

**AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA®**



**TRACKING RULES  
AND  
REGULATIONS**

**Australian Shepherd Club of America®  
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**June 1, 2010 Edition**

**These amended Rules and Regulations are effective June 1, 2010**

The ASCA® National Specialty Rules differ from these Program Rules in certain areas.

Please go to the ASCA website, [www.asca.org](http://www.asca.org) for the National Specialty Rules or request a copy from [Membership@asca.org](mailto:Membership@asca.org).

Individual copies of this Rulebook are available from the ASCA Office or on the ASCA Website  
For ASCA Office Fees see: [www.asca.org/ASCAInformation/Fees](http://www.asca.org/ASCAInformation/Fees)

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## **Purpose of a Tracking Test**

The purpose of a Tracking Test is to demonstrate the dog's ability to recognize and follow human scent, a skill that is useful in the service of mankind.

Tracking, by nature, is a vigorous, noncompetitive outdoor sport. Tracking Tests demonstrate the willingness and enjoyment of the dog in its work, and should always represent the best in sportsmanship and camaraderie, by the people involved.

## **Chapter 1 – General Regulations**

### **Section 1. Host Affiliate Clubs**

Affiliates shall not seek membership nor seek license or sanction for any event with another registry other than a registry which ASCA has an agreement. The registry with which ASCA has an agreement is the Canadian Kennel Club (CKC).

The Host Affiliate Club of an ASCA National Specialty shall not invite nor contract with another registry or any affiliates other than a registry with which ASCA has an agreement to hold an event at any time during the Nationals or as a pre-show or trial.

The ASCA Office will refuse to sanction of any show/trial/test of an ASCA Affiliate Club held with the United States Australian Shepherd Club (USASA) National Specialty unless such show is approved by a vote of the Membership when at least 50% of the Affiliate Club members cast a vote and action is approved by 2/3 of those casting votes. Note: "held with" as used here is defined as anywhere on the same show/fairgrounds during (from the first day through the last of) the USASA Nationals events.

Only ASCA Affiliate Clubs, in good standing, may sanction and conduct ASCA Events. Only one type of event may be held in each state or area (in those states divided into areas). A "type of event" is defined as Conformation, Obedience, Stock Dog Trial, Tracking, or Agility. An ASCA Affiliate Club may host more than one event per day, per state or area (for those states or regions divided by area).

- a. California is divided into three (3) areas: from the Mexican border north to the city of Ventura, from Ventura north to San Jose, from San Jose north to Oregon. Nevada is divided into two (2) areas: From the southernmost border, North to Highway 6, North to the Oregon and Idaho borders.

Affiliate Club(s) in good standing with ASCA will have the exclusive right to schedule, sanction and conduct ASCA programs.

No individuals, non-ASCA affiliated corporations or businesses shall realize any monetary profit, or any other benefit as a result of any connection with an ASCA Sanctioned Event. Normal event sponsorship or advertisement by any individuals, corporations or businesses shall not be considered to be in conflict with this rule. Individuals, corporations or businesses that enter into agreements with an Affiliate Clubs to supply materials, services, facility rentals, livestock rentals or any other need required for the conduct of sanctioned events shall not be considered to be in conflict with this rule.

The use of an Affiliate Club's Name for event purposes cannot be transferred.

Each Host Affiliate Club, which holds a sanctioned event at least once in every 2 consecutive years, shall have first right to claim the corresponding dates or holiday weekend for its event to be held in the next succeeding two years. If the Affiliate Club having first right to the dates does not host a sanctioned event on that date in the following year, another Affiliate Club may use the pre-existing date for an event. The original Host Affiliate Club shall still have first right to the date on the second year following their original event. If they do not host a sanctioned event on that date in the second year, they lose the first right to the date.

The ASCA Office will hold paperwork from any other Affiliate Club wishing to use a pre-existing date until the ASCA Office has been notified that the Host Affiliate Club with the pre-existing date will not use the event date that year. If paperwork has to be held pending receipt of the notification from the Host Affiliate Club with the preexisting date, the ASCA Office will notify the second Affiliate Club within 14 days upon receipt of the Sanctioning Request Form. To facilitate timely receipt of materials,

Affiliate Clubs wishing to use a pre-existing date should contact the Host Affiliate Club and request notification be sent in writing to the ASCA Office stating the pre-existing date will not be used that year. If the Host Affiliate Club with the pre-existing date does not use that date on the second year following their original event, first claim to that date will pass to a second Host Affiliate Club, if there is one. If a date has not been previously claimed, the Host Affiliate Club whose sanctioning is postmarked first shall be awarded the date.

\*When determining when a Host Affiliate Club that has a grand-fathered weekend, the ASCA Office will make the determination based on the date that the Saturday of the weekend falls.

ASCA Affiliate Club(s) shall not request sanctioning for any event to be held outside of their state/area in a state/area that is already served by at least one Affiliate Club. If a state/area is not served by an Affiliate Club then an Affiliate Club from another State/area may sanction an event there on a first come basis.

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

If an Affiliate Club organizes in a state/area that formerly did not have an Affiliate Club, then the new Club shall have primary sanctioning authority. Out of state/area Affiliate Clubs must then follow the procedure as outlined in the previous two paragraphs.

Affiliate Clubs who sanction a Pre-national Event to be held in the state/area of the National Specialty Event are exempted from the provisions of this section.

### **Section 1.2. Sanctioning Rules, and Approval of the Judges' List.**

A Host Affiliate Club(s) may offer a TD, TDU, or TDX Tracks, at any ASCA Tracking Event. The maximum number of TD's, TDU's or TDX's in any combination they choose as long as the number of tracks do not exceed the limit listed for Judges in these regulations.

Any ASCA Tracking Test must be sanctioned by ASCA. Affiliate Club(s) in good standing with ASCA will have the exclusive right to schedule, sanction and conduct Official ASCA Programs.

ALL AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERDS SIX MONTHS AND OLDER MUST HAVE AN ASCA INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION NUMBER TO COMPETE IN AN ASCA SANCTIONED EVENT. THIS INCLUDES ALL AREAS OF COMPETITION.

No dog may receive a Tracking Title, without an ASCA Individual Registration Number, or an ASCA Office Tracking Number. Photo copies of the Registration Papers or originals must be presented to the Tracking Test Secretary upon request, when entering any ASCA Sanctioned Event.

The results of all ASCA Tracking Tests will be officially recorded by ASCA, only if the event has been sanctioned by the ASCA Office.

The awards at any Affiliate Club Tracking Test will be officially recorded by ASCA only if the "Sanction Grant" of the ASCA Office is published on the first page of the Premium stating that permission has been granted by ASCA for the Tracking Test; and it is to be held under ASCA Rules and Regulations, i.e. sanctioned and ASCA Show Rules Apply.

ASCA will NOT approve as Judge for any given Tracking Test the following:

- a) The Tracking Test Secretary,
- b) The Tracking Test Chairperson, or
- c) Any approved Tracking Judge while suspended from the privileges of ASCA, the AKC, the CKC, the UKC, or the sponsoring member, the Host Affiliate Club.

**Section 1.2a. The Sanction Request** (See Appendix E, the Sanction Request),

An ASCA Affiliate Club(s) that meet the requirements of ASCA and wish to hold a Tracking Test(s), at which a Tracking Title may be awarded, must make application to ASCA on the form provided for permission to hold such test(s).

The Sanction Request (See Appendix E) must be sent to the ASCA Office and must be dated/postmarked (hand canceled/legible) at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date or dates of the test(s). The ASCA Office will confirm or deny the requested date within fifteen (15) days of receipt of paperwork.

An Affiliate Club must send a Tracking Test Premium to the ASCA Office along with the Sanction Request.

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

The Sanction Request shall list:

- a) Date(s) and location(s) of the Tracking Test(s);
- b) The Tracking Test Secretary Name, Address and Phone Number;
- c) The Tracking Test Chairperson's Name, Address and Phone Number
- d) All the Tracking Test(s) offered; and,
- e) The Name(s), Address(s), and Assignment(s) of each Judge.

The Host Affiliate Club is responsible to see that all Official Test Forms are submitted.

All Affiliate Clubs must send a Tracking Test Premium to the ASCA Office along with the sanctioning forms.

The ASCA Office will acknowledge a receipt of the sanctioning paperwork, and approval of the premium.

A sanctioning fee shall be submitted to the ASCA Office with the Sanction Request, which will be supplied on request from the ASCA Office. The Affiliate Club shall pay a fee, the amount to be fixed and determined by the ASCA Board of Directors, for the privilege of holding such test(s) under ASCA Rules. The ASCA Office will consider the same and notify the Affiliate Club(s) of its approval or disapproval of the dates and place selected. If the ASCA Office disapproves the application the fee will be returned to the Host Affiliate Club.

All Tracking Test Entries shall close prior to the judging of the first Track.

**Section 1.2b. The Show Coordinator**

The Show Coordinator must be an ASCA Member in good standing and appointed by the Affiliate Club hosting a Tracking Test.

The Show Coordinator will be responsible for filling the Show/Trial/Test Sanction Request, along with appropriate fees, in a timely manner.

### **Section 1.2c. Late Sanctioning Fees**

A Sanction Request received between 30-45 days prior to an event will be accepted upon payment of a fine determined by the ASCA Office. (Eff.1-1-10) A Sanction Request received by the ASCA Office less than 30 days prior to a sanctioned event(s) will not be accepted under any circumstances. An Affiliate Club submitting a delinquent Sanctioning Request 3 times will lose all late sanctioning privileges for a period of 2 years. It is recommended an Affiliate Club retain proof of mailing for all Sanction Requests.

The ASCA Office will not accept responsibility for a Sanction Request lost in the mail. All Sanction Requests sent after the 45-day postmark deadline must be original forms (no faxes or e-mails) and must have all required signatures and fees.

If the Host Affiliate Club with the pre-existing dates postmarks their Sanctioning Request past the 45-day deadline and it is not received 30 days prior to the event, they will lose first right to this date for that year.

### **Section 1.3. Sanctioned Tracking Tests**

An Affiliate Club may be approved by the ASCA Office to hold any Sanctioned Tracking Test.

Sanctioned Tracking Tests shall be governed by all of these regulations.

ASCA Sanctioning must be obtained by any Affiliate Club that holds any ASCA Tracking Test.

The Dog Show Rules, where applicable, shall govern the conduct of the Tracking Tests and shall apply to all persons and dogs participating in them, except as these Tracking Regulations may otherwise provide.

An ASCA Tracking Test shall not be held in conjunction with a Tracking Test of another canine titling organization, nor may a Tracking Test of another canine titling organization be sanctioned as an ASCA Tracking Test.

Tracking Tests need not be limited to Australian Shepherds only, with the exception of a SPECIALTY; then, it shall be for ASCA Registered Australian Shepherds ONLY. Other breeds entered in Tracking Tests sanctioned by ASCA Affiliate Clubs must abide by ASCA Rules and Regulations.

A copy of this Rulebook must be available at any ASCA TD, TDU, or TDX test.

### **Section 1.3a. Change of Tracking Test Site**

If it becomes necessary to change the physical site where a Tracking Test is to be held, after the Sanction Request has been received by the ASCA Office, the Tracking Test Committee or the Show Coordinator shall obtain approval of the new site location from the ASCA Office.

If the site location change is made prior to twenty (20) days before the date of the Tracking Test, notice of the change must be sent to all prospective exhibitors.

The Host Affiliate Club will be responsible for having a notice posted in a prominent place at the original Tracking Test site informing exhibitors of the change in location.

The notice must state "specific directions" to the new site.

#### **Section 1.4. The Tracking Test Premium**

A copy of the premium must be sent to the ASCA Office with the Sanction Request.

A copy of the premium is to be sent to the Judge(s) who are to officiate and should be distributed and/or posted to prospective exhibitors in advance of the proposed test(s) date.

If a Tracking Test is to be held within seven (7) days before or after an Affiliate Club's Show or Obedience Trial, it may be announced in the premium for the show or trial, and the Tracking Test(s) Entries may be included in the Show or Obedience Trial Catalog, otherwise, a separate premium must be prepared.

The Tracking Test(s) Premium shall include the following information:

1. The proposed date(s).
2. A description of the ground cover and topography of the Tracking Test(s) site(s), (i.e. hay, mowed lawn, sagebrush, sand, etc.).
3. A listing of the type and number of all Tracking Test(s) offered, (i.e. TD, TDU, and/or TDX).
4. A listing of entry fees, description of any discounts or price reductions offered, and the refund policy for withdrawals.
5. The date and time for the close of entries.
6. The exact time, location of the "Draw for Entry to the Test(s)", and a notice that this draw is open to the public.
7. The specific draw order, the "Draw for Entry to the Test", for each test to be held as written in these rules and regulations.
8. A description of ribbons, prizes, and awards to be offered.
9. The names of the Judges who are to officiate, and their assignments as approved by the ASCA Office.
10. Any applicable county, state, country or any other bylaws, rules of conduct or associated restrictions regarding dogs, their exhibition and the holding of said event(s) and shall include a list of such rules, bylaws or restrictions must be listed in the premium. Such rules, restrictions, bylaws, etc., shall be printed in English and the language of the country where said event(s) will be held, listing all pertinent information.
11. A description of any restrictions for entry into the test(s).
12. The statement, "This Tracking Test(s) will be held under ASCA Tracking Rules and Regulations." must be printed on the first page of the premium. "
13. The name, address, and phone number of the veterinarian(s) on call, and the name, and phone number/s, of the nearest hospital and/or emergency clinic.
14. If the Tracking Test(s) is to be more than a one day event, a schedule of the test(s) to be judged each day shall be given.
15. A mappable street address of the location of the Tracking Test(s) with specific driving directions to the site from various directions; and if available, the exact, mappable, location of where the "Draw for Tracks "will be held.
16. The name, phone number, and email address of the Tracking Test Secretary and Tracking Test Chairperson. (The names of the other Tracking Test Committee may also be listed.)
17. The name, street address, phone number, and email address of the person who is to receive entries if other than the Tracking Test Secretary.
18. Include, or state where to find, an ASCA Tracking Test Entry Form, and a copy of the current Service Membership and ASCA Office tracking number Application and current Tracking Rulebook.
19. A statement whether bitches in season will, or will not, be allowed to run.

20. Premiums published prior to approval by the ASCA Office should have the words, "Sanction Pending" on the cover.

21. Specific requirements pertaining to this Tracking Test such as: "dogs must be on leash at all times".

22. If it is posted in the Tracking Test(s) Premium, the Affiliate Host Club may allow those dogs that do not have either an ASCA Registration or ASCA Office tracking number, to enter the Sanctioned Tracking Test(s) to earn ASCA Tracking Title(s) if the handler applies for an ASCA Office Tracking Number concurrently with the submission of their entry.

23. The premium may include other pertinent information. For example: accommodations that allow dogs; maps, and hospitality. (See Appendix G) Effective 6-1-10

#### **Section 1.4a Close of Entries**

If a Tracking Test is announced in a Show or Trial Premium, the Show or Trial Closing Date shall apply to Tracking Entries. Otherwise, the closing date for Tracking Test Entries shall be at least ten (10) days prior to the Tracking Test.

#### **Section 1.5 Judging Programs**

The Host Affiliate Club shall prepare a Judging Program containing all entries, numbered in the order that they were drawn at the "Draw for Tracking Test Entry," or in the order received when the total entry falls short of the advertised limits.

The Judging Program shall also include the scheduled time of the "Draw for the Run Order of Tracks," and directions to the drawing location.

A copy of the Judging Program shall be mailed to the owner of each entered dog, to each Judge, and to the ASCA Office no less than seven (7) days prior to the test.

This Judging Program shall be printed in the Draw Catalogue.

No judging shall occur at any Tracking Test prior to the time specified in the Judging Program.

#### **Section 1.6 Draw Catalogue**

The Host Affiliate Club must provide, at the Tracking Test, a Draw Catalogue or a typewritten listing of each Entered Dog and each Alternate Dog.

The Draw Catalogue, or listing, must contain all of the identifying information that normally appears in a Dog Show Catalogue.

The identifying information must include:

The name of the certifying Judge and the date of the Judge's Certification for every dog whose entry states that it is certified prior to entry in the Tracking Test.

If a dog is not certified or does not have an equivalent title, the catalogue shall say, "Not Certified". (Eff. 1-1-10)

The presence of a veterinarian shall not be required at a Tracking Test.

If the Draw Catalogue and/or the Judge's Book of any Tracking Test shall, by error or mistake, set forth any information contrary to the information which appears on the entry form of the dog for that Tracking Test, the Tracking Test Committees and/or the Tracking Test Secretary, upon request of the owner or handler of said dog prior to the judging, shall correct the entry in the Judge's Books and in the marked Draw Catalogue to be sent to the ASCA Office, and said dog may run in the Tracking Test.

\*All prizes offered in the Premium of a Tracking Test(s) shall be printed in the Draw Catalogue, and no change shall be printed in the Draw Catalogue, and no change shall be made in the descriptions or

conditions of these prizes, nor shall any prize or trophy be added that was not offered in the Premium or in the separate list of prizes.

### **Section 1.7 Tracking Test Chairperson and Tracking Test Committee**

An Affiliate Club holding a Sanctioned Tracking Test must appoint: a Tracking Test Chairperson, a Tracking Test Secretary who shall be a full member of ASCA in good standing (who may also act as Chairperson), and a Tracking Test Committee.

Whenever a Tracking Test is announced in the premium of an Affiliate Club's Show or Obedience Trial, the Affiliate Club shall appoint a Tracking Test Secretary, Chairperson, and a Tracking Committee of the Tracking Rules and Regulations. This Tracking Committee shall appoint one person to receive all the entries for the Tracking Test other than the person designated to receive the Show or Obedience Trial entries.

The Tracking Test Committee shall be composed of at least three (3) members of the Host Affiliate Club, which may include the Tracking Test Chairperson and Tracking Test Secretary.

A Tracking Test Committee shall consist of the Tracking Test Secretary and Club's Officers present at the Tracking Test unless otherwise stated in the premium.

Tracking Test Committees shall be held responsible for the enforcement of all rules and regulations relating to Tracking Tests and the exhibiting of dogs, and must provide themselves with a copy of the ASCA Tracking Rules and Regulations and a copy of the Show Rules.

The Tracking Test Committees will be held responsible for the maintenance of clean and orderly conditions throughout the precincts of the judging area during all hours when dogs are permitted to be present.

The Tracking Test Committee may decline any entries or may remove any dog or person from its show for cause, but in each such instance shall file good and sufficient reasons for doing so with ASCA Office, within seven (7) days of the close of the Tracking Test.

This Tracking Test Committee shall exercise all authority vested in a Show Committee, and shall have sole jurisdiction over all matters that may properly come before it. The Tracking Test Committee shall investigate any reports of abuse of dogs on the grounds or premises of any Tracking Test.

The Tracking Test Committee shall deal with any person who conducts himself in such manner or in any other matter prejudicial to the best interest of the sport. The offender shall be dealt with promptly during the Tracking Test, if possible, after he/she has been notified of the specific charges against him/her and has been given an opportunity to be heard in his/her own defense, in accordance with the Dispute Rules.

The Tracking Test Committee shall be responsible for compliance of Chapter 1, Section 15 (Risk) of these Regulations and the Dispute Rules.

At least three (3) members of the Tracking Test Committee shall be present throughout the Tracking Test.

The Tracking Test Secretary must be on the Tracking Test grounds for the entire Tracking Test.

Tracking Test Secretaries and Tracking Test Chairpersons shall not be eligible to judge or to enter any Tracking Test at which they act in these official capacities.

Any person acting in the capacity of a Tracking Test Secretary, or persons responsible for contacting and/or hiring Judges, shall not exhibit or act as agent or handler at the Tracking Test.

Dogs owned wholly, or in part, by the above may be exhibited at the Tracking Test.

Any person acting in the capacity of Judge at a Tracking Test shall not exhibit or act as agent or handler at the Tracking Test.

### **Section 1.8 Entries**

Every dog must be entered on an Official ASCA Entry Form in the name of the person who actually owned the dog at the time Entries closed.

The right to exhibit a dog cannot be transferred.

A Registered Dog which has been acquired by some person other than the owner, as recorded with ASCA, must be entered in the name of its new owner at any Tracking Test for which entries close after the date upon which the dog was acquired, and Application For Transfer Of Ownership must be sent to the ASCA Office by the new owner within seven days after the last day of the Tracking Test.

The new owner must state on the entry form that the transfer application has been mailed to ASCA or will be mailed within the specified time. If there is any unavoidable delay in obtaining the completed application required to record the transfer, ASCA may grant a reasonable extension of time, provided the new owner notifies the ASCA Office by mail within seven days after the Tracking Test, of the reason for the delay. If an entry is made by a duly authorized agent of the owner, the name of the actual owner must be shown on the entry form. Dogs must be entered under their ASCA Registered Names.

Owners are responsible for errors in entry forms regardless of who may make such errors.

A Host Affiliate Club shall not accept an entry fee other than that published in its premium, or in any way discriminate between exhibitors or entrants.

