

AMERICAN HERDING BREED ASSOCIATION
SANCTION FORM for TRIAL/TEST

SPONSOR (club or individual): _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

DATE(S) OF TRIAL: _____

LOCATION: _____

JUDGE(S): _____

CLASSES OFFERED (indicate type of stock for each class):

HTD I: _____

HTD II: _____

HTD III: _____

HTAD I: _____

HTAD II: _____

HTAD III: _____

Course #: _____

HRD I: _____

HRD II: _____

HRD III: _____

mixed stock: _____

RLF I: _____

RLF II: _____

RLF III: _____

mixed stock: _____

(For HRD/RLF classes and HTAD Course 5, provide full details with course description and diagram)

JUNIOR HERDING DOG TEST: _____

HERDING CAPABILITY TEST: _____

TOTAL NUMBER OF EACH TYPE OF STOCK PRESENT:

Sheep: _____

Ducks: _____

Goats: _____

Cattle: _____

Other (type, number): _____

NUMBER OF HEAD PER GROUP: _____

DESCRIPTION OF AREA(S):

Dimensions: _____

Terrain: _____

Fencing: _____

Other: _____

STOCK SUPERVISOR: _____

COURSE DIRECTOR: _____

ENTRY LIMIT PER DAY: _____

ALL-BREED: LIMITED TO (indicate breed): _____

If applicable, Other Event Being Held Same Day: (indicate type) _____

Entry Limit for other event: _____

Sponsor's insurance carrier and policy numbers: _____

As the sponsor of an American Herding Breed Association (AHBA) sanctioned event, I/we agree to hold the AHBA, its officers, directors and members harmless and blameless and to defend them from any loss, claim, suit or damage which may occur at or as a result of this event. I/we agree to indemnify the AHBA, its officers, directors and members from any loss, damage, claim or expense, including attorneys fees and costs, which may in any way arise or result from this event. I/we have read the AHBA Herding Program pertaining to this event and agree to abide by said Rules. I/we agree that although I/we will abide by said Rules, control over the conduct of the event and those present is solely mine/ours and not that of the AHBA.

Dated: _____

(signature of trial secretary/sponsoring individual)

(print name)

Contact name, tel. & email if different from sponsor's: _____

AMERICAN HERDING BREED ASSOCIATION – TRIAL/TEST REPORT

(Page

1 of 2)

Sponsor:

Date of Event:	Location of Event:
HTD <input type="checkbox"/> HRD <input type="checkbox"/> RLF <input type="checkbox"/>	Judge(s):
HTAD <input type="checkbox"/> JHD <input type="checkbox"/> HCT <input type="checkbox"/>	

Please provide the following information with regard to the event:

To Sponsors:

1. Did any of the details of the event (e.g. judge or judges present, type of stock, location, etc.) differ from those originally stated on the sanction form? Yes No . If "yes," attach an explanation.
2. ON PAGE TWO OF THIS FORM PROVIDE NUMBERS OF ENTRIES/NUMBERS QUALIFYING BY CLASS AS INDICATED (additional pages may be attached if necessary).
3. A total of \$ _____ is enclosed for dogs being recorded by AHBA (recording fee of \$3.00 per qualifying run).
Number of qualifying runs: _____ Total number of runs: _____ (including regular and noncompetitive runs)
Number of FEO entries, if any: _____, on [date]: _____ (FEO entries should not be included in totals above)

To Sponsors and Judges/Testers:

1. Were there any complaints, inadequacies in livestock or facilities, failures to follow rules and guidelines, misconduct, irregularities, or unusual occurrences of any kind in connection with the event?
Yes No . If "yes," attach full report. Were there any injuries of any kind to livestock? Yes
No . If "yes," attach full report.
2. Please provide a brief description of the livestock, facilities and the running of the event.
3. Please provide any additional comments or suggestions.

AMERICAN HERDING BREED ASSOCIATION -- TEST RECORDING FORM

(please type or print clearly – this is a FILL-IN form)

Breed:	Registry & #:		
Reg. Name:			
Birthdate:	Sex:	Breeder:	
Owner:			
Owner's Address:			
Phone/Email:			
Name of handler if other than owner:			
Sponsor:			Location:

Indicate DATE, HCT or JHD, STOCK TYPE and JUDGE for each qualifying run.

Date:	HCT (1st leg) <input type="checkbox"/>	Stock:	Judge:	Q <input type="checkbox"/>
Date:	HCT (2nd leg) <input type="checkbox"/>	Stock:	Judge:	Q <input type="checkbox"/>

Date:	JHD <input type="checkbox"/>	Stock:	Judge:	Q <input type="checkbox"/>
Date:	JHD <input type="checkbox"/>	Stock:	Judge:	Q <input type="checkbox"/>

American Herding Breed Association
Herding Trial Dog

Time _____

Breed _____

Entry No. _____

Registered Name _____

Sponsor _____ Location _____

HTD I _____ HTD II _____ HTD III _____

_____ Sheep _____ Ducks _____ Goats _____ Cattle (provide number)
 _____ Other (provide type and number)

	Possible Score	Deductions	Points Deducted
Outrun/Lift	20	_____	_____
Fetch	20	_____	_____
Wear/Drive Through 1 st Panel	15	_____	_____
Wear/Drive Through 2 nd Panel	15	_____	_____
Wear/Drive to Pen	10	_____	_____
Pen	10	_____	_____
Ribbon Pull / Shed (HTD III only)	/10	_____	_____
		Total Deducted:	_____
SCORE:	90/100	TOTAL EARNED:	_____

