



# Canadian Border Collie Association

## Guidelines for CBCA Championship Trials

June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009

Dear Canadian Sheepdog Trial Enthusiast,

Congratulations on your decision to pursue the possibility of hosting the Canadian Border Collie Association National Championships! The CBCA is pleased to offer this book of guidelines, which may help you in formulating your proposal. Planning such a large event can be daunting! The CBCA is here to help, as needed. Please contact your Regional Director should you have any questions!

For a list of Regional Directors and their contact information, please visit: [www.canadianbordercollies.org](http://www.canadianbordercollies.org)

The following guidelines are meant to be used as such. However, there are a few items marked "REQUIRED". For these items, please make every effort to be able to include them in your bid.

Remember that the CBCA Open Championship rounds shall be run according to USBCHA rules. For a copy of these rules, please visit: <http://www.usbcha.com/Rules.htm>

Good luck with your bid! The CBCA is committed to promoting and fostering the breeding, training and distribution of reliable working Border Collies in Canada. What better way to showcase the talents of our Canadian registered working Border Collies than the CBCA National Championship trial!

Regards,

*Bruce Smart*

President, CBCA

## **APPOINTING A CBCA CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE**

Chances are if you're reading this, you've already performed this step! You've probably been appointed a Chairperson, but in case you haven't yet, here is a description of the Chairperson's duties.

*The Chair of the Championship Trial Committee may be a CBCA Board Member, or other qualified person who will act as liaison between the Championship Trial Committee and the CBCA BOD. This person must be present during the actual days of the Championship and would also act as liaison between competitors and trial management. The Chairperson may also be called upon to preside over any cases of disputes and / or unsportsmanlike behaviour from competitors.*

## **LOCATION AND VENUE FOR CBCA CHAMPIONSHIP TRIALS**

If you or someone in your region (West or East) hosted the Championships last year and are willing to do so again – THANK YOU! However, in an attempt to keep things fair for all competitors in terms of travel, the CBCA BOD will first take into consideration any bid for this year's championship from the other side of the country. The BOD will inform you as soon as any decision has been made regarding bids for the championship.

Following are some guidelines for looking at where the actual championship trials may be held.

- The venue may be any private or public grounds; park, farm or otherwise.
- The venue should have adequate field acreage and be of a shape that may accommodate a USBCHA Open size trial course.
- The venue should provide ample space for overnight RV parking on site, and efforts should be made to provide separate parking space for any anticipated spectators.
- Ideally, the chosen venue will be close to major airports and highways to facilitate travel for competitors from all parts of Canada.

## **SHEEP**

Due to the size, prestige and public nature of the CBCA Championship Trial, the Trial Committee should be sure that the sheep will be in vigorous health, and that any lambs used will be fully weaned and not less than fifty (50) pounds in weight (**REQUIRED**).

Sheep are the most important aspect of a sheepdog trial! We need to be sure they are kept comfortable and happy, especially at a large, multiple day trial such

as the CBCA Championships! The Trial Committee should be sure that provisions will be made to provide the sheep in both the holding pens (set out and exhaust) with adequate protection from the elements (including dry ground in extremely muddy conditions and shade in warm weather), a constant supply of fresh, clean water and access to feed during the day and night. Don't forget to supply marking pens or paint in case one or two should prove sick, lame or hopelessly rogue on the day of running.

Following are some sheep guidelines for the Open and Nursery Championships:

- Qualifying (preliminary runs) may be run on 3 (three) to 5 (five) sheep. For the Double Lift final round, a minimum of 16 (but preferably 20) sheep should be used for each run, with an equal mix of ewes and lambs for each draw (if applicable) (*REQUIRED*).
- Fresh sheep for every run would be ideal, but not always possible! However, the Trial Committee should obtain enough sheep so that they are re-run minimally during qualifying rounds and not re-run at all during the Double Lift final. That last part is *REQUIRED*!

## **JUDGES**

When a list of possible judges for the championship has been obtained, the Trial Committee must submit the list to the CBCA BOD, who will be responsible for approving the judge(s) for the CBCA Championship Trials. (*REQUIRED*). The Trial Committee may submit one or more names, and the CBCA BOD may select one or more Judges.

In the case of multiple Judges, the BOD may determine whether they judge together (therefore multiplying possible score by the number of Judges) or separately (for example, one judges the qualifying runs, the other the Double Lift Final).