Allowances for refunds on cancellations will be left to the discretion of the Host Affiliate Club.

### **Section 1.8b Eligibility**

Tracking Tests shall be for dogs not less than six months of age and otherwise eligible for a particular Tracking Test.

### **Section 1.8c Conditions of Dogs affecting Eligibility**

No dog may be entered more than once at any one Tracking Test.

At a combined Tracking Test a dog may be entered in only one Tracking Test.

No entry shall be made, and no entry shall be accepted by a Tracking Test Secretary which specifies any condition as to its acceptance.

No entry may be changed or cancelled unless notice of the change or cancellation is received by the Tracking Test Secretary prior to the closing date for entries, except that a dog may be transferred from his current Tracking Test to another Tracking Test if the dog has completed the title for the Tracking Test he/she is entered, and if there is an available slot in another Tracking Test in which the entrant is qualified to run.

No dog wrongly entered in a Tracking Test may be transferred to another Tracking Test. Owners are responsible for errors in entry forms regardless of who may make such errors. Allowances for refunds on cancellations will be left to the discretion of the Host Club.

No entry shall be accepted for any disqualified dog or from any person who is disqualified from all ASCA programs or is not in good standing with ASCA or the Host Affiliate Club on the day of the close of entries. Before accepting entries a list of disqualified dogs and persons not in good standing will be provided by the ASCA Office as part of any Tracking Test's Sanctioning Paperwork.

No entry shall be made under a kennel name unless that name has been registered with ASCA.

An "exhibitor" or "entrant" is defined as the individual or, if a partnership, all the members of the partnership exhibiting or entering in a dog show.

In the case of such an entry by a partnership every member of the partnership shall be in good standing with ASCA before the entry will be accepted. In case of any infraction of these rules all the partners shall be held equally responsible.

Every dog entered and present at a Tracking Test must compete in all competition for which it is entered or becomes eligible unless it has been excused, dismissed, disqualified or found to be ineligible under the rules.

### **1.9 Dogs That May Not Compete**

No dog belonging wholly or in part to an officiating Judge or to any number of such a person's immediate family or household shall be entered in any ASCA Tracking Test, nor may any of these officials handle or act as agent for any dog entered at any ASCA Tracking Test at which such person officiates, or is scheduled to officiate.

The Official Veterinarian shall not exhibit or act as agent or handler at the Tracking Test, and dogs owned wholly or in part shall not be eligible to be entered at that Tracking Test.

No Judge, or any person residing in the same household with a Judge, shall exhibit or act as agent or handler for any dog at any ASCA Tracking Test at which he/she is officiating as Judge and dogs owned wholly or in part by such Judge and any member of his household shall be ineligible to be entered at such event. Subject to the foregoing, members of a Judge's immediate family who no longer reside in the same household may enter or handle a dog at a Tracking Test if the Judge is not officiating over any competition for which the dog is entered or may become eligible.

No dog shall be entered or shown under a Judge at any Tracking Test if the dog has been owned, sold, or held under lease within one (1) year prior to the date of the test, by the officiating Judge or by any member of his/her immediate family or household, and no such dog shall be eligible to compete.

Effective 6-1-10

No dog shall be eligible to compete at any Tracking Test, no dog shall be brought into the grounds or premises of any Tracking Test, and any dog which may have been brought into the grounds or premises of a Tracking Test shall immediately be removed if it:

- a) Shows clinical symptoms of distemper, infectious hepatitis, parvovirus, leptospirosis, kennel cough or other communicable disease.
- b) Is known to have been in contact with distemper, infectious hepatitis, leptospirosis, kennel cough or other communicable disease within thirty days prior to the opening of the Tracking Test.
- c) Has been kenneled within thirty days prior to the opening of the show on premises on which there existed: distemper, infectious hepatitis, leptospirosis, kennel cough or other communicable disease.

### **Section 1.9a Disqualification and Ineligibility**

A dog that is blind or that has been changed in appearance by artificial means (except for such changes as are customarily approved for its breed) may not compete in any Tracking Test and must be disqualified. Blind means without useful vision.

A dog will not be considered to have been changed by artificial means because it has been spayed or neutered, or because it has had the removal of dewclaws and/or docking of tail.

When a Judge finds any of these conditions in any dog he is judging, he shall disqualify the dog marking his/her Judge's Book "Disqualified" and stating the reason. He/she shall not obtain the opinion of a veterinarian.

The Judge must disqualify any dog that attempts to attack any person or dog. He/she shall mark the dog "Disqualified" or "Excused" and state the reason in his/her Judge's Book, and shall give the Show or Tracking Test Secretary a brief report to the dog's actions which shall be submitted to ASCA with the Report of the Tracking Test. A dog so excused shall not be counted as having competed. (See Appendix D.)

When a dog has been disqualified under this rule, Tracking Awards earned by that dog at a Tracking Test shall be cancelled by ASCA, and the dog may not again be tested unless and until, following application by the owner to ASCA, the owner has received official notification from ASCA that the dog's show eligibility has been reinstated.

Spayed bitches, castrated dogs, monorchid or cryptorchid males, and dogs that have faults which would disqualify them under the standards for their breeds may compete in any Tracking Test if otherwise eligible under these regulations.

A dog that is lame at any Tracking Test may not compete and shall not be marked as "Passed" in any Tracking Test in which it was determined to be lame. It shall be the Judge's responsibility to determine whether a dog is lame. He/she shall not obtain the opinion of a veterinarian. If, in the Judge's opinion, a dog is lame, he/she shall mark his/her Judge's Book "Excused-lame."

No dog shall be eligible to compete in any Tracking Test if it is taped or bandaged in any way or if it has anything attached to it for medical or corrective purposes. Such a dog must be immediately excused and under no circumstances may it be returned later for judging after the tape, bandage or attachment has been removed.

If the dog has anything attached to it for protection or adornment, such a dog may, at the Judge's sole discretion, be judged at a later time if the offending condition has been corrected.

A Tracking Judge is not required to be familiar with the breed standards nor should he/she scrutinize each dog as in Dog Show judging, but shall be alert for conditions which may require disqualification or exclusion under this section.

#### **Section 1.10 No Added Requirements**

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

#### **Section 1.11 Boundaries of the Tracking Test Grounds**

The limits are the boundaries of any Tracking Test grounds. Premises constitute a larger area, its boundaries not well defined. It consists of the land, buildings and all parking areas adjacent to and a continuation of any Tracking Test grounds where that Tracking Test is being held, whether held separately or in conjunction with a Dog Show, Obedience Trial, Agility Trial, or Stock Dog Trial. Any area inside the limits is on the premises but an area does not have to be within the limits to be considered within the premises.

#### **Section 1.12 Training on the Grounds of the Tracking Test**

There shall be no practice tracks on the grounds or premises at any Sanctioned Tracking Test site.

### **Section 1.13 Abuse of Dogs**

The Tracking Test Committee shall investigate any reports of abuse of dogs or severe disciplining of dogs on the grounds or premises of any Tracking Test. Physical or verbal discipline of dogs shall not be permitted except to a reasonable extent in the case of an attack on a person or another dog.

Any person who conducts himself in such manner shall be dealt with promptly in accordance with the ASCA Dispute Rules and ASCA Discipline Guidelines.

The Tracking Test Committee shall be responsible for compliance with this section and shall investigate any reports of infractions.

### **Section 1.14 Exhibitor Conduct**

ASCA has the right to reprimand or suspend any person or persons from any or all privileges of ASCA for conduct prejudicial to the best interests of the Australian Shepherd, ASCA Events, or ASCA. Exhibitors are to maintain the highest level of sportsmanship and are to conduct themselves accordingly.

Foul or abusive language, yelling at exhibitors or Judges, disorderly conduct, and/or poor sportsmanship will not be allowed and shall be disciplined in accordance with the ASCA Dispute Rules and ASCA Discipline Guidelines.

### **Section 1.15 Risk**

The owner or agent entering a dog in a Tracking Test does so at his own risk and agrees to abide by all ASCA Rules and Regulations.

### **Section 1.16 Compliance with Regulations and Standards**

In accordance with the Acknowledgement Agreement Signature on the entry form, the handler of each dog and the person signing each entry form must be familiar with the Tracking Regulations applicable to the Tracking Test in which the dog is entered.

### **Section 1.17 Identification**

No bandages, club jackets, coats with kennel names thereon or ribbon prizes shall be worn or displayed, and no other visible means of identification may be used by an individual while under judgment with a dog in the Tracking Test(s) site(s).

### **Section 1.17a During Hunting Season**

With the approval of the Judges, during Hunting Season, dogs may wear an unmarked hunting vest.

### **Section 1.18 Duration of Test**

In the event of an unforeseen emergency the Tracking Test Secretary, upon the recommendation of the Judges, may extend the duration of a Tracking Test by one day or more, within a 15-day period after the original date, provided that the change of date is satisfactory to the handlers and owners of entered dogs.

If a satisfactory date cannot be agreed upon, the Tracking Test is then canceled.

### **Section 1.19 Ribbons, Prizes and Awards**

If ribbons or prizes are offered at Tracking Tests, they shall be awarded only to dogs which pass the Tracking Test.

Such ribbons or rosettes shall be dark green, at least two (2) inches wide, approximately eight (8) inches long, and shall bear on its face the words "Tracking Test," and the name of the Host Affiliate Club. The ASCA logo may be used in awards offered by an ASCA Affiliate hosting a Sanctioned Tracking Test.

If an ineligible dog has been entered in any Tracking Test, or if the name of the owner given on the entry form is not that of the person or person who actually owned the dog at the time entries closed, or if shown in a Tracking Test for which it has not been entered, or if its entry form is deemed invalid or unacceptable by ASCA under these rules, all resulting awards shall be cancelled by ASCA.

If the award of a dog shall be cancelled by ASCA, the owner of the dog shall return all ribbons and prizes to the Host Affiliate Club within ten (10) days of receipt of the notice of the cancellation from ASCA. The Host Affiliate Club shall in each instance of failure to comply with this rule notify forthwith ASCA of such failure and ASCA upon receipt of such notice shall suspend the exhibitor so in default from all privileges of ASCA and notify the exhibitor so in default that it has done so. Said suspension shall continue until ASCA is notified that restitution has been made.

### **Section 1.20 Draw for Test Entries and Alternates List.**

Entries for any Tracking Test shall be accepted until the Official Closing Date and Time even though the advertised limit has been reached.

A random drawing of all entries, "the Draw for Test Entries", will be held within 48 hours after the closing date and time to determine which dogs will participate in the test. If the advertised limit is not reached a drawing is optional.

Provided it is so announced in the premium, at a combined Tracking Test, if the limits for entries is not reached in one test and the limit for entries is exceeded in another test, the number of tracks may be exchanged up to a maximum total of twelve (12) TD's, twelve (12) TDU's, or six (6) TDX's.

The "Draw for Test Entries" shall be held and is open to all interested persons.

The results of the "Draw for Entries" shall be available to the people present at this Draw for Entries.

Entries will be drawn by the Tracking Test Secretary on the date, hour, and location specified for such in the premium. Such place need not be identical to the locations where entries are received.

In conducting the "Draw for Entries", the Tracking Test Secretary shall avoid any method that raises any questions as to its randomness and impartiality.

### **Section 1.20a The TD "Draw for Test Entries"**

The TD "Draw for Test Entries" shall be at random from all Entries received, except that for a Tracking Dog (TD) Test, priority in the "Draw for Test Entries" shall be given in the following order:

- a) To a non-titled ASCA registered Australian Shepherd with a Certification or an equivalent title
- b) To a non-titled dog with ASCA Office tracking number with a Certification or an equivalent title
- c) To a TD titled ASCA Registered Australian Shepherd
- d) To a TD titled dog with an ASCA Office tracking number
- e) To a non-titled ASCA Registered Australian Shepherd without a Certification or equivalent title
- f) To a non-titled dog with an ASCA Office tracking number without a Certification or an equivalent title. Eff. (1-1-10)

When the advertised limit of entries has been drawn, all remaining entries, subject to the same preferences set forth in the preceding paragraph, shall be drawn for a position on the Alternate List.

TD and TDU Certifications may be used to enter either test.

These priorities for the "Draw for Entries" order shall be published in premium of the Tracking Dog (TD) Test.

### **Section 1.20b The TDU “Draw for Test Entries”**

The TDU “Draw for Test Entry(s)” shall be at random from all entries received, except that for a Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test, priority in the draw for test entry shall be given in the following order:

- a) To a non-titled ASCA registered Australian Shepherd with a Certification or an equivalent title
- b) To a non-titled dog with ASCA tracking number with a Certification or an equivalent title
- c) To a TDU titled ASCA Registered Australian Shepherd
- d) To a TDU titled dog with ASCA Office tracking number
- e) To a non-titled ASCA Registered Australian Shepherd without a Certification or equivalent title
- f) To a non-titled dog with an ASCA Office tracking number without a Certification or an equivalent title. Eff. (1-1-10)

When the advertised limit of entries has been drawn, all remaining entries, subject to the same preferences set forth in the preceding paragraph, shall be drawn for a position on the Alternate List.

TD and TDU Certifications may be used to enter either test.

These priorities for the “Draw for Entry(s)” order shall be published in the premium for the Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test.

### **Section 1.20c The TDX “Draw for Test Entries”**

The TDX “Draw for Test Entries” shall be at random from all entries received, except that for a

Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) tests, priority in the “Draw For Test Entries” shall be given in the following order:

- a) To an ASCA Registered Australian Shepherd with a TD or a TDU title which has not earned a TDX
- b) To a dog with an ASCA tracking number with a TD or a TDU title which has not earned a TDX
- c) To an ASCA Registered Australian Shepherd with a TDX
- d) To a dog with an ASCA tracking number with a TDX

When the advertised limit of entries has been drawn, all remaining entries, subject to the same preferences set forth in the preceding paragraph, shall be drawn for a position on the Alternate List. These priorities for the “Draw for Entry Order” shall be published in the premium for the Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test.

### **Section 1.20d Versatility Competition and the “Draw for Test Entries”**

When a Versatility Competition is offered in conjunction with a Tracking Test(s) the “Draw For Test Entries” shall be given in the following order:

- a) To an untitled (in Tracking) ASCA registered Australian Shepherd with a Certification or an equivalent title
- b) To a titled (in Tracking) ASCA Registered Australian Shepherd who is entered in the Versatility Competition
- c) To an untitled dog with an ASCA tracking number with a Certification or an equivalent title
- d) To a titled ASCA Registered Australian Shepherd
- e) To a titled dog with an ASCA tracking number
- f) To a non-titled ASCA registered Australian Shepherd without a Certification or equivalent title
- g) To a non-titled dog with an ASCA tracking number without a Certification or an equivalent title (Eff.1-1-10)

When the advertised limit of entries has been drawn, all remaining entries, subject to the same preferences set forth in the preceding paragraph, shall be drawn for a position on the Alternate List.

These priorities for the “Draw for Entries” order shall be published in the Premium for the Tracking Test when a Tracking Test is offered with a Versatility Competition.

### **Section 1.21 Informing Entrants and Alternates of the “Draw for Test Entries”**

Following the “Draw for Test Entries,” the Tracking Test Secretary shall promptly contact all entrants and advise them of the outcome.

Alternates shall be given the option to accept or decline being placed on the Alternate List.

Those who accept shall be placed on the Alternate List in the order in which they were drawn.

Those who opt to decline shall have their entry fees, and any Certification (Eff.1-1-10), returned after the Tracking Test Secretary has completed the Tracking Test, within 7 days of the Test.

Any other conditions under which the entry fees are returned to entrants or alternates shall be so stated in the premium.

The complete list of alternates, whether they accepted or declined, is to be included with the Tracking Test Report which is sent to the ASCA Office following the Tracking Test.

### **Section 1.22 Judging Assignments**

ASCA Judges and other persons whose qualifications meet the approval of ASCA may be selected for judging a Tracking Test. Two Judges must judge each dog.

The maximum number of dogs that two Judges may test at a Tracking Dog (TD) Test or a Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test in one day is twelve (12).

The maximum number of dogs two Judges may test at a Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test in one day is six (6).

When TD (and/or TDU) and TDX are offered on the same day, the maximum of dogs that two Judges may test in one day is based on a substitution factor of two TD's (or two TDU's) for one TDX.

The Tracking Test Committee shall, in every instance, notify appointed Judges of their assignments and such notifications shall be given before the publication of the premium except in situation as stated in the Show Rules, Section 5.2h.

ASCA will NOT approve as Judge for any given Tracking Test the following:

- a) The Tracking Test Secretary
- b) The Tracking Test Chairperson
- c) Any approved Tracking Judge while suspended from the privileges of ASCA, the AKC, the CKC, the UKC, or the sponsoring member Affiliate Club.

If it becomes necessary to replace an advertised Judge before any Tracking Test and no person on the ASCA Eligible Judge's List is available to take his or her place, the Tracking Test Committee may select as a substitute for the advertised Judge, a person who is qualified under Show Rules SECTION 7.1 and SECTION 7.2.

A Tracking Test Committee which shall be informed at any time prior to twenty (20) days before the date of the Tracking Test(s) that an advertised Judge will not fulfill his or her engagement to judge shall substitute a Judge in his/ her place.

A substitute Judge must be approved by the ASCA Office and the Host Affiliate Club shall give notice of the name of the Substitute Judge to all those who entered dogs in the Tracking Test.

All those who have entered dogs to be shown under the advertised Judge shall be permitted to withdraw their Entries at any time prior to the close of entries and the entry fees paid for entering such dogs shall be refunded.

Should a Tracking Test Committee be informed at any time less than twenty (20) days before the date of the Tracking Test that an advertised Judge will not fulfill his or her engagement to judge, it shall substitute a qualified Judge in his/her place and must attempt to obtain approval of the change from the ASCA Office.

No notice need be sent to those exhibitors who have entered dogs under the advertised Judge.

The Tracking Test Committee will be responsible for having a notice posted in a prominent place within the Show grounds if the Tracking Test is held in conjunction with a Specialty, as soon after the Show opens as is practical, informing exhibitors of the change in Judges.

In case an advertised Judge shall have judged part of the Tracking Test and then finds it impossible to finish, a substitute Judge shall be selected by the Tracking Committee and in that event the awards made by the regular Judge shall stand, and his/her substitute shall judge only the remaining entries. No dogs entered under the regularly selected Judge shall be withheld from competition.

A substitute Judge shall finish the judging of the dog/handler team he/she is judging if he/she has begun to judge before the advertised Judge arrives at the Tracking Test.

In the event that one of the Judges is injured or otherwise unable to continue the judging of a Tracking Test, the Tracking Test Secretary shall select a knowledgeable person to assume that Judge's duties.

The Co-Judge will instruct the replacement Judge as to the layout of the tracks and all other information needed for the completion of the Tracking Test.

The Judges must check the equipment and fields and/or, sites provided for use before beginning to plot the tracks and must report to ASCA, after the Tracking Test, any undesirable conditions or deficiencies that have not been corrected promptly by the Club.

### **Section 1.23 Club Responsibilities**

The officials of the Affiliate Club holding the Tracking Test are responsible for providing personnel, equipment, and the site that is suitable for tracks that meet the requirements of these regulations.

Ground maps, roughly to scale, of the tracking area showing the major features of terrain and boundaries must be provided by the Host Affiliate Club and sent to the Judges about sixty (60) days prior to the Tracking Test.

The most recent copy of the ASCA Tracking Rules and Regulations must be mailed to the Tracking Judges for this event.

The Affiliate Club shall retain the Tracking Test Entries (and Certifications) for six (6) months following the test.

### **Section 1.24 Submission of Records**

After each ASCA Sanctioned Tracking Test, the following must be sent to the ASCA Office, postmarked no later than fifteen (15) days after the close of the test:

- a) All marked Judge's Book(s) with Judge's Charts/maps
- b) A Draw Catalogue, or a typewritten listing of each Entered Dog and each Alternate Dog, and Absent Dogs, marked with all applicable awards and titles
- c) The original ASCA Official Entry Forms for all qualifiers
- d) A Gross Receipts Report
- e) The Event Membership Dues
- f) The Sanction Grant
- g) Any Late Filing Fees.

The Tracking Test Secretary is responsible for filing all reports with appropriate fees to ASCA after the Tracking Test in a timely manner.

A penalty fee for non-compliance is will be set by the ASCA Office for each day's delay, and such other penalties as may be imposed by the Board of Directors of ASCA.

The Host Affiliate Club shall retain all other ASCA Official Entry Forms, plus photocopies of the Original Entry Forms listed above for qualifiers, for a period of one year from the date of any Tracking Test.

### **Section 1.25 Protests Against Dogs**

Every exhibitor shall have the right to request through the Tracking Test Committee, the examination of any dog within Tracking Test's premises, which is considered to endanger the health of other dogs in the Tracking Test. A protest against a dog, for reasons other than health, may be made by any exhibitor, or any member of ASCA. It shall be in writing, and be lodged with the Tracking Test Secretary within seven (7) days of the last date of the Tracking Test unless the protest is made by ASCA.

