



**DOGS VICTORIA
HERDING JUDGES TRAINING SCHEME**

2014 - 2015

This is the Dogs Victoria Herding Judges Training Scheme for 2014/2015 which is based on the ANKC Judges Training and Assessment Program for Herding, adopted January 1, 2005.

December, 2014

Preamble

Australian National Kennel Council Ltd (ANKC) Member Bodies will be responsible for the Training, Testing, Assessment and Maintenance of Judging licences.

Accordingly, in the State of Victoria, these matters are the responsibility of Dogs Victoria.

CHAPTER 1 JUDGES TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM

Section 1 ANKC Regulations How to Become a Judge

Section 2 Judges Code of Practice

Section 3 Competencies for Judges

Section 4 Guidelines for Theory Assessments

Section 5 Procedure for Judges Theory Assessment

Section 6 Procedure for Judges Practical Assessment.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2015

Compulsory Introductory Lecture for ALL Aspirants / Trainees

Saturday, February 21st, 2015, KCC Park at 2.00 pm

Herding Clinics for ALL licensed ANKC Herding Judges

In accordance with ANKC Herding Rule, 2.1.2, whereby Judges must attend a compulsory clinic at least every three years, there will be TWO clinics offered in 2015. Attendance at ONE of these is COMPULSORY

1. Sunday, March 15th, 2015, KCC Park at 2.00 pm

Livestock Handling and Well-Being

2. Sunday, October 18th, KCC Park at 2.00 pm

Suggested Scoring and Arena Management

(Non-attendance at compulsory lectures will preclude application for / renewal of a licence, unless a written apology acceptable to the Herding Committee is received within seven (7) days of the relevant lecture. Such apology must be addressed to the Herding Committee and sent via the Office of DOGS Victoria)

SECTION 1: HOW TO BECOME A JUDGE

- 1.1 Application Procedure. All applications for entry into the Judges Training Program must be on the nominated form and be received before the nominated date. To be eligible to enter the Program the applicant must:
- [a] have been a member of the ANKC Member Body for a total period of not less than five [5] years, but dispensation may be given for persons with sufficient experience in this discipline
 - [b] be over 18 years of age;
 - [c] be approved by the Member Body.
- 1.2 Eligibility to judge all Test Levels. The only persons eligible to judge Instinct Test shall be those who have been accepted into the Herding Judges Training Scheme.
- Applicants must have:
- [a] trained and trialled a dog to a Pre-Trial test title
 - [b] acted as Scribe and Stock Handler for at least three Herding Tests and at least three Pre-Trial Tests within 12 months prior to application
 - [c] attended relevant lecture/workshops before to undertaking theory assessment
 - [d] passed theory and practical assessment for Test levels
- 1.3 Eligibility for first Trial Course licence. To be eligible to apply for a Herding Judges Licence in a given course the applicant must have:
- [a] eligibility to judge Pre-Trial Test;
 - [b] judged a minimum of three [3] Pre-Trial Tests;
 - [c] acted as Scribe for at least three Herding Judges at trial events on chosen course within 12 months [24 months for C course];
 - [d] trained and trialled a dog at Intermediate level on chosen course;
 - [e] attended relevant lecture/workshops before to undertaking theory assessment
 - [f] passed theory and practical assessment for Trial licence
- 1.4 Eligibility for subsequent Trial Course licence(s). To be eligible to apply for a Herding Judges Licence in a given course the applicant must have:
- [a] judged a minimum total of 6 dog runs over at least 2 trials
 - [b] attended relevant lecture/workshops before to undertaking theory assessment
 - [c] passed theory and practical assessment for Trial licence
- 1.5 Written Assessment and Practical Tests.
- [a] Completion of practical training is mandatory for all licences. A minimum of two [2] practical training sessions must be completed. Sessions must include a minimum of five [5] dogs of varying breeds where possible. The Judges Training Co-ordinator monitoring the applicant in the practical training session shall give verbal feedback to the applicant.
 - [b] No person may apply for more than one licence in any one assessment period (an assessment period is the time taken up to and including the successful completion of a practical assessment for a licence).
 - [c] all applicants for licences must attend the relevant lecture/workshops and complete practical training where required for their particular discipline within twelve [12] months prior to application.

[d] Non attendance at required lecture/workshops will preclude application for a licence, unless a written explanation acceptable to the Dogs Victoria Herding Committee is received within seven [7] days of the relevant lecture.