(70% to qualify: minimum score of 63 for HTD I/II, 70 for HTD III) Q___ NQ___

COMMENTS: _____

Judge's signature _____ Date _____

American Herding Breed Association
Herding Ranch Dog

Time _____

Breed _____

Entry No. _____

Registered Name _____

Sponsor _____ Location _____

HRD I _____ HRD II _____ HRD III _____

_____ Sheep _____ Goats _____ Cattle (provide number)
 _____ Other (provide type and number)

	Possible Score	Deductions	Points Deducted
--	----------------	------------	-----------------

	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____
	_____	_____	_____

Total Deducted: _____

SCORE: _____ 90/100 TOTAL EARNED: _____

(70% to qualify: minimum score of 63 for HRD I/II, 70 for HRD III) Q____ NQ____

COMMENTS: _____

Judge's signature _____ Date _____

American Herding Breed Association
Ranch Large Flock

Time _____

Breed _____

Entry No. _____

Registered Name _____

Sponsor _____ Location _____

RLF I _____ RLF II _____ RLF III _____

_____ Sheep _____ Goats _____ Cattle (provide number)
 _____ Other (provide type and number)

	Possible Score	Deductions	Points Deducted
		_____	_____
		_____	_____
		_____	_____
		_____	_____
		_____	_____
		_____	_____
		_____	_____
		Total Deducted:	_____

SCORE: _____ 90/100 TOTAL EARNED: _____

(70% to qualify: minimum score of 63 for RLF I/II, 70 for RLF III) Q___ NQ___

COMMENTS: _____

Judge's signature _____ Date _____

American Herding Breed Association
Herding Trial Arena Dog

COURSES 1 and 3

Time _____

Breed _____

Entry No. _____

Registered Name _____

Sponsor _____ Location _____

HTAD I _____ HTAD II _____ HTAD III _____

_____ Sheep _____ Ducks _____ Goats _____ Cattle (provide number)
 _____ Other (provide type and number)

	Possible Score	Deductions	Points Deducted
Gather/Take Pen	15	_____	_____
Obstacle 1	15	_____	_____
Drive	15	_____	_____
Obstacle 2	10	_____	_____
Obstacle 3	15	_____	_____
Hold	10	_____	_____
Sort (HTAD III only)	/10	_____	_____
Repen	10	_____	_____
		Total Deducted:	_____
SCORE:	90/100	TOTAL EARNED:	_____

(70% to qualify: minimum score of 63 for HTAD I/II, 70 for HTAD III) Q____
 NQ____

COMMENTS: _____

Judge's signature_____

Date_____

American Herding Breed Association
Herding Trial Arena Dog

COURSES 2 and 4

Time _____

Breed _____

Entry No. _____

Registered Name _____

Sponsor _____ Location _____

HTAD I _____ HTAD II _____ HTAD III _____

_____ Sheep _____ Ducks _____ Goats _____ Cattle (provide number)
 _____ Other (provide type and number)

	Possible Score	Deductions	Points Deducted
Gather/Take Pen	15	_____	_____
Drive	15	_____	_____
Obstacle 1	10	_____	_____
Obstacle 2	15	_____	_____
Obstacle 3	15	_____	_____
Hold	10	_____	_____
Sort (HTAD III only)	/10	_____	_____
Repen	10	_____	_____
		Total Deducted:	_____
SCORE:	90/100	TOTAL EARNED:	_____

(70% to qualify: minimum score of 63 for HTAD I/II, 70 for HTAD III) Q_____

NQ_____

COMMENTS: _____

Judge's signature_____

Date_____

Tester's signature _____

Date _____

American Herding Breed Association
Herding Capability Test

Time _____

Breed _____

Entry No. _____

Registered Name _____

Sponsor _____ Location _____

PASSED _____

DID NOT PASS _____

First Leg _____ Second Leg _____

Retest recommended _____

Stock _____ cooperative

_____ uncooperative

_____ Sheep _____ Ducks _____ Goats _____ Cattle (provide number)

evaluation: _____ controllable

_____ uncontrollable

_____ Other (provide type and number)

STYLE

_____ gathering
_____ driving
_____ gathering/some driving
_____ driving/some gathering
_____ no clear preference
_____ circling

APPROACH

_____ runs wide
_____ runs moderately wide
_____ runs close

EYE

_____ loose
_____ medium
_____ strong

WEARING

_____ shows wearing
_____ a little wearing
_____ no wearing
_____ some circling
_____ considerable

BARK

_____ works silently
_____ force barks
appropriate
_____ some barking
_____ sustained barking
move stock

TEMPERAMENT

_____ readily adjusts
_____ a little distraction
_____ easily distracted
_____ nervous about situation

INTEREST

_____ sustained interest
_____ very keen interest
_____ some interest
_____ no interest

POWER

_____ sufficient for stock
_____ forceful,
_____ excessive force
_____ lacks power to

**RESPONSIVENESS
HANDLER**

_____ responsive to guidance/control
_____ somewhat responsive
_____ unresponsive
_____ inhibited by guidance/control

GROUPING OF STOCK

_____ keeps stock grouped/regroups
_____ does not regroup
_____ singles out individuals/splits
_____ chases stock
_____ loses contact with stock

BALANCING STOCK WITH

_____ adjusts position
_____ some adjustment
_____ no adjustment

FOR SECOND LEG ONLY

Controlled ___good ___insufficient
 ___insufficient

Stop: ___good ___insufficient

Recall: ___good

movement: ___fair ___not accomplished
accomplished

___fair ___not accomplished

___fair ___not

COMMENTS: _____

Tester's signature _____

Date _____

INFORMATION FOR SPONSORS:

Events may be sponsored by clubs or by individuals. All forms should be sent to the Sanction Coordinator (via e-mail is preferred). Please use current forms. These are marked with "1/2021" in the lower right corner and can be downloaded from the AHBA website or obtained from the Sanction Coordinator.

