

Submissions for Dogs Victoria

For changes to rules effective 1.1.2024

ANKC Endurance

ANKC Tracking

ANKC Track & Search

**ANKC Endurance Rule submission from Victoria**

Rule Book currently reads:-

THE TEST

(1) There shall be four (4) veterinary checks - before starting the Willingness test then after the completion of each leg. All exhibits shall be examined by the veterinary surgeon and/or veterinary team, covering such things as the general fitness, temperature, standing heart rate, condition of the pads. (Each bitch must be examined at the first check to ensure that she is not in season).

*Change to read:-*

*THE TEST*

*(1) There shall be four (4) veterinary checks - before starting the Willingness test then after the completion of each leg. All exhibits shall be examined by the veterinary surgeon and/or veterinary team, covering such things as the general fitness, temperature, standing heart rate, condition of the pads. (Each bitch must be examined at the first check to ensure that she is not in season).*

***The temperatures and all examinations of the dog will be taken by the veterinary team at the trial with the equipment provided.***

***Rational*:** Some handlers have not found the equipment used not to’ their liking’ for example- temperature taken by thermometer via the rectum of the dog would rather have it taken by another method.

Veterinary teams supply the equipment and that equipment needs to be used by all exhibitors, this clarifies this for all entrants.

**THE END OF ENDURANCE SUBMISSIONS**

**ANKC Tracking Rule submission from Victoria**

**Introduction**

The main change being proposed is to change the 45-degree labels on Diagrams 3 and 4 to 135 degrees to make these diagrams consistent with Diagrams 1 and 2. This change necessitates corresponding changes in the descriptions of Tests 7 and 8. These changes are specified below.

Also, the descriptions of the 4 diagrams on p. 10 refer to “new directions of track” and “changes in direction”, “from the previous leg”. The latter phrase is misleading because angles should be measured relative to the direction of travel – as they are in Diagrams 1 and 2. Hence a better description is “from the direction of the previous leg.”

Current descriptions of diagrams (p.10)

**CHANGE OF DIRECTION**

When walking in the direction of the arrow, the shaded area in the diagrams below shows the new directions of track between 30 degrees and 90 degrees from the previous leg.

[Diagrams 1 and 2]

**ACUTE CHANGE OF DIRECTION**

When walking in the direction of the arrow, the shaded area in the diagrams below shows the new directions of track between 45 degrees and 90 degrees from the previous leg.

[Diagrams 3 and 4]

**Recommendations**

Revise Diagrams 3 and 4 by changing the label 45 to 135 and revise the above descriptions to read as follows (new words in italics):

**CHANGE OF DIRECTION**

When walking in the direction of the arrow, the shaded area in the diagrams below shows the new directions of track between 30 degrees and 90 degrees from the *direction of the* previous leg.

**ACUTE CHANGE OF DIRECTION**

When walking in the direction of the arrow, the shaded area in the diagrams below shows the new directions of track between 90 degrees and 135 degrees from the *direction of the* previous leg.

***Rationale***

Adding the words “direction of the” makes it clearer that the angles used to define the changes of direction are being measured relative to the direction of travel, whereas “from the previous leg” can give the impression that the measurement is relative to the opposite direction.

**Captions**

Existing captions:

Diagram 1 “Shows left changes in direction from the previous leg”

Diagram 2 “Shows right changes in direction from the previous leg”

Diagram 3 “Shows left changes in direction from the previous leg”

Diagram 4 “Shows right changes in direction from the previous leg”

**Recommendations**

Revise the captions to be:

Diagram 1 “Left changes of direction”

Diagram 2 “Right changes of direction”

Diagram 3 “Acute left changes of direction”

Diagram 4 “Acute right changes of direction”

**Rationale**

Given the detailed descriptions provided before the diagrams, the phrase “from the previous leg” does not need to be included in the captions. Adding “acute” to the captions for Diagrams 3 and 4 distinguishes them from Diagrams 1 and 2.

**Associated changes**

If the changes recommended above are implemented, it follows that that the descriptions of Tests 7 and 8 on p.13 must be revised.

