***DOGS WEST SUBMISSIONS***

***Review of Rules for the Conduct of Field Trials for Utility Gundogs***

# Rule review Utility Gundogs

**Current rule**

# PART 10 DOG ASSESSMENT.

46. Judges may confer if they wish on any aspect of the Stake. Each Judge should make his individual assessment of the merits of the dog’s work, but Judges must not Judge in conjunction.

47. The procedure for judging is divided into two parts and performance of each dog is judged in all categories of the work. At the end of the Stake, the Judge’s assessment of a dog’s performance, in points, is totalled. The respec­tive score sheets are then combined, if there be more than one Judge. The top three dogs are then placed in order of merit according to the scores. These results are then handed to the Club by the Judge or Judges. By “assessment” is meant the Judge’s opinion of the dog’s capabilities and of how it has executed the task.

The categories, for which each Judge has to give an opinion, are: -

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **FIELD WORK** | **MAXIMUM POINTS** |  | **WATERWORK** | **MAXIMUM POINTS** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Treatment of Ground | 10 each  round |  | Steadiness, Obedience and Walking to heel | 10 each round |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Pointing | 15 each  round |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Style, Eagerness and action | 10 each round |
| Steadiness | 10 each  round |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Retrieving | 30 each round |
| Retrieve | 15 each  round |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Backing | 10 max. |  |  |  |
| Game Finding Ability | 20 each  round |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Style | 10 each  round |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Handling and Control | 10 each  round |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Flushing Ability | 5 each  round |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 200 |  |  | 50 |

The Field Work points are the maximum a dog may accum­ulate during each of his rounds and each dog must be assessed on his overall work during the two runs ( 200 points ).

Water work is to be judged on an overall maximum of 50 points.

**Proposed amendment WA**

# PART 10 DOG ASSESSMENT.

46. Judges may confer if they wish on any aspect of the Stake. Each Judge should make his individual assessment of the merits of the dog’s work, but Judges must not Judge in conjunction.

47. The procedure for judging is divided into two parts and performance of each dog is judged in all categories of the work. At the end of the Stake, the Judge’s assessment of a dog’s performance, in points, is totalled. The respec­tive score sheets are then combined, if there be more than one Judge. The top three dogs are then placed in order of merit according to the scores. These results are then handed to the Club by the Judge or Judges. By “assessment” is meant the Judge’s opinion of the dog’s capabilities and of how it has executed the task.

The categories, for which each Judge has to give an opinion, are: -

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **FIELD WORK** | **MAXIMUM POINTS** |  | **WATERWORK** | **MAXIMUM POINTS** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Treatment of Ground | 10 each  round |  | Steadiness, Obedience and Walking to heel | 10 each round |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Pointing | 15 each  round |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | Style, Eagerness and action | 10 each round |
| Steadiness | 10 each  round |  | **Retrieving**  **Novice, Open, All Age** | 20 each round |
|  |  |  | **Championship Stakes** | 30 each round |
| Retrieve | 15 each  round |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Backing | 10 max. |  |  |  |
| Game Finding Ability | 20 each  round |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Style | 10 each  round |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Handling and Control | 10 each  round |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Flushing Ability | 5 each  round |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 200 |  |  | **50 - 40** |

The Field Work points are the maximum a dog may accum­ulate during each of his rounds and each dog must be assessed on his overall work during the two runs ( 200 points ).

Water work is to be judged on an overall maximum of **40-**50 points.

