



Guidelines for Trials 2008

General Information

Organizing a trial of clinic, either as a group or independently, can be a challenging and rewarding experience. Tending to small details assures a successful event. These guidelines are designed to help you achieve that goal.

OSDS does not have nor do we enforce any rules governing how your trial should be organized and run. We do provide information and course suggestions that you may find helpful.

- SANCTIONING YOUR TRIAL WITH OSDS
- SANCTIONED TRIAL POINTS AND AWARDS
- CLASS DESCRIPTION AND COURSE SUGGESTIONS
- ENTRY FORM DEADLINES FOR NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE
- REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING INSURANCE
- SUGGESTED COURSE DIRECTOR DUTIES
- CHECKLIST FOR TRIAL COMMITTEES
- CONTACTS

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact an OSDS Officer or Director listed on this site.

Good Luck ! We hope your event is a great success.

Information Contacts

Point Secretary-Sue Foster
27215 N.E. 87th
Battle Ground, Wa. 98604
360-666-0337
fpstnfoster@aol.com

Memberships, Insurance, Trial Packets
Donna Grimes
P.O. Box 679
Athena, Or. 97813 (541)566-3925
djgrimes@uci.net

Sanctioning Your Trial With OSDS

A Sanctioned Trial is an event that follows OSDS requirements and the points will count toward the Annual Top Team Awards. The calendar year for points is August 1 through July 31.

1. The trial must be open to all OSDS Members on an equal opportunity basis. If non-competitive runs will be allowed it must be stated on the entry form so all that enter are aware ahead of time.
2. Entry forms must be published by OSDS in the newsletter and on line at www.odsd.org. Opening and closing dates for entries should be listed on form.
3. Trial Sanctioning application must be submitted to the point secretary at least 30 days before trial and if sanctioned it should state on entry form.
4. Trials running to a standard should state such on entry form.
5. Follow OSDS class definitions. It is not mandatory to offer all classes.
6. Follow ISDS or USBCHA rule book. (web links listed)
7. Limited trials must allow a minimum of 40 teams to enter. Cattle trials-20 teams.
8. Trial Secretary must send complete trial results to the point secretary within 14 days after the event.

Entry Form Deadlines

The OSDS newsletter is published online four times a year. Printed copies are sent to all without Internet access. The deadline date for all trial/clinic entry forms is at least 60 days before the event. Trial/clinic entry forms may be sent to the Newsletter Editor via e-mail for listing on the website, which is free to OSDS members. Posting trial/clinic entry forms submitted by non-members costs \$10.00 and should be sent to the treasurer.

It is requested that a "window of entry opportunity" be listed on the entry form stating the dates when entries will be accepted. This will allow for the unpredictable nature of the postal system. If the number of entries received exceed the limit for the trial, a fair and equitable selection system such as a lottery should be used.

Sanctioned Trial Points and Top Team Awards

Trial results for the year will be collected by an OSDS member (statistician) appointed by the Board. The results submitted by the trial committees are final. Discrepancies in final placing, brought to the attention of the trial committee that

result in the adjustment of final scores, are to be reported to the Statistician by the trial committee in writing.

The Statistician will supply the web master with the current team point standings so they can be posted on the website.

Two one-day trials will count as two individual trials for points. No points will be awarded for overall winners. Two one-day trials that limit the second day's running will be calculated from the total number of teams that went to the post the first day. A two-day trial not limited will have points awarded to the overall (cumulative) winners. Invitational trials will not count for points.

Open Ranch Class will be considered **Pro-Novice**. RANCH CLASS that combines NOVICE-NOVICE AND PRO-NOVICE will not count towards either.

Sanctioned Canadian Trials:

OSDS handlers that choose to crossover (running one day in two different classes without mandatory advancement as is allowed in Canada) will only be awarded points in the class they continue in after the Canadian Trial.

Canadian OSDS members will accumulate points only in the class they primarily run in Canada and are required to follow OSDS class definitions when competing in the U.S. for OSDS points.

To qualify for team points in a sanctioned trial, you must be a current paid OSDS member in good standing at the time of the trial. Membership dues must have been deposited in advance of running at an event to accumulate points.

Points will be awarded using the 20% system. The total number of teams to the post in each class is multiplied by .20 to determine the number of points awarded. Points will be rounded up. Points are awarded to OSDS members only for their placement at that trial. A minimum of five teams must go to the post for points to count for that class.

Classes to count for points are-Open, Pro-Novice and Novice-Novice. Cattle classes are Open only.

Class Description and Course Suggestions

We suggest keeping your course simple and straightforward. Scores can be posted at the conclusion of each class to allow time for the scorekeepers and handlers to check them for errors before awards are presented. The Trial Committee must resolve all protests. Once the awards are given the results are final.

ISDS Style Trial Course

Fetch and drive gates are placed seven yards (21 feet) apart. The pen should be 8 ft. x 9 ft. and should have a 6 ft. rope attached to the gate. The shedding ring if marked should be positioned directly in front of the post and be approximately 40 yards in diameter. The position of your fetch and drive panels will depend upon the size of your field.