A protest calling for a decision as to the physical condition of a dog which can be determined only with the advice of a veterinarian or at the time of the Tracking Test shall be made before the closing of the Tracking Test.

No protest will be entertained unless accompanied by a deposit set by ASCA which will be refunded if the protest is sustained. This does not apply to protests by ASCA, or to a protest made at the Tracking Test previous to the rendering of a decision by the Judge.

If a protest shall be made during the holding of a Tracking Test, the Tracking Test Committee shall hold a meeting as soon as possible and give all parties concerned an opportunity to be heard and shall at once render its decision. If a protest shall be made subsequent to the Tracking Test, it shall be decided by the Host Affiliate Club within thirty (30) days of its receipt. Ten (10) days notice of the date and place of hearing shall be sent to all parties concerned by certified mail. Written copies of all decisions on protests shall be forwarded immediately to the ASCA Office.

An appeal to the ASCA Executive Secretary from a decision of a Tracking Test Committee where a dog has been protested may be taken and shall be forwarded to the ASCA Office within seven (7) days of the date on which the decision was rendered together with a deposit, the amount of which is set by the ASCA Office(1-1-10). If the decision is sustained, the deposit shall be forfeited, but if reversed, the deposit shall be returned.

## **Chapter 2 Regulations for Performance and Judging**

### **Section 2.1 Decisions**

The Judges are in sole charge of the Tracking site (the area in which the tracks are laid) until the assignment is completed.

The decisions of the Judges shall be final in all matters affecting evaluation and the working of the dogs and their handlers.

Judges are not required to explain their decisions and need not enter into a discussion with any entrant who appears to be dissatisfied.

After a Tracking Test has been judged in accordance with these rules and regulations, it shall not be re-judged.

A Tracking Test is considered judged when the Judge has marked his/her Judge's Books. If any errors have been made by the Judge in marking the awards as made, he/she may correct the same but must initial any such corrections.

Each Judge must be supplied with the Judge's Books in which he or she shall mark all awards and all absent dogs.

The original Judge's Books shall be in the custody of the Judge, Tracking Test Secretary or Tracking Test Chairperson. None other shall be allowed access to it.

At the conclusion of the judging, the Judge's Book must be signed by the Judge and any changes which may have been made therein initialed by him/ her.

A Judge's decision, as marked in the Judge's Book, cannot be changed by him/her after filing with the ASCA Office, but an error appearing in the Judge's Book may be corrected by the ASCA Office after consultation with the Judge and the Tracking Test Secretary.

If a Judge disqualifies a dog at any Tracking Test, he or she shall make a note in the Judge's Book giving his or her reasons for such disqualification. The Tracking Test Secretary will acknowledge to the ASCA Office the name of the disqualified dog, the ASCA Registration Number and owners name and address.

The Tracking Test Committee shall decide all other matters arising at the test, including protests against dogs made under Chapter 5, Rules of Disputes.

### **Section 2.2 Disturbances.**

The Judges shall remove from participation any dog that its handler cannot control, any handler who interferes willfully with another entrant or dog, and any handler who disciplines or abuses a dog.

Abuse of a dog must be reported to the Tracking Test Committee.

The Judges may excuse any dog that they feel is unfit to participate.

If a dog or handler is excused by the Judges, the reason shall be noted in the Judge's Book(s).

A Judge who is aware of any assistance, interference or attempt to control a dog while it is being tested, must act promptly to stop such behavior.

If, in the Judge's opinion the circumstances warrant, the dog may be failed.

### **Section 2.3 Complexity**

At a Tracking Test, all tracks should be of approximately equal complexity within the limitations of changing cover and terrain.

Judges should make every effort to age the tracks for about the same length of time.

The same methods and standards are to be used in plotting tracks and judging the working of all breeds of dogs.

Judges are not to inject their own variations into a Tracking Test, but must see that each handler and dog is tested on a track that completely satisfies the Tracking Regulations.

A handler who is familiar with these Regulations should be able to enter a Tracking Test without being confronted with an unexpected requirement.

### **Section 2.4 Plotting**

At a Tracking Test, a track that is plotted within three (3) days in the same site may not cross or be within 75 yards of a previously used track unless prior approval has been obtained from the ASCA Office.

All tracks are to be started in a cover of a type predominant in the area of the site that contains the first leg and first turn of the track.

Both Judges must be present on the day of plotting and walk every track.

At a Tracking Test (TD) or a Tracking Dog Urban Test (TDU) the Judges may divide the plotting responsibilities and then walk the other Judge's tracks.

If extenuating circumstances prevent either Judge from walking every track at a Tracking Test (TD), or a Tracking Dog Urban Test (TDU), the circumstances must be fully explained in a report submitted with the Judge's Book(s).

Plotting of the tracks by any person other than a Judge is prohibited.

On the day the tracks are plotted, all persons connected with the Tracking Test other than the Judges, ASCA Officials, and Apprentices, with prior approval of the Judges, and those required for the laying of the tracks, shall not be on the tracking site.

For each dog entered, a separate track shall be plotted by one or both Judges for a Tracking Test (TD) or a Tracking Dog Urban (TDU), and by both Judges for a Tracking Test (TDX), at least the day prior to the test.

Flags that the Tracklayer can readily follow on the day of the Tracking Test shall mark the track except for the Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) where CORNER, SIGHTING, and DROP FLAGS may be used at the Judges' discretion, but only the start flags are required.

An official chart/map of each track shall be made by each Judge, showing the approximate length in yards of each leg, the total length of the track, and all pertinent information including major landmarks and boundaries.

### **Section 2.5 Alternate Track**

Judges are encouraged to plot an Alternate Track in the event a retest of one of the dogs is required, or if one of the tracks becomes invalidated.

The Alternate Track should be fully equivalent to any other track so that it can be used promptly, saving time and permitting the test to proceed in an orderly fashion without interruption.

The Judge's Chart/map showing the plot of the Alternate Track should appear in the Judge's Books. The Alternate Track may be used as a titling track if it is not needed as an Alternate Track, if its use does not require the judges to judge more than the allowed number of tracks per test, and if the Judges agree to use it for titling.

### **Section 2.6 Articles**

Judges shall approve all articles well in advance of the time the track is laid so that any article that is not acceptable can be replaced.

The articles shall have been in the Tracklayer's possession for sufficient time to ensure that it is impregnated with the Tracklayer's scent.

All articles shall be inconspicuous in color in comparison to the surrounding terrain.

All articles are to be about the same size as a leather glove or a wallet.

Articles are to be dropped on the track by the Tracklayer.

Except at the start, after being dropped, an article should not be visible from a distance of more than 20 feet, and shall not be covered with any substance in order to conceal it.

### **Section 2.7 Turns**

A turn is a substantial and abrupt change in direction. Legs that gradually curve or meet in open angles that deviate only slightly from a straight line are not turns.

### **Section 2.8 Bitches in Season**

Any bitch that appears so attractive to males as to be a disturbing element is considered to be in season.

Bitches in season may participate in a Tracking Test, at the Host Affiliate Club's option, under the following conditions:

- a) When the Tracking Test Premium specifically states "BITCHES IN SEASON MAY PARTICIPATE."
- b) The Tracking Test Secretary and Judges are notified that a bitch (or bitches) is in season prior to the drawing for tracks. The last track to be laid shall be reserved for the bitch in season. If there is more than one bitch in season, a second draw for these bitches will be held.
- c) "Bitches in season" will be allowed to participate in a Tracking Test only after all the other dogs and bitches not in season have been tested.
- d) The Tracking Test Chairman is responsible for ensuring that bitches in season are allowed on the tracking site only immediately prior to their running.

In the event the handler of a bitch in season does not comply with the conditions above, the handler and dog shall be excused from the Tracking Test and any award withheld.

The Judges shall notify the ASCA Office of any infraction in the conditions above by noting the infraction on the inside cover of the Judge's Books.

If the owner or handler violates the intent of this Section at a second Tracking Test, ASCA may initiate action that is considered to be appropriate.

## **Section 2.9 Drawing for the Run Order of Tracks**

Prior to the "Draw for the Run Order of the Tracks", the Tracking Test Secretary shall ask all entrants to check all of the information regarding their entry.

If the Catalogue and/or the Judge's Books of any Tracking Test shall, by error or mistake, set forth any information contrary to the information which appears on the Entry Form of the dog for that Tracking Test, the Tracking Test Committee and Tracking Test Secretary, upon request of the owner or handler of said dog, prior to the judging, shall correct the entry in the Judge's Books and in the marked Catalogue to be sent to the ASCA Office, and said dog may compete in the Tracking Test and for all prizes for which it's entry form discloses it was entered.

At the time of the "Draw for the Run Order of the Tracks" the Tracking Test Secretary, with one or both of the Judges present, will assemble the participants just prior to starting time, for a drawing by lot of the assigned Catalogue Numbers to determine the order of running for each participant.

Once the numbers have been drawn, they may not be exchanged except under unusual circumstances and only with the Judge's approval. Any such exchanges must be fully reported in the Judge's Books.

A dog that is absent from the site at the scheduled time of the "Draw for Run Order of the Tracks" is to be marked "Absent" by the Judges if an alternate is present to draw.

Alternates who are present will be selected to draw by their order on the Alternates List.

If no alternate is present, the Judges may mark the dog absent at the scheduled time of "Draw for Run Order of the Tracks" or the Judges may designate the Tracking Test Secretary to draw for the absent dogs.

In this case, the dog shall be marked absent if it is not present in time for the running of its track.

If a dog is withdrawn or excused, after the "Draw for Run Order of the Tracks," but before the track is started by the dog, the next alternate present shall run the track.

A person cannot act as a Tracklayer for a dog if that person has boarded, laid track for or regularly trained the dog whose track he, or she, is to lay, within the past 60 days.

The Tracklayer must not be a person with whom the dog has resided or a member of the household or a member of the immediate family of the dog's handler.

The Judges shall determine the number of each track, and the order in which the tracks are run.

The Judges may modify the "Draw for the Run Order of the Tracks" to meet the requirements of the Tracklayers. Tracklayers are critical in contributing to the success of a Tracking Test. Every effort must be made to walk each track at its designated time on the day of the test. In addition, tracklayers should report any errors made in the laying of any track immediately to the Judges.

## **Section 2.10 Track Laying**

Tracklayers are critical in contributing to the success of a Tracking Test. Every effort must be made to walk each track at its designated time on the day of the test. In addition, tracklayers should report any errors made in the laying of any track immediately to the Judges.

Affiliate must secure Tracklayers in advance of the date of any tracking test. The Affiliate will confirm to each person who accepts an invitation to be a Tracklayer with a Judging Program, a phone call, and/or an e-mail notifying each Tracklayer of the date and location of the test, the time to report for the plotting of the track(s), and the time to report for the test.

Experienced tracklayers familiar with the ASCA Tracking Rules and Regulations are preferred. If possible, no tracklayer should lay consecutive tracks, nor lay tracks within the same field/area. It is recommended that inexperienced or less physically fit Tracklayers should lay no more than two tracks per test. No person shall be allowed to serve as a Tracklayer whose judging privileges have been revoked. Each tracklayer is expected to walk his or her tracks with the Judges on plotting day, and also walk the same tracks solo on the day of the test.

#### **Section 2.10.1 Tracklayers Needed for TD, TDU, and TDX**

One tracklayer is needed to lay each TD/TDU track. One tracklayer is needed to lay the primary TDX track, and two cross-tracklayers to cross each TDX track. Cross-tracklayers MUST be different from the person laying the main track, and if possible, should not be from the same household.

#### **Section 2.10.2 Tracklayers Duties on Plotting Day**

Tracklayers are to be present during the day of plotting so as to be generally familiar with the Tracking Test site and the location of the tracks. When a tracklayer is not present, an explanation shall be made in the Tracking Test Secretary's Report.

It is the Judge's responsibility to instruct the Tracklayer so that each track will be properly laid. Tracklayers are encouraged to make maps of their tracks for personal reference, and in addition may be asked to help carry flags.

Tracklayers should walk in a position or place as directed by the Judges during the plotting of the tracks.

Before the start of the test, tracklayers should be given maps of their tracks by the Judges showing all pertinent feature information. Tracklayers should inform the Judges and the Chief Tracklayer if there are discrepancies between their own maps and the Judge's maps.

One or both of the Judges should make every effort, within the limitations of terrain, to observe each tracklayer laying his/her track on the day of the test.

Each tracklayer shall wear his/her own footwear which may be of any material.

The Judges shall instruct the tracklayer to walk in a natural manner. There should be no scuffing of the feet over any portion of the track, including the area at the starting flag, or between flags. The tracklayer shall go to the first flag, pause, place the cloth start article, and then proceed in walking the track. Circling the flag or scuffing the feet around the flag is prohibited.

#### **Section 2.10.3 Tracklayers Duties on Test Day**

The tracklayer will walk his/her track, solo at the appointed time, as directed by the Judges and will remove all flags from the track site except:

- a) The first two flags in a Tracking Dog (TD) Test or a Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test
- b) The first flag in a Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test
- c) The cross-track flags in a TDX

The tracklayer will drop his/her articles at the sites designated by the Judges. After dropping the last article, the tracklayer shall continue in a straight line for at least 30 yards, and exit the track's site in the direction previously described by the Judges.

No tracklayer after completing the track should return within 75 yards of any unused part of the track.

After a tracklayer has laid his/her track, the Judges will determine the tracklayer's position during the time when that track is being run.

Under no circumstances should a tracklayer cross or walk over any portion of the track once it has been laid until the team running that track has completed their run.

Tracklayers should be aware that they need to be immediately available to the Judges if a question arises while a track that they have laid is being run. Judges will make arrangements if a conflict could arise for a tracklayer's availability during a test track.

A tracklayer may be asked to assist an entrant to finish a test track if the Judges have failed the dog.

Under no circumstances will a tracklayer make any notation in the Judge's Books or erase or strike out any notation made by the Judge.

The cross-tracks will be designated by using flags which are a different color than the primary track or drop flags on the TDX track.

#### **Section 2.10.4 Cross-Tracklayers**

The Judges will instruct the Cross-tracklayers how to enter and exit the field on the day of the test, where to cross the track, and how they should cross the track on the day of the test.

The Judges shall make sure that the Cross-tracklayers carry an outline of the track showing all pertinent information. Both Cross-tracklayers all lay their tracks as directed by the Judges at the designated time. The Cross-tracklayers will remove all the cross-track flags as they lay their cross-tracks.

It is suggested that a test should have a Chief Tracklayer. The Chief Tracklayer is appointed by the Tracking Test Committee to be in charge of coordinating the track laying schedule. The Chief Tracklayer may be asked to obtain the Tracklayers and communicate with them before the test if needed.

The Chief Tracklayer will be present at the test site on both Plotting Day and the day of the test.

The Chief Tracklayer will make arrangements to transport the Judges and the Tracklayers to the tracking site(s) and between the different tracks on both Plotting Day and the day of the test.

On Plotting Day the Chief Tracklayer will:

- a) Be familiar with the tracking site so they can assist the Judges in getting to, and being picked up from, the beginning and the end of the tracks
- b) Keep a written chart of the track numbers, the name of the tracklayer for each track, and the color of flags used
- c) Receive from the Judges a chart of the estimated time a track will be laid, and an estimated time the track will be run

On Test Day, the Chief Tracklayer will:

- a) Make sure that all tracklayers and Judges are transported to and from their tracks and that all tracklayers and cross-tracklayers are at their designated tracks on time
- b) Keep track of the exact times that the tracks are actually laid

Tracklayers should refrain from discussing (or appearing to discuss) the dogs or the exhibitors with a Judge, and should not show (or appear to show) the Catalog to a Judge, nor should they show (or appear to show) their maps to anyone before or during a test, nor should they discuss (or appear to discuss) their tracks with exhibitors or others not officially associated with the test.

Tracklayers must not take part in (or seem to take part in) judging. When not actively engaged in their duties, tracklayers should place themselves near or within the gallery so their presence does not

interfere with the entered team, nor block the view of those watching the test. Tracklayers should take any additional cues for their placement from the Judges.

Tracklayers have the right to raise issues of concern about the safety of the track that they are being asked to lay at any time. Tracklayers have a right to decline to lay a track for just cause.

Tracklayers are encouraged to read the ASCA Tracking Regulations prior to accepting a post, and are further encouraged to ask questions or seek guidance from persons associated with the test, particularly Judges. The Judges will make arrangements to manage the gallery.

#### **Section 2.10.7 Gallery Management**

The Judges will make arrangements to manage the gallery.

#### **Section 2.11 Errors in Track Laying**

Despite all precautions, there may be errors in track laying. If the Tracklayer is aware of an error, it must be made known to the Judges as soon as possible. The Judges will then decide whether the use of this track meets the requirements of the Tracking Rules and Regulations.

#### **Section 2.12 Retest**

In cases of unforeseen circumstances, the Judges may in rare instances, at their own discretion, retest the dog and handler on a new track. The circumstances shall be noted in the Judge's Books.

If, when the dog is working, the Judges encounter a flag still standing in the field, the dog's performance must be evaluated in light of the likely route taken by the Tracklayer. If the length of the track remains within the requirements of the regulations, the Judges must decide whether the tracking performance of the dog met the other criteria for awarding of the title, or whether the dog should be retested on another track.

#### **Section 2.13 Distractions on the Track**

The Judges are responsible for seeing that spectators and unauthorized persons remain further than 50 yards from the starting flag until after the dog, handler, and Judges have moved out of the area of the start.

The Judges may authorize a member of the Tracking Test Committee to move spectators onto the area of the used track to observe the tracking field so long as the spectators do not:

- a) Interfere with the dog's work
- b) Indicate the location or direction of the unused portion of the track
- c) Do not contaminate other unused tracks

Should an animal interfere with the work of the tracking dog by aggressive action or by its position on the track, the Tracking Test would normally be invalidated. However, the appearance of an animal or a vehicle in the field, whether or not it has crossed the track, is usually not justification for a retest.

The presence of people on the Tracking site for TD and TDX could represent conflicting cross-tracks. The decision whether or not to invalidate the track is left to the discretion of the Judges.

However, for the Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test, normal traffic of humans, animals, or vehicles in an urban or suburban type area is to be expected. The decision whether or not to invalidate any track is left to the discretion of the Judges.

### **Section 2.14 Leash, Harness and Distance between Handler and Dog**

The leash shall be between 20 and 40 feet in length. The leash shall be attached to the harness while tracking.

The dog shall wear a harness while tracking.

The harness shall be constructed of straps of plain, pliable material, and designed so there is a minimum of restriction of the dog's movement. An inconspicuous marking is permitted on the harness to identify the dog in case of loss.

If a collar is worn by the dog while tracking, the collar must be a well fitting plain buckle or slip collar.

Buckle collars with the buckle made of metal or plastic with or without a tongue may be used.

Slip collars of an appropriate single length of leather, fabric or chain with two (2) rings, one (1) on each end are acceptable. Fancy collars, or special training collars, or collars that are either too tight or so large that they hang down unreasonably in front of the dogs, are not permitted.

The required licenses or rabies tag may be attached to the collar.

The leash shall be attached to the top of harness while tracking and it shall not be deliberately run through the underside of the dog controlling or restricting the dog's movement.

The handler shall follow the dog at a distance of no less than 20 feet.

To avoid entanglement, the leash may be dropped briefly during the Tracking Test but must be retrieved as soon as possible. If the leash becomes entangled, the handler may unsnap the leash to free it.

While the leash is being untangled, the dog shall be under the immediate control and in close proximity to the handler.

When tracking in dense vegetation, if the leash becomes repeatedly tangled, the Judges may allow the handler to follow the dog at less than 20 feet distance, but no closer than required to avoid entanglement.

The handler shall return to following the dog at 20 feet or more when the dog leaves the area of dense vegetation.

### **Section 2.15 Commands and Signals**

Handlers may give verbal commands and verbal encouragement to the dog. However, commands, signals or body motions used by the handler to indicate the specific location or direction of the track are prohibited.

Harsh verbal commands or physical force used to discipline the dog are also prohibited.

### **Section 2.16 Guiding and Restraining**

Guiding is defined as behavior by the handler that influences or determines the dog's direction.

Guiding is prohibited and the dog shall be marked failed.

Restraint is permitted to slow a dog that is moving too fast for the handler or in cases of an unusual distraction. However, repeated restraint that influences the dog's direction is not permitted and shall result in the dog being failed.

A dog that is at the end of the leash actively searching, including casting, should not be considered as being restrained.

### **Section 2.17 Assistance to Handler**

Neither the Judges nor any other person may give the handler any assistance in determining the direction of the track.

### **Section 2.18 Carrying Water on the Track**

The handler may carry plain water or ice on the track, and may with the Judge's approval, provide it to the dog for drinking or use it to cool the dog.

The use of any liquid other than plain water requires to dog to be failed and excused from the Tracking Test.

### **Section 2.19 Food and Other Motivational Item on the Track**

Praise and petting of the dog are allowed after the dog finds the first and intermediate articles, but handler may not excessively play with articles as toys or toss them on the ground unless the track is complete.