1) Sanction Form for Trial/Test

The completed sanction form is returned to the AHBA Sanction Coordinator at least 60 days prior to the event (preferably by email), event flyer/premium, along with the sanction fee of \$15.00 (\$16.00 if paying on-line). All classes, trial and/or test, held over consecutive days are included under one sanction fee.

NOTE: For HRD/RLF and for HTAD Course 5, sanction forms must include: (1) a step-by-step description of the course, (2) a diagram of the course, (3) a score-sheet set up in the format of the HTD scoresheet. (On-line payment information is on the AHBA website, www.ahba-herding.org, on the Membership page).

2) Trial Scoresheets and/or Test Forms

Master forms are provided, from which the required number for the event can be made. There should be an original and one copy for each participant. After the event, the completed original is given to the owner and a copy is kept by the sponsor for at least 6 months (in lieu of keeping copies of the scoresheets, the sponsor may instead keep either copies of the Trial Recording Forms or a completed catalog). **The scoresheets are not sent to AHBA.** Where applicable, the name of the sponsor can be filled in before the copies are made.

3) Trial Recording Forms and/or Test Recording Forms

Master forms are provided, from which the required number of copies can be made. The name of the sponsor can be filled in before the copies are made. A Recording Form must be completed in full for each qualifying dog. A single Recording Form may accommodate multiple scores for an individual dog, but scores for more than one dog may not be put on the same form. Results can also be submitted using an excel spreadsheet. A formatted spreadsheet is available on the AHBA Forms page. **These are the forms that are actually sent to the AHBA Sanction Coordinator** (preferably by e-mail) **for use in recording legs for titles; they must be filled out legibly and in full. Only the forms for qualifying dogs need be sent in**, and only one copy of these forms is needed. The Recording Forms can be filled out by the sponsor from entry information, or can be included as part of the entry package for the entrant to fill out. In the latter case, the entrant fills out the top part of the form (the information regarding the dog, address of owner, etc.); the entrant then gives the partially-completed form to the event secretary, so that the bottom part can be filled out with the results at the conclusion of the trial or test. For HCT, because the legs are different, it should be indicated on the recording form whether the run was for a first leg or second leg; legs do not need to be indicated on the forms for JHD and trial titles. **A registration number or tracking number must be included on the form for it to be processed;** the registration number may be from any registry (registry name/acronym must be included, but the same number should be used consistently for AHBA. If a dog is not otherwise registered, owners of unregistered dogs may apply to the AHBA for a tracking number for use in lieu of a registration number. A marked catalog may be substituted so long as it is in an easy-to-read format, the name and address of the owner appear adjacent to each entry, and the place and location appear on each page.

4) Trial/Test Report Forms

These forms provide an overview of the event. They are sent to the AHBA Sanction Coordinator after the event, along with the Trial and/or Test Recording Forms and fees. The Trial/Test Report must be provided for each event, listing number of entries in each class and numbers qualifying. If more than one page is needed, the date and location of the event should be indicated at the top of each following page

5) The Recording Forms and Report Forms are sent to the AHBA Sanction Coordinator for recording, along with the recording fees of **\$3.00 per qualifying run** (\$3.25 if paying on-line). Forms and fees are due within 30 days after the event. A fine of \$75.00 will be assessed for forms and recording fees submitted after the 30-day period.

In summary, the **AHBA Sanction Coordinator** is to receive: (1) The Sanction Form, flyer, RLF/HRD/HTAD course 5 documents and \$15.00 sanction fee 60 days prior to the event; (2) **completed Recording Forms** for all qualifying dogs, with recording fees of \$3.00 for each qualifying entry, within 30 days after the event; and (3) the completed Report Forms within 30 days of the event. (If sending in the mail, NO STAPLES PLEASE) Fees may be paid on-line. Link for payment <https://american-herding-breed-assoc.square.site/> If there are any questions, please contact the AHBA Sanction Coordinator: Karen Toth, 7825 Cranford Lane, Dublin CA 94568, tel. 925-829-1535, email ahbasanctioncoord@gmail.com

The AHBA website, with rules and other information, is at: <http://www.ahba-herding.org>

