movement through the obstacle was executed. Losing livestock from the desired "L" path will result in a loss of control points. Obstacles 1, 2, 3, and 4 must be attempted before attempting obstacle 5 as described in [Section 8.2.3](#). For Ducks/Geese obstacle 5 is an "L" shape made up of two openings. The entrance is an 8' opening created by the panel closest to and perpendicular to obstacle 4 and the outer panel. The exit is two parallel 4'-5' panels with 8' opening.

1. **Daylighting:** If the stock passes through either opening from the wrong direction, at least one head of livestock must be driven past the plane of the panels at the entrance so that daylight may be seen by the Judge between this plane and the stock. The stock must then be turned around to attempt the obstacle in its entirety and in the correct direction.
- **GUIDELINE:** The maximum number of course points that may be earned is the minimum number of livestock to clear either opening. **EXAMPLE 1:** If five (5) head of livestock enter obstacle 5 and three (3) head of livestock exit obstacle 5, three (3) course points are earned. **EXAMPLE 2:** If three (3) head of livestock enter obstacle 5 and five (5) head of livestock exit obstacle 5, three (3) course points are earned. If the livestock stray from the desired path while executing the "L", control points will be deducted.

J. **Re-pen:** The re-pen may be the same pen as the take pen. The re-pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the take pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. When

the re-pen gate is opened, no further points can be earned on any other part of the course. Points for the re-pen may be earned at any time during the run. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which movement through the obstacle was executed.

K. **Handler Lines:** The Advanced handler line shall be determined by the length of the arena with a maximum distance of 125'. Measure half the length of the arena down from obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the arena. Advanced Handlers' Line in an arena with greater than 250' length shall not exceed 125'. The Open Handlers' Line shall be 25' from and parallel to the plane of obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the arena. Both lines will extend across the width of the arena, parallel to the fence opposite the re-pen. Started Handlers may move anywhere in the arena at any time.

1. **Ducks/Geese:** The Advanced Handler Line will be determined by the same method with a maximum distance not to exceed 50'. The Open Handler Line will be 8' from and parallel to the plane of obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the width of the arena.

COURSE E GUIDELINE: The following guidelines were made with the ideal run of the Advanced Trial Dog in mind and with absolutely no consideration given to the degree of difficulty of the stock. Obviously, the judge will have to modify his expectations of the Started and Open dogs and take the nature of the stock into consideration.

This course may be run in either direction by reversing the position of all obstacles within the arena. This course may be run with a take pen or gather, depending on the facility. For Course D, E, and F, Advanced handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler Line on the take-pen side of the line, wherever they feel it is best to take control of the stock in order to move them up the middle of the arena. Opening for obstacles 1, 2, 3, and 4 (same obstacle as 1) are 10' wide.

EXCEPTION: The opening created between the top of the right-hand panel of obstacle 5 and the left-hand edge of the left-hand panel of obstacle 1/4 is 15' and the opening between the parallel panels of obstacle 5 is 20'.

Panel sizes:

- 8' for 100' to 125' wide arenas is recommended.
- 8'-12' for arenas wider than 125'. **EXCEPTION:** Panels for obstacle 5 are always 12'.
- The opening for obstacle 1/4 (same obstacle used twice) is centered on the center line of the arena width (measured side to side). The panels are positioned 27' above the Advanced Handlers' Line (away from the re-pen side of arena).
- Obstacle 2 will be positioned 20% of the arena length from the back fence (opposite the re-pen) with the right side of the right-hand panel placed 15% of the arena width from the right-hand fence.
- Obstacle 3 is positioned at a 45-degree angle, with the center of the opening set 20% of the width of the arena measured from the left side fence, and 20% of the length of the arena measured from the back fence (opposite the re-pen).
- Obstacle 5 consists of two parallel panels placed 20' apart with the ends closest to the re-pen side of the arena placed on the Advanced Handlers' Line. The top of the right-hand panel is situated 15' below the left-hand edge of the left-hand panel, perpendicular to the plane of obstacle 1/4.

Advanced Handlers' Line: The Advanced Handler Line shall be determined by the length of the arena. It is not to exceed a distance of 125'. Measure half the length of the arena down from obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena. The Advanced Handler Line extends across the arena parallel to the back fence at the point measured. Advanced Handler Line in an arena with greater than 250' length shall be 125'.

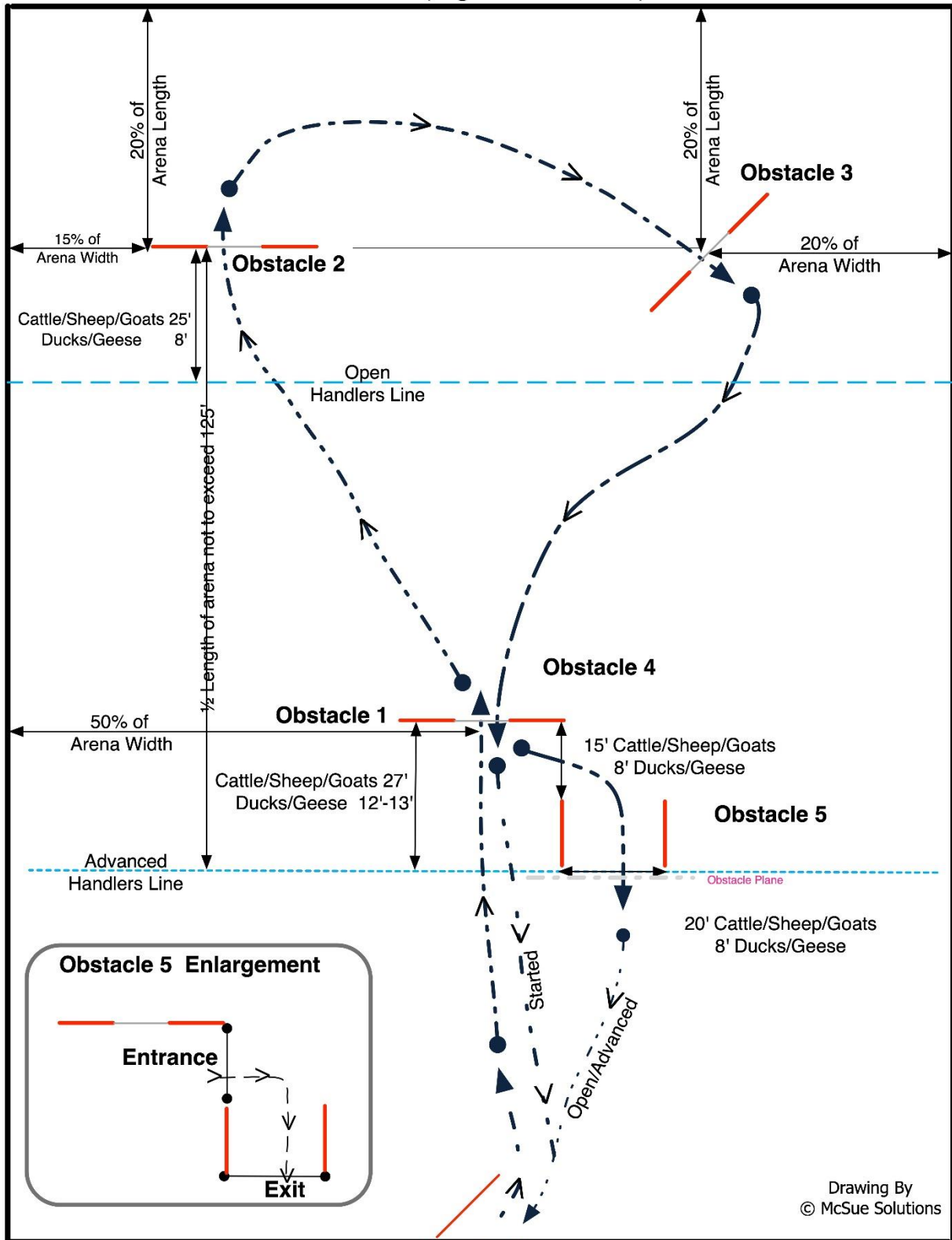
Formulas:

- #2 Multiply the arena length by 20% will give the distance to set the panels from the back fence (opposite the re-pen). Multiplying the arena width by 15% will give the distance the right-hand edge of the right-hand panel is positioned from the right-hand fence.
- #3 Multiplying the width of the arena by 20% will give the distance the center of the opening will be from the left side fence. Multiplying the length of the arena by 20% will give the distance the center of the opening will be from the back fence (opposite the re-pen). The panels are placed at a 45-degree angle.

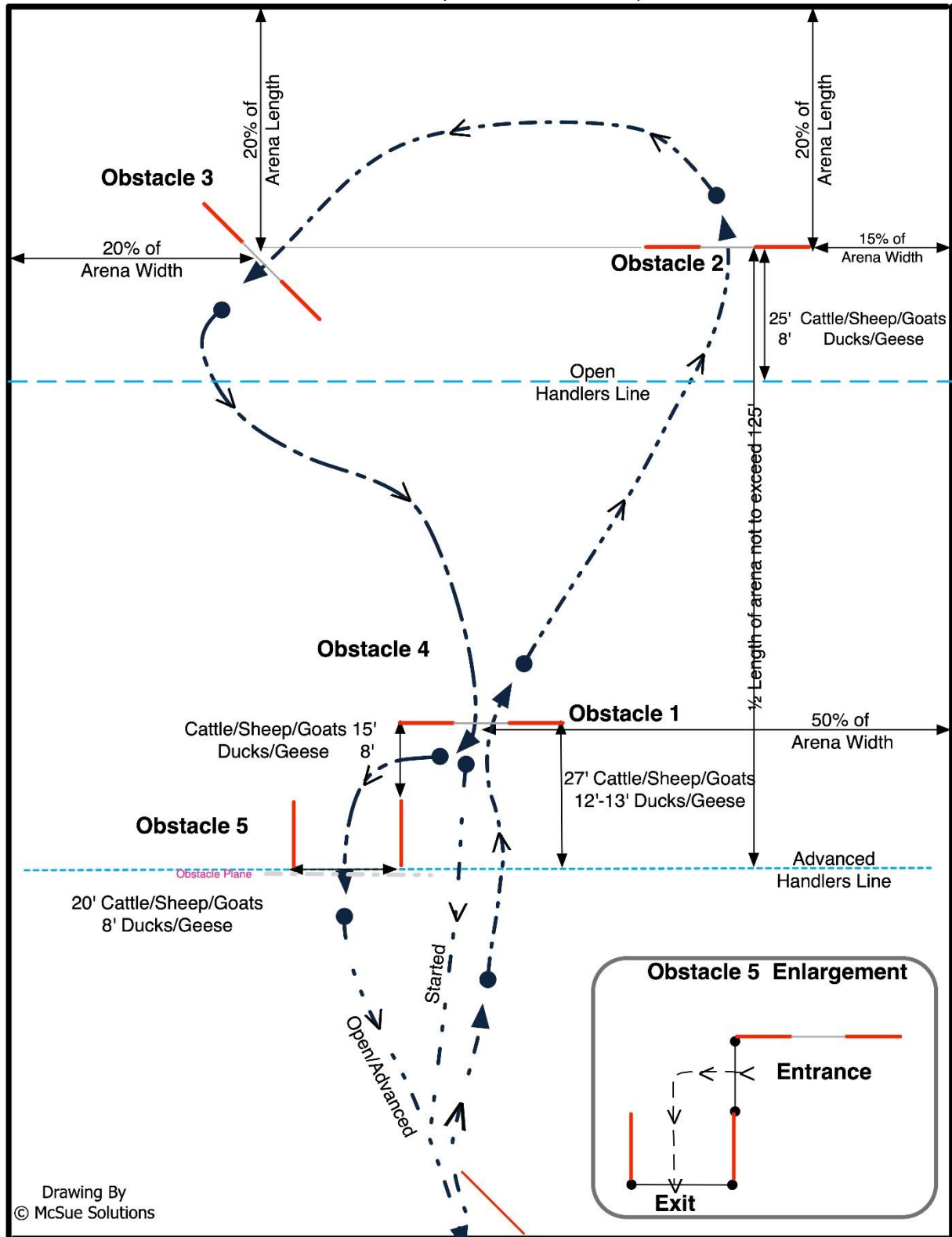
Scoring for the re-pen begins after the last attempted obstacle and ends when the handler closes the re-pen gate. Once the re-pen gate is open no further points can be given on any other part of the course and the dog should move the stock as efficiently as possible to the re-pen. Course points are earned for the number of head (or %) that dog put into the re-pen the first time. Control points are earned for how the work was accomplished.

Ideally, the stock should go from the last attempted obstacle, center chute or free-standing pen directly to the re-pen with minimum stress on the stock. It makes sense to move the stock away from the gate before opening it.

Course E (Right Hand Chute)



Course E (Left Hand Chute)



* Panel Opening
 10' Cattle/Sheep/Goats
 6' Ducks/Geese
 Unless Stated Otherwise

Chapter 14 Arena Trial Course F

Section 14.1 Course F

14.1.1 Course F Arena

A. **Set-up:** This course may be run in either direction by reversing the placement of the obstacles and reversing the gate on the free-standing pen. The arena will be set up with panels and free-standing pen positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section.

B. **Panels:**

1. **Sheep/Cattle** panels will be: 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100' to 124' in width 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider 8'-12' panels may be used.
2. **Ducks/Geese** arena panels will be 4'-5' long and at least 2' high. Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'. **EXCEPTION:** The panel length for the free-standing pen (obstacle 5) for sheep/cattle must be 12'-16' in length and at least 4' high. 16' panels are preferred.

C. **Sequence (for a left-hand pen):** Take pen/gather (5 course points and 10 control points); to drive/fetch through obstacle 1 by driving or fetching the stock up the middle of the arena to the entrance of obstacle 1 (5 course points and 10 control points). The transition from control points for take pen/gather to control points for obstacle 1 is approximately half the distance between the re-pen fence and obstacle 1. Drive or fetch the stock to obstacle 2, (5 course points and 20 control points); then cross drive/fetch through obstacle 3 by cross driving or fetching the stock in a counterclockwise direction (5 course points and 10 control points); then set-up and control to obstacle 4 by setting up and controlling the stock to the entrance of the obstacle 4 (5 course points and 10 control points. Exit obstacle 4 and drive/fetch across the arena past the end of the panel for obstacle 1 (do not pass-through opening of obstacle 1) Advanced and Open after passing around this panel will drive or fetch the stock. Advanced and Open will proceed to the free-standing pen (5 course points and 20 control points, not for started) and then to the re-pen (5 course points and 10 control points. Not for started), Started will proceed from obstacle 4 exit and drive/fetch across the arena past the end of the panel for obstacle 1 then to the re-pen (5 course points and 10 control points, started only). The sequence of events shall be as follows: take pen or gather, obstacle 1, obstacle 2, obstacle 3, obstacle 4, passing around obstacle 1 to the free-standing pen (Not for started) and re-pen. Obstacles 1, 2, 3 and 4 must be attempted before attempting the pen as described in [Section 8.2.3](#). No points will be awarded for the free-standing pen for started dogs.

D. **Take Pen:** The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena.

1. All take pens must be placed on the outside of the arena, along the fence opposite obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena, it must be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two, with consideration for the Advanced Handler Line taken into account.
2. The take pen gate for Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese must be no less than 8'.
3. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena.
4. The take pen size and location must be stated in the sanctioning request form. The Duck/Geese arena take pen size must be a minimum of 8' x 8' and a maximum of 16' x 16' for Cattle and Sheep/Goats, a take pen must be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet.
5. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or livestock, the Cattle, or Sheep/Goats will be released into the arena from the take pen.
6. If the livestock is released into the arena, the Advanced Handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler Line on the take pen side of the line; wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take pen side of the Advanced Handler Line. Open and Started Handlers may position themselves wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move them up the middle of the arena. Open Handler Line rule is in effect for the Open Division.

E. **Obstacle 1:** There are two panels that are in-line with each other that have a ten-foot opening. The center of the opening will be set at the center of the width of the arena and positioned on the Advanced Handler Line. The stock must move through panel opening from the take pen end of the arena towards the top of the arena. When at least one head of stock passes through the panels, then no further course points can be counted. To receive course points for obstacle 1, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane between the two in-line panels. If the stock passes through the panels from

the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the inline panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

F. **Obstacle 2:** Obstacle 2 is positioned 20% of the arena length measured from the top of the arena (opposite from the take pen) with the right side of the right-hand panel placed 15% of the arena width from the right-hand fence. The stock must move through the panel opening from the take pen side of the arena towards the top of the arena. When at least one head of stock passes through the panels, then no further course points can be counted. To receive course points for obstacle 2, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane of the panels. If the stock passes through the panels from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the inline panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. Only those head of stock that clear the daylight line will count for course points. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

G. **Obstacle 3:** The entrance/exit of obstacle 3 consists of two in-line panels, positioned 45 degrees to the panels marked 2 with a ten-foot opening. The center of the opening shall be set 20% of the width of the arena measured from the left side fence, and 20% of the length of the arena measured from the back fence (opposite the re-pen). The stock must move through the entrance/exit from the top end of the arena towards the take pen end of the arena. When at least one head of stock passes through the panels, then no further course points can be counted. To receive course points, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane between the in-line panels. If the stock passes through the obstacle from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the in-line panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. Only those head of stock that clear the daylight line will count for course points. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

H. **Obstacle 4:** Consists of one panel set at a 90-degree angle to the left-hand panel of obstacle 1 with a 20' opening. The lower edge of the panel (edge closest to the take pen) will be 20 feet from and perpendicular to the left edge of the left-hand panel of obstacle 1. For Ducks/Geese the lower edge of the panel (edge closest to the take pen) will be 8 feet from and perpendicular to the left edge of the left-hand panel of obstacle 1. From the exit of obstacle 3 the stock will be moved parallel to the left-hand fence and then turned counterclockwise to enter obstacle 4. When at least one head of stock passes through the panels, then no further course points can be counted. If the stock passes through the panels from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the inline panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. Only those head of stock that clear the daylight line will count for course points. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. The stock will be driven or fetched clockwise around the right-hand end of the right-hand panel of obstacle 1. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

I. **Obstacle 5 - Free-Standing Pen:** The free-standing pen is made up of three sides and a gate located so that the back wall of the pen is 12.5% of the arena length measured from the bottom (re-pen end of arena) and 20% of the arena width measured from the left side of the arena. The pen must be made of slatted material (no solid pens). The gate must be hinged to allow for free swinging. The gate may be opened when the last head of livestock clears the opening of obstacle 4. The dog is to put the stock into the pen and the handler is to close the gate in order to receive course points. Obstacles 1, 2, 3, and 4 must be attempted before attempting the freestanding pen as described in [Section 8.2.3](#). The handler may assist the dog in bringing the stock out of the freestanding pen. Handlers are not required to stay at the gate while penning. Advanced handlers must, while attempting the freestanding pen, stay behind the Open Handler's Line, otherwise the 50% Advanced Handler's penalty will be applied. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which this pen was completed.

1. If the gate to the free-standing pen is opened prior to the livestock clearing Obstacle 4, only those head that have cleared Obstacle 4 will earn course points. If no head have cleared Obstacle 4 and the handler opens the gate to the free-standing pen, the earned course points for Obstacle 4 will be 0. If the handler indicates, either verbally or by opening the free-standing pen gate, that he is moving to the free-standing pen, the handler is free to cross the Advanced Handler Line but may not cross the Open Handler Line. Advanced handlers must, while attempting the free-standing pen, stay behind the Open Handler's Line, otherwise the 50% Advanced Handler's penalty will be applied.

J. **Re-pen:** The re-pen may be the same pen as the take pen. The re-pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the take pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. When the re-pen gate is opened, no further points can be earned on any other part of the course. Points for the re-pen may be earned at any time during the run. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which movement through the obstacle was executed.

K. **Handler Lines:** The Advanced handler line shall be determined by the length of the arena with a maximum distance of 125'. Measure half the length of the arena down from obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the arena. Advanced Handlers' Line in an arena with greater than 250' length shall not exceed 125'. The Open Handlers' Line shall be 25' from and parallel to the plane of obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the arena. Both lines will extend across the width of the arena, parallel to the back fence. Started Handlers may move anywhere in the arena at any time.

1. Ducks/Geese: The Advanced Handler Line will be determined by the same method with a maximum distance not to exceed 50'. The Open Handler Line will be 8' from and parallel to the plane of obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena and across the width of the arena.

COURSE F GUIDELINE: The following guidelines were made with the ideal run of the Advanced Trial Dog in mind and with absolutely no consideration given to the degree of difficulty of the stock. Obviously, the judge will have to modify his expectations of the Started and Open dogs and take the nature of the stock into consideration.

This course may be run in either direction by reversing the position of all obstacles within the arena. This course may be run with a take pen or gather, depending on the facility. For Course D, E, and F, Advanced handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler Line on the take-pen side of the line, wherever they feel it is best to take control of the stock in order to move them up the middle of the arena. All openings are 10' wide. **EXCEPTION:** The opening for obstacle 4 is 20'.

Panel sizes:

- 8' for 100' to 125' wide arenas is recommended.
- 8'-12' for arenas wider than 125'. **EXCEPTION:** Panels for pen must be 12'-16'.
- Obstacle 1 is on the center line based on the width of the arena and on the Advanced Handlers' Line.
- Obstacle 2 will be positioned 20% of the arena length from the back fence (opposite the re-pen) with the right side of the right-hand panel placed 15% of the arena width from the right-hand fence.
- Obstacle 3 is positioned at a 45-degree angle, with the center of the opening set 20% of the width of the arena measured from the left side fence, and 20% of the length of the arena measured from the back fence (opposite the re-pen).
- Obstacle 4 consists of one panel positioned with the end closest to the re-pen end of the arena 20' above and perpendicular to the left-hand end of the left-hand panel of obstacle 1.
- The side of the pen closest to the re-pen end of the arena is positioned 12.5% of the arena length (measured from the bottom of the arena), with the left side of the pen positioned 20% of the arena width (measured from the left side of the arena). Pen is not for Started Division.

Advanced Handlers' Line: The Advanced Handler Line shall be determined by the length of the arena. It is not to exceed a distance of 125'. Measure half the length of the arena down from obstacle 2 toward the re-pen end of the arena. The Advanced Handler Line extends across the arena parallel to the back fence at the point measured. Advanced Handler Line in an arena with greater than 250' length shall be 125'.

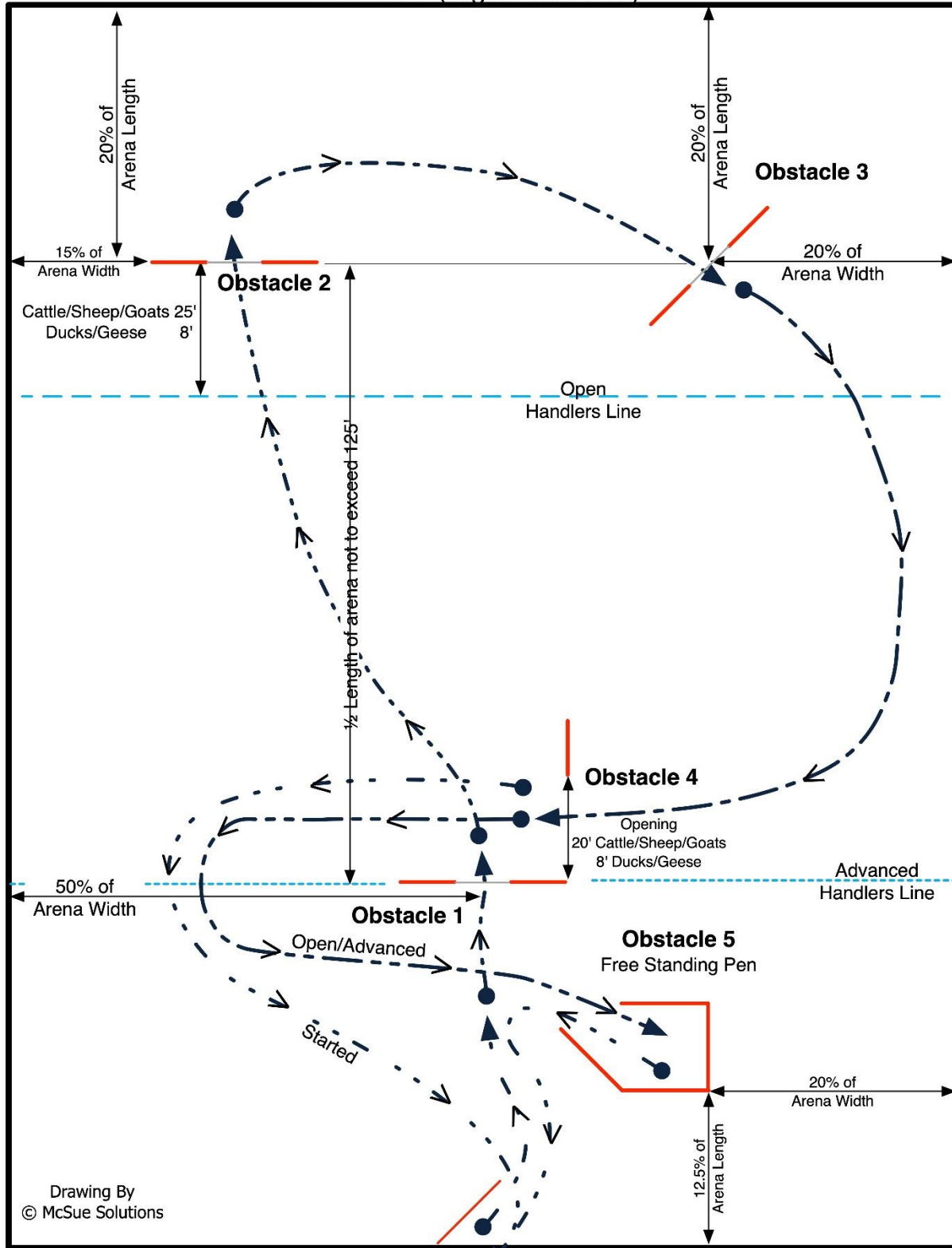
Formulas:

- #2 Multiply the arena length by 20% will give the distance to set the panels from the back fence (opposite the re-pen). Multiplying the arena width by 15% will give the distance the right-hand edge of the right-hand panel is positioned from the right-hand fence.
- #3 Multiplying the width of the arena by 20% will give the distance the center of the opening will be from the left side fence. Multiplying the length of the arena by 20% will give the distance the center of the opening will be from the back fence (opposite the re-pen). The panels are placed at a 45-degree angle.

Scoring for the re-pen begins after the last attempted obstacle and ends when the handler closes the re-pen gate. Once the re-pen gate is open no further points can be given on any other part of the course and the dog should move the stock as efficiently as possible to the re-pen. Course points are earned for the number of head (or %) that dog put into the re-pen the first time. Control points are earned for how the work was accomplished.

Ideally, the stock should go from the last attempted obstacle, center chute or free-standing pen directly to the re-pen with minimum stress on the stock. It makes sense to move the stock away from the gate before opening it.

Course F (Right Hand Pen)

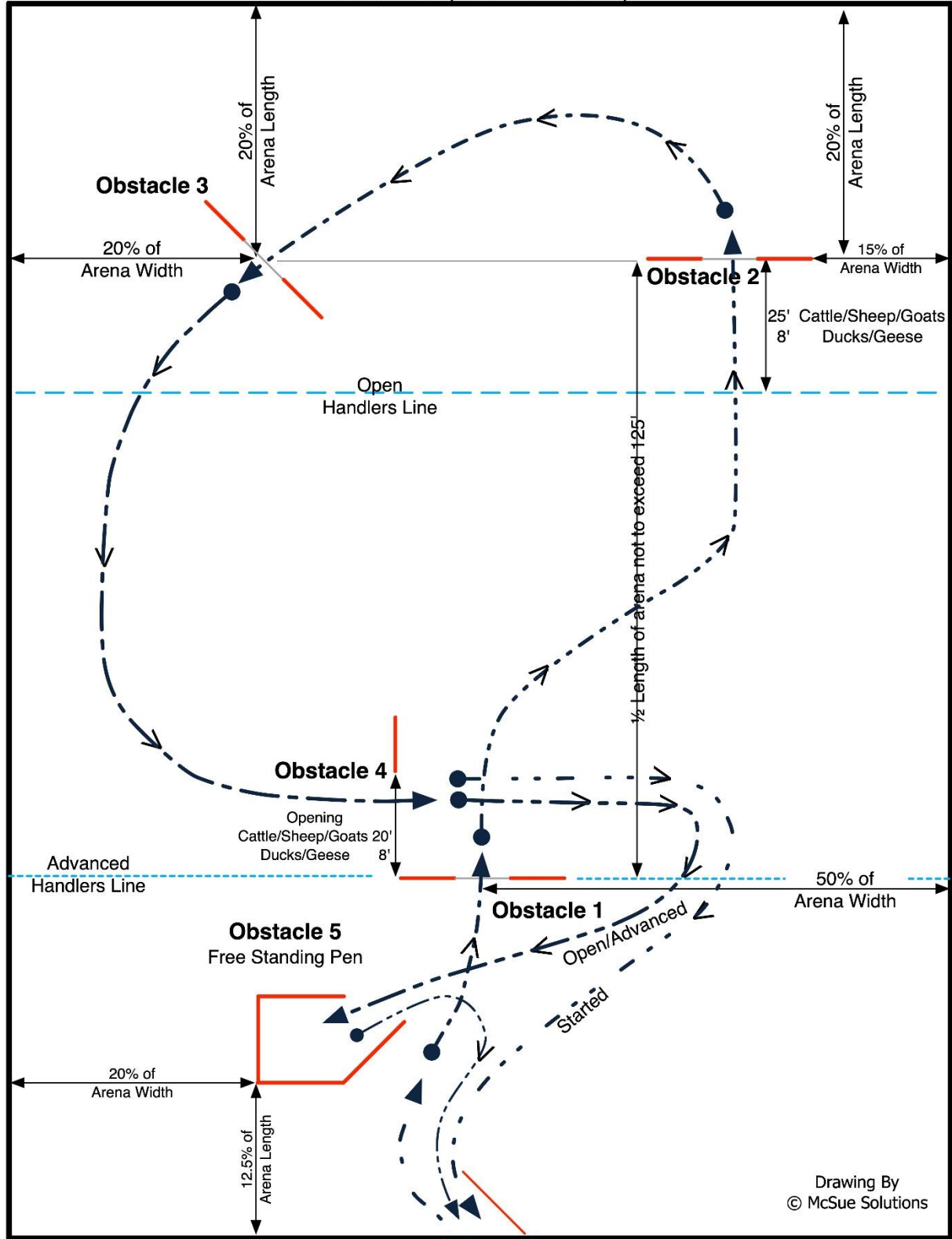


Minimum Arena Size
Cattle/Sheep/Goats 100' x 200'
Ducks/Geese 60' x 90'
Maximum Ducks/Geese 100' x 100'

Take-Pen
Re-Pen

* Panel Opening
10' Cattle/Sheep/Goats
6' Ducks/Geese
Unless Stated Otherwise

Course F (Left Hand Pen)



Drawing By
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Minimum Arena Size
Cattle/Sheep/Goats 100' x 200'
Ducks/Geese 60' x 90'
Maximum Ducks/Geese 100' x 100'

* Panel Opening
10' Cattle/Sheep/Goats
6' Ducks/Geese
Unless Stated Otherwise

Chapter 15 Arena Trial Course G

Section 15.1 Course G

15.1.1 Course G Arena

A. **Set-up:** The arenas will be set up with panels and pens positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section. This course may be run with a take pen or gather, depending on the facility, and may be run in either direction by reversing the placement of the obstacles as shown in the diagrams.

B. **Panels:**

1. **Cattle and Sheep/Goat** panels will be 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100'-124' in width, 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider, 8'-12' panels may be used. All openings will be 10'.
2. **Ducks/Geese** arena panels will be 4-5 feet long and at least 2 feet high. Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'. **EXCEPTION:** The panel length for the Free-Standing Pen (obstacle 4) for sheep/cattle must be 12'-16' in length and at least 4' high. 16' panels are preferred.

C. **Sequence (for a left-hand pen):** Take pen/gather (5 course points and 10 control points); drive/fetch through obstacle 1 by driving or fetching the stock up the middle of the arena to the entrance of obstacle 1 (5 course points and 20 control points). The transition from control points for take pen/gather to control points for obstacle 1 is approximately half the distance between the re-pen fence and obstacle 1. Cross drive/fetch the stock through obstacle 2 in a counterclockwise direction (5 course points and 10 control points). Continue to drive or fetch the stock in a counterclockwise direction to the entrance of obstacle 3 (5 course points and 20 control points). Then exit obstacle 3, turn in the direction of the Advanced Handler Line and SET-UP and control to obstacle 4 (Free-standing pen). Advanced and Open will proceed to the free-standing pen (5 course points and 25 control points, not for Started); and then to the re-pen (5 course points and 10 control points. Not for Started), Started will proceed from obstacle 3 exit, then to the re-pen (5 course points and 10 control points, Started only). The sequence of events shall be as follows: take pen or gather, obstacle 1, obstacle 2, obstacle 3, pen (not for started) and re-pen. Obstacles 1, 2, and 3 must be attempted before attempting the free-standing pen as described in [Section 8.2.3](#). No points will be awarded for the free-standing pen for started dogs. **EXCEPTION:** The Course may be reversed by reversing the placement of the obstacles. This Course is designed to be run in either direction.

D. **Take pen:** The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. The take pen and/or re-pen shall be placed on the outside of the arena on the fence. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and/or construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen. When using a gather, the Advanced handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler Line on the take-pen side of the line, wherever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move them up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take-pen side of the Advanced Handler line. Open and Started handlers may position themselves wherever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move it up the middle of the arena. The Open handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take-pen side of the Open Handler line. The Started Handler may move anywhere in the arena.

1. **Cattle and Sheep/goats:** The take pen shall be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen area. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet. The take pen gate shall be no less than 8'.
2. **Ducks/Geese:** The take pen shall be a minimum of 8'-8' and a maximum of 16'-16'.

E. **Obstacle 1:** Consists of two panels with a 10' opening positioned at a 45-degree angle, with the center of the opening 40' from the fence opposite the re-pen end of the arena and 25' from the side fence. The stock must move through the panel opening from the take pen side of the arena towards the top of the arena. When at least one head of stock passes through the panels, then no further course points can be counted. To receive course points for obstacle 1, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane of the panels. If the stock passes through the panels from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the inline panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. Only those head of stock that clear the daylight line will count for Course points. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

1. **Ducks/Geese:** The center of the opening is 12' from the fence opposite the re-pen end of the arena and 10' from the side fence.

