



JUNIOR HERDING DOG TEST COURSE DIAGRAM

Note: this course may also be set up in an open field, by substituting two free-standing panels for the corner panels. These free-standing panels should be located approximately where the corner panels would be in an arena, and should be similar in size and form to the center panel.

The course is described as follows:

1. The stock are freestanding in the middle of the short side near the top of the arena, well off the fence. The dog may be brought in on lead, and the handler may gently guide the dog by the collar to a position within no less than 15 ft. of the stock before removing the lead. Off-lead, the dog must hold a stand, sit or down, then is released to gather and/or drive the stock. Throughout the course, the handler may take any position relative to the stock and dog and may move anywhere on the course, including through the obstacles. The handler may not touch the dog once the stock are set in motion.
2. The stock are taken through the panels. The handler may take the center panel either on the return from the corner panels or on the way to the corner panels (when negotiating the corner panels, the handler may choose to do either the righthand or lefthand panel first). The stock are then taken to the pen. The dog is stopped, holding the stock in place, while the handler opens the gate to the pen. After the stock have entered, the handler must close the gate; the dog should remain outside the pen.
3. The judge must observe the handler and dog and may not physically assist the handler and dog, but may advise the handler on how best to encourage the dog to move the stock and how to maneuver around the course.
4. The dog must demonstrate its ability to collect and control stock, put stock in motion, move the stock in straight lines and turns, negotiate obstacles and come to a reliable stop at the pen. The stock must be taken through both corner panels and through the center obstacle to qualify.
5. Dogs are not to be allowed to rough up, trample or grip stock. Unruly dogs or dogs which attempt to attack the stock must be taken from the arena immediately. Dogs which are excessively fearful of the stock should be removed. Dogs showing lack of progress should be removed from the arena after five minutes.
6. Testing is completed and the handler may leash the dog as soon as the gate is closed.
7. Course time is 10 minutes.