#### RULE 1

- 1. A Retrieving Trial is an event at which competitions for the working of registered Gundogs are conducted, both on land and in or through water, to determine their relative merits in the field under conditions which emulate as closely as possible those which would be found whilst hunting, but at the same time bring the work of each dog within an ambit of equality where assessment may be fairly made.
- 1. A Retrieving Trial is an event at which competitions for the working of registered Gundogs are conducted <u>on cold game</u>, both on land and in or through water, to determine their relative merits in the field under conditions which emulate as closely as possible those which would be found whilst hunting, but at the same time bring the work of each dog within an ambit of equality where assessment may be fairly made.

#### Rationale:

There is a constant use of terminology that creates uncertainty when attempting to describe what game we use. (Eg Live, real, dead and cold) The term Cold game describes what we use in Australia and the word cold game is internationally accepted. This is for Rule 1 only and the wording or letters need not be used in any other publication.

#### Old Rule 8k

Game – Definition of - Quail, Duck, Pigeon, Partridge, Grouse, Ptarmigan, Pheasant, Rabbit and Hare

inclusive of domesticated or replica variants of the above species.

(Amended 10/23, 5.21 – effective 01/01/24) (Refer also to Rule No.7)

(Tas) Rule 8k Game – Definition of - Quail, Duck, Pigeon, Partridge, Grouse, Ptarmigan, Pheasant, Rabbit and Hare

inclusive of domesticated or replica variants of the above species.

(Amended 10/23, 5.21 – effective 01/01/24) (Refer also to Rule No.7)

**Rationale Grouse** and **Ptarmigan** are not species of game available in Australia all other variants of game listed in rule 8k are readily available

Including replica game in rule 8k was unanimously voted against at the August 2023 meeting of NRAFT Including replica game also impacts many other rules in the Retrieving Trials for Gundogs

**8. R In Line Game** - Items of game shall be considered to be "in line" if the lines to these items of game are separated by less than 10 metres at a distance of 50 metres from the Firing Point; less than 20 metres at a distance of 100 metres from the Firing Point and less than 30 metres at a distance of 150 metres from the Firing Point

**8.** R In Line Game - Items of game shall be considered to be "in line" if the lines to these items of game are separated by less than 10 metres at a distance of 50 metres from the Firing Point; less than 20 metres at a distance of 100 metres from the Firing Point and less than 30 metres at a distance of 150 metres from the Firing Point. 15 metres at a distance of 50 metres from the Firing Point; less than 30 metres at a distance of 100 metres from the Firing Point and less than 45 metres at a distance of 150 metres from the Firing Point. At least one item of game must be visible to the hander from the firing point.

#### Rationale:

In line game is being used as a trick run and both items are completely out of site of the handler and the test is not for good marking or blind work. Rule 1 is not being applied with equality.

- 11. (a) Wounded Bird Retrieve Bird to be thrown by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Bird then picked up and fresh bird left in its stead.
- 11. (a) Wounded Bird Retrieve Bird to be thrown by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged for each dog for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Bird then picked up and fresh bird left in its stead.

#### Rationale:

This is in fairness to all dogs as scent lines change with weather and ground conditions and if only dragged once at the beginning of the event, then the last dog will not have the same ability to be judged as Rule 1

- 11. (b) Wounded Rabbit Retrieve Rabbit to be placed by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Rabbit is then picked up and fresh rabbit left in its stead.
- 11.(b) Wounded Rabbit Retrieve Rabbit to be placed by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged <u>for each dog</u> for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Rabbit is then picked up and fresh rabbit left in its stead.

#### Rationale:

This is in fairness to all dogs as scent lines change with weather and ground conditions and if only dragged once at the beginning of the event, then the last dog will not have the same ability to be judged as Rule 1

### **NEW RULE.**

#### **BOITING RABBIT.**

This will be when a rabbit leaves an area (Squat) and moved away quickly for a distance. The dog will see at least 75% of the travel of the Rabbit and will not be more that 60 meters from the dog.

The dog when ordered will then retrieve a fresh rabbit left in its stead. This is not a wounded game retrieve but may be the initial part of a wounded game retrieve. The retrieve is to be treated as a marked/sighted retrieve.

#### Rationale:

We currently have no retrieves on fur other than a blind or wounded game. This retrieve would be a very natural retrieve where someone has shot a rabbit. It is commonly used as the initial part of wounded game or a diversionary item.

- 13. A Double Mark Retrieve shall consist of two (2) Mark Retrieves and may include land and water. Except where two items of game are cast to fall within 20 metres of each other the items of game shall not be cast simultaneously and there shall be a reasonable delay between the casts.
- 13. A Double Mark Retrieve shall consist of two (2) Mark Retrieves and may include land and water. Except where two items of game are cast to fall within 20 metres of each other, these two items shall be cast in the same direction the items of game shall not be cast simultaneously and there shall be a reasonable delay between the casts.

#### Rationale:

If items are cast simultaneously but coming from different directions it is impossible for the dog to mark both items and certainly not affording the dog the ability to demonstrate good dog work and their marking ability.

- 16. A Two-Bird Retrieve. The first item of game shall be cast as for a Mark Retrieve, or alternatively, it may be cast or placed as for a Blind Find Retrieve. In accordance with instructions from the Judge, the dog shall be sent to recover this item of game. While dog is returning to the handler with the first item of game, a second item of game shall be cast so that the dog may mark or hear its fall. The second item of game should be at least twenty metres from first item of game.
- 16. A Two-Bird Retrieve. The first item of game shall be cast as for a Mark Retrieve, or alternatively, it may be cast or placed as for a Blind Find Retrieve. In accordance with instructions from the Judge, the dog shall be sent to recover this item of game. While dog is returning to the handler with the first item of game, a second item of game shall be cast so that the dog may mark or hear its fall. The second item of game should be at least twenty metres from first item of game. In a restricted trial the second item of game should be cast so it lands no closer than 20 meters from the return line.

#### Rationale:

Restricted dogs are progressing to higher stakes and the second article of game is being cast on occasions landing very close to the returning dog. This can create problems heading forward that's is unnecessary and the test should not be about seeing if your dog will swap game that is landing on its nose.