F. **Obstacle 2:** This obstacle consists of a single panel, positioned at a 90-degree angle to the side fence. It is positioned 10' from the side fence and 25' from and parallel to the back fence (see drawing for clarification). This obstacle has a separate entrance and exit and requires the stock to clear both in the proper sequence to earn course points. If the stock enters the obstacle from the wrong direction, the daylighting rules found in the daylighting chapter will apply.

1. **Ducks/Geese:** The panel is placed 8' from and parallel to the back fence with a 6' opening between the left end of the panel and the left-hand side of the arena.

G. **Obstacle 3:** Consists of two in-line panels with a 10' opening. The end of the panel closest to the re-pen end of the arena will be placed 15' above the Advanced Handler Line (opposite the re-pen end of the arena) and 25' from and parallel to the right-side arena fence. The stock must move from left to right for the exit. To receive course points, at least one head of livestock must pass the plane between the in-line panels. Only livestock that has cleared the opening of obstacle 3 when the gate on obstacle 4 (Free-Standing Pen) is opened will earn course points. If the stock passes through the obstacle from the wrong direction, at least one head must be driven past the plane of the in-line panels so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. Only those head of stock that clear the daylight line will count for Course points. The stock then must be turned around to attempt the obstacle in the correct direction. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

1. **Ducks/Geese:** The end of the panel closest to the re-pen end of the arena will be placed with the bottom end of the lower panel on and extending above the Advanced Handler Line (opposite the re-pen end of the arena) and 10' from and parallel to the right-side arena fence.

H. **Obstacle 4 - Free-Standing Pen:** The free-standing pen is made up of three sides and a gate and is positioned below (on the re-pen side of the Advanced Handler Line) the Advanced Handler Line, extending toward the re-pen end of the arena. The left-hand side of the pen is positioned 20' from the left side fence of the arena. The gate will open in a downward manner, swinging toward the re-pen end of the arena. The pen must be made of slatted material (no solid pens). The gate must be hinged to allow for free swinging. The gate may be opened when the last head of livestock clears the opening of obstacle 3. The dog is to put the stock into the pen and the handler is to close the gate in order to receive course points. Obstacles 1, 2, and 3 must be attempted before attempting the freestanding pen as described in [Section 8.2.3](#). The handler may assist the dog in bringing the stock out of the freestanding pen without penalty. The handlers are not required to stay at the gate while penning. Advanced handlers must, while attempting the freestanding pen, stay behind the Open Handler's Line, otherwise the 50% Advanced Handler's penalty will be applied. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which this pen was completed.

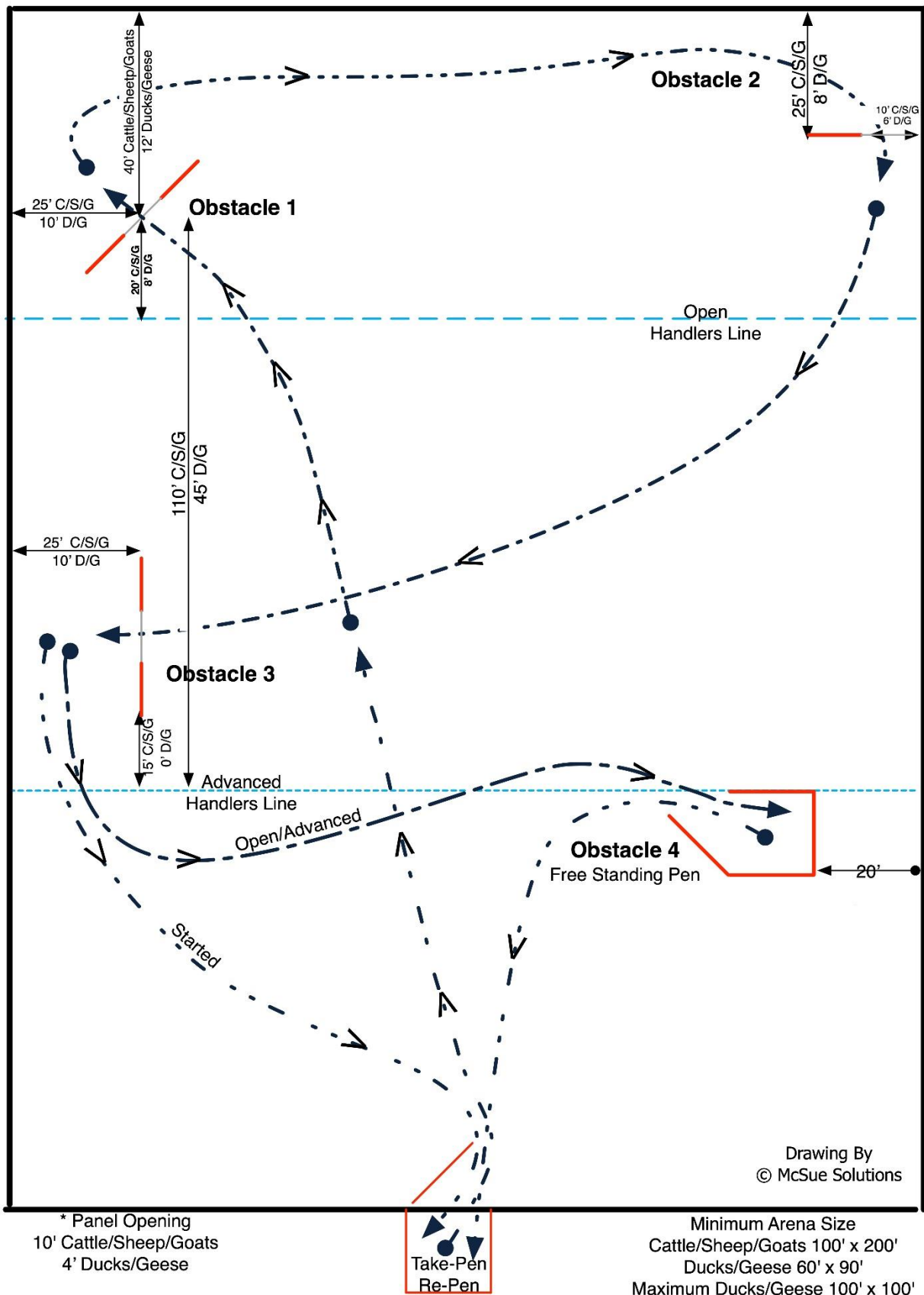
1. **Ducks/Geese:** The free-standing pen is positioned below (on the re-pen side) of the Advanced Handler Line, extending toward the re-pen end of the arena. The left-hand side of the pen is positioned 20' from the left side fence of the arena.
2. If the gate to the free-standing pen is opened prior to the livestock clearing Obstacle 3, only those head that have cleared Obstacle 3 will earn course points. If no head have cleared Obstacle 3 and the handler opens the gate to the free-standing pen, the earned course points for Obstacle 3 will be 0. If the handler indicates, either verbally or by opening the free-standing pen gate, that he is moving to the free-standing pen, the handler is free to cross the Advanced Handler Line but may not cross the Open Handler Line. Advanced handlers must, while attempting the free-standing pen, stay behind the Open Handler's Line, otherwise the 50% Advanced Handler's penalty will be applied.

I. **Re-pen:** The re-pen may be the same pen as the take pen. The re-pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the take pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. When the re-pen gate is opened, no further points can be earned on any other part of the course. Points for the re-pen may be earned at any time during the run. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which movement through the obstacle was executed.

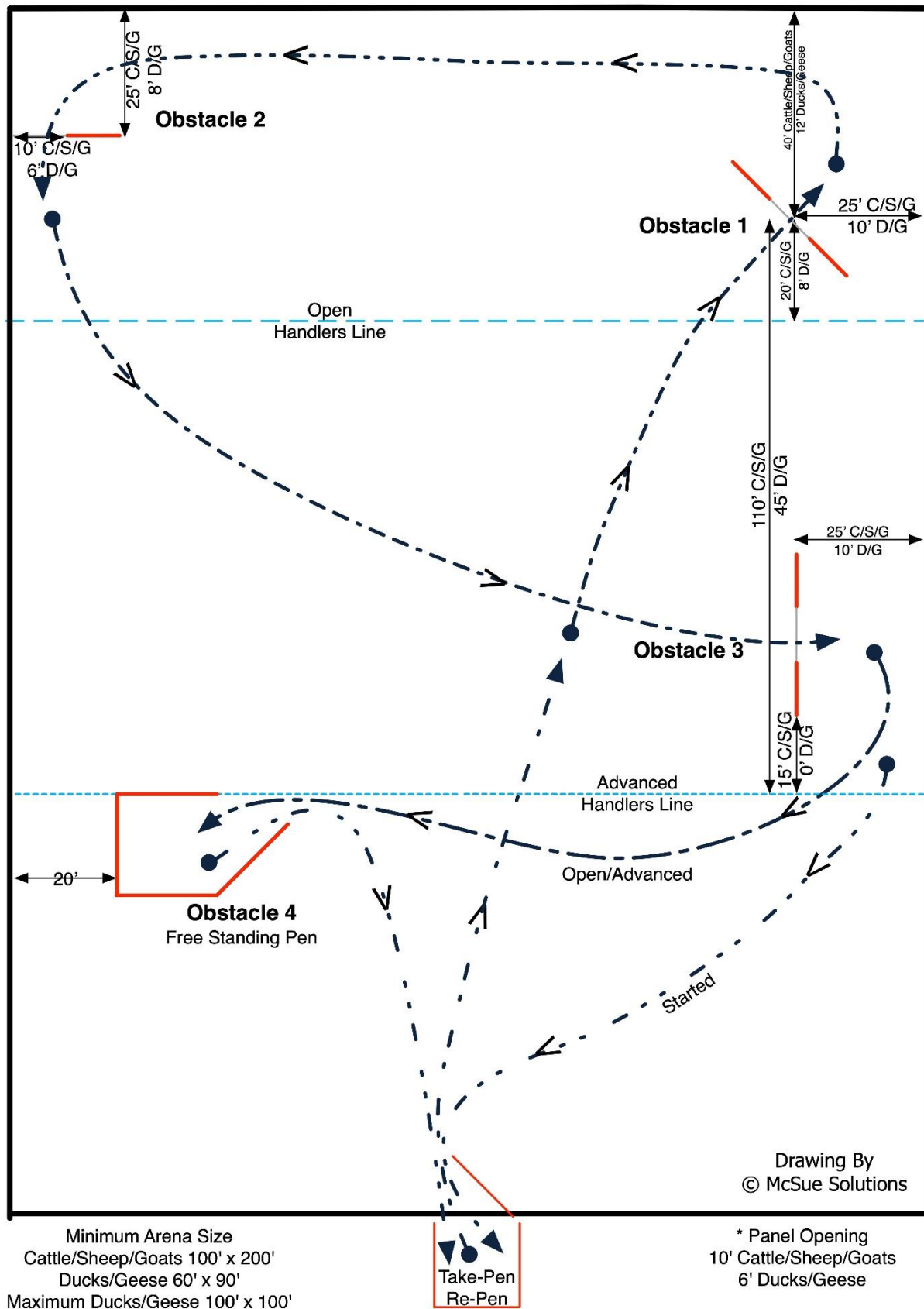
J. **Handler Lines:** Both handler lines are measured from the center of the opening of obstacle 1. The Advanced handler line is 110' from the center of the opening of obstacle 1. The Open Handler Line is 20' from the center of the opening of obstacle 1. Both lines will extend across the width of the arena, parallel to the fence opposite the re-pen. Started Handlers may move anywhere in the arena at any time.

1. **Ducks/Geese:** Both handler lines are measured from the center of the opening of obstacle 1. The Advanced Handler Line is 45' from the center of the opening of obstacle 1. The Open Handler Line is 8' from the center of the opening of obstacle 1.

Course G (Right Hand Pen)



Course G (Left Hand Pen)



Chapter 16 Arena Trial Course H

Section 16.1 Course H

16.1.1 Course H Arena

A. **Set-Up:** The arenas will be set up with panels and pens positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section. This course may be run with a take pen or gather, depending on the facility, and may be reversed by reversing the placement of obstacle 2 and obstacle 3 as shown in the diagrams.

B. **Panels:**

1. **Cattle and Sheep/Goat** panels will be 8'-12' in length and at least 4' high. For arenas 100'-124' in width, 8' panels are recommended. Arenas 125' or wider, 8'-12' panels may be used. All openings will be 10'.
2. **Ducks/Geese** arena panels will be 4-5 feet long and at least 2 feet high. Openings between panels will be 6'. Pen will be from 4' by 4' to 6' by 6'. All openings will be 4'.

C. **Sequence:** Take pen/gather (5 course points and 10 control points), drive/fetch through obstacle 1 (5 course points and 10 control points). The transition from control points for take pen/gather to control points for obstacle 1 is approximately half the distance between the re-pen fence and obstacle 1. Drive/fetch through obstacle 2 (5 course points and 20 control points), then cross-drive through obstacle 3 (5 course points and 20 control points). Advanced and Open will proceed to obstacle 4 (5 course points and 25 control points), and then move to the re-pen (5 course points and 10 control points). The sequence of events shall be as follows: Take pen or gather, obstacle 1, obstacle 2, obstacle 3, obstacle 4 (not for started) and re-pen. Obstacle 1, 2, and 3 must be attempted before attempting obstacle 4 as described in [Section 8.2.3](#). No points will be awarded for obstacle 4 for started dogs. **EXCEPTION:** The Course may be reversed by reversing the placement of obstacles 2 and 3. This Course is designed to be run in either direction.

D. **Take Pen:** The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. The take pen and/or re-pen shall be placed on the outside of the arena on the fence. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides that the take pen is not of adequate size and/or construction to be safe for the dog or the livestock, the cattle or sheep/goats will be released into the arena from the take pen. When using a gather the Advanced handler must position themselves within reach of the Advanced handler line on the take-pen side of the line, wherever they feel it is best to take control of the stock to move them up the middle of the arena. Once the dog has been sent, the Advanced Handler is free to move anywhere on the re-pen side of the Advanced Handler Line. The Advanced Handler must remain behind the Advanced Handler Line at all times. Started and Open dogs may begin their gather from a comfortable distance from the stock. The handler decides the starting position according to the dog's abilities. Open handlers' line is in effect for the Open division.

1. **Cattle and Sheep/goats:** The take pen shall be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen area. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet. The take pen gate shall be no less than 8'.
2. **Ducks/Geese:** The take pen shall be a minimum of 8'-8' and a maximum of 16'-16'.

E. **Obstacle 1 (first Center Chute):** The center chute consists of six panels. The Ducks/Geese arena center chute shall be 2 feet wide at the parallel panels. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle arena center chute shall be 4 feet wide at the parallel panels. The center of the chute is positioned in the lengthwise center of the arena. The ends of the parallel panels will be placed on the Advanced Handler Line with one set of wings positioned at a 45-degree angle to the center of the chute, extending across the Advanced Handler Line, with the other set of wings positioned at a 45-degree angle to the center of the chute facing the re-pen side of the arena. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which movement through the obstacle was executed.

1. The livestock will be moved away from the take pen end of the arena and either driven or fetched through the first center chute toward the far end of the arena. After clearing the end of the center chute, the livestock will be moved toward obstacle 2.

F. **Obstacle 2:** This obstacle consists of a single panel, positioned at a 90-degree angle to the side fence. The Duck/Geese arena obstacle 1 shall be 8 feet from the rear fence and 4 feet from the side fence. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle arena obstacle 1 shall be 10 feet from the side fence and 24 feet from the rear fence. Obstacle 2 is considered passed when at least one head of livestock passes an imaginary line drawn from the end of the panel nearest obstacle 3 and the rear fence line. If the stock are driven from the area of obstacle 3 around to obstacle 2 and toward the take pen, at least one head must pass an imaginary line which extends from the end of the first panel (nearest the side fence) to the side fence so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between this line and the stock (this imaginary line is known as the daylighting line) and then the stock must be

turned around to attempt the obstacle. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

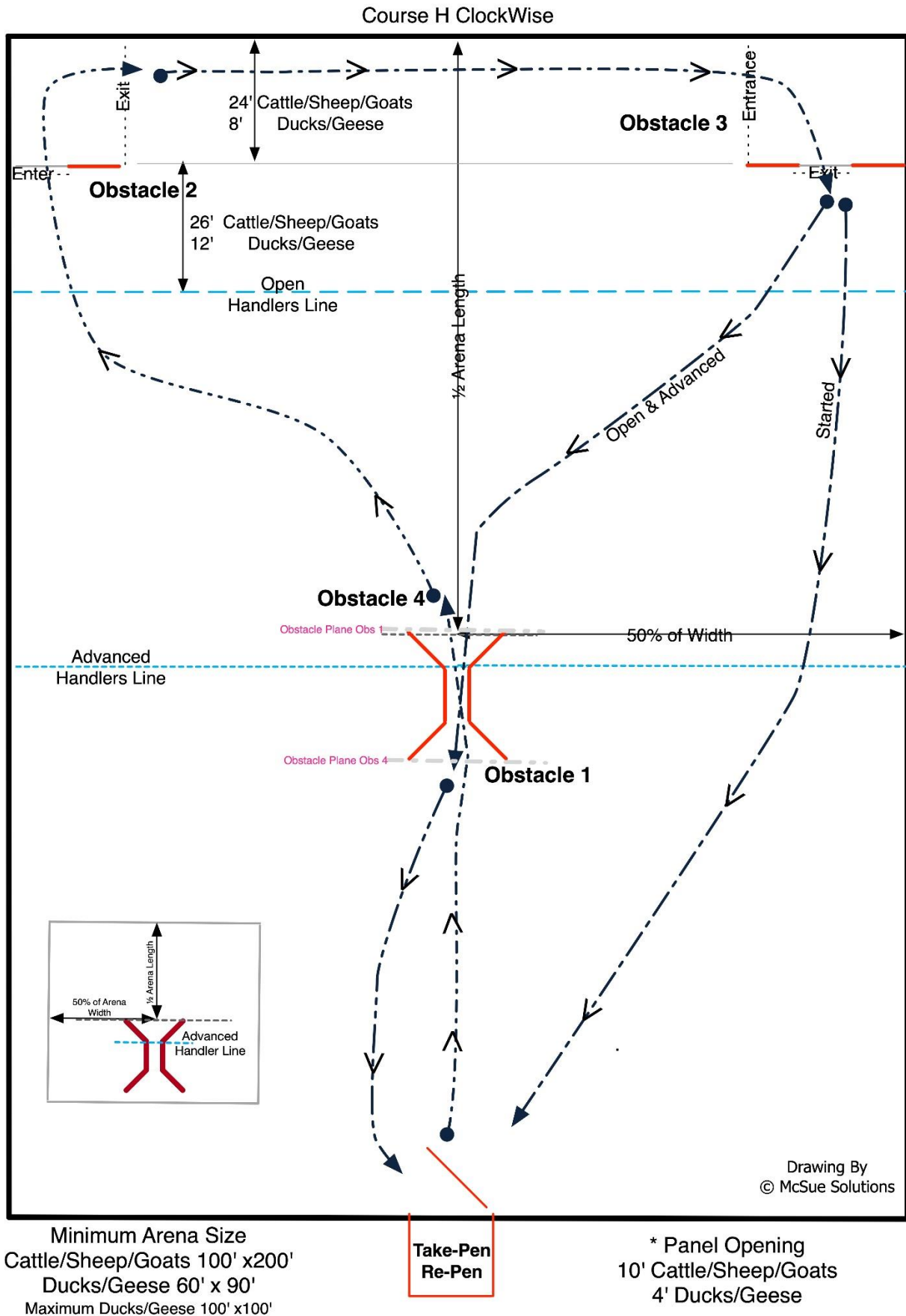
G. **Obstacle 3:** This obstacle consists of two panels positioned against the side fence creating a 90-degree angle. Both panels shall be parallel to, and at the same distance from, the rear fence and in line with one another. The Ducks/Geese arena obstacle 3 shall be 8 feet from the rear fence with a 4-foot exit. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle arena obstacle 2 shall be 24 feet from the rear fence with a 10-foot exit. If the stock enters the obstacle through the narrow exit, at least one head must be driven so that they pass a line drawn from the inside end of the second panel and the rear fence so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between the line and the stock. The stock must then be turned around to pass the obstacle. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movement around the obstacle was executed.

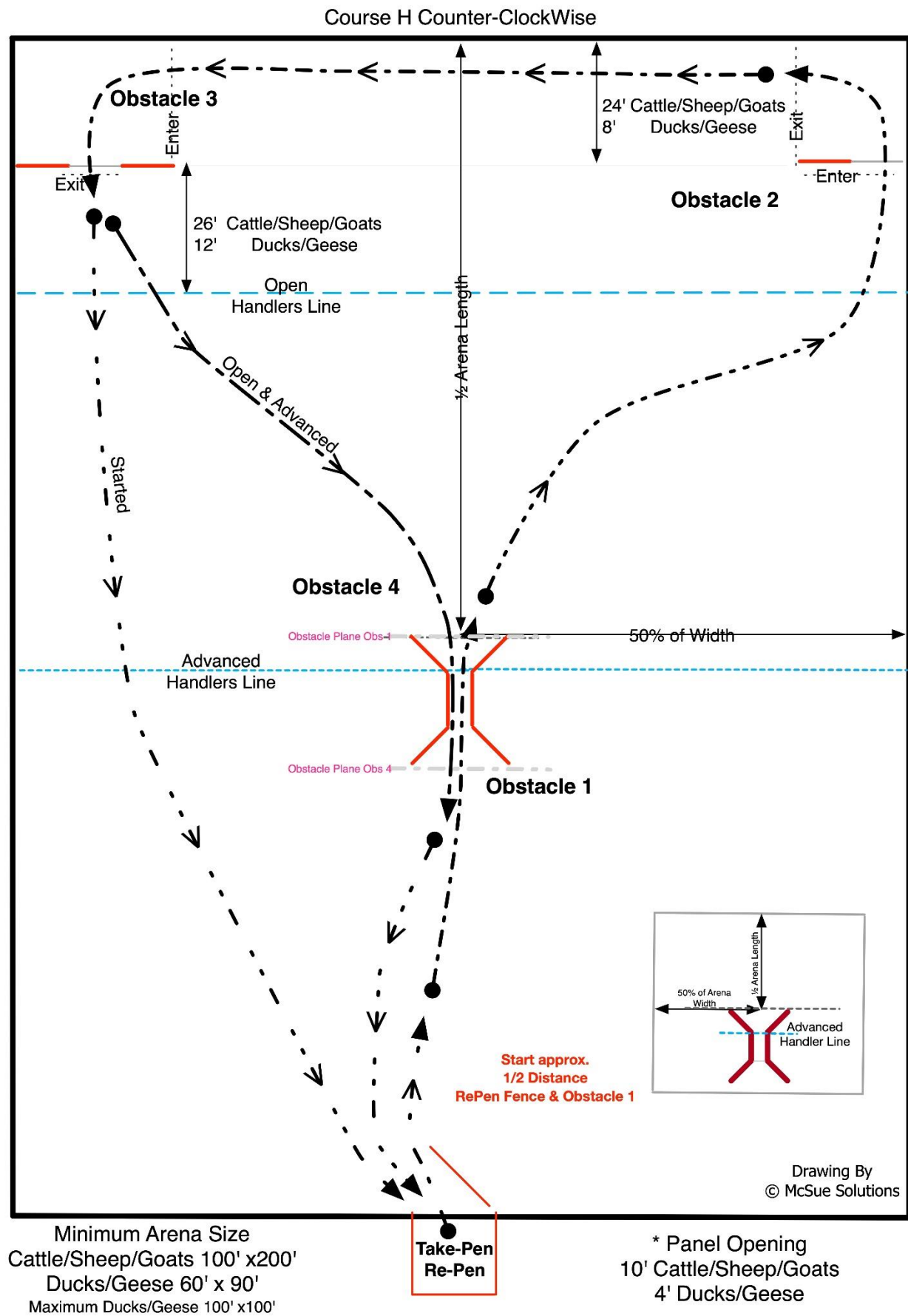
H. **Obstacle 4 (second Center Chute):** Obstacle 4 is the same obstacle as obstacle 1. After completing or attempting obstacle 3, the livestock is moved through obstacle 4. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which movement through the obstacle was executed.

1. The livestock will be brought through obstacle 4 toward the re-pen side of the arena.

I. **Re-pen:** The re-pen may be the same pen as the take pen. When the re-pen gate is opened, no further points can be earned on any other part of the course. Points for the re-pen may be earned at any time during the run.

J. **Handler Lines:** For Cattle and Sheep/Goats and Ducks/Geese the Advanced Handler Line is an imaginary line drawn across the point of the center chute where the wings and the parallel panels meet and across the arena to the fences on either side. The wings of the chute furthest from the take pen end of the arena extend beyond the Advanced Handler Line. The Open Handler Line is an imaginary line drawn across the width of the arena; 26 feet from and parallel to obstacle 2 and 3. For Ducks/Geese the Open Handler Line is an imaginary line drawn across the width of the arena, 12 feet from and parallel to obstacle 2 and 3. These lines shall be adequately marked with something visible to both handler and Judges and shall not interfere with the movement of the stock.





Chapter 17 Post Advanced

Section 17.1 Post Advanced Division

Post-Advanced Trial Dog is for dogs that have earned the Advanced Trial Dog title for the class entered.

A. The Post-Advanced Division is an optional division for Sheep/Goats and Cattle classes. Host clubs do not have to offer this division if facilities are unavailable. Advanced titled dogs do not have to compete in this division. The Post-Advanced Division may be offered as an individually sanctioned trial, or it may be offered as a division within a sanctioned Arena Trial.

1. The Post-Advanced Division may not share sanctioning with any type of trial except an Arena Trial.
2. When sanctioning is shared with an arena trial, the arena and PATD course are not required to be the same course.

B. The Post-Advanced Division will be scored and placed separately from all other divisions of a sanctioned trial.

C. Any dog entering the Post-Advanced Division must have earned an Advanced Title on the class of stock entered.

D. Time limit will be 15 minutes.

E. Qualifying scores can be earned according to [Section 21.1.5](#). The title earned shall be PATD-class used at the end of the dog's name.

F. Scores from this division are eligible for accruing National Stockdog Finals and Merit points. When sanctioned with an arena trial, only the highest scoring Australian Shepherd in the sanctioned trial is eligible for the additional finals point as described in [Chapter 24](#). The HIT point is awarded to the highest scoring Australian Shepherd from all eligible divisions. When sanctioned alone, an additional finals point, if eligible, is awarded to the HIT from the PATD division as described in [Chapter 24](#). Merit points will also be earned for the PATD division as described in [Chapter 23](#).

G. The same dog may not enter both Advanced and Post-Advanced Division on the same class of stock in the same sanctioned trial.

H. The Post-Advanced Division will be run in a minimum area of 415 x 600 feet (approximately 6 acres).

Section 17.2 Post Advanced Course A

A. **Set-Up:** The fields will be set up with panels and pens positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section. The Post-Advanced Division will be run in a minimum area of 415 x 600 feet (approximately 6 acres).

1. The distance of the cross-drive from the openings of panel 1 to panel 2 and the distance from the openings of panel 1 and panel 2 to the center obstacles must be equal for Course A. The equal distances of the cross drive between the openings of obstacles 1 and 2 and the distance to the center obstacle from panel 1 and panel 2 must be a minimum of 150 feet, but no more than, 300 feet.
2. Whatever the distances are between the three obstacles of Course A, all obstacles must be at least 100 feet off any fence or perimeter.
3. The distance from the take/re-pen end of the pasture to the Post Advanced Handlers line must be a minimum of 350 feet, but no more than, 500 feet.
4. The distance from the take/re-pen end of the pasture to panel 1 and panel 2 must be a minimum of 500 feet, but no more than 800 feet.

B. **Sequence:** The sequence of events shall be as follows: take pen, obstacle 1 (two panel obstacle), obstacle 2 (two panel obstacle), center chute, and re-pen. Obstacles 1 and 2 shall be negotiated in a figure 8 for Course A (see diagram). Each obstacle will be allowed only two attempts before the handler must move on to the next obstacle. Only course points will be lost on the failed obstacle. **EXCEPTION:** The Course may be reversed by reversing the placement of the obstacles. This Course is designed to be run in either direction.

C. **Panels:** All obstacles shall be made up of 12-16-foot panels including the chute. Obstacles 1 and 2 are made up of two panels each, parallel to each other with a 20-foot opening. Obstacle 1 and 2 shall be parallel to each other with the cross drive measured from the inside of both inside panels.

D. **Take Pens:** Course A must use a Take Pen. The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena.

1. All take pens must be placed on the outside of the arena, along the fence opposite obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena, it must be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two, with consideration for the advanced handler line taken into account.
2. The take pen gate for Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese must be no less than 8'.
3. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena.
4. The take pen size and location must be stated in the sanctioning request form. The Duck/Geese arena take pen size must be a minimum of 8' x 8' and a maximum of 16' x 16'. For Cattle and Sheep/Goats, a take pen must be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will

determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet.

5. **Course A** may not be run without the use of a take pen. If, on the day of the trial, the take pen is determined to be unsafe or insufficient by the trial committee and Judge, a course not requiring a take pen must be used. This may be done without pre-approval from the Business Office. Any course changes must be submitted to the Business office with the Trial Report. At no time is livestock to be set out when using Course A.

E. **Obstacle 1:** This obstacle consists of two panels, positioned parallel to the handler's line, at least 150 but not more than 300 feet from the handler's line. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle field obstacle 1 shall be at least 100 feet off any fence or perimeter. Obstacle 1 is considered passed when at least one head of livestock passes an imaginary line drawn from the end of the panel nearest obstacle 2 and the rear fence line. If the stock are driven from the area of obstacle 2 around to obstacle 1 and toward the take pen, at least one head must pass an imaginary line which extends from the end of the first panel (nearest the side fence) to the side fence so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between this line and the stock (this imaginary line is known as the daylighting line) and then the stock must be turned around to attempt the obstacle. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

F. **Cross Drive:** The distance of the cross-drive from the openings of panel 1 to panel 2 and the distance from the openings of panel 1 and panel 2 to the center obstacles must be equal for Course A. The equal distances of the cross drive between the openings of obstacles 1 and 2 and the distance to the center obstacle from panel 1 and panel 2 must be a minimum of 150 feet, but no more than, 300 feet. Obstacles 1 and 2 shall be negotiated in a figure 8 for A. Course A will have a left-hand drive.

G. **Obstacle 2:** This obstacle consists of two panels, positioned parallel to the handler's line, at least 150 but not more than 300 feet from the handler's line. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle field obstacle 2 shall be at least 100 feet off any fence or perimeter. Obstacle 2 is considered passed when at least one head of livestock passes an imaginary line drawn from the end of the panel nearest obstacle 1 and the rear fence line. If the stock are driven from the area of obstacle 2 around to obstacle 1 and toward the take pen, at least one head must pass an imaginary line which extends from the end of the first panel (nearest the side fence) to the side fence so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between this line and the stock (this imaginary line is known as the daylighting line) and then the stock must be turned around to attempt the obstacle. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

H. **Center Chute:** The center chute consists of four panels. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle field center chute shall be 4 feet wide at the exit. The center of the chute is positioned in the lengthwise center of the field. The wing ends shall be positioned midway of the width of the fields, with the wings positioned at a 45-degree angle to the center of the chute. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which movement through the obstacle was executed.

I. **Re-pen:** The re-pen may be the same pen as the take pen. When the re-pen gate is opened, no further points can be earned on any other part of the course. Points for the re-pen may be earned at any time during the run.

J. **Handler Lines:** Post Advanced Handler may not step across an imaginary line drawn across the entry wings of the chute or the gate of the free-standing pen without a loss of 50% of the total points. The distance from the take/re-pen end of the pasture to the Post Advanced Handlers line must be a minimum of 350 feet, but no more than, 500 feet.

K. **Attempts and Loss of Stock:** Each obstacle will be allowed only two attempts before the handler must move on to the next obstacle. Only course points will be lost on the failed obstacle.

L. If the dog loses the stock from the designated Course area he will be excused, and stock handlers will retrieve the stock.

Section 17.3 Post Advanced Course B

A. **Set-Up:** The field will be set up with panels and pens positioned as outlined in the diagram and described in this section. The Post-Advanced Division will be run in a minimum area of 415 x 600 feet (approximately 6 acres).

1. The distance of the cross-drive from the openings of panel 1 to panel 2 and the distance from the openings of panel 1 and panel 2 to the center obstacles must be equal for Course B. The equal distances of the cross drive between the openings of obstacles 1 and 2 and the distance to the center obstacle from panel 1 and panel 2 must be a minimum of 150 feet, but no more than, 300 feet.
2. Whatever the distances are between the three obstacles of Course B, all obstacles must be at least 100 feet off any fence or perimeter.
3. The distance from the take/re-pen end of the pasture to the Post Advanced Handlers line must be a minimum of 350 feet, but no more than, 500 feet.
4. The distance from the take/re-pen end of the pasture to panel 1 and panel 2 must be a minimum of 500 feet, but no more than 800 feet.

B. **Sequence:** The sequence of events shall be as follows: gather, obstacle 1 (two panel obstacle), obstacle 2 (two panel obstacle), free standing pen, and re-pen. Obstacles 1 and 2 shall be negotiated in a figure 8 for Course B (see diagram). Each obstacle will be allowed only two attempts before the handler must move on to the next obstacle. Only course points will be lost on the failed obstacle. **EXCEPTION:** The Course may be reversed by reversing the placement of the obstacles. This Course is designed to be run in either direction.

C. **Panels:** All obstacles shall be made up of 12-16-foot panels including the chute. Obstacles 1 and 2 are made up of two panels each, parallel to each other with a 20-foot opening. Obstacle 1 and 2 shall be parallel to each other with the cross drive measured from the inside of both inside panels.

D. **Gather:** The stock for Course B will be dropped and spotted at a minimum distance of 300 feet but not more than 500 feet from, and in line with, the center obstacle and at least 50 feet but not more than 100 feet from the take/re-pen end of the pasture for the gather. The livestock will be released into the field and positioned by the stock handler(s) until settled. The dog is sent to make contact with the stock and then must bring the stock in the direction of obstacle 1. The handler and the dog must begin the gather next to the free-standing pen, either side. Once the dog has been sent, the Advanced Handler is free to move in the re-pen side of the field. After the stock has passed the free-standing pen going in the direction of the first obstacle, the drive begins.