The Judge(s) for the CBCA Open Championship Trial may be the same as for the CBCA Nursery Championship Trial, but remember that the Judges are human and efforts should be made for the spacing of assignments so they can get some R&R!

To lessen chances of distraction and error, the Trial Committee should ensure that each judge will have a separate time keeper and scribe (who shall be appointed by the Judge or by the Trial Committee). (*REQUIRED*).

## **QUALIFICATION AND ENTRY**

All Handlers must be CBCA members in good standing for the current year, and all entered dogs must be registered with the CBCA. Membership and registration

applications and payment MUST be postmarked by June 1<sup>st</sup> to be eligible for the current year's Championships. The Trial Committee member responsible for entries should send out a reminder to potential competitors on the entry form and other applicable media.

The Trial Committee should also make sure that the CBCA secretary gets the list of entries as soon as possible after the closing date to ascertain membership/registration status (*REQUIRED*).

Right now, the only other criteria besides membership and registration of the dog is that each dog and handler team must have competed in at least 1 (one) trial in Canada in the year the team wishes to compete in the CBCA Championship Trial (*REQUIRED*). Note the trial season begins on August 1 and ends on July 31. A Nursery dog is eligible to compete if its third birthday falls on or after July 1 of the year in which the dog will be competing in the CBCA Nursery Championship Trial (*REQUIRED*). Please note that as our organisation grows and the number of dog competing in the Championship increases, further qualification requirements may be established by the CBCA BOD.

The Trial Committee may limit the number of entries if the number of volunteers is limited, AND / OR sufficient numbers of sheep cannot be procured to accommodate an unlimited number of entries. However, due to the necessity of many handlers making early travel plans, under no circumstances shall the Trial Committee change venues, judges or the number of days allotted for the CBCA Championship Trials after the closing date for entries (*REQUIRED*).

## **TRIAL DAY!**

### ***Number of runs and scoring:***

- Each OPEN competitor shall have 2 (two) qualifying / preliminary runs per entered dog (*REQUIRED*).
- The scores from the 2 qualifying / preliminary runs in OPEN shall be added together to determine the entries for the Double Lift final (*REQUIRED*).
- At least 10 OPEN dog and handler teams will proceed to the Double Lift Final round (*REQUIRED*).
- Placings in the OPEN Double Lift Final round for dogs that have retired, or have been disqualified shall be determined by the Judge(s) immediately upon the conclusion of the trial.
- Each NURSERY competitor shall have 2 (two) runs per entered dog, with the scores from each run added together to determine the Canadian Border Collie Association Nursery Champion. (*REQUIRED*).

Overall scores shall be publicly posted as soon as possible after each run. Score breakdowns may be posted throughout the day or at the end of the trial, at the discretion of the Trial Committee.

**Prizes:**

- Ribbons and cash prizes may be awarded for each (qualifying) run at the discretion of the Championship Trial Committee (OPEN and NURSERY)
- Ribbons and cash prizes shall will be awarded for the OPEN Double Lift Final, and the winner shall receive a trophy naming him/her as the "Canadian Border Collie Association (or CBCA) National Champion for the year. This trophy shall be provided by the Trial Committee.
- Ribbons and prizes shall be awarded in the CBCA NURSERY Championship up to at least 5 places, and the winner shall receive a trophy naming him/her as the "Canadian Border Collie Association (or CBCA) National Nursery Champion for the year. This trophy shall be provided by the Trial Committee.
- Every effort should be made to ensure all prizes (except the keeper trophies that will be sent to handler once engraving is completed) shall be available for award after the last run of the last day of the OPEN or NURSERY trial. (*REQUIRED*).

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Every year, the CBCA AGM is held during the CBCA National Championships. So, the Trial Committee needs to make arrangements for this to take place one evening, after the conclusion of the day's running. (*REQUIRED*). Nothing fancy is needed! Just some time and a dry place to sit! Of course, if the Trial Committee wishes to offer a 7 course gourmet meal as well, we're sure members wouldn't object!

**SHOW ME THE MONEY!**

The CBCA shall allot funds to help support the CBCA Championship trial. This amount changes from year to year, with the state of our finances. So, get more people to join and register with CBCA, and you may get more money! Regardless of amount, these funds shall be made available to the Championship Trial Committee around 60 days in advance of the Championship trial dates, to help you with expenses. The BOD does not dictate how you spend these funds, but obviously we'll need records and any receipts pertaining to their use (so sorry, no new outfits for the Trial Chair!). These need to be sent to the CBCA Treasurer following the completion of the Championship.