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Upcoming Changes to June 2023 Program Rules

All changes included in this document are effective beginning June 1, 2023.

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Obedience Program

OB.22.07 Revise Jump Tables and Jump Heights

Approved by ASCA Board of Directors: July 27, 2022

Current Wording:

ASCA Obedience Reference Sheet

Broad Jump:

Number of Boards	Distance Jumped	If using fewer than 4 boards for the Broad jump, always remove the tallest board(s) first.
1	8" to 12"	
2	16" to 24"	
3	28" to 44"	
4	48" to 72"	

Jump Heights:

A. The Judge has the authority to measure any dog to confirm that dog's applicable jump height. Minimum jump height is 4". Veterans (dogs 7 years old and up) may jump 2" to 4" lower than regular height).

B. If the height of the dog at the withers is over an even number (10", 12", 14" ...), the dog shall jump the next lowest height. (**EXAMPLE:** If the dog measures 21 1/2", the dog shall jump 20".)

All breeds, except the ones listed below, will jump their height at the withers.

The minimum jump height shall be set at the nearest multiple of two (2) inches to three quarters (3/4) the height of the dog (see chart below) at the withers for the following breeds (and mixed breeds with the following):

Anatolian Shepherd	Chinese Shar Pei	Leonberger
Akbash Dog	Clumber Spaniel	Mastiff
Akita	Dachshund	Neapolitan Mastiff
Basset Hound	Dandie Dinmont Terrier	Newfoundland
Bergamascos	Dogo Argentino	Otterhound
Bernese Mountain Dog	Dogue De Bordeaux	Pekingese
Black Russian Terrier	French Bulldog	Pembroke Welsh Corgi
Bloodhounds	Great Dane	Perro De Presa Canario
Bolognese	Great Pyrenees	Petite Basset Griffon Vendeen
Borzoi	Greater Swiss Mountain Dog	Saint Bernard
Bullmastiffs	Irish Wolfhound	Skye Terrier
Bull Terrier	Kangal Dog	Sussex Spaniel
Cardigan Welsh Corgi	Kishu Ken	Tai Ridgeback
Caucasian Mountain Dog	Kuvasz	Tibetan Mastiff
Central Asian Sheepdog	Lagotto Ramagnolo	

Chart for 3/4th Heights	
HEIGHT (IN INCHES)	HEIGHT JUMPED (IN INCHES)
Less than 12 1/2	8
12 1/2 to less than 15	10
15 to less than 17 1/2	12
17 1/2 to less than 20	14
20 to less than 23	16
23 to less than 25 1/2	18
25 1/2 to less than 28	20
28 to less than 31	22
31 to less than 33 1/2	24
33 1/2 to less than 36	26
36 to less than 39	28

Section 5.14 Directed Jumping

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog go away from the handler in the direction indicated, stop when commanded, jump as directed and return as in the Recall. The orders are "Send

your dog," "Bar" or "High," and "Finish."

The jumps shall be placed midway in the ring at right angles to the sides of the ring and eighteen (18) to twenty (20) feet apart, the Bar Jump on one side, the High Jump on the other. The judge must make certain that the jumps are set at the required height for each dog by following the procedure described in Retrieve over the High Jump.

The handler, from a position on the center line of the ring and about twenty (20) feet from the line of the jumps, shall stand with his dog sitting in the Heel position and on order from the judge shall command and/or signal his dog to go forward at a brisk trot or gallop to a point about twenty (20) feet beyond the jumps and in the 49 approximate center. When the dog has reached this point, the handler shall give a command to Sit; the dog must stop and sit with his attention on the handler but need not sit squarely.

The judge will designate which jump is to be taken first by the dog and shall order either "High" or "Bar" when designating either the High or Bar Jump. The handler shall command and/or signal the dog to return to him over the designated jump. While the dog is in midair the handler may turn so as to be facing the dog as it returns. The dog shall sit in front of the handler and, on order from the judge, finish as in the Novice Recall. The judge will say "Exercise Finished" after the dog has returned to the Heel position.

When the dog is again sitting in the Heel position the judge shall ask, "Are you ready?" before giving the order to send the dog for the second part of the exercise. The same procedure shall be followed for the second jump. It is optional which jump the judge will first indicate, but both jumps must be taken to complete the exercise and the judge must not designate the jump until the dog is at the far end of the ring. The dog shall clear the jumps without touching them.