**Excerpts from current rules (p.13):**

**Test 7 – Unknown person**

The track will have a minimum of six changes of direction: two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4),…

**Test 8 – Unknown person**

The track will have a minimum of seven changes of direction: two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4),…

**Recommendations**

Change the above to read as follows:

**Test 7 – Unknown person**

The track will have a minimum of six changes of direction: two of these will be acute (refer diagrams 3 and 4),…

**Test 8 – Unknown person**

The track will have a minimum of seven changes of direction: two of these will be acute (refer diagrams 3 and 4),…

**Rationale**

The acute changes of direction in Tests 7 and 8 are fully described on p.10 so there is no need to repeat the details here and referring to the changes of direction as “acute” is clear and adequate.

Angles need to be consistent with each other in the base line for the measurement of the degrees.

Please see below

****

**Test 2.**

Currently reads:-

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.

Change to read:-

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~~ ***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.

***Rationale:*** Given that the test is only 800 metres with a minimum of 2 changes of direction the need for three (3) articles can mean that an articles needs to be placed on each leg of the track by the judge, with only one (1) article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass, this means a dog can track well and miss two articles and can only obtain a pass of Good as each article missed is an automatic downgrading..

Returning this test to two (2) articles on the track with one (1) being indicated by the dog to obtain a pass makes it a fairer test for the dog and allows the setting out by the judge without having articles on every leg for the dog to indicate.

**Test 3**

Currently reads as follows:-

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.

Change to read:-

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~~ ***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.

***Rationale:***Given that the test is only 800 metres with a minimum of 2 changes of direction the need for three (3) articles can mean that an articles needs to be placed on each leg of the track by the judge, with only one (1) article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass, this means a dog can track well and miss two articles and can only obtain a pass of Good as each article missed is an automatic downgrading..

Returning this test to two (2) articles on the track with one (1) being indicated by the dog to obtain a pass makes it a fairer test for the dog and allows the setting out by the judge without having articles on every leg for the dog to indicate.

**GENERAL**

This proposal is to remove ‘Cross Tracks’ from the ANKC Rule Book.

These changes concern Test(s) Five (5) to Eight (8) inclusive - they firstly relate to the removal of the ‘Cross Track’ and the secondly – an amendment relating to the number of changes of direction for Test five (5). The ‘Cross Track’ is currently described in our A.N.K.C. Rules under the heading – GENERAL, sub section (U), page Nine (9) and Test Five (5).

Current reads:

U) The Cross Track must not cross the track within thirty (30) metres of a turn. The Cross Track must be at approximately 90 degrees to the track for a distance of approximately thirty (30) metres but not less than twenty (20) metres either side of the track and the walking in and walking out routes of the Cross Track should be approximately thirty (30) metres but not less than twenty (20) metres from the track.

**Test 5 - Unknown Person**

This will be similar to Test 4 except that the track must be crossed twice by Cross Tracks and one or two unknown persons may lay these. The Cross Tracks should be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed.

A minimum of two articles 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.

***CHANGES***

The following are suggestions for changes to Tests Five (5) to Eight (8) to remove cross tracks and adding an additional turn to some:

**Tracking / Test Five (5) – Unknown Person / Page Twelve (12) – Current Rule.**

**Currently reads:**

**Test 5 - Unknown Person**

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,000 metres.

The track will have a *minimum of 4 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 lapse for the commencement of this track must be 60 minutes and the maximum 120 minutes, from the time the track is laid.

*This will be similar to Test 4 except that the track must be crossed twice by Cross Tracks and one or two unknown persons may lay these. The Cross Tracks should be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed*

A minimum of two articles 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.

CHANGE TO: -

**Test 5 - Unknown Person**

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,000 metres.

The track will have a **minimum of 5 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 lapse for the commencement of this track must be 60 minutes and the maximum 120 minutes, from the time the track is laid.

A minimum of two articles 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.

**Tracking / Test Six (6) – Unknown Person / Page Twelve (12)**

**Currently reads:**

**Test 6 - Unknown Person**

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres.

The track will have a minimum of 5 changes of direction: one of these must be between 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4) the other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2).

The first change of direction will be in accordance with diagrams 1 or 2. Three articles must be placed on the track.