Only those items considered by the Judges to be essential to the conduct of the Tracking Test, and permitted by these Regulations are permitted on the tracking field.

Judges shall not allow motivational items for a dog, including, but not limited to food, balls, or toys, to be used or carried within 75 yards of any track.

The carrying or use of food or other motivational items for the dog by the handler on a track requires that the dog be failed and excused from the Tracking Test.

### **Section 2.20 Time Limit**

There is no time limit for completing the track, but a dog is not working should not be given any minimum time and marked failed.

### **Section 2.21 Fouling the Track**

A dog that fouls the area during the running of a track is not to be failed for that reason alone.

### **Section 2.22 Judge's Books**

An ASCA Judge's Book will include a complete report stating total number of dogs and bitches, names of Passing Dogs. This Judge's Book must be signed by the Judge.

Either the Judge's own maps, or the Official Charts/maps, are to be marked, one by each Judge, at the time the dog is tracking.

If a Judge's own map is used by another Judge, all pertinent information is to be transferred in its entirety to the Official Chart/map as soon as practicable.

The following information is to be shown on each Official Chart/map that measures 8 ½ inches by 11 inches. (See also TDU and TDX Judge's Books):

- a) A plot of the track including the length, in yards, of each of the legs and the total length of the track. The plot on the Official Chart/map should be generally proportional to the track itself.
- b) A broken line showing the approximate path of the dog.
- c) The time the Tracklayer and finished the track.
- d) A brief description of the terrain/site
- e) An arrow showing the direction of the wind at the start.
- f) A brief description of weather conditions.
- g) Indication of steep hills and valleys.

- h) All pertinent landmarks and markers used to locate turns.
- i) Each Judge is to indicate the Dog's Catalogue Number, whether the dog passed or failed, and sign the Official Chart/map.
- j) A track shall have a start article at the first flag, and a second article at the end of the track
- k) All important areas of topography should be indicated on the Official Chart/map. Judges should also include any man-made structures that may affect scent.

A passing performance requires the agreement of both Judges. It would be highly irregular for one Judge to consider a dog "Passed" while another marked it "Failed." If this occurred, the dog should not have passed the test. In this case, a written report, explaining the circumstances for the decision, would be required from each Judge.

No person other than the Judges shall make any entry in the Judge's Books.

Each Judge shall receive a marked copy of the catalogue or sheet listing the entered and alternate dogs at the completion of the Tracking Test. The Judge's Books should include a fourth page for the exhibitors.

\*Copies of the Judge's Books shall be made available through the Tracking Test Secretary for examination by the owners and handlers immediately after the Tracking Test.

The Host Affiliate Club or Tracking Test Secretary, after a Tracking Test, shall forward copies of the Judge's Books including the marked Official Judge's Charts, a list of all dogs which were entered, the complete list of alternates drawn and a marked and certified copy of the catalogue pages or sheet listing the dogs entered in the Tracking Test to the ASCA Office, to be received postmarked 15 days after the event.

A Tracking Test is considered judged when the Judge has marked his/her Judge's Book.

### **Section 2.23 Passing Performance**

It is the Judge's responsibility to determine whether the nature and degree of the handler and dog's work warrant the granting of the Tracking Title.

The dog must follow the track and either clearly indicate or retrieve the article in a Tracking Dog (TD) Test or a Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test, or clearly indicate or retrieve the second, third and fourth articles in a Tracking Dog (TDX) Test.

The decision as to whether the dog satisfactorily indicated or retrieved an article is the responsibility of the Judges. In order for the dog to pass in a Tracking Dog Test (TD) or a Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test, the article must be presented to the Judges when the track is completed.

In a Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test, the second, third and fourth articles must be presented to the Judges when the track is completed.

Judges must never pass a dog that has not met the minimum requirements of following the Test Track unaided and finding the article(s). If the dog is not considered to be tracking by the Judges it shall not be passed, even though it has found the article or articles.

If, in the Judge's opinion, the dog actively searched the area where an article was dropped but did not find the article, and the Judges cannot find the article, the dog shall be given credit for finding the article.

In the event that the dog does not actively search the area and the Judges cannot find the article, the dog shall be tested on another track that meets the requirements of the Regulations.

### **Section 2.24 Track Laying Sequence**

Judges should make every effort to age the tracks for about the same length of time. A tested, workable sequence is:

- 1) Lay Track No. 1 and Lay Track No. 2
- 2) Run Track No. 1
- 3) Lay Track No. 3
- 4) Run Track No. 2
- 5) Lay Track No. 4, Etc.

This will give elapsed time of about 30 minutes to one hour for tracks to age. In addition, it will mean there will be no long waits between dogs tracking as would be the case if two or three consecutive tracks were laid, and they sequentially executed. This procedure, however, does require the Judges to shuttle back and forth between fields.

### **Chapter 3 The Tracking Dog Test (TD)**

The fundamental features of a Tracking Dog Test (TD) are the dog's ability to follow a track laid by a person under a variety of conditions on moderate terrain and find an article dropped by that person.

#### **Section 3.1 Eligibility for the TD Test**

The Tracking Dog (TD) Test shall be for dogs not less than six (6) months of age that are eligible for entry and which meet the requirements of the following Section 3. 2.

A dog may continue to participate in the Tracking Dog (TD) Test after it has earned the titles TD, TDU, or TDX.

The Tracking Test Secretary shall give dogs not holding a Tracking Dog (TD) Title priority for entry in the Tracking Dog (TD) Test. A statement to this effect shall appear in the premium.

#### **Section 3.2 Certification for the TD Test**

A written, signed, and dated, Certification may accompany each entry for a Tracking Test for any dog that has not previously passed an ASCA Tracking Dog Test for a Tracking Dog (TD) Title.

This Certification must be dated within one year of the date the Tracking Test is to be held and must certify the dog has satisfactorily performed a Certification Track.

Certification can be done by any ASCA Tracking Judge, ASCA Provisional Tracking Judge, or any Tracking Judge from an organization recognized by ASCA (see Appendix B.)

An entry received without Certification or copy of an equivalent title will be considered only if space is not taken by a dog with Certification or copy of an equivalent title. If Certification or a copy of the equivalent title is not sent, you will only be allowed to compete if there are tracks available after the dogs with Certification or an equivalent title are entered.

Tracking Titles earned from other registries, on tracks of the same or greater distance and difficulty as required for an ASCA TD or TDU Test Track can be substituted for Certification if the equivalent title has been earned on the entered dog.

A photocopy of the equivalent title must be submitted with the entry.

TD and TDU Certifications may be used to enter either Test.

The Certification Track should be of a complexity equivalent to the Tracking Dog (TD) Test and take place under conditions similar to such a Tracking Dog (TD) Test Track.

A dog that does not satisfactorily complete the Certification Track in its entirety should not be certified.

A dog that fails a Tracking Dog (TD) Test may not be recertified by one of the Judges based on its performance at that Tracking Dog (TD) Test, regardless of how close the dog came to passing.

It is permissible for a dog to be entered under the certifying Judge.

Judges who wish to enter in a Tracking Dog (TD) Test are subject to the same requirements as other entrants. Judges shall not provide Certification to any dog owned wholly or in part by them.

The Certification, signed by a Provisional or Approved Tracking Judge, should be worded similar to the following:

"I have observed the tracking performance of (Registered Name, Registration Number, and Breed) on a track of equivalent complexity and under conditions similar to a regulation ASCA Tracking Dog (TD) Test. I hereby certify that the dog performed the Certification in its entirety, and is ready to participate in an ASCA Sanctioned Tracking Test."

Date: (Date of Certification)

Original signature

Judge's typed or printed name

ASCA Tracking Judge

The Judge shall provide four (4) copies of the Certification based on the dog's completion of one Certification Track. Should the dog fail at four (4) successive Tracking Tests within the twelve-month period, the dog must be recertified in order to be eligible to enter as a dog with a Certification in additional Affiliate Club's Tracking Dog (TD) Test.

The Certifications certifying the dog's ability to follow a track must be originals, cannot be used again, and must be retained by the Host Affiliate Club with the entry forms.

In unusual circumstances, ASCA, through its Tracking Committee, may issue Certification based on statements provided by the handler concerning the dog's tracking ability. However, in no case will ASCA issue more than four (4) copies of such Certification to any dog.

### **Section 3.3 The TD Title**

ASCA will issue a Tracking Dog Title to registered dogs, dogs with LEP, ILP numbers, and to dogs with "an ASCA Office tracking number" and will permit use of the letters "TD" after the name of each dog that has been certified by two Judges to have passed Affiliate's Tracking (TD) Test.

As soon as a dog has been certified by the Judges to have passed an Affiliate's Tracking (TD) Test, it may be entered in any Affiliate's Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test or Affiliate Club's Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test for which the Entries have not closed.

The owner of a dog holding both the UD and TD titles may use the letters "UDT" after the name of the dog, signifying "Utility Dog Tracker." The owner of a dog holding both the UDX and TD titles may use the letters "UDXT" after the name of the dog, signifying "Utility Dog Excellent Tracker."

### **Section 3.4 Requirements for the TD Track**

The following are the restrictions and minimum requirements for a TD track:

- a) The track shall be at least 440 yards and not more than 500 yards in length.
- b) The length of each of the legs shall be at least 50 yards.
- c) The scent on the track shall be not less than 30 minutes or more than two (2) hours old.
- d) A total of three (3) to five (5) turns shall be used. Both left and right turns shall be used. No acute angle turns are to be used. The first turn must be more than 30 yards from the second flag.
- e) At least two (2) of the turns shall be right angle (90) turns and there should be more than two (2) turns. At least two (2) of the right angle turns shall be well out in the open where there are no fences or boundaries to guide the dog.
- f) No part of the track shall follow any fence or boundary within 15 yards of such fence or boundary.
- g) No part of the track may be within 50 yards of any other part of the same track.
- h) Consecutive parallel tracks shall not be used.
- i) No part of any track shall be laid within 75 yards of another track. However, with two (2) tracks going in opposite directions from the same area, the starting flags may be as close as 50 yards to each other.
- j) A track shall not cross a body of water or a paved road.
- k) No TD track should have changes of cover that would be suitable for a TDX obstacle.
- l) No conflicting (cross) tracks shall be used.
- m) A track shall have a start article at the first flag, and a 2nd article at the end of the track.

If, because of the terrain, the Judges are unable to plot a track that meets all requirements for a Tracking Dog (TD) Test, an explanation of the circumstances must be reported in the Judge's Books.

### **Section 3.5 Articles for the TD Track**

Chapter 2, Section 6 sets forth the criteria for articles. In a Tracking Dog (TD) Test there shall be a cloth start article, and the end article shall be a leather glove or wallet.

### **Section 3.6 Start of the TD Track**

The start shall have a flag at the beginning, and a second flag, indicating the direction of the first leg, 30 yards from the first flag.

An article shall be dropped at the start (first) flag.

This article shall be Cloth (such as, but not limited to: a Bandana, a Sock, etc.) and close to the same size as the ending article, a Leather Glove or Wallet.

The Tracklayer shall start at the first flag and walk the track in the manner specified in Chapter 2, Section 10. At the direction of the Judges, the handler will approach the first flag.

The handler may use any method, including restraining the dog by the leash as long as no force, directional guidance, or roughness, is used to start the dog at the first flag on the Track.

The handler may pick up the article at the start flag and use it to give scent to the dog while on the track.

If the article is not at the start, the handler, while controlling the dog at the start flag, may request from the Judges another article belonging to the tracklayer.

Once the dog passes the start flag, the Tracking Dog (TD) Test has begun.

If a restart is requested, an auxiliary article can no longer be requested.

The Tracking Dog (TD) Test begins when the dog leaves the first flag.

The initial 30 yards between the flags is part of the track and all requirements for the track apply.

In this portion of the track, the dog may be restrained by the handler, but any leading or guiding of the dog constitutes grounds for calling the handler off the track and failing the dog.

Provided the dog has not passed the second flag, the handler may request permission from the Judges for a restart. If approved by the Judges, the handler may restart the dog, either from their present location or after returning to the starting flag.

Only one restart is permitted.

Keep spectators away from start by at least 50 yards.

#### **Chapter 4 The Tracking Dog Urban Test (TDU) Test**

The purpose of the Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test is to demonstrate the dog's ability to follow a track laid by a person under a variety of conditions in a more urban or suburban-like environment than is used by the Tracking Dog (TD) Test and Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test, and to find an article dropped by that person.

The location of Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test site(s) may include but are not limited to: city parks, college campuses, schools, office or industrial parks, fairgrounds, and other more urban or suburban-like environments having areas of vegetation not primarily dedicated to agriculture or wildlife.

ASCA approved Tracking Dog (TD) or Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Judges in good standing may judge this Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test.

#### **Section 4.1 Eligibility for the TDU Test**

This Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test shall be for dogs not less than six (6) months of age that are eligible for entry and which meet the requirements of the following Section 4.2.

A dog may continue to participate in this Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test after it has earned the titles, TD, TDU, or TDX.

The Tracking Test Secretary shall give dogs not holding a TDU title priority for entry in the Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test.

A statement to this effect shall appear in the premium

#### **Section 4.2 Certification for the TDU Test**

A written, signed, and dated, Certification may accompany each Entry for an ASCA Tracking Dog Urban Test for any dog that has not previously passed an ASCA Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test for a Tracking Dog (TDU) Title.

This Certification must be dated within one year of the date the Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test is to be held and must certify the dog has satisfactorily performed a Certification.

Certification can be done by any ASCA Tracking Judge, ASCA Provisional Tracking Judge or any Tracking Judge from an organization recognized by ASCA (see Appendix B). This statement must be dated within one year of the date the Tracking Test is to be held and must certify the dog has satisfactorily performed a Certification Track.

An entry received without Certification or copy of an equivalent title will be considered only if space is not taken by a dog with Certification or copy of an equivalent title. If Certification or a copy of the equivalent title is not sent, you will only be allowed to compete if there are tracks available after the dogs with Certification or an equivalent title are entered.

Tracking Titles earned from other registries, on tracks of the same or greater distance and difficulty as required for an ASCA TD or TDU track can be substituted for Certification if the equivalent title has been earned on the entered dog.

A photocopy of the equivalent title must be submitted with the entry.

TD and TDU Certifications may be used to enter either test.

The Certifying Track should be of a complexity equivalent to the Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test and take place under conditions similar to such a test. A dog that does not satisfactorily complete the Certifying Track in its entirety should not be certified.

A dog that fails a Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test may not be recertified by one the Judges based on its performance at that Tracking Test, regardless of how close the dog came to passing.

It is permissible for a dog to be entered under the certifying Judge.

Judges who wish to enter in a Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test are subject to the same requirements as other entrants. Judges shall not provide Certification to any dog owned wholly or in part by them.

The Certification signed by a Provisional or Approved Tracking Judge should be worded similar to the following:

"I have observed the tracking performance of: (Registered Name, Registration Number, and Breed) on a track of equivalent complexity and under conditions similar to a regulation ASCA Tracking Dog Urban Test (TDU). I hereby certify that the dog performed the Certification Track in its entirety, and is ready to participate in an ASCA Sanctioned Tracking Test."

Date (Date of Certification)

Original signature

Judge's typed or printed name

ASCA Tracking Judge

The Judge shall provide four (4) copies of the Certification based on the dog's completion of one Certification Track. Should the dog fail at four (4) successive Tracking Tests within the twelve-month period, the dog must be recertified in order to be eligible to enter as a dog with Certification in additional Affiliate Club's Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test.

The Certification certifying the dog's ability to follow a track must be originals, cannot be used again, and must be retained by the Host Affiliate Club with the entry forms.

In unusual circumstances, ASCA, through its Tracking Committee may issue Certification based on statements provided by the handler concerning the dog's tracking ability.

However, in no case will ASCA issue more than four (4) such copies of the Certification to any dog.

#### **Section 4.3 The TDU Title**

ASCA will issue a Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Title to registered dogs, dogs with LEP, ILP numbers, and to dogs with an "ASCA Office tracking number" and will permit use of the letters "TDU" after the name of each dog that has been certified by two Judges to have passed an Affiliate's Sanctioned Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test. As soon as a dog has been certified by the Judges to have passed an Affiliate's

Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test, it may be entered in any Affiliate's Tracking Dog (TD) Test or Tracking Dog Excellent Test (TDX) for which the entries have not been closed.

The owner of a dog holding both the UD and TDU title may use the letters "UDTU" after the name of the dog, signifying "Utility Dog Tracker-Urban." The owner of a dog holding both the UDX and TDU titles may use the letters "UDXTU" after the name of the dog, signifying "Utility Dog Excellent Tracker-Urban."

#### **Section 4.4 Requirements for the TDU Track**

The following are the restrictions and minimum requirements for a TDU track:

- 1) The track shall be at least 350 yards and not more than 400 yards in length.
- 2) The length of each of the legs should be at least 50 yards. In certain circumstances and due to site restrictions, legs may be as short as 30 yards and must be explained in the Judge's Book.
- 3) The scent on the track shall be not less than 30 minutes or more than two (2) hours old.
- 4) A total of three (3) to four (4) turns shall be used. Both left and right turns shall be used.
- 5) No acute angle turns are to be used. It is recommended that the first turn be more than 30 yards from the second flag if possible.
- 6) At least two (2) of the turns shall be right angle, (90 degree), turns, and there should be more than two (2) turns. At least two (2) of the right angles (90 degree) turns, shall be well out in the open, where there are no boundaries to guide the dog. It is recommended that all turns be on vegetation consistent with the primary terrain or cover. However, it is understood the Judges may need to make whatever decisions they deem necessary to fulfill track requirements which may include (but are not limited to) making a turn in or close to a non-vegetated area. Such turn must be explained in the Judge's Books.
- 7) No part of the track may be within 50 yards of any other part of the same track. In certain circumstances and due to site restrictions, lesser yardage may be used and must be explained in the Judge's Books.
- 8) Consecutive parallel tracks shall not be used.
- 9) No part of any track shall be laid within 75 yards of another track. However, with two (2) tracks going in opposite directions from the same area, the starting flags may be as close as 50 yards to each other.
- 10) A track shall not cross a body of water, nor have changes of cover that would be suitable for a TDX field obstacle, and no conflicting (cross) tracks shall be plotted or used. However, normal traffic of humans, animals, or vehicles is to be expected and does not constitute a retest.
- 11) There shall be no physical obstacles, barriers or obstructions for the handler or dog to negotiate. (For example: stairs would constitute an obstruction although a curb would not.) Crossing areas easily negotiated by a dog and handler are not considered as obstacles. A track may cross a non-vegetated cover and shall account for between 10 to 20% of the entire track. More than 80% of the track must be on vegetated cover. Non-vegetated areas may include (but are not limited to): sidewalks, mulch, paths, secondary roads, small ditches, flower beds, gardens, low shrubbery, hedgerows, open stands of trees, portions of parking areas (such as pavement, concrete, gravel or dirt), or other areas easily negotiated by a dog and handler.
- 12) The total non-vegetated cover shall account for between 10 to 20% of the entire track. More than 80% of the track must be on vegetated cover. Non-vegetated areas may include (but are not limited to): sidewalks, mulch, paths, secondary roads, small ditches, flower beds, gardens, low shrubbery, hedgerows, open stands of trees, portions of parking areas (such as pavement, concrete, gravel or dirt) or other areas easily negotiated by a dog and handler.

- 13) A track may pass closely by or under trees tall enough to allow a handler to stand/walk easily, pass through relatively open landscaping, and beside roadways and sidewalks.
- 14) The track shall be dictated by the terrain and may come close to a building or other such man-made structure if necessary, however large buildings are to be avoided if possible.
- 15) A track shall have a start article at the first flag, and second article at the end of the track.
- 16) Tracks must NOT be run on areas where there is knowledge or concern of recent treatment with any substance which could cause harm to dog or handler.

If, because of the site or terrain, the Judges are unable to plot a track that meets all requirements for a Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test, an explanation of the circumstances must be reported in the Judge's Books.

A site partially or completely covered in snow should be treated the same as a standard TD in the same situation, however caution must be exercised if there is a possibility that some of the track may be salted or chemically treated to encourage melting. Also, the integrity of the track must be taken into consideration if there are any areas which have had the snow removed by plow or shovel.

#### **Section 4.5 Articles for the TDU Track**

Chapter 2, Section 6 sets forth the criteria for articles. In a Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Test there shall be a Cloth start article, and the end article shall be a Leather Glove or Wallet.

#### **Section 4.6 Start of the TDU Track**

The start shall have a flag at the beginning, and a second flag, indicating the direction of the first leg, 30 yards from the first flag. An article shall be dropped at the start (first) flag. This article shall be Cloth, (such as but not limited to, a Bandana, or a Sock) and close to the same size as the end article, a Leather Glove or Wallet.

The tracklayer shall start at the first flag and walk the track in the manner specified in Chapter 2, Section 10.

At the direction of the Judges, the handler will approach the first flag.

The handler may use any method, including restraining the dog by the leash as long as no force, directional guidance, or roughness is used to start the dog at the first flag on the track.