- **17. Double Fall Retrieve**. The first item of game is cast as a Mark Retrieve and at which one shot is fired. While the dog is on the way out to retrieve the first item of game, a second game is cast and a shot fired so the dog may mark or hear the fall of this item of game. The first item of game must be retrieved before the second item of game. The second item of game must be cast to land not less than twenty metres from the line to the first item of game and not less than forty metres from the Firing Point. This retrieve is limited to All Age and Championship Stakes.
- 17. **Double Fall Retrieve**. The first item of game is cast as a Mark Retrieve, **or alternatively, it may be cast or placed as for a Blind Find Retrieve**, and at which one shot is fired. While the dog is on the

way out to retrieve the first item of game, a second game is cast and a shot fired so the dog may mark or hear the fall of this item of game. The first item of game must be <u>retrieved (i.e. the Mark or Blind)</u> before the second item of game. The second item of game must be cast to land not less than twenty metres from the line to the first item of game and not less than forty metres from the Firing Point. This retrieve is limited to All Age and Championship Stakes.

#### Rationale:

An option for another concept similar to a Two Bird Retrieve included within a Blind Find Retrieve.

23. In multiple Retrieves the Judge may stipulate the order in which items of game shall be retrieved. Any reasonable combination of the listed Retrieves shall be permissible, provided that a dog shall not be required to pick up more than three (3) items of game in any Run.

23. In multiple Retrieves the Judge may stipulate the order in which items of game shall be retrieved. Any reasonable combination of the listed Retrieves shall be permissible, provided that a dog shall not be required to pick up more than three (3) items of game in any Run. No more than one (1) article of game shall be considered out of site.

#### Rationale.

Numerous runs are now becoming luck runs were the majority of game to be retrieved are out of site and with little to no ability to correct the dog. This is not leading to good dog work but a luck situation.

26: Mark Retrieves are retrieves where a dog is in such a position at the Firing Point to be able to see a bird in the air and as it falls and where possible the cast bird should break open skyline when viewed by the dog. A dog on a Mark Retrieve should not need direction from the handler once the dog has been sent for the Retrieve. On Mark Retrieves, where more than one bird is to be retrieved, the order may be specified by the Judge. The handler is permitted to indicate clearly to the dog by hand and/or by voice which bird it is being sent for. Further handling once the dog has left the handler's side will be penalised accordingly.

26: Mark Retrieves are retrieves where a dog is in such a position at the Firing Point to be able to see a bird in the air and as it falls and where possible the cast bird should break open skyline when viewed by the dog. All dogs should be able to see at least 50% of the flight time in open skyline. A dog on a Mark Retrieve should not need direction from the handler once the dog has been sent for the Retrieve. On Mark Retrieves, where more than one bird is to be retrieved, the order may be specified by the Judge. The handler is permitted to indicate clearly to the dog by hand and/or by voice which bird it is being sent for. Further handling once the dog has left the handler's side will be penalised accordingly.

#### Rationale:

Marks are becoming test of luck with some marks breaking skyline for less that 10% of open skyline and the falling so not able to be seen by handler or dog. This creates dogs that are line running and not displaying good marking ability.

- 28. On Blind Find Retrieves, where possible, the course should be planned in such a way that advantage is taken of natural hazards. It should be possible, at least in theory, for a dog to find a well-planned Blind Find Retrieve on the initial line from its handler. The test should be so planned that the dog should be in sight at least until directed into the area of the fall, as a Blind Find Retrieve is a test of control and a dog that is out of sight for a considerable period of time cannot be said to be under control.
- 28. On Blind Find Retrieves, where possible, the course should be planned in such a way that advantage is taken of natural hazards. It should be possible, at least in theory, for a dog to find a well-planned Blind Find Retrieve on the initial line from its handler. The test should be so planned that the dog should be in sight at least until directed into the area of the fall, as a Blind Find Retrieve is a test of control and a dog that is out of sight for a considerable period of time cannot be said to be under control.

A blind find should be marked with a small object that is not visible to the dog but can be seen by the handler to assist it being able to direct his dog to the blind.

#### Rationale:

As trailers are becoming older its is becoming more difficult in complex scenarios for handlers to exactly remember the location of the blind. It is a dog sport rather than a memory test for handlers. Suggest small piece of orange surveyor's tape as an indication

- 29. Programmes should be so arranged that all dogs are thoroughly tested on land and in or through water of sufficient depth to require the dog to swim.
- <u>29.</u> Programmes should be so arranged that all dogs are thoroughly tested on land and in or through water of sufficient depth to require the dog to swim, if swimming water is not available then dogs cannot be awarded wins or placings.

Rationale: Dogs are being awarded wins and placing when not actually swimming, Rule 1 states equality and can be argued that there should be no difference between dogs across Australia however numerous sites have very little to no swimming water and judges are being forced to give awards when swimming water has not been made available. Affiliates may need to rethink their sites or put on a fourth run to make the dogs swim. This would be a last resort during a declared drought.

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- 41. (a) A National Championship Retrieving Trial Stake is a Stake confined to Gundogs that have been placed first in a Restricted Stake or first, second or third in an All-Age Stake or have the title All Age Retrieving Dog (AARD). Proof of Eligibility must be included with the entry for a non-titled dog.
- 41. **(a) A National Championship Retrieving Trial Stake** is a Stake confined to Gundogs that have been placed first in a Restricted Stake or first, second or third in an All-Age Stake, <u>Championship</u>

<u>Stake</u> or have the title All Age Retrieving Dog (AARD) <u>or Restricted Retrieving Dog (RRD).</u> Proof of Eligibility must be included with the entry for a non-titled dog

#### Rationale:

With entries increasing and being able to provide proof of eligibility it is believed that dogs entering the NATIONAL should be of an RRD quality rather than having just won a restricted stake.

New Rule 51 (f) and the current 51(f) will become 51 (g)

<u>To Judge a National Retrieving Trial a Judge must have completed Judging at least to other</u> Championship Trials.

#### Rationale:

Judges should have had experience at Championship level prior to being awarded a National to Judge, if coming from All Age to then judge a National is a very big step both physically, mentally and on some occasions even the number of dogs. The experience of the pressure is something that Judges need to be aware of and need to have experienced at State Championship level prior to attempting a National.

- 55. Judges are empowered and instructed to withhold any prize or award if, in their opinion, the dogs competing do not show sufficient merit. Before a dog can gain a prize or award, it must complete the Stake in which the prize or award is made.
- 55. Judges are empowered and instructed to withhold any prize or award if, in their opinion, the dogs competing do not show sufficient merit. Before a dog can gain a prize or award, it must complete the Stake in which the prize or award is made, with respect to rule 29.

#### Rationale:

Dogs are being awarded wins and placing when not actually swimming, Rule 1 states equality and can be argued that there should be no difference between dogs across Australia however numerous sites have very little to no swimming water and judges are being forced to give awards when swimming water has not been made available.

