Proposed Tracking Rules Changes and Additions

Firstly to be considered first. Rationale: Many of the suggested change follow on from the acceptance of the following.

1. That a Tracking Grand Champion T Gr Ch Title be added to Tracking

Rationale: Tracking and Track and Search are separate disciplines and this title should now be added to the Tracking discipline.

Proposed Track 9

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres. The track will have a minimum of seven changes of direction: a minimum of two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than sixty (60) metres from the start. Three articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass. One article is to be placed at a change of direction, not to be placed at the first change of direction  and no article to be placed on the track prior to or within 30 metres after the first change of direction. The start must be a minimum of fifteen (15) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them. The starting line flags will remain. The starting line flags will be twenty five (25 metres) approximately apart. A minimum of fifteen  (15) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate. The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately fifteen (15)  metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking. There will be two Cross Tracks that may be laid by one or two unknown persons. Cross Tracks will be laid according to the Judge’s direction. The Cross Tracks must be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed. The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 150 minutes and the maximum 210 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line. The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

Proposed Track 10

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres. The track will have a minimum of seven changes of direction: a minimum of two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than sixty (60) metres from the start. Four articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of three articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass. One article is to be placed at a change of direction, not to be placed at the first change of direction and no article to be placed on the track prior to or within 30metres after the first change of direction. The start must be a minimum of fifteen (15) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them. The starting line flags will remain. The starting line flags will be twenty five (25 metres) approximately apart. A minimum of fifteen (15) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate. The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately fifteen (15)  metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking. There will be two Cross Tracks that may be laid by one or two unknown persons. A diversion track will be laid with the diversion tracklayer accompanying the main tracklayer. The diversion tracklayer must accompany the main tracklayer for a minimum of 30 metres and shall leave the track no less than 20 metres before the first change of direction. Any dog that follows the diversion tracklayer off the main track for more than fifteen (15) metres must be marked as failed.  The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 180 minutes and the maximum 240 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line. The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass.

Rationale: New tracks for Tracking Grand Championship , depending on what is decided many of the suggestions below may need to be altered. I believe the above to be a good starting point for discussion as the the tracks should be more difficult but still achievable and practical in that they can be run by any state currently running Tracking Trials.

1. Page 3 Listing of available Tracks add:

Tracking Grand Champion (T Gr Ch) Test 9 – Unknown Person

                                                       Test 10 – Unknown Person

Rationale 2 Tests for this title to mirror the Tracking Championship title and also the Track and Search Grand Championship title. Many affiliates have already got issues with the availability of land to run trials so practically 2 tracks will test the dog sufficiently and all States should be able to run these tests.

1. Current Rule Page 5 **Titles**

To qualify for the tracking titles of TD (Tracking Dog), TDX (Tracking Dog Excellent) and

T Ch (Tracking Champion) a dog must pass each of the following tests once:

Tracking Dog (TD) Test 1 (Known Person)

Test 2 (Known Person)

Test 3 (Unknown Person)

Tracking Dog Test 4 (Unknown Person)

Excellent (TDX) Test 5 (Unknown Person)

Test 6 (Unknown Person)

Tracking Champion (T Ch) Test 7 (Unknown Person)

Test 8 (Unknown Person)

Alter to Read:

To qualify for the tracking titles of TD (Tracking Dog), TDX (Tracking Dog Excellent),

T Ch (Tracking Champion) and T Gr Ch (Tracking Grand Champion) a dog must pass each of the following tests once:

Tracking Dog (TD) Test 1 (Known Person)

Test 2 (Known Person)

Test 3 (Unknown Person)

Tracking Dog Test 4 (Unknown Person)

Excellent (TDX) Test 5 (Unknown Person)

Test 6 (Unknown Person)

Tracking Champion (T Ch) Test 7 (Unknown Person)

Test 8 (Unknown Person)

Grand Champion (Gr Ch) Test 9 (Unknown Person)

Test 10 (Unknown Person)

Rationale: Change to reflect additional Tests

1. Current.

(B) Dogs must complete, in order, Test 1 through to Test 8.

Alter to read.  (B) Dogs must complete, in order, Test 1 through to Test 10.

Rationale: Change to reflect additional Tests

1. Current

(E) The TD (Tracking Dog), TDX (Tracking Dog Excellent) and T Ch (Tracking Champion) certificates may be granted on application to the Member Body concerned.

Alter to read

(E) The TD (Tracking Dog), TDX (Tracking Dog Excellent), T Ch (Tracking Champion) and T Gr Ch (Tracking Grand Champion) certificates may be granted on application to the Member Body concerned.

Rationale: Change to reflect additional Tests

1. Current

(F) After qualifying for the T Ch (Tracking Champion) certificate a dog is not eligible for further entry in tracking trials. No further qualifying certificates can be awarded once this title has been gained.

Alter to read

(F) After qualifying for the T Gr Ch (Tracking Grand Champion) certificate a dog is not eligible for further entry in tracking trials. No further qualifying certificates can be awarded once this title has been gained.

Rationale: Change to reflect additional Tests

1. Current

(G) A Member Body will receive applications for the title of Dual Champion in connection with each dog which has gained titles of Conformation (Ch) and Tracking Champion (T Ch).

Alter to read

(G) A Member Body will receive applications for the title of Dual Champion in connection with each dog which has gained titles of Conformation (Ch) and Tracking Champion (T Ch) and also Dual Grand Champion in connection with each dog which has gained titles of Conformation (Gr Ch) and Tracking Grand Champion.