E. **Obstacle 1:** This obstacle consists of two panels, positioned parallel to the handler's line, at least 150 but not more than 300 feet from the handler's line. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle field obstacle 1 shall be at least 100 feet off any fence or perimeter. Obstacle 1 is considered passed when at least one head of livestock passes an imaginary line drawn from the end of the panel nearest obstacle 2 and the rear fence line. If the stock are driven from the area of obstacle 2 around to obstacle 1 and toward the take pen, at least one head must pass an imaginary line which extends from the end of the first panel (nearest the side fence) to the side fence so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between this line and the stock (this imaginary line is known as the daylighting line) and then the stock must be turned around to attempt the obstacle. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

F. **Cross Drive:** The distance of the cross-drive from the openings of panel 1 to panel 2 and the distance from the openings of panel 1 and panel 2 to the center obstacles must be equal for Course B. The equal distances of the cross drive between the openings of obstacles 1 and 2 and the distance to the center obstacle from panel 1 and panel 2 must be a minimum of 150 feet, but no more than, 300 feet. Obstacles 1 and 2 shall be negotiated in a figure 8 for A. Course B will have a right-hand drive.

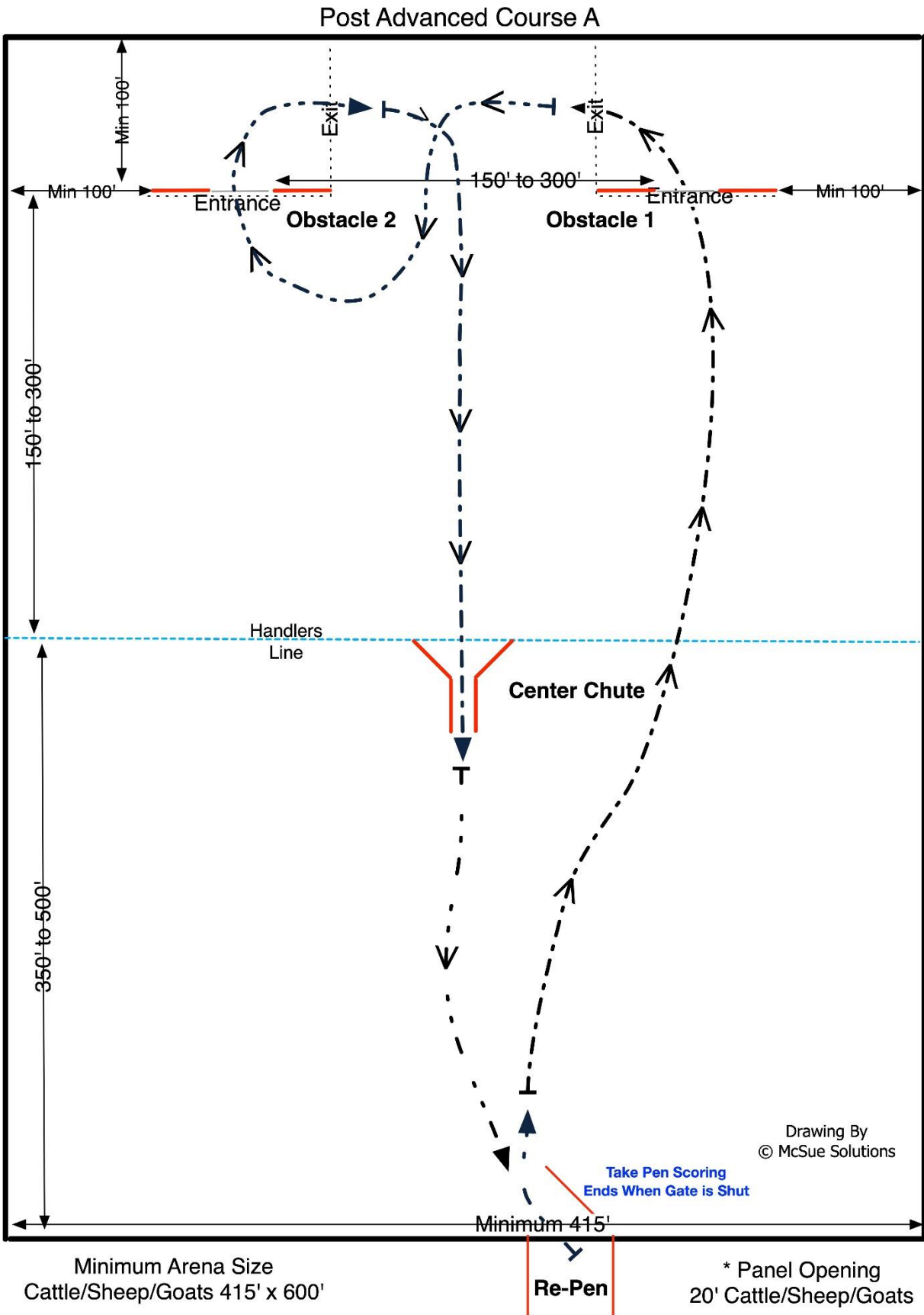
G. **Obstacle 2:** This obstacle consists of two panels, positioned parallel to the handler's line, at least 150 but not more than 300 feet from the handler's line. The Sheep/Goats and Cattle field obstacle 2 shall be at least 100 feet off any fence or perimeter. Obstacle 2 is considered passed when at least one head of livestock passes an imaginary line drawn from the end of the panel nearest obstacle 1 and the rear fence line. If the stock are driven from the area of obstacle 2 around to obstacle 1 and toward the take pen, at least one head must pass an imaginary line which extends from the end of the first panel (nearest the side fence) to the side fence so that daylight can be seen by the Judge between this line and the stock (this imaginary line is known as the daylighting line) and then the stock must be turned around to attempt the obstacle. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which the movements around the obstacle were executed.

H. **Center Pen:** The center pen consists of four panels. The center pen panels for Cattle and Sheep/Goats must be a minimum of 12 feet and a maximum of 16 feet with a gate of no less than 12 feet. The free-standing pen is made up of three sides and a gate located so that the opening of the pen, so the pen gate opens towards obstacle 2. The distance from the gate side of the pen to a plane drawn from obstacle 1 and obstacle 2 must be between 150-300 feet. The distance from the gate side of the pen to the front of the re-pen must be 350-500 feet. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which movement through the obstacle was executed. If the gate to the center pen is opened prior to the livestock clearing Obstacle 2, only those head that have cleared the Obstacle will earn course points. If no head have cleared Obstacle 2 and the handler opens the gate to the center pen, the earned course points for Obstacle 2 will be 0. Handler can verbally move on at any time. The dog is to put the stock into the pen and the handler is to close the gate in order to receive course points. The handler may assist the dog in bringing the stock out of the free-standing pen. Handlers are not required to stay at the gate while penning. Handlers cannot move more than 50 feet from the handler's line towards obstacles 1 and 2. Ability to control livestock points for this work will be subject to the manner in which this pen was completed.

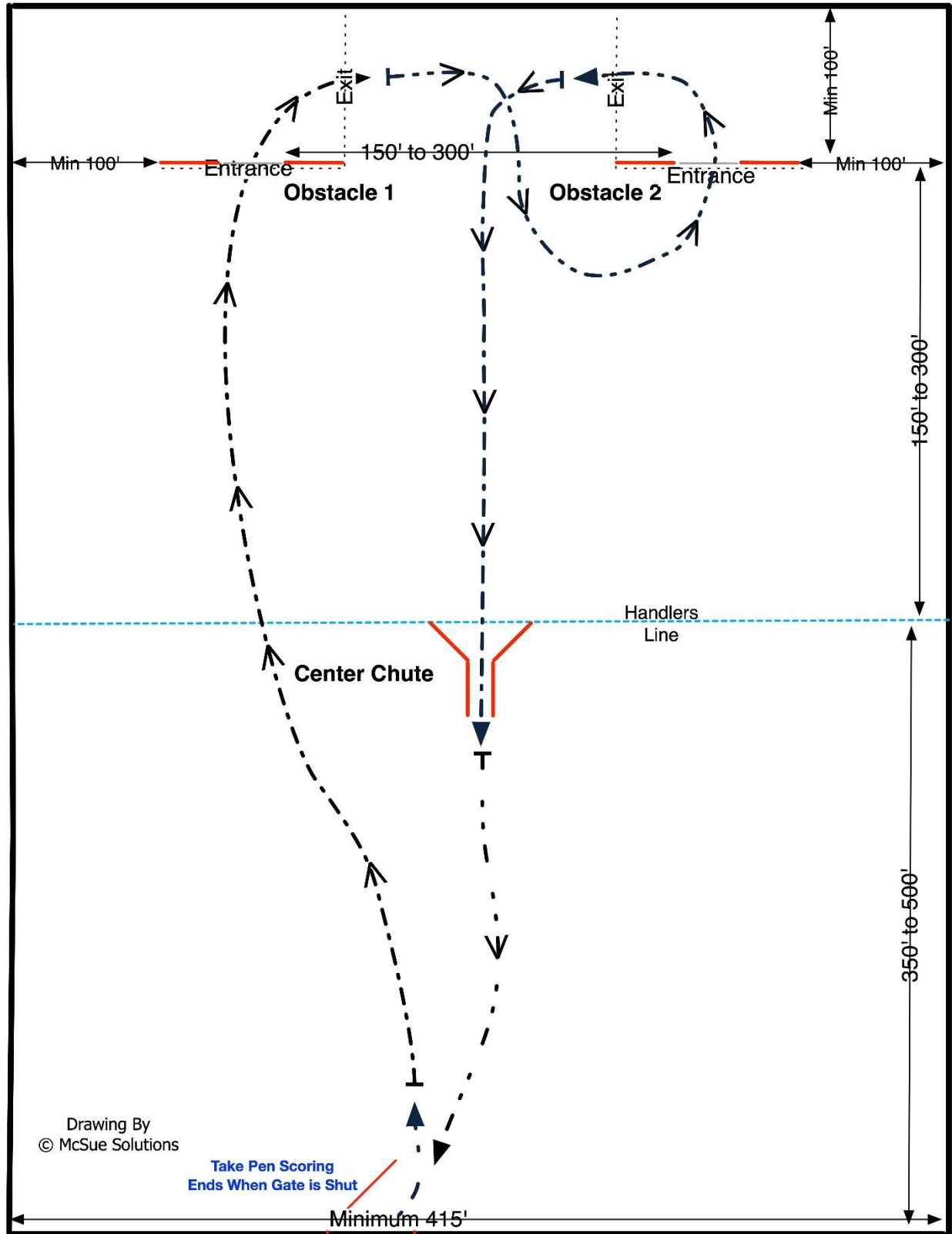
I. **Re-pen:** When the re-pen gate is opened, no further points can be earned on any other part of the course. Points for the re-pen may be earned at any time during the run.

J. **Handler Lines:** Post Advanced Handler may not step across an imaginary line drawn across the entry wings of the chute or the gate of the free-standing pen without a loss of 50% of the total points. The distance from the take/re-pen end of the pasture to the Post Advanced Handlers line must be a minimum of 350 feet, but no more than, 500 feet.

- K. **Attempts and Loss of Stock:** Each obstacle will be allowed only two attempts before the handler must move on to the next obstacle. Only course points will be lost on the failed obstacle.
- L. If the dog loses the stock from the designated Course area he will be excused, and stock handlers will retrieve the stock.



Post Advanced Course A Reversed



Drawing By
© McSue Solutions

Take Pen Scoring
Ends When Gate is Shut

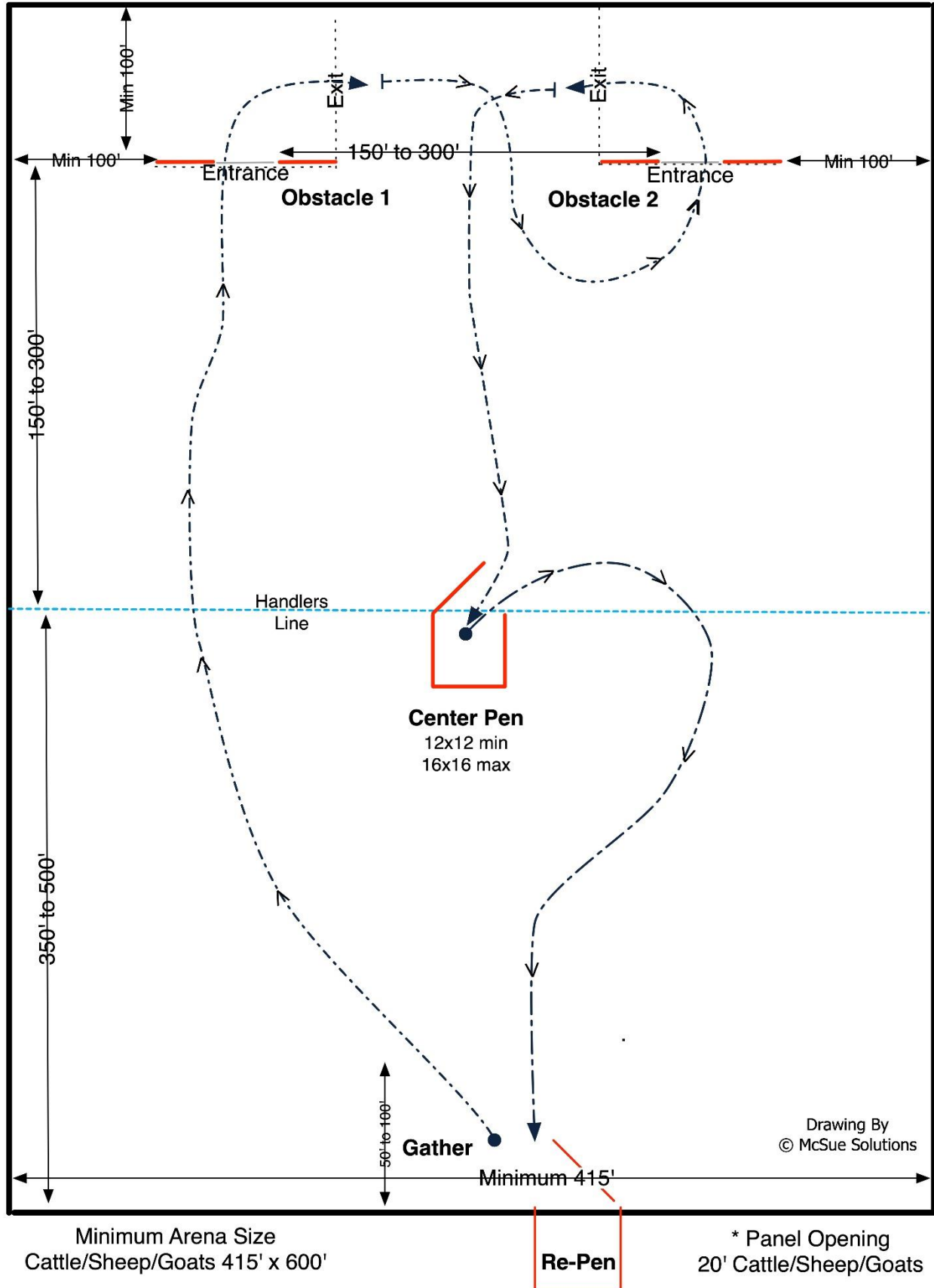
Minimum 415'

* Panel Opening
20' Cattle/Sheep/Goats

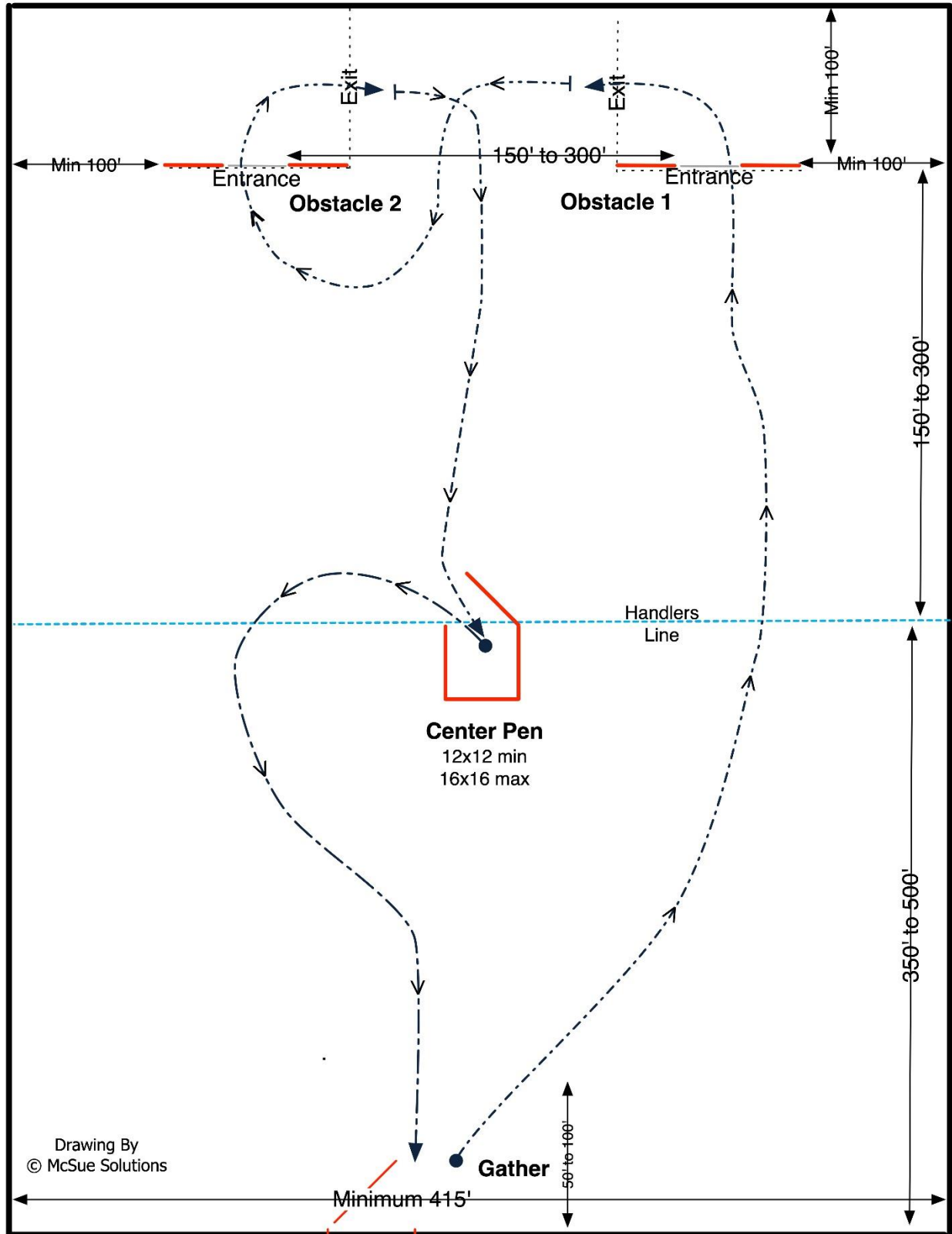
Re-Pen

Minimum Arena Size
Cattle/Sheep/Goats 415' x 600'

Post Advanced Course B



Post Advanced Course B Reversed



Drawing By
© McSue Solutions

* Panel Opening
20' Cattle/Sheep/Goats

Minimum Arena Size
Cattle/Sheep/Goats 415' x 600'

Chapter 18 Farm Trial Program

Section 18.1 Purpose and Objective

The Farm Trial program provides a variable chore-oriented venue in which to display the Australian Shepherd's practical skills as an all-around stockdog.

Section 18.2 Eligibility

The Farm Trial Program is open to all herding breeds or crossbreeds of those breeds listed in Eligible Herding Breeds (see [Appendix 5](#)). To be eligible for certification, entrants other than ASCA-Registered Australian Shepherds must have an ASCA QTracker Number.

Section 18.3 Sanctioning Requirements

18.3.1 Steps for Approval of Sanctioning

A Farm Trial Course must be approved by the Stockdog Committee. The sanctioning request must be received by the Business Office at least 60 days prior to the trial date. The Business Office will forward the request to the Stockdog Committee, who will review and return it to the Business Office at least 45 days prior to the trial date.

18.3.2 Frequency of Sanctioning

No one Farm Trial course design may be sanctioned at the same facility more than once in a 10-day period.

18.3.3 Classes Included in Sanctioning

Each sanctioned Farm Trial may consist of any or all the different classes of livestock (Cattle, Sheep, Ducks, and/or Mixed).

18.3.4 Approval of Sanctioning

The Stockdog Committee will be responsible for approving all ASCA Sanctioned Farm Trials according to the minimum standards described in [Section 18.3.6](#).

18.3.5 After Approval by the Stockdog Committee

Once approved by the Stockdog Committee all paperwork will be forwarded to the Business Office to be processed.

18.3.6 Minimum Standards

In addition to a completed ASCA Farm Trial Sanctioning Form, the following is required:

- A. Sanctioning fee.
- B. A complete description of the course and the order in which the tasks must be performed for each division (OFTD, AFTD). A description of each task will be included. The description will define where the task begins and ends and may include but is not limited to the drive/fetch to or from the task. There will be no area on the course that is not judged. Tasks, such as pen work, may be listed more than once, with the designated points allotted for each section, if portions of the tasks are separated.
- C. A compete diagram of the course which includes the pens, chute, sorting area, gather layout, natural obstacles, and any additional tasks.
- D. The size of the chutes, to include length and width, pens, gates, and gather areas.
- E. A club generated score sheet. A template with text entry for a score sheet is available on the ASCA Website under Forms and Rulebooks -Stockdog Forms-Farm Trial Score Sheet. Clubs must include on the score sheet:
 1. The Australian Shepherd Club of America
 2. Host Club's Name
 3. Date of Trial
 4. Location of trial
 5. Type of Trial (Sheep/Goats, Cattle, Poultry, or Mixed)
 6. Division
 7. List the tasks in the order that they will be accomplished with the points available for each section listed on the score sheet. Tasks such as pen work may be divided into parts and may be separated by other tasks. If the task is divided the available points for that task will be divided between the parts.
 8. A brief description of where the first task starts and where each task ends will be included on the score sheet.
 9. The Judge's name and signature.
- F. A copy of the flyer for the trial. The flyer must contain the following information:

1. Host Club, location, and date(s) of trial(s)
2. Course Director and ASCA Judge(s) name
3. Course description for each division
4. Diagram of the course
5. Maximum time for each division
6. Warning times
7. What task(s) score is used for breaking ties
8. Points for each task
9. When bitches in heat can run
10. If a set out dog is to be used
11. Maximum number of runs
12. When run order is drawn
13. Type of stock
14. Pre-entry opening and closing dates
15. All stockdog events sanctioned by the club on the same day as a Farm Trial must be listed on the flyer
16. Any other additional affiliate rules regarding entries.

Section 18.4 Regulations

The Course Director will ensure that the Judge has a copy of the Course description and map. All other rules and regulations listed in the ASCA Stockdog Rulebook will be enforced for the Farm Trial Dog Program where applicable.

Section 18.5 Farm Trial Divisions

18.5.1 Divisions

There are two Farm Trial Divisions, Open and Advanced. All dogs, whether competing for certification or not, must enter in the Open Division and progress through Advanced. Titles are earned in a division when two qualifying scores are received under two different Judges in each division and class and when official notice is received from the Business Office.

18.5.2 Moving Up

After receiving two qualifying scores in a division, regardless of whether the certificate has or has not been received from the Business Office, the dog may ~~continue to compete in that division for up to 60 days OR may~~ move up immediately to the next division in the same class of stock. If the owner does not feel ready or does not believe their dog is ready for the next division level, they may remain at the level in which they are comfortable for as long as necessary. Prizes and placements are still awarded to these dogs while competing in the division and class entered. **Effective September 27, 2022.**

18.5.3 Required Division

The Host Organization is required to offer the following divisions without priority to any division:

A. **Open Farm Trial Dog (OFTD)** is for dogs six (6) months of age or older on the day of the trial that have not earned an Open or Advanced Farm Dog Title for the class entered. Any dog that has received two qualifying scores in the Open Division may continue to compete in this division for up to a 60-day period after earning the second qualifying score regardless of whether the certificate has or has not been received. Prizes and placements are still awarded during this 60-day period. **NOTE:** In the open divisions, once a dog has earned two qualifying scores in the division you may choose to move up to the next division immediately in that class of stock or you may choose to stay in that division for up to 60 days and compete for placements and awards.

B. **Advanced Farm Trial Dog (AFTD)** is for dogs that have been certified or have qualified for Open Farm Trial Dog for the class being entered. Any dog certified Advanced Farm Trial Dog may continue to compete in the Advanced Farm Trial Dog division for that class.

Section 18.6 Livestock

18.6.1 Classes of Livestock

Classes of livestock will be Cattle, Sheep/Goats, Fowl, and/or Multiple.

- A. Cattle will have the designation (c).
- B. Sheep/Goats will have the designation (s).
- C. Fowl, which includes Ducks, Chickens, Geese, and Turkeys, will have the designation (d).

D. Multiple classes of stock may be used and will have the designation (**m**). The (**m**) will be used to indicate the dog worked multiple classes of stock in a single course.

18.6.2 Multiple Classes of Livestock

Using multiple classes of livestock within the course: The "m" in FTDm indicates acceptable work on a Farm Trial course which involved work with more than one class of livestock. **EXAMPLE:** Sheep or Goats/Cattle, Poultry/Cattle, or Poultry/Sheep or Goats.

A. Safety for all participants (including livestock) should be paramount when designing the course with multiple classes of livestock.

B. Different classes of stock must not be mixed together and are to be worked independently.

18.6.3 Minimum Number of Livestock Per Task

There must be a minimum of 5 head of stock used in all aspects of the course.

18.6.4 Number of Runs Allowed Per Head

The number of runs allowed per head of stock will be a maximum of four per day.

18.6.5 Mandatory Rest for Livestock

After a group of stock has run the course, they are required to rest at least 1 run, or the time allotted for one run, before being used in any portion of the course again.

18.6.6 Maximum Number of Runs Allowed Per Day

Maximum runs allowed per trial will be determined by length of run, number of stock available and rules governing time and number of runs a Judge can judge per day.

Section 18.7 The Farm Trial Course

18.7.1 The Course

Because of the varying setups of farms around the country, no two farm trial courses will necessarily be the same. Each course should be designed to showcase the working ability of the Australian Shepherd in the day-to-day tasks that happen on many farms. The course should not be overly complicated and should try to represent practical work type situations where a dog needs to move stock in an efficient and stress-free manner.

A. The course designer must take into account the increased difficulty for each division (OFTD, AFTD) when developing the course.

B. At least three tasks (including the gather) must have requirements increasing the difficulty between Open and Advanced. Ways to increase difficulty can include, but are not limited to, length of gather, sorts of marked animals, advanced pen/chute work, handler lines, use of drives, use of task(s) that are specific to a division, etc.

C. The difference between an open and advanced task can be in any part of the task including the designated task itself and/or any part leading up to or leaving the task.

D. When running a mixed farm trial, each class of stock must complete a minimum of three separate tasks.

18.7.2 Farm Trial Time

The minimum time required for a Farm Trial Dog Course is 10 minutes. A Farm Trial Course should mimic real work and be designed to move stock in an easy and efficient manner. There should be adequate time allotted to each course depending on its task, Class and/or Division. When running the course, each handler will be given a 3-minute warning before their time is expired. If the maximum time for the course is 20 minutes or longer a 10-minute warning should also be given.

18.7.3 Required Tasks

The following are the minimum tasks required for an ASCA Farm Trial setup.

A. **Pen Work:** Minimum of four pens needed. A pen shall be big enough for a dog to safely work around the livestock but small enough that the sense of a pen is established. An arena, pasture, large round pen, large corral, or other area not giving the feel of a pen will not be accepted. The work may include, but is not limited to, moving the stock from one pen to another. The dog should work primarily on its own in the pens. The dog remaining stationary while the handler removes the stock from the pen will not fulfill the pen work requirement. Exhausting the stock at the end of the course will not count towards the required pens. Points will be divided between the pens with the club designating on the course description the point value of each individual pen.

B. **Sorting:** At least one gate sort is required during the course regardless of division. A sort of at least 3 marked animals is required. The dog and handler will work together during the sort.

C. **Chute Work:** This work must have a purpose, e.g., a loading chute, a chute leading to a squeeze, gate, drafting race or footbath. The chute may have a stop gate to restrict exit allowing the handler to simulate performing other stock related chores. The chute will be wide enough for the animals to move through but not wide enough to allow the stock to turn around. The chute for cattle/sheep must be a minimum of 16 feet long. The chute for ducks must be a minimum of 8 feet long. Wings may be used to assist loading the animals into the chute but will not count as part of the required length. The dog and handler will work together during the chute work. Other chute activities may be used with approval of the Stockdog Committee. Any task performed will be scored as part of the chute work and not as a separate task. **EXCEPTION:** The chute for fowl must be wide enough for the dog to pass through.

D. **Gather:** Minimum area must be large enough for a 150-foot gather (Sheep/Cattle), and a 75 foot gather for Poultry. This minimum gather is the distance between dog and stock. In the Open Class, the handler may help their dog by positioning themselves up to 1/2 the distance between the dog and stock. In the Advanced Class, the handler stays at the specified point.

18.7.4 Location Specific Task(s)

Along with the 4 mandatory tasks, 2 other tasks that are specific to the course location are used. Each required task must be attempted during the course of the trial however, depending on design of the course, there may be situations where the task must be completed in order to continue. These situations must be clearly described in the flyer for the trial. During any task, time will be called for overworking stock. A list of suggested tasks is listed below. These tasks have been approved by the Stockdog Committee to fulfill this requirement. Other tasks, which are not listed below, may be used with approval from the Stockdog Committee.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. Footbath simulation | 7. Removal of halter/ribbon/collar |
| 2. Loading into trailer | 8. Field work (1 acre, but no larger than 5 acres) |
| 3. Barn work | 9. Scale (weigh stock) |
| 4. Blind gather | 10. Drafting race |
| 5. Natural obstacles/bridge | 11. Drive |
| 6. Hold at designated area | 12. Simulated medical treatment (i.e., vaccines, oral drenching, hoof trimming, banding, tagging, marking sheep, etc.) |

Section 18.8 Farm Trial Scoring

18.8.1 Farm Trial Score Sheet

The total number of points available is 130 for Open/Advanced, broken down as follows:

- | | |
|--|---|
| A. Pen Work: 25 points | F. Points may be deducted during the accomplishment of every aspect of the task. This may include but is not limited to the drive or fetch approaching or leaving the task. |
| B. Sort Work: 25 points | |
| C. Chute Work: 20 points | |
| D. Gather Work: 20 of total points | |
| E. Two Location Specific Tasks: 20 points each | |

18.8.2 Who Receives Copies of Score Sheets

All original score sheets must be sent into the ASCA Business Office postmarked no later than 14 days after the trial. A copy must be given to the competitor. If a photocopy machine is unavailable, carbonless paper is available at office supply stores. See example page at the back of the rules or on the ASCA Website under Stockdog Forms.

18.8.3 Qualifying Score

Open and Advanced Farm Trial Dogs must earn 91 or more out of 130 possible points to receive a qualifying score. If any task receives a score of zero, the run shall not qualify even if a score of 91 or higher is achieved. The handler needs to complete each task, in the proper order, as stated in the description to qualify. At the Judge's discretion, points may be deducted for handler assistance or minimal work by the dog.

18.8.4 Ties

Ties are broken by the score on a specified task(s). This task(s) must be specified on the score sheet and premium.

Section 18.9 Judging

18.9.1 Approved Judges

Only ASCA Approved Judges may be used at an ASCA sanctioned Farm Dog Trial.

18.9.2 More Than One Judge Used

If more than one Judge is used at any trial, their scores will be averaged to determine trial placing.

18.9.3 Adjustment of the Course by the Judge

It is the Judge's responsibility to see that the course complies with the trial sanctioning and the stock meet the minimum requirements needed to put on a quality Farm Trial. If conditions at the time of the Farm Trial warrant, the Judge and Course Director may consult, and if in agreement, adjustments may be made to the course or the allotted time. All required elements (pen work, sort work, chute work, gather work, and two location specific tasks) and course specifications, must still be met if any adjustments are made. In the event that a change is made to the course or the course time, the Host Club will submit a report with their trial results describing the change and the reason for it. The report will be signed by the acting Judge and the Course Director and will be forwarded to the Stockdog Committee by the Business Office.

Section 18.10 Judging Criteria

18.10.1 Task

The main objective in ranch and farm work is to get the job done in the most efficient and stress-free manner possible. Moving the stock with little or no weight loss, stress or injury is the purpose of using stock dogs. The bulk of the score earned by the dog should be for the work accomplished during each task.

18.10.2 Attitude, Obedience, Power, and Teamwork

All of these are necessary ingredients that go towards making an effective ranch or farm dog and should be considered when scoring each dog.

18.10.3 Qualifying Performance

A qualifying score must never be awarded to a dog whose performance has not met the minimum requirements. In deciding whether a dog's performance warrants a qualifying score, the Judge shall consider whether the awarding of any working title would be justified. The Judge must not give a qualifying score for a run if that qualification would not be representative of this sport and was not an example of efficiently handling livestock with a minimal amount of stress.

Chapter 19 Ranch Trial Program

Section 19.1 Eligibility

The Ranch Trial Program is open to all herding breeds or crossbreeds of those breeds listed in [Appendix 5](#). To be eligible for certification, entrants other than ASCA Registered Australian Shepherds must have an ASCA QTracker Number (see [Section 2.2](#).)

Section 19.2 Ranch Trial Sanctioning

19.2.1 Approval of Sanctioning

A Ranch Trial Course must be approved by the Ranch Trial Sanctioning Committee. The sanctioning request must be received by the Business Office at least 60 days prior to the trial date. The Business Office will forward the request to the Ranch Trial Committee, who will review and return it to the Business Office at least 30 days prior to the trial date. The Ranch Trial Sanctioning Committee will be responsible for approving all ASCA Sanctioned Ranch Trials according to the minimum standards described in [Section 19.5](#).

19.2.2 Included with Sanctioning Request

The application for sanctioning of a ranch trial by a host club will contain the following:

- A. Sanctioning fee.
- B. Host club, location, and date(s) of trial(s).
- C. Course Director's name, address, and ASCA membership number.
- D. ASCA Stockdog Judge(s).
- E. Total number of livestock that will be on hand.
- F. A diagram of the pens, chute, sorting area, and the pasture layout to include all measurements, fences, gates, and any terrain changes (lakes, ponds, swamps, or wooded sections etc. that occur in the pasture). Photographs may be required to assess the workability of the course.

- G. A description of the order in which the tasks must be performed.
- H. A copy of the flyer for the trial. The course description and diagram must appear on the flyer.

19.2.3 Maximum Number of Runs Per Day

Maximum runs allowed per day will be 20, provided there is enough stock available.

19.2.4 After Approval

Once approved by the Ranch Trial Sanctioning Committee, all paperwork will be forwarded to the Business Office for processing.

Section 19.3 Regulations

All other rules and regulations listed in the Stockdog Rulebook will be enforced for the Ranch Trial Dog Program where applicable.

Section 19.4 Livestock

19.4.1 Classes of Livestock

Classes of livestock will be Sheep or Goats, and / or Cattle.