*The track shall be crossed twice by Cross Tracks and one or two unknown persons may lay these. The Cross Tracks must be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed.*

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 60 minutes and the maximum 180 minutes, from the time the track was laid.

A minimum of two articles 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.

CHANGE TO: -

**Test 6 - Unknown Person**

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres.

The track will have a minimum of 5 changes of direction: one of these must be between 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4) the other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2).

The first change of direction will be in accordance with diagrams 1 or 2. Three articles must be placed on the track.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 60 minutes and the maximum 180 minutes, from the time the track was laid.

A minimum of two articles 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.

**Tracking / Test Seven (7) – Unknown Person / Page Thirteen (13)**

**Current reads:**

**TRACKING CHAMPION (T Ch)**

**Test 7 – Unknown person**

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres.

The track will have a minimum of six changes of direction: two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

Three articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass. The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker with them. The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate.

The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

*There will be two Cross Tracks that may be laid by one or two unknown persons. Cross tracks will be laid according to the Judge’s direction. The Cross Tracks must be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed.*

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 90 minutes and the maximum 180 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line. 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.

CHANGE TO: -

**Test 7 – Unknown person**

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres.

The track will have a minimum of six changes of direction: two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

Three articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass. The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker with them. The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate.

The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 90 minutes and the maximum 180 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line.

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.

**Tracking / Test Eight (8) – Unknown Person / Page Thirteen-Fourteen (13-14) –**

**Current reads:**

**Test 8 – Unknown person**

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres.

The track will have a minimum of seven changes of direction: two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

Three articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass. The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them. The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate.

The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

*There will be two Cross Tracks that may be laid by one or two unknown persons. Cross Tracks will be laid according to the Judge’s direction. The Cross Tracks must be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original Tracklayer has passed.*

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 120 minutes and the maximum 180 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line. 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.

CHANGE TO: -

**Test 8 – Unknown person**

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres.

The track will have a minimum of seven changes of direction: two of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

Three articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of two articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass. The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers. There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them.

The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate.

The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be 120 minutes and the maximum 180 minutes, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line. 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.

**RATIONALE: -**

The removal of the ‘Cross Track’ is described as per paragraphs four (4) to nine (9) and the increase of changes of direction to Test Five (5) is described in paragraph ten (10).

The removal of ‘Cross Tracks’ may not be generally accepted by some but this activity is achieving little for our sport and therefore should be removed.

By increasing the number of changes of direction within Test Five (5) clearly alters it from a Test Four (4) and provides an additional challenge for dogs progressing toward their TDX Title.

**Additional of two new tracks to include a Tracking Grand Champion Title, these tracks are Test 9 and Test 10.**

**Test 9 –**

Unknown person.

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres. The track will have a minimum of **eight** changes of direction: **three** of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and **135 degrees** (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

No two changes of directions between approximately 45 degrees and 135 degrees will be used consecutively on this test.

**Four** articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of **three** articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers.

There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them. The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate. The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. **When walking to the start of the track, the Handler and dog will be brought in on a different line from the tracklayer entry.**

The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

**There will be one (1) unknown diversion track laid on two (2) individual legs by an unknown person and a dog walking together. The diversion track will be laid according to the Judge’s direction, and be laid approximately 30 minutes after the original tracklayer has passed.**

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be **180 minutes** and the **maximum 240 minutes**, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line.

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

**Test 10**

Unknown person.

The dog is required to track an unknown person for approximately 1,200 metres. The track will have a minimum of **eight** changes of direction: **three** of these will be between approximately 45 degrees and **135 degrees** (refer diagrams 3 and 4), all other changes of direction will be between approximately 30 degrees and 90 degrees (refer diagrams 1 and 2), the first change of direction to be no less than one hundred (100) metres from the start.

No two changes of directions between approximately 45 degrees and 135 degrees will be used consecutively on this test.

**Four** articles must be placed on the track; a minimum of **three** articles must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

The start must be a minimum of thirty (30) metres from roads, fences, rivers or other permanent barriers.

There will be a small marker where the Tracklayer will start from to enable them to line up with the next flag on the track. The Tracklayer will take this marker flag with them. The starting line flags will remain.

A minimum of thirty (30) metres before the starting line, the Tracklayer will place one (1) of their scented articles in a clean sealable bag. They may place this bag in a clean, unscented, individual air-tight container supplied by the Judge or their delegate. The Judge will, when the track has aged sufficiently, take the Handler and dog to approximately thirty (30) metres from the starting line; open the container, if used. **When walking to the start of the track, the Handler and dog will be brought in on a different line from the tracklayer entry.**

The scented article is removed by the Handler, who is then free to start tracking.

**There will be a diversion track laid by one unknown person. This diversion tracklayer will leave the start point with the original tracklayer and walk in a ‘V’ design for a minimum of 50 metres from the original tracklayer.**

The minimum time lapse for the commencement of the track must be **240 minutes** and the **maximum 300 minutes**, from the time the original Tracklayer crosses the starting line.

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

***Rationale:*** This will allow tests 1-10 in tracking as it is currently in Track & Search and allows the gaining of a Tracking Grand Champion as does the T&S discipline.

***Please note:-***

*If the above new title is accepted then all changes in the Rule Book will be consequential of this change, including titles and both tracks will be 3 points in the Judge’s schedule for the day.*

**THE END OF TRACKING SUBMISSIONS**

**ANKC Track & Search Rule submission from Victoria**

**Grammatical and Punctuation suggestions**

p.7

**JUDGES**

**(b)**

**Current reads:**

A combination of TSD, **T**TSDX, TS Champion and TS Grand Champion tracks must not exceed 27 points for any judge on one day.

**Should read:**

A combination of TSD, TSDX, TS Champion and TS Grand Champion tracks must not exceed 27 points for any judge on one day.

**Current reads:**

**(h)** Judges should position themselves on the track so that they properly evaluate the dog’s performance and to ensure that the dog is given adequate time and distance to work out scenting problems particularly around heavily contaminated areas and buildings.

**Should read:**

**(h)** Judges should position themselves on the track so that they *can* properly evaluate the dog’s performance and to ensure that the dog is given adequate time and distance to work out scenting problems particularly around heavily contaminated areas and buildings.

**p.8**

**GENERAL**

**Current reads:**

**(b)** To qualify the dog must track & search to complete at least 50% of the principle components of the track, including the *numbers* of turns in each test and the car section where applicable.

**Should read:**

**(b)** To qualify the dog must track & search to complete at least 50% of the principle components of the track, including the *number* of turns in each test and the car section where applicable.

**p.12**

**Currently reads:**

**Test 4**

The dog will be in harness and must search for the track by free quartering off-lead or searching in harness with lead attached. When the dog has indicated to the handler that it has located the track, the dog, if free quartering, must be stopped sufficiently to allow the tracking lead to be fastened onto the harness. The dog must then follow the track to its conclusion

**Should be:**

The dog will be in harness and must search for the track by free quartering off-lead or searching in harness with lead attached. When the dog has indicated to the handler that it has located the track, the dog, if free quartering, must be stopped sufficiently to allow the tracking lead to be fastened onto the harness. The dog must then follow the track to its conclusion. ***Full stop required***

**Current reads:**

**p.16**

**Test 9 (Urban Day Track)**

The track should be laid utilizing any and all structures on site to ensure that dogs are able to handle the diffusion of scent created by these structures. Tracks may be laid **fin** close proximity to buildings and fences.

**Should be:**

**Test 9 (Urban Day Track)**

The track should be laid utilizing any and all structures on site to ensure that dogs are able to handle the diffusion of scent created by these structures. Tracks may be laid ***in*** close proximity to buildings and fences.

**p.17**

**Test 10 (Urban Evening/Night Track)**

The dog is required to track and search for an unknown person **\*\*\*** walked a trail of approximately 1,200 metres of varied surfaces which may include, but are not limited to, concrete, bitumen/tar or other sealed surfaces. It should include distractions such as parked cars, light vehicles and pedestrian traffic.

At least 80% of the tack must be on non-vegetated surfaces.

Should be:

**Test 10 (Urban Evening/Night Track)**

The dog is required to track and search for an unknown person **who** walked a trail of approximately 1,200 metres of varied surfaces which may include, but are not limited to, concrete, bitumen/tar or other sealed surfaces. It should include distractions such as parked cars, light vehicles and pedestrian traffic.

At least 80% of the t**r**ack must be on non-vegetated surfaces.

***Glossary changes.***

TITLES PAGE 5.

Track & Search Dog (TSD) Test 1 (known person)

Change to:

Track & Search Dog (TSD) Test 1 (unknown person)

Rationale:

Track & Search by its nature and environment; and by the intent of the rules as I see them, the quality of the work required from the dog to be success is of a higher standard than other like disciplines. As such, I believe that a dog should be capable of finding an unknown person from the first TSD test, whether or not the dog has had past experience. Coming from another angle during the course of the present rules having a known tracklayer for TSD Test 1 has caused organisational problems for Judges, as well as handlers who train alone and do not have someone to attend trials with them, when the nominated tracklayer is not available to be set out by the judge. Having a known tracklayer is contradictory to the description of a TSD dog and tests in the first 5 paragraphs of the rule book under Introduction page 4. In reality it would not happen often that a dog that was searching for a lost person that they knew.

If this change was successful, it would also impact on: 6 below and require change.

Equipment Page 6

1. All track & search dog tests must be conducted with a dog in a harness suitable for tracking that does not restrict the dog’s breathing and allows the dog to move freely. For tests 1-4 the minimum length of lead should be ten (10) metres and for tests 5-10 the lead should be a minimum of five (5) metres and no longer than six (6) metres. The dog must be worked at a length of lead suitable to the terrain, environment and in accordance with local government requirements. Unless specified in the description of the test, the lead must be connected to the harness and should be held by the Handler while the dog tracking or searching. Dropping the lead temporarily is acceptable provided that the dog remains under control.

Add on:

1. All track & search dog tests must be conducted with a dog in a harness suitable for tracking that does not restrict the dog’s breathing and allows the dog to move freely. For tests 1-4 the minimum length of lead should be ten (10) metres and for tests 5-10 the lead should be a minimum of five (5) metres and no longer than six (6) metres. The dog must be worked at a length of lead suitable to the terrain, environment and in accordance with local government requirements. Unless specified in the description of the test, the lead must be connected to the harness and should be held by the Handler while the dog tracking or searching. Dropping the lead temporarily is acceptable provided that the dog remains under control. ***The lead used in all Urban Evening/Night Tests (Tests 6. 8 & 10) to be reflective. If requested by the Judge at any time, the Handler must coil the lead in their hand and not leave it to trail behind them.***

Rationale:

Brings all the lead requirements to one place.

**Page 6.** (f) The handler may not offer food or utilise training aids during the running of a track, however water may be offered to the dog.

Change to:

(f) The handler may not offer, ***nor carry on their person*** food ***or training aids or toys*** during the running of a track***.*** ***Failure to comply will result in disqualification. W***ater may be offered to the dog.

***Rationale:*** Makes the intent of the clause clear.

**Page 6.** (g) High visibility reflective day and night vests/jackets, which comply with the current Australian Standard, must be worn by the handler and all those officiating on all urban tracks and on any other track where the judge considers it appropriate. For urban night tracks a functioning head light must be worn by the handler.

Change to :

(g) High visibility reflective day and night vests/jackets, which comply with the current Australian Standard, must be worn by the handler and all those officiating on all urban tracks and on any other track where the judge considers it appropriate. For urban night tracks a functioning head light must be worn by the handler, ***stewards*** ***and Judge and/or as directed by the Judge.***

***Rationale:***

Safety.

**Page 7.**

**Consequential change if Glossary change is approved**

(a) The Tracklayer shall be a person approved by the Judge and unknown to the handler and have not previously laid a track for that dog within the preceding four (4) months, in competition, except in the case of TSD test 1 where a known person shall be any person known to the dog and nominated by the handler. It shall be the responsibility of the Affiliate conducting the trial to make a genuine effort to ensure that only unknown tracklayers are used.

Delete if glossary change is approved: ***except in the case of TSD test 1 where a known person shall be any person known to the dog and nominated by the handler.***

***Change to read:***

1. The Tracklayer shall be a person approved by the Judge and unknown to the handler and have not 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.

Consequential changes if Test 1 change is accepted Page 10

1. The dog is required to track and search for a known person who has walked a trail of approximately 800 metres of varied surfaces which may include, but are not limited to, vegetation, sand, gravel, limestone or similar.

Change if proposal 1 is successful.

The dog is required to track and search for **an un**known person who has walked a trail of approximately 800 metres of varied surfaces which may include, but are not limited to, vegetation, sand, gravel, limestone or similar.

Rationale: keeping inline with change 1.

1. Test 1 Page 10. (a)remove

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

Remove (a)(b)(c)(d) if proposal 8 is successful.

(b)Test 2 page 11 remove

 At least one must be indicated by the dog to pass.

( c) Test 3 page 12 remove

At least one article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

(d)Test 4 page 12 remove

At least one article must be indicated by the dog to obtain a pass.

Rationale:

Keeping in line if proposal 8 is successful.

**Additional of the following paragraph to General part B to clarify what is allowed.**

Page 8 currently reads:-

GENERAL

(b) To qualify the dog must track & search to complete at least 50% of the principle components of the track, including the numbers of turns in each test and the car section where applicable.

Amend to read:-

*GENERAL*

***(b) To qualify the dog must track & search to complete at least 50% of the principle components of the track, including the numbers of turns in each test and the car section where applicable.***

***The weather and external conditions must be taken into consideration by the Judge, who at their discretion may allow less than 50% of tracks to be completed by the dog and to still obtain a pass.***

**Rational:** By included the above paragraph to the rules it allows Judges to use their expertise to make decisions on whether a dog and handler have completed the components necessary to obtain a pass taking into account the weather and external conditions at the time.

Rule change - Current rule

p. 10 **Test 1**

The dog will be in harness and must search for the track by free quartering off-lead or searching in harness with lead attached. When the dog has indicated to the handler that it has located the track, the dog, if free quartering, must be stopped sufficiently to allow the tracking lead to be fastened onto the harness. The dog must then follow the track to its conclusion.

p.11 **Test 2**

The dog will be in harness and must search for the track by free quartering off-lead or searching in harness with lead attached. When the dog has indicated to the handler that it has located the track, the dog, if free quartering, must be stopped sufficiently to allow the tracking lead to be fastened onto the harness. The dog must then follow the track to its conclusion.

p.12 **Test 3**

The dog will be in harness and must search for the track by free quartering off-lead or searching in harness with lead attached. When the dog has indicated to the handler that it has located the track, the dog, if free quartering, must be stopped sufficiently to allow the tracking lead to be fastened onto the harness. The dog must then follow the track to its conclusion.

p.12 **Test 4**

The dog will be in harness and must search for the track by free quartering off-lead or searching in harness with lead attached. When the dog has indicated to the handler that it has located the track, the dog, if free quartering, must be stopped sufficiently to allow the tracking lead to be fastened onto the harness. The dog must then follow the track to its conclusion

**Change to read as per tests 5-10**

The dog in harness with lead attached will search for the track. When the dog has indicated to the Handler that it has located the track, the dog must then follow the track to its conclusion.

***Rationale***

As stated in the Track and Search Rules introductory section:

p.4

Introduction

All track & search tests are to be conducted in urban environments, parklands or other suitably contaminated urban areas.

By allowing free quartering off-lead I believe two (2) major issues arise:

1. Local Council by-laws are being broken as dogs are off-lead in an area that will not be a legally designated off-lead area; and doing so sanctioned by the ANKC and member bodies as the rule currently stands breaks this local government law.
2. Of immense concern to me is the possibility that while free quartering off-lead a dog may be startled/distracted by something, and run off, potentially being injured, lost, or in the worst of circumstances hit by a car and killed or put motorists into a dangerous situation where they or pedestrians may be killed while trying to evade the dog.

If competitors across the country are not actually using the free quartering option, then the rule would be obsolete and should be removed anyway.

**THE END OF T&S SUBMISSIONS**