The handler may pick up the article at the start flag and use it to give scent to the dog while on the track. If the article is not at the start, the handler, while controlling the dog at the start flag, may request from the Judges another article belonging to the track layer.

Once the dog passes the start flag, the TDU Test had begun.

If a re-start is requested, an auxiliary article can no longer be requested.

The TDU Test begins when the dog leaves the first flag.

The initial 30 yards between the flags is part of the track and all requirements for the track apply.

In this portion of the track, the dog may be restrained by the handler, but any leading or guiding of the dog constitutes grounds for calling the handler off the track and failing the dog.

Provided the dog has not passed the second flag, the handler may request permission from the Judges for a restart. If approved by the Judges, the handler may restart the dog, either from his or her present location or after returning to the starting flag.

Only one re-start is permitted.

#### **Section 4.7 Judge's Books for the TDU Test**

For the Tracking Dog Urban (TDU) Judge's Books, as in the current Tracking Dog (TD) Test regulations, all yardage, sight points, and important areas of topography should be indicated on the Official Chart/map. Judges should also include any major man-made structures that may affect scent. Judges need not keep an exact yardage count of non-vegetated areas although it must be estimated to total less than twenty percent of the entire length of the track.

This should be easy to evaluate by reviewing the Official Chart/map.

#### **Chapter 5 The Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test**

The fundamental feature of a Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test is to show unquestionably that the dog has the ability to discriminate scent and possesses the stamina, perseverance and courage to do so under a wide variety of conditions.

A Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test presents difficult challenges. It can lead anywhere a person might go.

Judges are to plot tracks as challenging and realistic as the terrain will permit, while maintaining proper concern for the safety of the dogs and handlers.

#### **Section 5.1 Eligibility for the TDX Test**

The Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test shall be for dogs that have earned the "TD" or a "TDU" Title.

A dog may continue to participate in this Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test after it has earned the "TDX" title. However, dogs not holding a "TDX" title shall be given priority for entry in the Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test by the Tracking Test Secretary.

A statement to this effect shall appear in the premium.

#### **Section 5.2 The TDX Title**

ASCA will issue a Tracking Dog Excellent Title Certificate to registered dogs, dogs with LEP or ILPs, and to dogs with an "ASCA Office tracking number"; and will permit use of the letter "TDX" after the name of each dog that has been certified by two Judges to have passed an Affiliate Club Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test.

The owner of a dog holding both the "UD" and "TDX" Titles may use the letters "UDTX" after the name of the dog, signifying "Utility Dog Tracker Excellent." The owner of a dog holding both the "UDX" and "TDX" Titles may use the letters "UDXTX" after the name of the dog, signifying "Utility Dog Excellent Tracker Excellent."

#### **Section 5.3 Requirements for the TDX Track**

The following are the restrictions and minimum requirements for a Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Track:

- a) The track shall be at least 800 yards and not more than 1000 yards in length.
- b) The length of each of the legs of the track shall be at least 50 yards.
- c) The scent on the track shall not be less than three (3) hours or more than five (5) hours old.
- d) A total of five (5) to seven (7) turns shall be used. Both left and right turns shall be used. The first turn shall be in an open area. Acute angles should never be used except in unusual circumstances when terrain dictates. A turn whose angle is severely acute shall not be used.
- e) At least three (3) turns shall be right angle (90) turns, and there should be more than three (3) turns.
- f) No part of the track may be within 50 yards of any other part of the same track.

- g) No part of the track shall be within 75 yards of any other track.
- h) Cross-tracks -- see Section 4 of this Chapter.
- i) Obstacles -- see Section 5 of this Chapter.
- j) Articles --see Section 6 of this Chapter.

If because of the terrain, the Judges are unable to plot a track that meets all requirements for a Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test track, explanation of the circumstances must be reported in the Judge's Books.

#### **Section 5.4 Tracklayers**

The Tracklayer will begin about 30 yards from the starting flag, lining up with the starting flag and the next flag. The Tracklayer will pause momentarily at the first flag, drop the first article and continue walking the track as specified in Chapter 2, Section 10.

#### **Section 5.5 Cross-tracks for the TDX Track**

On instructions from the Judges, two (2) Cross-tracklayers will lay the plotted cross-tracks at least 1 hour and 15 minutes, but not later than 1 hour and 45 minutes after the Tracklayer has started laying the actual Test Track.

The Cross-tracklayers shall walk side by side, about four (4) feet apart, and will follow each of the two (2) cross-tracks which were staked out with flags a day or more earlier, collecting all of the Cross-track flags along the way.

The following restrictions and minimum requirements apply to all cross-tracks:

- 1) The track shall be crossed at two (2) widely separated places, never on the same leg or on the first leg.
- 2) The cross-tracks are to be located so as to be in full view of the Judges when following the track.
- 3) The actual track should be crossed at an angle of approximately 90 degrees.
- 4) The cross-tracks shall be more than 30 yards from an article or an obstacle, and more than 50 yards from a turn.
- 5) The cross-tracks shall be plotted so as to permit the dog to follow the cross track without the interference of a physical barrier or a scenting distraction.
- 6) The cross-track may not be within 75 yards of the start of the track and must not be closer than 50 yards to any other part of the track, except when they cross the track.
- 7) After the last crossing of the track, the Cross-tracklayers shall proceed straight ahead for at least 50 yards.
- 8) The cross-track may not be within 75 yards of any other track.

In a Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test a dog that follows a cross-track for more than 50 yards shall be marked failed.

#### **Section 5.5a Cross-tracks Flags**

The Cross-track flags or markers are to be distinctly different from the flags or markers used on the actual Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test track.

#### **Section 5.6 Obstacles for the TDX Track**

There shall be at least two (2) obstacles to challenge the dog and handler.

Obstacles are to be separated from articles and cross-tracks by more than 30 yards.

A turn may be within 30 yards of an obstacle. There shall be no obstacle on the first leg.

The purpose of an obstacle is to test one or more of the following:

- a) The dog's ability to adapt to changing scent conditions.
- b) The dog's ability to continue scenting while overcoming physical obstacles.
- c) The dog's ability to continue scenting under difficult and varied handling conditions.

Various types of terrain and cover, including gullies, plowed land, woods and vegetation may be used.

Natural obstacles such as streams or man-made obstacles such as fences, bridges or lightly traveled roads may be used.

The Official Chart/map must clearly indicate the obstacles used in the Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test.

### **Section 5.7 Articles for the TDX Track**

The criteria for articles as contained in Chapter 2, Section 6 shall apply.

The Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test articles shall consist of four (4) personal, dissimilar articles, about the same size as a glove or wallet, that are to be dropped on the track by the Tracklayer at the points indicated on the Judges' charts.

Only the last article may be a glove or a wallet.

The first article shall be dropped at the starting flag and be clearly visible to the handler.

The next two (2) articles shall be dropped at wide intervals directly on the track.\*\*\*\*\*

The articles shall be designated by the Judge(s) and marked on their Official Chart/map.

The fourth article shall be dropped at the end of the track.

Articles shall be dropped more than 30 yards from a turn, an obstacle, or a cross-track.

### **Section 5.8 Start of the TDX Track**

The start shall have one flag in an area that permits the direction of the track to begin in a radius of 180 degrees.

The Judges, at a distance of about 50 yards from the starting flag, will instruct the handler as to the location of the starting flag; but will not indicate the direction of the track.

The angle between the handler's approach and the Tracklayer's direction of approach shall be less than 90 degrees.

No two handlers shall approach the starting flags at the same angle.

At the start of the track, the dog is to be given ample time to take the scent and to begin tracking.

The handler may use any method as long as no force, guidance or roughness is used to start the dog at the first flag of the test. Since there is no second flag in this test, the handler must wait for the dog to commit itself before leaving the starting flag.

Once the handler has left the starting flag the test has begun and no restart is permitted.

The handler may pick up the article at the starting flag and use it, as well as subsequent articles, to give scent to the dog while on the track.

## **Section 5.9 Aiding of the Dog on the TDX Track**

The handler may physically assist the dog when obstacles, barriers or terrain so require.

## **Section 5.10 Judge's Books for the TDX**

The Judge's Official Charts should be marked, one by each Judge as in a TD and include the following additional information:

- a) The time the Cross-tracklayer started.
- b) The location and description of the articles used.
- c) The location and description of the obstacles used.
- d) The location and direction of the cross-tracks.

## **Appendix A: Guidelines for Tracking Tests**

Tracking is a sport in the truest sense. The dog works for the sheer love of scenting. The tracking fraternity is known for its friendliness, hospitality, and encouragement of all participants.

Tracking Judges are members of a very select group. Judges are expected to maintain the high standards that have been set for the handlers of the titles "TD", "TDU", and "TDX". At the same time, a Judge should endeavor to make the Tracking Test itself a pleasurable event for dogs, handlers, spectators, and the club sponsoring the test. Adherence to the principles provided in the Tracking regulations and Guidelines will enable Judges to achieve these goals.

### **Section A.1 Assignments**

A tracking assignment entails a two (2) day commitment by the Judges. Acceptance of an assignment presumes that if the Tracking Test is on a Saturday, the Judges will be available to plot tracks the day before. Similarly, a Sunday Tracking Test will involve the Judges for both days of that weekend. No Judge should accept an assignment, which requires more in one day than he, or she is physically and mentally able to accomplish. Tracking Judges who judge at Events with combined venues that include tracking may compete at other venues at that event once their tracking judging assignments have been completed.

### **Section A.2 Assignment Limitation**

There are no restrictions regarding time or distance for Tracking Test assignments other than the Judge's availability to satisfactorily carry out the responsibilities of plotting and judging.

A Provisional TD Tracking Test Judge must judge at least twice before petitioning the Board to be moved into Regular TD status. At each assignment, the Co-judge must make a written report of the Provisional Judge's performance. A copy of this report should be sent to the ASCA Office with relevant paperwork and another copy should be given to the Provisional to submit with their Application for Regular Status. No Tracking Test may be judged by two (2) Provisional Judges. **NO PROVISIONAL JUDGE MAY JUDGE AT AN ASCA NATIONAL TRACKING TEST.** Effective 6-1-10

A Provisional Tracking Test Judge is required to judge his or her provisional assignments with at least three (3) different approved Tracking Test Judges, not one of which can be a member of the Provisional Judge's family or immediate household. No Tracking test may be judged by two (2) Provisional Judges.

### **Section A.3 Physical Fitness**

A Tracking Test entails two (2) days of extensive walking over varied terrain.

Tracking Judges must be physically fit. No Judge should accept an assignment with the assumption that the Co-judge will do the lion's share of the physical work.

When persons are not capable of carrying out the responsibility of a Tracking Judge because of physical difficulties, they do themselves and the sport a disservice by continuing to accept assignments.

#### **Section A.4 Attire**

Tracking Tests are outdoor events and subject to all varieties of weather. Tracking Judges should be prepared with suitable outdoor gear for inclement conditions.

#### **Section A.5 Weather**

In the event of an "unforeseen emergency" (severe weather or lightning could be considered in this category), a Tracking Test may be postponed. Judges and the Tracking Test Secretary must consider the difficulty such a postponement would pose for the entrants who may have traveled great distances to the event. Postponement could pose problems for the Host Affiliate Club as well as for the Judges.

A normal rainstorm is not considered sufficient justification to delay a track or conducting a Tracking Test. A sudden torrential cloudburst or lightning could be justification for a retest on another track if the scent of the original track, in both Judges' opinions, was completely washed out. Similarly, a cloudburst could delay laying a track.

#### **Section A.7 Use of Tracking Area**

The most frequent problem confronting Tracking Judges is the underestimation, by Host Affiliate Clubs, of the space required for an ASCA Regulation Track. Judges must resist any pressure to accept too small an area. The statement "We handled 'x' number of tracks in this one field last year" should not influence the Judges. At the same time, valuable tracking space should not be wasted, and Judges must make every effort to utilize all the terrain available to its best possible advantage.

If the Judges determine that the safety of the handler and dog, or the performance of the dog will be affected on unsuitable grounds, the Judges must give each entrant the option of withdrawing his or her entry. If the entrant chooses not to run the track under these circumstances, the club shall refund the entry fee.

A complete report of unsuitable grounds or lack of sufficient areas in which to plot the tracks shall be made to ASCA by the Judges in the Judge's Books.

#### **Section A.8 Club Responsibilities**

It is the responsibility of each Host Affiliate Club to furnish the following:

- 1) Transportation for the Judges to and from the tracking area.
- 2) A more than adequate supply of tracking flags of sufficient height so as to be readily visible to Tracklayers in the existing ground cover. There should be different colored flags for the successive numbered tracks and cross-tracks so as to eliminate any possibility of error. More than one mallet should be available to drive flags firmly into the ground.
- 3) Adequate manpower to assist the Judges.
- 4) A tracking area that can easily accommodate the number of entries in the test. The area must also meet the requirements of the Regulations as to terrain.
- 5) Articles that meet the requirements of the Tracking Regulations.
- 6) Judge's Books.
- 7) A map of the Tracking area.

If there are any questions concerning the sufficiency of land to handle the entry, or of suitability as to terrain, the Judges should conduct an overall survey of the tracking area before plotting.

### **Section A.9 Length of Stride**

Each Tracking Judge should determine the length of his or her stride, walking normally. A Judge should be able to easily convert each step into yards or parts of a yard. A Judge should check the length of his or her stride as a part of the preparation for plotting tracks.

### **Section A.10 Handler's Responsibility**

Handlers have the responsibility to train and prepare the dog for a variety of terrain and conditions that may be encountered in a Tracking Test. It is essential for handlers to realize that obstacles are an important characteristic of the Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX) Test and that dogs need training to work through obstacles of varying difficulty.

### **Section A.11 Position of the Judges During the Tracking Test**

While it is possible to see an entire track from a single vantage point, it is virtually impossible to evaluate a marginal or failing performance from this same single or stationary point. It is also unfair to dogs and their handlers. Distance can play tricks with the precise location of turns. Anyone can pass a dog that unhesitatingly executes every turn and, nose down, tracks perfectly and finds the articles. Judges are needed for the evaluation of imperfect performances.

To ensure that the dog and handler are on the track, it is essential that the Judges follow the dog and handler at a discreet distance. A recommended position for evaluating the performance is on the leg of the track just completed. In the case of a very long leg, a position about 40 to 50 yards behind the handler works well. If the handler and dog cannot be observed, due to terrain or dense vegetation, the Judges may move closer to observe the handler and dog.

The Judges should confine their position to a completed portion of the track. By walking into a still unused part of the field, the Judges show the handler that a track cannot go into this area. Also, Judges who move only when the dog is moving in the correct direction may indicate the direction of the track to the handler.

### **Section A.12 Evaluation of the Tracking Performance**

The position of the handler relative to the track and the action of the dog is the key to the Judges' overall evaluation. If the handler is on the track or at a turn and the dog is working, but has not given a positive indication to the handler to move, the Judges should wait for the handler to commit himself to a direction. On the other hand, if the handler has been led off the track by the dog, and the dog is casting widely, trying to find a scent that is nonexistent in this area, the dog and handler may be called off the track. It is generally a good practice to let the dog and handler travel an adequate distance away from the track before failing the performance. However, care must be taken so that the dog does not encounter another leg of the same track in an adjacent field. The timing for calling the dog and handler off the track is all important. There must be no question in either Judge's mind. For this reason, it is recommended that the Judges be in close proximity and communication with each other. This does not mean that there should be ongoing dialogue between the Judges; only that consultation should be easy.

### **Section A.13 Judges Qualifications**

Tracking Judges must be familiar with the various conditions that exist when a dog is required to work a scent trail. Scent conditions, weather, terrain, ground cover, wind direction and age of scent, must be considered.

A thorough knowledge of these factors is necessary. In addition, the TDX Judge must be experienced in advanced tracking and familiar with how types of obstacles and cross-tracks affect a dog's work.

#### **Section A.14 TD/TDU Official Chart/map Information**

- 1) 30 yards between the two (2) starting flags.
- 2) At least 30 yards beyond the second starting flag to the first turn.
- 3) Legs must never be less than 50 yards in length.
- 4) The Tracklayer proceeds straight ahead for at least 30 yards after dropping the final article.
- 5) Indicate dog's path with a dash line (may use Red Marker).
- 6) Circle distances between turns.
- 7) Must have both right and left-handed turns: at least two (2) right angle turns well out in the open.
- 8) Must show landmarks, telephone poles, rocks, trees and any other objects that are easily identifiable, may be used to identify turns as well.
- 9) Direction of the wind (if any) at the start flag.
- 10) First article at the starting flag, may or may not be picked up by the handler

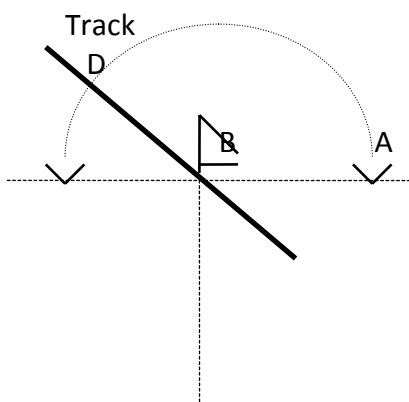
#### **Section A.15 TDX Official Chart/map Information**

- 1) 180 degree arc possible for start at start flag.
- 2) 30 yards straight approach to start flag for Tracklayer.
- 3) Handler and dog approach at less than 90 degrees to direction of the Tracklayer (first leg)
- 4) First article at the starting flag may or may not be picked up by the handler.
- 5) On the first leg -- there will be NO obstacle, cross-track or another article.
- 6) No legs shall be less that 50 yards in length or come within 75 yards of another track.
- 7) There shall be at least 5 to 7 turns and shall be both right turns and left turns. At least 3 of these turns shall be 90-degree angles.
- 8) The remaining articles will be dropped along and on the track as indicated by the Judges and at least 30 yards from a turn, cross-track, or an obstacle.
- 9) Cross -tracks shall be at least 50 yards from a turn.
- 10) Indicate direction of the cross-track.

Other items the same as listed in Section 13 TD/TDU Official Charts/Maps.

#### **Section A.16 One Way to Plot a TDX Start**

- 1) Judges determined an arc of 180 degrees. It should be possible for the track to go in any direction in this arc.
- 2) Judges put in the starting flag.
- 3) Judges set the path of handler and dog's approach perpendicular to the arc.
- 4) Judges determine the direction of the track.
- 5) Judges make sure the tracklayer approaches the starting flag straight along the direction of the track for at least 30 yards.



## E

## C

### **Section A.17 General comments for all Official Charts/Maps**

- 1) Angles on the Judge's Chart/map should be approximately the same as the angles on the track.
- 2) The lengths of the legs should be approximately proportional to the legs of the track.
- 3) Keep copies of charts and field notes for at least six (6) months. Judge's Chart/map should have sufficient details so that with the help of field notes the track could be reconstructed.
- 4) Use a pen to make the Judge's Chart/map.
- 5) Make sure copies are clear.

### **Appendix B: Judge Approval**

#### **B1**

Judges in good standing with the following organizations may judge ASCA Tests after they complete and send a Qualification Form (see Appendix D) to the ASCA Office, provided they are in good standing with ASCA:

- 1) Schutzhund Judges approved to judge through Schutzhund III.
- 2) Canadian Kennel Club Tracking Judges.
- 3) American Kennel Club Tracking Judges.

#### **B2**

Applicants who wish to apply to become an ASCA Tracking Judge, without affiliations other than ASCA, should fill out the Qualification Form, (See Appendix D), and send it to the ASCA Office.

It will be forwarded to the Tracking Committee for review. If approved, these applicants will become Provisional Judges for a minimum of two assignments per level. After the Provisional Judge's assignments are completed, the applicant can petition the Board to be moved to regular status by sending the Board the copies of the Co-judge reviews. Their names will be published in the Times and the ASCA Board of Directors will vote on their status.

### **Appendix C: Code of Ethics and Guidelines for Tracking Judges**

Judges shall be professional in their demeanor. They carry a tremendous responsibility. They function as a voice for ASCA and should represent the highest ideals in terms of honesty and integrity. A Judge's actions must be above reproach.

It is essential that all exhibitors have complete faith in the impartiality of the Judge.

The safety and concern of the dog and handler shall be of the foremost concern in the design of tracks.

**Judges should be ever mindful that ASCA Tracking Tests are staffed largely or entirely by unpaid volunteers, and shall treat tracklayers, the Tracking Test Secretary, and other test personnel with courtesy and consideration.**

#### **Conduct:**

- 1) Although a Judge cannot control who enters under him/her, the Judge should advise potential exhibitors no to enter under him/her when he/she feels that there is a conflict of interest, to avoid improprieties or perceived improprieties.

Examples are:

- a. An employer
- b. A relative
- c. A person living in the same household.