#### **Current Rule 94**

## **ALLOCATION OF POINTS**

94. The principal points to be considered by the Judge in assessing the merits of performances in competitive work shall be the ability to mark, sagacity, and use of nose, steadiness, dash, perseverance, attention, control, courage, style, retrieving and cleanness of delivery. Retrieving to which supreme importance must always be accorded, should be with tender mouth and right up to hand. The dog must not injure game, retrieve decoys, drop the game, or retrieve without being ordered to do so. Points should be allocated for each retrieve. (See Judging Sheet.)

### **ALLOCATION OF POINTS**

94. Points shall be allocated for each Retrieve on the following basis:

Steadiness, obedience, walking to heel: 10 Points

Style, eagerness and action: 10 Points

Retrieving: 45 Points for each item of game retrieved

<u>For each retrieve</u> the principal points to be considered by the Judge in assessing the merits of performances in competitive work shall be the ability to mark, sagacity, and use of nose, steadiness, dash, perseverance, attention, control, courage, style, retrieving and cleanness of delivery. Retrieving to which supreme importance must always be accorded, should be with tender mouth and right up to hand. The dog must not injure game, retrieve decoys, drop the game, or retrieve without being ordered to do so. 45 Points shall be allocated for each item of game retrieved (See Judging Sheet.)

### For the Retrieving Trial Judging Sheet

In the cell for – Retrieving 45, add Retrieving 45 points for each item of game retrieved.

#### Rationale:

All deductions below the line and the 45 points available to a judge are relative to a single retrieve i.e. the negative scores below the line are relative to the value of <u>one</u> retrieve. Therefore deducting more points, on each leg, below the line on a multiple retrieves with only a total of 45 points for retrieves has a huge effect on the final outcome of the score, importantly this proposal maintains the relationship between the below line deductions and the 45 points for a retrieve.

Increasing the retrieving component to 45 points for each item of game retrieved will give the judge more scope to Judge the retrieve component of a run and allow a more accurate assessment of a dog's overall performance.

It will also give clarity to competitors on the breakdown of their scores.

one item of game retrieved: 45 Points.

two items of game retrieved: 45 Points for each item of game = 90 points

three items of game retrieved: 45 Points for each item of game retrieved = 135 points

- 96. Points to be awarded;
  - a) **National Championship Stake** First place will be awarded eighteen (18) points, Second place twelve (12) points and Third place six (6) points.
  - a) **Championship Stake** First place will be awarded twelve (12) points, second place six (6) points.
  - b) All Age Stakes First place will be awarded six (6) points.

## Points to be awarded;

- 96. **Dogs Australia Retrieving & Field Trial Points Certificate** must be issued as follows:
  - a) **National Championship Stake** First place eighteen (18) points, Second place twelve (12) points and Third place six (6) points.
  - a) Championship Stake First place twelve (12) points, second place six (6) points.
  - b) All Age Stakes First place six (6) points.

## Rationale:

Not all member bodies require a certificate as proof of place won when the place/s were won in that State, they just verify claims against the marked catalogues. As a result, member body affiliates do not see the need to issue the Dogs Australia Retrieving & Field Trial Points Certificate. Interstate competitors have difficulty obtaining the correct paperwork which becomes very important for proof of points awarded. This rule change would force everybody to issue the correct paperwork and it would be the same nationally.

- 97. On completion of the Trial the Judge shall complete and sign a Judge's Certificate or official catalogue of the event indicating:
  - (a) Placegetters. Only dogs worthy of the award of Championship points may be shown as first, second or third placegetters in Stakes carrying Championship points.
  - (b) Awards of Certificates of Merit, Diploma of Merit and Qualifying Certificates (if any).
- **97.** On completion of the Trial the Judge shall complete and sign a Judge's Certificate or official catalogue of the event indicating:
  - (a) Placegetters. Only dogs worthy of the award of Championship points may be shown as first, second or third placegetters in Stakes carrying Championship points. Dogs that have completed a stake where Replica variants of game were used can only be shown as placegetters, and no Championship points will be awarded.
  - (b) Awards of Certificates of Merit, Diploma of Merit and Qualifying Certificates (if any).

#### Rational:

At the recent Dogs Australia General meeting and board meeting conducted in Melbourne on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of October 2023 a rule change to 8K of the Retrieving rules for Gundogs was passed. This rule now states that replica game can be used from 1/1/2024.

With the introduction of this, dogs would now be able to obtain Retrieving Championship titles (RTCH) on replica game. This is away from the spirit of Retrieving trials and has created a major rift as Australia would be the only country within the World (FCI included) that would have any Retrieving/Field title obtained under these conditions. There are several important facets that cannot be assessed when using Replica variants. (Example - the severe mouthing of game is a disqualification in all countries.)

All countries that use replica game, only award placings and no accreditation for inclusion into pedigrees. These events are considered as TESTs only.

Australian breeders of group 3 / FCI group 8 dogs will now be heavily penalised by this decision.

Internationally, the purchase of dogs or semen from Australian titled dogs (retrieving) will now be avoided, as there will be no distinction between dogs obtaining titles on cold game or replica.

The reverse is also likely when attempting to purchase stock from overseas. International breeders are interested in their lines being able to obtain titles that enhance the breed. This means they will be reluctant to send top quality stock to Australia.

The current timetable indicates that no Retrieving Trials will be conducted outside of Victoria until March 2024. Victoria has indicated that they will not be using replica game in 2024.

The use of replica game is not being questioned, only the awarding of Championship points when a dog may have never mouthed feather nor fur. This is an extremely important part of gundogs breeding and genetic makeup and needs to be protected. All other countries do not award Championship points to dogs that only retrieve replica game.

If this amendment is accepted it will in no way affect the decision of affiliates to run trials, as replica game would still be able to be used with no titles awarded.

## **HISTORY**

The FTCA and the KCC (Victoria) agreed that the first water test was conducted in 1942, on the firm basis that No Championship points would ever be awarded if it was not using real game.

The rules stated that one retrieve would be from water and the other across water using cold (dead) game. (Ref - Extract from the origins 50 years of Retrieving trials. Section The beginning.)

In 1955 the rules for retrieving trials were drafted and accepted with a large degree of reference to the Labradors and the input of the 5<sup>th</sup> Duke of Buccleuch and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Malmsbury in developing specialist retrievers in the 1870's and the importance to retain good working attributes.

This was not to be a Test, but a trial and Championship points could be awarded for the first time in Australia.