The height of the jumps shall be the same as required in the Open classes. The High Jump shall be the same as that used in the Open classes, and the Bar Jump shall consist of a bar, which may be made of any rigid material that is between two (2) and two and one-half (2 ½) inches square with the four (4) edges rounded sufficiently to remove any sharpness. The bar shall be painted a flat black and white in alternate sections of about three (3) inches each. The bar shall be supported by two (2) unconnected four (4) foot upright posts, which may be made of metal, wood, or wood-like material, about five (5) feet apart. The bar shall be adjustable for each two (2) inches of height from eight (8) inches to thirty-six (36) inches, and the jump shall be so constructed and positioned that the bar can be knocked off without disturbing the uprights. The bar will be weighted if made of material other than wood, so it is not dislodged any easier than if it was made of wood.

New Wording Effective June 1, 2023:

ASCA Obedience Reference Sheet

Broad Jump:

Number of Boards	Distance Jumped	If using fewer than 4 boards for the Broad jump, always remove the tallest board(s) first.
1	8" to 12"	
2	16" to 24"	
3	28" to 44"	
4	48" to 72"	

Obedience Jumps:

Jumps used in the obedience classes must be five feet (5') wide (including the largest broad jump board). Jump specifications and required dimensions are located in the following sections:

High Jump: Section 4.6.6 & Suggested Construction of Bar and High Jump

Broad Jump: Section 4.6.8 & Suggested Construction of Broad Jump

Bar Jump: Section 5.14 & Suggested Construction of Bar and High Jump

Jump Heights:

- A. The Judge has the authority to measure any dog to confirm that dog's applicable jump height. Minimum jump height is 4". Veterans (dogs 7 years old and up) may jump 2" to 4" lower than regular height).
- B. If the height of the dog at the withers is over an even number (~~10", 12", 14"~~16", 18", 20"...), the dog shall jump the next lowest height. (EXAMPLE: If the dog measures 21½", the dog shall jump 20").
- C. If using fewer than 4 boards for the Broad jump, always remove the tallest board(s) first.

All breeds, except those ~~the ones~~ listed below, will jump at minimum their height at the withers, as listed in the Standard Jump Height Table:

Standard Jump Height Table (Inches)			
Measured Height of Dog at Withers	High and Bar Jump Height	Broad Jump Distance	# Broad Jump Boards
Less than 8"	4"	8"	1
8" to less than 10"	8"	16"	2
10" to less than 12"	10"	20"	
12" to less than 14"	12"	24"	
14" to less than 16"	14"	28"	3
16" to less than 18"	16"	32"	
18" to less than 20"	18"	36"	
20" to less than 22"	20"	40"	
22" to less than 24"	22"	44"	
24" to less than 26"	24"	48"	4
26" to less than 28"	26"	52"	
28" to less than 30"	28"	56"	
30" to less than 32"	30"	60"	
32" to less than 34"	32"	64"	
34" to less than 36"	34"	68"	
36" and greater	36"	72"	

The following breeds, including dogs mixed with these breeds, will jump at a measurement of three-quarters (¾) their height at the withers.

The minimum high and bar jump height shall be set to the nearest multiple of two (2) inches as listed in the $\frac{3}{4}$ Jump Height Table below: ~~to three quarters (3/4) the height of the dog (see chart below) at the withers for the following breeds (and mixed breeds with the following):~~

Breeds Approved for $\frac{3}{4}$ Jump Height		
Anatolian Shepherd	Chinese Shar Pei	Leonberger
Akbash Dog	Clumber Spaniel	Mastiff
Akita	Dachshund	Neapolitan Mastiff
Basset Hound	Dandie Dinmont Terrier	Newfoundland
Bergamascos	Dogo Argentino	Otterhound
Bernese Mountain Dog	Dogue De Bordeaux	Pekingese
Black Russian Terrier	French Bulldog	Pembroke Welsh Corgi
Bloodhounds	Great Dane	Perro De Presa Canario
Bolognese	Great Pyrenees	Petite B Basset Griffon Vendeen
Borzoï	Greater Swiss Mountain Dog	Saint Bernard
Bullmastiffs	Irish Wolfhound	Skye Terrier
Bull Terrier	Kangal Dog	Sussex Spaniel
Cardigan Welsh Corgi	Kishu Ken Tai	Tai Ridgeback
Caucasian Mountain Dog	Kuvasz	Tibetan Mastiff
Central Asian Sheepdog	Lagotto Ramagnolo	