19.4.2 Minimum Number of Head Per Run

Livestock allotted to each run will be a minimum of 10 head. The number of runs allowed per head of stock will be a maximum of four per day.

Section 19.5 Ranch Trial Course

19.5.1 The Course

Because of the varying setups of ranches and farms around the country, no two ranch trial courses will necessarily be the same. The Ranch Trial Program was set up to simulate ranch type work and no restrictions to the handler shall be added. The following are minimum requirements for a trial setup.

19.5.2 Time

The total amount of time allowed for each dog will be 20 minutes with two warnings, one at ten minutes and one at five minutes. More time may be allowed on extra-large courses at the discretion of the Ranch Trial Sanctioning Committee as recommended by the Course Director.

19.5.3 Pen Work

Minimum of ten head required at the start. Minimum of two pens needed. The work will include, but is not limited to, moving the stock from one pen to another before and after sort and/or chute work. The dog should work primarily on its own in the pens.

19.5.4 Sorting

Minimum of ten head required at the start. At least one sort is required. Work required includes the sorting of a minimum three animals and moving them to a separate pen and/or holding them in a designated area. A drafting race may be used to sort Sheep/Goats. The dog and handler may work together during sorting. Animals to be sorted may either be marked prior to the run or designated by the Judge during the run.

19.5.5 Chute Work

Will include use of a loading chute, squeeze chute or drafting race. The stock must be put into the chute from a pen, run through the chute and out of it. With a loading chute the stock should be loaded onto a trailer or truck. The dog and handler may work together during the chute work.

19.5.6 Pasture Work

A minimum of ten head to be worked throughout the pasture portion of the work.

A. Minimum pasture size is five usable acres. The minimum area of 5 acres must not have cross fencing. Areas of the pasture will be considered 'usable' if the judge has a clear view of the work being done by the dog. Lakes, ponds, swamps, and woods that are unusable will not count towards the minimum 5 acres but may be part of the course.

B. The work may be done before or after the corral work. Pasture work can be a gather and/or a drive, from or to a designated area. The distance of the gather and/or drive will be determined by the pasture setup but must be great enough to indicate that the dog is capable of effective ranch work, and to allow the dog to demonstrate its ability to maintain good control of its stock in a pasture setting.

C. Which task(s) is performed (gather and/or drive) will be determined by the trial course. The dog should work primarily on its own with assistance from the handler kept to a minimum.

D. Handler may be on horseback or ATV if the size of the course requires it.

E. Time will be called for overworking stock.

Section 19.6 Ranch Trial Scoring

19.6.1 Score Sheet

The total number of points available is 100, broken down as follows:

A. Pen Work = 20 points

C. Chute Work = 20 points

B. Sort Work = 20 points

D. Pasture Work = 40 points

19.6.2 Qualifying Score

A dog must earn 75 or more out of 100 possible points to receive a qualifying score.

19.6.3 Certification and Title

A dog must earn a qualifying score to be certified. A dog that has qualified at a Ranch Trial earns the right to use the title RTD (class of stock).

Section 19.7 Judging

19.7.1 Approved Judges

Only ASCA approved Judges may be used at ASCA sanctioned Ranch Dog Trials.

19.7.2 More Than One Judge

If more than one Judge is used at any trial their scores will be averaged to determine trial placements. Or if the course requires it (due to large size or poor visibility from corral to pasture), one Judge may judge the corral work and one Judge may judge the pasture work. These scores will then be totaled for the dog's score.

19.7.3 Responsibility of Course and Stock Requirements

It is the Judge's responsibility to see the course and stock meet the minimum requirements needed to put on a quality trial that would justify the certification of any dogs.

Section 19.8 Judging Criteria

19.8.1 Task

The main objective in ranch and farm work is to get the job done in the most efficient and stress-free manner possible. Moving the stock where you want with little or no weight loss, stress or injury is why we use trained dogs. The bulk of the score earned by the dog should be for the work accomplished during each task.

19.8.2 Style, Attitude, Obedience, Power and Handler

All of these are necessary ingredients that go towards making an effective ranch or farm dog and should be considered when scoring each dog.

19.8.3 Qualifying Performance

A qualifying score must never be awarded to a dog whose performance has not met the minimum requirements. In deciding whether a dog's performance warrants a qualifying score, the Judge shall consider whether the awarding of any working title would be justified. The Judge must not give a qualifying score for a run if that qualification would not be representative of this sport and was not an example of efficiently handling livestock with a minimal amount of stress.

Chapter 20 Ranch Dog Inspection

Section 20.1 Purpose and Objectives

20.1.1 Purpose of Ranch Dog Inspection

This program is designed to give recognition to those individual herding dogs of any breed that have proven themselves to be of valuable assistance to their owner in his everyday ranch, farm work, day work or in stockyards, auctions, rodeos, and related work. "Everyday ranch work" in this instance does not mean seven days a week every week but every day that the owner performs his usual work wherein he could use the assistance of a good dog.

20.1.2 Qualification of Applicant

It is not the intention of this program to recognize those dogs that may be trained well enough to assist in farm or ranch work if the owner were to some day in the future have such an operation. The owner must qualify as being a rancher, farmer, outside day worker, rodeo worker, etc. and the dog must have proven to be a valuable asset in the period prior to application for a test.

Section 20.2 Place of Test

20.2.1 Where Testing Takes Place

Because the dog is required to demonstrate his past and present abilities in assisting the owner in his livestock operation, the test must be a part of the everyday work of the owner and in a place or situation where the dog and owner have been working in the past.

20.2.2 What Type of Test

The test cannot be in a manufactured setting where the task might simulate in general what the dog and owner might do for a living.

Section 20.3 Requirements for Application for a Ranch Dog Request

20.3.1 Application

The Ranch Dog application must be sent to the Business Office and must be postmarked at least 60 days prior to the proposed inspection date. The Business Office shall forward the request to the Ranch Trial Sanctioning Committee. The Ranch Trial Sanctioning Committee shall have 30 days to consider the application and to request clarifications on any details on the application and to request changes to the tasks to be judged. The applicant shall respond to any and all requests within this 30-day period. The Ranch Trial Sanctioning Committee shall then either approve or deny the application and return it to the Business Office.

20.3.2 Selecting a Judge

It is the applicant's responsibility to engage an ASCA Stockdog Judge to conduct the inspection and to inform the Business Office who the Judge shall be. The Business Office shall then forward the application and score sheets to the Judge in a timely manner.

20.3.3 Declaring Stock Work as Part of Livelihood

The applicant must state in the application that at least part of his/her livelihood is derived from working with livestock in occupations as listed in [Section 20.1](#).

20.3.4 Declaring Valuable Use of Dog

The applicant must state in the application that the dog(s) is/are of valuable assistance in performing the tasks listed.

20.3.5 Stating Where the Test Will Take Place

The applicant must state in the application the location of the inspection and the proximity of this location to the applicant's current residence.

20.3.6 Detailing Work to Be Judged

The applicant must diagram or describe the tasks on which the dog (s) will be judged. This must be sufficiently detailed for the RTSC to determine that the work is worthy of being judged.

20.3.7 Fees, Ownership, and ASCA Membership

The application fees shall be \$10.00 for the first dog and \$5.00 for each additional dog. The applicant must own or co-own the dog(s) to be inspected. The applicant must be a Full Member or Service Member of ASCA. A check or money order made payable to ASCA must be included with the application.

Section 20.4 Work Requirements

20.4.1 Requirements of Tasks

The task or tasks must be actual work performed in a normal working situation depending on the type of operation.

20.4.2 What is Required

In demonstrating his ability to assist his owner, the dog will be expected to drive and/or fetch if necessary, to gather, to pen or hold and to take general directions - whatever is required to assist the handler in his duties.

Section 20.5 Working Teams

If any two dogs work in their daily routine as a team, a request for an inspection of both dogs must be made at the same time. The dogs will be judged on separate score sheets and will be scored in the same manner as a dog working alone. Each dog will receive credit for his part in the team.

Section 20.6 Inspections

20.6.1 Approved Judges

The Ranch Dog will be viewed and scored only by an ASCA Approved Judge.

20.6.2 Judges Fees

Either an ASCA Affiliate Club or an individual may request the services of a Judge to inspect their area. They must make the necessary arrangements for transportation, food, and lodging, in addition to the inspection fee.

20.6.3 Receiving Ranch Dog Inspection Forms

The owners desiring inspection may request inspection applications from the Business Office or download them from the ASCA Website.

Section 20.7 Judging Criteria

20.7.1 Paperwork to Be Sent to the Judge

A copy of the application, which will include the diagram, and description of the tasks performed must be sent to the Judge prior to the inspection by the Business Office.

20.7.2 What is Judged/Additional Work Requirement

The dog will be judged solely on the basis of this application. No Judge shall require any dog or handler to do anything, nor shall they penalize a dog/handler for failing to do anything that was not listed in the application submitted and passed by the Stockdog Committee as sufficient work to be judged by.

20.7.3 Changes to the Original Task Description

Because ranching and livestock are variable, the applicant may make any changes necessary to carry out the inspection. It will then be up to the Judge to determine if these changes are consistent with the original tasks submitted and judge the dog accordingly. The Judge will report these changes to the Business Office who will notify the Stockdog Committee of any changes made to the original application.

20.7.4 Scoring

All dogs will be judged on a pass/fail basis with an Evaluation Form of the dog's natural ability, training, and performance filled out by the Judge. The Judge is to make an evaluation as to whether the dog is or is not a valuable asset to the owner and has fulfilled the tasks described in the application. The applicant will receive a copy of the form and a copy will go to the Business Office.

Chapter 21 Qualifying Scores

Section 21.1 Qualifying Scores

21.1.1 Qualifying Score Make-Up

A qualifying score shall be comprised of points earned from both course and dog's ability to control livestock as defined for that division and earned at an ASCA sanctioned trial.

21.1.2 Qualifying Started Dogs

Started Trial Dogs must earn 69 or more of 100 possible points to receive a qualifying score. The center chute, the freestanding pen, or the "elbow" found in Course E are not required for a Started Trial Dog and no course or control points will be awarded for these obstacles.

21.1.3 Qualifying Open Dogs

Open Trial Dogs must earn 88 or more out of 125 possible points to receive a qualifying score. The handler in this division will not be permitted to step across an imaginary line drawn across the width of the arena. This line is to be adequately marked with something visible to both handler and Judges and shall not interfere with the movement of the stock. This line may not be stepped across at any time during the run without a penalty of 15 points.

21.1.4 Qualifying Advanced Dogs

Advanced Trial Dogs must earn 88 or more out of 125 possible points to receive a qualifying score. The handler in this division will not be permitted to step across an imaginary line drawn across: the entry wings of the center chute or the gate of the free-standing pen to the fences on either side of the arena for courses A or B; or 125' from obstacle 2 down towards the re-pen end of the arena for courses D, E, or F; or 125' from the bottom corner of the panel obstacles 1 and 2 down to the exit end of the chute for Course C. This line may not be stepped across during the run without a loss of 50% of the total points earned during the entire run. **EXCEPTION:** While working the free-standing pen in Course B, Course D, and Course F (see [Section 10.1.1.G](#), [Section 12.1.1.I](#), [Section 14.1.1.I](#)).

21.1.5 Qualifying Post-Advanced Dogs

Post-Advanced Trial Dogs must earn 88 or more out of 125 possible points to receive a qualifying score. Course points may be awarded for the take pen or gather in Course B, obstacle 1, obstacle 2, chute or free-standing pen in Course B and the re-pen, for a total possible score 125. The handler in this division will not be permitted to step across an imaginary line drawn across the entry wings of the center chute or the gate of the free-standing pen to the fences on either side of the arena. This line may not be stepped across during the run without a loss of 50% of the total points earned during the entire run. **EXCEPTION:** While working the free-standing pen (see [Section 10.1.1.G](#)).

21.1.6 Qualifying Farm Trial Dogs

Open and Advanced Farm Trial Dogs must earn 91 or more out of 130 possible points to receive a qualifying score. If any task receives a score of zero, the run shall not qualify even if a score of 91 or higher is achieved.

21.1.7 Qualifying Ranch Trial Dogs

Ranch Trial Dogs must earn 75 or more out of 100 possible points to receive a qualifying score. The trial must include pen work, sorting, chute work and pasture work. This program was set up to simulate ranch type work and no handler restrictions shall be allowed.

21.1.8 Qualifying Ranch Dog Inspection

Ranch Dog Inspection will be judged on a pass/fail basis. This program is designed to recognize individual herding dogs that prove they are a valuable assistance to their owner in everyday ranch work, farm work, daily work, or in stockyards, auctions, rodeos, day worker, rodeo worker, etc. The location of the test must be where the dog actually works, and the work performed will be under normal working situations depending on the type of operation.

Chapter 22 Titles

Section 22.1 Titles

22.1.1 Requirements to Earn Title

Titles are earned when two qualifying scores are received under two different Judges and when official title is received from the Business Office. **EXCEPTION:** The Ranch Trial Dog and Ranch Dog titles require only one qualifying score to be certified. The requirements for titles listed in [Section 20.1.2.J-N](#) must be satisfied as stated in the respective rule.

22.1.2 Available Titles

Titles that may be awarded are:

- A. **Started Trial Dog** - STD (class of stock)
- B. **Open Trial Dog** - OTD (class of stock)
- C. **Advanced Trial Dog** - ATD (class of stock)
- D. **Working Trial Champion** - WTCH (awarded to dogs who receive ATD titles in all three classes of stock)
- E. **Post Advanced Trial Dog** - PATD (class of stock)
- F. **Open Farm Trial Dog** - OFTD (class of stock)
- G. **Advanced Farm Trial Dog** - AFTD (class of stock)
- H. **Ranch Trial Dog** - RTD (class of stock)
- I. **Ranch Dog** - RD
- J. **Advanced Trial Dog Multiple Courses** - ATD-M (class of stock). Scores on each course must be received from 2 different judges. Awarded to Advanced Trial Dogs who have completed these additional requirements:
 - 1. Two qualifying scores on Course A
 - 2. Two qualifying scores on Course B
 - 3. Three of the following six options (for a total of 6 additional qualifying scores):
 - i. Two qualifying scores on Course C
 - ii. Two qualifying scores on Course D
 - iii. Two qualifying scores on Course E
 - iv. Two qualifying scores on Course F
 - v. Two qualifying scores on Course G
 - vi. Two qualifying scores on Course H
- K. **Advanced Farm Trial Dog - X** (AFTD-X (class of stock) - This title is for dogs that have earned FOUR scores over 110 in an advanced class, i.e., AFTD-Xc, AFTD-Xs, AFTD-Xd or AFTD-Xm.
- L. **Farm Trial Champion** (FTCH) - This title is for dogs that have earned their AFTD-X in all four classes of stock, i.e., cattle, sheep, ducks, and any combination of mixed. This would be a total of 16 advanced farm trial scores over 110.
- M. **Working Trial Champion M** - WTCH-M (awarded to dogs who receive ATD-M titles in all three classes of stock).
- N. **Advanced Trial Dog Excellent** - ATD-X (class of stock). Scores on each course must be received from 2 different judges. Awarded to Advanced Trial Dogs who have completed these additional requirements:
 - 1. Two scores of 100 or higher on Course A
 - 2. Two scores of 100 or higher on Course B
 - 3. Three of the following six options (for a total of 6 additional scores of 100 or higher):
 - i. Two scores of 100 or higher on Course C
 - ii. Two scores of 100 or higher on Course D
 - iii. Two scores of 100 or higher on Course E
 - iv. Two scores of 100 or higher on Course F
 - v. Two scores of 100 or higher on Course G
 - vi. Two scores of 100 or higher on Course H
- O. **Working Trial Champion X** - WTCH-X (awarded to dogs who receive ATD-X titles in all 3 classes of stock).
- P. **Stockdog Champion** - SDCH - awarded to dogs that have completed the following requirements:
 - 1. Working Trial Champion - X
 - 2. Advanced Farm Dog on cattle and one other stock
 - 3. Ranch Trial Dog on Sheep and cattle
 - 4. Post advanced Trial Dog on sheep and cattle

Chapter 23 Stockdog Merit Program

Section 23.1 Purpose

This program will be to recognize the Top Ten Year End Winners from the Stockdog Program.

Section 23.2 The Top Ten Year End Winners

Winners will be awarded in each of the following areas of competition:

1. Advanced Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese.
2. Open Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese.
3. Started Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese.
4. Post Advanced Cattle and Sheep/Goats

Section 23.3 How Points are Earned

23.3.1 Base Score

A base score will be used. This score will be the highest score received in each area of competition for the year.

23.3.2 Additional Placement Points

Class placement points as follows will be added to the base score for each area of competition:

First = 5 points	Second = 4 points	Third = 3 points	Fourth = 2 points
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At least one dog must be beaten in order to receive the points.

23.3.3 High in Trial Points

Additional points will be earned for going High in Trial Aussie for each class of stock (Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese) as follows:

10 or less dogs beaten = 5 points	21 - 30 dogs beaten = 15 points
11 - 20 dogs beaten = 10 points	31 - 40 dogs beaten = 20 points

These points will be added to the score earned from the class of stock the dog competed in.

23.3.4 Figuring Year End Score

The base score plus additional points earned throughout the working year will determine the Top Ten dogs in each area of competition.

23.3.5 When Points Are Earned

Points for all divisions may be earned for the Merit program up to 60 days from receiving the second qualifying score in a division.

23.3.6 Scores Used to Earn Points

Both qualifying and non-qualifying scores will be used to earn points. **NOTE:** High Combined cannot be used because the scores are only earned for each division and class of stock. Dogs can be eligible for more than one division/class within the year.

Chapter 24 ASCA Stockdog Finals

Section 24.1 Runs

24.1.1 Jurisdiction of Finals

The Stockdog Finals will be run in conjunction with the National Specialty each year. The Finals are under the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has the sole responsibility for overseeing all aspects of the Stockdog Finals including disputes.

24.1.2 Number of Go-Rounds

The Stockdog Finals will consist of two Elimination go-rounds and one Final go-round in each class of stock. This may be done on two or more days at the discretion of the Host Club. The schedule shall be listed in the premium list. Changes in go-rounds, stock, or entries due to any hardship must be approved by the Board of Directors.

24.1.3 Run Order

The random draw for run order of the Elimination go-round will be done by the Business Office after entries close.

Day of, if there is a scratch and an alternate is used to replace the scratch, the alternate will have the same draw for run order. Final go-round run order will be random draw assigned to the placing rank of the Elimination go-round total scores.

The random draw for run order of the 1st and 2nd Elimination go-rounds will be done by the Business Office after entries close. Run orders are to be posted at each stock site on the morning of runs. Day of, if there is a scratch and an alternate is used to replace the scratch, the alternate will have the same draw for run order. Final go-round run order will be random draw assigned to the placing rank of the Elimination go-rounds total scores. The Final go-round run order will be posted at each stock site on the morning of the runs.

24.1.4 Take Pens

~~For each class of stock, at least one round must include a take pen.~~

Section moved to 24.2.1 effective 6-1-2022.

24.1.5 Number of Entries

The maximum entry for the Finals Trial is twenty-five (25) dogs per class of stock. In the event there are more than twenty-five (25) dogs, ties will be broken as follows:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| A. Average the top three scores for that Stockdog Finals year | C. Highest individual score |
| B. Average the top two scores for that Stockdog Finals year | D. Draw |

Section 24.2 Eligibility

24.2.1 Take Pens

~~For each class of stock, at least one round must include a take pen.~~

Section moved from 24.1.4 effective 6-1-2022.

24.2.2 Eligible Dogs

Only ASCA registered Australian Shepherds owned by ASCA members with full member privileges may accumulate points towards ASCA Stockdog Finals. NO LEP dogs are allowed to participate in Stockdog Finals. Eligible dogs must have accumulated four or more points in each class of stock that the dog will be competing in at the Finals. Points from each class of stock must be earned under at least two different Judges and must be received from the Advanced Divisions.

24.2.3 Classes of Stock

Eligible classes of stock are: Cattle, Sheep/Goats and Ducks/Geese.

24.2.4 Time Frame and Notification

Eligible points will be those received during the ASCA Finals year. The ASCA Finals year will be the twelve-month period from June 1st of the previous year to May 31st of the year the Finals are held. The Business Office will send the National Specialty Host Club a Stockdog Finals entry form for each dog and the random draw order for the Elimination and Final go-rounds by the close of the pre-entries for the National Specialty.

24.2.5 Earning Finals Points

Qualifying points towards eligibility in the Stockdog Finals for each class of stock are earned in the following ways:

- One point for each score received of 100 or more on Course A or B.
- One and a half (1 1/2) points for each score received of 100 or more on Course C, D, E, F, G, and H.
- Two points for each score received of 100 or more points on Post Advanced A and B.
- One point for each qualifying score that earns High in Trial Aussie in Class of Stock (Cattle, Sheep/Goats, Ducks/Geese) at a trial for Course A, B, C, D, E, F, G, or H.
- HIT Cattle and the HIT Sheep/Goat Post Advanced Aussie each receive an extra point towards finals qualification.

EXAMPLES:

1. A Sheep/Goats score of 97 on Course B that goes High in Trial Aussie in Sheep/Goats at a trial, that dog earns 1 point toward Sheep/Goats for the Finals.	5. A dog scores 106 on Course B and High in Trial Aussie in Ducks/Geese at a trial; he earns 2 points towards Ducks/Geese for the Finals.
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2. A dog scores 107 in Cattle on Course A but places second against High in Trial Aussie in Cattle; he earns 1 point towards Cattle in the Finals.	6. A dog scores a 99 on sheep/goats and DOES NOT get High in Trial Aussie in Sheep/Goats at a trial, he earns no points (0) towards the Finals.
3. A dog scores 105 in Cattle on Course C but places second against High in Trial Aussie in Cattle; he earns 1.5 points towards Cattle in the Finals.	7. A dog scores 101 in Cattle on Course D but places second against High in Trial Other Breed in Cattle; he earns 2.5 points towards Cattle in the Finals.
4. A dog scores 100 on Course F and High in Trial Aussie in Sheep/Goats at a trial; he earns 2.5 points towards Sheep/Goats for the Finals.	8. A dog scores a 117 in Sheep on Post -Advanced A and is High in Trial Sheep/Goats; he earns 3 points towards the Sheep Finals.

24.2.6 Eligibility

In order to be eligible to compete in a class of stock in the Stockdog Finals, a dog must accumulate at least four points in that class of stock.

24.2.7 Alternate Selection

When more than 25 dogs earn four or more points in any class of stock, the minimum number of points needed to be eligible to compete in the Stockdog Finals in that class of stock will be raised to whatever number of points the last alternate dog selected has earned (see [Section 24.3.3](#)).

EXAMPLE: More than 25 dogs have earned four or more points in any class of stock. The number of points needed to qualify will be established by the number of points earned by the last alternate dog. If the last alternate dog selected has earned six (6) points on a given class of stock, the minimum number of points needed to be eligible for that class of stock would then be raised to six (6) points.

Section 24.3 Verification

24.3.1 Notification

Using USPS First Class mail, the Business Office will notify all eligible competitors who have qualified for Finals. The letter will be postmarked no later than July 1st of the Finals year. If a competitor believes he/she is Finals eligible and has not received a notifying letter by July 8th of the Finals year, he/she shall notify the Business Office concerning this potential problem.

24.3.2 Entry Deadline

All eligible contestants must verify that they will be competing at the Stockdog Finals by filling out an official entry form and sending it and the entry fees to the Business Office. The verification must be clearly postmarked by July 15th of the Stockdog Finals year. The Business Office will forward these forms along with random draw order for the Elimination and Final go-rounds to the Host Club by the close of the pre-entries for the National Specialty. Entry fees will be refunded, if a competitor withdraws prior to the event and the spot is filled by an alternate.

24.3.3 Number of Alternates Allowed

A. Only twenty-five (25) dogs will be eligible to compete in Finals in each class of stock. When more than twenty-five (25) dogs qualify in any class of stock, notification will be sent to all eligible alternates in that class of stock. Notifications will be sent out at the same time qualifiers are notified. In the event that any class of stock fails to fill the twenty-five (25) entries, alternates will be invited by the Business Office in the order in which they are ranked at the end of the trial year.

B. Alternates will become eligible in the order they are ranked when a qualifier fails to verify their intent to attend the Finals by the due date or withdraws from the event at any time. Alternates must verify their intent to attend the National Finals by filling out an official entry form and sending it to the Business Office by the due date indicated on the notification. Alternates will submit payment to the Business Office only when they become eligible and are notified by the Business Office of their acceptance into Finals.

C. In the event there are two or more dogs with the same number of points in the twenty-fifth (25th) position of any class of stock, ties will be broken as follows:

1. Average the top three scores for that Stockdog Finals year
2. Average the top two scores for that Stockdog Finals year
3. Highest individual score
4. Draw

24.3.4 Contestant Withdrawal Prior to First Go-Round

If an eligible contestant(s) scratch(s) on day of first elimination round and one or more of the first ten alternates per class of stock are available to replace the scratch, the next in line alternate will pay their entry fee and become eligible. They will have the same draw for run order as the contestant that scratched.

24.3.5 Publication of Top 25 Dogs

The Business Office will publish in each issue of the Aussie Times a current list of the Top 25 dogs that have qualified for the Finals in Cattle, Sheep/goats, and Ducks/geese.

Section 24.4 Fees

24.4.1 Fee Charged

The entry fee charged for the Stockdog Finals will be determined by the Board of Directors, or by the Stockdog Committee if so directed.

24.4.2 Use of Entry Fees

Entry fee money will be used to cover any expenses that the Host Organization may incur while putting on the Stockdog Finals as well as for awards for the top Stockdog Finals winners. The host club will submit their expenses to the Board of Directors. When all expenses have been met, any additional moneys will be used to help cover the following years Stockdog Finals.

24.4.3 Event Membership Dues

Additional Event Membership dues of \$1.00 per entry (run) will be charged to Affiliate Clubs hosting ASCA sanctioned trials. These dues will be sent along with the trial result forms to the Business Office. This money will only be used to support the expenses of the Stockdog Finals program. Affiliate Clubs who wish to donate money or prizes for the Stockdog Finals are encouraged to do so. Additional Event Membership dues of \$.25 per entry (run) will be charged to Affiliate Clubs hosting ASCA sanctioned trials.

24.4.4 Payback

The Business Office and Treasurer will keep an accounting of all money, keeping donations for prize money separated from expense money. The Business Office or the Treasurer will inform the Board of Directors as to how much each placing will pay and how much expense money was earned throughout the year.

Section 24.5 Awards

See Section 24.1 in the National Specialty Rule Book (<https://www.asca.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/nationalspecialtyrules.pdf>).

24.5.1 Payback Donation

All of the money donated to ASCA for Stockdog Finals payback must be used for prize money at the Stockdog Finals only. This money will be divided into thirds, with one-third going for each class of stock. Any unused prize money will revert to the Finals Fund for the following year.

24.5.2 Placements to Receive Payback

All classes will pay to four places. The money will be split as follows: first place - 40%, second place - 30%, third place - 20%, fourth place - 10%. All placing will be awarded including non-qualifying scores.

Section 24.6 Judging

24.6.1 Number of Judges

One Judge will be used per class of stock during each Elimination round. The Judge will be randomly assigned to a class of stock for each Elimination go-round and will rotate to a different stock for the second elimination go-round.

24.6.2 Total Score Calculation

The scores from all go-rounds will be totaled to determine the placements (Elimination go-round scores will be used). There will be four scores from the first two Elimination go-rounds and four scores from the Final go-round.

24.6.3 Dogs That Move to the Third Go-Round

The 15 dogs earning the highest scores in the Elimination go-rounds will move on to compete in the Finals go-round. In the case of a tie score for fifteenth, all the dogs earning that score will move on.

24.6.4 Judging and Scores of the Final Go-Round

All three (3) Judges will be used to judge the Final go-round in each class of stock. All scores given by the three (3) Judges, in each elimination go-round and final go-round, including non-qualifying, will be used in the total and final score.

24.6.5 Placements

There will be 10 placements after the Final go-round. Each score from the Elimination go-rounds and the three (3) scores used in the Final go-round will determine placements. If there is a tied final score for placements 1st-4th, a winner will be determined by run-off at the discretion of the Senior judge. Ties for placements 5th-10th will be broken by methods listed below (see A and B). If a run-off is not possible due to extenuating circumstances, the following criteria will be used to break ties:

- A. Taking the total combined highest average score from all three go-rounds for dog's ability to control livestock for the set-up and work at center or free-standing obstacle.
- B. Taking the total combined highest average score from all three go-rounds for dog's ability to control livestock for the cross-drive through obstacle 2 on Course A, B, C, and Post Advanced, or through obstacle 3 on Course D, E, and F.

24.6.6 Title of Winner in Each Class

There will be a Stockdog Finals winner from each class of stock. The winner will carry the title of: (year won) ASCA Champion (Class) Dog. Second place winner will carry the title of: (year won) ASCA Reserve Champion (class) Dog.

24.6.7 Supreme Title

If one dog wins all three classes, that dog will carry the title of: (year won) ASCA Supreme Stockdog.

24.6.8 Courses to Be Used

All dogs will work the Advanced Course and/or the Post Advanced course. If the Post Advanced course is used, it can only be used for the second or third (last) go-round.

24.6.9 Rules for Finals

All ASCA Stockdog Rules and Regulations will apply with the following exceptions:

- A. Qualifying scores and High in Trial awards will not be applied toward ASCA certification or toward the next year's Stockdog Finals.
- B. Only dogs eligible for the Finals may compete.
- C. Only ASCA registered Australian Shepherds are eligible to compete.
- D. The Stockdog Judges will not be allowed to judge more than 60 runs per day, for a period longer than 12 hours.

Section 24.7 Courses

24.7.1 Selection of Arena Courses for Finals

The arena courses used for Finals will be determined by a random draw. The random draw for Finals arena courses will be done no earlier than 72 hours prior to the first day of Finals. The date, time, and location of the random draw will be announced to the contestants and will be open to the public. All ASCA arena courses will be included in the draw, as long as the size of the arena meets the requirements for the course. The following rules will be followed when selecting each arena course for each class of stock.

1. A draw will be done for each of the three (3) go-rounds for each class of stock.
2. If an arena is smaller than the minimum size required for Course C, Course C will not be included in the drawing for any go-round using this arena.
 - a. If the final go-round is held in a larger arena that does meet the minimum size requirements, Course C will be included in the draw for the final go-round.
3. Each course will be used only once in the three go-rounds for each class of stock. Once a course is drawn, it will be eliminated from any future draws for that class of stock.
4. Course selection for the first two go-rounds on a class of stock may not include both Course A and Course B.
 - a. If Course A is drawn for the first go-round on a class of stock, Course B must be removed from the draw for the second go-round on that class of stock.
 - b. If course B is drawn for the first go-round on a class of stock, Course A must be removed from the draw for the second go-round on that class of stock.

Example: If either Course A or Course B are drawn for cattle on the first go-round, both Course A and Course B must be removed from the drawing for cattle on the second go-round with the drawn course removed from the draw for the final go-round. **New section effective 6-1-2022.**

Section 24.8 Selection of Finals Judges

24.8.1 Request for Judges

Once the host club, location, and dates for the finals have been determined, the Business Office will send a letter to all Judges to determine who is available to judge.

24.8.2 Determining Availability and Qualifications

Judges for the Stockdog Finals will be selected from all ASCA Stockdog Judges who return the questionnaire to the Business Office by the designated date and indicate they would be available. Information provided by the Stockdog Judges will be assumed to be correct. The Business Office will not be required to verify the information. The responding Stockdog Judges who meet the qualifications will be placed in a pool of judges for random selection.

The qualifications are as follows:

- A. Have fulfilled two of the three following provisions:
 - 1. Have judged at least 40 unrelated ASCA Stockdog trials in their career. Related trials are those held at the same location within the same 10-day period.
 - 2. Have judged at least 9 unrelated ASCA Stockdog trials in the previous 3 years.
 - 3. Have trialed an Australian Shepherd in at least 9 unrelated ASCA Stockdog trials in the previous 3 years.
- B. Have not judged Stockdog Finals in both of the last two years.
- C. Have regular judge status.
- D. Have no pending or previous disciplinary action within the previous year.
- E. A judge that is not currently an ASCA member must become a member of ASCA and remain a member for 5 continuous (without a lapse in Membership) years before being considered for ASCA Finals judge.

24.8.3 Failure to Secure Three Finals Judges

If three (3) Finals Judges cannot be secured from the pool of judges meeting the qualifications in 24.7.2.a-e, the qualifications will be waived in the order they are listed to increase the number of judges in the pool. **EXAMPLE:** Waive 24.7.2.a to see if more judges are available. If not, waive 24.7.2.b, etc. until 3 Judges are hired to judge Stockdog Finals.

24.8.4 Drawing for Selection

- A. The Board of Directors will perform a random draw of all Stockdog Judges who satisfy the qualifications listed in 22.7.2. The random draw will be done at the General Membership Meeting held at the National Specialty Event. The selection process will be done one time in full view of any who wish to attend the meeting.
- B. All names will be shown in the order of the draw at the meeting, and then posted to the ASCA Website and any ASCA approved e-mail list.
- C. The first nine (9) names will be supplied to the Host Club in no order to choose and hire three (3) judges for Stockdog Finals.
- D. If three (3) judges cannot be secured from this list, and all nine (9) judges have been asked and more than six (6) decline the offer, the Host Club will be provided with the next single (10th) Judge's name, in the order of the original random draw. If the next (10th) Judge declines the offer, the next (11th) Judge's name, in the order of the original random draw, will be provided. This will continue in the order of the original random draw, one name at a time, until all three (3) positions are filled. Each additional Judge must be asked and decline before moving to the next name on the list.
- E. If a Judge withdraws after being hired as one (1) of the three (3) Finals Judges, the next Judge, in the order of the random draw, will be provided to the Host Club. This will be repeated as many times as necessary if more than one judge withdraws from the original three (3) chosen. Each additional Judge must be asked and decline before the next name will be provided to the Host Club.
- F. A reason must be provided to the Board of Directors by the Host Club explaining why an additional Judge, beyond the original three (3) is needed. **NOTE:** The Nationals working trial Judges do not have to come from this list.

Section 24.9 Livestock

24.9.1 Ownership and Stock Handlers

Stock cannot be owned by a Finals competitor. Finals handlers and family members cannot act as stock handlers during the Finals as long as the competitor is still competing.

24.9.2 Minimum Number of Livestock Per Run

A minimum of 5 head of cattle, sheep or ducks per run must be used.

24.9.3 Number of Times Stock May Be Used

In each of the three go-rounds the stock may be used only once. In the event of a tie after the elimination go-rounds, the number of head per run in the final go-round may be reduced from the number announced to ensure that no stock is used more than once while still keeping in accordance with rule 12.8.2. **EXCEPTION:** In the event of a tie and run-off at the end of the final go-round, the livestock may be used a second time for the run-off.