1st June 1957, the first trial was conducted and Rosemoor Rajah won the event and went onto become the first KCC RTCH, later becoming KCC Dual Champion, after being awarded the challenge at the Royal Melbourne Show.

In 1958 further trials were held and NSW drafted a similar set of rules and started to hold trials.

When the ANKC was formed these rules amalgamated.

The ANKC National Championship was initiated and run on a rotating State basis. The winner being awarded the National Retrieving Trial Championship. All these trials were and have been conducted on cold game.

#### Conclusion

The above amendment is in keeping with the 80 year history and tradition of Retrieving within Australia. Retrieving is one of the oldest disciplines within Australia and needs to be preserved.

101. Every competing dog must be shot over before it can gain a prize, Certificate of Merit, Diploma of Merit, or Qualifying Certificate, and must satisfy the Judge that it is not gun-shy. These certificates may only be awarded to dogs in actual competition.

101. Every competing dog must be shot over, <u>and swim</u> before it can gain a prize, Certificate of Merit, Diploma of Merit, or Qualifying Certificate, and must satisfy the Judge that it is not gun-shy <u>and able to swim</u>. These certificates may only be awarded to dogs in actual competition.

#### Rationale:

In conjunction with rule 29.

For inclusion after Rule 113.

APPENDIX A.

Rules for the use of Artificial/Replica game.

## **REPLICA GAME TRIALS:**

(Tas) New Proposal

A new discipline for the use replica game only be adopted by the ANKC to be known as Replica Game Trials for Gundogs Draft Rules attached

### Rationale

This discipline was discussed at NRAFT level several years ago and a document of Draft Rules was submitted to NRAFT but at the time it was decided to put them on

the back burned until a later date when the need arose for them to be put on the Agenda once again

With all the turmoil of the past few months regarding the use of Cold game RAFT Tas believe the time has come to once again look at a discipline using only Replica game for those who chose not to participate in Retrieving Trails that use cold game. This new discipline to be Appendix A

# Rules

- 1.A Replica Game Trial is an event at which competitions for Gundogs are conducted, both on land and in or through water. but at the same time bring the work of each dog within an ambit of equality where assessment may be fairly made.
- 2.The function of the dog is to seek and locate fallen game, when ordered to do so. It should sit quietly with the handler or in the hide, walk at heel, or assume any station designated by the handler, until sent. When ordered a dog should quickly and briskly without unduly disturbing too much ground. It should deliver to hand and then await further orders from the handler.
- 3. Accurate marking or memory of falls is of paramount importance.

  However, this does not imply that dogs that excel in marking should not be penalised for other faults. Ability to mark does not necessarily imply pinpointing the fall. A dog that misses the fall on the cast but recognises the depth of the area of the fall, stays in it, and quickly and systematically hunts it out has done a creditable and intelligent job of marking.
  - 4 A dog that marks the fall of a bird, uses the wind and takes direction from its handler is of great value.
- 5. Directives of a Member Body shall apply to Replica Game Trials in their State/Territory and to any affiliate conducting Replica Game Trials.

6. The Shooting, Game Laws and Firearms Legislation of each State or Territory must be observed and will govern the conduct of all Trials in conjunction with the Rules and Regulations of each State or Territory Member Body as approved by the ANKC Ltd.

## **Definitions and Terms**

- 8. (a) **Action and Style** These are both seen in a fearless, well-trained dog working with purpose, enthusiasm and good free movement.
  - (b) **Blinking** Any dog that finds or is seen to acknowledge the presence of game but deliberately passes by the game is "Blinking Game".
  - (c) **Breaking Fence** Is the act on the part of a dog, when walking to heel, of going through, over or under a fence, without order. A dog should remain steady at both sides of a fence through or over which its handler is crossing.
  - (d) Breaking from the Hide A dog will be deemed to have broken from the hide if it moves outside the area designated by the Judge as the Hide. Any movement by the dog within the area of the Hide shall be classed as unsteadiness only.
  - (e) Breaking to Shot If a dog makes a forward movement which in the opinion of the Judge indicates a deliberate attempt to leave without being ordered to do so, that dog shall be deemed to have broken. If a dog makes a slight break and is brought immediately under control it shall be penalised for unsteadiness.
  - (f) **Control Area** is that area encompassed by the Control Point markers and the Firing Point markers.
  - (g) Control Point is the point at which a dog and handler come under the control of the Judge for the purpose of commencing a Run. This point shall be between the two markers set in position by direction of the Judge.
  - (h) **Dog** shall be taken to mean a dog of either sex.
  - (i) **Drop or Down or Sit** Drop or Down or Sit A well trained dog should stop on command. A dog may sit, stand or drop in position, but must not move from that position until ordered.
  - (j) Firing Point is the point from which the handler will fire a gun and direct the dog. A handler moving outside the Firing Point

- to handle their dog may be penalised as defined on the Judging Sheet.
- Note: Terrain permitting, the distance between the Control Point and the Firing Point shall be not less than 10 metres and the distance between the two marker pegs at the Firing Point shall be not less than 2 metres.
- (k) **Game Definition of** Commercially available replica game (l) **Game Sense** Some dogs very apparently use a lot of sense in

locating game; These dogs have 'game sense'.

- (m) **Giving Tongue** A dog is deemed to be "giving tongue" when in the opinion of the Judge the dog barks or emits other significant noise whilst being adjudicated.
- (n) Dog shall be taken to mean a registered gundog of a variety accepted by a Member Body as a dog
- o) **Gun Shy** A dog which recoils from the sight or sound of the gun is deemed to be "gun shy" and should be penalized according to the seriousness of the fault.
- (p) **Hide** An area clearly defined by the Judge in which to leave the dog.
- (q) In Line Game Items of game shall be considered to be "in line" if the lines to these items of game are separated by less than 10 metres at a distance of 50 metres from the Firing Point; less than 20 metres at a distance of 100 metres from the Firing Point and less than 30 metres at a distance of 150 metres from the Firing Point
- (r) Member Body Means the Member Body of the Australian

  National Kennel Council Ltd which controls the canine
  activity in the State or Territory in which the fixture is being conducted.
- (s) No Score Where a dog has been marked "No Score", the dog may continue in the Stake at the discretion of the Judge, but is to be considered as a non competing dog. In subsequent Runs they must be run after competing dogs.
- (t) Obedience Prompt compliance with all commands. Dogs should act readily and not cower or cringe at their handler's signs, sounds or commands.6
- (u) Pottering A dog that hunts around in a confined space covering ground that it has already worked, or one that lingers on an old scent, leaves it and then comes back to it is "pottering".
- **Working**-Working covers the performance of the dog from when ordered to retrieve until it delivers the game to its handler.