**Current rule**

**PART 17**

**UTILITY GUNDOG FIELD TRIAL SCORE SHEET**

**Water Work Round**

Retrieving Points

Novice, Open, All Age - 20

Championship Stakes - 30

**PART 17**



**UTILITY GUNDOG FIELD TRIAL SCORE SHEET**

**Judge:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Stake: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Competitor No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Points shall be allocated for each retrieve on the following basis:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Water Work** | **Round** | **Points** |
| Steadiness, obedience and walking to heel (max 10) | 1 |  |
| 2 |  |
| Style, Eagerness and  action (max 10) | 1 |  |
| 2 |  |
| Retrieving  (max 30 ) | 1 |  |
| 2 |  |
| **TOTAL MAXIMUM** | **50** |  |
|  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Field Work** | **Round** | | **Points** |
| Ground Treatment  (max 10) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Pointing  (max 15) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Steadiness  (max 10) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Retrieve  (max 15) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Backing  (max 10) |  | |  |
| Game finding Ability  (max 20) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Style  (max 10) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Handling & Control  (max 10) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Flushing Ability  (max 5) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| **TOTAL MAXIMUM** | **200** | |  |
| **Field Working Points** | |  | | |
| **Water Work Points** | |  | | |
| **FINAL TOTAL** | |  | | |

**Proposed Amendment**

**WA**

**PART 17**

**UTILITY GUNDOG FIELD TRIAL SCORE SHEET**

**Water Work Round**

Retrieving Points

Novice, Open, All Age - 20

Championship Stakes - 30

**PART 17**



**UTILITY GUNDOG FIELD TRIAL SCORE SHEET**

**Judge:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Stake: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Competitor No: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Points shall be allocated for each retrieve on the following basis:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Water Work** | **Round** | **Points** |
| Steadiness, obedience and walking to heel (max 10) | 1 |  |
| 2 |  |
| Style, Eagerness and  action (max 10) | 1 |  |
| 2 |  |
| **Retrieving (max 20)**  **Champ.(max 30 )** | 1 |  |
| 2 |  |
| **TOTAL MAXIMUM Championship max (50)** | **40** |  |
|  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Field Work** | **Round** | | **Points** |
| Ground Treatment  (max 10) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Pointing  (max 15) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Steadiness  (max 10) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Retrieve  (max 15) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Backing  (max 10) |  | |  |
| Game finding Ability  (max 20) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Style  (max 10) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Handling & Control  (max 10) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| Flushing Ability  (max 5) each round | 1 | |  |
| 2 | |  |
| **TOTAL MAXIMUM** | **200** | |  |
| **Field Working Points** | |  | | |
| **Water Work Points** | |  | | |
| **FINAL TOTAL** | |  | | |

**Rationale Part 10 – Part 17.**

**To clarify the scores on Dog Assessment & the score sheets between Championship & Nov/ Open/All age.**

***DOGS WEST SUBMISSIONS***

***Review of Rules for the Conduct of Field Trials for All Pointing Breeds of Gundogs;***

Current Rule

Part 8 FIELD TEST PROCEDURES.

43. The dogs will be tested in the field in pairs with a judging sheet being completed during each run for each dog in competition.

The Trial shall not be a knock out competition. Each Field Trial Stake will consist of two runs in the field for each dog subject to any eliminating which may eventuate during the progress of the Stake, subject to Rule 41.

If one dog points game, the other dog must not be drawn across it, to take that point, but must back of its own accord. Dogs must be hunted together and handlers must walk within a reasonable distance of one another.

On a dog finding game, it must point staunchly, unless the game moves when a dog must maintain contact with it, until the handler arrives and then flush on com­mand. If the game is moving, the dog will road out the game with the handler to the flush. If game is not produced within a reasonable distance, both dogs will be sent off on even terms.

Dogs are expected to flush game for the gun on command. A handle shall not touch or walk in front of a pointing dog, stamp on the ground or kick the cover to flush game.

When the pointing dog is instructed to road or flush game, the backing dog shall remain steady.

A find shall not be credited until a dog points staunchly, and until then, both dogs shall continue working.

Only the handler and/or allocated Steward are permitted to shoot over the dogs during the running of a Stake. Immediately game has been shot, handlers must stand fast and control their dogs from that position until otherwise ordered by the Judge.

Breaking to shot and retrieving before the order from the Judge may be grounds for elimination, at the dis­cretion of the Judge.

