

**American Herding Breed Association Herding Tests & Trials**  
**Saturday May 3, 2025 & Sunday May 4, 2025**

**Hosted by Tidewater Herding Club**



At

**The Isle of Calais**

19393 Spring Lake Drive  
Smithfield, VA 23430



**For additional information contact:**

Tidewater Herding Club by email at [tidewaterstockdogs@gmail.com](mailto:tidewaterstockdogs@gmail.com)

Trial Site Hours – 7am to one hour after trial is completed.

These events will be held outdoors rain or shine.

**Eligibility:**

Open to all eligible AHBA breeds nine months or older as allowed by AHBA rules. All dogs must have a registration or AHBA tracking number to enter.

**Saturday/Sunday: 1 Test/Trial per day**

**First handler's meeting: 8am**

**1 run each per day of: HTAD-s/d/ge (4 head), JHD-s/d/ge (3 head), HRD-s/mixed (sheep and goats)**

HTAD will be course #5

HTAD III will do a gate sort. HRD Mixed flock will do a gate sort, HRD Sheep will do a gate sort with marked sheep.

**Judges:**

**Saturday- TBA**

**Sunday- TBA**

**Laura Noll will be judging one day, second judge is TBA.**

**Entry Fees:**

**All classes- \$50**

Additional \$5 per run for entries received after the pre-entry closing date, including same day entries. Same day entries will be accepted each day until 7:30 am if space is available.

**Opening and closing dates:**

No opening date. Pre-entry closing date will be April 19, 2025/. Entries received after this date will be an additional \$5 per run.

Entry confirmations will be sent by email.

**To Enter:**

**Entry:** Fill out the google form linked below. Enter one dog per entry form.

Entry form link:

[Click Here for entry form](#)

**Payment:** Please send payment via PayPal to [tidewaterstockdogs@gmail.com](mailto:tidewaterstockdogs@gmail.com) and include your name plus the name of the dog that the entry is for. You may combine entries for multiple dogs into one payment.

PayPal link:

<http://paypal.me/tidewaterherdingclub>

**Entry Limits:**

Entry limits are as follows per day:

45 run limit per day total, classes will be filled until this limit is reached

JHD sheep and geese- 5 runs each

HTAD s,ge,d- 9 runs each

HRD sheep, mixed flock- 9 runs each

Entries received after these limits have been reached will be placed on an alternate list in the order in which they are received. Classes will be filled according to stock availability (ie, if HRD sheep does not fill, more HTAD sheep runs may be accepted)

Keep an eye on the Tidewater Herding Club Facebook page for updates on other club events and information pertaining to the trial!

Link to our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/TidewaterHerdingClub?mibextid=LQJ4d>

**Awards:** (subject to change, additional prizes may be offered)

- Flat ribbons for all qualifying runs & flat ribbons for 1st – 4th placements.
- Rosettes for High in Trial and Reserve High in Trial
- Rosettes available for new titles, just let us know!
- Rosettes available for new Champions