- (v) Run This term collectively describes those activities that occur between the time the competitor comes under the control of the Judge and when the competitor ceases to be under the control of the Judge. A competitor comes under the control of the Judge at the Control Point when the lead is removed from the dog and ceases to be under the control of the Judge when the handler returns to the Control Point and places the lead back on the dog. See also Procedures for Conducting Trials, Clauses 80 through 93 inclusive.
- (x) Walking to Heel Dog's head to be close to the side of heel or immediately behind the heel of the handler.
- (y) A bona fide exhibit is an exhibit where the dog is presented to the judge for competition and cannot be withdrawn except in accordance with Rule 70

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## Retrieves

- 9. Single Mark Retrieve A Single Mark Retrieve is a retrieve where only one object of game is cast and is to be retrieved, and as further defined in Rule 26.
- 10. A Walk-Up Retrieve is one where the dog is walking at heel, the game is cast and shot at. Immediately the handler pauses to fire, the dog shall sit, drop or stand steady until ordered by its handler to retrieve. A walk-Up retrieve is not permitted in a Novice Stake or Beginners' Test.
- 11. (a) Wounded Bird Retrieve Bird to be thrown by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Bird then picked up and fresh bird left in its stead.
  - (b) Wounded Rabbit Retrieve Rabbit to be placed by Steward as in other retrieves, but to have line attached by which it is dragged for a distance of at least twenty (20) metres. Rabbit is then picked up and fresh rabbit left in its stead.
- 12. A Blind Find Retrieve shall be a retrieve where a dog is in such a position that the flight, fall or placement of the game cannot be seen. The Judge may direct the dog to be placed behind a Hide in close proximity to the Firing Point. Where possible it is recommended that the Hide be part of the natural terrain or be constructed of natural materials.

- 13. A Double Mark Retrieve shall consist of two (2) Mark Retrieves and may include land and water. Except where two items of game are cast to fall within 20 metres of each other the items of game shall not be cast simultaneously and there shall be a reasonable delay between the casts.
- 14. A Double Blind Retrieve. Two items of game will be separately located and the Retrieve conducted as for a Blind Find Retrieve.
- 15. A Double Rise Retrieve. A Double Rise Retrieve shall consist of a retrieve where one item of game is cast as for a Mark Retrieve at which two shots are fired in succession and before the dog is sent to retrieve. While the dog is returning with the first item of game, a second item of game is cast or placed no further than ten (10) metres from the fall of the first item of game, but at a greater distance from the Firing Point. The second item of game shall be retrieved immediately after the first item of game is delivered to hand. On the second leg, a handler may cue the dog using hand and voice to return to the area of fall of the first item of game. Having sent the dog for the second item of game, the retrieve should not be treated as a Blind Find Retrieve.
- 16. A Two-Bird Retrieve. The first item of game shall be cast as for a Mark Retrieve, or alternatively, it may be cast or placed as for a Blind Find Retrieve. In accordance with instructions from the Judge, the dog shall be sent to recover this item of game. While dog is returning to the handler with the first item of game, a second item of game shall be cast so that the dog may mark or hear its fall. The second item of game should be at least twenty metres from first item of game.
- 17. **Double Fall Retrieve**. The first item of game is cast as a Mark Retrieve and at which one shot is fired. While the dog is on the way out to retrieve the first item of game, a second game is cast and a shot fired so the dog may mark or hear the fall of this item of game. The first item of game must be retrieved before the second item of game. The second item of game must be cast to land not less than twenty metres from the line to the first item of game and not less than forty metres from the Firing Point. This retrieve is limited to All Age.
- 18. A Mark and Blind Retrieve shall consist of one Mark Retrieve and one Blind Find Retrieve.
- 19. A Triple Mark Retrieve shall consist of three separate Mark retrieves.

  The items of game may be cast at different angles and, may include land and water and must be separated in accordance with the specification in Rule 8 (r). One retrieve must be at a short distance.

  There must be a reasonable delay between casts.

- 20. A Triple Retrieve with two Blinds and one Mark shall consist of a Double Blind Find Retrieve and a Single Mark Retrieve.
- 21. A Triple Retrieve with two Marks and one Blind shall consist of a Double Mark Retrieve and a Blind Find Retrieve.
- 22. Through or Amongst Decoy Retrieves. No less than six decoys, constructed of plastic or wood, shall be used. The decoys must be pegged individually and must be 'non-motion' decoys. Any dog that picks up a decoy and does not immediately release it without command shall be marked with No Score. All decoys shall be silhouettes
- 23. In multiple Retrieves the Judge may stipulate the order in which items of game shall be retrieved. Any reasonable combination of the listed Retrieves shall be permissible, provided that a dog shall not be required to pick up more than three (3) items of game in any Run.
- 24. The Judge shall not specify the order of pick-up if items of game are deemed to be "In Line" and that decision shall be left to the handler's discretion.
- 25. (a) In All Age and, a Judge may order that one (1) additional item of game be placed or cast as a diversion and this item of game shall not be retrieved by the competing dog. An item of game used as a diversion shall not be located either "in line" with or less than 20m from an item of game that is to be retrieved.

  See Rule 8 (r) for the definition of "in line".
  - (b) While in competition, if a dog picks up an item of game used in connection with the Run, other than the nominated item of game, it shall be eliminated from further competition.
- 26. Mark Retrieves are retrieves where a dog is in such a position at the Firing Point to be able to see a bird in the air and as it falls and where possible the cast bird should break open skyline when viewed by the dog. A dog on a Mark Retrieve should not need direction from the handler once the dog has been sent for the Retrieve. On Mark Retrieves, where more than one bird is to be retrieved, the order may be specified by the Judge. The handler is permitted to indicate clearly to the dog by hand and/or by voice which bird it is being sent for. Further handling once the dog has left the handler's side will be penalised accordingly.

