**Rules Review - Tracking Trials**

**INSPECTION**

An examination of all bitches should be conducted on each day of the trial.

*Change to*

An examination of all bitches should be conducted on each day of the trial, except where proof of desexing of a bitch is provided.

Rationale:

It is extra work for the affiliate to examine all bitches when many of them are desexed and therefore could not be in season. In Tasmania about one third of the entries are dogs on the Associate Register, which requires them to be desexed before registration. In addition many of the bitches on the main register have also been desexed.

**Current Rule:**

**TRACKLAYER**

1. The Tracklayer shall be a person approved by the Judge.
2. A known person shall be any person known to the dog and nominated by the Handler.
3. An unknown person shall be any person who does not qualify as a known person and whose identity must be unknown to the Handler prior to the test. The unknown person must not have previously laid a track for that dog within the preceding four (4) months, in competition.

It shall be the responsibility of the Affiliate conducting the trial to make a genuine effort to ensure that only unknown tracklayers are used.

**Amend to:**

TRACKLAYER

1. The Tracklayer shall be a person approved by the Judge.
2. A known person shall be any person known to the dog and nominated by the Handler.
3. An unknown person shall be any person who does not qualify as a known person and whose identity must be unknown to the Handler prior to the test. The unknown person must not have previously laid a track for that dog within the preceding four (4) months, **in a Tracking Trial.**

It shall be the responsibility of the Affiliate conducting the trial to make a genuine effort to ensure that only unknown tracklayers are used.

**Justification:** Tracking and Track & Search are now separate disciplines, therefore a tracklayer should be available as unknown tracklayer in both disciplines.

**Current Rule:**

**TRACKING DOG (TD)**

**Test 2 - Known Person**

The dog is required to track a known person for approximately 800 metres, and the Exhibitor shall nominate the Tracklayer.

The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). Three articles must be placed on the track.

The minimum time for the commencement of the track must be 30 minutes and the maximum 60 minutes, from the time the track is laid.

A minimum of one article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass

The Tracklayer or finish article of the known person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass

**Amend to:**

**Test 2 - Known Person**

The dog is required to track a known person for approximately **600 metres**, and the Exhibitor shall nominate the Tracklayer.

The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). **Two articles** must be placed on the track.

The minimum time for the commencement of the track must be 30 minutes and the maximum 60 minutes, from the time the track is laid.

A minimum of one article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass

The Tracklayer or finish article of the known person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass

**Justification:** Enables a more consistent increase in difficulty by amending the length of track – 400m, 600m, 800m.

Reduction of number of articles - To make consistent with all other tests, where the dog can miss one article to obtain a pass. i.e., tests 4,5,6,7,8 all have three articles on track and dog must find minimum of 2 to pass. **15 March 2022 Page 1 of 2**

**Current Rule:**

**TRACKING DOG (TD)**

**Test 3 - Unknown Person**

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 800 metres.

The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). Three articles must be placed on the track.

Time lapse for this track must be the same as Test 2.

A minimum of one article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass

**Amend to:**

**Test 3 - Unknown Person**

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 800 metres.

The track will have a minimum of 2 changes of direction of between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2). **Two** **articles** must be placed on the track.

Time lapse for this track must be the same as Test 2.

A minimum of one article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The Tracklayer or finish article of the unknown person must be found at the end of the track for the dog to obtain a pass

**Justification:** To make consistent with all other tests, where the dog can miss one article to obtain a pass. i.e., tests 4,5,6,7,8 all have three articles on track and dog must find minimum of 2 to pass.