24.9.4 Sorting of Livestock

Sheep/Goats and Cattle will be gate sorted rather than presorted.

Section 24.10 Procedures for Finals Judges

24.10.1 Selection of Judges for Each Class of Stock

The Business Office will use a random draw to assign the ~~six~~ three Judges to a class of stock. ~~Two Judges~~ One judge will be assigned to judge each class of stock for the first Elimination go-round. The Judges will randomly rotate to a different class of stock for the second Elimination go-round. ~~The same two judges may not judge together more than once in the first two elimination rounds.~~ All ~~six~~ three Judges will be used for the Final go-round. **Changes effective 6-1-2022.**

24.10.2 Senior Judge Selection and Responsibilities

The Course Director will select a Senior Judge in a private Judges meeting before the Handlers meeting of the Elimination go-round. The Senior Judge should be selected based on 1) willingness to accept the responsibility, 2) familiarity with the Finals process and 3) experience with number of trials judged in recent years. At this meeting, the Course Director and the Senior Judge will be responsible for review of finals/trial rules and regulations with all Judges—specifically, attempts, run away lines, daylighting, and calling time.

A. The Senior Judge will have the final call on disputes and/or questions.

B. Judges should be strategically seated in order to get the best vantage of the entire arena. This includes the take pen, handler lines, and obstacles. Any of the Judges may call the handler lines and attempts for any of the obstacles unless one judge has been assigned to call that specific area. The Senior Judge should be in position or assign another judge to call critical areas that each judge may not have a good view of. All judges should respect the call if a judge is assigned a specific area. **EXAMPLE:** if the arena does not permit all judges a proper view of the Advanced handler line, then a judge (Senior) may be assigned to make that call for all judges.

C. Handler Meeting: At the handlers meeting, the Senior Judge and/or the Course Director will address the following:

1. Judge placements and Handler check-in procedure.
2. Procedure 22.9.7 below should be read (finals runs should be exemplary to protect our Stockdog program).
3. Questions from contestants will be fielded by all Judges.

24.10.3 Seating of Judges

Judges must be placed apart from spectators and each other (it will be the Host Club's responsibility to see that appropriate seating is made available by roping off designated "Judges' area" and placing table/chairs in appropriate places surrounding the working arena.)

A. No Judge, whether Apprentice, Provisional, or Regular, may time, scribe, sit with, or have a conversation with a finals Judge while a finals run is being judged.

24.10.4 Individual Scoring

Judges will score and total score sheets separately from each other-leading to an "individual score" from each judge during each round.

24.10.5 After Scoring a Run

After scoring and totaling the score sheet for each run, Judges will hand the score sheet to a designated person who will deliver it to the appropriate individuals for calculation and posting of scores. This will take place without consultation between any of the other finals Judges.

24.10.6 Posting of Scores

All individual Judges' scores will be posted as soon as possible upon the completion of the final run of each elimination and final go-round. The scores for the first elimination go-round must be posted for a class of livestock before the second go-round on that same class of livestock may begin. The scores for the second elimination go-round must be posted for a class of livestock before the final go-round on that same class of livestock may begin.

24.10.7 Approaching Judges

No Judge will consult with or visit with spectators or contestants during the runs. If Judges are approached, they will direct the person or persons to the Course Director who is responsible for handling comments, questions, or complaints during the trial.

24.10.8 Warnings and Time

Time and/or warning can and will be called by any judge for violations of ASCA Stockdog Rules, lack of progress, gripping, or abuse of stock during each round. Judges will respect the calls of other judges.

24.10.9 Reruns

A majority of the Finals Judges must agree if a rerun is to be awarded to a contestant. In the case of a tie, the Senior Judge will make the final call. If a rerun is awarded to a contestant, it will be run at the end of the class. Reasons for granting a rerun:

- A. When stock is obviously sick or injured.
- B. Disturbances that affect the fairness of the run.
- C. Unworkable stock. If the workability of the livestock comes into question, the Judges should score the run as seen at the time and note that the stock is in question. At the end of the class, the Judges will need to decide if there was only one dog with unworkable stock or if the stock were equal for each competitor.

Chapter 25 ASCA National Specialty

Section 25.1 Selection of Judges

The Course Director for the National Specialty Stockdog Trial will be responsible for selecting and hiring the Judges. The Course Director for each pre-trial held during the National Specialty will be responsible for selecting and hiring Judges for their pre-trial.

When Judging the National Specialty and any pre-trial held during the National Specialty, the following rules vary from a regular trial event.

- A. To judge the National Specialty, the Judge must have been approved to move out of the Provisional Status and be a Regular Judge before accepting the assignment.
 - 1. Provisional Judge may judge a pre-trial held during the National Specialty.
- B. An Apprentice Judge may not apprentice at either the National Specialty or any pre-trial held during the National Specialty.
- C. The Judges do not need to be the same Judges who judged the Stockdog Finals.

Section 25.2 Number of Runs Judged Each Day

At the National Specialty Stockdog Trial and National Specialty pre-trials, Judges may judge up to 60 runs per day.

Section 25.3 The Length of Time a Judge May Judge Each Day

When judging the National Specialty, the period of time spent judging may not exceed twelve (12) consecutive hours, not including meal breaks.

Chapter 26 Judging Information

Section 26.1 Judge's Duties

26.1.1 Authorization

The ASCA Approved Stockdog Judge is authorized in his capacity as the ASCA representative to pass judgment on contestants in the trial and to act as an official Inspector/Judge for the ranch dog applying for certification. This authorization is granted by ASCA and may be suspended or revoked at any time by the Board of Directors.

26.1.2 Responsibilities of Judges

The Stockdog Committee is the advisory body of the Board of Directors and is empowered to review and pass on the qualifications of all applicants wishing to be appointed a Stockdog Judge, to investigate all complaints and review competence and compliance with all ASCA's rules and procedures relating to Stockdog Judges.

- A. **Fraternization** - Judges should avoid improper fraternization with the contestants and spectators during a trial.
- B. **Conduct** - All ASCA Stockdog Judges will be expected to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the Code of Ethics.
 - 1. Judging is a privilege, not a right. The Stockdog Judge's conduct must always be impartial, dignified, and respectful of the welfare of the dog, stock, and the handler. A Judge's actions and professional comportment must be above reproach.
 - 2. Judges shall be professional in demeanor and shall refrain from making coaching comments to the handler during the contestants run.
 - 3. Judges shall remember that trials are staffed largely or entirely with unpaid volunteers, and shall treat stock handlers, timers, helpers, exhibitors, and spectators with due courtesy and consideration.
- C. The safety of the stock, dog, and handler shall be the Judge's foremost concern in reviewing the trial conditions and in judging a working trial.
- D. Judges shall score a trial based solely on the dog and handler's performance as a team as described in the ASCA Stockdog Rules and Regulations, and in no case shall be based (nor any consideration be given) on the identity or reputation of the handler, owner, the breeder, or the dog's lineage.
- E. Any Judge found abusing the privileges of judging for ASCA or violating this Code of Ethics may have his/her judging privileges revoked or suspended by ASCA.

26.1.3 Seminars

All ASCA approved Stockdog Judges are encouraged to attend Judge's seminars. A set of general seminar minutes must be turned in to the Business Office by the Stockdog Committee representative within 15 days of the seminar, listing those in attendance and points of discussion, decisions, or suggestions.

26.1.4 Membership

Judges are encouraged to become ASCA members.

26.1.5 Judges' Test

All ASCA Stockdog Judges will be required to take an open book test, written, and prepared by the Stockdog Committee, every two years. In order to retain judging privileges, the test may be taken as many times as necessary until all questions are answered correctly. The Judges' test will be issued July 15th of each even numbered year, along with an updated rule book, and must be returned to the Business Office no later than September 15th of the same year.

If the test is not returned and passed by September 15th of that year, all judging privileges and responsibilities will be suspended. ~~When the test is returned with all questions answered correctly, all judging privileges and responsibilities will be reinstated.~~ The Judge's name will be removed from the Judges' list. The Judge will not be allowed to judge at any sanctioned events, even if the Judge had committed to judge an event prior to the deadline. Judging privileges will be reinstated when the test is returned with all questions answered correctly, provided it is passed before the next test is issued.

To be reinstated after failing to take and pass a second consecutive test, the Judge must send a letter to the Stockdog Committee requesting reinstatement and explain the reason for their failure to take and pass the previous two tests. The stockdog Committee may request additional information to make a recommendation. If recommended to return to judging by the committee, and approved by the ASCA Board of Directors, the Judge will be reinstated as a Provisional Judge. Once the Judge has fulfilled the Provisional Judge requirements and submitted the necessary paperwork to the Business Office, the committee may recommend to the ASCA Board of Directors that the Judge move to Regular Judge status.

To be reinstated after failing to take three consecutive tests or an absence of 4 years or more, the individual must pass the current Judge's test and will then return to the Judging Program as an Apprentice Judge. Once they have satisfied the Apprentice requirements and the necessary paperwork has been sent to the Business Office, the Stockdog Committee may recommend to the ASCA Board of Directors that the applicant move to the Provisional Judge Program. Once all of the requirements of a Provisional Judge have been met and the necessary paperwork has been sent to the Business Office, the Stockdog Committee may recommend to the ASCA Board of Directors that the Judge move to Regular Judge status.

New wording effective 6-1-2022.

Section 26.2 Judge's Direction

The Judge may provide time before the trial starts for those contestants interested in a chance to ask questions about the course, equipment, location of stock pens or requirements. Before starting each run, the handler shall request acknowledgment that the Judge is ready.

Section 26.3 Judging Period

26.3.1 Maximum Number of Runs Judges Per Day

A judge may judge no more than 50 runs in a trial day. **EXCEPTION:** At the National Specialty Stockdog Trial and National Specialty Pre-Trials, judges may judge up to 60 runs per day.

26.3.2 Maximum Time a Judge is Allowed to Judge

A judge will officiate for a period of no more than ten consecutive hours, not counting meal breaks. **EXCEPTION:** When judging Finals or the National Specialty, the period of time may not exceed twelve consecutive hours, not counting meal breaks.

26.3.3 Notifying the Judge of How Many Runs Will Be Judged

Judges shall be advised of the number of intended runs available per day before accepting the assignment. Individual judges will have a preference for judging between 40-50 runs in a day and their fees may vary accordingly.

Section 26.4 Number of Judges

Scores will be averaged at any trial having more than one officiating Judge in a given class and time.

Section 26.5 Judging Position

Judge(s) should position themselves so as not to impede the movement of the stock.

Section 26.6 Emergency Judges

26.6.1 Selection of an Emergency Judge

If a Judge is unable to judge on the scheduled day of a sanctioned trial, the Course Director along with the Trial Committee, if one exists, may choose from the following in order of priority:

- A. Other ASCA approved Judge, or
- B. ASCA apprentice Judge, or
- C. Person who has completed the most WTCH titles (Australian Shepherd only), or
- D. Person who has the most years' trialing in an ASCA trial.

26.6.2 Judging Restrictions for an Emergency Judge

An Emergency Judge cannot compete nor can any dog owned or co-owned by that Emergency Judge compete at the same sanctioned trial he/she is officiating. The Emergency Judge shall not judge any dog that he/she or a member of his/her immediate household or immediate family owns or is currently handling. The Emergency Judge's immediate family include spouse, father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, or any person residing with that individual. Immediate family members of an officiating Emergency Judge may show under another officiating Judge at the same trial.

Section 26.7 Temporary Crisis Judge

26.7.1 Acceptance as a Temporary Crisis Judge

Temporary Crisis Judge Applications are available from the Business Office. If a temporary shortage of Judges occurs due to any type of natural disaster, war, disease, travel restrictions, etc., a Temporary Crisis Judge(s) may be used when holding ASCA Stockdog Trials. A crisis must be determined by the Board of Directors and will remain in place until the Board of Directors officially announces that the crisis is over. The Temporary Crisis Judge will adhere to, abide by, and understand the rules found in [Section 29.2.1](#).

26.7.2 Selection of Temporary Crisis Judges

A Temporary Crisis Judge must be nominated by TWO ASCA Stockdog Judges and ONE individual who has worked as a course Director for more than two separate ASCA trials over the past three years. Those nominating the Temporary Crisis Judge must have personal knowledge of the nominee.

The names and qualifications of each nominee will be sent to the ASCA Business Office. The Business Office will provide the nominee with the most recent Judges' test to complete and pass according to the rules found in [Section 26.1.5](#).

Both the Temporary Crisis Judge and the ASCA approved Judge will be allowed to trial under the other Judge during the mentoring phase and through the course of that trial. Neither the Temporary Crisis judge, nor emergency judge shall judge any dog that he/she or a member of his/her immediate household or immediate family owns or is currently handling.

1. All Temporary Crisis Judges will be required to take and pass the most recent Judges' test before beginning 26.7.3.c.

2. All Temporary Crisis Judge applicants must agree in writing to abide by all ASCA codes, rules, decisions, procedures, the Statement of Purpose in the ASCA bylaws, and the Judges' Code of Ethics.
3. All Temporary Crisis Judges will be required to sit and judge a minimum of 10 runs on each class of stock with an ASCA approved Judge.
4. Once the Temporary Crisis Judge has met all the requirements, the Temporary Crisis Judge will be permitted to judge ASCA sanctioned trials without an ASCA approved Judge on site.
5. There may be two Temporary Crisis Judges working with an approved ASCA Judge at the same trial. **EXCEPTION:** If travel restrictions have been imposed by any government and these restrictions will cause a hardship to a Judge, a Temporary Crisis Judge, or a nominee, the Emergency Judge rules found in [Section 26.6](#) may be applied. The Emergency Judge must be named at the time of sanctioning and all applicable forms must be filed with the Business Office. The Emergency Judge will only be eligible to judge the indicated sanctioned trial.

26.7.3 Temporary Crisis Judges Restrictions

1. The work done, both positive and negative, by the Temporary Crisis Judge will be considered when entering each level of the ASCA Judging Programs. Any formal complaints, letters, or documentation of disciplinary action, along with letters of recommendation, reviews, and letters of appreciation that are associated with their work as a Temporary Crisis Judge will be reviewed throughout each level of the application process.
2. A person working as a Temporary Crisis Judge will not permanently hold the position of ASCA Stockdog Judge in any form, nor will they be allowed to use this experience to bypass the existing requirements for becoming an ASCA Judge when the crisis is over. They must apply and meet the requirements for becoming a judge as described in [Chapter 29](#) in the ASCA Stockdog rule book.

Section 26.8 Overflow Judge Provisions

26.8.1 Using an Overflow Judge

If trial entries warrant, an overflow Judge can be used.

26.8.2 Splitting Classes for Overflow Judge

When overflow Judges are used, classes of stock will be split by division per Judge.

26.8.3 Notification of Judge Change

Contestants must be notified of any Judge changes. The owner shall be permitted to withdraw such entry, at any time, prior to the date of the trial and the entry will be refunded.

26.8.4 Dividing Entries for Overflow Judge

If a division has to be split, the Course Director shall divide the entry as evenly as possible between the advertised Judge and the overflow Judge by drawing lots.

Section 26.9 Judge's Score Sheets

26.9.1 Scoring

The Trial Judge(s) is required to complete the ASCA Official Trial Judging Score sheet in its entirety. All Judges' corrections shall be initialed by the Judge. The scorekeeper shall separate the score sheet and return the original (white) copy to the Business Office. The second copy (yellow) will be distributed to the contestants.

26.9.2 Distribution of Copies

All contestants shall receive a copy of their score sheet(s) at the trial. The original score sheet will become the property of ASCA for official use in the certification of dogs.

26.9.3 Course Points

"Course Points" must be awarded for the number or % of stock completing an obstacle regardless of how the dog does it.

26.9.4 Control Points

The scoring for the "Dog's Ability to Control Livestock" sections of the run will be for the manner in which a dog controls his stock so that they will go through an obstacle along with the teamwork apparent between dog and handler, the dog's training, its instinct, power, savvy, and the workability of the livestock. "Control" points will be given for all portions of the course that the dog accomplished and/or attempted.

26.9.5 Earning Control Points

Control points must be given for all portions of the course that the dog accomplished and/or attempted. If a dog demonstrates control while attempting an obstacle that is not completed, even if the time expires during the attempt, then the Judge shall award control points for partial work accomplished on that obstacle.

26.9.6 Sequence

The course obstacles must be attempted and/or accomplished in the proper sequence.

26.9.7 Who May Fill Out Score Sheet

Judges may ask the scorekeepers to fill out score sheets for them during the run.

***GUIDELINE:** Score Sheet Instructions. The score sheet is broken into two sections:*

***“Course Score”** The dog gets credit for each head of stock that goes through each obstacle as long as the dog does the work and the stock do not, in the opinion of the Judge, drift through the obstacle. No extra credit is given if the stock passes through the same obstacles more than once. The course must be attempted /completed in the correct sequence.*

***“Dog’s Ability to Control Livestock”** is scored for how well the dog accomplishes the work. Each part of the run will be scored for the manner in which the dog controls his stock for that section. “Control points” must be given for all sections of the course the dog accomplished and/or attempted.*

Judges are expected to judge all types of herding breeds and need to be aware of the difference in working style between the breeds and judge accordingly, not comparatively. This includes natural instinct for the breed, savvy, training, concentration, interest, power, and handling. In order for an appropriate control score to be given, NATURAL INSTINCT must be shown. A mechanical dog that successfully completes the course strictly due to training should not be given a higher score due to training alone, when giving a control score. The dog’s ability to control livestock is an opinion of the Judge only.

***NOTE:** A dog should not lose control points if the stock is more difficult than a dog with a cooperative draw as long as the dog is able to stay in control.*

Section 26.10 No Added Requirements

No Judge(s) shall require any dog or handler to do anything, nor penalize a dog/handler for failing to do anything, that is not required by these regulations.

Section 26.11 Tied Score

26.11.1 Breaking a Tie

When a tie has occurred, it is up to the Trial Committee and Judge to determine if the tie must be broken.

A. If the tie is to be shared, the Host club must provide equal awards to both Winners.

B. If the tie is to be broken the Trial Committee and Judge must take into consideration the class of stock and division in which the tie occurred and determine the fairest way to break the tie. Breaking the tie is done in the following manner:

1. If the tie occurs in different divisions (PATD/OTD) the tie should be broken by the more advanced dog. (Post Advance beats Advanced, Advanced beats Open, and Open beats Started).
2. If the tie occurs in different classes of stock (Cattle/Ducks/Geese), the tie should be broken by the dog in the harder class. (Cattle beats Sheep/Goats, Sheep/Goats beats Ducks/Geese).
3. If the tie occurs in different divisions and different classes of stock, the tie should be broken by the more advanced dog (PATD/Cattle beats OTD/Sheep/Goats).
4. If the tie occurs within the same class and division of stock, the tie must be broken by either:
 - i. Time.
 - ii. Re-running all or part of the course.

Section 26.12 When Judging Stops

Once the placements have been handed out, a Judge may not go back and change, re-judge, or correct omissions on any part of a score sheet.

Section 26.13 Explanation and Errors

26.13.1 Explanation of Score

The Judge may explain the scoring or comments but should not enter into any discussion with any contestant who is or appears to be dissatisfied.

26.13.2 Mathematical Error

Mathematical errors may be corrected up to one hour after awards have been handed out.

Any interested person who thinks there may have been a mathematical error or an error in identifying a dog, or error in placement, may report the fact to the Course Director who will see the matter is checked and if necessary, corrected by the Judge.

Section 26.14 Judge's Report

The Course Director and the officials of the hosting Affiliate Club are responsible for providing the arena, course equipment, and stock which meet the requirements of these rules and regulations. The Judge(s), as representatives of ASCA, must check the arena, equipment and stock provided for his use before the start of the trial. The Judge(s) must report any undesirable conditions or deficiencies that have not been promptly corrected at his/her request, and a general statement concerning the trial to the Business Office within 14 days of the trial.

Section 26.15 Protests/Discipline

Any person wishing to lodge a protest or complaint against a Judge shall do so in accordance with the **ASCA Conflict Resolution Protocol**. Any other complaint shall be sent to the Executive Secretary via e-mail or letter. The Executive Secretary shall advise the Board of Directors. The Board shall use its discretion in determining how to proceed and whether the matter should be referred to the Stockdog Committee.

Section 26.16 Stockdog Judge Discipline and Procedure for Reinstatement

A Judge who receives a letter of reprimand from the ASCA Board of Directors will be returned to provisional status. Once provisional status is complete, the committee may recommend to the ASCA Board of Directors that the judge continues to regular judge status.

A Judge whose ASCA membership is suspended by the Board of Directors will have their judging privileges suspended. When the membership suspension is lifted, there will be a 5-year waiting period starting from the first day of the end of the suspension for the judge to reapply to be a stockdog judge. The judge will need to meet all ASCA judging requirements of a new judge applicant and will need to re-apply to be a stockdog judge. If approved by ASCA Board of Directors, the former judge will be required to go through all phases of judge application from apprentice through provisional status.

There is no reinstatement option for Judges whose stockdog judging privileges have been revoked by the ASCA Board of Directors due to deleterious behavior(s) or actions.

New section effective 6-1-2022.

Chapter 27 Restrictions

Section 27.1 Disturbances

27.1.1 Establishing Distance from Arena

The officiating Judge and Course Director have the authority and responsibility to keep dogs and people a proper distance from the working arena if, by being there, they may affect either dog, stock, or handler during a run. (This includes the stands and areas next to the fences).

27.1.2 Interference or Disturbance of Run

Willful or accidental interference, or a disturbance by any handler or spectator to another handler, livestock, the competing dog, or the Judge, may be grounds for a re-run at the Judge's discretion.

Section 27.2 Abuse of Dogs

The Course Director and Trial Committee shall investigate all reports of abuse and/or severe disciplining of dogs on the grounds or premises of a trial, whether competing or not.

- A. If competing, the Judge may excuse the handler from further competition during the trial.
- B. If not competing, the Course Director and Trial Committee shall have the power to dismiss the offender from the grounds or give a warning.
- C. If anyone is dismissed by an ASCA Judge or Course Director for abuse or severe discipline of a dog, the Course Director will submit a written report to the Business Office within 14 days. This report is to be forwarded to the Stockdog Committee for recommendation.

Section 27.3 Examination and Protests

27.3.1 Examination

Every handler shall have the right to request, through the Course Director, an examination of any dog within the trial premises that is considered to endanger the health of other dogs in the trial area. The request is to be in writing and given to the Course Director whose duty it will be to see that the subject dog is promptly taken to an area selected for the inspection. If after due consideration the Course Director has determined that the dog should be removed from the immediate area, he shall so instruct the owner.

27.3.2 Request for Ruling

Contestants may request a ruling from the Course Director or the Trial Committee before, during, or immediately after the trial. Any decision by the Course Director or Trial Committee must be made in accordance with the **ASCA Conflict Resolution Protocol**.

27.3.3 Filing a Protest

All protests of any kind shall be made in accordance with the **ASCA Conflict Resolution Protocol**.

Section 27.4 Discipline

See **ASCA Conflict Resolution Protocol**.

Chapter 28 Disqualified and/or Excused Dogs

Section 28.1 Excused Dogs

28.1.1 Excused Dogs

Should a Judge excuse a dog from a run, the Judge will enter a zero and "JCT" on the score sheet. Dogs will be excused for the following:

- A. **Over-running** - Unnecessary running of stock around the course or into the fence.
- B. **Incompetent work or lack of progress** - If a contestant and his dog are unprepared and are unable to accomplish the task, time may be called even if no harm is being done to the stock.
- C. **Mistreatment of stock** - Dogs and handlers may not repeatedly strike, prod, or otherwise abuse stock in order to cause it to move. **EXCEPTION:** In stock situations requiring protection of the Handler and/or dog.
- D. **Unnecessary gripping** - Gripping in a severe manner. Grips should be either on the head or legs. Body, neck, belly, back, and ham are all unnecessary grips. A severe grip would be intentional wool pulling, hanging on, slashing, and jerking a leg(s) out from under the animal. In the case of ducks/geese, any mouthing, gripping, running over, or pouncing on is unnecessary.
- E. **Training aids** -
 1. Wearing or attached to the collar.
 2. Anything other than a stock stick or staff 3' to 5' long.
- F. Handler taking hold of their dog to discipline it while in the arena or on course.
- G. If, in the opinion of the Judge, the dog is unsound or suffering from an injury.

GUIDELINE: REASONS FOR BEING EXCUSED FROM THE ARENA (Judge Calls Time)

- *Unnecessary gripping or gripping in severe manner. Grips should be either on the head or legs. Body, neck, belly, back and ham are all unnecessary grips. A severe grip would be intentional wool pulling, hanging on, slashing, and jerking a leg(s) out from under the animal. In the case of ducks, any mouthing, gripping, running over, or pouncing on is unnecessary.*
- *Overrunning of the stock by the dog.*
- *Lack of progress. If a contestant and his dog are unprepared and are unable to accomplish the task, time may be called even if no harm is being done to the stock.*
- *Handler taking hold of the dog to discipline him while in the arena.*
- *Any dog that cannot be called off stock and must be chased down by the handler. It does not matter if the dog is not gripping. Running stock head long into a fence can have disastrous effects.*

Section 28.2 Disqualified Dogs

28.2.1 Disqualified Dogs

A dog may be disqualified for:

- A. Attacks against livestock (see [Section 28.2.2](#)).
- B. Being out of control with potential to cause harm to livestock (see [Section 28.2.3](#)).
- C. Attacks against a person or dog (see the **ASCA Dog Aggression Rules**, available from the ASCA Business Office, the ASCA Website, and following the appendices in this rule book).

28.2.2 Disqualified for Attacks against Livestock

The Judge shall disqualify any dog that aggressively causes serious injury, cripples and/or potentially causes critical harm to the livestock. Upon disqualification under this section, the Judge shall immediately stop the run in that arena and:

- A. Inspect and note injuries of the stock, with the Course Director and handler present.
- B. Write "DQ - STOCK" across the score sheet and provide a brief (1 or 2 sentence) description of the incident in the comments area, also noting specific injuries done to the stock.
- C. In the presence of the Course Director, inform the handler that the dog is ineligible to compete again at that event or any future ASCA Stockdog Trial until the owner has been notified by ASCA that the dog's eligibility has been reinstated. (If the Course Director is the handler or is unavailable at the arena, another Host Club Officer must be present.) The handler must be informed of the DQ before the trial continues on that class of stock.
- D. Submit a detailed report describing events surrounding the incident and the resulting injuries. The report shall be submitted to the Business Office within 14 days of the incident. The Business Office shall distribute this report to the Executive Secretary, Stockdog Committee Chairperson, Course Director, and the owner of the dog.

28.2.3 Disqualified for Lack of Control

The Judge shall disqualify any dog that is so out of control it cannot be recalled by the handler AND poses a real threat to cause harm to livestock consistent with [28.2.2](#) (above). If such threat does not exist, then the dog should be excused immediately in accordance with [Section 28.1.1.A](#), B, C, and /or D. Upon disqualification under this section, the Judge shall immediately stop the run and:

- A. Write "DQ - CONTROL" across the score sheet and provide a brief (1 or 2 sentence) description of the incident in the comments area.
- B. In the presence of the Course Director, inform the handler that the dog is ineligible to compete again at that or any future ASCA Stockdog Trial until the owner has been notified by ASCA that the dog's eligibility has been reinstated. (If the Course Director is the handler or is unavailable at the arena, another Host Club Officer must be present.) The handler must be informed of the DQ before the trial continues on that class of stock.
- C. Submit a detailed report describing events surrounding the incident and the resulting injuries. The report shall be submitted to the Business Office within 14 days of the incident. The Business Office shall distribute this report to the Executive Secretary, Stockdog Committee Chairperson, Course Director, and the owner of the dog.

28.2.4 Reinstatement of Disqualified Dog

When a dog has been disqualified under this section, the dog may not compete any further that day or in any trial or inspection. The owner must first submit an application to the Stockdog Committee for reinstatement. The Stockdog Committee will assign someone to evaluate the dog in a neutral area a minimum of 100 by 200 feet. Upon completion of the inspection and evaluation by the inspector, the Stockdog Committee shall recommend a course of action to the Board of Directors, who shall notify the owner of their decision. **EXCEPTION:** Attacks against a person or dog are governed by the **ASCA Dog Aggression Rules**.

Chapter 29 Becoming a Judge

Section 29.1 Applications

Apprentice Judge Applications are available from the Business Office and the ASCA Website.

Section 29.2 Acceptance

29.2.1 Conduct Requirements

Judging at an ASCA sponsored event is an honor and a privilege, not a right.

A. Judging Applicants must satisfy ASCA's stated minimum eligibility requirements for Judges. Satisfying this set of minimum requirements grants the Applicant the right to be considered for the position of Stockdog Judge but does not entitle or guarantee an Applicant will become and/or remain an ASCA Stockdog Judge.

B. An Applicant may be turned down due to, but not limited to:

1. Documented poor sportsmanship.
2. Abuse of dogs and/or livestock during ASCA trials.

C. In addition to satisfying other stated qualifications, an Applicant, similar to qualified Stockdog Judges, must consistently display the highest level of ethical conduct, impartial demeanor, professional comportment, and dedication to the Judges Code of Ethics and to upholding ASCA's codes, rules, decisions, procedures, and the Statement of Purpose in the ASCA bylaws.

D. Failure to perform on this level may result in denial or revocation of judging privileges by the Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Stockdog Committee, without regard to any other qualification or prior service.

29.2.2 Application and Acceptance Process

Acceptance of an Apprentice Judge Applicant is made by the Board of Directors upon receipt of the verified application from the Business Office, recommendation of the Stockdog Committee, and comments from the general membership in the allowed period.

A. Applications will be verified by the Business Office for accuracy before being forwarded to the Board of Directors and to the Stockdog Committee.

B. The Business Office is responsible for the accuracy and completion of each application. Upon determination that the application is correct, the Applicants for Apprentice Stockdog Judge will have their names published on the ASCA Website and in the AussEnews for comments.

1. Once the application has been determined to be complete and accurate, the application submitted to the Business Office will be forwarded to the Stockdog Committee for review and consideration.
2. At the time of this submission, the Business Office will inform the Applicant that their name will be added to the ASCA Website and published in the next edition of the AussEnews. The Business Office will submit the name and intent of the Applicant to the Webmaster for publication on the ASCA Website and the AussEnews. Information received by the Webmaster by the 25th of the current month will be published on the ASCA website and in the AussEnews by the 1st of the following month.
3. Comments from ASCA members regarding the Applicant must be submitted to the ASCA Executive Secretary within 45 days of the publication date to be considered.
 - i. Any letters or written comments received within 45 days by the Executive Secretary will be forwarded to the Stockdog Committee within 10 business days of receipt.
 - ii. Any letters or comments received during this 45-day period will be considered by the Stockdog Committee when evaluating the application into the Apprentice Program.
 - iii. Voting by the Stockdog Committee will not take place until after the 45-day period and all letters have been received and reviewed by the Committee.
 - iv. No letters regarding the Applicant's history, character, or behavior prior to entry into the Apprentice Program will be accepted or forwarded to the Stockdog Committee after this 45-day period.

C. The Stockdog Committee shall review the application and return any questions, comments, or concerns to the Business Office within 14 days of receipt.

1. The Stockdog Committee shall notify the Business Office and Executive Secretary if there are no objections to the application.
2. If concerns or questions are raised by the Stockdog Committee, they shall be forwarded by the Business Office then to the Applicant for clarification. Clarification/explanations from the Applicant must be received by the Business Office within 45 days of the request.

D. The Business Office will notify the Applicant of their acceptance or denial as an Apprentice Judge. If the application is denied, the reason(s) for denial shall be summarized by the Board of Directors and forwarded to the applicant by the Business Office.

1. Applicants may appeal their denial to the Board of Directors.
2. A denied Applicant may reapply no earlier than two years from the date of the initial denial.

Section 29.3 Minimum Eligibility Requirements

29.3.1 Membership

The applicant Apprentice Judge must be a member in good standing for a period of 5 continuous (without a lapse in Membership) years immediately preceding their application to become an ASCA Stockdog Judge. The only way to become an ASCA Stockdog Judge is through the Apprentice Program.

29.3.2 Interest

The applicant Apprentice Judge must be the owner of Australian Shepherd dogs and be interested in the betterment of the breed.

29.3.3 Experience

The applicant Apprentice Judge shall demonstrate a reasonable amount of livestock experience in addition the applicant must have owned and handled three Australian Shepherds to their WTCH in entirety. (Applicant must have owned and handled each Australian Shepherd from started through advanced in ducks/geese, sheep/goats, and cattle).

29.3.4 Training

The applicant must have worked and trained Australian Shepherds for use on livestock.

29.3.5 References

Three letters of recommendation are required from people who have personal knowledge of the applicant's qualifications as pertaining to livestock experience, experience working dogs with livestock and the applicant's personal character. No more than one ASCA Stockdog Judge may be used as a reference. If an ASCA Stockdog Judge is used as a reference, the Apprentice may not apprentice under that Judge. References must come from individuals in the livestock industry. **EXAMPLE:** Individual that raises livestock, a veterinarian, an ASCA Stockdog Judge.

29.3.6 Course Director Requirement

The applicant must have been a Course Director for at least one ASCA Stockdog Trial with Sheep/Goats and Cattle.

29.3.7 Farm and Ranch Program Requirement

The applicant must have earned titles on two different types of livestock from either, or the combination of, the Advanced Farm Trial division and the Ranch Trial Program.

29.3.8 Finals Eligibility Requirement

The applicant must have been eligible for Finals on all three types of stock at least once within 5 years of applying. To be eligible, the applicant must have earned at least 4 Finals points on each type of stock. This eligibility requirement may be completed over the entire 5-year period or any number of years within the five-year period.

Section 29.4 Apprenticeship

29.4.1 Start of Apprenticeship

A. All apprentices must agree in writing to abide by all ASCA codes, rules, decisions, procedures, the Statement of Purpose in the ASCA bylaws, and the Judges Code of Ethics after acceptance prior to apprenticing.

B. The apprentice must take an Open Book test administered by the Stockdog Committee based on the ASCA Stockdog rules and procedures. All questions must be answered correctly. The test may be retaken. When the test questions are sent out, a current copy of the Stockdog Rules and Procedures are also sent. This test must be passed before starting the Apprentice Judging.

29.4.2 Trial Application

An Apprentice Judge wishing to work sanctioned trials must first contact the judge(s) he/she wishes to apprentice with and then, upon judge's approval, make an application to the Business Office no less than 30 days prior to the date of the trial. Only those trials that are sanctioned will be accepted for meeting the required number of trials. The application shall state the host club, date, and name of the ASCA Stockdog Judge(s) whom they will be working with. The Judge and Apprentice will need to have additional time available to complete the forms and training.

