

EVENT CRITERIA
SHOW ME STOCK DOG LEAGUE

General Rules:

1. Events eligible for sanctioning are Trials, Training Days, and Workshops.
2. Events must be sanctioned to receive Insurance coverage and recording with the Show Me Stock Dog League (SMSDL).
3. The standard USBCHA-type judging form will be used for all trials.
4. Classes offered will be at the discretion of the host, however, Novice, Ranch, Pro Novice, and Open are strongly suggested.

Suggested course descriptions:

Open Class: Full course - outrun, lift, fetch, drive, pen and shed

Pro Novice Class: Full course minus shed

Ranch Class: Outrun, lift, fetch, one leg of drive, and pen.

Novice: Outrun, lift, fetch and pen.

5. Advance entry is suggested. It will be the host's responsibility to notify all entrants in the event of a cancellation. Notification of cancellation must also be made to the Sanction Coordinator.
6. Good sportsmanship is to be shown at all times. The host and host's representatives have the responsibility for the overall conduct of the event; the judge has the responsibility for conduct of the event in the field/arena.
 - a. Should any controversy develop, the following shall apply. The host or host's representatives shall first do all in their power to minimize any interference with the event and any other participants in the event. This shall include but is not limited to providing a quiet private area in which to resolve such controversy or dispute. The nature of the controversy/dispute shall be taken down in writing and statements by any witnesses or evidence available collected. The sponsor or representatives and all other parties involved shall make every effort to ascertain the facts and resolve the issue. If a resolution is not possible or further action is necessary, all details shall be put into a written protest (see section under Protest and Disciplinary Procedures) and sent to the Sanction Coordinator. The Show Me Stock Dog League will only consider those items which fall under the rules and regulations of the Show Me Stock Dog League and not any other controversy or dispute.
 - b. Misconduct may be, but is not limited to, the following:
 - i. Unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - ii. Intimidating or attempting to intimidate, influence, or argue with a judge, course director, timer, host, or any other trial official.
 - iii. Using abusive language on the trial field or during an event.

- iv. Inhumane treatment of dog or stock anywhere on the grounds of the event (as defined by the USBCHA Rule Book).
 - v. Consuming or bringing alcoholic beverages at or around the trial/event site during event hours.
 - vi. Any member or non-member passing a bad check or checks at a Show Me Stock Dog League event. Returned checks must be made good, along with any associated bank fees, within two weeks of notification. Failure to do so will result in suspension of membership until the check is made good. Multiple return checks could result in expulsion from the League.
 - vii. Complaining about stock, judging, set out, etc.: Areas of true concern may be addressed with the host at an appropriate time and place.
 - viii. Behaving in a manner discrediting to the Show Me Stock Dog League.
- c. Protest Process and Disciplinary Procedures

In the event there is an incident that cannot be resolved, a written protest may be submitted to the Board for review. This protest must be submitted to the Board, in writing, within 10 days of the event where such action took place. The protest must also be accompanied by a cashier's check for \$25.00. If the Board of Directors determines, after investigation, that there are grounds for possible disciplinary action, the \$25 dollars will be returned to the complainant. Such protest must be made by a member or members in good standing, and will be reviewed by the Board as outlined in the By-Laws, Article II, Section 4. Penalty for such action will be determined by the Board.

- 7. Sick or injured dogs will not be allowed to compete at the discretion of the judge and course director, unless cleared at the recommendation of a veterinarian.
- 8. No stock belonging to contestant, stock contractor, or host should be confined to vehicles beyond a period of 12 hours without being unloaded, properly fed and watered. No sick or injured animals will be permitted to be used in competition. Animals will be inspected and objectionable ones eliminated before running. Judges and Course Director will be responsible for inspection.
- 9. A veterinarian shall be in attendance or reasonably available at every event.
- 10. Member point count system for end of year League awards. The League Trial Year is defined as the period from November 1 through October 31 annually. This is to allow time for compilation of end of year member points and presentation at our Annual General Membership Meeting normally held before the end of our membership calendar year. Members will be competing only with other League members for Show Me Stock Dog League end of year points and rankings.
 - a. All sanctioned trial results will be recorded by the Secretary/Treasurer. The host will be responsible for completing a summary of the final placings for each class to include

retired and disqualified teams and all score components. This list will be sent to the League Secretary within 30 days of the event.