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR HRD AND RLF COURSES

1. Ranch/farm courses should be laid out in as natural a manner as possible in a ranch or farm setting. They should be kept reasonably simple and should provide accessible views for the judge throughout. These courses may not be held as arena courses with all elements in one arena (arena is defined as areas suitable for HTAD use). Multiple arenas, multiple pen and arena combinations, and field/pen/arena combinations are acceptable.
2. HRD classes must use at least 5 head of stock, with larger numbers preferred.
3. RLF classes must use at least 25 head for sheep or goats, 15 head for geese, and 10 head for cattle.
4. Wherever "HRD" is mentioned below, it is understood that it also applies to RLF.
5. Distances for courses and times allowed should be well thought out, with practice runs used to determine the design. Distances should be suitable to the stock being used, well within their physical abilities, with ample time allowed for completion.
6. The sanction application must include: (1) a step-by-step description of the course, (2) a diagram of the course, and (3) a score sheet set up in the format of the HTD score sheet. The description and diagram are to include dimensions of arenas, pens and obstacles, distances, time limits, starting and ending points for each scoring section of the course, and may include any additional information desired such as draw points of stock. If applicable, any areas that are to be considered "off course" must be indicated.
7. **Tie Breakers:** The course designer shall specify which scoring section will be used for breaking a tie, with two sections listed in order, followed by time.
8. **Course Review:** The course design must have been seen and approved by the judge before being submitted to the AHBA. (If needed, assistance in creating a score sheet master using the provided scoring is available from the Sanction Coordinator upon request.)
9. **Score Sheets:** Score sheets must have no fewer than 5 and no more than 10 scoring sections. Point totals must be 90 points for HRD I and II, 100 points for HRD III. The additional 10 points for HRD III may be set up as a single section of 10 points for an additional task, which is the preferred method, or may be included within a section or within two sections (divided evenly) and figured into the total for those sections (with a variation, a task may be given more points in level III than in levels I and II). It is preferred that fewer than 10 points not be used for a scoring section.
10. **Required Tasks:** All courses must include: A gather; a wear/drive/cross-drive (according to level of class); a minimum of three obstacles; a sorting exercise (required for HRD III, optional for HRD I and II); penwork, including repenning at the end of the course. Optional elements may include such exercises as a designated narrow road or path on which the stock must be kept, stopping and holding the group in place, keeping the group within a designated grazing area, etc. At least one-half of the course must be more than 20 ft. away from a fence.
11. Elements may be judged separately or may be combined into a scoring section, e.g., a series of chutes or pens (other than the final pen), obstacles with a section of the course leading up to that obstacle, etc. The gather may be judged as one section or divided into outrun/lift and fetch. Beginning and ending of sections must be clearly indicated for use in scoring.
12. As a result of a sorting exercise, a smaller group of animals may be used on part of the course. In such a situation, fewer than the minimum number of animals required for the course may be used, but on no more than 1/4 of the course; fewer than three animals may not be used.
13. It may happen that due to the nature of the course and its requirements, the performance of a particular task will be of such importance to the performance of a subsequent task that failure to perform it will result in the halting of the run and consequent non-qualification. If this type of design is used it must clearly be indicated on the premium list or flyer for the event.

14. The approved diagram and detailed description must be provided to entrants well before the trial, and copies must be available at the trial site on the day of the event.

REQUIRED TASKS

Gather: The gather may be done either in an arena or pasture, and may be done either at the beginning or somewhere along the course. For instance, the stock may be taken out to a location in the pasture, settled, then the handler and dog may move back to a specified location. There must be a distance of at least 120 ft. between the location of the stock to the location of a designated handler's post.

For HRD I, whether in an arena or pasture, the dog may be taken to a point halfway between the designated handler's post and the stock, and the handler may go to within 15 ft. of the stock. For HRD II, the dog is set at the post, and the handler may go halfway to the stock. For HRD III, the dog and handler both are at the post.

If the gather is at the beginning of the course, the dog may be positioned on lead in the HRD I class, but there must be a pause after the lead is removed, before the dog is sent to gather the stock; in the HRD II and III classes, the lead must be removed just inside the course limits. If the gather is later during the course, the dog will be off lead in all classes.

Wear/Drive/Cross-drive: For HRD I, the handler may fetch and/or drive throughout, with the handler in any position. For HRD II and III, the handler's movement will be restricted by the use of handler's posts and limit lines in certain areas.

HRD II must include a drive or cross-drive of at least 60 ft. HRD III must include a drive and/or cross-drive of at least 120 ft. which may be divided into two sections of at least 60 ft. each. No more than one-half of the total drive length may be alongside a fence.

On the score sheet, the wear/drive segments may be set up separately, or set up in conjunction with an obstacle and scoring included within that obstacle (e.g., for an obstacle such as a bridge, part of the course leading up to the bridge may be included in the scoring for the bridge; a section of the course may indicate "drive through second panel").

Obstacles: At least one of the obstacles in HRD I and HRD II must be freestanding and at least two of the obstacles in HRD III must be freestanding (a freestanding final pen may be counted for this requirement). Obstacles may include panels, chutes, alleyways, pens, bridges, trailers, or natural obstacles such as a passage between shrubs or trees. Any obstacle must be suitable for the number of stock being used. The course designer will indicate whether specific obstacles may or may not be entered by the handler or at what point an obstacle may be entered.

Freestanding obstacles must be at least 20 ft. from any fence. Openings of freestanding obstacles may not be more than 12 ft. for sheep, 16 ft. for cattle, except that actual bridges or natural obstacles may be somewhat wider.

Chutes may vary from 2 ft. to 4 ft in width for sheep, up to 6 ft. for cattle, and may or may not have a floor; handlers should not enter chutes unless necessitated by the course design, but dogs may enter chutes. A bridge may be an actual bridge crossing a gully or ditch or may be an obstacle set up for the course. In the latter case, an obstacle designated as a "bridge" is distinguished from a chute in that the bridge has a floor and may be up to 12 ft. in width; handlers must cross bridges, but it is up to the course designer and judge whether the dog must cross. Actual bridges may have any surface and may be somewhat wider than bridges set up for a course. Chutes and bridges set up for the course may have entry wings with an opening of no more than 12 ft. for sheep, 16 ft. for cattle.