- 2) When officiating at a Tracking Test:

- a. A Judge shall not judge any dog that is co-owned or bred by the Judge.
- b. A Judge shall not place him/herself in positions on the track so as to indicate the correct direction of the track, nor place markers or articles so as to clearly indicate corners.
- c. A Judge shall not run his/her dog in the Tracking Test. If judging combined Tracking Tests, the Judge may not exhibit in that portion of the Test in which he/she is not judging.
- d. A Judge should avoid casual remarks that may be misinterpreted as favoritism or criticism.
- e. A Judge, or their family, should never solicit or promote assignments on the Judge's behalf.

*Failure to comply with these Guidelines/Code of Ethics subjects a Judge to possible disciplinary action by the ASCA Board of Directors, including the possible revocation of ASCA judging privileges. Judges will be notified if such action is being considered, the reason it is being considered, and given the opportunity to reply.*

### **Outside Registry Judges**

Judging an ASCA Tracking Test is a privilege not a right. Approval to judge Tracking Tests for other organizations is not a guarantee of approval to judge an ASCA Tracking Test. Judges must follow ASCA Tracking Regulations and adhere to ASCA's Code of Ethics. Any documented failure to perform on this level may result in the revocation of judging privileges by the ASCA Board of Directors without regard to any other qualifications or for former service.

### **Appendix D: ASCA DOG BITE POLICY**

- 1) A Judge shall disqualify any dog that attempts to attack any person in the ring/trial/test arena, as determined by the Judge. The Judge shall excuse a dog that attacks another dog or appears to the Judge to be threatening other dogs in the ring/trial/test arena. The Judge shall mark the dog "disqualified" or "excused" in accordance with this Rule, shall state the reason in their Judge's Book or score sheet, and shall give the Show/Trial/Test Secretary a brief report of the dog's actions using the Disqualified or Excused Dog Form, which shall be submitted to ASCA with the report of the show/trial/test. The entry form for any disqualified or excused dogs must be submitted with the show/trial/test results. Any dog which has been excused on two (2) occasions pursuant to this rule shall be disqualified to compete in any subsequent ASCA Event unless and until it is reinstated by the Board of Directors. Notice of disqualification will be sent to the owner by the ASCA Office after review by the ASCA Board of Directors.
- 2) A dog that, in the opinion of the Judge, menaces, threatens or exhibits any sign that it may not be safely approached or examined by the Judge in the normal manner may be excused from the show/trial/test arena and be subject to this rule.
- 3) The Affiliate or its Show/Trial/Test Committee must perform an investigation of any incident where a dog has bitten either a person or another dog, whether it occurred in the ring or merely upon the show/trial/test grounds. The report, entry forms, and findings shall be forwarded to the Executive Secretary by the ASCA Office. If the dog was not disqualified, the report shall explain why not.
- 4) The reports of the Affiliate and Judge shall be forwarded by the Executive Secretary to the Board of Directors and to ASCA's General Counsel.
- 5) ASCA's Counsel shall review the reports and make recommendations to the Board.
- 6) If the dog was excused, the Board of Directors will take such action, if any, as it deems appropriate with respect to allowing the dog to continue to compete.

- 7) If the dog was disqualified, the dog shall be ineligible to participate in any ASCA Event in any discipline, unless and until such dog is approved for further competition and reinstated by the Board of Directors.



# Australian Shepherd Club of America®

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## TRACKING JUDGE QUALIFICATION FORM

Please mail a copy of this application with any required attachments to the Business Office.

### **Part One**

#### **Applicant Information (\*All Applicants must fill out this section)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ ASCA® Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ (If applicable)

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish your email to be listed on the ASCA® Tracking Judge's list?  Yes  No

Note: Applicants who satisfy the criteria for TD and TDX judging may apply concurrently for both test levels.

If you are an approved Tracking Judge with the AKC, the CKC or a Schutzhund Club approved to judge SCH III and if you wish to have your affiliation listed on the ASCA® Tracking Judges list, please skip to Part Three.

### **Part Two**

**Applicants who wish to become an ASCA® Tracking Judge and who have no tracking judging affiliation with other tracking titling organization; and/or, do not wish to have an affiliation with another tracking titling organization listed on the ASCA® Tracking Judges' list, please fill out Part Two and Part Four.**

Applicants in this category will be considered Provisional Judges until they have completed the minimum two judging assignments and have applied in writing for Regular status. Note: All Regular co-judges are required to submit performance review forms for any Provisional Judge with whom they have an assignment.

Please indicate which level you are applying to judge:  TD  TDU  TDX

Do you currently have an ASCA® Judge's number?  Yes  No If yes, what is your number \_\_\_\_\_

#### **For TD Applicants**

1) Please list ALL the TD Tracking titles you have earned by breed, registered name of dog, organization, type of title, and date. (Minimum requirement is ONE tracking dog title.)

\_\_\_\_\_

2) How often have you served as a tracklayer at a tracking test? (Minimum requirement is FIVE times.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Please list the name of the Clubs and dates of the tracking tests:

\_\_\_\_\_

If your experience is with other than ASCA Clubs, with which tracking titling organization is the club affiliated? \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province/Country \_\_\_\_\_

Date and place of test/match \_\_\_\_\_

Type of track \_\_\_\_\_

3) How long have you been involved in tracking? (Minimum requirement is THREE years)

\_\_\_\_\_

4) Have you apprenticed at a Tracking Test or a Tracking Match? Yes No

(Suggested, but not required, minimum is ONE time.) If yes, please list by date and location the test(s) or match(es) where you apprenticed and the names of the Judges who officiated at the event.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**For TDU Applicants**

1) Please list ALL the TD Tracking titles you have earned by breed, registered name of dog, organization, type of title, and date. (Minimum requirement is ONE tracking dog title.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2) How often have you served as a tracklayer at a tracking test? (Minimum requirement is FIVE times.)

\_\_\_\_\_

Please list the name of the Clubs and dates of the tracking tests:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If your experience is with other than an ASCA Clubs, with which tracking titling organizations is the Club affiliated? \_\_\_\_\_

State/Province/Country \_\_\_\_\_

Date and place of test/match \_\_\_\_\_

Type of track \_\_\_\_\_

3) How long have you been involved in tracking? (Minimum requirement is THREE years) \_\_\_\_\_

4) Have you apprenticed at a Tracking Test or a Tracking Match? Yes No

(Suggested, but not required, minimum is ONE time.) If yes, please list by date and location the test(s) or match(es) where you apprenticed and the names of the Judges who officiated at the event.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**For TDX Applicants**

1) Please list ALL the TDX Tracking titles you have earned by breed, registered name of dog, organization, type of title and date.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(\*Suggested minimum is ONE TDX title. If the candidate does not have a TDX title, the breadth of any other tracking experience will be considered in lieu of the title alone.)

2) Please list your provisional TD assignments and other TD assignments if applicable:

Club \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete the following:

a) Have you served as Test Secretary at a Tracking Test? Yes No

Date and location \_\_\_\_\_

b) Have you served as any of the following:

Chief tracklayer: No Yes      Cross-track layer: No Yes      Test chair: No Yes

Date(s) and location(s) \_\_\_\_\_

c) Have you trained others to track? Yes No

If yes, please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list on another page any other tracking history you feel may help qualify you as a Tracking Judge (also see 4 below).

Please include with this application: (Note: Requirements may be waived if the applicant has sufficient experience.)

1. Your resume
2. 3 copies of your own completed maps of tracks that you have laid at a tracking event. Each map must be signed and dated by both judges.
3. 2 written recommendations from experienced tracking people or tracking judges.
4. Please add a paragraph listing any other tracking experience you feel may help qualify you as a Tracking Judge.

### **Part Three**

**Judges who are approved to judge for one or more of the following tracking titling organizations and who wish to have their affiliation listed on the ASCA® Tracking Judges' list, please fill out Part Three and Part Four.**

Please indicate ALL other organizations and levels for which you are approved to judge tracking. Also indicate if you are a Provisional judge.

a) American Kennel Club, level(s): No Yes Level \_\_\_\_\_ Judge Number \_\_\_\_\_

b) Canadian Kennel Club, level(s): No Yes Level \_\_\_\_\_ Judge Number \_\_\_\_\_

c) Schutzhund, level(s): No Yes Level \_\_\_\_\_ Judge Number \_\_\_\_\_

d) Please list the date, location and sponsoring Club for your last two assignments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please list the name and contact information for either the co-judge or secretary for the above tests

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

e.) Are you an ASCA® Member: No Yes      Membership No. \_\_\_\_\_

Check the events you are applying to judge: TD TDU TDX

#### **Part Four**

**All applicants: Please read the following carefully, then sign and date below.**

- 1 Judges affiliated with approved outside tracking titling organizations will have their applications processed at the office. The office will send the Committee the names of these applicants.
- 2 New, unaffiliated, Tracking Judge applications will be reviewed by the Tracking Committee, and the Committee will send recommendations to the ASCA Board for approval. (Note: The Regular co-judge at each assignment will be required to submit a written review to the ASCA Tracking Committee regarding a Provisional Judge's performance. The Committee reserves the right to send a representative of the Committee to review a Provisional Judge at any test.)
- 3 Applicants who meet with Board approval will be on Provisional status for TD and/or TDX until they have completed the minimum 2 tracking judging assignments at each level. Once a Provisional Judge has met the assignments requirement, he or she may petition the ASCA Board, in writing, to change from Provisional to Regular status for TD and/or TDX. When the Board is petitioned to move a judge to regular status, the name will be published in the Aussie Times for each level. The Board will move to approve or decline an applicant thirty days after publication.
- 4 Judging an ASCA Sanctioned Event is an honor and a privilege, not a right. While applicants must satisfy ASCA's stated minimal eligibility requirement to become an approved Tracking Judge, merely satisfying the requirements does not entitle an applicant to become or remain an ASCA Judge once approved. It is expected all ASCA Judges must consistently display the highest level of ethical and professional conduct, impartial demeanor and dedication to upholding ASCA's codes, rules, decisions, and the Statement of Purpose in ASCA's Bylaws. Any documented failure to perform may result in a denial of Application or revocation of judging privileges by ASCA's Board of Directors without regard to any other qualification or prior service.
- 5 I have read and understand the current ASCA Tracking Rules and Regulations and accept all Judges' responsibilities described in the above documents.
- 6 I also understand although I meet the minimum requirements of an ASCA Provisional Tracking Judge there could be other factors or circumstances causing my application to be denied. I further understand if my application is denied, I will receive a letter from ASCA explaining the reasons for the denial. If my application is denied, I realize I must wait (2) years before I can reapply for admission to ASCA's Tracking Judge program.
- 7 I hereby hold harmless ASCA's Directors, officers, employees and the ASCA Tracking Committee members from any liability, causes of actions, and damages I may incur as a result of the processing and investigating related to this application. I further certify by affixing my name to this application all of the information I have supplied in, or attached to this document is true and correct in all aspects.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Part Five**

**For Provisional judges wishing to move into regular status.**

Please submit Part Five and Part One of this application, along with the name of the Clubs, the dates of the tests where you completed your provisional assignments and the reviews written by the co-judge at each provisional assignment, to the Executive Secretary of the Board of Directors.

(Note: Names of applicants petitioning the Board for Regular status will be published in the Aussie Times® prior to a decision by the Board.)

Provisional judges may choose to judge MORE than 2 assignments before requesting to move out of Provisional status to Regular status.

I have met the minimal requirements and request to be moved from Provisional to Regular status for the following test level(s):    TD   TDU   TDX

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Effective 6/2007

**Appendix F. The Conduct Evaluation of a Provisional Judge**

The ASCA Office will mail 2 copies of the Conduct Evaluation of a Provisional Tracking Judge with any Sanctioning Packet to any Tracking Test at which a Provisional Judge has an assignment. One copy of the following form will go to the ASCA Office and one copy will be kept by the Provisional to be submitted when making application to the Board for regular status.



**Australian Shepherd Club of America®**

6091 E State Hwy 21      www.asca.org      P: (979) 778-1082  
Bryan, TX77808      stockdog@asca.org      F: (979) 778-1898

**CONDUCT EVALUATION OF A PROVISIONAL TRACKING JUDGE**

In the interest of the ASCA Judging Program, the Tracking Committee would like the Co-judge's evaluation of the conduct and performance of any Provisional Judge who judges with them at your Sanctioned Event. (All provisional judges must serve 2 assignments in provisional status and be evaluated by their co-judge.)

**All ASCA Approved Judges represent our Club and our Breed**

**This form must be completed and returned with the Tracking Test results packet, and another copy of this form must be given to the Provisional judge.**

NAME OF AFFILIATE CLUB \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF TEST \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PROVISIONAL TRACKING JUDGE SERVING AT THE TEST

\_\_\_\_\_

CO- JUDGE COMMENTS

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If more room is needed, please attach another page.

Appendix G: Sanctioning Request Form



**AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA**®

6091 E State Hwy 21  
Bryan, TX 77808  
www.asca.org

P: (979) 778-1082  
F: (979) 778-1898  
stockdog@asca.org

SHOW OFFICE USE ONLY	
SANC #	_____
MAILED	_____
CHECK #	_____
AMOUNT	_____
PM DATE	_____

**Tracking Test Sanction Request**

**SANCTION FEE: \$25.00 PER EVENT, PER DAY MAILED IN WITH REQUEST.**

**LATE FEE: \$25.00 PER DAY UP TO 3 DAYS PAST THE 45-DAY DEADLINE  
\$50.00 PER DAY THEREAFTER**

AYS

**\*NOTE: MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LESS THAN 45 DAYS PRIOR TO SHOW DATE\***

**A SHOW PREMIUM MUST BE SENT WITH THIS REQUEST**

**PLEASE USE SEPARATE FORMS FOR EACH TEST**

TEST DATE \_\_\_\_\_ HOST CLUB \_\_\_\_\_

TEST LOCATION (City & State) \_\_\_\_\_

TEST SECRETARY: \_\_\_\_\_ ASCA MEMBER #: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and phone # of person who hired the judges \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of person receiving entries \_\_\_\_\_

Tests Offered:

TD No. of Tracks \_\_\_\_\_  TDU No. of Tracks \_\_\_\_\_  TDX No. of Tracks \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRIES ACCEPTED:  Aussies  All Breeds \*Other Breeds and mixed Breeds must have an ASCA Tracking Number to compete

Date Entries Open: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Entries Close: \_\_\_\_\_

Draw for Entries: Date \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Day of test "Draw for track number" Location \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

JUDGE: \_\_\_\_\_ ASSIGNMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

ASCA Judge #: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

JUDGE: \_\_\_\_\_ ASSIGNMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

ASCA Judge #: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

If there will be an Apprentice Judge:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ASSIGNMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

ASCA Judge #: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**SHOW COORDINATOR'S AGREEMENT:** The undersigned, being the duly authorized Show Coordinator to sanction events for \_\_\_\_\_ a Member Affiliate Club of the AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA® (Affiliate Club hereinafter referred to as member club), hereby agrees on behalf of him/herself and the Member Club to conduct the above required show/trial in accordance with the following standards of THE AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA® Show Rules and Regulations, Obedience Rules, and Tracking Rules. The undersigned, on behalf of him/herself, agrees to be bound by each and every provision of those rules, including, but not limited to, those rules governing the conduct of the show, the judging, the recording of entries and results, and the penalties for failure to comply with such rules, as outlined in the By-laws of the AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA®. The undersigned further represents that he/she and the Member Club is in possession of a current, approved copy of the above referenced Rules and Regulations, and acknowledges failure to comply will result in disciplinary action as outlined in THE AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA® By-laws.

**SIGNATURE OF SHOW COORDINATOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PRINTED NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **MEMBERSHIP #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**★ CREDIT CARD INFO ★**

## Appendix H:

This is a **SAMPLE PREMIUM**

---

<http://www.clubemail.org>

ASCA sanction pending

Sunday November 2, 2008

### **INFIELD Australian Shepherd Club Tracking Test**

**Premium (TD/TDU/TDX)**

**Hosted By:Your Club Name Here**

**Test site Name Here**

**Test site address**

**ENTRIES LIMITED to 2 TD, 2 TDU, 2 TDX**

Open to all breeds.

When drawing for TD entries, priority will be given to ASCA registered Australian Shepherds that do not have a Tracking Dog title. When drawing for TDX entries, priority will be given to ASCA registered Australian Shepherds that do not have a Tracking Dog Excellent title.

(Note: if the entry number is exceeded in one test, and not made in the other test, tracks may be exchanged to accommodate the entry, provided the lands are available for the exchange.)

**ENTRIES CLOSE at 3:00 P.M. Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2008**, after which entries cannot be accepted, canceled, altered or substituted except as specified herein. (SEE NOTICE TO EXHIBITORS UNDER WITHDRAWALS)

**(All TD entries MUST be accompanied by either a Certification slip OR a copy of an equivalent title.)**

**Judges:** Happy Horrace, Street address and state  
Simple Samantha, Next Door, Hometown

**Test Secretary:** **Watt Wuzlthinking**, 555-123-7890 or [catchme@home.com](mailto:catchme@home.com), 5 Prarie Ave., Walla Walla, Wisconsin, 22212.  
(Cell number on the premium is up to the discretion of the secretary.)

**Test Chairperson:** **Watt Wuzlthinking**, (If different than above, please add address, phone number, and email address.)

**Tracking Test Committee:** **Ally in Free, Allen in Free, U. Betty Cha**

**Tracklayers:** **Chief Tracklayer.** Mr. Tag Yurit

**ENTRY FEE** For the TD \_\_\_\_\_ (ALL fees and details of payment are up to your club.)

ENTRY FEE For the TDU \_\_\_\_\_ ENTRY FEE FOR THE TDX \_\_\_\_\_

Entry fees must be paid in US funds.

Make checks payable to YOUR Australian Shepherd Club, and mail them with entry to:

**Watt Wuzlthinking**, 5 Prarie Ave., Walla Walla, Wisconsin, 22212.

Please, NO CASH OR CREDIT CARDS.

The drawings for entries and alternates for slots in the test will be conducted in accordance with Chapter 1, Section 18 of the ASCA Tracking Rules and Regulations.

TD entries will be drawn first. TDU entries will be drawn second. TDX entries will be drawn third..

You may also contact the Test Secretary by phone on Thursday, Oct. 23 between 7pm and 9 pm Central Time Zone. The draw for Entry in the Test is open to all interested. This draw will be held at 8 AM, Wednesday, Oct. 22. At the meeting of YOUR Australian Shepherd Club, held at the Good Shepherd Hall on Sheep Street in Walla Walla. Contact the Test Secretary for Directions to the meeting.

The drawing will determine which entries will participate. It will be completely at random among all entries except Australian Shepherds without tracking titles will be drawn first, then other breeds without tracking titles, then Titled TD Aussies, then other breeds with an ASCA Tracking title. When the advertised limit of entries has been drawn, all remaining entries will be subject to the same preferences set forth above in the draw for position on the alternate list corresponding to the order in which they were drawn.

You will be notified within 48 hours whether or not you have a spot in the test. Please specify if you would like to be notified by phone, email, or post. Formal notification of the draw will be made by mail with the Judging Program. You may also contact the Test Secretary by phone on Thursday, Oct. 23 between 7pm and 9 pm Standard Time for the results.

**WITHDRAWALS:** Withdrawals must be made in writing to the test secretary. Withdrawals cannot be accepted if the test does not fill. Notification of withdrawal must be made 48 hours prior to the test in order to secure an entrant to take your place. Alternates will take the place of withdrawals in the numerical order in which they were drawn. If an alternate can take your place, your entry fee will be refunded. If there are no alternates, your entry fee will not be refunded.

Contact the test secretary:

Refunds will be made within the week following the test by mail.

**As required by Chapter 3, Section 2, of the ASCA Tracking Rules and Regulations, a written certification or the copy of a title from another registry which is the equivalent of a certification MUST accompany the TD entry for any dog that has not previously passed an ASCA Tracking Test/TD.**

**\*\*NON-ASCA REGISTERED DOGS:**

Beginning 1/1/2003 for non-ASCA registered dogs- In order to have ASCA qualifying legs tracked and to receive ASCA titling certificates, each non-ASCA registered dog will be required to have an ASCA Tracking Number. This is a one time fee of \$10/dog. At the time of applying for the tracking number, the individual owner must also be an ASCA member (minimum membership type of service is required). ASCA membership does not need to be maintained in subsequent years.

The ASCA Service Membership and Tracking Number form can be found here <http://www.asca.org/Forms/index.htm>

**BITCHES IN SEASON may participate in this event.**

The test is being held at a state park site. The speed limit is strictly maintained.

**AWARDS:** Your Australian Shepherd Club will offer a rosette and prize to all passing Tracking Dog and handler teams.

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** Dells Inn, 212-000-0000

**Hospitality: If you want to advertise it with your premium, if not, refer to the Judging Program.**

**DIRECTIONS:**

Take Pike to Exit 8. After toll turn LEFT on Route 2 North. Follow 2 North out of Palmer Turn right at intersection the park entrance is 1/2 mile, up big hill, on left. Look for sign on the big white house and barn.

ASCA Tracking Rules and Regulations are available online at <http://www.asca.org/Forms+and+Rule+Books>, under Tracking Number and Service Membership Application, or from the ASCA Business Office - 6091 E. State Hwy 21 Bryan, TX 77808

Entry forms are available online at <http://www.asca.org> (use the Tracking entry form under the tracking section.)