1.6 Written* Assessment.

(* assessment may be oral if a candidate requests)

- [a] All applicants for a Herding Licence must pass a written (or oral) Assessment.
- [b] All written assessments shall require a 75% pass mark
- [c] A pass in a written assessment will remain valid until the adoption of the next ANKC Rule changes for that discipline.
- [d] An applicant failing a written or practical Assessment may request a review. Such request must be received by the Office within fourteen [14] days of notification of a result.
- [e] All applicants who pass a written Assessment must pass a Practical Assessment, prior to being granted a licence
- [f] The Assessment Panel will consist of at least three [3] qualified Herding Judges (all of whom are Accredited Assessors) appointed by the Herding Committee.
- [g] The Assessment Panel must reach a majority decision prior to recommendation to Dogs Victoria that a Licence be granted.
- [h] All written (theoretical) assessment papers shall consist of “multi choice and/or short answer”
- [i] Written assessment papers must be marked by at least two and if necessary three markers (at least one of whom shall be an Accredited Assessor). A third marker will be required only where there is a divided decision. The trainee must receive a pass mark by the majority of markers to achieve a pass.
- [j] The results are to be collated by the Training Co-ordinator who will send all documentation to the Dogs Victoria office. The office will advise applicants of the result of their written assessment.

1.7 Rule Changes. Following any Rule changes by the ANKC, all Judges must attend lectures/workshops conducted to explain/discuss such Rule changes.

SECTION 2: JUDGES CODE OF PRACTICE

ANKC National Judge's Code of Practice and Conduct

Note: This is the National Judges code of practice (amended 2013), please note points 7, 13 and 16 are not applicable to Herding Judges

1. A Judge shall act with professional decorum at all times.
2. A Judge shall give every exhibit and exhibitor fair and equal opportunity in each and every class.
3. A Judge shall act in a polite manner whilst carrying out each judging assignment.
4. A Judge shall present himself/herself in attire that is acceptable, appropriate and comfortable for each judging assignment.
5. A Judge is required to be punctual in availability to fulfil their judging assignment.
6. If in the judging procedures an exhibit displays an obvious physical impediment or is unable to be handled or can be regarded as savage or vicious the exhibit should be excused from the competition, in accordance with the ANKC Ltd Member Body rules/regulations.
7. A Judge shall not enter or exhibit any dog at any Conformation Show at which he or she is appointed to judge.
8. Should an exhibitor offer information to the Judge that may be regarded as designed to influence the Judge, the Judge shall excuse the exhibitor and their exhibit from competition and report the incident in accordance with the ANKC Ltd Member Body rules/regulations.
9. Should a Judge be approached to favour or disfavour a particular exhibit the matter is to be reported to the Administrator of the ANKC Ltd Member Body.
10. Should a Judge be approached with an inducement and/or bribe to advantage or disadvantage an exhibit the Judge is to report the matter in writing to the Administrator of the ANKC Ltd Member Body.
11. A Judge shall not solicit a judging appointment.
12. A Judge shall not solicit or seek entry of any particular dog or dogs.
13. A Judge shall not allow entries for a Conformation Show at which that person is judging to be received at the Judge's address.
14. A Judge shall complete all the requirements of the judging contract promptly. Any verbal acceptance of an assignment by a Judge shall be subject to the receipt of the contract within fourteen (14) days.
15. At the time of completing a contract the Judge shall inform the inviting body of any disability or limitation that could restrict carrying out in full the reasonable handling of all exhibits to be judged.
16. A Judge shall avoid duplicating assignments in the same breed within a minimum of 3 months of each other and within a minimum of a 200 kilometre radius of Championship Shows, Open Shows and Parades. 10/97
17. A Judge shall honour each contract and will not be free to accept an alternative contract that will effect his or her availability to fulfil the original contract except with the written dispensation of the contracting Club. 5/98
18. Accommodation provided to the Judge to fulfil an assignment is for the Judge only except where prior mutual agreement has been reached with the sponsoring body for variation.
19. A Judge shall be responsible for the cost of all personal telephone calls, alcoholic beverages and any personal laundering except where mutual agreement has been reached with the sponsoring body at the time the contract is accepted.
20. A Judge who withdraws from any contracted appointment for any reason shall not be permitted to judge at any other canine event wherever held on any date that would prevent him/her from attending the originally contracted event, unless dispensation has been granted in accordance with Clause 17. 5/98