29.4.3 Trials

The first trial must be worked within 12 months of receiving notification from the Business Office of acceptance. The third trial should be completed within 24 months of notification unless an extension has been approved by the Stockdog Committee.

29.4.4 Number of Apprentices at a Trial

No more than one Apprentice Judge may work under any one Judge at a trial. Apprentice Judge Assignments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.

29.4.5 Different Judge

The Apprentice Judge's first two trials will be worked under different Judges. The Apprentice Judge must score in consultation with the ASCA Approved Judge(s) during the first two trials (Cattle and Sheep/Goats) and all Duck/Geese trials. Apprentice Judges may not work under an ASCA approved Provisional Judge. The third trial on Sheep/Goats and Cattle will be scored independently.

29.4.6 Number of Trials

The Apprentice Judge will work a minimum of three (3) ASCA sanctioned trials on both Cattle and Sheep/Goats and one on Ducks/Geese. A minimum of 60 runs each must be judged on Sheep/Goats and Cattle, 30 on Ducks/Geese. The Apprentice Judge will work one trial outside of their region in which they reside with a minimum of twenty (20) runs each of cattle and sheep/goats.

29.4.7 May Not Compete

The Apprentice Judge may not act as a contestant on any day they serve their Apprenticeship. His/her immediate household or immediate family and his/her dogs may compete, but not be scored by the Apprentice Judge.

29.4.8 Notification

The Business Office will notify the Judge and host club when an Apprentice Judge has been scheduled to judge.

29.4.9 Scoring Check

The Apprentice Judge's scores will be compared to that of the Judge(s) during or directly after the trial. The Judge's comments will be discussed at that time. The score comparison and comments will be signed by the Judge and forwarded to the Business Office.

29.4.10 Scoring Consistency

The Apprentice Judge will complete the apprentice score sheet in its entirety. The scores will be checked for consistency in all trials against those of the Judge.

29.4.11 Lacking Consistency

If the work of the third cattle and sheep/goat trial of the Apprentice Judge, which must be done without assistance from the Judge, appears to be lacking in consistency, the Stockdog Committee may request a number of additional trials on cattle and sheep/goats be worked by the Apprentice Judge to acquire more judging experience. Should the scores of the requested additional trials prove unsatisfactory, the Apprentice Judge may be excused from the program by the Stockdog Committee.

29.4.12 Certification as an Apprentice Judge

All score sheets, test scores, application information/verification, comments by Judges, and other interested parties (handlers, host clubs, and others who observed the Apprentice) will be forwarded to the Stockdog Committee. Any letters or written comments received at this time must be in regard to the period of time the applicant was working in the Apprentice Program.

A. Only those letters received concerning performance and behavior while the applicant is working as an Apprentice will be considered for certification as a Provisional Judge. Any questions the Stockdog Committee may have regarding received letters and comments while the applicant was working as an Apprentice will be discussed within the Committee and written questions may be formed to address these concerns. The applicant will be given these written questions by the Chair of the Stockdog Committee and allowed 14 days to respond in writing. This 14-day period will begin on the date the applicant is notified of the letters and comments.

B. Upon receipt of the response of the applicant, the Stockdog Committee will vote whether to recommend appointment as a Provisional Stockdog Judge, require the Apprentice Judge to continue their training with additional runs under the supervision of a full Stockdog Judge, or to dismiss the Apprentice Judge from the program.

C. The Stockdog Committee shall submit the result of the vote and the supporting reasons and documentation along with the Committee member's comments to the Business Office. The Business Office will provide the Board of Directors with the Stockdog Committee's recommendation, supporting reasons, documentation, along with the Committee member's comments and the apprentice's resume.

D. The Board of Directors will vote on the Stockdog Committee's recommendation within 90 days of the date it receives the recommendations of the Stockdog Committee.

Section 29.5 Provisional Stockdog Judge

29.5.1 Requirements While a Provisional Judge

Upon appointment by the Board of Directors of an Apprentice Judge to the position of Provisional Stockdog Judge, the Provisional Stockdog Judge shall:

A. Serve a probationary period of three years, which must include judging a combined total of 1200 runs. The combined total may be made up of any combination of runs with the exception that at least 200 runs are judged on each class of livestock (Sheep/Goats, Cattle, and Ducks/Geese). The period of time needed to complete the 1200 runs may exceed the three-year period and may be done without penalty. At no time is the Provisional Judge eligible to move out of the Provisional Program before they have completed both three years and 1200 runs.

B. Complete the ASCA PROVISIONAL STOCKDOG JUDGE FORM and return it to the Business Office in a timely fashion upon completion of his/her Provisional Judging period.

29.5.2 Moving to Full Stockdog Judge

After completion of the probationary period, the conduct of the Judge shall be reviewed by the Stockdog Committee. The Stockdog Committee will vote whether to recommend appointment as a full Stockdog Judge, or to dismiss the Provisional Stockdog Judge from the program.

A. The Stockdog Committee shall submit the result of the vote and the supporting reasons and documentation along with the Committee member's comments to the Business Office.

B. The Business Office will provide the Board of Directors with the Stockdog Committee's recommendation, supporting reasons, documentation, along with the Committee member's comments and the applicant's resume.

C. The Board of Directors will vote on the Stockdog Committee's recommendation within 90 days of the date it receives the recommendations of the Stockdog Committee.

Chapter 30 ASCA Stockdog Committee

Section 30.1 Goals

30.1.1 Purpose

To maintain a professional Stockdog Program that is in the best interest of all concerned with perpetuating the Australian Shepherd's superior, versatile working ability.

30.1.2 Communication Responsibility

Expanding the avenues of communication between the Stockdog Committee, the Board of Directors and all trial contestants and concerned owners so that interest and participation in the Stockdog Program will continue to grow.

30.1.3 Receiving Ideas and Suggestions

Maintaining a receptive, professional attitude toward new ideas and suggestions that will be advantageous to the Stockdog Program.

Section 30.2 Stockdog Committee Duties

30.2.1 Duties of Members

All members of the Stockdog Committee may vote on all matters dealing with the Stockdog Program as presented to the Committee. Examples of duties are as listed, but not limited to the following:

A. Review proposed revisions to existing rules.

B. Review new programs presented for consideration.

C. Submit recommendations in a timely manner on every issue presented to the Committee from the Board of Directors back to the Board of Directors, which will make all final decisions.

D. Review all resumes of applicants to the Apprentice Stockdog Judge Program to verify they have met the requirements set forth in [Chapter 29](#) of these Rules and Regulations.

E. Review all resumes of applicants to be sure they have sufficient livestock knowledge and a working dog background necessary to be a responsible, knowledgeable Stockdog Judge.

30.2.2 Progress Report

A progress report will be sent to all Approved Judges and to any interested persons either directly or through the Aussie Times.

Section 30.3 Membership

30.3.1 Eligibility

The Board of Directors will appoint volunteers with Full ASCA memberships to Program Committees for a period of two years at the Spring Board of Directors' meeting.

30.3.2 Appointments

Committee appointments are made through a Committee Liaison appointing motion (second not required) to the Board. The Liaison will notify the Chairperson of all appointments to the Committee.

30.3.3 Make-Up of Committee

The Committee will consist of seven active ASCA trial contestants and five ASCA approved Stockdog Judges.

- A. One contestant shall be appointed from each of the seven geographic regions.
- B. Judges shall be appointed from any geographic region.
- C. Members from the same region(s) may be appointed if an applicant from a different region is unavailable.
- D. Contestants may only fill the Contestant positions and Stockdog Judges may only fill the Judges positions on the Committee.

30.3.4 Duration of Time

When a person is appointed to a Stockdog Committee position as either a Judge or contestant, they will fulfill the appointed term for that position until it expires. If existing Committee members apply to remain on the Committee after their term of service has expired, the Board of Directors may reappoint them during the Spring Board of Director's meeting.

A. A contestant member's term shall be for a two-year period beginning during the Spring Board of Director's meeting occurring in even-numbered years.

B. A Judge member's term shall be for a two-year period beginning during the Spring Board of Director's meeting occurring in odd-numbered years.

All Committees not grandfathered/exempt are to follow the current version of the Committee Procedures.

Section 30.4 Regions

REGION 1: WA, OR, ID, MT, AK

REGION 2: CA, NV, AZ, UT

REGION 3: CO, WY, NE, KS, ND, SD, MB, SK, AB, BC, YT, NT

REGION 4: MI, IA, IL, OH, WI, MN, IN, MO, KY

REGION 5: AR, LA, MS, AL, TN, NC, SC, GA, FL, TX, NM, OK

REGION 6: ME, NH, VT, NY, RI, MA, CT, PA, NJ, WV, VA, MD, DE, DC, ON, QC, NS, NB, PE, NF

REGION 7: EUROPE

Section 30.5 Stockdog Committee Administration

30.5.1 Selection of Chair

Each year, the Committee shall hold an election of its Chair during the period of 30 days before to 30 days after the Board of Directors' Spring Meeting.

A. The Chair must have been a full ASCA Member in good standing for three continuous (without a lapse in Membership) years.

B. The Chair must have served a minimum of one year on the Committee but does not need to be currently serving on the Committee to be elected to the Chair position.

C. The Chair shall serve a one-year term and may be reelected.

30.5.2 Selection of Liaison

The Stockdog Committee will select one Board Member to function as the Liaison between the Committee and the Board 30 days following the National Specialty Board of Director's meeting. The status of the Liaison will be non-voting on issues before the Stockdog Committee. It will be the Liaison's responsibility to communicate issues between the Board of Directors and the Stockdog Committee in a clear and timely fashion.

30.5.3 Publication of Votes

All Stockdog Committee votes will be published in the Aussie Times ASCA Secretary's Report and/or any approved ASCA e-mail list. Only the final count must be published.

For more detailed information concerning Committee procedures and responsibilities, refer to the ASCA Committee Procedure Manual found on the ASCA Website.

Chapter 31 Amendments

All proposed amendments shall be submitted to the Stockdog Committee for their review and comment. The Stockdog Program Rules and Regulations may be amended at any time deemed necessary by the ASCA Board of Directors.

Appendix 1: Working Description of the Australian Shepherd

Introduction: The Australian Shepherd was developed in the 19th and 20th centuries as a general-purpose ranch and farm dog in the American West, where a tough, enduring, versatile stockdog with an honest work ethic was required. His usual work included moving very large herds of sheep and cattle from summer to winter grazing grounds and back, flushing range cattle out of heavy brush, and moving livestock in tight quarters such as chutes and alleys. These kinds of jobs are still where Australian Shepherds excel and are most valued.

The Australian Shepherd is categorized as one of the Loose-Eyed breeds of stock dogs. He is a confident, authoritative worker with a unique style that differs from Strong-Eyed breeds. He is agile, upright and close-working, and exhibits these distinctive traits while maintaining the ability and versatility to control all types of livestock in an efficient and deliberate manner. The Australian Shepherd excels at controlling large and/or slow-moving flocks of sheep and herds of cattle and is highly regarded for his superior ability to effectively manage livestock in tightly confined spaces. The Australian Shepherd is powerful and intense by nature easily learning the appropriate force and distance needed for the type of livestock being worked. Utilizing a loose-eyed approach to stock, a working Australian Shepherd will often display wear, grip, and/or an authoritative bark, as well as eye when necessary, to handle their stock.

Wear: The Australian Shepherd's wear is smooth, balanced, and ground covering as the dog moves easily from side to side at the back of the stock, keeping his herd or flock together and moving forward. This is a very natural movement for an Australian Shepherd, and one that he can continue doing for hours at a time.

Grip: The Australian Shepherd will only use grip to move reluctant or challenging stock. The ideal Australian Shepherd naturally grips at both the head and heel, coming in low and hard on the heels to move cattle, or going to the head and gripping the nose or poll to turn an animal back to the herd.

Bark: The Australian Shepherd may bark to move stock or to face a challenge. His bark is conservative and should be authoritative when used. While the Australian Shepherd's grip typically affects a single animal, his bark can influence a whole herd, and is most effective when stock has come to a standstill such as in crowded alleyways. The Australian Shepherd's bark is particularly useful when gathering cattle from thick brush.

Eye: Since the Australian Shepherd is a loose-eyed working dog, he prefers to use his authority and presence to move livestock. However, if challenged, he may use eye in a direct and deliberate way until the challenge is over.

Appendix 2: Course Descriptions & Materials

GUIDELINES:

Course A	
Ducks/Geese	Sheep/Goats/Cattle
<p>Arena: minimum of 60 x 90 ft up to a maximum of 100 x 100 ft (plus or minus 5 ft combined).</p> <p>Panels: 4 to 5 ft x 2 ft.</p> <p>Take Pen: located at end of arena opposite obstacles 1 and 2, outside the arena; 8 x 8 ft minimum, 16 x 16 ft maximum, with the take pen gate a minimum of 8 ft.</p> <p>Obstacle 1: one panel located 8 ft from rear fence; entrance 4 ft wide and exit 8 ft wide.</p> <p>Obstacle 2: two panels positioned against the side fence creating a 90-degree angle; located 8 ft from rear fence. Entrance 8 ft wide and exit 4 feet wide.</p> <p>Center Chute: located mid arena, entrance approximately 7 ft, exit 2 ft.</p> <p>Re-pen: Same as take pen or on same side of arena.</p>	<p>Arena: 100 x 200 ft minimum (plus or minus 5 ft combined).</p> <p>Panels: 8 to 12 ft.</p> <p>Take Pen: located at end of arena opposite obstacle 1 and 2, outside the arena.</p> <p>Obstacle 1: one panel located 24 ft from rear fence; entrance 10 ft, exit 24 ft.</p> <p>Obstacle 2: two panels positioned against the side fence creating a 90-degree angle, 24 ft from rear fence. Entrance is 24 ft wide, and exit is 10 ft wide.</p> <p>Chute: opening located mid-arena; exit 4 ft.</p> <p>Re-pen: same as take pen or on same side of arena.</p>

Course B	
Ducks/Geese	Sheep/Goats/Cattle
<p>Arena: minimum of 60 x 90 ft up to a maximum of 100 x 100 ft (plus or minus 5 ft combined).</p> <p>Panels: 4 to 5 ft x 2 ft.</p> <p>Obstacle 1: two panels positioned against the side fence creating a 90-degree angle; located 8 ft from rear fence. Entrance 8 ft wide and exit 4 ft wide.</p> <p>Obstacle 2: one panel located 8 ft from rear fence; entrance 4 ft wide and exit 8 ft wide.</p> <p>Free-standing Pen: 4 to 6 ft square with the gate located mid-arena; gate must open towards obstacle 2.</p> <p>Re-pen: located at end of arena, outside of arena.</p>	<p>Arena: 100 x 200 ft minimum (plus or minus 5 ft combined).</p> <p>Panels: 8 to 12 ft (EXCEPTION: free-standing pen).</p> <p>Obstacle 1: two panels positioned against the side fence creating a 90-degree angle, 24 ft from rear fence. Entrance is 24 ft wide, and exit is 10 ft wide.</p> <p>Obstacle 2: one panel located 24 ft from rear fence; entrance 10 ft, exit 24 ft.</p> <p>Free-standing Pen: 12 to 16-foot panels located mid-arena; gate must open towards obstacle 2 and must be a minimum of 10 ft.</p> <p>Re-pen: located opposite obstacle 1 and 2, preferably outside of arena.</p>

Course C	
Ducks/Geese	Sheep/Goats/Cattle
<p>Arena: minimum of 60' X 90' up to a maximum of 100' X 100' (plus or minus five (5) ft combined).</p> <p>Panels: 4 to 5 ft x 2 ft.</p> <p>Take Pen: Located at the end of arena opposite Obstacle 1 and 2, outside the arena. The Take Pen must be a minimum size of 8' x 8', and a maximum size of 16' x 16'. The take pen gate must be a minimum of 8 ft.</p> <p>Obstacle 1: two panels positioned 12 ft and up to 20 ft from rear fence and 12 ft and up to 20 ft from the side fence at a 45-degree angle from the upper left corner of the arena, in line with each other with a 4-ft opening. NOTE: Obstacles 1 and 2 must be set at the same distances from the fences.</p> <p>Obstacle 2: two panels positioned 12 ft and up to 20 ft from rear fence and 12 ft and up to 20 ft from the side fence at a 45-degree angle from the upper right corner of the arena, in line with each other with a 4-ft opening. NOTE: Obstacles 1 and 2 must be set at the same distances from the fences.</p> <p>Chute: located 35 ft down the arena from the bottom corner of the panel of obstacle 2 and 12 ft and up to 20 ft from the side fence, with a 2-ft exit. See drawing in Appendix.</p> <p>Re-pen: Same as take pen or on same side of arena.</p>	<p>Arena: 150 x 225 ft minimum (plus or minus 5 ft combined).</p> <p>Panels: 8 to 12 ft</p> <p>Take Pen: located at the end of the arena opposite obstacle 1 and 2, outside of the arena.</p> <p>Obstacle 1: two panels positioned 35 ft and up to 50 ft from the rear fence and 35 ft and up to 50 ft from the side fence at a 45-degree angle to the upper left corner of the arena, in line with each other with a 10 ft opening, or a 15 ft opening when using 6-10 head of livestock, as long as the cross drive between the bottom corner of the panel of obstacle 1 to the bottom corner of the panel of obstacle 2 is no less than 43 ft across.</p> <p>NOTE: Obstacle 1 and 2 must be set at the same distances from the fences.</p> <p>Obstacle 2: two panels positioned 35 ft and up to 50 ft from the rear fence and 35 ft and up to 50 ft from the side fence at a 45-degree angle to the upper right corner of the arena, in line with each other with a 10 ft opening, or a 15 ft opening when using 6-10 head of livestock, as long as the cross drive between the bottom corner of the panel of obstacle 1 to the bottom corner of the panel of obstacle 2 is no less than 43 ft across.</p> <p>NOTE: Obstacle 1 and 2 must be set at the same distances from the fences.</p> <p>Chute: located one 100 ft down the arena from the bottom corner of the panel of obstacle 2 and 35 ft up to 50 ft from the side fence, with a 4-ft exit. See drawing in Appendix.</p> <p>Re-pen: Same as take pen or on same side of arena.</p>

Appendix 3: Livestock Use Charts

Working Trials											
Three (3) Head / Group				Four (4) Head / Group				Five (5) Head / Group			
# of Stock	Max # of Runs Allowed			# of Stock	Max # of Runs Allowed			# of Stock	Max # of Runs Allowed		
	Ducks / Geese	Sheep / Goats	Cattle		Ducks / Geese	Sheep / Goats	Cattle		Ducks / Geese	Sheep / Goats	Cattle
3	n/a	4	4	4	n/a	4	4	5	4	4	4
6	n/a	8	8	8	n/a	8	8	10	8	8	8
9	n/a	12	12	12	n/a	12	12	15	12	12	12
12	n/a	16	16	16	n/a	16	16	20	16	16	16
15	n/a	20	20	20	n/a	20	20	25	20	20	20
18	n/a	24	24	24	n/a	24	24	30	24	24	24
21	n/a	28	28	28	n/a	28	28	35	28	28	28
24	n/a	32	32	32	n/a	32	32	40	32	32	32
27	n/a	36	36	36	n/a	36	36	45	36	36	36
30	n/a	40	40	40	n/a	40	40	50	40	40	40
33	n/a	44	44	44	n/a	44	44	55	44	44	44
36	n/a	48	48	48	n/a	48	48	60	48	48	48
39	n/a	52	52	52	n/a	52	52	65	52	52	52
42	n/a	56	56	56	n/a	56	56	70	56	56	56
45	n/a	60	60	60	n/a	60	60	75	60	60	60
Formula: [(# of stock on hand) divided by (# of head / run)] multiplied by (# of times that stock is allowed to run) = how many runs allowed per day.											

Ranch Trials		
# of Stock	Max # of Runs Allowed	Maximum 4 Runs / Head Maximum 20 Runs / Day Minimum 10 Head / Run *10 head would need to rest for the time allotted for one run.
10*	4	
20	8	
30	12	
40	16	
50	20	

Conversion Chart					
Feet	Centimeters	Meters	Feet	Centimeters	Meters
2	60.96	0.61	40	1219.20	12.19
4	121.92	1.22	50	1524	15.24
6	182.88	1.83	60	1828.80	18.29
8	243.84	2.44	80	2438.40	24.38
10	304.80	3.05	90	2743.20	27.43
12	365.76	3.66	100	3048	30.48
14	426.72	4.27	110	3352.80	33.53
16	487.68	4.88	125	3810	38.10
18	548.64	5.49	150	4572	45.72
20	609.60	6.10	225	6858	68.58

Appendix 4: Directory of ASCA Stockdog Judges

The full listing of ASCA Stockdog Judges can be found at the back of these rules (before the forms) or online at:

<https://www.asca.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/judgeemail.pdf>

Appendix 5: Herding Breeds Eligible to Compete in ASCA Stockdog Trials

Ref: The Atlas of Dog Breeds of the World - Bonnie Wilcox, DVM and Chris Walkowic

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Australian Cattle Dog (Australia) | 31. Hairy Mouth Heeler (USA) |
| 2. Australian Kelpie (Australia) | 32. Hovawart (Germany) |
| 3. Australian Shepherd (USA) | 33. Iceland Dog (Iceland) |
| 4. Belgian Laekenois (Belgium) | 34. Kerry Blue Terrier (Ireland) |
| 5. Belgian Malinois (Belgium) | 35. Lancashire Heeler (Great Britain) |
| 6. Belgian Sheepdog (Groenendael) (Belgium) | 36. Lapinporokoiri (Lapponian Herder) (Finland) |
| 7. Belgian Tervuren (Belgium) | 37. McNab (USA) |
| 8. Bouviers Des Flandres (Belgium) | 38. Miniature American Shepherd (USA) |
| 9. Bergamasco (Italy) | 39. Mudi (Hungary) |
| 10. Bernese Mountain Dog (Switzerland) | 40. North American Shepherd (USA) |
| 11. Beauceron (France) | 41. Norwegian Buhund (Norway) |
| 12. Briard (France) | 42. Old English Sheep Dog (Great Britain) |
| 13. Bearded Collie (Great Britain) | 43. Picardy Shepherd (France) |
| 14. Border Collie (Great Britain) | 44. Polish Owczarek Nizinny (Poland) |
| 15. Blue Lacy (USA) | 45. Puli (Hungary) |
| 16. Catahoula Leopard Dog (USA) | 46. Pumi (Hungary) |
| 17. Canaan Dog (Israel) | 47. Pyrenean Shepherd (France) |
| 18. Cao de Serra de Aires (Portuguese Sheep Dog) (Portugal) | 48. Rottweiler (Germany) |
| 19. Croatian Sheep Dog (Croatia) | 49. Samoyed (Siberia) |
| 20. Catalan Sheep Dog (Spain) | 50. Schapendoes (Dutch Sheep Dog) (Netherlands) |
| 21. Collie (Great Britain) | 51. Shetland Sheep Dog (Great Britain) |
| 22. Cardigan Welsh Corgi (Great Britain) | 52. Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier (Great Britain) |
| 23. Pembroke Welsh Corgi (Great Britain) | 53. Spanish Water Dog (Spain) |
| 24. Dutch Shepherd (Netherlands) | 54. Standard Schnauzer (Germany) |
| 25. English Shepherd (USA) | 55. Swedish Lapphund (Sweden) |
| 26. Entlebucher Mountain Dog (Switzerland) | 56. Tibetan Terrier (China) |
| 27. Finnish Lapphund (Finland) | 57. Vastgotaspets (Sweden) |
| 28. German Shepherd Dog (Germany) | 58. White Shepherd (USA) |
| 29. German Coolie/Koolie (Australia) | |
| 30. Greater Swiss Mountain Dog (Switzerland) | |

Appendix 6: Stockdog Judge Discipline and Procedure for Reinstatement

Action	Disciplinary Response	Reinstatement
Failure to take/pass the Stockdog Test.	1. Name removed from Judges' list. 2. Judging privileges suspended.	Automatic reinstatement after taking/passing Stockdog Test
Failure to take/pass Stockdog Test for more than 5 years.	1. Name removed from Judges' list. 2. Judging privileges suspended.	1. Contact Stockdog Committee with letter requesting reinstatement with brief explanation of absence. 2. Stockdog Committee may require additional information depending on time absent and stockdog activity. 3. Satisfy the Provisional requirements.
Behavior or act resulting in Letter of Reprimand from the ASCA Board of Directors.	1. Return to minimum 1-year provisional status. 2. May continue to judge Regular Stockdog Trials, but ineligible to judge Stockdog Finals.	Stockdog Committee vote to recommend reinstatement after provisional status requirements have been satisfied.
Behavior or act resulting in ASCA membership suspension due to ASCA rule violation involving any Stockdog Program activity.	1. Stockdog judging privilege suspension concurrent with membership suspension. 2. Minimum 5-year wait after membership suspension is lifted before request to Stockdog Committee for reinstatement.	Stockdog Committee vote to recommend reinstatement after provisional status requirements have been satisfied.
Behavior or act resulting in non-member having Stockdog judging privileges suspended.	Minimum 5-year wait after membership suspension is lifted before request to Stockdog Committee for reinstatement.	Stockdog Committee vote to recommend reinstatement after provisional status requirements have been satisfied.
Behavior or act resulting in Stockdog judging privilege being revoked.	Lifetime suspension from ASCA Stockdog judging privileges.	None.

Appendix removed effective 6-1-2022 (wording moved to Section 26.16).

Appendix 7: Suggestions for Facility and Livestock at ASCA National Specialty and Stockdog Finals

FACILITY

Arena: The size of the arenas should be in accordance with the current rule book. The arenas need to provide adequate egress for injured dog and/or handler. Egress opening must be large enough to allow a golf cart or mobile stretcher into the arena. If possible, an opening large enough to allow access for an ambulance or stock trailer should be provided. A barrier must be placed between the arena and holding pens to obscure the view and reduce the amount of draw in the arena. The barrier shall be solid or have holes no larger than 1/4". Shade cloth works if affordable. It should be attached with consideration for the effects of wind. A solid tarp may have slits cut into it to allow for wind to pass through. The perimeter of the arena and holding pens should have a line marked by paint, chalk, tape, ribbon, etc. at a distance to prevent spectators from approaching too close and disrupting the stock or dog during its' run. Obstacles should be constructed to be seen through but not allow an animal to get its head or body through. Panels should be well secured to the ground to prevent movement when run into by stock or dog.

Set out or Take Pens: The inside of the take pen shall also have a visual barrier in place. The gate of the take pen shall have a visual barrier to deter livestock from attempting to enter the pen while the gate is closed. No barrier is needed on the inside of a set out pen if used but must have one on the gate if not placed on the inside perimeter of the pen. The take pen must have an opening along bottom for a dog to escape to allow for safety. A secure latch shall be used on the take or set out pen. If a chain or bungee cord is used, it must be securely fastened at one end, with the other end having a distinct attachment point. The gate on take pen must be able to open at least 90 degrees with minimal effort.

Re-Pen: The re-pen may be the same pen as the take pen. The re-pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the take pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena. The re-pen gate must be clearly marked so contestants are able to readily identify its' location. Center Pen Size of center pen for sheep/goats and ducks/geese shall be in accordance with the current rule book. The size of center pen for cattle will be no less than 16' x 16'. The center pen must have an opening along bottom for a dog to escape to allow for safety. Gate on center pen must be able to open at least 90 degrees with minimal effort.

STOCK

A stock trailer to transport injured animals or pen to hold injured animals must be available. The pen should not be in view of the spectating public. If no trailer is available, a veterinarian must be readily available to treat injured animals. Stock needs to have been worked by qualified dogs and handlers. All stock needs to be familiar with the arenas they are to be worked in. They need to have been moved around the arena and through the obstacles in a calm manner but should not be worked in the manner or direction of the course. This may be done by humans on foot or with a qualified dog that is not involved in the upcoming competition.

DUCKS need to be worked daily prior to the trial to be legged up and fit. They also need to be broken down into groups of five and worked to get used to a small group. They should be worked by a qualified, experienced dog and handler. Ideal trial age is 4 to 10 months of age. It is best if each set of ducks is made up of only one sex. Ducks over one year of age may become sour workers. Hens, at 9-10 months, begin to get broody and do not work as well as drakes. They need to be able to work consistently for 10 to 12 minutes. They need to be stress broke. They need to be able to move calmly off the pressure of the dog, be taken out of corners and worked in the open. They should not work a course and do not need to be center penned. They can be carefully worked out of a large take pen type area. Fresh drinking water should be available at all times. Ducks should have access to water to swim and wash eyes. Small children's swimming pools work well. Do not feed the morning of a trial - they fill their craw and cannot move well. Ducks should be one flock of the same type of duck, to provide consistency of runs. If housing overnight in the trial arena, feed, and water at the non-draw end. This encourages the ducks to go to their least favorite area. When housing ducks away from the trial arena, they should be allowed an adequate time in the trial arena to become comfortable with the facility. This is important and should be done before the beginning of the trial and after the completion of each trial day. Ducks do best if held in individual pens of 5. Holding them as a flock and gate sorting is stressful and should not be done. Pens should be tall enough to keep the ducks in but short enough you can reach over and easily pick one up. They should be large enough for ducks to relax and not be crowded. Water containers should be available in all holding pens. Holding pens should be blocked from view from the arena and take pen.

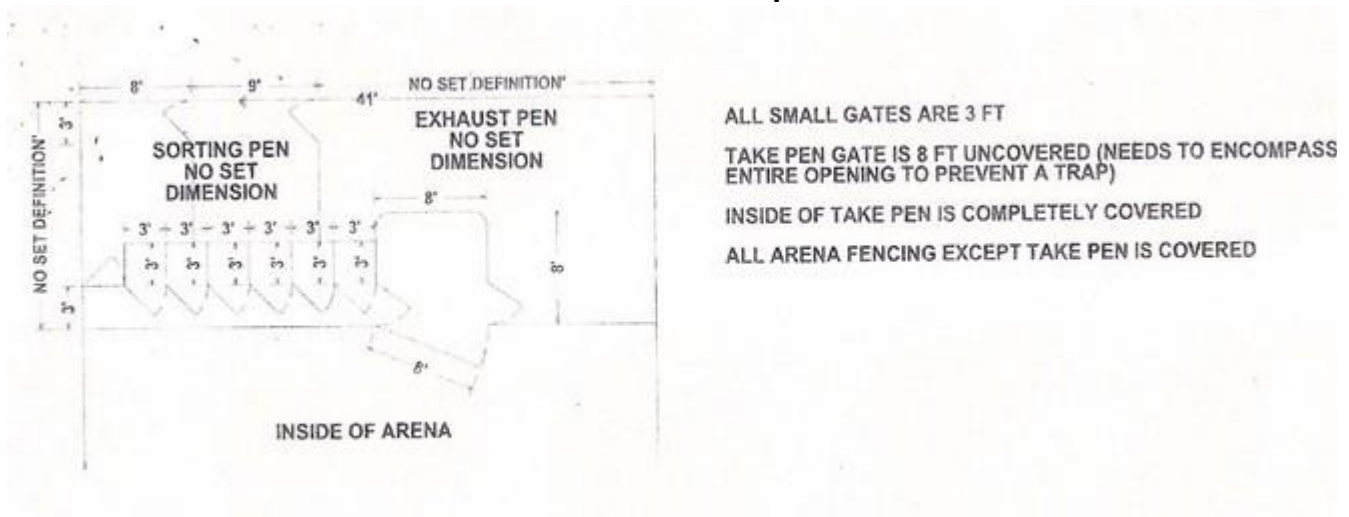
CATTLE AND SHEEP need to be worked in the size to be used to allow them to become accustomed to working in a smaller group. This may be done prior to arrival at the show facility. They should be worked by a qualified, experienced dog and handler and be comfortable with dogs. When feeding stock in the pens, feed along the perimeter of the pen as well as in the middle so all stock has food available at all times. Water tanks to be filled and kept full while stock is in the pens. Check water in the evening after stock has been eating. Water is to be available for stock after each run. Multiple water tanks should be placed in each holding pen to allow the greatest number of stock accesses to water. No water is required in the take pen, set out pen, or post-sort pen. Cattle and sheep will be gate sorted. All stock is gate sorted into a smaller pen prior to being placed in the take pen or set out pen. They shall be allowed at least one complete run to settle before being placed in the set out or take pen. Do not feed in the arena.