# 27. Left Blank

28. On Blind Find Retrieves, where possible, the course should be planned in such a way that advantage is taken of natural hazards. It should be possible, at least in theory, for a dog to find a well-planned Blind Find Retrieve on the initial line from its handler. The test should be so planned that the dog should be in sight at least until directed

- into the area of the fall, as a Blind Find Retrieve is a test of control and a dog that is out of sight for a considerable period of time cannot be said to be under control.
- 29. Programmes should be so arranged that all dogs are thoroughly tested on land and in or through water of sufficient depth to require the dog to swim.
- 30. The maximum distance for any retrieve will be 150 metres. In Novice Stakes and Beginners' Tests, Runs shall not exceed 100 metres.
- 31. No more than two (2) Runs judged by the same Judge may be linked consecutively before each competitor leaves the Control Area. No more than four (4) items of game may be retrieved in total.
  - 32. Retrieves involving a relocation of a dog from an original Firing
    Point must not involve a relocation of more than twenty (20)
    metres. The relocated Firing Point should not unduly disadvantage
    the dog or handler and the area of fall must remain able to be
    observed by both dog and handler from the new Firing Point.
    Relocated retrieves are permitted when they enable better sighted
    retrieves to be included in the Run.

# Replica Game Trials and Test Eligibility

- 33. All events shall be restricted to dogs six months of age and over. The age of a dog shall be computed from its date of birth to the date on which the Trial commences. Should finalisation of the Trial be delayed, then the increase in age shall not affect the eligibility of any qualified contestant.
- 34. Registered (Main, Limited) desexed dogs shall be permitted to compete in Replica Game Trials in all States and/or Territories of Australia.
- 35. A Stake is a competition held at a Replica Game Trial and shall consist of not less than three (3) Runs, except for a Beginners' Test, which shall consist of two (2) Runs. There shall not be more than 4 Runs in a Novice Stake.
- 36. Beginners' Test is a Stake confined to Dogs that have not won a Beginners Test nor have placed in any other Stake. Beginners' Tests shall consist of two (2) Runs each of which is a Single Mark Retrieve, one (1) on land and one (1) in or through water. A Walk-up Retrieve is not permitted in a Beginners Test.
- 37. Novice Stake is a Stake confined to Dogs that have not won five (5)

  Novice Stakes or any other Stake (Beginners' Tests are excluded)
  or have been awarded an AARD title. The only form of retrieve in a
  Novice Stake is a Single Mark Retrieve. A "Walk-Up" is not
  permitted in a Novice Stake.

- 38. Restricted Stake is a Stake confined to Dogs that have not won five
  (5) Restricted Stakes or been awarded an AARD title. At least one
  Blind Find Retrieve shall be included in a Restricted Stake. A Blind
  Find Retrieve should preferably be picked up after, rather than
  before, a Mark Retrieve, Double Rise Retrieve or a Two-Bird
  Retrieve.
  - Where a Blind Find Retrieve is to be retrieved first, the angle of separation between the Blind and other items of game shall be at least 60 degrees.
- 39. All Age Stake is a Stake confined to Dogs that have won a Novice or have been placed first, second or third in a Restricted Stake. A Blind Find Retrieve must be included, with the dog tested for steadiness in a Hide at least once.
- 44. A dog that becomes ineligible for a Stake by virtue of a win after the close of entries may be elevated into the next highest Stake at the Trial at which it is entered providing the entry fee is adjusted accordingly and /or necessary. Alternatively (Subject to complying with Member Body Rules) the dog may compete in the Stake for which it was entered at the time of the close of entries.
- 45. All wins, placings and certificate awards, made by State, Territory or Overseas Governing Bodies recognised by the A.N.K.C. shall count in relation to the eligibility of dogs for any Stake and it shall be incumbent on the Club conducting the Trial to forward within ten (10) days to the Member Body, a marked catalogue with the placings and certificates awarded.
- 47. Trials conducted by affiliates of a Member Body may, with the special permission of the Member Body, be limited to a specific breed or breeds of Dogs

**Required Number of Entries** 

48. No event at any Replica Game Trial up to and including a Restricted Stake shall be conducted unless there are at least four (4) bona fide exhibits and at least two (2) different owners. For an All Age Stake at least four (4) bona fide exhibits and at least four (4) different owners are required.

Eligibility/Responsibility of Judges

- 51. (a) No person shall be entitled to judge a Replica Game Trial Stake until he/she has supplied acceptable credentials to the Member Body and has been placed on a list of approved Judges by the Member Body.
  - (b) Applications for listing as an approved Judge must be lodged each year with the Member Body in the State or Territory in which the applicant resides and in accordance with the Rules of such Body.
    - The Member Body will consider, and where applicable, approve the listing of approved Judges for the ensuing year.
  - (c) Before being eligible to judge at a Restricted Stake, the person must have completed, to the satisfaction of the Member Body, at least two (2) Novice Stake judging appointments.
  - (d) Before being eligible to judge an All Age Stake the person must have completed, to the satisfaction of the Member Body, at least three (3) Restricted Stake judging appointments.
  - (f) Its a judges responsibility to remain conversant with the current rules and regulations and any changes that have occurred in Replica Game trials.
- 52. While a dog is in competition, the Judge is not permitted to advise the competing handler where the dog is nor where the item of game is in relation to the dog.
- 53. Where two (2) or more Judges are co-judging a retrieve, no competing dog shall be put out of a Run until all Judges have conferred and reached agreement.
- 54. When inviting a Judge to co-Judge at a Trial the Judge must be advised by the affiliate, in writing, the name of the other Judge(s) and the Judging arrangements.
- 55. Judges are empowered and instructed to withhold any prize or award if, in their opinion, the dogs competing do not show sufficient merit. Before a dog can gain a prize or award, it must complete the Stake in which the prize or award is made.
- 56. The Judge is empowered to turn out of a Stake any dog whose handler does not obey the Judge or who wilfully interferes with another competitor or his dog.

# **Duties of Trial Manager and Stake Managers**

- 57. (a) Shall be required to assist the Judge in all duties in connection with the Trial.
  - (b) At the Judge's request shall inspect any dog for sexual causes or any other cause which interferes with the safety or performance of its opponents.

- (c) Shall assemble and control all dogs and also be responsible to see that all dogs participate without delay in their proper order.
- (d) May acquaint all competitors with the procedure required by the <u>Judge.</u>
- (e) In some tests the Judge may consider it necessary to request an additional Steward or Stewards to observe and report as required.

## **Duties of a Gun Steward**

58. Where a Gun Steward has been elected to fire on behalf of a handler, the gun will be fired when the bird is as near as possible to the apex of its flight. Only in the case of a handler being underage or incapacitated or prevented at law will a Gun Steward be permitted to fire for the handler. When because of a legal or physical disability a person is restricted from carrying a mock gun, that person will not be required to carry anything.