SECTION 3: COMPETENCIES FOR JUDGES

- 3.1 Criteria satisfied according to guidelines “How to become a Herding Judge”.
- 3.2 Knowledge of ANKC rules for each discipline accurately demonstrated.
- 3.3 Knowledge of current relevant Controlling Body constitution, rules and regulations demonstrated.
- 3.4 Handler and dogs ability to work as a team assessed according to ANKC rules.
- 3.5 Competitor assessed for each individual exercise according to ANKC and Controlling Body rules.
- 3.6 Judges Lectures. Judges lectures/workshops are delivered on an annual basis and are a compulsory part of the Judges Training Program
- 3.7 Lecturers. Lecturers are to be nominated by the Herding Committee on the basis of experience in judging and general involvement in the discipline concerned. Lecturers are to cover the following;
- Rules and regulations relevant to the discipline.
 - Requirements of the Judges Training Program.
 - Judges responsibilities.
 - Planning of ring.
 - Instructions to stock handlers, scribes and timers
 - Practical judging procedures.
 - Procedures to be followed for aggressive dogs
- 3.8 Fitness to Judge.
- 3.8.1 ANKC Regulations Part 2, Point 1.3 states: All Judges Application Forms, both new and renewal, shall contain the following declaration to be signed by the applicant:
- “ I declare that I am physically fit and capable of judging in accordance with the Rules and in the normal accepted manner, and if required I am prepared to undergo a medical fitness test and/or vision test at the discretion of the Control. I further accept the Control may refuse to grant any renewal of licence and may cancel or suspend for any period or vary in any way any licence already granted. Or may grant, in part, only an application for renewal of licence.”*
- 3.8.2 Should Dogs Victoria consider that either an applicant or a licenced judge is unable to meet 3.8.1 Dogs Victoria has the right to:
- [a] Refuse the application;
 - [b] Refuse to grant any renewal of the licence to any persona and may cancel or suspend for any period or vary in any way any licence already granted; or
 - [c] Direct any judge to undergo a medical “Fitness to Judge” examination by a nominated medical officer; or
 - [d] Grant in part only an application for renewal of licence.

SECTION 4: GUIDELINES FOR THEORY ASSESSMENTS

- 4.1 All assessment must be objective – that is only one (1) correct answer.
- [a] Multiple choice questions are an obvious example of objective questions, but they can be difficult, but not hard to set, for the beginner, given guidelines. (These guidelines are most important, because these questions can easily degenerate to being too easy/obvious or just confusing. One of the problems is that you have to set a large number of questions to obtain a reasonable assessment.)
 - [b] Leave a space questions can be useful for a particular purpose ie. verbatim answers, straight from the rule book.
 - [c] short answer or essay type questions (these are easy to set but can be very difficult to assess objectively)
 - [d] Practical situation questions eg "What would you do if ?" These question can be set in either multiple choice (preferable) or short answer.
 - [e] The person setting the assessment paper must supply an answer sheet. The answer sheet must indicate the correct OBJECTIVE answer for each question, including questions which contain a variety of components
- 4.2 All Questions must have an Objective System of Marking – for example – one (1) answer = one mark.
- [a] If two or more responses are necessary, then two or more marks must be allocated for that question ie one mark for each part of the question. Or the question must be divided into two or more questions.
 - [b] If one part of a question is correct one mark is awarded
 - [c] It is not possible to have 2 marks or no marks for a question
 - [d] Each of these areas would receive one mark which would be indicated on the answer sheet.
- 4.3 The written assessment for the discipline of Herding will be in two sections:
- [a] General section (open book)
 - [b] Instinct Tests, Herding Tests, Pre-Trial Tests, Started, Intermediate, Advanced features for each exercise according to relevant class (closed book)
- Each section will require a minimum pass mark of 75%.
- 4.4 Criteria for distance written assessment:
- [a] Candidate to indicate preference for distance written assessment on judges application form.
 - [b] Candidate must reside in excess of 150 kilometres from the Member Body office.
 - [c] Assessment must be administered at an approved assessment centre ie. local TAFE College. To be organised and funded by the candidate.
 - [d] Member Body must receive confirmation in writing and on letterhead, from the assessment centre prior to test being forwarded.

- [e] Assessment papers are to be sent by the Controlling Body office by secure mail, to the assessment centre and returned to the Controlling Body by the assessment centre.
- [f] Distance assessment is to be conducted concurrently with written assessments being conducted in the Controlling Body offices.
- [g] Papers will be marked and results collated and disseminated in similar manner to central system.