Dogs that fail to go out to retrieve after being ord­ered or directed shall be eliminated. Dogs that fail to pick up fallen game that they have located shall be eliminated. Dogs that fail to locate fallen game shall be penalised under major faults.

At the discretion of the Judge a handler may go to their dog after it has shown ability to back. If a hand­ler is handling two dogs, when one dog finds, the second dog can be held by the Steward while the first dog works out its game and the second dog has shown its ability to back.

After completion of the first round the judge shall have the discretion to order a further draw or draws or may choose the pairing of the braces and order in which the braces shall compete.

Judges are empowered to call up any dog for the purpose of proving its ability to perform any phase of its work including a new brace mate, which may or may not be in competition, to find and point in order that a dominant “Bird finder” may be required to back, thus completing scoring points for its own card.

In States and Territories where there is no open game bird season, land retrieves shall be conducted accordingly.

At the conclusion of the field rounds or an appropriate time during the field rounds under the direction of the judge and with the support of the organising club a judge will require a field retrieve or retrieves, in cover similar to that used in field work.

Dogs left in competition will be taken to a firing point.

A mechanical thrower will cast dead game birds or pigeons which have been humanely dispatched.

The thrower may be portable or static but the fall is to occur in terrain and cover similar to where the game has been pointed. The trajectory should simulate the flight of a quail and a blank fired.

If circumstances and equipment permit the judge may require this scenario to be enacted within a time frame and place as close as possible to the initial game contact and pointing.

NOVICE: Minimum of 1 flighted bird in the field. (Shotgun distances)

OPEN: Minimum of 1 flighted bird in the field and one unsighted “blind retrieve” in the field (Shotgun distance).

To prove steadiness to fall of game, a brace mate is placed or required to remain off lead in sight of the dog completing the retrieve no more than 7 metres to the side or behind the retrieving dog.

The handler of the brace mate to carry an unloaded gun.

Suggested distances for off lead control during field retrieves for honouring dogs:-

Novice: Handler near dog’s side.

Open/All/Age: Handler several metres from dog (3-5m)

.

**Proposed Amendment.**

**WA**

Part 8 FIELD TEST PROCEDURES.

42. The Field Trials, both field runs are to conclude on the same day, if possible. If not finalised on that day, then the Trials shall be concluded on the first available day following.

43. The dogs will be tested in the field in pairs with a judging sheet being completed during each run for each dog in competition.

The Trial shall not be a knock out competition. Each Field Trial Stake will consist of two runs in the field for each dog subject to any eliminating which may eventuate during the progress of the Stake, subject to Rule 41.

If one dog points game, the other dog must not be drawn across it, to take that point, but must back of its own accord. Dogs must be hunted together and handlers must walk within a reasonable distance of one another.

On a dog finding game, it must point staunchly, unless the game moves when a dog must maintain contact with it, until the handler arrives and then flush on com­mand. If the game is moving, the dog will road out the game with the handler to the flush. If game is not produced within a reasonable distance, both dogs will be sent off on even terms.

Dogs are expected to flush game for the gun on command. A handle shall not touch or walk in front of a pointing dog, stamp on the ground or kick the cover to flush game.

When the pointing dog is instructed to road or flush game, the backing dog shall remain steady.

A find shall not be credited until a dog points staunchly, and until then, both dogs shall continue working.

Only the handler and/or allocated Steward are permitted to shoot over the dogs during the running of a Stake. Immediately game has been shot, handlers must stand fast and control their dogs from that position until otherwise ordered by the Judge.

(ADD)

**A handler shall nominate whether the dog will seek dead or retrieve the shot game during the trial. A dog shall seek dead or retrieve only when sent by its handler.**

Breaking to shot and retrieving **or seek dead** before the order from the Judge may be grounds for elimination, at the dis­cretion of the Judge.

Dogs that fail to go out to retrieve after being ord­ered or directed shall be eliminated. Dogs that fail to pick up fallen game that they have located shall be eliminated. Dogs that fail to locate fallen game shall be penalised under major faults.