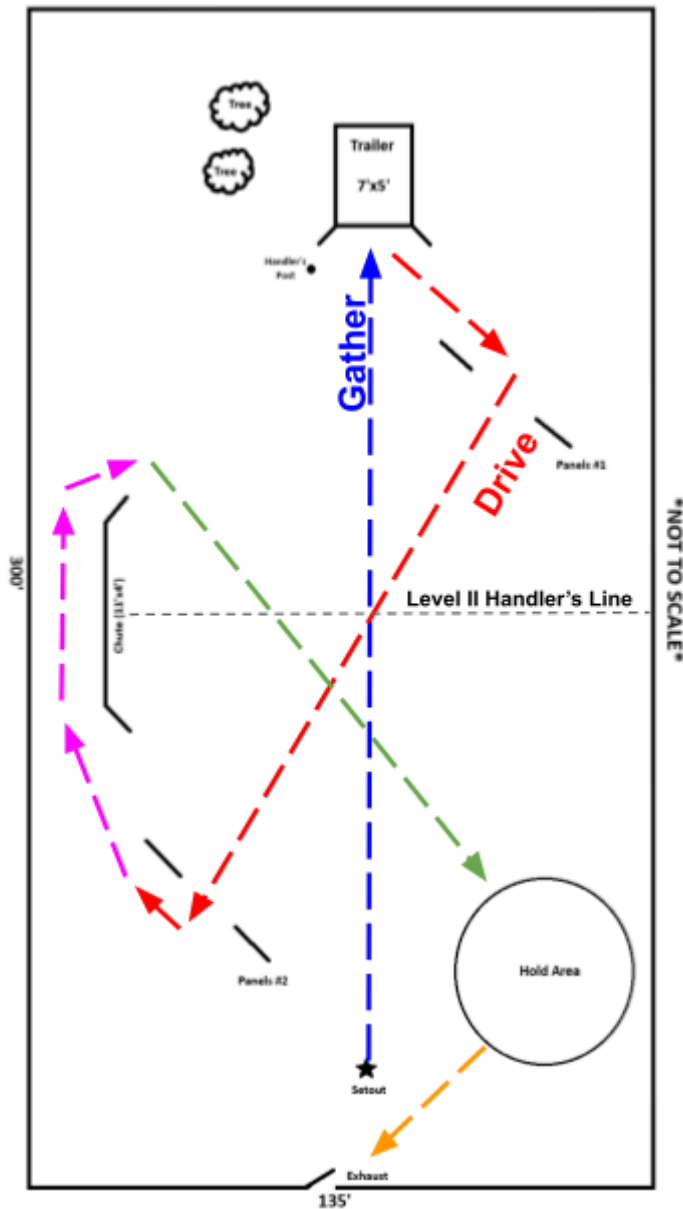
### ***The Triple Crown***

Since our trial is being held on the same weekend as the Kentucky Derby, we will be offering a special “Triple Crown” prize for the highest combined 3 scores over the weekend. All participants who enter 3 or more trial classes (excluding JHD) will be eligible. Your highest 3 scores from the weekend, in any classes, will be combined for your score. Scores are per dog, not handler. Our Triple Crown winner will receive a special ribbon and prizes.

### ***The VA Triple Crown***

In addition to our own Triple Crown, our trial is being held in conjunction with two other trials also coinciding with triple crown race weekends. Further details to come.

## Course Diagrams and Descriptions HTAD Diagram



**HTAD Sheep-** Dimensions in diagram. Arena is 100'x300'

**HTAD Geese-** Arena is 100'x100'

**HTAD Ducks-** Arena is 60'x120'

**Time will begin when the dog is sent. Time ends when the exhaust gate is closed. Handlers may not pass through any panels or obstacles.**