SECTION 5: PROCEDURE FOR JUDGES THEORY ASSESSMENTS

- 5.1 Applicants must use the candidate number allocated to them on each sheet of the assessment paper, in the space provided. A list of numbers linking to the candidate is to be kept in a sealed envelope by one of the Herding Training panel members on the night until all papers have been marked.
- 5.2 Assessment papers are not to be marked in any way (comments, ticks, crosses, etc) in pencil or ink.
- 5.3 At their discretion the Accredited Assessor (or delegate) supervising the written assessment may give clarity to any question an applicant is unable to understand. The Accredited Assessor will not give guidance on how to answer questions.
- 5.4 Assessment papers will be marked in accordance to 1.6 [h] and 1.6 [i] using the marking sheet provided 4.1 [e]
- 5.5 In accordance with 1.6 [j], Dogs Victoria office will notify applicants of the result of their written assessment. Unsuccessful applicants will be advised of the process for review as per 1.6 [d]

SECTION 6: PROCEDURE FOR PRACTICAL HERDING JUDGES ASSESSMENT

- 6.1 The following instructions are provided for the information of Candidates, Stewards and Testing Panel members. All officials and candidates must be provided with a copy of these instructions prior to the day of the test.
- 6.2 It will be the responsibility of the appointed Herding Judges Training Co-ordinator to arrange:
 - 6.2.1. the venue, dogs, handlers and stationery.
 - 6.2.2. suitably qualified dogs which are necessary to enable all candidates to be properly and fairly assessed.
- 6.3 Herding Judges Assessment Panel
The Panel will comprise of at least 3 licensed judges (who are Accredited Assessors) appointed by the Herding Committee.
 - The members of each panel will be arranged by the convenor.
 - 6.3.1. Panel members will be chosen from the current Judges Training and Assessment Panel.
 - 6.3.2. The same panel will assess all candidates aspiring for a

particular licence.

- 6.3.3. The assessment panel must not move around unnecessarily and shall be positioned so that they can independently assess each dog.
- 6.3.4. While the necessity of brief discussion between the panel members for the purpose of clarification is understood, there must be no collaboration or unnecessary discussion between the panel members prior to their scores being recorded.
- 6.3.5. Each assessment panel member's scores must be entered on an Assessment Sheet immediately the test/trial run is completed, prior to interviewing the candidate. Should an alteration to the panel member's score be necessary because of circumstances unknown at the time of its recording, the amended score is to be initialled and the reasons for the alteration stated in the comments column.
- 6.3.6. Members of the Assessment Panel must independently mark, and comment on the applicants ability to judging the licence type tested. Each panel member (without conference) will individually make a recommendation as to whether the recommendation for licence is made. The assessment sheet is then completed and handed to the convenor. The Panel member may use this application assessment sheet if an unsuccessful applicant lodges a request for a review.
- 6.3.7. Members of the Assessment Panel must give completed applicant assessment sheets to the Herding Judges Co-ordinator (or delegate) at the completion of Practical Assessment
- 6.3.8. The Assessment Panel must reach a majority decision to determine the outcome of the applicants' practical assessment.

- 6.4 The applicant is required to judge, scoring the dog as would normally occur in test/trial conditions conducted under current ANKC Herding Rules and Regulations.
 - 6.4.1. Each applicant will give the appropriate class handlers meeting. Where multiple applicants are being assessed each must give handlers meetings independent to other applicants
 - 6.4.2. Multiple applicants may be tested at the same time, provided the applicants stand independent to each other, individually marking the dog without conference.
 - 6.4.3. The applicant will record his/her points on a Herding score sheet, which must be signed. The applicant is responsible to ensure their judging sheet is complete and correct prior to handing the sheet to the Assessment Panel.
 - 6.4.4. Five dogs are usually sufficient to assess the candidate. This does not preclude additional dog/s being given to the candidate to score should circumstances warrant.
- 6.5 Candidates will not be advised of the outcome of the test on the day.
- 6.6 The results are to be collated by the Training Co-ordinator who will send all documentation to the Dogs Victoria Office.
- 6.7 Dogs Victoria will promptly advise the candidates and all results must remain confidential until such time as all candidates have been notified.
- 6.8 Unsuccessful candidates may lodge a written request for a review of

their practical test, within seven [7] days of receiving results, subject to meeting the published criteria. Panel members should be available to attend review interviews on an "as required" basis. Outside of the interview process, the tests and their results, must not be discussed.

NOTES