- b. Those placing will receive a point value based on the number of member entries in each class. Each dog that posted a score for the course and did not retire or DQ will receive points according to their placing in the number of member entries in each class. Example: In an open class of 38 dogs of which 25 were members: The highest placing member team would receive 25 points. The second highest placing team of those member dogs entered would receive 24 points.....and so on.
- c. These points will be accumulated throughout the League trial year and will include all sanctioned trials. Final year end results will be presented at the annual meeting.
- d. In the event of ties in end of year member points, whenever possible the tie will be broken by a runoff to be scheduled after the end of the League trial year at a time and place mutually agreed upon by the members concerned. If this is not possible for any reason, then duplicate awards for the tied placing will be given.
- e. In order to give all handlers the opportunity to work their dogs within the scope of their abilities and compete with their peers, the Novice and Ranch classes are designed to give inexperienced handlers a level at which to begin entering competitions. The Pro Novice class is designed for handlers moving up in skill level and for dogs moving up in skill level. Nursery and Open are classes for skilled handlers and skilled dogs.

Once a dog/handler team trials in a given class, it will no longer be eligible to compete in a lower class even if a given trial permits dropping to a lower class.

A handler who has once run a dog in a given class may run at most one class lower and only with a dog that has not run in the higher class. Similarly, a dog who has once run in a given class may run at most one class lower and only with a handler that has not run any dog in the higher class.

Exception: USBCHA rules apply to Nursery. A dog/handler team may compete in both Open and Nursery classes if the age restrictions for Nursery are met.

A dog/handler team which has run noncompete only in a given class may again compete one class lower. Noncompete runs will not accumulate League points and are at the discretion of the host/director of the trial.

No handler or dog that has run above Ranch may compete in Novice.

A dog/handler team which has won a class for the year in two separate years will no longer be able to accumulate League points for that class.

Any dog/handler team deviating from these rules in a given trial will not accumulate League points for that trial.

Examples: An Open handler may compete in Pro Novice only with a dog that has not run in Open.

A Pro Novice handler (i.e. not an Open handler) may compete in Pro Novice with a dog that has run in Open.

A dog/handler team at the Ranch level which has not competed in Pro Novice may run in Pro Novice noncompete and return to compete in Ranch.

A Novice handler may compete in the Novice class with a dog that has competed in Ranch (but not higher).

11. Sanctioning

- a. Only trials hosted by SMSDL members may be sanctioned by the League. All trial hosts should apply for sanctioning to the Show Me Stock Dog League Vice President or President approximately sixty days prior to the trial date. A trial host is defined as the person financially responsible for taking entry fees, paying expenses, and disbursing prize money, if any. The trial host agrees to ensure trial compliance with League bylaws and policies, and will report results to the League Secretary. There is no League fee for sanctioning or recording.
- b. Sanctioning approval will be sent in writing to the host along with a copy of the event criteria, current membership list, by-laws, and sample score sheet. Four erasable scoreboards are available to the host.
- c. Liability insurance for coverage of the trial's location is available for League sanctioned events through an Endorsement to the League policy from Sportsmen's Insurance Agency. Hosts who desire this insurance must include this request along with a detailed description of property location on the sanction request form. Insurance fee payable by the host is \$50, all of which goes to Sportsman's Insurance Agency. This annual fee covers the host for all League events held at this location.
- d. The trial host will be responsible for submitting, in writing, the complete final placings of each class to the SMSDL Secretary/Treasurer within 30 days of their event. The list must include each dog, handler, and their score, including retires and DQ's. This information will be kept by the League Secretary until the point year is completed. The host will be responsible for keeping the original score sheet until the point year is completed.
- e. All sanctioned events must conform to the rules and regulations of the Show Me Stock Dog League. Any host that allows a suspended person to participate in their event will automatically lose their sanctioning. All trial hosts requesting sanctioning will be provided a list of current members in good standing.
- f. The Vice President shall serve as sanction coordinator and maintain a list of all sanctioned trials. A list shall also be provided to the Secretary/Treasurer.

Reviewed and Amended December 2013