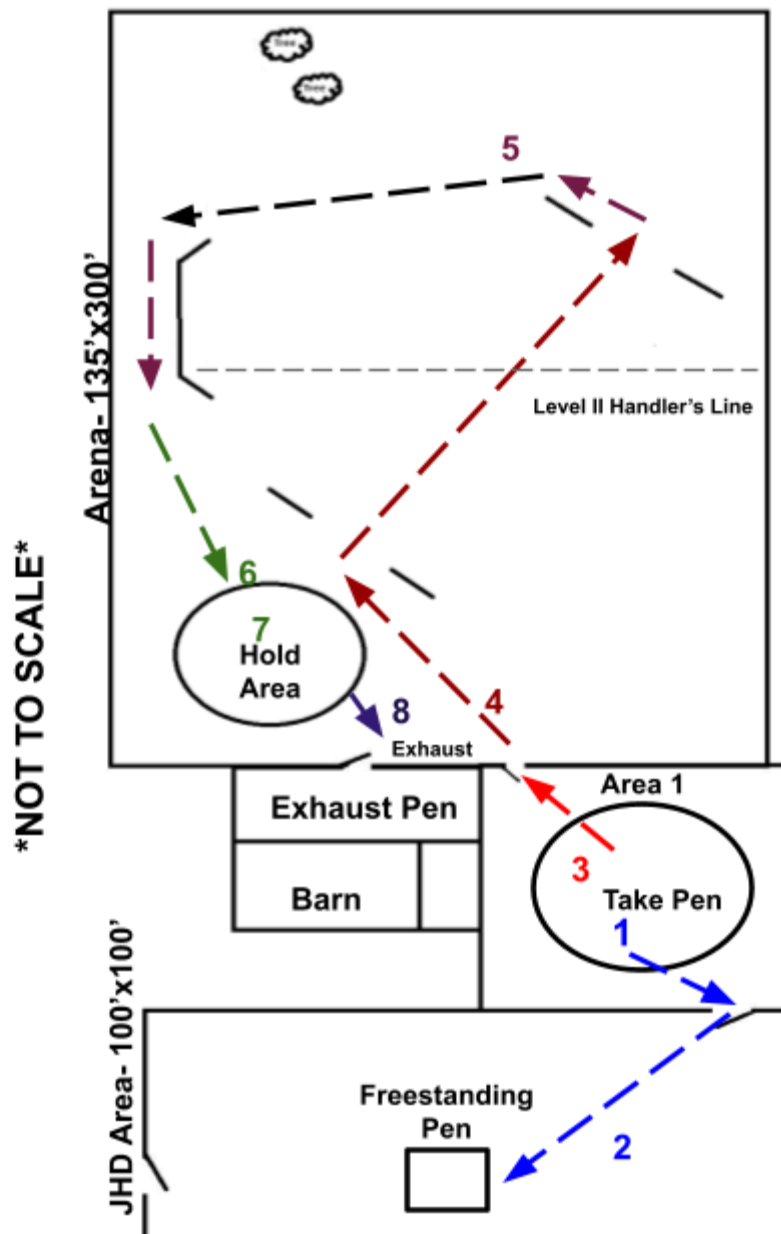
- **HTAD I-** Handlers may move anywhere on the course but may not pass through obstacles
- **HTAD II-** Handlers may move anywhere up to the Level II handler's line but may not pass it until indicated otherwise
- **HTAD III-** Handlers may move to the trailer as sheep pass the handler's post to begin loading and must remain at the trailer until indicated otherwise

- **Gather- 20 points:** The stock will be let out at the end of the arena at the designated place. The stock is to be gathered based on the following:
  - **HTADI:** The handler may leave the dog at a point approximately halfway between the post and the stock and move to approximately 15 ft. from the stock, then send the dog to gather the stock.
  - **HTADII:** The handler may leave the dog at the handler's post and move to a point approximately halfway between the post and the stock, then send the dog to gather the stock.
  - **HTADIII:** The handler remains at the post while the dog is sent from there to gather the stock.
- **Trailer - 15 points:** The stock should be brought directly to the opening of the trailer and loaded onto the trailer, without the handler entering the trailer. Stock will then be unloaded from the trailer, preferably without the dog entering the trailer unless absolutely needed.
- **Panels #1 - 10 points:** After stock exit the trailer, they will be taken to and through the first set of panels to begin the drive.
- **Drive - 10 points:** Stock are driven/worn in a straight line across the arena to the second set of panels
- **Panels #2 - 10 points:** Stock are driven through the second set of panels and turned clockwise towards the chute.
- **Chute/Bridge - 15 points:** Stock are taken to and through the chute. The dog may enter the chute, but is not required to.
  - **HTAD II and HTAD III-** handler's may leave their designated places and proceed to the hold area AFTER all stock have exited the chute.
- **Hold - 5 points:** Handler and stock proceed to the designated hold area. Stock are to be settled and held in place briefly until the judge calls the hold.
- **Gate Sort, Level III only - 10 points:** The sort is done by Level III handlers only. The stock are taken to the exhaust gate. The number of animals to be sorted will be indicated by the judge at the handler's meeting. The required number of animals are gate sorted into the exhaust area. Handlers shall not touch or shut the gate on stock. The sort ends when the gate is closed after the required number of animals have been sorted.
- **Exhaust - 5 points:** The stock are taken to the exhaust and held a short distance off the gate while it is opened, and then are exhausted. For the gate sort, the animals that had been left out in the arena are exhausted. The run ends when the exhaust gate is closed after the last animal has exited the arena. Handlers and dogs may not enter the exhaust

**Tie Breakers for HTAD:**

- 1: Gather
- 2: Chute
- 3: Time

## HRD Mixed Flock Diagram



### HRD Mixed Flock- Sheep and Goats

Course time: 15 minutes

Time will begin when the take pen gate is opened. Time ends when the final exhaust gate is closed. Handlers may not pass through any panels or obstacles.