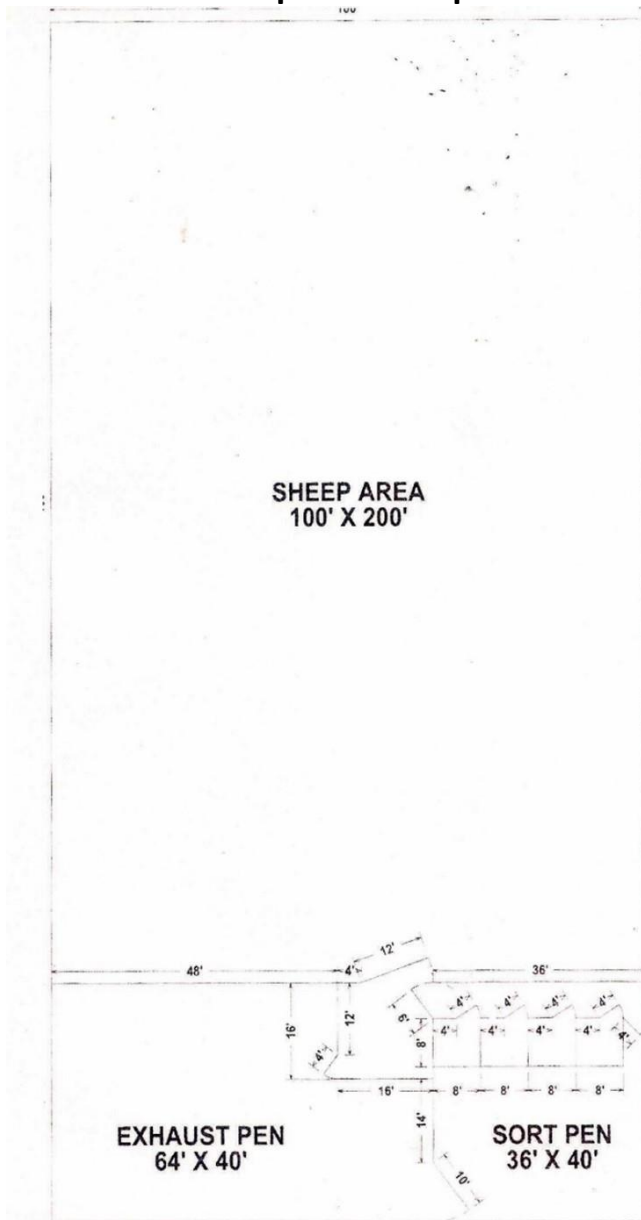
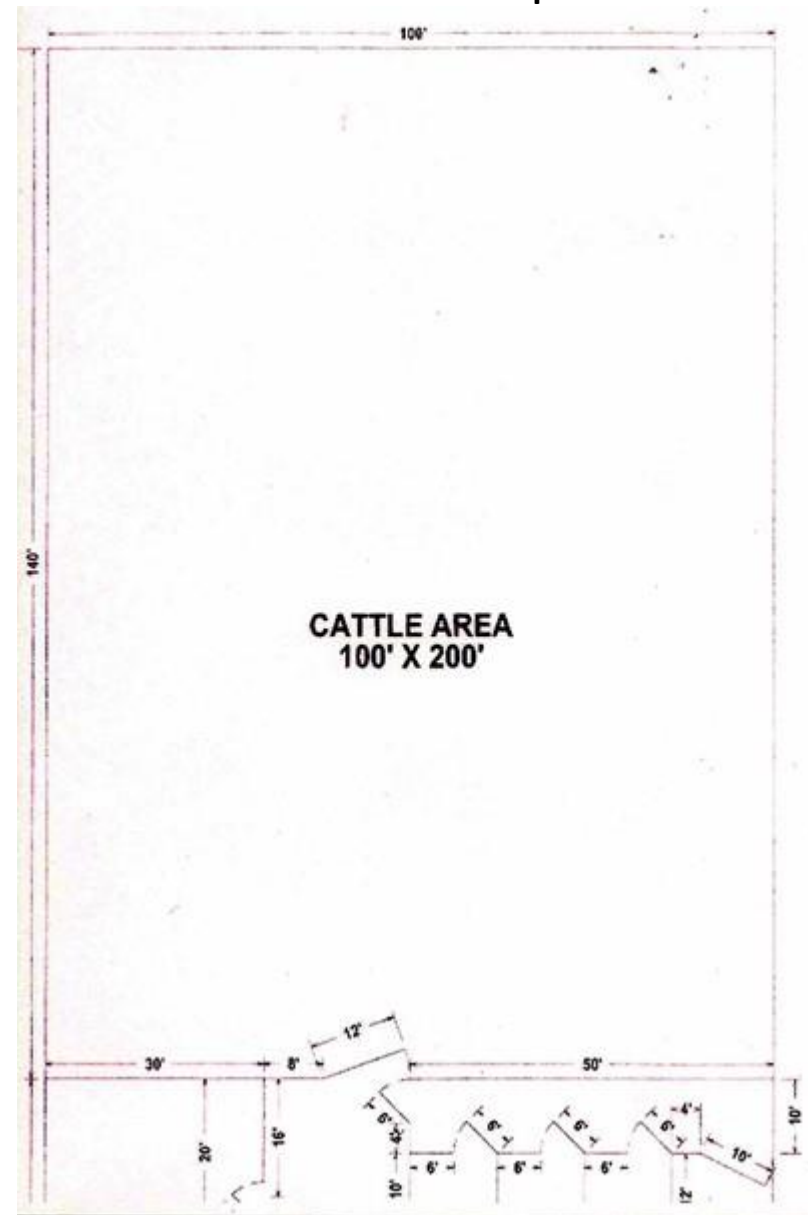
JUDGES

Judges shall be assigned a position to view the trial arena and must remain at their assigned post while each run is taking place (take pen, handlers' line, runaway lines, etc.). Each assigned position must provide a clear, unobstructed view of the assigned post, while also allowing a full view of the arena. Judges need adequate shelter and refreshments while judging trial, even if sitting in the stands. Shelter shall provide protection from rain or sun at each position assigned. Special needs or requirements of individual judges should be addressed prior to the beginning of the trial event.

Recommended Pen Set-ups:

Duck Pen Set-up



Sheep Pen Set-up**Cattle Pen Set-up**

DUCKS

Compiled November 2011 by Marti Parrish

Source: Order from a hatchery. Many hatcheries may be found online. There are many with a good track record which also have good information on their sites. Incubate your own eggs or hatchery eggs. 1999 National we set up 6 incubators, hatched 200+ ducks from runner cross eggs. They came together as one flock at 7 weeks of age and began their exercise program. They were ready to trial in mid-September at 4 to 6 months of age. Hatching takes 28-30 days, but you must allow time for failures. We started incubating in early February.

Herding Breeds: See Comparison Table under ducks at: www.metzerfarms.com. Lightweight and medium weight breeds tend to work best for herding. Heavy weight ducks do not have the endurance, cannot move as well, and break down more easily. If used must be used at a very young age. Heavy weight ducks also cost more to feed. Runners and Khaki Campbell are more nervous and flightier. They become frantic, stick in corners if not well stress broke. Runners crossed with a calmer bird life Welsh Harlequin, Buff, Pekin, or Swedish make an excellent herding duck. They are less fragile and more sensible. Bantam ducks have their legs well underneath them and move slowly horizontal to the ground – thus “Low Riders”. In general, Low Riders tend not to flock as tightly as the more upright duck and move much slower.

Below is a list of duck breeds – including the ASCA Nationals where the breed has been used.

Lightweight:	Heavy Weight:	Medium Weight:	Bantam or Low Riders:
Bali Campbell (1990, 2001, 2009 Colorado) (2011 Wisconsin) Magpie (2007 New Jersey) (1992 California) Pacific NW Herding Ducks-Runner Cross (1999 Washington) Runner (2002, 2004 California) Welsh Harlequin (2012 California)	Rouen Pekin Saxony Spotted Appleyard	Ancona Black Cayuga Buff Orpington Golden 300 Layers Swedish White Layer	Australian Spotted Call East Indie

Sex: For breeding purposes hens should outnumber drakes – 1 drake for 5-6 hens. For herding, young ducks, hen and drakes work equally well. Hens, at 9-10 months, begin to get broody and do not work as well as drakes.

Flocks: For Nationals/Finals each division or go-round ducks should be one flock of the same type of duck, to have consistency of runs. Other Trials may use ducks from multiple flocks but each set of 5 ducks must come from the same flock. Sort within a flock by type; heavy vs. upright so that the ducks move more easily together. If housing flocks together mark by color tape or bands - for easy of sorting. A defining wing clip may also be used to sort flocks.

Housing: Adequate room - the more space the better for cleanliness and disease prevention. Allow daytime pasture to exercise, graze, and forage. Ducks should be confined for safety at night. Fresh drinking water should be available at all times. Ducks should have access to water to swim and wash eyes. Small children's swimming pools work well.

Feeding: This is a huge expense - this is why you only want to keep them only for as short a time as possible. 16% to 20% protein - non-medicated - waterfowl or all-purpose poultry feed. They are athletes they need to be fed well, especially if growing out young ducks. Ducks are scoopers not pickers - need to be feed in deep bowls (not buckets) and not scattered like you would for a chicken. They need to be feed in multiple containers so that all ducks are able to feed. If not the less bold ducks will starve. Evening feeding encourages foraging during the day. Grazing and foraging cuts down on feed cost. Look for bulk sources of feed to supplement- pea factory, pumpkins, day old bread. Do not feed the morning of a trial - they fill their craw and cannot move well.

Trial Age: Ideal trial age is 4 to 10 months of age – young, conditioned ducks work best. For most breeds hens start laying at about 6 to 7 months of age and reach peak production about 4-5 weeks after they first start laying. During peak production hens become broody and do not work as well. Up until that time hens work as well as the drakes. An all-drake flock may start raping and killing one another when mature. Ducks over a year of age may become sour workers.

Handling: Hold at wing base - not by neck - and support with hand under chest.

Clip Wings: Wings only need to be clipped once yearly or after molting. Clip them during the time you are conditioning them before ducks are taken to a trial. It is only necessary to clip the flight feathers of one wing. Please see: <http://www.cornerstonefarm.net/wingdemo.html> for an excellent description / diagram of clipping.

Conditioning: Physical conditioning - Like any athlete, ducks need their legs and muscles exercised to build up endurance. This can be done by a human or a good dog.

When to start - At 7-8 weeks of age ducklings can start working and can be ready to trial at 12-16 weeks of age. Start

with slow, calm, short walks 3 or so minutes. Watch for panting and flapping – stop - rest - then a couple more minutes. Start with a large group 20 or so. If you can do it twice daily great, if not, once daily will suffice, with an occasional day of rest. You will be surprised how quickly they leg up. Do not push them – you do not want to cause injury. They need to be able to work consistently for 10 to 12 minutes. Mental conditioning - They also need to be stress broke. Worked by a good dog and broken down to smaller groups 10 then 5. They need to learn to move calmly of the pressure of the dog, be taken out of corners and worked in the open. They DO NOT NEED to work a course or be center penned, though making them comfortable with being in a small pen is advisable! They can be carefully worked out of a large take pen type area. There will be some individuals that will need to be weeded out. Some will not have the endurance necessary; some will mentally not be team players. So be sure to start with more ducks than you will need on trial day.

Transportation: Do not load a large number of ducks in a horse trailer and expect them to be safe for a lengthy trip – they will trample one another. Transport in hard-sided dog crates. A 200-size crate will hold 5-6 ducks, 300 holds 7-10 ducks, 400 size may hold 15 -20 ducks. Remember the larger the crate the harder it is to maneuver. Do not over pack ducks or they will suffocate one another, allow for plenty of ventilation. Put shavings or straw in the bottom for footing and absorption.

Trial Housing: If housing overnight in the trial arena feed and water at the non-draw end. This encourages the ducks to go to their least favorite area. When housing ducks away from the trial arena, they should be allowed an adequate time in the trial arena to become comfortable with the facility. This is important.

Holding Pens: Ducks do best if held in individual pens of 5. Holding them as a flock and gate sorting is stressful. Dumping them out of crates is inhumane, and unnecessary with a little planning. Pens should be tall enough to keep the ducks in but short enough you can reach over and easily pick one up. They should be large enough for ducks to relax and not be crowded. 2'W x 2'W x 2'6"H foot pens will work well. They can be constructed from stiff 2x4 welded wire made into panels and joined by rabbit cage clips. This way cages can be collapsed and hauled easily. You need one 4-sided pen, then multiple 3-sided pens for each row. Make two or more rows of these pens (starting with the 4-sided pen) with a narrow alley between the rows so that gates, when swung open, reach all the way across the alley. Water containers should be available in all pens. Holding pens should be blocked from view from the arena and take pen.

Trial Arena: The larger the arena the more relaxed the ducks will be. The arena needs to be tapped off well back on all sides to prevent folks from walking up and putting pressure on the ducks and dogs. Obstacles should be constructed to be seen through but not allow a duck to get its head or body through. Panels should be well secured to the ground to prevent movement when run into by a duck or dog. Center pen gates should be constructed to swing completely open – not just to 45 or 90 degrees.

Do not take the ducks home; advertise them in your catalogue for sale! Or give them as awards! But definitely not as Judges Gifts! 😊

This is just a brief outline. There is a wealth of information available on the Internet about raising and keeping ducks. Also, a great resource is Storey's Guide to Raising Ducks by Dave Holderread.

Appendix 8: Code of Personal Conduct

According to ASCA's By-Laws, one of the objectives and purposes of the Club is to do all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the Australian Shepherd as a purebred dog and to encourage sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, working and obedience trials, tracking tests/trials and at any other event where Australian Shepherds participate. Contestants, event workers, judges, and visitors are expected to maintain a family-oriented, sportsmanlike atmosphere. Judges and workers are expected to exhibit professionalism and courtesy. Competitors are expected to conduct themselves at the highest level of sportsmanship.

Personal Conduct and Sportsmanship at ASCA Events: ASCA has the right to reprimand or suspend its members, contestants, judges, helpers, and officials, from any or all privileges of ASCA for conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Australian Shepherd, ASCA events or ASCA. ASCA has the right to remove from its show grounds any visitors who violate its code of conduct. Everyone at an ASCA event shall maintain the highest level of sportsmanship and are to conduct themselves accordingly. Foul/ abusive language, yelling at exhibitors or judges, disorderly conduct, and/or poor sportsmanship will not be allowed and will be disciplined.

Poor Sportsmanship is grounds for discipline. This includes purposeful harassment and bullying. If poor conduct occurs, an Affiliate or the ASCA Board of Directors may take direct action, even if no formal request for conflict resolution is filed. If a representative of the Affiliate (Show Secretary, President, other Officer, etc.) witnesses improper conduct, the Affiliate should remove the disruptive individual(s) from the event grounds for the entire show/trial weekend. Any other person observing poor sportsmanship should file a Request for Conflict Resolution, making the behavior in question subject to the **ASCA Conflict Resolution Protocol**.

The presiding Judge/Judges is/are responsible for enforcing the preceding within the ring/trial arena. The Event Committee is responsible for enforcing the preceding outside the ring/trial arena and within the Show Grounds.

For enforcement, the following definitions apply:

Boundaries of Ring/Trial Arena and Show Grounds:

A. **RING/TRIAL ARENA:** The ring/trial arena is the bounded area in which judging of an event occurs and over which the Judge has authority. The boundary is defined by physical barriers plus a buffer zone extending ten (10) feet from such physical barriers.

B. **SHOW GROUNDS:** The Show Grounds are the boundaries of the grounds on which ASCA events are held. They include, but not limited to, all areas outside the ring/trial arena (including the buffer zone) set aside to support the conduct of the event.

Appendix 9: Communicable Disease

- A. No dog shall be eligible to compete at any show, no dog shall be brought into the grounds or premises of any dog show, and any dog which may have been brought into the grounds or premises of a dog show shall immediately be removed, if it:
1. Shows clinical symptoms of canine influenza, distemper, infectious hepatitis, parvovirus, leptospirosis, kennel cough or other communicable disease, or
 2. Has been confirmed by a veterinarian to have a communicable disease within thirty days prior to the opening of the show, or
 3. Has been kenneled within thirty days prior to the opening of the show in a household in which there were veterinarian-confirmed cases of canine influenza, distemper, infectious hepatitis, leptospirosis, kennel cough or other communicable disease.
- B. The ASCA Board of Directors reserves the right to call a quarantine if the situation warrants. The length and details of such quarantine will vary depending on the specific disease and the gravity of the situation.
- C. **Protocol for Communicable Disease Notification:**
1. In the event that a host Affiliate is made aware of a dog exhibiting symptoms of a communicable disease, the hosting Affiliate will in turn investigate, following the steps outlined in the **ASCA Conflict Resolution Protocol**, observe the dog, and, if warranted, remove the dog. Dogs that within thirty days prior to the show have traveled or have been kenneled with a dog exhibiting symptoms may also be removed. In the case of removal of a dog(s), the Affiliate shall immediately report it to the ASCA Board via the Executive Secretary by emailing the Affiliate Health and Safety Report. The Affiliate Club shall provide a copy of the report to the owner of the dog(s).
 2. Owners who believe that their dogs have contracted a communicable disease while at an ASCA event or have attended an ASCA event within the incubation period of a communicable disease should report the illness to the ASCA Board of Directors by contacting the Executive Secretary and submitting the Owner's Health and Safety Report form. All reports will be kept confidential.
 3. Reports received by the Board will be investigated by an assigned Director, per normal Board procedure, to assess the extent of the communicable disease risk. The assigned Director will investigate and will report findings and a recommendation to the Board within three working days.
 4. In instances of reported cases of communicable disease during or following the ASCA National Specialty, ASCA will send out a notice to the membership through its official means of communication, notifying members of the report of the disease and providing educational information concerning the disease in question. Affiliate clubs scheduling events within thirty days of the ASCA National Specialty should be aware of possible financial losses if a quarantine is necessary.
 5. The owner of a dog that has been in contact with another dog which has been confirmed by a Veterinarian to have a Communicable Disease will be required to provide Veterinarian documentation to the ASCA Affiliate or the ASCA National Specialty Committee in order to receive an entry refund. This rule will be in force prior to or after the close of entries.

Australian Shepherd Club of America

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Last name	First name	ID#	Phone #	E-mail Address	Area/Country	Class					
						Conf	Obed	Track	Work	Agil	Ral
Show Type:	STOCK TRIAL										
State/Country:	AUSTRIA										
SCHWARZMANN	SUSANNE	5472	0043-699-1110 6440	SUSANNE@AUSSIE.AT	2603 FELIXDORF					R	A
OTTO	ANNIE	5485	(807) 620-5640	ANNIEOTTO@HOTMAIL.CA	ATIKOKAN, ONTARIO P0T 1C0					R	
WHEELER	TANYA L	4660	(807) 473-5629	tuckercl@tbaytel.net	SLATE RIVER, ON P7J0G8					R	
State/Country:	CANADA										
WHEELER	MADISON	5500	807-633-4731	TBAY.WHEELER@GMAIL.COM	THUNDER BAY, ON P7J 1N5					R	
State/Country:	GERMANY										
ZILCH	SANDRA	5080	+49 (0) 6021 69689	sandrazilch@sbarlaussies.de	63768 HOESBACH					R	
CAMPEDELLI	MATTEO	5440	039-335200932	matteo.campedelli@gmail.com	47832 SAN CLEMENTE					R	
DE JONG	ANNEKE	4887	516462998	JJRANCH@HETNET.NL	8412TA HOORNSTERZWAAG					R	
State/Country:	AL										
WALTER	MAARTEN	1	(503) 369-8683	maartenwalter@hotmail.com	DUTTON AL 35744	S	U			R	
State/Country:	CA										
COLE-MACMURRAY	KIRSTEN	5309	818-4307025	TOPROCKAS@AOL.COM	ACTON CA 93510					P	
NAGANO	MARIE	5176	9099382996	naganom@earthlink.net	RIVERSIDE CA 92505					R	
WARREN	BRAD	1738	(805) 995-2449	reverseb@gmail.com	CAYUCOS CA 93430					R	
State/Country:	CO										
HARTNAGLE	JAMES (JIM)	4103	970-215-1800	JLHARTE@AOL.COM	KIOWA CO 80117					R	
State/Country:	FL										
CLAYTON	DAVID C	4253	850 447-1326	dlclayton@tds.net	QUINCY FL 32351	S				R	
State/Country:	GA										
BRYANT	ALLISON	3987	(770) 893-3647	ally@busydog.com	MARBLE HILL GA 30148	P				R	S
BRYANT	MICHAEL	4553	(770) 893-3647	MGB4@ICLOUD.COM	MARBLE HILL GA 30148					R	
KIRBY	WAYNE	4307	404-401-6374	vision_kennels@bellsouth.net	CARROLLTON GA 30117-6688					R	
MYRICK	ROBERT	4686	(770) 757-6033	truegritfarm@gmail.com	STOCKBRIDGE GA 30281					R	
PADGETT	CHERYL	4366	404-216-5152	HARDROCKAUSSIES@YAHOO.COM	CARTERSVILLE GA 30121	S				R	
PADGETT	TONY	3512	(770) 608-6861	tonypadgettstockdogs@yahoo.com	CALHOUN GA 30701					R	
PIERCE	DEVONA	4659	(770) 757-6032	dmcowgirlup@gmail.com	MONROE GA 30656					R	
VEST	RACHEL	3513	770-634-5582	investedr@yahoo.com	JEFFERSON GA 30549					R	
State/Country:	IA										
BERGERT	JAMES	3964	319-350-7310	jameshogdogs@gmail.com	WILLIAMS IA 50271					R	
State/Country:	ID										

Conform: J=Junior N=Non-Regular P=Provisional R=Regular B=Breeder S=Senior OP=Other Person
Track: T=TD X=TDX/Obed: N=Novice O=Open U=Utility/Rally: P=Provisional R=Regular S=Senior
Stock: P=Provisional A=Appre R=Reg/Agility: A=Appr S=Supervise R=Regular

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Last name	First name	ID#	Phone #	E-mail Address	Area/Country	Class					
						Conf	Obed	Track	Work	Agil	Ral
GERKEN	CAROL	5377	208-739-3246	kjaussies1@gmail.com	PAYETTE	ID	83661		P		
JOHNSON-GARRETT	ROBYN	4670	(208) 600-2425	temptationarena@gmail.com	KUNA	ID	83634				R
SCHVANEVELDT	MAXINE	4276	(208) 989-7900	aussiecowdog@yahoo.com	MELBA	ID	83641				R
SIMMONS	SHARON M	3690	(509) 968-4000	SMSWKDOG@GMAIL.COM	PAYETTE	ID	83661				R
State/Country: IL											
MALES	KATHY	5469	(224) 588-2498	KATHY@MEKKADO.COM	WADSWORTH	IL	60083				
State/Country: KS											
ROWE	JERRY	1732	(785) 346-2227	jrowe@ruraltel.net	OSBORNE	KS	67473				R
State/Country: KY											
DEXTER	TENLEY	4509	(203) 770-8234	TEN11EY@YAHOO.COM	COLUMBIA	KY	42728				P
State/Country: MI											
KELLY	SUE	5465	734-718-5081	justplinaussies@gmail.com	STURGIS	MI	49091				P
WINNICK	GAIL	5178	(517) 675-5275	heartsongaussies@gmail.com	PERRY	MI	48872-9132				R
State/Country: MN											
BECKMANN	BECKY	3567	612-270-6890	RisSunFarm6@aol.com	STACY	MN	55079-9239				R
CONROY	DEBORAH	5182	(612) 599 6156	CONROYFARM@HOTMAIL.COM	FARMINGTON	MN	55024				R
TORSON-SCHNEIDER	KIM	4050	651-332-6778	clips01313@gmail.com	PINE CITY	MN	55063		T		R
State/Country: MT											
MCKAY	LEROY J.	5464	406-546-4069	MCKAY19650@MSN.COM	FRENCHTOWN	MT	59834				P
WILLIAMS	BETTY	5071	(406) 535-7342	wlasyj@midrivers.com	LEWISTOWN	MT	59457				R
State/Country: NC											
HARDIN	RICK	3603	336-918-5536	RHRDNTN@GMAIL.COM	WHITSETT	NC	27377				R
State/Country: ND											
CALDWELL	CHRIS	4933	7015704679	cruzer@bektel.com	BALDWIN	ND	58521				R
State/Country: NM											
SHOPE	STEVE	4194	(505) 328-0573	legendsranch@hotmail.com	ALBUQUERQUE	NM	87105				R
State/Country: OR											
ABINGDON	BRIAN	5389	541-913-8447	BRIANABINGDON123@MSN.COM	CHESHIRE	OR	97419				P
CARRILLO	JOAN	1404	(541) 783-3440	jcarril@aol.com	CHILOQUIN	OR	97624-9692				R
HIBBARD	FIONA	4842	(925) 437-0078	fiona.r.hibbard@gmail.com	SWEET HOME	OR	97386				R
LYLE	KEN	3471	(541) 367-7495	vaqueroaussie@gmail.com	LEBANON	OR	97355				R
SAGE	ROY	1486	(541) 881-9264	KOWGIRL91@GMAIL.COM	ONTARIO	OR	97914				R
SILVEIRA	KENNETH	3238	(503) 428-2021	HISAWAUSSIES@GMAIL.COM	SCIO	OR	97374	S			R
State/Country: TN											

Conform: J=Junior N=Non-Regular P=Provisional R=Regular B=Breeder S=Senior OP=Other Person
Track: T=TD X=TDX/Obed: N=Novice O=Open U=Utility/Rally: P=Provisional R=Regular S=Senior
Stock: P=Provisional A=Appre R=Reg/Agility: A=Appr S=Supervise R=Regular

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Last name	First name	ID#	Phone #	E-mail Address	Area/Country	Class					
						Conf	Obed	Track	Work	Agil	Ral
HOFFMANN	ANDREA	3994	(901) 491-8953	andrea@istariaussies.com	MEMPHIS TN 38127		O		R	R	
State/Country: TX											
BURNS	JAMIE L	5183	(940) 727-4096	cutnlooseaussies@gmail.com	WHITESBORO TX 76273				P		
BUSINESS OFFICE	ASCA	5054	(979) 778-1082	manager@asca.org	BRYAN TX 77808						
DESHAZO	NEAL	3043	(713) 823-3150	deshazo.beretfarms@gmail.com	WALLER TX 77484				R		
FORD	RUSS	1725	(979) 589-3213	stockdogs@msn.com	KURTEN TX 77862				R		
KISSMAN	PRESTON	2661	(979) 774-6093	quatrokaussies@sbcglobal.net	BRYAN TX 77802				R		
KNEPPER	JOHN	5072	(509) 951-5545	towermtn10@gmail.com	GATESVILLE TX 76528				R		
MACKENZIE	DANA	2662	(214) 629-2973	danamack@brazosnet.com	BRECKENRIDGE TX 76424-6200				R		
TEAFF	LARRY	2663	210-287-3761	teaffg@yahoo.com	MERKEL TX 79536				R		
State/Country: UT											
SCOTT	CANBY	3076	(801) 921-3918	CANBYSCOTT@GMAIL.COM	LEHI UT 84043	S			R		
State/Country: WA											
PARRISH	MARTI	2759	4254180269	justusaussie@earthlink.net	ELLENSBURG WA 98926				R		
WESEN	JAN	2706	(360) 333-7131	jan@janwesen.com	BOW WA 98232		U	X	R	R	S
State/Country: WI											
MURPHY	MARIE	2915	(715) 792-5174	diamaire@bevcomm.net	HAGER CITY WI 54014	B			R		

58 Judges printed

Conform: J=Junior N=Non-Regular P=Provisional R=Regular B=Breeder S=Senior OP=OtherPerson
Track: T=TD X=TDX/Obed: N=Novice O=Open U=Utility/Rally: P=Provisional R=Regular S=Senior
Stock: P=Provisional A=Appre R=Reg/Agility: A=Appr S=Supervise R=Regular



AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA®
STOCKDOG TRIAL PROGRAM
Official Judging Score Sheet

ENTRY NO. _____

TIME _____

COURSE A _____

COURSE B _____

COURSE C _____

AUSSIE _____

OTHER BREED _____

STARTED _____

OPEN _____

ADVANCED _____

POST-ADVANCED _____

CATTLE _____

SHEEP _____

DUCKS _____

FILL IN EVERY BLANK
OR WRITE **NO** IN SPACE.

	COURSE	DOG'S ABILITY TO CONTROL LIVESTOCK
TAKE PEN/GATHER	5 _____	15 _____
DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 1	5 _____	20 _____
CROSS-DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 2	5 _____	25 _____
SET-UP AND WORK AT CENTER OBSTACLE (<i>Not for STARTED</i>)	5 _____	30 _____
REPEN (<i>Not for STARTED</i>)	5 _____	10 _____
CONTROL TO AND REPEN (<i>STARTED only</i>)	5 _____	20 _____

TOTAL OPEN, ADVANCED & POST-ADVANCED

25 _____

100 _____

TOTAL STARTED

20 _____

80 _____

PENALTIES

☐

ADVANCED DIVISION
Handler passed advanced
line. **DEDUCT 50% OF
TOTAL SCORE.**

☐

OPEN DIVISION
Handler passed open line.
**DEDUCT 15 POINTS
FROM TOTAL SCORE.**

COURSE SCORE _____

CONTROL SCORE _____

TOTAL SCORE _____

**MINUS OPEN or
ADVANCED PENALTY** —

JUDGE'S SIGNATURE _____

FINAL SCORE

LOCATION _____ DATE _____

THE PURPOSE OF THE STOCKDOG TRIAL PROGRAM IS TO IDENTIFY DOGS WITHIN THE BREED THAT EXHIBIT SUPERIOR ABILITY IN CONTROLLING LIVESTOCK. THIS SCORE SHEET IS INTENDED TO RECOGNIZE AND GIVE CREDIT FOR QUALITY HERDING ABILITY WHETHER THE STOCK ARE DOG BROKE OR DIFFICULT AND UNCOOPERATIVE. SCORES SHOULD REFLECT THE QUALITY OF WORK THE DOG HAS DEMONSTRATED IN CONTROLLING THE STOCK TO THE HANDLER'S WISHES.

JUDGE'S COMMENTS: _____



AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA®
STOCKDOG TRIAL PROGRAM
Official Judging Score Sheet

ENTRY NO. _____
TIME _____

COURSE _____ D
COURSE _____ E AUSSIE _____
COURSE _____ F OTHER BREED _____

STARTED _____ CATTLE _____
OPEN _____ SHEEP _____
ADVANCED _____ DUCKS _____

FILL IN EVERY BLANK
OR WRITE NO IN SPACE.

	COURSE	DOG'S ABILITY TO CONTROL LIVESTOCK
TAKE PEN/GATHER	5 _____	10 _____
DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 1	5 _____	10 _____
DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 2	5 _____	20 _____
CROSS-DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 3	5 _____	10 _____
DRIVE/FETCH THROUGH OBSTACLE 4	5 _____	10 _____
SET-UP AND WORK AT CENTER OBSTACLE (<i>Not for</i> STARTED)	5 _____	20 _____
REPEN (<i>Not for</i> STARTED)	5 _____	10 _____
CONTROL TO AND REPEN (STARTED only)	5 _____	10 _____
TOTAL OPEN & ADVANCED	35 _____	90 _____
TOTAL STARTED	30 _____	70 _____

PENALTIES

☐ ADVANCED DIVISION
Handler passed advanced
line. DEDUCT 50% OF
TOTAL SCORE.

☐ OPEN DIVISION
Handler passed open line.
DEDUCT 15 POINTS
FROM TOTAL SCORE.

COURSE SCORE _____
CONTROL SCORE _____
TOTAL SCORE _____
MINUS OPEN or
ADVANCED PENALTY _____

JUDGE'S SIGNATURE _____

FINAL SCORE

LOCATION _____ DATE _____ AM/PM _____

THE PURPOSE OF THE STOCKDOG TRIAL PROGRAM IS TO IDENTIFY DOGS WITHIN THE BREED THAT EXHIBIT SUPERIOR ABILITY IN CONTROLLING LIVESTOCK. THIS SCORE SHEET IS INTENDED TO RECOGNIZE AND GIVE CREDIT FOR QUALITY HERDING ABILITY WHETHER THE STOCK ARE DOG BROKE OR DIFFICULT AND UNCOOPERATIVE. SCORES SHOULD REFLECT THE QUALITY OF WORK THE DOG HAS DEMONSTRATED IN CONTROLLING THE STOCK TO THE HANDLER'S WISHES.

JUDGE'S COMMENTS: _____



AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA®
STOCKDOG TRIAL PROGRAM
Official Judging Score Sheet

ENTRY NO. _____

TIME _____

COURSE _____ G AUSSIE _____
 COURSE _____ H OTHER BREED _____

STARTED _____ CATTLE _____
 OPEN _____ SHEEP _____
 ADVANCED _____ DUCKS _____

*FILL IN EVERY BLANK
 OR WRITE NO IN SPACE.*

COURSE DOG'S ABILITY
 TO CONTROL
 LIVESTOCK

TAKE PEN/GATHER 5 _____ 10 _____

OBSTACLE 1

COURSE G 5 _____ 20 _____

COURSE H 5 _____ 10 _____

OBSTACLE 2

COURSE G 5 _____ 10 _____

COURSE H 5 _____ 20 _____

OBSTACLE 3

5 _____ 20 _____

SET-UP AND WORK AT CENTER OBSTACLE (*Not for* STARTED) 5 _____ 25 _____

REPEN (*Not for* STARTED) 5 _____ 10 _____

CONTROL TO AND REPEN (STARTED only) 5 _____ 15 _____

TOTAL OPEN & ADVANCED 30 _____ 95 _____

TOTAL STARTED 25 _____ 75 _____

☐ ADVANCED DIVISION
 Handler passed advanced
 line. DEDUCT 50% OF
 TOTAL SCORE.

☐ OPEN DIVISION
 Handler passed open line.
 DEDUCT 15 POINTS
 FROM TOTAL SCORE.

COURSE SCORE _____

CONTROL SCORE _____

TOTAL SCORE _____

MINUS OPEN or -
 ADVANCED PENALTY _____

JUDGE'S SIGNATURE _____

FINAL SCORE

LOCATION _____ DATE _____ AM/PM

THE PURPOSE OF THE STOCKDOG TRIAL PROGRAM IS TO IDENTIFY DOGS WITHIN THE BREED THAT EXHIBIT SUPERIOR ABILITY IN CONTROLLING LIVESTOCK. THIS SCORE SHEET IS INTENDED TO RECOGNIZE AND GIVE CREDIT FOR QUALITY HERDING ABILITY WHETHER THE STOCK ARE DOG BROKE OR DIFFICULT AND UNCOOPERATIVE. SCORES SHOULD REFLECT THE QUALITY OF WORK THE DOG HAS DEMONSTRATED IN CONTROLLING THE STOCK TO THE HANDLER'S WISHES.

JUDGE'S COMMENTS: _____



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www.asca.org

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Board Contact: asca.execsec@gmail.com

Junior/Novice Stockdog Handler Score Sheet

COURSE A ☐

COURSE B ☐

COURSE C ☐

AUSSIE ☐

OTHER BREED ☐

JUNIOR HANDLER ☐

NOVICE HANDLER ☐

DUCKS ☐

SHEEP ☐

CATTLE ☐

FILL IN EVERY BLANK

Course Points	AVAILABLE	EARNED
Take Pen/Gather	5	
Drive/Fetch through Obstacle 1	5	
Cross-Drive/Fetch through Obstacle 2	5	
Set-Up Work and into Center Obstacle	5	
Control to and Re-pen	5	
TOTAL	25	
Ability Points	AVAILABLE	EARNED
Ability of handler to control dog	20	
Ability of handler to read livestock and take steps necessary to keep them under control	20	
Teamwork - Are the dog and handler comfortable with each other, do they work together?	20	
Ring side handling - Coaching is allowed from outside of the working arena, but points will be deducted.	20	
Handler's sportsmanship	20	
TOTAL	100	

Judge's Comments:	COURSE SCORE	
	ABILITY SCORE	
	FINAL SCORE	

This score sheet is intended to recognize and give credit for quality handling ability whether the dog is highly trained or just beginning in its training level. Scores should reflect the quality of work the handler has demonstrated in trialing with his/her dog. The Junior Handling class is not intended to be used as a practice class, but a competition class. Juniors in this class are competing for placements and year end awards.

Signature of Judge Below	Date



FARM TRIAL PROGRAM SCORESHEET
Australian Shepherd Club of America®
OFFICIAL JUDGING SCORESHEET

ENTRY # _____

TIME _____

OPEN ☐

ADVANCED ☐

AUSSIE _____

CATTLE _____

OTHER BREED _____

SHEEP/GOATS _____

DUCKS _____

MIXED _____

Possible Score Deductions Points Earned

Total Points 130

Total Deducted _____

Total Earned _____

(70% to qualify: minimum score of 91/130)

Q__ NQ__

Tie Breaker: _____

COMMENTS: _____

Judge's signature _____ Date _____ Trial 1__ Trial 2__

Location _____



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www.asca.org

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Fax: 979-778-1898
stockdog@asca.org

RANCH DOG INSPECTION EVALUATION FORM

Evaluation of the dog's natural ability, training, and performance.