- **Novice**

Outrun: 50-100 yards.

Drive: Not required. If Included, approximately 50 yard. May be a 'fetch drive' with the handler allowed to accompany the dog through the panels and back. If you plan on including a drive it should be stated on your entry form.

Pen: Optional in this class.

Sheep: 4-5 head

Time: 4-6 minutes depending on the size of your course.

- **Pro-Novice**

Outrun: 100-200+ yards. Fetch gates are optional.

Drive: 50-100+ yards. One leg or shortened full drive and cross drive with pull through the fetch gates. Full Course can be same as Open Class minus the shed.

Pen: Same as Open

Time: 5-10 minutes depending on course size.

- **Open**

Outrun: 150-400+ yards with a fetch gate.

Drive: 75-150 yards for each leg of drive.

Shed: 40-ft. area marked or any area so designated by Judge depending on course size.

Pen: Can be done before or after the shed.

Single: Optional, usually last phase of work if included.

Sheep: 4-5 head.

Time: 10-15 minutes adjusted for course size.

Class Definitions

Novice- A novice (beginner) handler and a novice (beginner) dog.
A novice handler and a pro-novice dog (has not competed in Open). One year of points eligibility per team.

Pro-Novice- A previous novice handler with a novice dog.
An Open handler with a dog that has not competed in Open class.
A Novice handler with an Open dog.
Note: Once a team has moved up to this class they are no longer eligible to compete as a team in the Novice-Novice class. One year of points eligibility per team.

Open- Once a handler or dog competes in this class they are no longer eligible to compete in the Novice-Novice class and as a team are no longer eligible to compete in the Pro-Novice class.

Requirements for Obtaining Insurance

For the convenience of our members, OSDS has insurance available for to cover your event. It covers trials; clinics, lessons and all club sponsored events.

- Event Chairperson must be a member in good standing of OSDS for proceeding 12 months.
- Event cannot be sponsored by any other organization such as Chamber of Commerce, Fair or Rodeo etc.
- Application form and fees must be received at least 60 days prior to the event.

(For detailed information check the Insurance Application Forms)

For more information contact:

Donna Grimes

P.O. Box 679

Athena, Or. 97813-0679

(541)566-3925

djgrimes@uci.net

Suggested Course Director Duties

The Course Director is responsible for keeping the trial running smoothly. Their duties can include:

- Supervise the handlers as they inspect the course prior to the start of the competition.
- Call competitors together for handler's meeting with the judge to explain the course and answer questions. Course Director must understand the rules under which the trial is being run.
- Call competitors as their turn occurs according to the official running order.
- Inform handlers of any changes in the official running order.
- Responsibility to keep the course clear and ensure that competitors or their dogs do not interfere in any way with the activities on the trial course.
- See that each lot of sheep is set out as fairly as possible to give each competitor an equal chance.
- Being available and accessible at all times during the trial to convey any instructions from the judge.
- Prevent the Judge from being disturbed while the competition is underway.
- Keep spectators away from the fence and noise to a minimum during the competition.

Checklist for Trial Committees

General Items

- Fenced Field
- Separate Spectator area
- Handlers only area
- Holding area for release sheep with water tank
- Holding area for exhaust sheep with water tank
- Restricted area for judge and clerk to sit where they can have a clear view of the entire trial field.
- Check-in area for handlers
- Water tank/pool for dogs to cool off
- Insurance safety check list
- Six panels-2 'fetch' panels, 2-sets of drive panels
- Pen-8 ft. x 9 ft. with 6 ft. rope on gate. Fence posts to anchor 'mouth' of the pen.
- Score board
- Warning signs posted on fences reminding spectators to stay back from the fences.
- Materials for marking shedding ring—sawdust, lime.
- Portable Toilets
- Clerk materials: score pads, clipboards, pens, pencils, timer, calculators, paper, stapler
- Hand held radios
- Concession area for handlers and spectators

Expenses

- Sheep Rental
- Property Rental
- Portable Toilets
- Personnel-Judge, Course Director, Clerk, announcer, set out crew
- Awards
- Advertising
- Fees for entry publishing and fees submitted with results.

Trial Personnel

- Judge
- Clerk
- Course Director
- Trial Secretary
- Sheep set out crew and sheep exhaust crew

Be sure and Sanction your trial with OSDS!

Trial Judges

The success of a trial depends on good planning and organization. One of the most important decisions is your judge. The type of event you are hosting will determine the experience level of judging needed.

If you are planning a fun day/practice trial with no points involved, you may find 'volunteers' willing to judge for the experience. After all, everyone has to start somewhere and this is a good opportunity to learn.

When planning a trial which will count for points you will want a more experienced judge. A good way to locate experienced judges is to contact established trials and get recommendations of individuals they have worked with in the past. They can also give you information on what to budget for this. You can also talk to experienced handlers.