$\frac{3}{4}$ Jump Height Table (Inches) Chart for 3/4th Heights			
Measured Height of Dog at Withers HEIGHT (IN INCHES)	High and Bar Jump Height HEIGHT JUMPED (IN INCHES)	Broad Jump Distance	# Broad Jump Boards
Less than 10"	4"	8"	1
10" to Less than 12$\frac{1}{2}$" -1/2	8"	16"	2
12 $\frac{1}{2}$ " -1/2 to less than 15"	10"	20"	
15" to less than 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ " -1/2	12"	24"	
17 $\frac{1}{2}$ " -1/2 to less than 20"	14"	28"	3
20" to less than 23"	16"	32"	
23" to less than 25 $\frac{1}{2}$ " -1/2	18"	36"	
25 $\frac{1}{2}$ " -1/2 to less than 28"	20"	40"	

28" to less than 31"	22"	44"	4
31" to less than 33½" -1/2	24"	48"	
33½" -1/2 to less than 36"	26"	52"	
36" and greater to less than 39	28"	56"	

Section 5.14 Directed Jumping

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog go away from the handler in the direction indicated, stop when commanded, jump as directed and return as in the Recall. The orders are "Send your dog," "Bar" or "High," and "Finish."

The jumps shall be placed midway in the ring at right angles to the sides of the ring and eighteen (18) to twenty (20) feet apart, the Bar Jump on one side, the High Jump on the other. The judge must make certain that the jumps are set at the required height for each dog by following the procedure described in Retrieve over the High Jump.

The handler, from a position on the center line of the ring and about twenty (20) feet from the line of the jumps, shall stand with his dog sitting in the Heel position and on order from the judge shall command and/or signal his dog to go forward at a brisk trot or gallop to a point about twenty (20) feet beyond the jumps and in the 49 approximate center. When the dog has reached this point, the handler shall give a command to Sit; the dog must stop and sit with his attention on the handler but need not sit squarely.

The judge will designate which jump is to be taken first by the dog and shall order either "High" or "Bar" when designating either the High or Bar Jump. The handler shall command and/or signal the dog to return to him over the designated jump. While the dog is in midair the handler may turn so as to be facing the dog as it returns. The dog shall sit in front of the handler and, on order from the judge, finish as in the Novice Recall. The judge will say "Exercise Finished" after the dog has returned to the Heel position.

When the dog is again sitting in the Heel position the judge shall ask, "Are you ready?" before giving the order to send the dog for the second part of the exercise. The same procedure shall be followed for the second jump. It is optional which jump the judge will first indicate, but both jumps must be taken to complete the exercise and the judge must not designate the jump until the dog is at the far end of the ring. The dog shall clear the jumps without touching them.

The height of the jumps shall be the same as required in the Open classes. The High Jump shall be the same as that used in the Open classes, and the Bar Jump shall consist of a bar, which may be made of any rigid material that is between two (2) and two and one-half (2 ½) inches square with the four (4) edges rounded sufficiently to remove any sharpness. The bar shall be painted a flat black and white in alternate sections of about three (3) inches each. The bar shall be supported by two (2) unconnected four (4) foot upright posts, which may be made of metal, wood or wood like material, about five (5) feet apart. The bar shall be adjustable for each two (2) inches of height from ~~eight (8)~~ four (4) inches to thirty-six (36) inches, and the jump shall be so constructed and positioned that the bar can be knocked off without disturbing the uprights. The bar will be weighted if made of material other than wood, so it is not dislodged any easier than if it was made of wood.

