

OPEN SHEEP DOG TRIAL

SUPERINTENDENT	Pat Canaday (518) 861-6049
TRIAL TYPE	Points trial - based on obstacles completed and time
ARRIVAL	Monday, September 28, 2020 8am to 10am
SHOW	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 10:45 am Exhibitors' Meeting 11:00 am Start of Trial 1 3:45 pm Exhibitors' Meeting 4:00 pm Start of Trial 2
RELEASE	Monday, September 28, 2020 All dogs off the grounds by 10pm

SHEEP DOG TRIAL SHOW PREMIUMS (per class)

1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
\$500	375	350	300	275	250	225	200	200	200*

* \$100 to 15th place

ENTRY INFORMATION

1. Entries must arrive at The Big E Agriculture office by August 31. No late postmarks are accepted.
2. Entry fee is \$25 per dog per trial.
3. We reserve the right to limit the number of dogs per handler.
4. Entries will be accepted on a first come first serve basis. Upon receipt of entries, exhibitors will be forwarded entrance credentials and permits to bring dogs on the grounds.
5. Sheep Dog Trial dogs must enter the Agriculture Gate 10.
6. Sheep Dog Trial dogs will be restricted to camping area, Agriculture buildings, and the Coliseum.
7. All dogs must comply with Massachusetts Animal Health Regulations. See Regulations in front of Premium Book.
8. Premiums will be paid to two dogs per handler, dropping a third dog.
9. Cancellations with refund will be accepted until Wednesday, September 23. Please notify the trial superintendent of your withdrawal. No refunds after Wednesday, September 23, except in extreme circumstances.

Trials are sanctioned by United States Border Collie Handlers Association (USBCHA) and Northeast Border Collie Association (NEBCA).

SPECIAL RULES

1. **READ GENERAL RULES.** All entries and awards within this show will be subject to the General Rules and Regulations published in this Premium Book and the following Special Rules.
2. Ties for first place will be broken by a run-off at the conclusion of the trial.
3. Each competitor must be ready when called by the Course Director, and anyone failing to answer the call may be disqualified. Competitors are required to note that while the order of the program will be followed strictly (unless any change is authorized by the Trial Superintendent), the timing cannot be guaranteed.
4. Any competitor wishing to have the course explained or have any point clarified must question the Trial Superintendent before they start their run. They cannot have questions answered once their run begins.
5. By commencing their run, competitors are presumed to know the course and follow it in all its details.

6. Once a competitor starts their run they are entirely in the hands of the judge. By deviating from the course they are liable to disqualification or such penalty as the judge considers suitable having regard to all the circumstances.
7. Any competitor who receives assistance in any form will be disqualified. If not previously stopped on the instructions of the judge, a handler will be called off on the expiry of the time limit, but in the latter case, the points to the stage at which they were called off will count.
8. After being dismissed, a handler will cease working his dog on the course and will collect the sheep and remove them from the trial field immediately.
9. Any competitor who retires or who leaves the field without the judge's permission will forfeit all points.
10. Any competitor who intentionally harasses the stock after his run will be disqualified.
11. Competitors shall keep their dogs under proper control at all times and any dog or owner interfering with another dog or competitor while working shall be disqualified.
12. All dogs will be restricted to the Coliseum or Agricultural buildings. Special arrangements will be made for a dog relief area. Please watch for this information upon check-in.
13. Competitors and/or others shall not take their dogs onto the course before the trial starts, nor shall any of them run their dogs on the trial sheep before the trials. Handlers, without their dogs, may inspect the course before the trial begins.
14. No contestant or other person shall engage in any form of misconduct or harassment toward trial management, judges or officials. Trial management has the right to disqualify or refuse entry to any contestant for violation of this rule.
15. A contestant may drop out due to injury to himself or his dog or due to sickness or death in his/her family with notice to the trial superintendent prior to the start of the contest. Refund must be requested within 30 days of the contest. A contestant shall not at any time withdraw from any trial he is participating in due to dissatisfaction or grievance with the judge, trial management or other contestants without forfeiting all money he may have won in previous runs. Entry fees or any part thereof will not be refunded after a contest starts.
16. A contestant shall not enter the trial field at any time with any kind of training device. The trial management, representative or judge must disqualify a contestant if he enters the trial field with any such equipment and all entry fees and/or premiums pertaining to said contestant will be forfeited. Such devices include, but are not limited to, electronic collars, dummy or weighted collars, a leash or rope that is not detached before the dog is sent or any device used to distract or cause pain to a dog while it is working. The judge has the right to inspect the dog for any violation to this rule.

DISQUALIFICATION

1. A dog which grips or bites shall be disqualified if the gripping or biting is of such character and the circumstances are such as to justify disqualification. When gripping or biting occurs, the judge shall decide at once whether to disqualify the competitor. If the judge disqualifies the dog, he shall instruct the Trial Superintendent to stop the competitor.
2. A competitor so disqualified shall not be entitled to a prize of any kind for the run in which it was disqualified. If the dog is not disqualified it shall be penalized as the judge considers suitable having regard to all the circumstances.
3. A competitor whose dog damages sheep shall be liable to pay the damage. The judge may stop a competitor at any point of the trial or withhold any prizes on the grounds of insufficient merit.

PARKING

1. All exhibitors will receive entrance credentials, which will consist of one personal pass and one 1-day auto window hanger. Exhibitors needing additional personal credentials may purchase them at the Agriculture Office at a discounted rate. These credentials will allow exhibitors to park at Gate 10. Exhibitors will enter Gate 1 from Route 147 and continue around the back of the fairgrounds until they come to Gate 10. Parking at Gate 10 is some distance from the Coliseum, so please be prepared. Camping for Sheep Dog Trial participants will be a separate camping area on grass, in the Ag Lot. There is no electricity, water or sewer available, but the campers will be within sight of Security personnel 24 hours per day. Please note on camping reservations, "Sheep Dog Camping Area" or you will be restricted to asphalt paved area.