At the discretion of the Judge a handler may go to their dog after it has shown ability to back. If a hand­ler is handling two dogs, when one dog finds, the second dog can be held by the Steward while the first dog works out its game and the second dog has shown its ability to back.

After completion of the first round the judge shall have the discretion to order a further draw or draws or may choose the pairing of the braces and order in which the braces shall compete.

Judges are empowered to call up any dog for the purpose of proving its ability to perform any phase of its work including a new brace mate, which may or may not be in competition, to find and point in order that a dominant “Bird finder” may be required to back, thus completing scoring points for its own card.

In States and Territories where there is no open game bird season, land retrieves shall be conducted accordingly.

At the conclusion of the field rounds or an appropriate time during the field rounds under the direction of the judge and with the support of the organising club a judge will require a field **Seek dead,** retrieve or retrieves or in cover similar to that used in field work.

If circumstances and equipment permit the judge may require this scenario to be enacted within a time frame and place as close as possible to the initial game contact and pointing.

NOVICE: Minimum of 1 flighted bird in the field. (Shotgun distances)

OPEN: Minimum of 1 flighted bird in the field and one unsighted “blind retrieve” in the field (Shotgun distance).

To prove steadiness to fall of game, a brace mate is placed or required to remain off lead in sight of the dog completing the retrieve no more than 7 metres to the side or behind the retrieving dog.

The handler of the brace mate to carry an unloaded gun.

Suggested distances for off lead control during field retrieves for honouring dogs:-

Novice: Handler near dog’s side.

Open/All/Age: Handler several metres from dog (3-5m)

Dogs left in competition will be taken to a firing point.

A mechanical thrower will cast dead game birds or pigeons which have been humanely dispatched.

The thrower may be portable or static but the fall is to occur in terrain and cover similar to where the game has been pointed. The trajectory should simulate the flight of a quail and a blank fired.

Rationale.

Majority of Pointers & Setter retrieve. There may be a minor group of Pointers & Setter that still seek dead. Including seek dead will allow these Pointers & Setter to enter APB.

**Current Rule.**

**PART 9 RETRIEVE TEST REQUIREMENT**

44. **NOVICE STAKE**: One item only cast (max. 40 mtrs or less).

**OPEN/ALL AGE**: Two items of game picked up.

Options May Include mix of:

* Double mark
* Double rise
* Mark and blind (blind always picked up last)

CHAMPIONSHIP: Two or three items of game to be picked up.

A blind retrieve must be included. There must be a minimum separation of 60 degrees between the

blind and other items of game. The order of pick up is at the Judge’s discretion.

* Mark/Marks blended with a Blind
* Double Rise blended with a Blind.
* Mark blended with Blinds.

The Judge may direct the dog to be placed behind a “Blind” in a close proximity to the’ Firing Point. Where possible, it is recommended that the “Blind” be part of the natural terrain or be constructed of natural materials.

**Proposed Amendment**

**WA**

**PART 9 RETRIEVE TEST REQUIREMENT**

44. **NOVICE STAKE**: One item only cast (max. 40 mtrs or less).

**OPEN/ALL AGE**: ~~Two items of game picked up.~~

**One item of game to be picked up or Seek dead (approx. 60m or less).**

~~Options May Include mix of:~~

* ~~Double~~ **~~mark~~**
* ~~Double rise~~
* ~~Mark and~~ **~~blind~~** ~~(blind always picked up last~~

CHAMPIONSHIP: Two or three items of game to be picked up.

A blind retrieve must be included. There must be a minimum separation of 60 degrees between the

blind and other items of game. The order of pick up is at the Judge’s discretion.

Options may include a mix of:

* Mark/Marks blended with a Blind
* Double Rise blended with a Blind.
* Mark blended with Blinds.

The Judge may direct the dog to be placed behind a “Blind” in a close proximity to the’ Firing Point.Where possible, it is recommended that the “Blind” be part of the natural terrain or be constructed of natural materials.

**Rationale.**

Emphasize more on the field work than the retrieves at the end of the trial.