- 1. Take Pen Sort - 15 points:** The mixed flock of sheep and goats are in the take pen which is located inside of Area 1. Sort goats out of the pen, with the sheep remaining inside the pen. Handler and dog may be inside or outside of the pen. Move the goats through the gate from Area 1 into the JHD area. Scoring ends when the last goat has gone through the gate into the JHD Area. Close JHD gate behind you.

- **2. Pen Goats - 10 points:** Pen goats in the freestanding pen inside the JHD area. Leave the goats in the pen. Then proceed back to the take pen, closing the JHD gate behind you. Scoring ends when the dog exits the JHD Area.
- **3. Take Pen Sheep - 10 points:** Take sheep out of the take pen and through the Area 1 gate into the arena. Close the gate behind you. Scoring ends when the last sheep enters the arena.
- **4. Drive - 20 points:** Drive the sheep through panels #1 and panels #2, then proceed to the bridge.
  - **HRDI-** handler may move anywhere within the arena, but may not pass through panels or obstacles
  - **HRDII-** handler may move up to the halfway point in the arena as indicated on the diagram
  - **HRDIII-** handler must remain are the Arena gate
- **5. Elevated chute- 15 points:** After completing the drive, sheep should be moved to and through the elevated chute quietly. Scoring ends when the last sheep exits the chute.
  - **HRDI-** handler may move anywhere within the arena, but may not pass through panels or obstacles
  - **HRDII-** handler may move up to the halfway point in the arena as indicated on the diagram
  - **HRDIII-** handler must remain at the Arena gate until the last sheep has exited the chute, and then may proceed to the hold area
- **6. Hold - 10 points:** Proceed to the designated hold area as indicated on the diagram which is the roughly triangular area formed between the first set of panels, the chute, and the lower left corner of the arena. Hold the sheep in place until the judge calls a hold
- **7. Ribbon Pull, Level III only - 10 points:** After the hold is called, remove the ribbon from the marked sheep.
- **8. Exhaust Sheep - 10 points:** Proceed to the designated exhaust gate. The sheep should be held off the gate while it is opened. Exhaust the sheep.

