

## BCCA HERDING TEST MANUAL



1. Select Date
2. Select Location and Stock
3. Select and hire Judge(s)
4. Make Application to AHBA or BCCA at least 30 days in advance of the event. (Note: no pre-approval from BCCA is required for AHBA Sanctioned events.)
5. Create and distribute flyers for the event. Sanctioning body, Judge(s), Location, Date(s). Supervised pre-exposure if available, and Fee(s) should all be on the Flyer .  
Send a copy of the flyer to the BCCA Herding Chair.
6. Prepare and complete all necessary paperwork well in advance of the event. Block print or type all information required. Take sufficient extra Test Forms to cover additional entries and replacements if needed. (Note: AHBA HCT forms or its equivalent may be used for BCCA Sanctioned events.).
7. Pre-Exposure: it is strongly recommended that sponsors of Herding Instinct Tests arrange to have **EXPERTLY SUPERVISED** prior exposure to stock available on the day(s) of the Test(s) for those entrants who have **NO** experience.
8. Complete Paperwork and forward to AHBA and BCCA with appropriate fees.
9. Training Availability: Sponsors should have a list of trainers and training locations available to entrants in the Test. A sentence must be on such a list as follows: "The BCCA and Sponsor(s) of this Herding Instinct Test have supplied this list as a courtesy and do not specifically recommend, nor guarantee quality in any way, any of those on this list."

## PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

1. **VENUE:** A round or oval arena of approximately 50' to 75' diameter, fenced to prevent escapes by dog or stock.
2. **STOCK:** 3 to 5 head of well dog-broke sheep or goats. Other stock may be used by special permission.
3. **JUDGES:** Any person that is approved to judge AKC, AHBA, or CKC Tests/Trials is automatically approved. Other persons may apply to the BCCA Herding Committee for approval by supplying proof of experience in herding with dogs.
4. **APPLICATION TO HOLD TEST(S):** Test(s) sanctioned by AHBA do not require additional advance approval from the BCCA. Tests to be sanctioned only by BCCA will require submission of information pertaining to items 1, 2 & 3 above with a \$15.00 fee (U.S. funds payable to BCCA) at least 30 days in advance of the event.
5. **TEST FORM:** The AHBA "HCT" form, or its equivalent, may be used.
6. **CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Send a copy of each completed and signed Test form, a 3 generation pedigree (except ILP dogs of unknown ancestry) and a fee of \$3.00 (U.S. funds, payable to BCCA) per passing dog to the BCCA Herding Committee within 2 weeks following the event .

## JUDGING CRITERIA -BCCA

### QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. **HANDLER:** Either the owner (or his agent) or the Judge, or both, may handle the dog at the Judge's discretion.
2. **INSTRUCTION:** The judge will instruct novice handlers on ways to assist the dog.
3. **CONTROL:** The dog must exhibit some self control at the beginning and end of the Test by demonstrating a brief pause and an eventual recall.
4. **TRAINING AIDS:** Stock sticks, crooks, PVC pipe (1/2" diameter maximum), buggy whips, shaker bottles, light weight rolled papers, and plastic rakes may be used by the Judge to aid in controlling intense dogs. METAL OR HEAVY SOLID OBJECTS, OR PRONG OR ELECTRIC COLLARS MAY NOT BE USED UNDER ANY CONDITIONS. EVERY EFFORT MUST BE MADE TO PREVENT INJURY TO DOG, PERSON(S) OR STOCK.
5. **LEAD:** A lead or line of 6' to 10' length will be on the dog when entering the arena. The lead may be dropped or removed at the Judge's discretion.
6. **TIME:** Maximum: approximately 5 minutes in total; sustained interest/work 2 minutes.
7. **STYLE:** Fetch or drive; bark or silent; loose or strong eye. Light and appropriate grip acceptable.
8. **TEMPERAMENT:** Usually friendly, sometimes reserved.
9. **BIDABILITY:** Responsive to appropriate direction and/or correction.
10. **BALANCE:** The dog should show some natural balance.

NOT PASSABLE:

1. Chasing or constant splitting of stock.
2. Aggression toward stock or people.
3. Refusal to take direction.
4. Lack or rapid loss of interest .
5. Excessive playfulness.
6. Fear of stock or situation; shyness.

In all cases, Judges should make every effort to assist the dog and handler toward success; however, the decision of the Judge will be final. Reruns may be permitted should unusual circumstances occur.

Judges should encourage owners of dogs which show herding talent to train and compete in Trials. Any dog which does not pass in its first attempt may, at the Sponsor's and Judge's discretion, be allowed a second attempt on the same day.

Approved: 01/21/00

NOTES: