

## **Section 5**      **TRIAL GUIDELINES**

### **5.1 TRIAL SANCTIONING**

Clubs wishing to hold a CDDA sanctioned trial must submit an official application with a fee of \$30 payable to the Canadian Disc Dog Association. Host clubs will be sent a trial package containing the following:

**50** official score sheets (triplicate forms) per trial  
Freestyle judge's score sheets  
Tally Sheets

A trial application must be submitted to the CDDA no later than three (3) weeks from the proposed trial date. Clubs hosting a trial must offer RPT's, a Novice Single Disc division (regular, mini & junior), advanced Single Disc Division (regular & mini). *Freestyle division* & furthest catch are optional classes.

Each class and division may only be run once per trial. (e.g. only one round of Freestyle, only two rounds of novice single disc, only two rounds of advance single disc, only one round of furthest catch per trial)

All applications must be completed in full to be considered. This includes the judge's name and a diagram of the proposed competition green. Incomplete applications may be returned.

A host club or trial organizer must agree to the following:

- Host clubs or trial organizer must pay the official judge's fee.
- Host clubs/or trial organizer must reimburse official judges for accommodation and travel expenses directly related to the trial.
- Host clubs or trial organizer may not ask judges to waive fees or donate fees back to the club or a charity.
- Host clubs or trial organizers cannot ask a judge to waive a judge's fee in lieu of free entries and/or gifts.

A host club may apply to hold two trials on one day. A trial application must be submitted for each trial being held on the same day. All official classes must be offered including Furthest Catch if space permits. Trials may be limited by a pre-registration date. If a trial is limited then spaces must be offered in the second trial for competitors who entered but failed to get into the first trial. Judge's fees are to be paid as per CDDA trial rules.

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### **5.2 TRIAL RESULTS SUBMISSIONS**

Clubs hosting sanctioned trials must submit the following to CDDA ***within 14 days after the trial date:***

- All score sheets fully filled out with the following clearly marked:  
Competitor's CDDA number, handler's name, address, dog's name, regular, mini or junior division, Novice or Advanced class and all classes entered.
- All Judges Freestyle score sheets
- Fee of \$1 per entry in each official class (RPT, All Single Disc classes, Freestyle & Furthest catch).
- All score sheets signed by the judge.
- All tally sheets
- Late trial submissions will be charged a late fee of \$2 per day.

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### **5.3    FIELD SPECIFICATIONS AND LAYOUTS**

#### **Outdoor Trials**

- To host an outdoor CDDA sanctioned trial the total disc green area must be a minimum of 140 ft long and 80 feet wide. (This includes the competition green and all safety zones).
- Outdoor fields must have a 10-foot perimeter along the sides of the field and no less than 25 feet at either end of the field. This is for the safety of the dog.
- Trials holding a furthest catch class must have a minimum field length of 250 ft.

#### **Indoor Trials**

- To host an indoor CDDA sanctioned trial the total disc green must be a minimum of 130 feet long and 45 feet wide.
- Furthest catch class requires a minimum field length of 250 ft.
- For indoor competitions there must be a non-slip shock absorbing type flooring.
- Indoor competitions require a ceiling of not less than 16 feet in height.
- If the competition area is bordered by walls or boards that are 4 feet high or higher then no safety perimeter is required.
- If no boards or walls are present then there must be a minimum of a 10ft safety perimeter.

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*All indoor and outdoor fields must have safe markers on both sides of the field (eg. Cones or pylons) indicating each official distance. Unsafe markers (stakes, poles, fence posts) must not be used.  
All lines indicating official distances must be clearly marked in white.*

*For a field layout see section 9*

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### **5.4    GENERAL RULES OF COMPETITION**

- **All dogs must be registered with the CDDA to compete in any Canadian Disc Dog Association sanctioned trial.**
- Handlers failing to provide CDDA numbers, signatures or any other pertinent information on their submitted score sheets will be given one warning only. After one warning handlers submitting score sheets without this information will forfeit all points/qualifiers on that score sheet.
- All handlers competing that day must be listed on the score sheet and all handlers must sign the trial waiver.
- Dogs must be a minimum of one year old to compete. The exception is the RPT, which requires the dog to be a minimum of 14 weeks old.
- No dog can be entered in the same class more than once at the same trial. The only exception to this is in Novice single disc where the dog may also be handled by a Junior Handler.
- The dog may switch to another handler in another class within the same trial.
- Dogs with physical deformities, disabilities or unusual gaits require a note from their veterinarian stating that they are fit to compete.
- All competing dogs must have proof of up to date vaccinations from their veterinarian.
- No food or toys (other than the official discs used in competition) are to be brought onto the field, this includes during practice runs.
- *All dogs must be on leash or confined while not competing. Dogs are to enter and exit the competition field under control.*
- *During competition, dogs may only wear a well-fitting leather or nylon flat collar. The only exception to this is during freestyle where the dog may wear a safe costume or parts of a costume to add to the overall appeal of the routine.*
- No dog or handler may practice on the Disc Dog green the day of the competition, except for the team's official practice before being judged.
- Competitors must wait until they are given the okay to start by the judge or his/her assistant.
- Competitors starting before being given the okay will be stopped and have to restart. They will also be penalized 5 points for each throw taken before they are officially restarted if they have already used their practice throws as these will be considered additional practice throws.
- Competitors must not purposefully throw the disc after time is called. Once time is called and the disc is retrieved the competitor must put their dog back on leash and leave the field in a timely fashion for the next competitor.
- Dogs that eliminate (urinate or defecate) on the green or during their performance will be disqualified from that round and receive a score of zero for that round.
- If there is interference during a performance the judge will blow the whistle or call out interference. Interference can be from any cause that the judge feels unfairly disrupts a dog's performance. Possible interference could be caused by: a loose dog, toy or child on the green, a large object blowing onto the green, excessively loud noises or other large distraction.

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### **5.5    *DOGS IN HEAT***

*Host clubs will have the option to allow or disallow dogs in heat to compete  
Host clubs must announce whether they will or will not be accepting dogs in heat on their trial premium.*

*If the host club opts to allow the dog in heat to compete then the following must be provided:*

- A separate designated exercise area for in heat dogs to relieve themselves.*
- A separate designated area for crating away from other dogs.*

*Dogs in heat must comply with the following conditions:*

- A dog's handler/owner must inform the trial host that their dog is in heat immediately at registration.*
- The dog must wear pants at all times when on the trial premises unless in their crate or in the designated exercise area to relieve themselves,*
- After the run the dog must return immediately to their crating area.*

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### **5.6 CLASS AWARDS**

- The host of the trial must provide awards to third place in all single disc, freestyle and furthest catch classes.
- The host can choose among three options for organizing the Furthest Catch class. The Furthest Catch class may be held as one single class, a single class with separate placings for male and female throwers, or as two separate classes (Male throwers, Female throwers).
- No single prize for any official class may exceed \$100 in value.
- If more than 4 mini-division dogs are competing rosettes or equivalent must be provided to third place. If less than 4 dogs are competing rosettes or equivalent may be awarded at the organizer's discretion.
- Awards for non-official classes are at the organizer's discretion but no single prize or award may be greater than \$100.
- The host club may offer special awards as they see fit for any class (e.g. junior handler, veteran dog, breed specific) but no single prize or award may be greater than \$100.
- Prizes and awards can be sponsored.

Refer to section 8 for junior handler awards.

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### **5.7    RULES FOR PRACTICE AT TRIALS**

- No competitor may take more than the official number of practice throws. Competitors that take extra throws before or after their one minute round will be penalized 5 points for each additional throw.
- A practice area may be provided by the host organization.
- This area must not be visible to dogs competing on the competition green or must be used only when dogs are not competing.
- Only one dog may practice in this area at a time.
- If no practice area is provided then no practicing will be allowed on the trial grounds.
- Competitors practicing outside the practice areas may forfeit their round.

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### **5.8 REASONS FOR DISQUALIFICATIONS**

A competitor may be disqualified from a trial for any of the following:

- Abusive actions or language directed at the judge.
- Abusive treatment of a dog (their own or anyone else's)
- Uncontrolled dog (dog that repeatedly is loose while others compete especially if it interferes with the running of a dog or holds up competition while being brought under control).
- Aggressive dog (a dog that has demonstrated in some way that it may be a danger to other dogs, competitors or spectators).
- Competitors repeatedly using obscene language after being warned at least once.
- Obviously trying to sabotage a competitor's performance.

All disqualified exhibitors forfeit all their entry fees.

Any exhibitor that is disqualified from a trial or individual class must be given a written reason for the disqualification. A copy of the written reason must be sent to the CDDA along with the trial results.

Entrants are not to be disqualified for trivial incidences.

Disqualified competitors may be asked to leave the premises at the judge's and Host club's discretion.

The judge has the authority to disqualify any entrant for any reason he/she feels is warranted.

The host organization must remove from the grounds any participants or non-participants that a CDDA judge requests.