OB.22.08 Clarify Dogs That May Not Compete

Approved by ASCA Board of Directors: July 27, 2022

Current Wording:

Section 1.9 Dogs that May Not Compete

No dog without an ASCA individual registration, LEP number or ASCA QTracker number may compete in any ASCA Obedience Trial. Dogs may not compete until they are six (6) months of age or older. An obedience judge's immediate family or household members may compete under other officiating judges at the same trial. Family/household members may do this provided that any wins under other judges will not result in a violation of these rules by any advancement of the dog in the sanctioned event. Dogs owned wholly or in part by an obedience judge may be exhibited at a trial in which he/she is officiating provided that any wins under other judges will not result in a violation of these rules by any advancement of the dog in the sanctioned event. Obedience judges may show in cluster trials on weekends in which they are judging without restrictions on the order in which they judge and show. This includes same day obedience trials when such events precede or follow but do not overlap the trial at which they officiate. The official veterinarian shall not exhibit or act as agent or handler at the show and dogs owned wholly or in part shall not be eligible to be entered at that show.

If a club does not advertise in its premium list who is to judge run-offs between classes, an exhibitor shall automatically be considered to have lost the run-off of any tie scores between classes if the judge of the run-off is a member of the exhibitor's immediate family.

New Wording Effective June 1, 2023:

Section 1.9 Dogs that May Not Compete

No dog without an ASCA individual registration, LEP number or ASCA QTracker number may compete in any ASCA Obedience Trial. Dogs may not compete until they are six (6) months of age or older. **No dog that is owned or co-owned by the judge or a member of the judge's immediate family may be shown in a class, or participate in a runoff, officiated by that judge.** An obedience judge's immediate family or household members, and dogs owned wholly or in part by an obedience judge, may compete under other officiating judges at the same trial. ~~Family/household members may do this provided that any wins under other judges will not result in a violation of these rules by any advancement of the dog in the sanctioned event. Dogs owned wholly or in part by an obedience judge may be exhibited at a trial in which he/she is officiating provided that any wins under other judges will not result in a violation of these rules by any advancement of the dog in the sanctioned event.~~ Obedience judges may show in cluster trials on weekends in which they are judging without restrictions on the order in which they judge and show. This includes same day obedience trials when such events precede or follow but do not overlap the trial at which they officiate. The official veterinarian shall not exhibit or act as agent or handler at the show and dogs owned wholly or in part shall not be eligible to be entered at that show.

If a club does not advertise in its premium list who is to judge run-offs between classes, an exhibitor shall automatically be considered to have lost the run-off of any tie scores between classes if the judge of the run-off is a member of the exhibitor's immediate family.

OB.22.09 Novice C Class Eligibility

Approved by ASCA Board of Directors: August 27, 2022

Current Wording:

Section 3.3 Novice C Class

The Novice C class shall be for dogs not less than six (6) month of age that have earned the CD title. The Novice C class will be run after the Novice B and A classes and stay groups can be combined with the B and A classes. Dogs in this class may be handled by the owner or any other person. A person may handle more than one (1) dog in this class, but each dog must have a separate handler for the group exercises when judged in the same group. No dog may enter Novice C and any other Regular or Optional Titling class at any one (1) trial. Dogs in Novice C are not eligible for HIT, High Scoring Junior,

Novice Merit awards or Novice Finals. Dogs may show in Novice C indefinitely. No titles are earned from Novice C.

New Wording Effective June 1, 2023:

Section 3.3 Novice C Class

The Novice C class shall be for dogs not less than six (6) months of age that have earned the CD title. The Novice C class will be run after the Novice B and A classes and stay groups can be combined with the B and A classes. Dogs in this class may be handled by the owner or any other person. A person may handle more than one (1) dog in this class, but each dog must have a separate handler for the group exercises when judged in the same group. Dogs may be shown in any other Regular, Optional Titling, or Non-regular class for which they are eligible at the same trial. ~~No dog may enter Novice C and any other Regular or Optional Titling class at any one (1) trial.~~ Dogs in Novice C are not eligible for HIT, High Scoring Junior, Novice Merit awards, or Novice Finals. Dogs may show in Novice C indefinitely. No titles are earned from Novice C.

Rally Program

RA.22.13 Judge Selection for Nationals & Finals

Approved by ASCA Board of Directors: September 27, 2022

Current Wording:

Section 15.1 Eligibility to Judge

- A. To be eligible to judge Rally Finals, the Judge must be an ASCA Senior Rally Judge and be in good standing with ASCA.
- B. To be eligible to judge the Nationals Rally Trial, the Judge must be an ASCA Senior or National Rally Judge and be in good standing with ASCA.
- C. Judge shall not have judged the previous three (3) Rally Finals or Nationals trials.