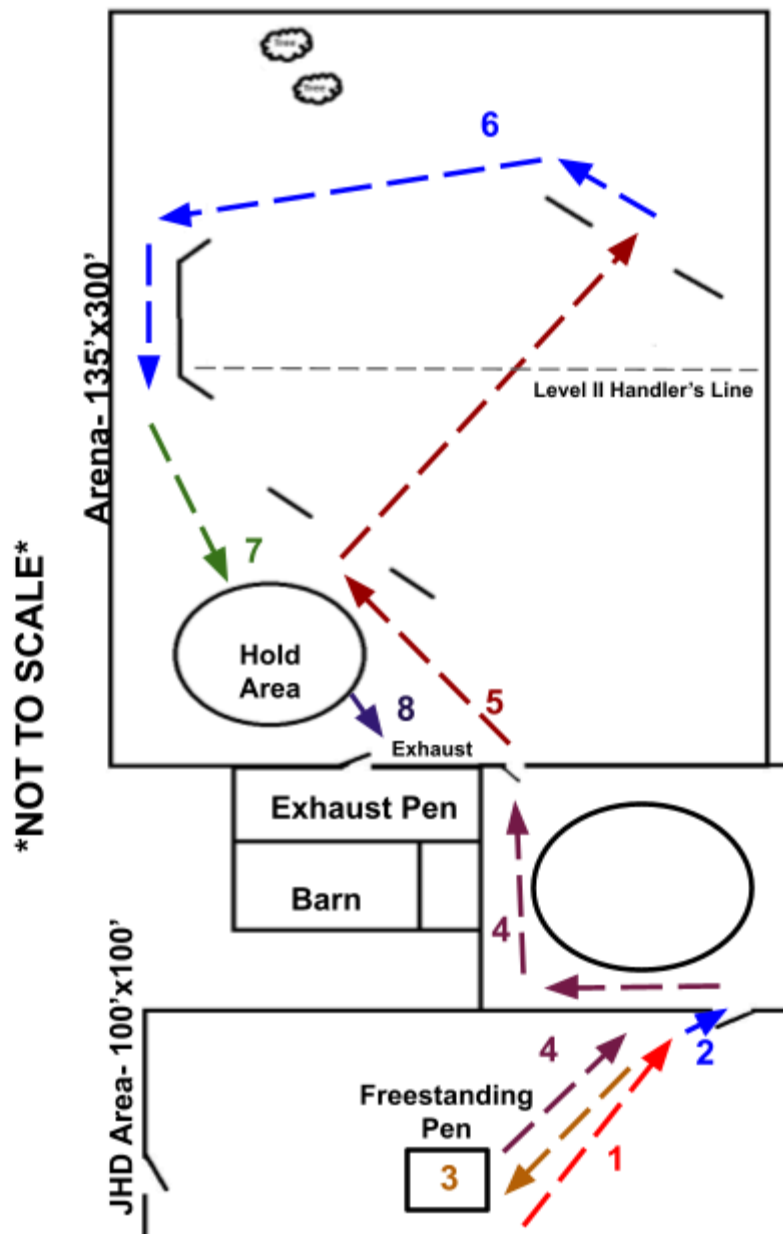
**Tie Breakers for HRD Mixed:**

**1: Drive**

**2: Take Pen Sort**

**3: Time**

## HRD Sheep Diagram



### HRD Sheep

Course time: 15 minutes

Time will begin when the dog is sent for the gather. Time ends when the final exhaust gate is closed. Handlers may not pass through any panels or obstacles.

- **1. Gather- 15 points:** The handler and dog will enter the JHD through the gate from Area 1. The stock will be in the JHD area at the far end when the handler and dog enter. The stock is to be gathered based on the following:
  - **HRDI:** The handler may leave the dog at a point approximately halfway between the gate and the stock and move to approximately 15 ft. from the stock, then send the dog to gather the stock.



- **HRDII:** The handler may leave the dog at the gate and move to a point approximately halfway between the gate and the stock, then send the dog to gather the stock.
- **HRDIII:** The handler remains at the gate while the dog is sent from there to gather the stock.
- **2. Gate Sort- 10 points:** The sheep are to be sorted at the gate between the JHD Area and Area 1. They are to be sorted according to level as specified below:
  - **HRDI and HRDII:** Sort any 4 sheep out the gate, keeping 3 in the JHD Area.
  - **HRDIII- 10 additional points:** There will be three marked sheep in the group. Sort the 4 unmarked sheep through the gate, keeping the 3 marked sheep in the JHD Area.
- **3. Pen Remaining Sheep - 10 points:** Pen the sheep that remain in the JHD Area into the freestanding pen inside the JHD area. Then remove the sheep from the freestanding pen. Scoring ends when the pen gate is closed after sheep are removed.
- **4. Take Sheep To Arena- 5 points:** Take the sheep through the gate into Area 1 and rejoin them with the other 4 sheep. Close the gate behind you. Take the group of 7 sheep through Area 1 and into the Arena. Scoring ends when the last sheep enters the arena.
- **5. Drive - 20 points:** Drive the sheep through panels #1 and panels #2, then proceed to the bridge.
  - **HRDI-** handler may move anywhere within the arena, but may not pass through panels or obstacles
  - **HRDII-** handler may move up to the halfway point in the arena as indicated on the diagram
  - **HRDIII-** handler must remain at the Arena gate
- **6. Elevated Chute- 15 points:** After completing the drive, sheep should be moved to and through the elevated chute quietly. Scoring ends when the last sheep exits the chute.
  - **HRDI-** handler may move anywhere within the arena, but may not pass through panels or obstacles
  - **HRDII-** handler may move up to the halfway point in the arena as indicated on the diagram
  - **HRDIII-** handler must remain at the Arena gate until the last sheep has exited the chute, and then may proceed to the hold area
- **7. Hold - 10 points:** Proceed to the designated hold area as indicated on the diagram which is the roughly triangular area formed between the first set of panels, the chute, and the lower left corner of the arena. Hold the sheep in place until the judge calls a hold
- **8. Exhaust Sheep - 5 points:** Proceed to the designated exhaust gate. The sheep should be held off the gate while it is opened. Exhaust the sheep.