---

\_\_\_\_\_ **This is a SAMPLE JUDGING PROGRAM:** \_\_\_\_\_

**INFIELD Australian Shepherd Club Tracking Test Judging Program**

Your Catalog number is \_\_\_\_\_

**Hosted By: Your Club Name Here**

**Test site Name Here, Test site address**

**Tracking Test (TD/TDU/TDX)**

The drawing for the run order of the tracks on the day of the test shall take place at:

**9 AM, Sunday November 2, 2008**

Name the exact spot, and be specific with the directions on how to reach the location for the draw for tracks.

Please be prompt. Any person not present for the draw will forfeit his or her track to an alternate present at the time of the draw. Please remember the time change!

Numbers for TD Entrants: 1, 2

And For TDX: 1X, 2X

Numbers for Alternates: TD A1, A2

TDX A1X, A2X

(Note: There were no TDU entries.)

**Judges:** Happy Horrace, Street address a state.

Simple Samantha, Next Door, Hometown

**Test Secretary and Chair:** *Watt Wuzlthinking* , 555-123-7890 or [catchme@home.com](mailto:catchme@home.com)  
5 Prarie Ave., Walla Walla, Wisconsin, 22212.(Cell number on the premium is up to the discretion of the secretary.)

**Tracking Test Committee:** *Ally in Free, Allen in Free, U. Betty Cha*

**Tracklayers:** *Name the Bunch of Lost Souls* Chief Tracklayer. Mr. Tag Yurit

**Withdrawals:** Withdrawals must be made in writing to the test secretary. Withdrawals cannot be accepted if the test does not fill. Notification of withdrawals must be made in 48 hours prior to the test in order to secure an entrant to take your place. Alternates will take the place of withdrawals in the numerical order in which they were drawn. If an alternate can take your place, your entry fee will be refunded. If there are no alternates, your entry fee will not be refunded.

**Bitches in season** will run last and must be kept out of the tracking area prior to their track.

**(Note:** Put information here for parking fees or any other information such as state park stickers or rabies certificates that the entrants should know to be prepared for when arriving.)

**Directions:** This is how you find us...see the pretty MapQuest map I put in for you to visualize.

**Emergency Vet:** The place to help pets in case of injury

**Hospital:** The people vet if you feel you want to add

**Lodging:** All the hot spots that are cheap, close and hopefully allow pets and a few nice spending ones too. And don't forget those campers.**Hospitality:** **Put what you are going to offer on the day of the test here.**

ASCA Tracking Rules and Regulations are available online at <http://www.asca.org/Forms+and+Rule+Books>, under Tracking Number and Service Membership Application

---

**This is a SAMPLE CATALOGUE**

**INFIELD Australian Shepherd Club Tracking Test Catalogue**

**Hosted by:** *Your Club Name Here*

**Test site Name Here ,Test site address**

**Tracking Test (TD/TDU/TDX)**

"This show is held under ASCA® rules".

**Numbers for TD entrants are: 1,2**

**And for TDX are: 1X, 2X**

**Numbers for alternates are:**

**TD: A1, A2**

**TDX: A1X**

**Judges:** Happy Horrace, Street address a state.

Simple Samantha, Next Door, Hometown

**Test Secretary and Chair:** *Watt Wuzlthinking* 555-123-7890 or [catchme@home.com](mailto:catchme@home.com), 5 Prarie Ave., Walla Walla, Wisconsin, 22212. (Cell number on the premium is up to the discretion of the secretary.)

**Tracking Test Committee:** *Ally in Free, Allen in Free, U. Betty Cha*

**Tracklayers:** *Name the Bunch of Lost Souls* Chief Tracklayer. Mr. Tag Yurit

**Withdrawals:** Withdrawals must be made in writing to the test secretary. Withdrawals cannot be accepted if the test does not fill. Notification of withdrawals must be made 48 hours prior to the test in order to secure an entrant to take your place. Alternates will take the place of withdrawals in the numerical order in which they were drawn. If an alternate can take your place, your entry fee will be refunded. If there are no alternates, your entry fee will not be refunded.

**AWARDS:** A rosette and a prize will be handed out to all passing Tracking Dog handler teams.

There will be pictures taken and lunch served after the awards are given at the end of the test.

**Bitches in season** will run last and must be kept out of the tracking area prior to their track.

**(Note:** Put information here for parking fees or any other information that might be specific to the site like: speed limit, exit fees, areas where dogs can be exercised, if leashes are required, etc. )

**Directions:** This is how you find us...see the pretty mapquest map I put in for you to visualize.

**Emergency Vet:** The place to help pets in case of injury.      **Hospital:** The people vet.

**Catalogue**

**Track #**

**Drawn**

**And Run      Pass      Dog's**

**On test Day      Fail      Catalogue #**

TD Entrants in "Draw for Entry to the Test" Order

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      TD # 1      Flashy Blue Eyes

E1xxxx      04/17/03

Call Name: Blue      Bitch

*Fancy pants x Rockin and Rollin'*

*Breeder: Big shot ke      Owner: Happy Gal, 5 Glove St, Search City, Utah. 44569.*

*Certified by Judge Lil Bunch,*

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      TD # 2      Let the Sun Shine In

Nxxxx      02/01/05

Call Name: Sun      Bitch

*Big Coat x Working*

*Breeder: Bargain Basement*

*Owner: What did we do, Gofind Street, Overlook, Mo., 11111*

*Certified by Judge Big Wheel      08/10/06*

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      TDX#1      Somethin' Special TD

Exxxxx      11/19/01

Call Name: Bad Boy      Dog

*Up in Arms x Sidewinder*

*Breeder: Number 1*

*Owner: Hanna Housewife, 7 Trusturdog Rd.,*

*Whyfly, Fl., 000001*

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      TDX # 2      Mittens TD,

E1xxxx      08/07/00

Call Name: mits      Bitch

*All that Glitters x Boogie and the yo-yo's*

*Breeder: Star Shine Knls*

*Owner: Ziggy Moonshine. 2 Dmbluk Ave., Fairplay, NY, 11122.*

TDX Alternates

\_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      TDX #A      Roll over and Sing, TD      Exxxx      02/25/95

*Dust Mop CD x Sassy Pants*

*Breeder: Simple Folk*

*Owner: Ottis Alegator, Stayclear Ave., Gnawbone, Ind., 78772.*

## **Appendix I: Glossary**

### **Definition of Terms**

- 1) Immediate Family: Immediate family means husband, wife, father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law.
- 2) Registered Dogs: As used in these regulations, the term “dog” refers to either sex. All Australian Shepherds must have a registration number or an LEP number in order to compete in an ASCA sanctioned Tracking Test. Dogs must be 6 months or older in order to compete in a Tracking Test.

Tracking Tests need not be limited to Australian Shepherds only, with the exception of a SPECIALTY, and then it shall be for ASCA registered Australian Shepherds ONLY.

Other breeds entered in a Tracking Test sanction by ASCA Affiliate Clubs must abide by ASCA rules and regulations and have an “ASCA Tracking Number” in order to compete in an ASCA sanctioned Tracking Test.

- 3) Unregistered Dogs: At the discretion of the club, and it must be posted in the test premium, a dog will be allowed to compete in the test if the handler applies for an “ASCA Tracking Number” concurrently with the submission of their entry. The handler will be issued a receipt by the Tracking Test Secretary valid for (60) days to allow the ASCA office time to issue the tracking number.
- 4) The words “Australian Shepherd Club of America” may appear in these rules in an abbreviated form as “ASCA.”

The word “Club” is defined as an ASCA Affiliate in good standing.

- 5) The words “United States of America” wherever used in these rules and regulations shall be constructed to include all territories and possessions of the United States of America and all vessels sailing under the American Flag.
- 6) The word “dog” wherever used in these rules and regulations includes both sexes.
- 7) All entries must be made on the official ASCA Entry Form.
- 8) A “Specialty” Show is a show sanctioned by an ASCA Affiliate Club at which championship points will be given and which includes an Obedience and/or Working trial.
- 9) A “Member” Show is a show at which championship points may be awarded. Application for sanctioning of this type of show must be submitted by an ASCA Affiliate Club in good standing.

- 10) Immediate household to mean those residing within the residence.

## **Appendix J**

### AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD BREED STANDARD

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 15, 1977

**GENERAL APPEARANCE:** The Australian Shepherd is a well-balanced dog of medium size and bone. He is attentive and animated, showing strength and stamina combined with unusual agility. Slightly longer than tall, he has a coat of moderate length and coarseness with coloring that offers variety and individuality in each specimen. An identifying characteristic is his natural or docked bobtail. In each sex, masculinity or femininity is well defined.

**CHARACTER:** The Australian Shepherd is intelligent, primarily a working dog of strong herding and guardian instincts. He is an exceptional companion. He is versatile and easily trained, performing his assigned tasks with great style and enthusiasm. He is reserved with strangers but does not exhibit shyness. Although an aggressive, authoritative worker, viciousness toward people or animals is intolerable.

**HEAD:** Clean-cut, strong, dry and in proportion to the body. The top skull is flat to slightly rounded, its length and width each equal to the length of the muzzle which is in balance and proportioned to the rest of the head. The muzzle tapers slightly to a rounded tip. The stop is moderate but well-defined.

(A) **TEETH:** A full complement of strong, white teeth meet in a scissors bite. An even bite is a fault. Teeth broken or missing by accident are not penalized. Disqualifications: Undershot bites; overshot bites exceeding 1/8 inches.

(B) **EYES:** Very expressive, showing attentiveness and intelligence. Clear, almond-shaped, and of moderate size, set a little obliquely, neither prominent nor sunken, with pupils dark, well-defined and perfectly positioned. Color is brown, blue, amber, or any variation or combination including flecks and marbling.

(C) **EARS:** Set on high at the side of the head, triangular and slightly rounded at the tip, of moderate size with length measured by bringing the tip of the ear around to the inside corner of the eye. The ears, at full attention, break slightly forward and over from one-quarter (1/4) to one-half (1/2) above the base. Prick ears and hound type ears are severe faults.

**NECK AND BODY:** The neck is firm, clean and in proportion to the body. It is of medium length and slightly arched at the crest, setting well into the shoulders. The body is firm and muscular. The topline appears level at a natural four-square stance. The chest is deep and strong with ribs well-sprung. The loin is strong and broad when viewed from the top. The bottom line carries well back with a moderate tuck-up. The croup is moderately sloping, the ideal being thirty (30) degrees from the horizontal. Tail is straight, not to exceed four (4) inches, natural bobtail or docked.

**FOREQUARTERS:** The shoulder blades (scapula) are long and flat, close set at the withers, approximately two fingers width at a natural stance and are well laid back at an angle approximately forty-five (45) degrees to the ground. The upper arm (humerus) is attached at an approximate right angle to the shoulder line with forelegs dropping straight, perpendicular to the ground. The elbow joint is equidistant from the ground to the withers. The legs are straight and powerful. Pasterns are short, thick and strong, but still flexible, showing a slight angle when viewed from the side. Feet are

oval shaped, compact, with close-knit, well-arched toes. Pads are thick and resilient; nails short and strong. Dewclaws may be removed.

**HINDQUARTERS:** Width of hindquarters approximately equal to the width of the forequarters at the shoulders. The angulation of the pelvis and upper thigh (femur) corresponds to the angulation of the shoulder blade and upper arm forming an approximate right angle. Stifles are clearly defined, hock joints moderately bent. The metatarsi are short, perpendicular to the ground and parallel to each other when viewed from the rear. Feet are oval shaped, compact, with close-knit, well-arched toes. Pads are thick and resilient; nails short and strong. Rear dewclaws are removed.

**COAT:** Of medium texture, straight to slightly wavy, weather resistant, of moderate length with an undercoat. The quantity of undercoat varies with climate. Hair is short and smooth on the head, outside of ears, front of forelegs and below the hocks. Backs of forelegs are moderately feathered; breeches are moderately full. There is a moderate mane and frill, more pronounced in dogs than bitches. Non-typical coats are severe faults.

**COLOR:** All colors are strong, clear and rich. The recognized colors are blue merle, red (liver) merle, solid black, and solid red (liver) all with or without white markings and/or tan (copper) points with no order of preference. The blue merle and black have black pigmentation on nose, lips and eye-rims. Reds and red merles have liver pigmentation on nose, lips and eye rims. Butterfly nose should not be faulted under one year of age. On all colors the areas surrounding the ears and eyes are dominated by color other than white. The hairline of a white collar does not exceed the point at the withers.

**Disqualifications: Other than recognized colors. White body splashes. Dudley nose.**

**GAIT:** Smooth, free and easy; exhibiting agility of movement with a well-balanced, ground covering stride. Fore and hind legs move straight and parallel with the center line of the body; as speed increases, the feet, both front and rear, converge toward the center line of gravity of the dog, while the topline remains firm and level.

**SIZE:** Preferred height at the withers for males is 20 to 23 inches; that for females is 18 to 21 inches, however, quality is not to be sacrificed in favor of size.

**Other Disqualifications: Monorchidism and cryptorchidism.**





Catalog # 2

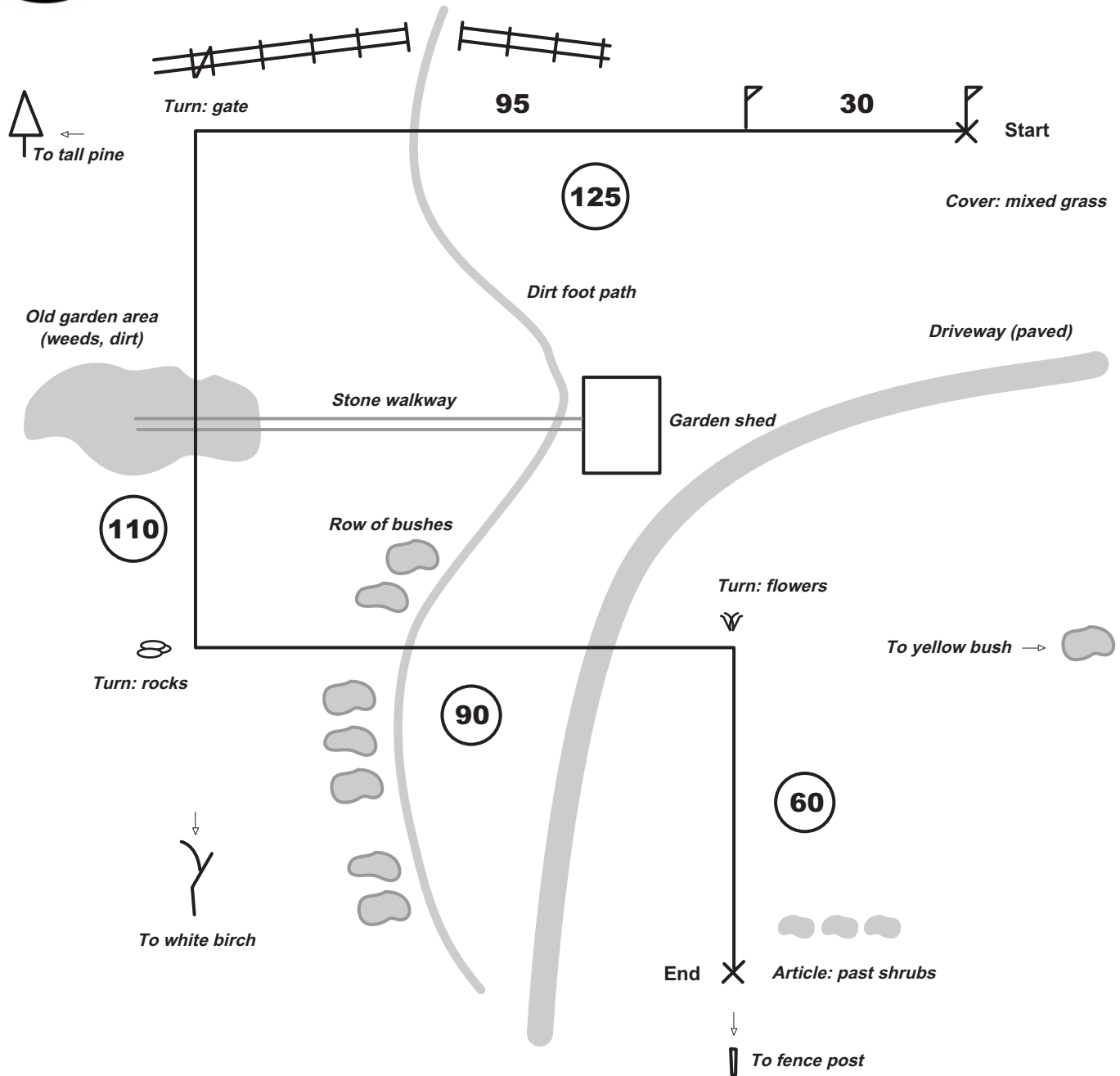
Track # 4

Type: TDU

Total Yards 385

(Eg: TD, TDU, TDX, Etc.)

Chart the track in a solid line — the dog's course in a broken line in area below. Tracks do not need to be to scale.



Passed or Failed \_\_\_\_\_  
 (If failed, state reason) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tracklayer Started \_\_\_\_\_  
 X-Tracklayer Started \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dog's Starting Time \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dog's Finishing Time \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ground Conditions \_\_\_\_\_  
 Weather Conditions \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wind \_\_\_\_\_

Articles 1. Sock 2. Glove 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Obstacles 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

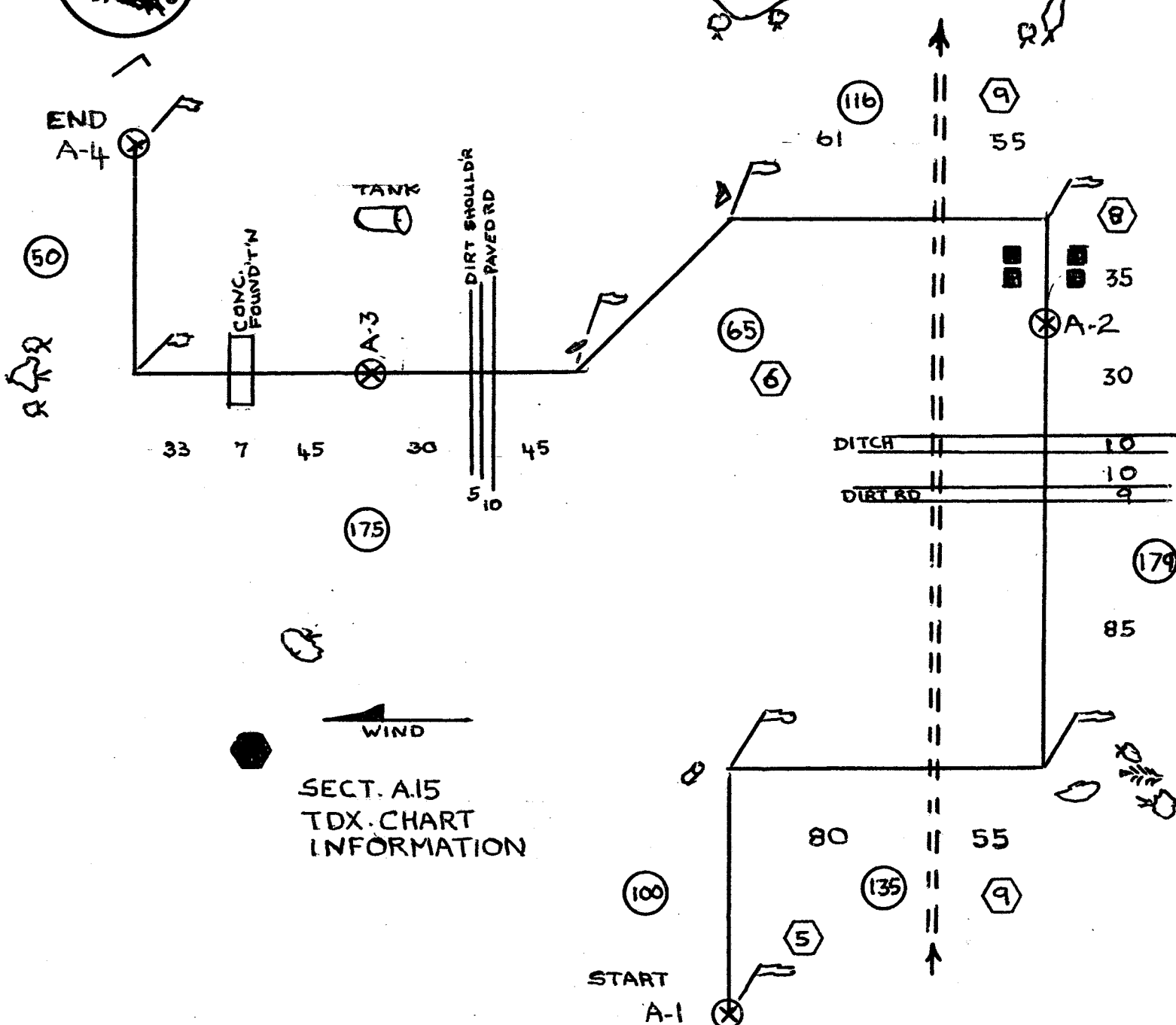
Breed / Sex \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dog's Registration # \_\_\_\_\_  
 ASCA Sanction # / Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 ASCA Affiliate Name \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that I have judged the above dog after having read the instructions on the cover of this book and followed them to the best of my ability.