Dimensions of obstacles are to be given on the sanction form.

Sorting Exercise: A sorting exercise is required for HRD III classes. If desired, sorting exercises may be used in HRD I and II level classes and may be graduated according to class. A sorting exercise may consist of removing a ribbon from a marked sheep, a shed or splitting off one or more head of stock, gate-sorting stock into a particular area, using a sorting race or chute to sort stock, and/or briefly and gently capturing and holding an individual sheep. Certain sorting exercises may allow use of a crook. Sorting may require only a certain number of animals, or may require the sorting of specific animals. A particular area to be used may be designated, or any area allowed. The course designer may choose among these options. Details and specifications must be clearly set out.

Pens, Including Reopen: Pens may include a take pen at the beginning of the course, sorting pens, a series of pens to be negotiated during the course, and a reopen.

Apart from a take pen and the reopen, the course designer will determine which, if any, pens may be entered by the handler and/or dog. Smaller pens which are to be entered by the handler and/or dog should not have solid sides.

Larger pens may incorporate solid sides (such as the side of a building). Any pen must be suitable for the number of stock being used and, if entry of dog and/or handler is allowed, must give ample room for the dog and/or handler to maneuver. Take pens should not be less than 12 ft. x 12 ft. for sheep (16 ft. x 16 ft. for cattle), and may be larger. When stock are removed from any pen, the gate should be closed afterwards unless specifically required to be left open.

Take pens are differentiated according to class. HRD I handlers may enter the pen and may move around to assist the dog as needed but may not touch the dog or stock without penalty. HRD II handlers may enter the pen but must remain just inside the gate. HRD III handlers may not enter the pen. If the course begins with a take pen, in the HRD I class the dog may be brought into the pen on lead if the handler chooses, but there must be a pause after the lead is removed, before the dog is sent to collect the stock. For HRD II and III classes, the dog must enter the pen off lead.

Reopen: The reopen may be a freestanding pen, fence line pen, trailer, barn, corral or pasture. Classes may or may not be differentiated by required positioning of the handler at the pen. Holding a rope tied to the gate may or may not be

required. The final pen, trailer, barn, corral or pasture may not be entered by the handler without a significant penalty (other than to remove the stock, if necessary, after the run is completed). Dimensions of pens are to be given on the sanction form.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR HTAD COURSE 5

1. The sanction application must include: (1) a step-by-step description of the course, (2) a diagram of the course, and (3) a score sheet set up in the format of the HTD score sheet. The description and diagram are to include dimensions of arenas, pens and obstacles, distances, time limits, starting and ending points for each scoring section of the course.
2. **Tie Breakers:** On Course 5, the course designer will specify which scoring section will be used for breaking a tie, with two sections listed in order, followed by time.
3. Scoring should add up to 90 points for levels I and II, and 100 points for level III.
4. Sizes of arenas for HTAD classes are as follows: For hoofed stock, no more than 400 x 400 and no less than 100 x 200. For geese and turkeys, no more than 200 x 200 and no less than 100 x 100. For ducks, no more than 100 x 100 and no less than 100 x 50.
5. At least ½ of the course must be 20 feet or more off of the fence.
6. The course may begin with either a gather or a take pen.
7. **Gather:** The distance between the stock set-out point and the handler's post shall be preferably one-half or more of the arena length, but must be no less than 100 feet for hoofed stock, 50 feet for poultry. For HTAD III, the dog and handler both are at the post. For HTAD II, the dog is set at the post, and the handler may go halfway to the stock. For HTAD I, the dog may be taken to a point halfway between the designated handler's post and the stock, and the handler may go to within 15 ft. of the stock.
8. **Take Pen:** The take pen shall be no less than 12 ft. x 12 ft. for hoofed stock and 4 ft. x 4 ft. for poultry. Pens larger than 50 ft. x 50 ft. are not considered take pens for hoofed stock. Pens larger than 25 ft. x 25 ft. are not considered take pens for poultry. In all three classes, the lead is removed before the handler opens the take pen gate. HTAD III handlers may not enter the pen when taking the stock out. HTAD II handlers may enter the pen with the dog but should not move the stock themselves. HTAD I handlers may assist the dog in moving the stock. An exception is made for cattle, where the handler may go in and assist if necessary at any level.
9. **Drive:** A drive section is included on the course. The length of the drive shall be preferably one-half or more of the length the arena, but must be no less than 100 feet for hoofed stock, 50 feet for poultry. The drive may be in the open or may be partially on the fence, but no more than one-half of the total drive length may be alongside a fence. In HTAD III, the stock will be driven the full minimum distance away from the handler. In HTAD II, the handler may accompany the stock for half the distance, then the stock must be driven the remainder of the distance away from the handler. Any drives longer than the minimum may be in the form of a drive away or cross-drive or both, and may be off or on the fence.
10. **Obstacles:** There are at least three obstacles. The obstacles are to be indicated on the course diagrams and may consist of panels, chutes, bridges, pens, trailers, or, in the case of poultry, crates. At least one obstacle must be freestanding, at least 20 ft. from any fence; the other obstacles may be either freestanding or on the fence. For hoofed stock, openings of obstacles may not be more than 12 ft. For poultry, openings of obstacles may not be more than 6 ft. Pens used as obstacles should measure approximately 8-12 ft. on each side for sheep/goats, 12-16 ft. on each side for cattle, 4-6 ft. on each side for poultry; sides may not be solid. Chutes and bridges or other narrow passages, while they may have a wider entrance as specified above, should be no more than 4 ft. for hoofed stock and 2 ft. for poultry in the runway section. Smaller "single-animal" runways are acceptable. The handler should not enter obstacles unless specifically allowed in the course description; the handler may, however, enter a pen or trailer to take the animals out after they have been penned or put in the trailer.
11. **Hold:** All classes include a hold, which takes place in an area approximately in the center of the arena. The stock is settled briefly and held in place. The judge signals the end of the hold/settle.