**Tie Breakers for HRD Sheep:**

**1: Drive**

**2: Gate Sort**

**3: Time**

**Policies:**

- This trial shall be run under all AHBA rules and regulations. FMI: [www.ahba-herding.org](http://www.ahba-herding.org)
- Each individual is responsible for any damage caused by himself, his family or his dog while in the trial arena or on the trial grounds.
- Livestock replacement costs are as follows: Ducks - \$75, Geese - \$100, Sheep- \$300.
- AHBA, Tidewater Herding Club, The Isle of Calais, and all trial workers assume no responsibility for any accident or injury.

- Bitches in season may take part. For test classes, please notify the trial secretary so your dog can run last.
- All dogs must be kept on leash or contained in a vehicle when not competing and remain a sufficient distance from the trial arenas.
- All individuals are responsible for cleaning up after their dogs. Poop bags and scoopers will be available throughout the property with designated trash cans for waste to be placed in.
- A run order will be sent to all participants prior to the trial.
- This is a working farm. Please do not pet or feed livestock or donkeys. Do not go beyond the trial site limits. Do not go through closed gates or enter buildings.
- Entry fees will only be refunded if a request is received before the pre-entry closing date.
- All individuals on the property must complete a liability waiver. Follow the link below to fill out the form.

Link to the liability waiver:

<https://app.hellosign.com/s/5mwPtqqd>

**Emergency Vet:**

Animal Emergency Center

2025 George Washington Mem. Hwy Yorktown, VA 23693 757-234-0461

**Concessions:**

Water and coffee will be available. There are multiple restaurants, both fast food and sit down, within 10-15 minutes driving distance of the trial site.

**Accommodations:** (Please check with hotels for current pet policy.)

- Econo Lodge, 20080 Brewers Neck Blvd, Carrollton, VA (855)849-1513 4 miles to trial.
- Red Roof Inn, 1925 Coliseum Dr. (I-64 Exit 263B) Hampton, VA (757) 838-1870 or 1-800-843-7663. 25 min to trial.
- Days Inn Newport News, 14747 Warwick Blvd Newport News VA 855-799-6859. 30 min to trial.
- Limited RV Parking/Dry Camping on site- please contact Tidewater Herding Club at [tidewaterstockdogs@gmail.com](mailto:tidewaterstockdogs@gmail.com) for more information. Pre-reservations ONLY.
- There are some local parks that allow camping.
- Shaded parking on site.

**BY ENTERING THIS TRIAL YOU AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:**

**IMPORTANT. READ THIS FIRST.**

In consideration for participation in an event sanctioned by the American Herding Breed Association (AHBA), I agree to assume all responsibility for any claim, loss or damage, of whatever kind or nature, whether to person or property, which may be caused at or near this event, either directly or indirectly, by me or the dog or dogs I have entered in or brought to this event. I further agree that I will hold the AHBA, its officers, directors, agents and members harmless and defend them from any and all liability for any injury, claim, damage or loss, of whatever kind or nature, whether to person or property, caused at or near this event, whether directly or indirectly, by me or any dog I have entered in or brought to this event. I agree to indemnify the AHBA, its officers, directors, agents and members for any loss, cost or expense including attorney fees and costs, to which the AHBA, its officers, directors, agents or members might be subject as a result of any claim, suit, loss or damage caused in any way by any act or negligence on my part or on the part of any dog or dogs I have entered in or brought to this event. I acknowledge that while the AHBA may provide sanctioning for this event with regard to the issuing of titles, it does not have and does not exercise control over the conduct of the event or those present. I certify and represent that the dog or dogs I have entered in or brought to this event is/are not a hazard to other dogs, other animals, or to people.

**A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!**

The following companies have very kindly provided items that will be used as trial prizes, goody bag fillers, and raffle items to make our trial lots of fun for everyone.

**1-TDC Works So Well**  
**Austin And Kat**  
**Barkbox**  
**Black Gold Dog Food**  
**Crump's Naturals**  
**E-collar Technologies**  
**GoodPet Kitchen**  
**Gun Dog Supply**  
**Max and Neo**  
**No Bad Dogs**  
**Oh Norman**  
**Outdoor Dog Supply**  
**Verus Pet Foods**  
**Wagwear**  
**Wilderness Athlete**  
**Wondercide**