Dog's name: _____ Reg. #: _____

Owner's name: _____

Address: _____

Date of inspection: _____

Location of inspection: _____

STYLE: Header _____ Heeler _____

GRIP: Where does the dog grip?

Nose _____	Poll _____	Ears _____
Face _____	Heels _____	Leg _____
Hock _____	Tail _____	Body _____
Front Feet _____		

Is the grip used efficiently? _____ If no, why not? _____

COMMENTS: _____

BARK: Never _____ Occasional _____ Always _____

Is the bark efficient? _____ If no, why not? _____

COMMENTS: _____

WEAR: Does the dog wear? _____ Efficiently? _____ Too little? _____

Too much? _____

COMMENTS: _____

EYE: Does the dog show any eye? _____

Intense _____ Moderate _____ Slight _____
Constantly _____ Occasionally _____
When confronting an animal _____
While holding animals _____
Was "eye" effective _____

COMMENTS: _____

ATTITUDE TOWARD STOCK: Confident _____ Intent _____
Lacks confidence at times _____ Intimidated _____
Distracted _____ Lacks interest _____

COMMENTS: _____

POWER: Dog has power __ Dog lacks power __ Dog over-powers stock __

COMMENTS: _____

TRAINING: Dog takes direction and is under control _____
Dog takes direction, but handler loses control of the dog at times _____
Dog is out of control, does not take direction _____

COMMENTS: _____

ABILITY TO CONTROL STOCK: Dog has control of stock at all times _____
Dog loses control at times and needs some assistance from handler _____
Handler keeps the stock under control more often than dog _____
Dog has no control of stock _____

COMMENTS: _____

Did the dog complete the work described in the application? _____

This dog has proven itself a valuable asset to its owner.

PASS _____ **FAIL** _____

Judge's Signature _____ Date _____

**JUDGES: THIS EVALUATION MUST BE RETURNED TO THE ASCA BUSINESS OFFICE
POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN 30 DAYS AFTER THE INSPECTION**



Established 1957

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA

**RANCH TRIAL PROGRAM
OFFICIAL JUDGING SCORE SHEET**

SHEEP _____

CATTLE _____

ENTRY # _____

AUSSIE _____

OTHER BREED _____

TIME _____

FILL IN EVERY BLANK OR WRITE **NO** IN THE SPACE BELOW.

PEN WORK 20 _____

comments: _____

SORT 20 _____

comments: _____

CHUTE 20 _____

comments: _____

PASTURE 40 _____

comments: _____

TOTAL 100 _____

JUDGE'S SIGNATURE

DATE

LOCATION



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Code of Ethics for ASCA Judges

1. ASCA Judges are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with this Code of Ethics set forth by the Australian Shepherd Club of America Board of Directors. Failure to comply with this Code of Ethics subjects a judge to disciplinary action by the ASCA Board of Directors, including the possible revocation of ASCA Judging privileges.

2. ASCA Judges carry a tremendous amount of responsibility. They function as a guiding voice of the Australian Shepherd and should represent the highest ideals in terms of honesty, integrity, impartiality and knowledge of the sport and the breed.

3. The approval to judge ASCA events is a privilege and is not a right or reward. Suspensions in other registries relevant to the task of judging will be a consideration in the approval and maintenance of ASCA judging privileges.

4. All Judges and applicants must agree to abide by the ASCA Judges Code of Ethics.

5. ASCA has the sole right to refuse, suspend or revoke the ASCA judging license of any person in violation of ASCA rules, or for the failure to comply with the provisions set forth in this Code of Ethics. Failure to comply with the Code of Ethics, or any ASCA Program rules, subjects a judge to disciplinary action by the ASCA Board of Directors, including the possible revocation of ASCA Judging privileges. Judges will be notified if such action is being considered, the reason for its consideration, and given the opportunity to reply.

Responsibilities:

1. ASCA Judges should have thorough knowledge and understanding of the rules and regulations governing the program venue in which they are judging.

2. ASCA Judges should have the safety and welfare of the stock, dog, and handler as the judge's foremost concern in reviewing the trial conditions and in judging a working trial.

3. It is the Judge's responsibility to keep up to date with current changes in the program rules for which they are judging and are also expected to continue their education process throughout their career.

4. Judges are to be professional in carrying out their duties and must not allow personal preferences to interfere with the stated guidelines upon which they judge the handler (exhibitors) or dogs.

5. It is essential that exhibitors have complete faith in the impartiality of their judges. A Judge's actions and decisions should leave no doubt that they were made based solely on the merits of the dogs presented to them on that day.

Conduct:

1. The Judge's conduct must always be impartial, dignified, and respectful. The Judge's actions and professional comportment must be above reproach. Judges should avoid conduct and casual remarks that might be misconstrued or misinterpreted such as expressing favoritism or specific criticism of dogs or exhibitors.

2. A Judge or their family members should never solicit or promote assignments on the judge's behalf.

3. When attending social functions organized by the event-giving club where exhibitors are present, a Judge is expected to exercise particular discretion in discussing individual exhibitors, dogs or breeders.

4. When officiating at a show, the Judge shall not:

- a. Discuss the merits or faults of the dogs or handlers (exhibitors) with the stewards, attendants, or spectators during the assignment.

- b. Hold, have control of, or groom any dog on the show grounds during his assignment that is not wholly owned or co-owned by the judge.
- c. While officiating, a Judge should not ask individuals:
 - i. Who owns the dog
 - ii. From whom the dog was purchased
 - iii. What bloodlines the dog is out of
- 5. A Judge may not judge any dog, which is owned or co-owned, by the Judge.
- 6. A Judge may not give advice or guidance on how to handle his/her dog to an exhibitor during an event or class the Judge is judging. This does not prevent the Judge from answering appropriate questions, giving course instructions, informing an exhibitor where to go or inform the exhibitor of proper procedures.
- 7. Any alterations or changes in scores or placements must be initialed by the Judge per the program rules of the venue in which they are judging.
- 8. Judges shall score a trial/class based solely on the dog and handler's (exhibitor's) performance as a team as described in the ASCA Program Rules and Regulations, and in no case shall judging be based (nor any consideration be given) on the identity or reputation of the handler, owner, the breeder, or the dog's lineage.
- 9. Judges shall remember that trials are staffed largely or entirely with unpaid volunteers, and shall treat stock handlers, tracklayers, ring stewards, timers, helpers, exhibitors and spectators with due courtesy and consideration.
- 10. Judges shall be professional in demeanor and arrive appropriately dressed for the judging assignment, with due consideration of anticipated weather, arena, and ring conditions.

Special Rules for Conformation and Tracking Judges:

- 1. When officiating at a trial:
 - a. A Judge shall not judge any dog that is co-owned or bred by the Judge's immediate family.
 - b. A Judge, while judging a tracking event, shall not place himself/herself in positions on the track to indicate the correct direction of the track, nor place markers or articles to clearly indicate corners.
- 2. Prior to the completion of a conformation judging assignment, a Judge shall not act as a spectator at the same conformation event at which he is scheduled to judge.
- 3. A Judge shall not personally exhibit a dog in Conformation in the same state as his assignment four (4) days prior to his assignment as a conformation judge.
- 4. A Judge or their family members should never solicit or promote assignments on the judge's behalf.

Definitions:

- 1. Solicitation is the repeated contact and/or the use of influence, persuasion, or coercion in an effort to obtain a judging assignment.
- 2. Promotion is a Judge's or their immediate family member's attempt to sell or popularize the Judge or their judging assignments through verbal or written advertising and/or publicity.



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Dog Aggression Rules

Chapter 1 Disqualified Dogs

Section 1.1 Disqualification

A Judge shall disqualify any dog that such Judge determines has attempted to attack any person in the ring/trial arena where the Judge is judging. In accordance with this rule, the Judge shall mark that dog as "Disqualified" stating the reason for the disqualification on the score sheet, Judge's book, or Judge's Report depending on the program, shall take steps to inform the owner or owner's agent as soon as reasonably possible and shall give the Show/Trial Secretary a brief report of the dog's actions using the "Explanation Form for Disqualified or Excused Dogs". The "Explanation Form for Disqualified or Excused Dogs" and entry form shall be submitted to the Business Office as part of the Show/Trial results for any dog which has been disqualified. The Business Office shall send a Notice of Disqualification to the owner of such dog.

Section 1.2 Jurisdiction

The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee has exclusive jurisdiction over an attack on any person which occurs outside of the ring/trial arena as defined below. The Affiliate or Show/Trial Committee shall have jurisdiction if the Judge did not witness the occurrence in their own ring/trial arena. The decision to disqualify a dog shall be based on the incident investigation which shall cover all circumstances surrounding the incident. The Board of Directors will either validate or reverse the Affiliate's decision, basing its action on the details of the investigation and a recommendation from Counsel. The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee shall take reasonable steps to inform the owner and the owner's agent of the disqualification as soon as reasonably possible.

Section 1.3 Investigation

The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee must perform an investigation of any incident in which a dog has bitten a person, whether it occurred in the ring/trial arena or on the show/trial grounds. The Affiliate must fill out the Affiliate Incident Report Worksheet.

Section 1.4 Disqualifying an Excused Dog

A Judge or Affiliate, or its Show/Trial Committee, which has excused a dog pursuant to Section 2 (Excused Dogs) below, may further disqualify the dog if, in such Judge's, Affiliate's or Show/Trial Committee's opinion, the attack on another dog was so severe that disqualification is warranted.

Section 1.5 Incident Report

The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee shall submit a report of any such incident to the Business Office including, but not limited to, the following:

- A. The entry form for any dog which has been disqualified.
- B. The "Explanation Form for Disqualified or Excused Dogs."
- C. Written statements from:
 1. The person bitten
 2. The owner and/or the owner's agent of the offending dog
 3. Any and all witnesses, including Judge/s
- D. Supporting photos of the offending dog and the wound.
- E. Statements describing wound/s, if any, from victim and/or attending medical professionals.
- F. A summary of the investigation and the findings by the Show/Trial Committee with their recommendations.

Section 1.6 Materials to ASCA Board of Directors

The Business Office shall submit the materials submitted by the Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee concerning any such incident to the Executive Secretary, who shall forward these materials to the Board of Directors and ASCA's Counsel. The

Business Office will provide the report and all supporting documentation to the owner of the offending dog at the owner's request.

Section 1.7 Review by Counsel

ASCA's Counsel shall review the materials and make recommendations to the Board of Directors.

Section 1.8 Ineligibility

Any dog which has been disqualified by a Judge or Show/Trial Committee under this Rule shall immediately be ineligible to participate in any ASCA event in any discipline unless and until such dog is reinstated by the Board of Directors.

Section 1.9 Appeal

The owner of any dog disqualified under this Rule may appeal such disqualification to the Board of Directors in accordance with the program specific reinstatement process in effect or a process outlined by the Board of Directors. While the appeal is pending, the dog remains disqualified.

Section 1.10 ASCA Board of Directors

The Board of Directors has authority to disqualify any dog whose conduct the Board finds is subject to this Rule or whose actions demonstrate aggressive behavior which the Board finds is likely to cause injury or damage to persons or animals, regardless of whether or not the dog was disqualified or excused from the ring/trial arena by the Judge or Show/Trial Committee.

Chapter 2 Excused Dogs

Section 2.1 Excusal

A dog which exhibits aggressive behavior towards people or aggressively threatens or attacks another dog shall be excused from the ring/trial arena by the Judge or from the Show Grounds by the Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee. The Judge shall mark the dog "Excused" on the score sheet, in the Judge's Book or the Judge's Report depending on the program, shall take steps to inform the owner or owner's agent of the dog as soon as reasonably possible and shall give the Show/Trial Secretary a brief report of the dog's actions on the "Explanation Form for Disqualified or Excused Dogs", which shall be submitted to the Business Office with the Show/Trial Results.

Section 2.2 Jurisdiction

The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee has exclusive jurisdiction over any dog that threatens or attacks another dog outside of the ring/trial arena as described below. The Affiliate or Show/Trial Committee has jurisdiction if the Judge did not witness the occurrence in their own ring/trial arena. The Affiliate or Show/Trial Committee shall make a decision to simply warn or excuse the dog from further competition at such show or trial. The decision to excuse a dog should be based on the incident investigation which shall cover all circumstances surrounding the Incident. If the Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee decides to excuse a dog, the Board of Directors will either validate or invalidate the Affiliate's decision, basing its action on the details of the investigation and a recommendation from Counsel.

Section 2.3 Incident Report

The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee shall submit a report of any such incident to the Business Office including but not limited to the following:

- A. The entry form for any dog which has been excused.
- B. "Explanation Form for Disqualified or Excused Dogs."
- C. Written statements from:
 - 1. The person threatened or person owning the dog that was aggressively threatened or attacked.
 - 2. The owner and/or the owner's agent of the offending dog.
 - 3. Any and all witnesses, including Judges.
- D. Supporting photos.
- E. A summary of the investigation and the findings by the Show/Trial Committee with their recommendations.

Section 2.4 Report and Documentation to Owner

The Business Office will provide the report and all supporting documentation to the owner of the offending dog at the owner's request.

Section 2.5 ASCA Board of Directors

If a dog has been excused for its behavior under this Rule on two separate occasions, the Business Office shall notify the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall take whatever action it deems necessary which may include disqualification.

Chapter 3 Definitions under the Dog Aggression Rules

Section 3.1 Ring/Trial Arena

The “ring/trial arena” is the bounded area in which judging of an ASCA event occurs and over which the Judge has authority pursuant to the Dog Aggression Rules. The boundary is defined by physical barriers plus a buffer zone extending ten (10) feet from such physical barriers.

Section 3.2 Show Grounds

The “show grounds” are the boundaries of the grounds on which ASCA events are being held. They include, but are not limited to, all areas outside the ring/trial arena (including the buffer zone) set aside for grooming, holding of dogs, and parking of vehicles of the exhibitors.

Section 3.3 Disqualified Dog

A “disqualified dog” is a dog no longer eligible to participate in any ASCA program event from the time of disqualification.

Section 3.4 Excused Dog

An “excused dog” is a dog which has been asked to leave the ring/trial arena for aggressive behavior or instability of temperament. Such a dog is not eligible to compete further in the program from which excused at the event but may participate in other programs at that event. An “excused dog” also refers to a dog that has been excused from an event for aggressive behavior or instability of temperament outside the ring/trial arena by the Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee.

Chapter 4 Reinstatement of Dogs Disqualified under the Dog Aggression Rules

Section 4.1 Right to Reinstatement

A dog disqualified under the Dog Aggression Rules has no right to be reinstated for competition.

Section 4.2 Reinstatement

ASCA will consider reinstatement of a dog disqualified under the Dog Aggression Rules in accordance with the program specific reinstatement process in effect or a process outlined by the Board of Directors after the dog satisfactorily completes the reinstatement process.

Section 4.3 Documentation for Reinstatement

To be considered for possible reinstatement, documentation showing the dog has attended obedience training, handling classes and/or behavioral therapy with letters from trainers and/or behavioral specialists stating the dog has completed training and/or behavioral therapy and is not a threat must be submitted along when applying for reinstatement.

Section 4.4 Other Considerations for Reinstatement

Successful completion of a reinstatement program is not a guarantee that the Board will reinstate the dog. ASCA’s Board of Directors, in its sole discretion, may consider other conditions before reinstatement. Such conditions may include, but are not limited to, requiring the dog’s owner to carry a personal liability policy for the dog in an amount determined by the Board. The Board may also require that such policy include ASCA as an additional named insured at such owner's sole cost and expense.

Section 4.5 Eligibility

There are various conditions that lead to disqualifying a dog for biting/menacing. Not all dogs may be eligible for reinstatement as some conduct is so egregious that reinstatement will never occur. No dog is entitled to reinstatement and following the reinstatement procedures is no guarantee the Board will reinstate. While there is no waiting period before an owner may apply to the BOD for reinstatement of a dog, if a dog is denied reinstatement, the owner must wait one year before reapplying.



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Dog Aggression Incident Report Form

The Affiliate or its Show/Trial Committee must perform an investigation of any incident in which a dog has injured a person or another dog, whether it occurred in the ring/trial arena or on the show/trial grounds.

Name of Affiliate	Date of Event
Location of Event	Where on the show/trial grounds did the incident occur?

Members of Investigating Committee:

Name	Phone #	Email
Name	Phone #	Email
Name	Phone #	Email
Name	Phone #	Email

Information on Offending Dog:

☐ Excused or ☐ Disqualified

Registered Name of Dog	ASCA Registration #	
Name of Dog's Owner	Phone #	Email
Written Statement from Dog's Owner (Attach additional pages if more space is needed.)		
ASCA Member ID# (if applicable)	Signature Below	

Information on ☐ Dog or ☐ Person That Was Attacked:

☐ Injuries or ☐ No Injuries

Registered Name of Dog		ASCA Registration #
Name of Dog's Owner	Phone #	Email

OR

Name of Person	Phone #	Email

Was veterinary or medical attention received? ☐ Yes or ☐ No

If YES, written statement from attending veterinarian or medical professional MUST be provided to the ASCA Business Office as soon as possible, preferably included with the incident report.

Written Statement from <input type="checkbox"/> Attacked Person or <input type="checkbox"/> Owner of Attacked Dog (Attach additional pages if more space is needed.)	
ASCA Member ID# (if applicable)	Signature Below

Witness Statements:

Name of Witness #1	Phone #	Email
Written Statement (Attach additional pages if more space is needed.)		
ASCA Member ID# (if applicable)	Signature Below	
Name of Witness #2	Phone #	Email
Written Statement (Attach additional pages if more space is needed.)		
ASCA Member ID# (if applicable)	Signature Below	

Name of Witness #3	Phone #	Email
Written Statement (Attach additional pages if more space is needed.)		
ASCA Member ID# (if applicable)	Signature Below	
Name of Witness #4	Phone #	Email
Written Statement (Attach additional pages if more space is needed.)		
ASCA Member ID# (if applicable)	Signature Below	

Investigation Findings:

Summary of the Investigation	
Recommendation from Investigating Committee	
Date of the Affiliate's Recommendation	Date the Owner of the Offending Dog was Notified of the Affiliate's Recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Written or <input type="checkbox"/> Verbal

Checklist of items that MUST be sent to the ASCA Business Office:

- ☐ This filled-out investigation report worksheet and any additional pages
- ☐ The entry form for any dog which has been disqualified or excused
- ☐ The "Explanation Form for Disqualified or Excused Dogs"
- ☐ Supporting photos of the offending dog (for identification purposes)
- ☐ Any other supporting photos (including those of any wounds)

The ASCA Board of Directors will either validate or reverse the Affiliate's decision, basing its action on the details of the investigation and a recommendation from ASCA's Counsel.



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Conflict Resolution Protocol

EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 2016 | REVISED JULY 2017

This ASCA Conflict Resolution Protocol replaces the ASCA Dispute Rules, which are no longer in effect.

The purpose of ASCA's rules is to protect and advance the interests of the Australian Shepherd as a purebred dog and to encourage sportsmanlike conduct at dog shows, working, agility, rally, tracking and obedience trials and at any other event where Australian Shepherds participate. The purpose of our rules is to ensure fair participation in our program events, civil conduct among our members and integrity in our registry. Sometimes conflicts and disputes will arise, and, in those cases, the following protocol has been established to resolve such conflicts and disputes.

Membership in ASCA is a privilege, not a right. Members may be disciplined, or membership may be suspended by the Board of Directors for cause detrimental to the interest of ASCA or to its programs, policies, objectives, or the harmonious relationship of its members, as determined by the Board of Directors.

The ASCA Conflict Resolution Form is included with each sanctioning packet sent to Affiliate Clubs. Copies of the ASCA Conflict Resolution Protocol and ASCA Conflict Resolution Form must be available at all ASCA-sanctioned events. Questions not answered by this document should be referred to the ASCA Executive Secretary.

FIRST DECIDE WHO SHOULD RECEIVE YOUR REQUEST FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION:

Affiliate Club

It is the duty of the Affiliate to deal initially with conflicts which occur during or in connection with its events.

The Affiliate Club should receive these requests for conflict resolution:

1. Conflicts, complaints, or disputes arising from violation(s) of rules at ASCA-sanctioned events sponsored by an affiliate, including violations of ASCA Bylaws, ASCA program rule books, ASCA Policy, or ASCA codes of conduct.
2. Conflicts, complaints, or disputes arising from affiliate bylaws or rules.
3. Conflicts arising from the improper actions by a judge which are correctable at the time of the event (not the decision of the judge).

Board of Directors

The ASCA Board of Directors, via the ASCA Executive Secretary, should receive these requests for conflict resolution:

1. Conflicts with a Judge that cannot be mediated at the show/trial.
2. Conflicts or disputes originating with the ASCA Board regarding the ASCA Bylaws.
3. Appeals of decisions by an affiliate.

PROCESS FOR REQUESTING CONFLICT RESOLUTION AT THE AFFILIATE LEVEL:

1. The request for conflict resolution is filed on an official ASCA Conflict Resolution Form. The form must be delivered to the Affiliate President or the Affiliate Member in charge of the event. Ordinarily, requests for conflict resolution must be filed on the day the conflict occurs. If the form is not delivered to the Affiliate President immediately, it must be delivered within 48 hours of discovery of the conflict or 48 hours of the event which incited the conflict. In an extreme emergency, a request may be filed orally. Oral requests must be followed up in writing on the official Conflict Resolution Form. Conflicts filed orally are to be dealt with immediately. In the case of an oral request, the Affiliate President or the

Affiliate Member in charge of the event will determine whether immediate action must be taken or whether the request for resolution can be heard later. The decision to entertain or reject requests for resolution made after an event rests with the Affiliate, but in no case should a request be entertained which is not received by the Affiliate within five (5) days of its event.

2. A hearing body with a minimum of three members is chosen. The Affiliate President will determine the hearing body. If the Affiliate President is not present when an oral request is made, the Affiliate Member in charge of the event will determine the hearing body. This is normally either the Affiliate Board of Directors or the event committee; however, other ASCA members (program judge, experienced competitor, etc.) who are on site but who were not involved in the situation may also be appointed to the hearing body, even if they are not a member of the hosting affiliate. No party to the conflict or his/her immediate family may be a member of the hearing body. The person who determines the hearing body will chair the hearing body.

3. The complaint is delivered to the hearing body.

4. In cases involving an accused party, the chair of the hearing body advises the accused parties of their rights: to know of the testimony against them, to rebut such testimony, to question all witnesses through the investigator, to present witnesses on their own behalf and to testify on their own behalf.

5. The hearing body conducts the hearing as soon as possible. Any necessary inquiry will be pursued by the hearing officials.

6. When deciding a case of a conflict involving multiple parties, ALL parties shall be notified of the request for conflict resolution and are to be given copies of the form, ALL parties will be allowed to state their case, and ALL parties should be questioned by the hearing body. The hearing body shall make a good faith effort to obtain factual information concerning the conflict, including obtaining information from persons that witnessed the incident other than the person(s) filing the request for resolution or the person(s) involved in the conflict. This provision does not assume or admit that the hearing body is bound by any state or U.S. Constitutional requirement of due process.

7. After all parties have been heard and the investigation is complete, the hearing body will deliberate and reach a decision.

8. The hearing body will announce their decision as soon as possible. Normally this would occur immediately following the hearing. Investigations should be complete within 21 days of the receipt of the request for conflict resolution.

9. If after review and investigation of the conflict or dispute, the hearing body is of the opinion that a rule violation has occurred, the hearing body may take such disciplinary action consistent with the provisions of these rules as it deems appropriate. The hearing body shall refer to the Affiliate Level Disciplinary Guidelines in determining what disciplinary actions to take, if any.

10. All parties involved in the conflict will receive the decision in writing. A copy of this decision, a copy of the request for resolution and a summary of the investigation will be sent to the ASCA Executive Secretary.

11. The decision of the hearing body shall be final and binding unless a written notice of the member's intention to appeal the decision is received by ASCA's Executive Secretary within 7 days of the date of the letter notifying said member of the disciplinary action taken against him/her.

PROCESS FOR REQUESTING CONFLICT RESOLUTION AT THE ASCA BOARD LEVEL:

1. The request for conflict resolution is filed on an official ASCA Conflict Resolution Form and sent to the ASCA Executive Secretary (asca.execsec@gmail.com). The form must be delivered or postmarked to the ASCA Executive Secretary by email or postmarked within 5 days of the discovery of the conflict or within 5 days of the event which incited the conflict. In the case of an appeal of an affiliate decision, the form must be delivered to the ASCA Executive Secretary by email or postmarked within 7 days of the receipt of the Affiliate's decision.

2. Upon receipt of the request for conflict resolution, the Executive Secretary will forward the request to all members of the ASCA Board of Directors and will assign a Director to head the investigation of the conflict. All parties named in the request for conflict resolution will be notified by the Executive Secretary and be given a copy of the official Conflict Resolution Request Form.

3. In the case of conflicts involving an accused party, the accused party may file a written answer within 14 days of his/her receipt of the Conflict Resolution Request Form. The Director assigned to investigate the conflict will attempt to contact all involved parties so that they may present their sides of the conflict orally. This provision does not assume or admit that ASCA is bound by any state or U.S. Constitutional requirement of due process.

4. The Director will conclude the investigation and will present his/her findings and recommendation in writing to the Board within 21 days of being assigned the request by the Executive Secretary. A summary of each witness's testimony, including the questions asked, should be part of the written recommendation. The Board of Directors will discuss and vote on the findings and recommendation at the next regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting following the 21 days.

5. **Temporary Measures in Emergency Cases:** When necessary, the Board may impose immediate temporary measures to remain in effect pending its decision.

6. The Board, through the Executive Secretary, will deliver dated notice of the decision to both parties within 7 days of the Board vote on the motion. There is no appeal from a Board decision.

TIMELINES FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION:

An Affiliate and the Board of Directors may summarily rule against any party who fails to comply with these timelines.

WHAT	WHEN
Filing of Request for Conflict Resolution	A request may be filed immediately for situations requiring emergency action at the Affiliate level. All other requests must be filed within 48 hours of the incident requiring resolution, to the Affiliate (up to 5 days with extenuating circumstances) and within 5 days to the Board, whichever should receive the request.
Notification of Named Parties	Immediately in the case of emergency requests for conflict resolution; before the investigation of the conflict begins.
Investigation by Affiliate-Level Hearing Body	Completed immediately for emergency situations; Complete within 21 days of receipt of Conflict Resolution Form for all others.
Decision by Affiliate-Level Hearing Body	Completed as soon as possible and provided in writing to all parties involved in the conflict.
Appeal to ASCA Board of Directors	Within 7 days of the date of the letter notifying said member of the disciplinary action taken against him/her.
Investigation by Board of Directors	Completed within 21 days of being assigned.
Response from Accused Party	Within 14 days of their receipt of the Conflict Resolution Form.
Decision by Board of Directors	At first Board meeting following the 21-day investigation.

AFFILIATE LEVEL DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES:

Statute of Limitations: Three (3) years after disciplinary action, is taken against a member such action shall be considered fully satisfied and absolved and a further infraction of the rules after that three-year period shall be treated as a first offense.

First Offense:

- A. Letter of instruction, reminding member of ASCA's rules, OR letter of reprimand
- B. Fine not to exceed \$100*
- C. Both of the above

Subsequent Offenses:

- A. Letter of Reprimand
- B. Fine of up to, but not to exceed \$1,000*
- C. Referral to Board of Directors for further action
- D. Combination of a, b, and c above.

*Failure to pay a fine will result in a member not being in good standing with ASCA, which will result in loss of member privileges; see section 14 of the ASCA Policy Book.

BOARD LEVEL DISCIPLINARY GUIDELINES:

Statute of Limitations: Three (3) years after disciplinary action, is taken against a member such action shall be considered fully satisfied and absolved and a further infraction of the rules after that three-year period shall be treated as a first offense. The Board of Directors will use the Consequences Guidelines below as a guide when resolving conflicts.

ENFORCEMENT OF BOARD SANCTIONS:

All ASCA Affiliates shall honor sanctions imposed by the Board and shall refrain from taking actions which tend to minimize or lessen such sanctions. For example, if a member is suspended from participating in competitions, Affiliates shall prohibit such participation.

NOTICE OF SANCTIONS:

Final decisions imposing sanctions against any ASCA member shall be published in the official newsletter.

ACTIONS DETRIMENTAL TO THE INTEREST OF ASCA:

The protocols outlined in this document are intended to help parties resolve conflicts associated with their participation and membership in ASCA. It is the duty of the ASCA Board of Directors to be active protectionists regarding ASCA. Membership in ASCA is a privilege, not a right. A member may be disciplined, or membership may be suspended by the Board of Directors for intentional actions taken by such member which are detrimental to the interests of ASCA or its programs, policies, or objectives, as determined by the Board of Directors.

MATTERS NOT SUBJECT TO THE CONFLICT RESOLUTION PROTOCOL:

1. **Breeder-Buyer or Co-Owner Disputes:** ASCA does not resolve Breeder-Buyer disputes or disputes between co-owners of dogs. ASCA will only take action to enforce the judgments or decisions of a court of competent jurisdiction, unless otherwise provided for in the ASCA Registry Rules.

2. **Breeder's Code of Ethics:** The Breeder's Code of Ethics is a statement of conduct and principles that ASCA requires all breeders of Australian Shepherds to adhere to in order to maintain the integrity of the Australian Shepherd and ASCA's registry. Any complaint relating to a violation of ASCA's Breeder's Code of Ethics shall not be subject to this protocol.

3. **Registry Issues:** Conflicts or disputes concerning ASCA's Registry are not subject to this Conflict Resolution Protocol. Conflicts or disputes concerning the Registry shall be presented to the ASCA Executive Secretary who shall then present them to the ASCA Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall make a final determination of any such Registry issue presented to it. The ASCA Board of Directors may impose such discipline as it deems appropriate against any person found to have violated ASCA's Registry Rules, up to and including suspension of membership for up to 25 years and imposition of fines of up to \$10,000. Imposition of a suspension of membership privileges for a period longer than 1 year or a fine of more than \$1,000 shall require the affirmative vote of at least seven (7) Directors. The Board of Directors retains the authority to handle a registry issue at any time without the filing of a formal request for Conflict Resolution.

4. **Gross Misconduct:** Gross misconduct by a member, including, but not limited to, theft of ASCA property, theft of property of an ASCA Affiliate Club, physical abuse of a member, or intentional criminal conduct at an ASCA event, will not be tolerated. What constitutes "gross misconduct" shall be determined by the ASCA Board of Directors. If the ASCA Board of Directors determines that a member has engaged in gross misconduct, the Board may impose a suspension of membership upon such person of up to 25 years and a fine of up to \$10,000. Imposition of a suspension of membership privileges for a period longer than 1 year or a fine of more than \$1,000 shall require the affirmative vote of at least seven (7) Directors.

CONSEQUENCE GUIDELINES

Offense	Consequence
Violation of ASCA Rules & Regulations (Affiliate Club Regulation offenses are to be dealt with by the Affiliate first. If the Affiliate recommends the ASCA Board investigate and impose sanction, the following will apply.)	<u>1st offense</u> , letter of education and/or letter of reprimand, depending on offense, intent and whether education seems more appropriate for the situation; in the case of reprimand, a \$100 fine may also be assessed; first offenses deemed severe enough may receive second offense consequences. <u>2nd offense</u> , same or similar offense - 6 months suspension and/or \$200 fine. <u>3rd offense</u> , same or similar offense - 1-year suspension and/or a fine up to \$1000. <u>4th offense</u> , same or similar offense - 5 years to life suspension and a fine up to \$1000.
Misconduct against a Judge (Including but not limited to attempting to influence a judge, verbal abuse, public criticism of a judge's decision; depending on severity of misconduct and in cases of physical abuse, the consequence will start at the 2nd offense level.)	<u>1st offense</u> , letter of education and/or letter of reprimand, depending on offense, intent and whether education seems more appropriate for the situation; in the case of reprimand, a \$100 fine may also be assessed; first offenses deemed severe enough may receive second offense consequences. <u>2nd offense</u> , same or similar offense - 6 months suspension and/or \$200 fine. <u>3rd offense</u> , same or similar offense - 1-year suspension and/or a fine up to \$1000. <u>4th offense</u> , same or similar offense - 5 years to life suspension and a fine up to \$1000.
Unsportsmanlike / unprofessional conduct during an event (Please refer to the Personal Code of Conduct for additional guidance.)	<u>1st offense</u> , letter of education and/or letter of reprimand, depending on offense, intent and whether education seems more appropriate for the situation; in the case of reprimand, a \$100 fine may also be assessed; first offenses deemed severe enough may receive second offense consequences. <u>2nd offense</u> , same or similar offense - 6 months suspension and/or \$200 fine. <u>3rd offense</u> , same or similar offense - 1-year suspension and/or a fine up to \$1000. <u>4th offense</u> , same or similar offense - 5 years to life suspension and a fine up to \$1000.
Disorderly conduct at an event (Including but not limited to abusive or foul language/ verbal altercations, destruction of property; in cases of physical altercation, the consequence will start at the 2nd offense level.)	<u>1st offense</u> , letter of education and/or letter of reprimand, depending on offense, intent and whether education seems more appropriate for the situation; in the case of reprimand, a \$100 fine may also be assessed; first offenses deemed severe enough may receive second offense consequences. <u>2nd offense</u> , same or similar offense - 6 months suspension and/or \$200 fine. <u>3rd offense</u> , same or similar offense - 1-year suspension and/or a fine up to \$1000. <u>4th offense</u> , same or similar offense - 5 years to life suspension and a fine up to \$1000.
Actions detrimental to the interest of ASCA	Membership suspended no less than 25 years and all associated privileges revoked.



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Conflict Resolution Request Form

If you find the need to file a request for conflict resolution or find that you are involved in a conflict/dispute, please refer to the Conflict Resolution Protocol, at the back of all ASCA program rule books. Please try to resolve problems yourself, without a formal request for resolution, whenever possible. If you are unable to resolve a problem, use this form to file a formal request for conflict resolution with an Affiliate or the ASCA® Board of Directors under ASCA®'s Conflict Resolution Protocol, which must be read and followed in this formal procedure.

If you fail to complete all fields, your request will not be processed.

Your Name		Name of party about whom you are complaining (You must serve a copy of this form to everyone you name here.)	
Today's Date	Date of event giving rise to this request for resolution	Date you first learned of the event	
State the grounds for your conflict. Include reference to ASCA® rules, regulations and bylaws which have been violated. Confine your statement to this space if possible. Lengthy statements are discouraged.			
Sign Here By doing so you certify that you have attempted to resolve this conflict informally and that you have served parties with this form as required.			