Rationale: Change to reflect additional Tests

**Equipment**

Current

(D) There must be a starting flag at the beginning of each track, except Test 7 and Test 8 where the starting line shall be indicated by 2 flags approximately twenty (20) metres apart.

Alter to read

(D) There must be a starting flag at the beginning of each track, except Test 7 and Test 8 where the starting line shall be indicated by 2 flags approximately twenty (20) metres apart and Test 9 and Test 10 where the starting line shall be indicated by two flags approximately twenty-five (25) metres apart.

Rationale: Change to reflect additional tests.

Current

(E) The starting flag/s must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers.

Alter to read

(E) The starting flag/s must be a minimum of fifteen (15) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers.

Rationale: To enable tracks to be put into smaller areas or more tracks in a given area as many affiliates have reduced available areas and increased numbers of competitors wishing to compete at trials.

Current

**INSPECTION**

An examination of all bitches should be conducted on each day of the trial. A member of the Affiliate conducting the trial may do this examination.

Alter to read

An examination of all entire bitches should be conducted on each day of the trial. A member of the Affiliate conducting the trial may do this examination. Proof of desexing to be provided to the affiliate conducting the trial

Rationale: Only entire bitches need to be inspected as the purpose of this inspection is to check for bitches in Oestrum (season).

**Judges**

Current

(B) The maximum number of dogs to be judged by a Judge on any one-day will be:

10 x TD or 7 x TDX or 7 x T Ch

Note: Points are allotted for the type of tracks to be tested.

TD 2 points for each track (Maximum 20)

TDX 3 points for each track (Maximum 21)

T Ch 3 points for each track (Maximum 21)

A combination of TD, TDX and/or T Ch tracks must not exceed 27 points for any Judge on one day. Judges may specify on their contracts how many points they are willing to judge.

Alter to read :

(B) The maximum number of dogs to be judged by a Judge on any one-day will be:

10 x TD or 7 x TDX or 7 x T Ch or 7 x T Gr Ch

Note: Points are allotted for the type of tracks to be tested.

TD 2 points for each track (Maximum 20)

TDX 3 points for each track (Maximum 21)

T Ch 3 points for each track (Maximum 21)

T Gr Ch 3 points for each track (Maximum 21)

A combination of TD, TDX, T Ch tracks and/or T Gr Ch tracks must not exceed 27 points for any Judge on one day. Judges may specify on their contracts how many points they are willing to judge.

Rationale: To reflect new tracks added.

**Tracklayer**

Current:

(C) Except for the start article for Test 7,8 the Tracklayer must place the articles

on the track at the places nominated by the Judge, one article to be at the

commencement of each track in addition to the other articles required. For Test 7,

Test 8, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean unscented,

sealable bag supplied by the Judge or their delegate. Each sealable bag may only be

used once per day and must be washed or aired after each use.

The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to

approximately twenty (20) metres from the starting line, and give the bag to the

Handler. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start

tracking.

Alter to read:

(C) Except for the start article for Test 7,8 and Test 9,10 the Tracklayer must place the articles

on the track at the places nominated by the Judge, one article to be at the

commencement of each track in addition to the other articles required. For Test 7,

Test 8, and Test 9 and Test 10 the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean unscented,

sealable bag supplied by the Judge or their delegate. Each sealable bag may only be

used once per day and must be washed or aired after each use.

The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to

approximately fifteen (15) metres from the starting line, and give the bag to the

Handler. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start

tracking.

Rationale: Change to reflect additional tests and reduction of distance from start for presenting the article to reflect reduction suggested above in Equipment E

Current:

(D) All articles must be placed on the track but not on a turn nor within a minimum of thirty (30) metres before or after a turn.

Alteration:

All articles must be placed on the track but not at a change of direction  nor within a minimum of thirty (30) metres before or after a change of direction, excepting for a Track 9 or 10 where one article is to be placed at a change of direction as per the description of the track.

Rationale: Change to a change of direction to keep language consistent and add in rules for Track 9 & 10.

(G) At the end of each track the Tracklayer: (1) Must make them self as inconspicuous as possible and remain still and silent. The Tracklayer need not remain at the end of the track, subject to the approval of the Member Body, but must be in place when the Handler completes the track. If the Tracklayer leaves the hide an article must be left in place.

OR (2) Must place the Finish Article in the position indicated by a marker on the map so it cannot be seen by the Handler as they approach the finish. After placing the Finish Article, the Tracklayer removes the marker and continues on for a minimum of thirty (30) metres past the finish before leaving on the walking out route.

Alter to:

(G) At the end of each track the Tracklayer: (1) Must make them self as inconspicuous as possible and remain still and silent. The Tracklayer need not remain at the end of the track, subject to the approval of the Member Body, but must be in place when the Handler completes the track. If the Tracklayer leaves the hide an article must be left in place.

OR (2) Must place the Finish Article in the position indicated by a marker on the map so it cannot be seen by the Handler as they approach the finish. After placing the Finish Article, the Tracklayer removes the marker and continues on for a minimum of ten (10) metres past the finish before leaving on the walking out route.

Rationale: To allow more flexibility in the use of space. 10 metres is sufficient.

**General**

Current:

(F) No person other than the Tracklayer shall be permitted within a minimum of thirty (30) metres of the track.

Alter to:

(F) No person other than the Tracklayer or cross tracklayer or diversion Tracklayer shall be permitted within a minimum of Fifteen (15) metres of the track.

Rationale : Consistency with change suggested for  Rule Equipment (e)