# **Duties of Game Stewards**

- (a) In any Replica Game trial the condition of the game for that retrieve shall be substantially the same for each dog.
- (b) Shall, in the event of game being cast in a position where a retrieve is impossible or cast in a place substantially different to that directed by the Judge, inform the Judge of such fact.
- (c) Shall, unless otherwise provided for in these Rules, cast the game only when directed to do so by the Judge.
- (d) Shall take every possible precaution to ensure that unused game cannot be sighted or scented by a competing dog.
- (e) The Game Stewards will at all times, endeavour to be hidden from sight of both the handler and dog. The Game and Gun Stewards will refrain from unnecessary movement and the Gun Steward will ensure that the gun is broken at all times when not actually in use. Game to be retrieved must be at least ten (10) metres from the Game Steward.
- (f) Where possible, no competitor may act as Game Steward in any Run in which they are competing before they have run their dog(s) in that Run.
- (g) The direction to the Game Steward to cast the game shall be given by the Judge. Where applicable, such direction shall be given from a position out of sight of the handler and in a way that does not distract the dog.

**General Regulations for Conduct of a Trial** 

- 60. The management of a Trial shall be entrusted to the Trial Committee of the Affiliate concerned.
- 61. Any handler who is unacceptable to the Committee and/or Stewards of the Trial for any reasonable cause shall be excluded from the Trial.
- 62. All dogs shall be examined by a competent examiner before the commencement of every Trial. Bitches in oestrum shall not be permitted to compete and must not enter the vicinity of the Runs. No preparation for concealing oestrum shall be used.
- 63. Should two (2) members of the Trial Committee entrusted with the management of the Trial, after consultation with the Judge, consider any dog is unfit to compete by reason of sexual causes or any other causes which interfere with the safety or chance of winning of its opponents, such a dog shall be removed immediately from all competing areas.
- 64. Dogs are expected to retrieve under all natural working conditions.

  The Judges and Trial Committee have complete control over the mechanics and requirements of each Trial. This latitude is permitted in order to allow for the difference of conditions in various places.
- 65. All dogs shall be under the control of the Stewards and must be brought on leads to participate without delay in their proper turn. If absent, when called three (3) times, a dog will be debarred by the Stewards from participating in the Stake.
- 66. No person, other than the Judge and the Stewards, shall be permitted to accompany the handlers of the dogs competing in any Trial unless the permission of the Judge has been previously obtained. Spectators shall not be allowed to encroach on any area designated by the Trial Manager or Judge.
- 67. The area over which a Stake shall be conducted will be decided by the Trial Committee conducting the Trial and indicated to the Judge by the appointed Trial Manager. Where possible, two (2) members of the Trial Committee will be made available to assist the Judge. The Judge shall select his/her own Runs. The Committee has the right to intervene only if the selected Runs contravene the ANKC Ltd Rules, are logistically unsound or the dogs' safety is in serious question
- 68. All matters in connection with dogs actually under trial shall be in the hands of the Judge; he may call the Stewards to his assistance if he considers it necessary. The Judge is empowered to turn out of a Stake any dog that fails to retrieve or that does not work to his

- satisfaction. Where a dog has received a No Score, the Judge will immediately inform the handler of the situation.
- 69. In each Run of a Stake a dog may be handled by either its owner or a handler approved by the Stewards, but it must be one or the other.

  When dogs are working, an owner must not interfere with the dog if another person has been deputised to handle it.
- 70. No owner or handler shall be permitted to withdraw a dog from a Stake at any time during the progress of the Stake, without the consent of the Judge (which will not be unreasonably withheld) and without advising a Steward. Any owner or handler withdrawing a dog or dogs without consent may be debarred from any further Trials or penalised according to the circumstances by the Committee of the Member Body.
- 71. Anyone taking part in a Trial who openly impugns the actions or decision of the Judge or who is, in the opinion of the Trial Committee, guilty of unsportsmanlike conduct must be cautioned by the Trial Manager or other Trial official and if thereafter he further offends he shall render himself liable to be debarred from further participation in the Trial and may be ordered from the grounds and further dealt with at the discretion of the Member Body.
- 72. No thermal vest shall be worn and nothing whatever may be administered to a dog while it is in the hands of the Judge.
- 73. The person handling a dog may speak, whistle, and work it by hand as they deem proper, including using a hand to indicate to the dog which item of game it is to retrieve, but may be called to order by the Judge for making any unnecessary noise or for any disorderly conduct, and if after being cautioned they persist with such noise or disorderly conduct, the Judge may order the dog to be taken up and it then shall be regarded as being disqualified from the Stake.
- 74. A handler who touches or physically interferes with his dog will be penalised according to the seriousness of the offence.
- 75. Physical punishment of a dog during a Trial or on the Trial grounds will not be permitted. Any person who physically punishes a dog on the Trial grounds may be ordered from the grounds and further dealt with at the discretion of the Member Body.
- 76. No handler may proceed beyond the Firing Point into the area of a retrieve without the direction of the Judge; refer also to Rule 8(j).13
- 77. (a) The judge shall give instructions on the conduct of each Run, and these instructions must be obeyed.
  - These instructions must comply with the Rules for the Conduct of Replica Game Trials for Dogs, including the application of points

- allocated and deducted therein. The ruling of 'No score' or "elimination" must only be invoked in response to situations where this penalty is specifically stated in the Rules.
- (b) Competing dogs shall be kept in a marshalling area from which they cannot see retrieves in progress.
- 78. In the event of a tie, a separate run-off shall be arranged by the Trial

  Committee entrusted with the management of the Trial in cooperation with the Judge. The Judge will select the test. The order
  in which the contestants will run is to be decided by the toss of a
  coin.
- 79. Decisions of the Committee of the affiliate conducting a Trial shall be subject to appeal to the Member Body.

# PROCEDURE FOR CONDUCTING TRIALS

- 80. The Draw is the selection by ballot of the order in which dogs in a Stake are required to compete in the first Run Draw will be made by the Trial Committee entrusted with the management of the Trial. The Draw must be made in public either before or on the day of the trial. The subsequent running order, if convenient and practical, after the first run has taken place maybe rotated to ensure fairness to competitors.
- 81. The handler, with dog on lead, shall advance to the Control Point for the purpose of commencing a retrieve. It is important for handlers to know that they are under the control of the Judge from the time they remove the lead and collar from the dog, and any lack of control will be penalised accordingly by the Judge.
- 82. At the Control Point, after removing the lead and collar, the handler shall place the dog at the "sit", "drop" or "stand" position and will be handed the gun and approved inserts by the Gun Steward.
- 83. The dog shall remain in place (at the "sit", "drop" or "stand" position) until on instructions from the judge, the handler, with dog at heel, shall advance to the Firing Point. The dog shall again be placed at the "sit", "drop" or "stand" position. Except in a "Walk-Up Retrieve", and unless otherwise instructed by the Judge, the handler will not close the gun until he reaches the Firing Point.
- 84. The Game Steward shall when directed by the Judge, cast game in the area and in such a manner as previously directed by the Judge, and where applicable from a position out of sight of the handler and in such a way that does not distract the dog.