12. **Sort:** There is a sort at the HTAD III level only. The area for sorts other than a gate sort is located approximately halfway between the hold area and the repen gate. The sort may be one of the following: (a) Gate sort: The animals are taken to the repen gate. Two animals are gate-sorted and repenned first, leaving the remaining animals out in the arena. If there is more than one exit gate, different gates may be used in the sort. (b) Ribbon-removal/shed: The handler will remove the ribbon from the specified sheep. A shed of two animals may be used with sheep instead of a ribbon-removal. For cattle and ducks, a shed is done of two animals rather than a ribbon removal. Where three head of cattle are used, the sort/shed shall be with one animal separated from the remaining two. For ducks, putting a certain number of the ducks into a small carrying crate is an acceptable alternative, in which case the crate shall be set in the location specified for the shed.
13. **Repen:** The stock are repenned at the end of the course. The run ends when the repen gate is closed after the last animal has exited the arena.
14. **Course Time:** Course time for sheep, goats and poultry is 10 minutes for HTAD I and II, 12 minutes for HTAD III. Course time for cattle is 14 minutes for HTAD I and II, 17 minutes for HTAD III. Course times may be adjusted at the discretion of the judge to take into account larger arenas or other circumstances, but must be consistent throughout the classes. Time starts upon the dog leaving the handler's post for a gather, or the opening of the gate for a take pen. Time is stopped upon the closing of the repen gate.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR BTD - Boundary Trial Dog

The course must have perimeter fencing from which the stock cannot escape.

The course should include a clearly marked road or path for the stock to traverse. The road should be delineated by a furrow, sawdust, road base, mowed path, visible flat markers on the ground or a combination of the above.

A minimum of 65% of the roads must have borders or furrows on both sides and be off the fence line with the closest furrow/boundary being a minimum of 5 feet (or more) from a fence, in all levels. Maximum distance on the fence line with one border using the fence as a second boundary is 35% of the course in all levels.

All Boundary types and where they are located on the course (if multiple types are used) must be listed in the premium and course diagram.

Stock Requirements: A minimum of 15 sheep, goats, or a mixed flock of both must be used for each run. Using more livestock is preferred, as it gives the dog more work. Each head of livestock may only be run 8 times per day unless the stock is under 50 lbs in which case it can only run 4 times per day.

Runs should be no longer than 30 minutes in Level I, 35 minutes in Level II, and 40 minutes in Level III. Time may be extended by no more than 5 minutes per level at the discretion of the judge for longer courses.

Handlers may carry only a standard herding crook or stock stick (wood, fiberglass or aluminum). Dogs must wear standard flat buckle or snap collar or may run without a collar. Handlers should keep the leash/lead with them at all times. There should be a 3 to 5 minute rest period between runs to allow the stock to get water and to allow the handler to bring water for their dog to the stationary graze before their run, if they so choose.

Before submitting courses to the Boundary Course Coordinator, the course should be run with a level appropriate dog and handler to ensure expected course times and flow.

Course Layout: The Boundary Trial Dog course is a walking and grazing course. The total course distance should be a minimum of 300 yards and maximum of 1000 yards. The course should flow in a logical order, be manageable for young dogs, and may incorporate natural obstacles and terrain. Roads may be traversed repeatedly if needed to meet the yardage requirement. Gates must be left as they are found – a closed gate should be opened to allow the stock to pass and closed behind the handler, once the stock, dog and handler have cleared the gate.

A course diagram as well as a written description must be provided, specifying the placement of obstacles, directions of the course, as well as distances and measurements to the Boundary Course Coordinator prior to sanctioning.

Score sheets should flow in the order of the course elements with the exception of Roadwork/General Behavior which should be listed next to last with the Advanced Level III element being last on the score sheet.

Optional course elements shall be listed in the premium and course maps shall be provided to exhibitors. Boundary markers/types must be listed in the premium. Out of bounds should be listed on the premium as well as any hazards that may require protective gear. Course maps, descriptions, score sheets and any questions on optional elements should be sent to the Boundary Course Coordinator for approval prior to sending the final course in for sanctioning. **PLEASE ALLOW FOR SOME EXTRA TIME FOR THIS REVIEW AS WE ARE ALL GETTING FAMILIAR WITH THIS NEW COURSE**

COURSE ELEMENTS

- 1) Night Pen – (Mandatory element) – 10 Pts
- 2) Stationary Graze – (Mandatory element) – 15 Pts
- 3) Small Tractor/4-Wheeler/ATV/Lawn Mower/Golf Cart Pass – (Mandatory element) – 10 Pts
- 4) Moving Graze (Mandatory element) – 10 pts
- 5) Curving Paths (Incorporating both S and U shaped Path) **OR** Hay/Grain Feeder Obstacle (Select 1) – 10 Pts (Optional Element)
- 6) Bridge **OR** Trailer Load and Unload (Select 1) – 10 Pts (Optional Element)
- 7) Re Pen - (Mandatory element) – 10 Pts
- 8) General/Behavior. Roadwork (Mandatory element) – 15 Pts
- 9) Advanced Elements (Level III only, Select 1) – 10 Pts
 - a) Flock examination – Inspection for stock soundness at the Night Pen

OR

- b) Barrier on the path

TIE BREAKERS: Ties will be broken by higher level first then by the best score on the roadwork and then the best score on the stationary graze and then by overall time.