New Wording Effective June 1, 2023:

Section 15.1 Eligibility to Judge

- A. To be eligible to judge Rally Finals, the Judge must be an ASCA Senior Rally Judge and be in good standing with ASCA.
- B. To be eligible to judge the Nationals Rally Trial, the Judge must be an ASCA Senior or National Rally Judge and be in good standing with ASCA.
- C. Judge shall not have judged the previous ~~three (3)~~ two Rally Finals or Nationals trials.

Stockdog Program

SD.22.13 When Scoring of Obstacles Begins on Course D (Revised)

Approved by ASCA Board of Directors: April 27, 2022

Current Wording:

12.1.1 Course D Arena

- D. Take Pen: The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena

1. All take pens must be placed on the outside of the arena, along the fence opposite obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena, it must be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two, with consideration for the advanced handler line taken into account
2. The take pen gate for Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese must be no less than 8'
3. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena
4. The take pen size and location must be stated in the sanctioning request form. The Duck/Geese arena take pen size must be a minimum of 8' x 8' and a maximum of 16' x 16'. For Cattle and Sheep/Goats, a take pen must be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet
5. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or livestock, the Cattle, or Sheep/Goats will be released into the arena from the take pen
6. If the livestock is released into the arena, the Advanced Handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler line on the take-pen side of the line; wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take pen side of the Advanced Handler Line. Open and Started Handlers may position themselves wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open Handlers' Line is in effect for the Open Division

New Wording Effective June 1, 2023:

12.1.1 Course D Arena

- D. Take Pen: The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena
1. All take pens must be placed on the outside of the arena, along the fence opposite obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena, it must be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two, with consideration for the advanced handler line taken into account
 2. The take pen gate for Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese must be no less than 8'
 3. Scoring for Obstacle 1 will begin when the last head of livestock clears the plane of the take pen gate, whether or not the gate is closed
 4. No Course Points may be earned on Obstacle 2 until the take pen gate is closed
 5. The take pen size and location must be stated in the sanctioning request form. The Duck/Geese arena take pen size must be a minimum of 8' x 8' and a maximum of 16' x 16'. For Cattle and Sheep/Goats, a take pen must be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet
 6. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or livestock, the Cattle, or Sheep/Goats will be released into the arena from the take pen
 7. If the livestock is released into the arena, the Advanced Handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler line on the take-pen side of the line; wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take pen side of the Advanced Handler Line. Open and Started

Handlers may position themselves wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open Handlers' Line is in effect for the Open Division

SD.22.14 When Scoring of Obstacles Begins on Course E (Revised)

Approved by ASCA Board of Directors: April 27, 2022

Current Wording:

13.1.1 Course E Arena

- D. Take Pen: The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena
1. All take pens must be placed on the outside of the arena, along the fence opposite obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena, it must be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two, with consideration for the advanced handler line taken into account
 2. The take pen gate for Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese must be no less than 8'
 3. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena
 4. The take pen size and location must be stated in the sanctioning request form. The Duck/Geese arena take pen size must be a minimum of 8' x 8' and a maximum of 16' x 16'. For Cattle and Sheep/Goats, a take pen must be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet
 5. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or livestock, the Cattle, or Sheep/Goats will be released into the arena from the take pen
 6. If the livestock is released into the arena, the Advanced Handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler line on the take-pen side of the line; wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take pen side of the Advanced Handler Line. Open and Started Handlers may position themselves wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open Handlers' Line is in effect for the Open Division

New Wording Effective June 1, 2023:

13.1.1 Course E Arena

- D. Take Pen: The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena
1. All take pens must be placed on the outside of the arena, along the fence opposite obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena, it must be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two, with consideration for the advanced handler line taken into account
 2. The take pen gate for Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese must be no less than 8'
 3. Scoring for Obstacle 1 will begin when the last head of livestock clears the plane of the take pen gate, whether or not the gate is closed
 4. No Course Points may be earned on Obstacle 2 until the take pen gate is closed
 5. The take pen size and location must be stated in the sanctioning request form. The Duck/Geese arena take pen size must be a minimum of 8' x 8' and a maximum of 16' x 16'. For Cattle and