  Insofar as possible, where UHF radios are in use to set up a Run, no communication between the Judge and the Stewards shall take place via the radios while the dog is retrieving and outside the Control Area. Exceptions would include notification of incorrectly

- <u>cast game, an injured dog, or situation which interferes with the Run for that dog.</u>
- 85. The handler or Gun Steward shall, while the game is in the air and as near as possible to the apex of its flight, aim at the game and fire his gun from the shoulder and in the normal shooting posture.

  Unless otherwise directed by the Judge, the normal shooting posture will mean the handler or Steward will be standing.
- 86. After firing at the game, the gun must be broken before or immediately after the dog has been sent to retrieve.
- 87. The handler must not wave the gun about unnecessarily before or after it has been fired and must carry the gun at all times during a retrieve unless otherwise instructed by the Judge.14
- 88. On instruction from the Judge, and only then, shall the handler order his dog to retrieve the game. The instruction should be given by the Judge to all handlers prior to the commencement of a Run, so as to eliminate interference with the dog whilst it is at the Firing Point.
  - Note: The dog must not be held or forcibly restrained by the handler whilst the dog is in competition.
- 89. The dog shall then proceed to retrieve the game with style and freedom as quickly and efficiently as the terrain permits. The handler shall remain at the Firing Point through the period of the retrieve and shall give all directions to the dog from this point unless otherwise directed by the Judge.
- 90. The dog shall retrieve the game cleanly and without delay shall return direct to the handler and shall deliver straight to hand in front of the handler from standing or sitting position, and as instructed by the Judge. The dog shall be stationary at delivery.
- 91. The handler, without stepping towards the dog shall take the game with one hand from the mouth of the dog. It is important that the dog shall deliver tenderly i.e. with a "soft mouth". Where more than one (1) object of game is to be retrieved, the handler must carry all game or place game gently on the ground while waiting for second or more game to be delivered by the dog. When all game has been retrieved the handler shall then move back to the Control Point with the dog at heel and hand over to the Steward, the gun and all game from that retrieve. The handler will then receive lead and collar from the Steward and place it back on the dog.
- 93. The dog should at no time drop the game during a retrieve until ordered to deliver by the handler. Any dog doing so shall be penalised according to the seriousness of the offence. The dog will have completed the retrieve when the game is brought within reach of the handler and an attempt is made to deliver without the

handler stepping towards the dog. If the game is dropped during an attempt to deliver within reach of the handler, the penalty is for dropping game.

# **ALLOCATION OF POINTS**

- 94. The principal points to be considered by the Judge in assessing the merits of performances in competitive work shall be the ability to mark, sagacity, and use of nose, steadiness, dash, perseverance, attention, control, courage, style, retrieving and cleanness of delivery. Retrieving to which supreme importance must always be accorded, should be with tender mouth and right up to hand. The dog must not injure game, retrieve decoys, drop the game, or retrieve without being ordered to do so. Points should be allocated for each retrieve. (See Judging Sheet.)
- 95. Judges shall not show their Judging Sheets to unauthorised persons.

  The sheets must be retained by the Judge. Judging Sheets must be checked and signed by the Judge and Chief Steward and at the conclusion of the Trial and the aggregate points shall be announced for all place awards.

As a minimum, at the conclusion of the presentation of trophies, the Run-by-Run scores of all dogs completing the Trial shall be made available.

Should any competitor failing to complete the Trial request details of how he/she was scored on any Run, the Judge shall make this information available to that competitor. The Judge may, at his/her discretion, show a competitor his/her Judging Sheet.

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# **AWARDS**

- 97. On completion of the Trial the Judge shall complete and sign a Judge's Certificate or official catalogue of the event indicating:

  (a) Placegetters.
  - (b) Awards of Qualifying Certificates (if any).
- 100. Wins and places in Stakes limited to a specific breed or breeds of Gundogs shall count only in such Stakes but wins and places in Stakes open to all Gundogs shall count in both.
- 101. Every competing dog must be shot over before it can gain a prize and must satisfy the Judge that it is not gun-shy. These certificates may only be awarded to dogs in actual competition.
- 102. Wins and other qualifications shall count as from and including the date they are gained. Only the highest Replica Game title or qualification awarded to the dog will be used with the name of the dog
- 103. If a prize-winner is disqualified, the dogs next in consecutive order of merit, if so placed by the Judge, shall be moved into the higher places in the prize list and such placings shall there upon become the awards, subject to the qualification that the Judge must certify that such dogs are worthy of occupying that position.
- 106. (a) The title of Qualifying RG Novice Dog (QRND) may be awarded to any dog that has completed five (5) Novice Stakes to the Judge's satisfaction, (and awarded by at least two different judges) having shown that they are steady to shot, under reasonable control and not gun shy. The records required to apply for a Qualifying Novice Dog title are the responsibility of the owner/handler. The title of Qualifying Replica Game Novice Dog is not retrospective and can only be awarded on basis of results obtained from 1 January 2025.
  - (b) The title of Qualifying RG Restricted Dog (QRRD) may be awarded to any dog that has completed seven (7) Restricted Stakes to the Judge's satisfaction, (and awarded by at least three different judges) having shown that they are steady to shot, under reasonable control and not gun shy. The records required to apply for a Qualifying Restricted Dog title are the responsibility of the owner/handler. The title of Qualifying Replica Game Restricted Dog is not retrospective and can only be awarded on basis of results obtained from 1 January 2025.16
- 107. (a) The title of Novice RG Dog (N.R.G.D.) and/or Restricted Replica Game Dog (R.R.G.D.) may be awarded to those dogs that have had three wins in those Stakes or those that are no longer

- eligible to compete in those Stakes because of wins in those Stakes or wins/placings in higher Stakes.
- (b) The title of All Age Replica Game Dog (A.A.G.D.) may be awarded to those dogs that have completed ten (10) All Age Stakes judged by at least three different Judges. Once a dog has been granted title of AAGD it can only compete in All Age.
- 108. **R.G Champion** can be awarded when the dog has been placed first in two All age Stakes.

SCORE SHEET and INDEX to be adopted

Rules to be renumbered.