Obstacles and or panel components in the Boundary Trial Dog course should be at least 4' tall. Minimum distance between elements on the course is 50 feet.

COURSE ELEMENT DESCRIPTIONS

1. Night Pen – Mandatory – 10 pts:

Requirements: The gate on the pen must be safe and easy for handlers to open. The gate must have a solid frame and the handle must be easy to latch and unlatch with one hand. The gate should accommodate the flock safely. Water must be accessible in the night pen for the livestock. **Minimum size of 12 X 12 feet for 15 head or up to 48 X 48 feet for much larger flocks**

2. Stationary Graze – Mandatory – 15 pts:

Graze for 4-12 minutes. Level I – 4-6 minutes Level II – 7-9 minutes Level III – 10-12 minutes

All handlers within a level must have identical graze times.

Requirements: Grazing area including the corners will be clearly marked. **Minimum size shall be 50 feet X 100 feet.** If using the minimum amount of stock and the facility has limited area, considerations on size may be given on a case by case basis by contacting the AHBA Boundary Course Coordinator, prior to sanctioning.

If grazing conditions are inadequate, then a thin layer of forage must be spread evenly, both inside and outside the graze, to mimic natural grazing conditions prior to the start of each run. Nothing else is to be present during the run. No large clumps of forage or bales of hay may be present in the graze.

3. Small Tractor/4 Wheeler/ATV/Lawn Mower/Golf Cart Pass - Mandatory - 10 Pts:

The vehicle travels on the side of the road it normally would per regular USA driving rules. It is preferred that an un-entered exhibitor be the driver for all levels; however, if there are not enough volunteers, then an exhibitor may be used as the driver in Level II and Level III as long as they do not drive in the level in which they are competing. Only the driver is allowed in the vehicle.

Requirements: Vehicle must move at no more than 4 mph to remain safe for the dog, stock, and handler. The vehicle pass must happen in an area with an obviously marked boundary. The driver of the vehicle must have clear visibility of the dog, the handler and the entire flock during the vehicle pass.

Level I - stationary vehicle

Level II - 1 pass of the vehicle from the front or the rear. There must be 200 feet allowed for the vehicle pass at Level II before any other element or obstacle

Level III - 2 passes. The passes can be from both directions or 2 passes in the same direction. These vehicle passes do not need to be on the same road or same section of the road for Level III. There must be 400 to 500 feet allowed for the vehicle pass at Level III if both passes are on the same road; otherwise, there will be a minimum of 200 feet allowed for the pass on each separate road before any other element or obstacle

4. Moving Graze – Mandatory – 10 pts:

Requirement: **Minimum size: 35 feet by 125 feet**

– may be larger and shall have an elongated rectangular shape such as a median in the road would have.

A marker on both sides of the moving graze at 25 feet from the top should be placed to show the judge and exhibitors where the minimum distance of the send must happen for level III.

If grazing conditions are inadequate, then a thin layer of forage must be spread evenly, both inside and outside the graze, to mimic natural grazing conditions prior to the start of each run. Nothing else is to be present during the run. No large clumps of forage or bales of hay may be present in the graze.

5. Curving Paths -Incorporating BOTH S and U shaped or Hay/Grain Feeder Obstacle – Optional Element – Select 1 - 10 pts:

Curving Paths - Incorporating both S and U shape:

Requirements: Curving Paths should be a minimum of 200 feet (minimum of 100 ft for Levels I and II). The width of the S and U shape should be the same width as the road. There must be a visible boundary on this section of the road to allow the dog to work the curving border.

OR

Hay/Grain Feeder Obstacle:

Requirements: Must be a feeder that is used to feed the livestock

Level I and II – feeder filled with hay

Level III – feeder filled with hay and grain or produce that the stock will desire

6. Bridge or Trailer Load/Unload– Optional Element

– Select 1 – 10 pts:

Bridge:

Requirements: The bridge should be stable and safe. Bridge must be at least 12 feet long including the wings on both ends and must have a solid floor. A solid surface such as a piece of plywood, pavers, stall mat or similar, on the ground, is sufficient for flooring. Flooring does not need to cover the wing areas. The width of the bridge should be the width of the road. The height of the panels and the wings for the bridge should be at least 4 feet tall. The bridge flooring type must be listed in the premium.

Level III – Bridge with Distraction or Bridge with Drive. This option must be listed in the premium and course map.

Level III (Option 1) – Bridge with Distraction. The distraction for the bridge needs to be something that will not spook the livestock. The livestock should be exposed minimally to the distraction prior to trialing. Suggested distractions: Someone approaching the flock asking a question during the crossing (cannot be the main livestock feeder or someone the stock is very familiar with) – a flag moving – something simulating an off contact distraction for the dog.