Sheep/Goats, a take pen must be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet

6. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or livestock, the Cattle, or Sheep/Goats will be released into the arena from the take pen

7. If the livestock is released into the arena, the Advanced Handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler line on the take-pen side of the line; wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take pen side of the Advanced Handler Line. Open and Started Handlers may position themselves wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open Handlers' Line is in effect for the Open Division

SD.22.15 When Scoring of Obstacles Begins on Course F (Revised)

Approved by ASCA Board of Directors: April 27, 2022

Current Wording:

14.1.1 Course F Arena

D. Take Pen: The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena

1. All take pens must be placed on the outside of the arena, along the fence opposite obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena, it must be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two, with consideration for the advanced handler line taken into account

2. The take pen gate for Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese must be no less than 8'

3. The take pen gate must be closed after the stock is released into the arena

4. The take pen size and location must be stated in the sanctioning request form. The Duck/Geese arena take pen size must be a minimum of 8' x 8' and a maximum of 16' x 16'. For Cattle and Sheep/Goats, a take pen must be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet

5. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or livestock, the Cattle, or Sheep/Goats will be released into the arena from the take pen

6. If the livestock is released into the arena, the Advanced Handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler line on the take-pen side of the line; wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take pen side of the Advanced Handler Line. Open and Started Handlers may position themselves wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open Handlers' Line is in effect for the Open Division

New Wording Effective June 1, 2023:

14.1.1 Course F Arena

- D. Take Pen: The take pen does not have to be the same enclosure as the re-pen as long as the procedure is consistent for the entire trial and both pens are at the same end of the arena
1. All take pens must be placed on the outside of the arena, along the fence opposite obstacle two. If the pen is on the side of the arena, it must be as close to the back fence as possible, on the opposite end of the arena from obstacle two, with consideration for the advanced handler line taken into account
 2. The take pen gate for Cattle, Sheep/Goats, and Ducks/Geese must be no less than 8'
 3. Scoring for Obstacle 1 will begin when the last head of livestock clears the plane of the take pen gate, whether or not the gate is closed
 4. No Course Points may be earned on Obstacle 2 until the take pen gate is closed
 5. The take pen size and location must be stated in the sanctioning request form. The Duck/Geese arena take pen size must be a minimum of 8' x 8' and a maximum of 16' x 16'. For Cattle and Sheep/Goats, a take pen must be of adequate size to allow the dog to remove the livestock safely. The livestock size, number, and demeanor will determine the necessary size of each take pen. The livestock should not take up more than 1/3 of the take pen. It is suggested that the minimum size be no less than 250 square feet with a maximum size of 900 square feet
 6. If the Judge, in consultation with the Course Director, decides the take pen is not of adequate size and construction to be safe for the dog or livestock, the Cattle, or Sheep/Goats will be released into the arena from the take pen
 7. If the livestock is released into the arena, the Advanced Handlers must position themselves at the Advanced Handler line on the take-pen side of the line; wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. The handler is free to move after the dog has been sent as long as it is on the take pen side of the Advanced Handler Line. Open and Started Handlers may position themselves wherever they feel it is best to take control of the livestock to move it up the middle of the arena. Open Handlers' Line is in effect for the Open Division

SD.22.16 Change to Ownership of Livestock for Stockdog Finals

Approved by ASCA Board of Directors: June 27, 2022

Current Wording:

24.9.1 Ownership and Stock Handlers

Stock cannot be owned by a Finals competitor. Finals handlers and family members cannot act as stock handlers during the Finals as long as the competitor is still competing.

New Wording Effective June 1, 2023:

24.9.1 Ownership and Stock Handlers

Stock cannot be owned by, worked by, or prepared by a Finals competitor. An exception may be made for ducks. If the National Specialty Committee cannot find a suitable duck raiser, then a Finals competitor may step in as long as they agree in writing to refrain from using their Finals eligible dog to work the ducks. ASCA would be the official owner of the ducks in this scenario. No other exceptions may be made with other types of livestock. Competing finals handlers and family members may ~~cannot~~ act as stock handlers during the Finals ~~as long as the competitor is still competing.~~