Catalog # 202 TD/TDX Track # 1 Total Yards 820

Chart the track in a solid line — the dog's course in a broken line in area below. Tracks do not need to be to scale.



SECT. A.15  
TDX CHART  
INFORMATION

Passed or Failed Passed  
 (If failed, state reason) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tracklayer Started 6:30 a.m.  
 X-Tracklayer Started 8:00 a.m.  
 Dog's Starting Time 9:45 a.m.  
 Dog's Finishing Time 10:10 a.m.  
 Ground Conditions dry - short cover  
 Weather Conditions clear - cool  
 Wind slight - 2-3 mph

Articles 1. Bandana 2. Case 3. Sock 4. Glove  
 Obstacles 1. Dirt Rd 2. Ditch 3. Paved Rd 4. Concrete  
Dirt Shldr Found't'n  
 Breed / Sex Australian Shepherd - Dog  
 Dog's Registration # E00000  
 ASCA Sanction # / Date 0000/MM-DD-YR  
 ASCA Affiliate Name Any Asc

I hereby certify that I have judged the above dog after having read the instructions on the cover of this book and followed them to the best of my ability.

Judge's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

## **ASCA® DISPUTE RULES**

### **Disputes Defined**

In these rules, the term “dispute” means any controversy, claim, complaint, dispute, appeal, disciplinary matter or the like which is related to ASCA®, its objectives, or its activities; either between members of the Australian Shepherd Club of America (ASCA® or the Club), ASCA®’s Affiliates claiming violation of its program rules, or policies.

### **Matters Not Subject to the Dispute Rules.**

Disagreements or disputes relating to the following matters are not subject to these Dispute Rules or its process:

#### **Breeder-Buyer or Co-Owner Disputes**

ASCA® does not resolve Breeder-Buyer disputes or disputes between co-owners of dogs. ASCA® will only enforce the judgments or decisions of a court of competent jurisdiction when any such dispute is raised, unless otherwise provided for in the ASCA® Registry Rules.

#### **Complaints Against Judges**

Complaints about the conduct of an ASCA® Judge relating to such Judge’s conduct as a Judge are not subject to these Dispute Rules. If remediable at the time of the show or trial, a complaint concerning the conduct of an ASCA® Judge at such show or trial should be brought to the attention of the Show or Trial Committee. Any other such complaint should be addressed to the Executive Secretary who shall advise the ASCA® Board. The Board shall use its discretion in determining how to proceed and whether the matter should be referred to the appropriate program committee.

Urgent complaints concerning judges should be brought informally (without filing a form) to the Show or Trial Committee for ruling and appropriate action.

#### **Breeder’s Code of Ethics**

The Breeder’s Code of Ethics is a statement of conduct and principles that ASCA® requires all breeders of Australian Shepherds to adhere to in order to maintain the integrity of the Australian Shepherd and ASCA®’s registry. Any complaint relating to a violation of ASCA®’s Breeder’s Code of Ethics shall not be subject to these Dispute Rules.

#### **Registry Issues**

The Board retains the authority to handle a registry issue at any time without the filing of a formal dispute.

### **Jurisdiction**

ASCA® intends that disputes be resolved quickly and fairly. To this end, ASCA® has established two tiers of dispute resolution: Affiliate level proceedings and Board level proceedings. All disputes shall be resolved according to these Rules. In order to file a dispute, the ASCA® member must be in good standing with the Club.

#### **Affiliate Jurisdiction**

Disputes involving any of the following rules and authorities shall be addressed in the first instance to the affected Affiliate club for resolution.

The Affiliate's own bylaws, rules and procedures,  
The ASCA<sup>®</sup> Stockdog Rules and Regulations,  
The ASCA<sup>®</sup> Conformation Show Rules and Regulations,  
The ASCA<sup>®</sup> Tracking Rules and Regulations,  
The ASCA<sup>®</sup> Agility Rules and Regulations,  
The ASCA<sup>®</sup> Rally Rules and Regulations,  
The ASCA<sup>®</sup> Obedience Rules and Regulations, and  
The ASCA<sup>®</sup> Junior Rules and Regulations

### **ASCA<sup>®</sup> Board Jurisdiction**

All other disputes, including those involving the ASCA<sup>®</sup> registry, the ASCA<sup>®</sup> Bylaws, or a claim against an Affiliate, must be addressed in the first instance to the ASCA<sup>®</sup> Board for resolution. A dispute not resolved satisfactorily at the Affiliate level may be appealed to the Board. The Board may, in its sole discretion, investigate and assume or decline jurisdiction over any dispute involving the Club. At the Board's request, an Affiliate shall immediately yield jurisdiction to the Board. The Board may, in its discretion, transfer dispute resolutions to a committee established for such purpose. Any dispute determination made by the Board or its committee shall be final and is not subject to appeal.

### **Procedure**

#### **Urgent Disputes Before Affiliates**

An urgent dispute is one which will become moot if not resolved within a very short time. An example would be a dispute which involves the conduct of a show presently in progress. Expedited procedures are appropriate for such disputes.

#### **Complaints**

Any ASCA<sup>®</sup> member in good standing may raise an urgent dispute before an Affiliate by a written complaint using the Official Complaint Form delivered to an officer or director of the Affiliate. When extreme urgency makes a written complaint not practical, a complaint may be made orally and later followed with a written version. There is no fee for filing an urgent complaint.

#### **Hearing**

The Affiliate shall promptly convene a hearing before an appropriate body, such as its Board of Directors or a show committee, unless otherwise stated in the program rules. The hearing officials may conduct any inquiry they deem necessary to resolve the dispute. As examples, they may review documents; question witnesses; examine dogs, kennel conditions, breeding records, and the like. Extended investigations and lengthy hearings are discouraged in the case of urgent disputes.

#### **Due Process**

Hearing officials shall convey the complaint to any party accused and afford such party a reasonable opportunity to respond to the charges, bearing in mind the expedited nature of the process. This provision does not assume or admit that the Affiliate is bound by any state or U.S. Constitutional requirement of due process. The hearing officials shall make a good faith effort to obtain factual information concerning the dispute from both the Complainant and the Respondent.

#### **Decision**

The hearing officials shall reach and announce their decision at the earliest possible time, normally at the initial hearing, and in every case within 24 hours of receiving the complaint. A dated, summary, written notice of the decision shall be delivered promptly to the parties. This notice determines the

date of decision for purposes of further proceedings. The decision upon a matter handled as an urgent dispute may be appealed to the Affiliate; such an appeal shall be handled as if it were an ordinary dispute before an Affiliate.

**Timing**

The following timelines shall apply to urgent disputes before an Affiliate:

<b>What</b>	<b>When</b>
Filing of urgent complaint	At time of event giving rise to complaint – Immediately, if possible
Payment of filing fee	There is no fee for filing an urgent dispute
Notice to opposing parties	Handled by hearing officials
Response by Respondent	Respondent afforded reasonable opportunity to respond to charges at the hearing
Decision by hearing officials	Normally at the time of the hearing and always within 24 hours of receiving complaint
Appeal to Affiliate as an ordinary dispute	Within 7 days of decision by hearing officials

The hearing officials may summarily rule against any party who fails to comply with these timelines.

**Ordinary Disputes Before Affiliates**

An ordinary dispute is one which does not require immediate resolution, or an appeal to an Affiliate of the decision upon an urgent dispute. In order to prevent unnecessary characterization of a dispute as urgent, an Affiliate may, in its sole discretion, treat any dispute as ordinary. Ordinary disputes shall be resolved using the following procedures.

**Complaints and Answers**

Any ASCA® member in good standing may raise a dispute before an Affiliate by filing a written complaint using the Official Complaint Form delivered to an officer or director of the Affiliate, and paying a filing fee of \$50 to the Affiliate. A party accused in a complaint may file a written answer.

**Due Process**

Any party filing a complaint or answer with an Affiliate must also serve copies upon the other party. Delivery of copies shall be made by either personally serving, mailing by both first class mail and certified mail, return receipt requested, faxing, or delivering by common carrier, such as Federal Express or UPS, a copy of the complaint or answer together with a statement, signed by the party, that such complaint or answer has been filed with the Affiliate. Hearing officials shall afford the Respondent a reasonable opportunity to respond to the charges against him or her. This provision does not assume or admit that the Affiliate is bound by any state or U.S. Constitutional requirement of due process. The hearing officials shall make a good faith effort to obtain factual information concerning the dispute from both the Complainant and the Respondent. Each party shall be provided all written materials submitted by the other party to the Affiliate prior to deliberations.

**Deliberations**

Deliberations shall be conducted before an appropriate body, such as the Affiliate’s Board or a committee designated by the Affiliate. The hearing officials may conduct any inquiry they deem necessary to resolve the dispute. As examples, they may review documents; question witnesses;

examine dogs, kennel conditions, breeding records and the like; and may request briefs (written statements and/or explanation and argument) from the parties.

### **Memo of Decision**

A dated summary, written notice of the decision shall be delivered promptly to the parties. This notice determines the date of decision for purposes of further proceedings.

### **Timing**

The following timelines shall apply to ordinary disputes before an Affiliate:

<b>What</b>	<b>When</b>
Filing of ordinary complaint	Within 21 days of discovery (knowledge) of an event which is the basis of the; complaints must be filed within one year of the date of the occurrence of the event
Payment of filing fee	\$50 due when complaint or appeal is filed
Notice to opposing parties	Parties must provide notice to their opponents as set forth in Section 3.2.2
Filing answer to complaint	Within 21 days of the date of mailing of the complaint to the other party
Deliberations by Affiliate	Within 21 days of last day for timely filing of answer to complaint
Decision by Affiliate	Within 7 days of deliberations
Appeal to ASCA® Board	Within 21 days of Affiliate decision

The Affiliate may summarily rule against any party who fails to comply with these timelines.

### **Disputes Before the ASCA® Board**

The following rules shall govern disputes over which the ASCA® Board assumes jurisdiction:

#### **Complaints and Appeals**

Any ASCA® member in good standing may raise a dispute before the Board by filing a written complaint or appeal using the Official Complaint Form delivered to the Executive Secretary of ASCA®. A party accused in a complaint or appeal may file a written answer. Every dispute raised before the Board, whether an original complaint or an appeal, must be accompanied by a \$100 filing fee. Original complaints involving the Registry Rules brought before the Board are exempt from the filing fee.

#### **Temporary Measures in Urgent Cases**

When necessary to preserve its power to decide a dispute, the Board may impose immediate temporary measures to remain in effect pending its decision. For example, if a complaint alleges that dogs infected with a disease have been entered in a competition, the Board may suspend competition privileges for the affected animals pending its decision.

#### **3.3.3 Notice to Respondent**

Upon receipt of a complaint, the Executive Secretary shall notify the Board and shall deliver a Notice of the filing of the Complaint and a copy of the complaint, together with a copy of the Dispute Rules, to the opposing party, known as the Respondent, at the last known address of the Respondent in ASCA®'s records. The Notice shall state that the Respondent must file a written answer, together with written materials which support the Respondent's position, which shall be filed with the Executive Secretary within 21 days from the date of mailing of Notice of filing by the Executive Secretary.

### 3.3.4 Argument

All disputes shall be submitted for decision on written statements and arguments (briefs). The Board may, in its discretion, request oral argument, person or by telephone.

### 3.3.5 Due Process

The Board or its committee shall afford the Respondent a reasonable opportunity to respond to the charges. The Executive Secretary shall provide each party with copies of all written materials submitted by the other party prior to deliberation by the Board. This provision does not assume or admit that ASCA® is bound by any state or U.S. Constitutional requirement of due process.

### 3.3.6 Deliberations and Decision

After the expiration of the time for the parties to have submitted their materials for consideration, the Executive Secretary shall submit the matter, along with all materials submitted by the parties and all other relevant information in ASCA®'s possession, to the Board for decision. No motion nor second shall be required for the Board to act. Deliberation shall be conducted by the Board or its committee, which shall consist of not less than three Directors appointed by the President. The Board or its committee shall issue a written decision.

### 3.3.7 Memo of Decision

A written notice of the decision shall be delivered promptly to the parties upon the decision becoming final. Decisions made by a committee of the Board may be reviewed by the entire Board within 7 days of issuance upon the request of at least three (3) Directors, or they become final and not subject to further appeal. All decisions made by the Board are final and are not subject to appeal. If additional facts or evidence arise, either party may resubmit the dispute as a new dispute pursuant to these Dispute Rules.

### Timing

The following timelines shall apply to disputes before the Board and appeals from decisions of Affiliates:

What	When
Filing a complaint	Within 21 days of discovery (knowledge) of an event giving rise to complaint; complaints must be filed within one year of the date of the event
Filing of appeal from Affiliate action	Within 21 days of Affiliate's decision
Payment of filing fee	\$100, due at time of filing of complaint
Notice to opposing parties	Provided by ASCA® pursuant to Section 3.3.3
Filing answer to complaint or appeal	Within 21 days of the date of mailing notice to Respondent by the Executive Secretary
Deliberations by Board	21 days after last day for timely filing of answer
Decision by Board	Within 21 days of deliberations

The Board or its committee may summarily rule against any party who fails to comply with these timelines.

## **Sanctions**

In addition to rectifying or affirming the event complained of, an Affiliate may impose sanctions against either party involved in the complaint.

### ***Affiliate Sanctions***

An Affiliate may do any one or more of the following as a sanction:

#### **Reprimands**

The Affiliate may issue a public or private reprimand.

#### **Recommendations to the ASCA<sup>®</sup> Board**

The Affiliate may recommend that the ASCA<sup>®</sup> Board investigate a dispute or impose a sanction.

#### **Fines**

The Affiliate may assess reasonable fines, not to exceed \$100.

### **ASCA<sup>®</sup> Board Sanctions**

In addition to rectifying or affirming the event complained of, the Board of Directors may impose sanctions against either party involved in the complaint.

The ASCA<sup>®</sup> Board has general authority to enter any sanction which is appropriate to the circumstances; for example, and without limiting that general authority, the Board may do any one or more of the following things as a sanction.

#### **Reprimands**

The Board may issue a public or private reprimand.

#### **Suspension**

The Board may suspend any privilege granted by ASCA<sup>®</sup> or an Affiliate for any length of time. By way of example, *but not of limitation*, the Board may: exclude persons and/or dogs from participation in any event conducted by ASCA<sup>®</sup> or an Affiliate for any length of time; prohibit Affiliates from hosting shows; exclude participation in or use of the ASCA<sup>®</sup> registry; revoke registry papers; refuse to accept advertising in ASCA<sup>®</sup> publications; or suspend delivery of ASCA<sup>®</sup>'s official newsletter.

#### **Fines**

The Board may assess reasonable fines, not to exceed \$1,000.

#### **Enforcement of Board Sanctions**

All ASCA<sup>®</sup> Affiliates shall honor sanctions imposed by the Board and shall refrain from taking actions which tend to minimize or lessen such sanctions. For example, if a member is suspended from participating in competitions, Affiliates shall prohibit such participation.

#### **Notice of Sanctions**

Final decisions imposing sanctions against any ASCA<sup>®</sup> member shall be published in the official ASCA<sup>®</sup> newsletter.



## **AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD CLUB OF AMERICA®**

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### **DISPUTE PROCESS**

If you find the need to file a dispute or find that you are involved in a dispute, what follows is a summary of the ASCA® dispute process.

The ASCA® Complaint Form is included with each sanctioning packet sent to Affiliate Clubs. The Event Committee should have copies of the form on the grounds of all events or the form is available on request from the ASCA® Business Office.

#### *FIRST DECIDE WHAT TYPE OF DISPUTE IT IS*

There are 3 types of ASCA® disputes:

- 1) Urgent
- 2) Ordinary
- 3) ASCA® Board jurisdiction---appeals from affiliate disputes and disputes originating with the ASCA® Board regarding the ASCA® Bylaws and ASCA® Registry.

#### **URGENT DISPUTES**

URGENT disputes are for violations in the process of being committed. They involve violations of affiliate bylaws or rules or ASCA® program rules.

- 1) Complaint is filed on an Official Complaint Form. Only in an extreme emergency may it be filed orally. Oral complaints must be followed up in writing on the Official Complaint Form. NO FEE is required with an Urgent Complaint.
- 2) A hearing body is chosen. This is normally either the club Board of Directors or the Event Committee.
- 3) The complaint is delivered to the accused by the hearing body.
- 4) The hearing body conducts the hearing as soon as possible. Any necessary inquiry will be pursued by the hearing officials. Long investigations and hearings are discouraged in urgent disputes.
- 5) Both parties are allowed to state their case. Both parties may be questioned by the hearing body.
- 6) The hearing body will reach a decision.
- 7) The hearing body announces their decision as soon as possible. Normally this would occur immediately following the hearing. In no case will it be delayed more than 24 hours from the filing of the complaint.
- 8) Both parties receive the decision in writing.
- 9) Either party may appeal within 7 days of the decision.
- 10) Appeals are handled as "ordinary" disputes.

#### **ORDINARY DISPUTES**

ORDINARY disputes do not require immediate attention. An Affiliate may designate an urgent dispute as ordinary if the dispute is not truly urgent.

- 1) Written complaint is submitted on the Official Complaint Form.

- 2) Form is delivered to an Officer or Director of the Affiliate Club within 21 days of discovery of the event with a \$20 filing fee.
- 3) Copy of complaint is given to the accused by the party filing the complaint.
- 4) Accused files an answer within 21 days of effective date of complaint (either day of sending by US Certified Mail or common carrier, day of confirmed receipt by fax or day of delivery by personal messenger).
- 5) Affiliate will deliberate within 21 days of last day for filing of an accused person's answer.
- 6) Affiliate reaches a decision within 7 days of start of deliberations.
- 7) Any appeal must be filed within 21 days of the Affiliate's decision. Appeals must be filed with the ASCA® Board.

### **ASCA® BOARD JURISDICTION**

ASCA® BOARD JURISDICTION occurs with appeals from Affiliate decisions and violations involving the ASCA® Registry Rules or ASCA® Bylaws.

- 1) Fill out the Official Complaint Form within 21 days of discovery of the event. In the case of appeals, the Form must be submitted within 7 days of the Affiliate decision.
- 2) Deliver to the ASCA® Executive Secretary with the \$100 filing fee. (Complaints regarding Registry Rules violations are exempt from the filing fee.)
- 3) Deliver a copy of the complaint to the accused (see section 5 of the Dispute Rules).
- 4) The accused may file a written answer within 21 days of the effective date of the complaint or appeal. The Board must allow the accused a reasonable opportunity to meet the charges.
- 5) The accused may give oral arguments. The Board may require the parties to pay the costs of Board travel and lodging related to an oral hearing.
- 6) The Board deliberates within 21 days of the last day for filing an answer by the accused.
- 7) The Board delivers dated notice of the decision to both parties within 7 days of the deliberation.
- 8) Arbitration concerning a Board decision must be initiated within 21 days of the Board decision (see Dispute rules -3.4)

This Help Sheet is not intended as a substitute for the Dispute Rules. Complete Dispute Rules can be found in the back of every ASCA® program rulebook. It is required that copies of the Dispute Rules and Complaint Forms be available at any ASCA® sanctioned event.



# Australian Shepherd Club of America®

## Complaint Form

Please try to resolve problems yourself, without a formal complaint, whenever possible. In the event that you are unable to resolve a problem, use this form to bring a complaint before an affiliate or the ASCA® Board of Directors under ASCA®'s "Dispute Rules," which must be read and followed in this formal procedure.

**If you fail to complete all fields, your complaint will not be processed.**

<b>Your Name</b>	<b>Names of parties about whom you are complaining.</b> You must serve a copy of this complaint to everyone you name here (Dispute Rules section 3.2.3 and 3.3.5). The hearing officials will serve these parties for you only in the case of urgent disputes before affiliates (Dispute Rules section 3.1.3).	
<b>Today's Date</b>	<b>Date of event giving rise to this complaint</b>	<b>Date you first learned of the event</b> (Dispute Rules section 3.2.5 and 3.3.7)
<b>State the grounds for your complaint.</b> Include reference to ASCA® rules, regulations and bylaws which have been violated. Confine your statement to this space if possible. Lengthy statements are discouraged.		
<b>Dollar amount of certified check or money order,</b> which accompanies this form (Dispute Rules section 3.2.1 and 3.3.1). No money is required for urgent disputes before affiliates (Dispute Rules section 3.3.1).		\$
<b>Sign here.</b> By doing so you certify that you have attempted to resolve this dispute informally and that you have served parties with this complaint as required.		X