OR

Level III (Option 2) – **Bridge with Drive.** Handler must stay at the entrance of the plane of the bridge and dog will drive/push stock across. The drive ends and the handler may leave the opening of the bridge after all of the stock have been driven 20 feet past the exit of the bridge. If the stock escape, the dog may be sent to cover the escape of the flock. Markers on the ground shall indicate where the drive ends.

OR

Trailer Load and Unload:

The trailer should be able to easily accommodate the group of stock for the loading/unloading process.

Requirements: The trailer should be stable and safe for the flock, the dog, and the handler. There shall be a 6 foot leash/rope attached to the handle of the back trailer door. The trailer must be out in the open but may have an extra wing attached to facilitate loading.

When unloading- at all levels – if there is a side door entry to the trailer – at the handlers option – they may leave the back door open – walk with the dog to the side door and push the stock out the back from the side door. The side door must be closed before going to close the back door of the trailer.

7. Re pen – Mandatory – 10 pts:

Requirements: The pen should be the same Night Pen where the run started.

8. Roadwork/General Behavior-Mandatory - 15 pts:

Requirements: Roads should be clearly marked by visible borders on both sides. *At all levels, at least 65% of roadwork is expected to be off the fence and the closest boundary on the road shall be a minimum of 5' from the fence (may be more) so the dog can work both sides if necessary. A maximum of 35% of the course may be a one furrowed road on a fence line of the Boundary course at all levels.* Roads should be a minimum of 12 feet wide.

9. Level III only task (Select One) – 10 pts:

a) Flock examination – Inspection for stock soundness at the Night Pen – 10 pts:

OR

b) Barrier in the path - 10 pts:

This should simulate a car accident, downed tree, construction, or some kind of barrier that the stock cannot navigate on the path but must go off the road and outside of the established furrow or border.

Requirements: The area around the barrier should be safely navigable, and will require the dog and handler to take the flock off the road a minimum of 25 feet. A marker shall identify the distance that the flock must be moved off the road. The barrier in the path can be located anywhere on the course where it is safe to negotiate as long as it does not begin or end within 50 feet of the previous or upcoming element. The barrier in the path must be removed prior to Level I and Level II running the course if they are using the same section of the road.

OTHER OPTIONAL ELEMENTS:

These elements may be substituted for the standard optional elements on the course with prior approval from the Boundary Course Coordinator before sending in for sanctioning. An optional element cannot be substituted for a mandatory element. If a facility would like to submit their own optional element to replace one of the optional elements listed here, they must submit the new optional element with the course description and list the objective, requirements, and suggested scoring deductions with the paperwork to the Boundary Course Coordinator prior to sending to the Sanctioning Coordinator.

Hikers on the course:

Requirements: Hikers may not be main livestock feeders or facility owner or someone with whom the livestock is extremely familiar. Hikers must be the same people throughout each level. They should perform the same for each dog within the class. It is preferred that un-entered exhibitors on this course will be the hikers for all levels; however, if there are not enough volunteers, then exhibitors may be used but may not be hikers in the level in which they are competing. Hikers are not to overtly engage the dog or the flock. They may step aside out off of the road and stop or keep walking as long as they do the same for every run.

Level I: 1 hiker on the course

Level II: 2 hikers on the course – 1 set of 2 hikers or 2 separate hikers on the course

Level III: 3 hikers on the course – 1 set of 2 hikers, and 1 separate hiker

Additional Chutes:

Requirements: Chute should be wide enough for easy passage.

Level I: Handler may move anywhere other than inside the chute to help the dog navigate stock through the obstacle

Level II: Handler will have limited movement on the chute which will be listed in the course description

Level III: Handler will have limited movement on the chute which will be listed in the course description and will be more challenging than Level

II

Sort Exercise of 5:

Requirements: Sorting pen will not be the Night Pen/Re Pen. This element may be used with chutes or double gates or alleyways with a pen attached.

Level I – sort any 5 head

Level II – sort 3 of the 5 head of a certain color or type or collared

Level III – sort 5 specific head of a certain color or type or collared

Stops on the Course:

Requirement: Stops should be at the same location for all exhibitors within the same level and should demonstrate the dogs ability to help the handler stop and hold the flock. Cones or other markers should be used for indicating the location of the stops at all levels.

Level I - 1 stop Level II - 2 stops

Level III - 3 stops of which one must be a hold against a hard draw such as a gate or pen or feeder

Fork in the Road:

The fork in the road shall be 135 or 225 degree angle from the approach on the road.

Requirements: The fork in the road should be in the shape of a Y with the handler negotiating the fork at the base of the Y shape.

Double Gate Passage:

There are 2 closed gates the handler must negotiate. The flock shall be put through both gates. Both gates must be closed behind the handler and livestock. Gates may be actual gates set at different angle with chutes in between. The gates must have a solid frame and the handle must be easy to latch and unlatch with one hand. If a facility wants to set gates on their course to emulate this double gate passage – they may choose to set 2 sets of panels on course with a gate in the middle at 2 different angles.

Requirements: Gates set at different angles. Gates must be wide enough to accommodate the stock without undue danger of hitting the gates. The minimum gate size for 15 head is a 4 foot gate. Gates do not have to be the same size. Gates must have solid frames and have easy to use handles on both gates.

Score sheets should flow in the order of the course elements with the exception of Roadwork/General Behavior which should be listed next to last with the Advanced Level III element being last on the score sheet.

